

OF 10-6
Justice Dept., FBI Reports, 1943

2372-2389

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

October 1, 1941

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

With my letter of September 3, 1941, I transmitted as of possible interest to the President and you examples of a method of minute photography used by the German espionage system. The technicians of the Bureau's Laboratory have since been making a study of the optical system employed in preparing this very small photographic dot. Equipment has now been perfected whereby this can be accomplished in the Bureau's Laboratory. As a matter of fact, the Bureau's technicians have been able to reduce the photograph to an even smaller size than that used by the Germans.

I am attaching three charts which illustrate the extent of the photographic reduction and the appearance of the dot as it is later viewed through the microscope.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(E)(2)
Justice Dept. letter, 9-21-72
By DBS, NLR, Date JUL 1 1975

2372

#906 att'd.

7

filed
9/19/43

was #906 but not
recovered in
book

NPX92-4:1

CLASSIFICATION OF SUBSTANCES SUBJECT TO SPONTANEOUS IGNITION

A. H. NUCKOLS CLASSIFIES SUBSTANCES SUBJECT TO SPONTANEOUS IGNITION AS FOLLOWS:

GROUP 1. SUBSTANCES NOT THEMSELVES COMBUSTIBLE, BUT WHICH MAY CAUSE IGNITION.

CALCIUM OXIDE (UNSLAKED LIME) IS THE OUTSTANDING MEMBER OF THIS GROUP. THE REACTION OF ONE POUND OF LIME WITH WATER EVOLVES 493 BTU. BARIUM OXIDE, SODIUM PEROXIDE, AND OTHER CHEMICALS WHICH ON CONTACT WITH WATER MAY EVOLVE SUFFICIENT HEAT TO IGNITE COMBUSTIBLES ARE ALSO INCLUDED IN THIS GROUP.

CHART NO.1

ORIGINAL MESSAGE, LIFE SIZE, ON A DOCUMENT APPROXIMATELY 4 INCHES BY 8 INCHES IN SIZE.

NR 92-413

Charge to the account of _____ \$

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

WESTERN UNION

1217-B

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

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

WHITE LIGHT CONSISTS OF A NUMBER OF WAVE-MOVEMENTS OF VARIOUS LENGTHS AND RATE OF VIBRATION. WHEN WHITE LIGHT IS PASSED THROUGH A PRISM REFRACTION AND DISPERSION TAKE PLACE AND THE RAYS ARE SORTED OUT INTO WAVES OF DIFFERENT LENGTHS AND RATE OF VIBRATION, PRODUCING WHAT IS KNOWN AS THE SPECTRUM. THE SHORT WAVES ARE THE MOST REFRANGIBLE SO THAT VIOLET IS REFRACTED THE MOST AND RED THE LEAST, WHILE GREEN AND YELLOW ARE REFRACTED TO AN INTERMEDIATE EXTENT AND OCCUPY A POSITION BETWEEN THE VIOLET AND BLUE ON ONE SIDE AND THE ORANGE AND RED ON THE OTHER. THE POSITION OF ANY COLOR IN THE SPECTRUM IN RESPECT TO OTHER COLORS IS, THEREFORE, A MEASURE OF ITS REFRANGIBILITY, OR THE LENGTH OF THE ETHER WAVE.

CHART NO. 2

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC REDUCTION OF THE ORIGINAL 4 BY 8 INCH DOCUMENT TO MICROSCOPIC PIN-HEAD SIZE.

WPX 92-4:4

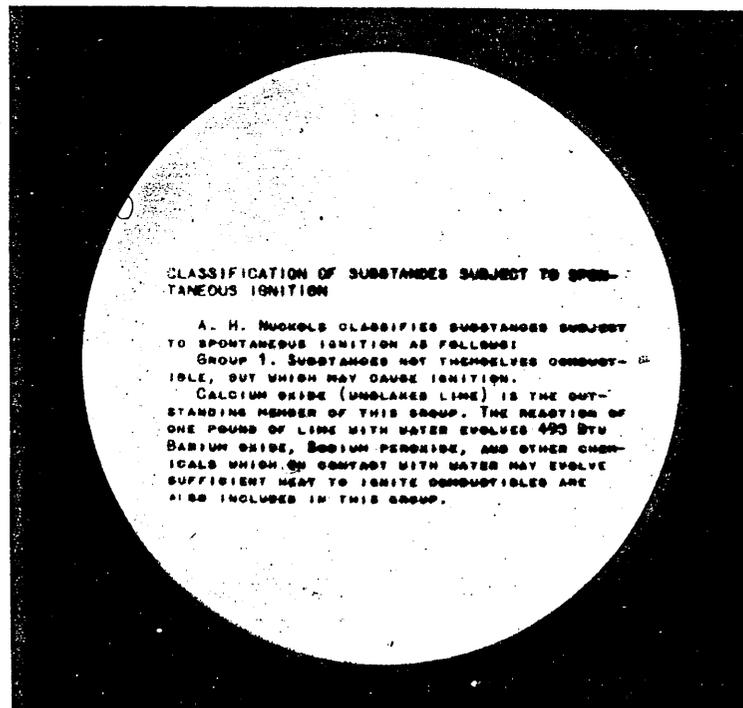


CHART NO. 3

A VIEW OF THE "PIN-HEAD" THROUGH THE MICROSCOPE AT 200 MAGNIFICATION (PHOTOGRAPHICALLY ENLARGED).

2372

THE EASTERN TELEGRAPH COMPANY LTD.

COMPANHIA PORTUGUESA RADIO MARCONI

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pela linha
em às h m
por

TELEGRAMA



TAXA

Simplex	\$
Adicionais (.....)	\$
.....	\$
.....	\$
Soma ...	\$

de N.º p.º taxadas (p.º gr.º)
Em às h m Fronteira Via "EASTERN" ou Via "RADIO DIRECTA"

Indicações eventuais
Direcção o endereço

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*attention sur ce dernier mode emballage reference
votre derniere demande sans jute stop refuse
urgente stop continuez essayer vous enlever etain
malgré suspension licences P. P. P.*

Nome e domicílio do expedidor { *P. P. P.
Rua Bartolomeu Dias 120*
Hora a que o telegrama foi depositado (a) *Lisbonna*

(a) No próprio interesse do público é conveniente indicar por extenso a hora a que o telegrama fôr depositado na estação, servindo de regulador o relógio da mesma estação.

A quantia de taxa do telegrama n.º para
depositado em de 19 às h m foi (a)
(a) Paga ou lançada em conta de

MICROPHOTOGRAPHS ON TELEGRAM FORM

Casa Portuguesa - Lisboa

2

2372

Alle Angaben über die amerikanische Luftausrüstung sind von großer Wichtigkeit. Die Beantwortung nachstehender Fragen ist verbindlich.

- I.) Wie groß ist a) die Gesamtmonatsproduktion an Flugzeugen?
b) die Monatsproduktion an Kampfflugzeugen?
c) " " " " Jagdflugzeugen?
d) " " " " Schulflugzeugen?
e) " " " " Zivilflugzeugen?

II.) Wieviel und welche Flugzeuge wurden davon an das Britische Empire geliefert und zwar

- A) an Großbritannien?
b) " Canada?
c) " Afrika?
d) " Nahen Osten.
e) " Fernen Osten und Australien?

III.) Wieviel USA-Piloten besuchen monatlich ihre Ausbildung?

IV.) Wieviel USA-Piloten treten in die RAF ein?

Meldungen über die kanadische Luftwaffe sind von großem Wert. Alle Nachrichten über Anzahl und Muster der Frontflugzeuge, Anzahl, Nummer und Standort der Staffeln interessieren. Von besonderer Wichtigkeit ist, Näheres über den in Kanada laufenden Luftausbildungsplan zu erfahren und zwar der Art, Standort und Kapazität der einzelnen Schulen und möglichst auch ihre Nummern. Nach vorliegenden Meldungen ist jede Schulart (Anfänger-, Fortgeschrittenen- und Beobachterschule) von 1 an nummeriert.

2.

ENLARGEMENTS OF MICROPHOTOGRAPHS

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

JUN 29 1943

2373

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~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Honorable Marvin H. McIntyre
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Marvin:

I am transmitting herewith a confidential memorandum concerning the riots and disturbances in Detroit, Michigan, June 20, 21, 22, 1943.

As it will be noted from the information received by this Bureau incorporated in the memorandum, it strongly appears the trouble was of a spontaneous nature and not planned or organized.

I thought this material would be of interest to the President and you.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

June 28, 1943

RE: DETROIT RIOTS, JUNE 20-22, 1943

Incorporated hereinafter is a summary of information relative to the riots and trouble in Detroit on the days June 20, 21 and 22, 1943. Certain ramifications bearing on this situation are also dealt with hereinafter. From all information received to date, it strongly appears that the recent outbursts had a spontaneous origin with a background of interracial animosity and feeling which have been building up and which have intensified during the past several years.

Set forth hereinafter is that information, broken down in its various phases, which has been received, along with the confidential opinions and conclusions of representatives of the Detroit Field Division of this Bureau. There are also included additional data obtained from independent sources pertinent to the instant matter.

Details Re Riots

Origin of Trouble

Sunday night, June 20, 1943, was an exceptionally hot and sultry night and the amusement parks and recreational facilities in the Detroit area were jammed. Belle Isle, an amusement resort in the Detroit River, was exceedingly crowded and there was an unusual proportion of Negroes there according to the reports. Belle Isle is one of the chief recreational centers for the Detroit area. Until several years ago it was practically exclusively a playground for white people, although no color restrictions were in effect. Recently, however, the opposite situation has been true.

The Detroit Police have advised that on Sunday, June 20, 1943, when the riot started, at the peak of the day approximately 100,000 people were on Belle Isle and estimates have been made that 60 to 90 per cent of those there were Negroes. This, along with Negroes crowding other places heretofore usually attended by white persons, caused a growing resentment among white people who object to close association with Negroes.

As nearly as can be determined, the riot started as a result of an altercation on the north end of the bridge leading from Detroit proper to Belle Isle, the north end being the part that is on the Detroit mainland side. The altercation was either between a single white and several Negroes or between a single Negro and several whites. The exact identity of those taking part is not known. It appears that immediately after the argument began, white people, including sailors, came to the rescue of those whites already engaged, while Negroes assisted their brethren.

The police were called and attempted to establish order with some degree of success. However, in the meantime the word spread like wild-fire across the bridge to Belle Isle and many incidents occurred there of a riotous nature. At this point, it should be brought out that reports were received of a group of Negroes on June 20, 1943, snatching lunches from white women and knocking them down. White persons who allegedly attempted to assist these women are said to have been deliberately attacked by other Negroes. It was originally suggested that this was possibly the origin of the trouble.

Belle Isle was emptied as rapidly as possible from the time the riot began at approximately 11:35 P.M. on June 20, the Negroes returning to their sections of town and the whites spreading to their homes. The riots spread as the Negroes returned to their homes in their areas, primarily the Hastings Street section which is known as Paradise Valley.

Incidents During Riot

At 1:00 A.M., Monday, June 21, 1943, the fighting and rioting had spread to the principal Negro sections in Detroit, particularly in the Hastings Street and Forest Street section. At that time, approximately 100 arrests had been made by the Detroit Police Department. Casualties were inflicted mainly as a result of beatings. There were incidents reported in which Negroes dragged white people from their automobiles and beat them.

Stores in the Negro section were looted and this continued on during the morning of June 21. There was a great amount of property damage and destruction down in the Negro areas. On the morning of June 21, 1943, rioting broke out near the Hotel Detroit, located just outside the main downtown business section of Detroit. This particular trouble involved several hundred people. There were also on this same morning several sporadic outbreaks in the congested Negro areas. Many automobiles had been overturned and a number of groups of Negroes were milling around in the Negro sections, especially in the vicinity of Hastings Street, carrying bricks and other missiles.

Until approximately 10:30 P.M., June 21, 1943, there were sporadic outbursts of trouble which included such activities as the beating of Negroes by white people in white areas of Detroit and the looting and destruction of property by Negroes in the Negro sections of this city. Much of the rioting after noon of June 21, 1943, was instigated, according to the reports received, by gatherings and groups of white persons in the white districts which are adjacent to colored areas in Detroit. These persons stopped street cars, automobiles and busses and dragged Negroes from them, mauling and beating

them and chasing them on their way. According to the information received, this activity resulted in at least one death. Many of the white persons were teen-age youths with a sprinkling of girls. One such incident occurred on Fort Street adjacent to the Federal Building at about 5:30 P.M., June 21. This was witnessed by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and they observed approximately 200 youths stopping several street cars and busses from which they dragged Negroes whom they severely beat. These persons were dispersed by Detroit police and police auxiliaries.

Prior to the quelling of the disturbances white people were in complete charge of the white districts and just before the declaration of martial law these individuals roamed the streets in large numbers and disturbances were caused whenever a Negro was seen in these areas. Several pitched battles occurred on the border of Hastings Street in the Negro district which is located just outside of the downtown area. It was necessary for the police to use forceful measures on several occasions.

In connection with the looting of stores, it was said that this was done presumably by Negroes in the Negro area. It was further reported that these stores and businesses which were looted were, in the main, operated by Jewish business people.

On the morning of June 21, 1943, a conference was held in the offices of the Commissioner of Police. It was agreed upon by those present, including military authorities, that the areas would not be declared out-of-bounds as far as military or naval personnel are concerned. It was believed that such a course of action would only serve to antagonize soldiers and sailors in the area, thus bringing on a worse situation. It was then decided that the military police personnel in the city would be increased and 100 additional military policemen would be assigned to patrol the areas in question. The Detroit Police Department mobilized its 3,000 officers who patrolled the various areas in large numbers. Police Reserves were called to active duty. The principal Negro streets were roped off by the police in order to confine the rioters in certain areas.

No accurate figures as to the actual injury to production in the Detroit area resulting from the riots have been reported. Examples have been cited, however, one of which is to the effect that only three persons reported for work at the Bohn Aluminum Plant No. 3 which is a large foundry employing exclusively Negro personnel. It was alleged that 60 per cent of the Negro employees at the Ford Motor Car Company failed to report for duty on June 21, 1943. In addition, a large number of white persons are believed to have absented themselves from their employment since it was necessary for them to travel through the Negro district to reach their places of employ-

ment. Allegations were also received that a number of smaller plants necessarily had to decrease production because of employees being absent from work. It was also said that practically all of the scrap yards which employed large numbers of Negroes were shut down completely.

It was reported on June 23, 1943, that production in the Detroit area was not affected as much as might be supposed as a result of the riots. The Fisher Body Company Plant No. 21 operated at 60 per cent capacity, while Plants 37 and 40 operated at 65 per cent capacity. The various ordnance plants in the Detroit area according to the Military Intelligence Service lost 15 per cent in their production.

Negroes at the following plants did not appear for work on the first shift of June 22, 1943, although they were gradually returning at the later shift:

Michigan Steel Castings Corporation
Detroit Steel Castings Corporation
L. A. Young Company
Boxing Department, Dodge Motor Car Company
The Garwood Plant
The Budd Wheel Company
The Budd Manufacturing Company

Allegations were received that there has been some belief among police circles that possibly the riot was expected and even perhaps planned among the Negroes. This, however, remains in the theoretical stage and the only fact to substantiate such a theory which has come to this Bureau's attention is that there were observed on Monday, June 21, 1943, on numerous windows in the Hastings Street area painted signs saying "Colored." No one has been able to determine definitely whether these signs were on before or after the start of the riot. The theory of some is that they were on before the riots started in anticipation thereof in order to advise colored rioters on Hastings Street of which windows to break and which not to break. A representative of this Bureau rode up and down Hastings Street approximately six times at 8:00 A.M. on the morning of the riot and although he was alert and watchful he could not recall seeing any such signs which were observed later that day.

Declaration of Martial Law

On June 21, 1943, at approximately 3:00 P.M., the Governor of the State of Michigan, the Honorable Harry J. Kelly, arrived in Detroit from

June 21, 1943, that Federal troops be dispatched to Detroit to be placed under State control. It was also said that at 9:05 P.M., June 21, 1943, the Governor of Michigan admitted that the situation in Detroit was out of control and requested assistance.

At approximately 11:00 P.M., June 21, 1943, the situation had definitely improved after troops had been in the city for approximately thirty minutes. The rioters broke up their groups.

Several military police battalions had been bivouacked at Fort Wayne, Michigan. These, along with two battalions from the Office of the Provost Marshal, were sent to Detroit, in all totalling 2,500 men. The situation was brought under control by 3:00 A.M., June 22, 1943, and since that time no violence has occurred.

At Hamtramck, Michigan

The Police Department of Hamtramck, Michigan, suburb of Detroit, advised on June 23, 1943, that feelings were running high among the Negroes and white people in that area. Fifty-three persons, including fifteen Negroes, had been arrested for rioting and fighting. The prisoners were questioned by the Police Department for evidence of subversive inspiration in the rioting with negative results.

At Fort Custer, Michigan

A development collateral to the Detroit situation has been reported as taking place at Fort Custer, Michigan, where on June 21, 1943, at approximately 11:30 P.M., 280 Negro soldiers, members of the 543rd Quartermaster's Negro Battalion, broke into the Quartermaster's warehouse at Fort Custer. There they secured 178 rifles and a large quantity of ammunition which they loaded into several Army trucks. These trucks are said to have proceeded down a road at Fort Custer in the general direction of Detroit. The assumption was they were on their way to Detroit. Later investigation made by military authorities disclosed the Negroes, approximately 70 per cent of whom were from Detroit, Michigan, were stopped by a sentry at Fort Custer. They abandoned the truck and threw away a quantity of the ammunition and guns. It is said that they apparently intended to proceed to Detroit to assist other Negroes there. Ten of them have been taken into custody by commanding officers at Fort Custer and are awaiting court martial for mutiny. No one was injured during this particular incident.

Arrests, Injuries and Deaths

According to the latest reports, 34 persons met their death, and out of the first 31 deaths reported, 3 were white persons, while 28 were Negroes. About 700 persons were injured and there were approximately 900 arrests. While no police officers were killed, in excess of 50 were said to have been injured in various degrees, one having been seriously hurt as a result of being shot by a Negro. Approximately 650 persons were hospitalized, a considerable number of whom were injured seriously. Of 54 persons who were given 90-day jail sentences in the Recorder's Court in Detroit on June 23, 1943, 22 were white, while 32 were Negroes. Four persons, including three Negroes, were found not guilty.

Reports of Negroes Being Well Armed

According to a report received in Washington, Negroes were said to have been well armed with firearms during the trouble. The Detroit Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in checking with the Police Department, whose statistics were by no means accurate or complete, indicated that out of 900 arrests there were 93 cases in which individuals carried concealed weapons. The exact number of guns found on persons was not revealed. However, there were persons arrested who carried other concealed weapons such as razors, knives and bayonets. The persons arrested carrying concealed weapons were not broken down into white and black categories.

The individual who was believed to be the original source of this report that Negroes were well armed with firearms was contacted and he advised he procured his information from an unknown informant whom he believed to be reliable and who allegedly knows considerable relative to the Negro situation in Detroit. His information was that Negroes have been purchasing guns from pawnshops, secondhand stores and similar sources for some time. However, the purchases and possession of firearms by Negroes, according to the informant, was not due to a planned attempt to arm Negroes in Detroit, but rather due to individual desires of Negroes to protect themselves as a result of the increasing interracial feelings. The original source stated that he believed a representative cross-section survey of white persons in Detroit would probably reveal a like proportion possessing guns.

The Detroit Police Department reported to the Detroit Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that there had been an increase in the number of guns found on Negro arrestees. Their opinion was that this increase was a result of the feeling between whites and Negroes having been intensified. The Police Department also reported in October 1942 that for the previous four months permits for Negroes to purchase firearms had tripled. At that time the

local officials said they did not know the reason for this other than they believed the Negroes were preparing for any trouble which might arise with white people.

Allegations of Ku Klux Klan, Fifth Column, and Axis Inspiration

Complaints Received at Field Office and Communist Charges

It should be stated at the outset that the press, following the riots, generally carried hints of possible fifth column or subversive inspiration connected with the situation. No specific allegations were made, however, in the more conservative papers. However, in the newspaper "PM" and in the "Daily Worker" direct and vociferous allegations against the Ku Klux Klan, the "fifth column in Detroit" and Gerald L. K. Smith and followers that these forces were responsible for the riots were made. In no instance, however, was concrete information supplied. It is to be noted, however, that these two papers did blame social conditions in Detroit as being partially responsible as well as the influx of Southerners who were described as ignorant and race conscious.

Numerous complaints made personally and by telegram were received at the Detroit Field Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that fifth column and Fascist activity were responsible for the riots. These complaints were uniformly in the nature of allegations rather than statements of fact and no evidence was presented that the riot was anything except of a spontaneous nature.

The Communist Party and all of its forces in Detroit, including the Civil Rights Federation, a reported Communist front, and Negro organizations in which there is said to be Communist influence, charged that Ku Klux Klan members and other allegedly pro-Fascist groups were the instigators of the riots and investigations and the arrest of members were demanded. Certain locals of labor unions in Detroit made like charges. Delegations were formed to visit Washington to present these claims and demands. Louis Martin, Negro editor of the Negro newspaper, the "Michigan Chronicle," an individual who is reported to cooperate with Communists, indicated that the whole affair was Axis inspired.

As an example of complaints made to the Field Office, two almost identical telegrams were received, one from Fred Williams, Business Agent, Local 208, United Automobile Workers of America, CIO, and one from Paul Domeny, Financial Secretary of Local 1064 of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO, both Detroit. These telegrams charged that the instigators were members of the Ku Klux Klan and other pro-Fascist groups. Williams is reportedly one of the principal functionaries of the Communist Party in the Detroit area and Domeny is said to be closely affiliated with the Party. A similar telegram

was received from E. A. Conningham, Detroit Agent of the National Maritime Union, which in substance attributed the disturbances in that area to the Ku Klux Klan and pro-Fascists. It requested immediate action.

Re Ku Klux Klan

In every racial disturbance of any magnitude, including strikes which have occurred recently, there have been public charges that the Ku Klux Klan or its successor organization in Michigan, the United Sons of America, fitted into the picture as being largely or primarily and even sometimes exclusively responsible. Information received concerning the Ku Klux Klan or its successor organization in Detroit, the United Sons of America, reflects that most of the members unquestionably dislike Negroes and, probably, privately many of them are in sympathy with any racial activity wherein Negroes receive harsh treatment. The opinion has been offered that if the circumstances were right, members of this organization would probably assist in any anti-Negro activity they possibly could.

No tangible evidence has been developed indicating the organization either planned or perpetrated the instant riots or had advance knowledge of them. As an example, the United Sons of America group had a meeting scheduled for Sunday night, June 20, 1943, the evening the riots began. Only six or eight members attended this meeting. Included in the group was a confidential informant. The informant has stated the proceedings were desultory. No mention whatsoever was made of the impending riot and the members, after having a few drinks, went to their homes, according to the informant, at 10:00. The riot broke out at 11:35 P.M. on June 20, 1943.

The opinion has been offered by representatives of this Bureau that neither the Klan nor the United Sons of America is big enough or important enough to be responsible for a riot of this sort even though they possibly would confidentially like to take credit for it if they could.

The Ku Klux Klan has been blamed publicly by someone for almost every important racial difficulty in the Detroit area in recent months. In every instance it was to the advantage of the accusers to place the blame elsewhere than among themselves. For example, in the Packard Motor Car Company strike, during the first part of June 1943, R. J. Thomas, President of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO, publicly blamed the Klan under conditions where it was distinctly to his advantage to cover lack of union discipline inasmuch as many of the minor union officials and union members actively participated. The Communist Party and its forces, especially the Detroit Civil Rights Federation, it has been alleged, found it to their advantage to blame the Ku Klux Klan and the fifth column so that attention may be diverted from its own inflammatory agitation among and exploitation of the Negroes.

As an example for the lack of any bases for these accusations against the Klan by the Communist Party, it is reported by a highly confidential and

reliable informant that Jack Raskin, Secretary of the Civil Rights Federation and reportedly an organizer for the Communist Party, in a conference on the morning of June 25, 1943, told Ernest Goodman, attorney and counsel for the Civil Rights Federation who has also been active in defending Communists, "We have nothing definite to substantiate the allegations that the Klan or fifth column was back of the race riot." This statement occurred after several days of loud and vehement allegations by the Party that these forces started the race riot. These allegations have been included in statements to this effect to the newspapers by various persons.

As a matter of background information, it is believed worthy of note that the Detroit Civil Rights Federation and the Communist Party assisted in endeavoring to blame the Klan for the walkout in the Packard Motor Car Company strike during the first part of June 1943. According to a confidential and reliable informant, Jack Raskin conversed under pretext on June 4, 1943, with one J. L. Charles, an alleged member of the United Sons of America. Raskin is said to have stated in his call to Charles that he was "one of the boys" in the organization. According to the confidential informant, this conversation was witnessed by Albert Deutsch, a reporter for "PM." Raskin allegedly said, "We really got them guessing, haven't we?" and Charles is said to have replied in the affirmative. According to the informant, when Raskin asked when the strikers would return to work, Charles said, "Well, I don't know, don't know -- it shouldn't have been, you know, my goodness, it shouldn't have been. They shouldn't have let them black alligator baits in there." The informant stated Charles indicated that "our boys" were going to continue the fight, apparently meaning the strike, although there is no indication he referred to members of the United Sons of America. Charles allegedly did say the Packard Plant is a "white man's plant," and allegedly indicated members of the United Sons of America were in the strike. The confidential informant further reported he heard Charles say in answer to a leading question from Raskin that it would be good for members of the United Sons of America to get together and plan the strike further, "Yes, work it out and have a, have a real showdown."

This entire affair was reportedly presented to the Wayne County, Michigan, Prosecutor, William E. Dowling, who indicated that no investigation would be undertaken by his office because of there being no basis for local prosecution. The information claimed to have been presented to this Bureau has not been received from Raskin or other Communists but only from a confidential informant in the Civil Rights Federation. The substance of this conversation was printed in the newspaper "PM" and also in the "Detroit News." The "Detroit News" indicated that the information had come from R. J. Thomas, as did "PM." Raskin was not identified in either of the articles.

Later in the day of June 4, 1943, after Raskin had his pretext conversation, he is said to have talked with Goodman who discouraged him from contacting this Bureau, expressing the opinion that he, Goodman, did not believe it could be actually proven the Ku Klux Klan was behind the Packard strike.

Post-Riot Action by State and City Officials

Fact Finding Board

On June 24, 1943, Governor Harry J. Kelly of Michigan appointed what he called a Fact Finding Board to inquire into the racial disturbances and determine particularly whether these disturbances were planned. This Board is composed of Herbert Rushton, Attorney General for the State of Michigan; William Dowling, Prosecuting Attorney of Wayne County; Oscar Olander, Commissioner of the Michigan State Police; and John Witherspoon, Commissioner of the Detroit Police Department.

This Board apparently immediately convened and after reviewing the facts presented, as well as the information previously available, reported to the Governor that as a result of its study there is no evidence at this time indicating that the riots were planned or inspired. The facilities of each of the members of this Board are presently being used intensively in the making of additional inquiries to ascertain whether or not the disturbances were, in fact, planned. The Detroit Police Department is extending every effort in this investigation and has assigned a large number of detectives to work on this problem. In addition, the Michigan State Police are also conducting inquiries, and the Attorney General of the State of Michigan and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office have added their staffs to assist in bringing to light any information that would be of assistance in determining the facts in this matter. It is incumbent upon this Board, of course, to report immediately to the Governor any facts brought to its attention indicating that the riots were other than of a spontaneous character.

The Board, it is understood, recommended against a grand jury proceeding at this time on the theory that there are no facts presently available to justify the calling of a body of this type and, consequently, no reason for its existence. The Board has also publicly invited all persons who have any information indicating that the disturbances were planned or inspired to furnish this information so that it may be considered and investigated completely.

Interracial Committee

In addition to the above-mentioned Fact Finding Board, Mayor Edward Jeffries of Detroit on June 25, 1943, appointed what he has termed an Interracial Committee to study the general problem in Detroit and to endeavor to ascertain the real causes, effects and solutions to the problems which have been precipitated by the recent riots. The committee appointed by Mayor Jeffries is as follows:

Chairman, William J. Norton, Executive Vice-President and Executive Secretary of the Children's Fund of Michigan; Committee members: Reverend Charles A. Hill, Negro, Chairman of the Interracial Citizens Committee and Pastor of the Hartford Avenue Baptist Church; Louis E. Martin, Negro, editor of the Michigan Chronical, a Negro newspaper; Mrs. Beulah Whitby, Negro, Executive Secretary of the Emergency Welfare Evacuation Service, Detroit Office of Civilian Defense; Walter Harding, Director of the Interracial Division of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO; Charles H. Mahoney, Negro, of the State Department of Labor; Reverend George W. Baber, Negro; Eugene Schaeffer, Chairman of the Board of The Urban League; Fred N. Butzel, Attorney; Reverend Benjamin Jay Bush, D.D., Westminster Presbyterian Church; Mrs. Adelia Starrett, member of the Public Welfare Commission; John F. Ballenger, Superintendent of Public Welfare.

The following information has been reported concerning the individuals designated:

Walter Harding, also known as Walter Hardin, has been reported to have been a member of the Michigan Sponsoring Committee of the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder. He has been alleged to be a Communist.

Reverend Charles C. Hill has been active in the Civil Rights Federation and has cooperated closely with it. This organization is a Communist front.

Louis E. Martin was a sponsor of the Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder. He is said to have been at times active in Communist Party affairs.

Beulah Whitby is reported to be closely associated with Communist Party members. She was a supporter of the National Free Browder Congress. She is also said to be President of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Society.

Contributing Factors in Riots

Representatives of the Detroit Field Division of this Bureau have supplied their opinions and certain conclusions relative to the riots in Detroit. They have advised that thinking people in the Detroit area, although shocked by the riots, were not surprised. It has been a topic of general conversation in the Detroit area for the past two or three years and remarks have been heard that "sooner or later there is going to be a blow-up." In this connection, representatives of this Bureau in Detroit have informed that they have heard varying versions of this theme on innumerable instances during the past two years.

Detroit is described as a boom city and aside from any racial matters the atmosphere in all phases of the economic and social life of Detroit is

almost literally electrified. There has been an abnormal increase in the population of Detroit during the past three years in both whites and Negroes. This increase can be set forth as follows: white people, about 33 1/3 per cent, or totaling 450,000 persons; Negroes, about 25 per cent, or totaling 35,000 persons.

The general increase in population has added to the congestion in the Detroit area, especially as concerns amusement facilities, restaurants, public transportation and traffic. This increase has created a terrific and deplorable congestion and shortage of housing facilities, both of Negroes and whites.

It has been pointed out that the average white man's normal antipathy toward close and intimate association with Negroes (this being particularly true of many of the southern whites who have come to Detroit during the past years) and the Negro's natural desire to receive complete equality with white people are prevalent.

As manifestations of the previously mentioned basic factors in the Detroit area, the following information is set forth.

The Sojourner Truth Housing Dispute

This was a large housing project built by the Government under the direction of the Detroit Housing Commission and completed in the spring of 1941. It was originally publicly designated for white people. As a result of the influence of negro pressure, considered to have been largely guided and influenced by the Communist Party and its forces as well as the counterinfluence of white residents in the area of the project, the Federal and local governmental policy as to who should live at this project, white people or Negroes, vacillated back and forth several times.

This indecision had the effect of aggravating the general tension between the two races each time a contrary decision was made. The housing project was finally designated for the blacks.

There was a riot during this dispute of large proportions, necessitating the calling of state troops and other local and state authorities.

On approximately May 1, 1943, the Mayor and City Council were faced with the decision as to whether new housing projects in this city would be occupied jointly by white persons and Negroes on a biracial basis. After long consideration the policy was announced that the city officials would not interfere with the existing racial residential pattern in Detroit, thus indirectly maintaining a policy of segregation. This policy has been bitterly denounced by the Negro press and Negro organizations, as well as by the Communist Party and Party front groups.

Work Stoppages and Strikes

There have been occurrences of work stoppages and strikes during the past several years in war plants, many of which have resulted in wide-spread publicity, thus adding to the general tension. These were caused by either individual whites refusing to work next to, using the same rest rooms as, or associating in other ways with Negroes; or they were caused by Negroes walking out from their jobs in protest of some real or alleged discriminatory action on the part of the management or white people in a particular plant.

An example cited is the Packard Motor Company strike of June 3, 1943. In this connection, white workers in the aircraft assembly department stopped working because three Negroes had been upgraded. To continue production, the management demoted the Negroes in that particular department, and all Negroes walked out, causing a general work stoppage. There was tremendous publicity and an intensification of the feeling between whites and blacks, largely as a result of the allegations and accusations publicly thrown back and forth. The climax of the strike came when, upon the insistence and assurance of union officials that there would be no further work stoppages if the Negroes originally upgraded were put back to work, the Negroes were reinstated, whereupon all whites walked out. Later, to justify the union position in the matter and to cover up the lack of discipline and control over the union members in the plant, R. J. Thomas, President of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO, issued a public statement which was widely publicized to the effect that the strike was caused by the Ku Klux Klan and its successor group in Michigan, the United Sons of America. (It is recalled that this matter has previously been dealt with under the sub-section concerning the United Sons of America. In addition, it is to be recalled that Thomas publicly announced at a convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People that he had absolute evidence that the strike was promoted by the Ku Klux Klan. It is believed that this evidence is that alleged evidence obtained by Jack Raskin in his pretext telephone call which has been referred to previously in this memorandum. Thomas alleged that he was turning the evidence over to the FBI and would demand a Congressional investigation. This has never been done.)

Communist Party Influence and Other Radical Groups

For the past several years the Communist Party and its front groups particularly have followed a well defined line of blatantly, emphatically and many times in an inflammatory manner backing Negroes and Negro groups in every issue. (This has been evidenced during the situation in Detroit, as will be set forth hereinafter.)

Groups such as the Socialist Workers Party, the Socialist Labor Party, the Workers Party and the Socialist Party have been vying with each other and with the Communist Party for the favor and the political support of the Negroes. Their memberships have attended various Negro meetings, distributed pamphlets, solicited members and made superlative promises and assurances, all of which is believed to be conducive to consternation and confusion among the Negroes themselves.

Negro Press and Leadership

There appears to be no strong, generally respected and accepted Negro leader among the Negroes in Detroit. There are many leaders among the Negroes, none of whom seems to have a majority of the following but practically all of whom are influenced to varying degrees by the inflammatory Communist Party line.

The Negro press, principally the Michigan Chronical, which is probably the most widely read Negro newspaper in the Detroit area, is also subject to this inflammatory influence, and the articles appearing therein vividly reflect this. These articles in their general tone result in continually keeping a racial problem boiling and discouraging reasonable approaches to the problem.

Influx of White Southerners

Although statistics on the number of white southerners who have come to the Detroit area in recent months or years are not available, it is definitely established that there has been a substantial number in the Detroit area. Along with some ignorant and class-conscious white persons who have come from the South have been the aggravated feelings against the Negro and objections to close association with Negroes, both socially and at work.

Juvenile Delinquency and Hoodlumism

In recent months the Police Department and the Detroit office of this Bureau have encountered an increasing tendency of teen-age whites and Negroes to roam and engage in activities in gangs or packs. Hoodlumism has been definitely on the increase in this area. As an example, several months ago the Detroit office of this Bureau investigated the theft of two machine guns from a state troop armory, in which one of the gangs of hoodlum whites had planned and perpetrated the robbery. One of the subjects of the case, Andrew Farovetta, was placed on probation. This individual was arrested during the riots as one of the rioting hoodlums.

From the personal observation of representatives of the FBI in Detroit it is known that after the first six or eight hours of rioting, most of the principal trouble outside the Negro section was spearheaded by gangs of sometimes several hundred teen-aged whites who had the appearance of high school students recently let out for the summer vacation.

Police records reflect that during the past year there has been a substantial growth in Negro and white gang clashes in high schools. There has also been a startling growth in the past year of attacks on individual white persons by groups of young Negro hoodlums. Each time one of these incidents occurs, if it is important at all, it becomes generally known throughout the locality, and this has added greatly to the general intense feeling between the two races.

As a further example in this particular situation, there occurred on Sunday, June 13, 1943, a riot at Eastwood Park, a large amusement place in East Detroit, where approximately seventy teen-age white hoodlums entered the park en masse and ejected all of the Negroes there. At the same time some stationed themselves outside the park and kept other Negroes from entering. The police finally quelled the riot, and the Chief of Police in East Detroit assigned as the basic reason for this riot the increasing numbers of Negroes who have gone to Eastwood Park during the past few months, where they have at times virtually taken over the park, their attitude and actions being arrogant, belligerent and insulting, particularly to white women.

Racial Policy of the City Administration

The Negro vote in Detroit is valuable and much sought after. At times it constitutes a balance of electoral power. According to the best sources of information, there is consequently a definite tendency in the city administration, principally on the part of elected officials making policy, to cater to the Negro element.

In this connection, the Police Department for some time in the past has been operating under the "kid gloves" policy with respect to Negro law breakers and those accused of breaking a law. As an example, two months ago in an interview with the press, Commissioner John Witherspoon made the statement which was widely quoted that the Police Department had adopted the "kid gloves" policy. This seems to have had the effect of dissipating respect for the power and authority of the Detroit Police Department among the Negroes so that at the time the rioting broke out, police officers were under a distinct disadvantage from the outset.

Negro Pressure Groups

There are active in Detroit and the surrounding area a number of Negro organizations, principal among which is the Detroit Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which is composed of between 15,000 and 20,000 members. The policies of this and other Negro groups without exception are strongly influenced by the Communist Party and as a result reasonable action is not a keynote in their activities.

The method of operation of these groups seems to make for widespread publicity and agitation upon every incident in which discrimination is involved or alleged. Instances are known to have been created. A typical example has been cited by a confidential informant in which, during a recent conference between Jack Raskin, who has been referred to hereinbefore, and one Jack Burke, described as a field representative of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, ✓ Burk urged Raskin to find Negro women who were to go to war plants and seek jobs on the possibility that discrimination might be developed and an issue raised.

On another occasion, C. J. Fleming, at the time to be a member of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, ran into an alleged case of discrimination against the Negro women at the Hudson Naval Arsenal. He reported this to the Office of Naval Intelligence officer at that plant, who conducted an ✓ investigation and found that the allegations was unsubstantiated. This he reported to Fleming, apparently satisfying him. At the time, however, Fleming advised the ONI officer that he had reported the instance as a real case of discrimination to Reverend Charles A. Hill as head of the Citizens Committee for Jobs in War Industries, a Communist influenced Negro pressure group. Hill telephoned the Naval officer and berated him vehemently, listening to no explanations. It is entirely probable that this case is carried as an instance of Negro discrimination in the records of the Citizens Committee for Jobs in War Industries. The opinion has been offered that it is not understandable why a Federal representative should make a report prematurely or make a report at all to a distinctly non-Governmental group such as Hill's organization.

High Wages and Employment Rate Among Negroes

The wages in Detroit are extremely high. Many Negroes are employed in war industries and it is a matter of general knowledge that they are receiving as a class a higher remuneration at the present time than ever before in their history. They have consequently money to spend as well as the urge to spend it at the same places where white people find their amusement and do their business. This draws white people and Negroes into close association, much more so than in normal times. This was the situation at Belle Isle on Sunday, June 20, 1943, where the rioting began.

Japanese Influence

The records of an investigation by this Bureau reflect that in 1933 and 1934 a Japanese propagandist, Naka Nakane, an alien, was very active and to some extent, not measurable at this time, effective among the Negroes in Detroit. He originated in 1933 what was then termed a secret organization for Negroes, the Development of Our Own, by representing himself as Satakata Takahashi, a Major in the Japanese army, and stating he was the representative in the United States of the Japanese Black Dragon Society, an ultra-nationalistic patriotic group. The Development of Our Own was incorporated in Lansing, Michigan, as a patriotic brotherhood. Through this organization Nakane was said to have promised assistance, arms and money to the Negroes in a war against the white race, claiming that Japanese agents were all over the United States in the interests of his organization working through the Universal Negro Improvement Association.

Nakane was deported to Japan on April 20, 1934, but reappeared on August 29 of the same year at Vancouver in possession of \$2,000, although he was without funds when deported four months earlier. He illegally reentered the United States at Buffalo, New York, on January 11, 1939, and again became active in the organization. He was arrested on June 22, 1939, for this illegal entry and the attempted bribery of an immigration inspector. He was sentenced to a term of three years' imprisonment and a fine of \$4,500 on September 28, 1939. He was subsequently transferred to the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners at Springfield, Missouri, where he was to be released February 27, 1942. Prior to his release, however, a Presidential Warrant was issued for him and he was again turned over to the Immigration and Naturalization Service in whose custody he remained constantly until April 2, 1942, when the Attorney General of the United States affirmed the order of internment recommended by the Enemy Alien Hearing Board. Nakane has since been interned as a dangerous alien enemy.

Because of the colorful character of Nakane's propaganda, his effects in Detroit have been magnified clear out of proportion to his actual ability. Occasionally there crops up, usually in an individual Negro, a pro-Japanese sentiment. This is not prevalent and there is no evidence indicating Japanese propaganda planned, participated in, or set off the riots.

Nakane was to some extent successful in fomenting anti-white sentiment, and it is probable that some of the anti-white sentiment stems back to his influence many years ago.

Investigations have been made of the Moorish Science Temple of America and the Allah Temple of Islam in Detroit, primarily along Selective Service lines. There have been revealed forms of this cultism existing in spots throughout the Negro population in Detroit as units of these two organizations. In membership and influence among Negroes generally, these organizations are minor. Their inception and activities are primarily a result of Negro cognizance of inferiority rather than anything foreign inspired.

Nazi or Fascist Influence

No evidence was presented either prior to or during the riots that they were planned, perpetrated or started by Nazi or Fascist influences. (In the Detroit Field Division's survey of foreign inspired agitation among Negroes in that area, no indications were received of any pro-Nazi or pro-Italian influence existing among Negroes in that area.)

Conclusions

Representatives of this Bureau in Detroit have stated it is their firm belief that the riots were not planned and were not a direct result of subversive activity or the planning of Fascists or Japanese. They have advised that, in their opinion, the facts and circumstances related in this sub-section have conspired to create a situation in Detroit most conducive to rioting, and the spark that set it off was the altercation at the Belle Isle Bridge.

Communist Party Exploitation of the Situation

Shortly after the outbreak of trouble the Communist Party was reported to take the stand that it would do everything possible to abate the riot and contemplated holding meetings to this end. The Committee for Jobs in War Industries, a reported Communist front group, took the same stand and intended to operate through its structure to carry out this policy of the Party. Patrick Toohey, National Committee member and Michigan State Secretary of the Party, conferred with Gene Dennis, a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, relative to the riot and made claims that the situation was Axis inspired. He informed at that time of contemplated delegations to visit Washington for the purpose of meeting with the Attorney General and other Governmental officials and making demands for an investigation. In New York City Israel Amter discussed with Gene Dennis a delegation to be sent to Detroit so that a report on the situation could be made to the Communist Party. In this connection Sam Don, a member of the editorial staff of the Daily Worker, was to leave New York City on June 21, 1943, for Detroit, where he was scheduled to assist Patrick Toohey.

In New York City, it is reported, Communist dominated groups adopted resolutions to send delegates to Washington for the purpose of demanding that the President take action in the situation. Telegrams were ordered sent to Washington calling for the apprehension of the people responsible for the Detroit situation so that they could be tried as traitors.

The Party line, which was adopted relative to the riots in Detroit, was expressed by Patrick Toohey at a meeting of Communist Party organizers on the night of June 22, 1943. He stated, "The brunt of the attack has been against the Negroes. Hundreds of unsuspecting Negroes have been led into murderous bloodshed. I mustn't use the word race riot ---- it is Hitler's Fifth Column. The Negroes are not responsible. We exonerate them. We must punish the hoodlums and protect the Negroes. This is Axis inspired."

Committee for Jobs in War Industries

On June 21, 1943, a meeting was held under the sponsorship of this Committee at the Lucy Thurman Y.W.C.A. in Detroit. Approximately 200 persons, mostly Negroes, were present. However, there were also in attendance Harper Poulson, white, Young Communist League member; Patrick Toohey, white, Secretary of the Michigan State Communist Party; Adeline Kohl, white, Secretary of the Michigan Young Communist League; Christopher Alston, Negro, reported member of the Communist Party; Michigan State Senator Stanley Nowak, white, reported member of the Communist Party; and Jack Raskin, white, reportedly an Organizer for Section 9 of the Communist Party in Michigan and Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Federation.

The meeting was chaotic and all Negroes present seemed thoroughly aroused. The chairman had difficulty in maintaining order and those in attendance, according to the informant, seemed interested in airing their grievances against white persons instead of discussing a possible solution. Mayor Jeffries, Police Commissioner Witherspoon, Mr. R. J. Thomas, President of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO, and others became so disgusted with the proceedings they left before the meeting was over.

Harper Poulson made a speech in a highly emotional manner that Negroes throughout the entire affair behaved like gentlemen and patriotic Americans and, further, that the riot was a result only of the work of the Ku Klux Klan and the fifth column in Detroit. According to informants, the remarks of Poulson appeared to be in adherence to the policy the Communist Party will follow in connection with its stand on the riots. Poulson is also said to have demanded an investigation by Mayor Jeffries of the fifth column in Detroit.

Charges Made by Communist Forces

Patrick Toohey at a meeting of Communist Party Section Organizers on June 22, 1943, in Detroit, stated that the brunt of the attack in the recent rioting had been directed against the Negroes and "the action of the Police Department was miserable." Toohey further stated, "The soul of the Mayor is blacked with these killings. There were leaders and professional trouble makers." He advised of touring the scenes with Stanley Nowak and witnessing the alleged fact that police were not impartial but rather against Negroes. Toohey further stated that Negroes were not responsible in any degree for the rioting and they did not start the riots but rather that subversive forces and a fifth column conspiracy designed to upset and shake the people on the eve of "the second front" were alone responsible. He claimed that the disturbance was national in scope.

At this meeting Toohey is said to have further advised that the Attorney General must be compelled to instigate an investigation based upon information by Communist Party members. James W. Ford, Negro member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, spoke at this meeting and affirmed what Toohey had said and advised that Toohey's remarks were in line with the general policy of the Party. Toohey thereupon requested affidavits be obtained showing who incited the riots and these affidavits be turned over to Jack Raskin of the Civil Rights Federation to be placed at the disposal of a grand jury. It should be noted that the "Detroit Free Press" for June 23, 1943, contains a long statement issued by the Communist Party, captioned "Units for Freedom -- Smash the Fifth Column." This statement follows generally Toohey's remarks and mentions that "the anti-Negro riots" were an Axis-inspired effort to wreck the unity of the American people. It states that the Negro people must be exonerated from any

responsibility for these riots. It urges that Detroit citizens demand that the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the City Prosecutor in Detroit, Mr. Dowling, act upon "the great amount of information given them in the past year as to the work and activities of Detroit's fifth column, especially the Ku Klux Klan." Police officers are accused of delivering the brunt of their attack against the Negro people.

Frank Ryhlick, a writer for the "Daily Worker," discussed an article at the Communist Party headquarters in Detroit which he prepared for the "Daily Worker." In this article Ryhlick advised he would emphasize that the Detroit Police Department aggravated conditions by their treatment of the Negroes and, further, that Negroes who were arrested were mistreated by the Recorder's Court in Detroit, being denied their civil rights. It may be noted that an article by Ryhlick was published in the June 24, 1943, issue of the "Daily Worker" in which charges are made against the Police Department and Mayor Jeffries of Detroit.

It is further reported that an individual by the name of George Marshall, reportedly connected with the Civil Rights Federation in Detroit, advised the Detroit Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild would ask for new trials for all persons convicted in the Detroit Recorder's Court on the basis that the defendants had not received proper representation.

It has been additionally reported that the National Lawyers Guild contemplated holding a meeting at Howard University in Washington, D. C., on Sunday, June 27, 1943, to discuss the Detroit situation. It was later reported that such a meeting actually took place and there a formal statement was prepared which called for the President to make a nationwide radio address concerning racial matters; that a Federal Grand Jury investigation be made in Detroit and that the Department of Justice institute an investigation.

It is also said that an "action letter" has been prepared by the Civil Rights Federation in Detroit which is entitled "Fifth Column Insurrection in Detroit." This letter is said to state in effect that a great majority of the persons injured and killed were Negroes and of 1,300 arrested, 90 per cent were Negroes. It reportedly described the situation as a part of a national conspiracy aimed at slowing down production of war materials. It is said to ask members to write or wire the President urging that he request the Attorney General to investigate "fifth column instigators."

Delegations to Washington

A number of delegations visited Washington on the morning of June 23, 1943, to make protests and demands concerning the Detroit situation. All of these groups are believed to have been Communist inspired. Moran Weston of the Negro Labor Victory Committee in New York City, said to be a Communist controlled Negro organization, dealt with Bjerne Halling, Executive Secretary of the C.I.O. Maritime Committee, in endeavoring to make appointments with various Governmental officials. Arrangements were made also through Sadie Sokolove, a reported Communist Party member in Washington, for the delegation's use of a meeting room at the Cafeteria Workers Union, C.I.O. building in Washington.

A confidential informant has advised that Hoyt Haddock of the C.I.O. Maritime Committee also endeavored to make appointments for the delegations. He is alleged to have contacted Mr. Marvin McIntyre and a confidential informant has advised that Haddock was informed by Mr. McIntyre that a delegation would be received only on the condition that it had a petition to present, but that he, Mr. McIntyre, would not discuss the Detroit situation. It is also reported that Haddock made arrangements for a delegation to see Mr. Victor Rotnem of the Department of Justice. Like arrangements were also reportedly made to see Mr. McGrady, Special Assistant to the Secretary of War handling labor matters, and Rear Admiral Charles W. Fisher, Director of Shore Establishments, United States Navy.

A confidential informant of this Bureau succeeded in joining the delegations and was with the one having an interview with Mr. Rotnem. According to the informant, the delegation sought action by the Department of Justice against the people instigating the riot. Mr. Rotnem did not seem particularly concerned with the matter, according to the informant who also advised that the discussion was most unsatisfactory. Charges were made by the delegation that the Ku Klux Klan had incited the strike in the Packard Motor Car Company and had also been the instigator of the Detroit riots. Mr. Rotnem, according to the informant, told the group that an act of Congress would be required to prosecute the Ku Klux Klan, inasmuch as it was reportedly made up of loyal Americans and was without foreign domination.

The informant's group was then sent to interview Rear Admiral Fisher who expressed the concern of the Navy Department over recent racial violence but said that his Department could do nothing and told them to press for action from the Department of Justice.

Other groups from the delegations visiting Washington contacted the Office of War Information, the American Federation of Labor, the Congress of

Industrial Organizations and the White House. Following the various visits the entire membership of the delegations met in the office of Vito Marcantonio where they reported on their interviews. Charles A. Collins, Negro, Executive Secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee and reported Communist, according to the informant, related the results of his group's interview with Mr. McIntyre, Presidential Secretary. Collins said Mr. McIntyre was of the opinion that the rioting was sporadic and just a reaction to racial difficulties without any subversive influences.

The informant advised that among those present in the delegations there were individuals from Detroit, New York, Baltimore and Philadelphia. The following known or reported Communists took part; Ben Davis, Jr., National Committee member of the Party; Moran A. Weston, reported Communist and Charles A. Collins of New York City; Shelton Tapps, Detroit Negro and associate of Communists; and Jewell Mazique, Washington, D. C. community Party organizer.

At Chicago, Illinois

In connection with the racial disturbances at Detroit, Communist Party leaders in Chicago called a mass meeting on June 22, 1943, to have been held June 25, 1943, in the aldermanic chambers of the City Council. Communist Party leaders, according to informants of the Chicago Office, stressed the fact that the Detroit situation must not happen in Chicago.

At New York City

It was reported in New York that a group of individuals believed to have been connected with the New York State Committee of the Communist Party met on June 25, 1943, for the purpose of discussing "the race riot situation." These persons, the identities of whom are not known, agreed upon a proposal for mass demonstrations for Negroes and white for the purpose of fostering the solidarity in uniting the Negro on the labor movement. It was determined that the Party would distribute leaflets throughout Greater New York advocating that steps be taken to prevent "Hitler's hand from striking in New York." It was decided that meetings should be held in the heart of Harlem as well as in various white neighborhoods in New York City. These meetings and demonstrations will not be held under the name of the Party but rather under the name of Communist influenced and dominated groups.

With reference to the distribution of leaflets, the New York Office was supplied one which was distributed by the Upper West Side Section of the Communist Party, entitled "The Enemy Within." Briefly this leaflet states that every Negro in America must wonder whether his countrymen are making war against the Nazis and the Japanese or against him. It inquires concerning the

individuals who make Americans fight among themselves and asks whether the Jews or Catholics will have to lock themselves in their homes to prevent a similar fate. It urges that everyone write or telegraph the President concerning this positive evidence of Fascism.

Collateral Matters

Possible Dies Investigation of Detroit Situation

It was publicly announced on June 24, 1943, that Representative Martin Dies disclosed that the Detroit race riots have been traced to racial animosities stirred up by Japanese agents. He is quoted as having stated that he is in possession of reports submitted before the rioting started which revealed underground promoting of Japanese agents to incite Negroes against the whites in Detroit. Dies referred to Major Takahashi as the chief Japanese agent now in an internment camp and as being active in organizing the National Workers League. Takahashi, or Naka Nakane, has been dealt with hereinbefore.

It is noted that Congressman Dies is alleged to have charged that the Ku Klux Klan is also responsible for fomenting the race riots in Detroit. The information contained in this Bureau's files reflects that the only organization in the Detroit area that can be connected with the Ku Klux Klan is the United Sons of America; that the United Sons of America is composed of former members of the Detroit Chapter of the Ku Klux Klan; and that although this particular society is admittedly "anti-negro" in nature, an extensive investigation has been conducted and to date no information has been secured which would indicate that the officers or members of the United Sons of America are in any way responsible for the instigation of these racial outbursts.

The National Workers' League in Detroit, Michigan, was founded in 1938 by Parker Sage. Most of those who were in the League during its inception dropped out of active membership soon after its founding with the exception of Sage, W. R. Lyman, Jr., and Garland L. Alderman. Lyman was strongly anti-Semitic, and Garland L. Alderman was once chairman of the Pontiac Chapter of the America First Committee. It was also charged that the National Workers' League cooperated with the America First Committee and the German-American Bund but no specific facts were established with respect to these allegations.

In the spring of 1942 investigation was conducted to determine the activities of the National Workers' League in connection with the race riot that occurred in the Sojourner Truth Housing Project at Detroit, Michigan. As a result, on April 16, 1942, a Federal Grand Jury at Detroit, Michigan, returned an indictment against Parker Sage, head of the National Workers'

Department of Justice
Investigation of Communist Activities
In the City of Detroit
In the Matter of the National Workers' League
and Virgil Chandler, Executive Vice President,
7-Mile Fenelon Improvement Association,
Detroit, Michigan, charging them with violation
of Section 51, Title 18, U. S. Code, which is
a civil rights statute, and Section 6, Title 18,
U. S. Code, which relates to seditious conspiracy
and among other things also makes it unlawful
to delay the execution of any law of the United States.
In January, 1943, the Department of Justice brought
this case before a special grand jury in Detroit
with the view to indicting six members of the
National Workers' League for sedition; however,
the case was not billed by the grand jury.

League; Garland L. Alderman, Secretary of the National Workers' League, and Virgil Chandler, Executive Vice President, 7-Mile Fenelon Improvement Association, Detroit, Michigan, charging them with violation of Section 51, Title 18, U. S. Code, which is a civil rights statute, and Section 6, Title 18, U. S. Code, which relates to seditious conspiracy and among other things also makes it unlawful to delay the execution of any law of the United States. In January, 1943, the Department of Justice brought this case before a special grand jury in Detroit with the view to indicting six members of the National Workers' League for sedition; however, the case was not billed by the grand jury.

The investigation in this case did not disclose that Takahashi or any Japanese was active in or interested in the National Workers' League of Detroit, and the investigation indicated that the National Workers' League is a Fascist inclined rather than a Communist Front organization.

As a matter of interest the Detroit newspaper entitled "Free Speech" on the night of June 24, 1943, contained an editorial which was very scathing in nature and which invited Martin Dies to stay away from Detroit. It is also reported that the Mayor of Detroit in a public statement made on June 25, 1943, suggested that Dies stay away from that city and further an editorial in the Detroit News of June 25, 1943, also takes the same line.

A highly confidential and reliable informant has reported to this Bureau of being advised of a contact on June 25, 1943, between Gerald L. K. Smith and United States Senator Robert Reynolds of North Carolina. The informant has reported that Smith suggested that Congressman Dies have an investigation conducted of the Detroit affair. Smith is said to have specifically requested that Dies be contacted and told that Communists in Detroit were "scared to death" for fear Dies would proceed to Detroit for an investigation of the riot. Smith allegedly said that "Reds" in Detroit were trying to blame the riot on good people such as Henry Ford and himself.

Smith allegedly mentioned he did not want his name revealed to Dies, but that Dies should be encouraged to proceed to Detroit because investigating this matter would be the most sensational thing Dies has ever done. The informant advised that Smith commented that Communists in Detroit have been promoting intermarriages and intermingling of whites and blacks and he had in his possession an affidavit executed by a Negro which set forth that if a colored Communist Party member asked for a date with a white female member and was turned down, the female member of the Party would be immediately suspended from the organization.

Inflammatory Pictures in "PM" June 23, 1943

Since the occurrence of the disturbances in Detroit, "PM" newspaper has labeled the situation as a planned attack on the Negro race instigated by

Fascists. The following is a paragraph taken from an article written by Albert Deutsch, entitled "Whose Riots?", and contained in the June 25, 1943, issue, typifying its stand:

"We have tended to think of sabotage too much in terms of strictly enemy aliens. It is time to strike hard and swiftly against the native pro-fascist elements in such war areas as Detroit. Native Americans of Japanese ancestry have been thrown into concentration camps on mere suspicion that they might be disloyal. Why tolerate the known pro-fascist natives, who are consciously or unconsciously doing a major job for the Axis?"

The June 23, 1943, issue devoted pages ten to nineteen inclusive to pictures of the riot with highly descriptive captionings. While there are a few photographs in this section showing white people having received injuries, the large majority of the pictures involve Negroes being beaten or chased.

A confidential informant of the New York Office who has been long acquainted with Harlem and who has served as a reliable informant on Negro matters in the New York Office, has advised of contacts made by him in the Harlem district since the disturbances in Detroit. He has advised of seeing soldiers on leave gathered in groups with their civilian friends looking at the riot pictures in the newspaper "PM" and expressing their disgust and resentment. This informant has also reported of conversations with various inhabitants in whom this issue of "PM" has caused considerable resentment, especially against the white race.

Summation

From the information submitted concerning the Negro situation in Detroit prior to the rioting, as well as that supplied concerning the recent disturbances, it is strongly apparent that the trouble was of a spontaneous nature and not planned or organized. While there have been numerous complaints that there was subversive activity or pro-Axis instigation connected with the riots, they have all been uniformly in the nature of allegations and not factual statements.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

AUG 2 1950

PERSONAL AND
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

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Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

10-B

Dear General Watson:

There is attached a monograph entitled "Union Nacional Sinarquista" which I think may be of interest to the President and you. This treatise consists of a summarization of the pertinent data contained in the files of this Bureau relative to the background and activities of the Mexican Union Nacional Sinarquista and its member branches in the United States of America.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

Enclosure not present - 9/20/50

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
AUG 2 1943

2375
See also 2378

PERSONAL AND
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

10-B

Dear General Watson:

I wanted to supply the President and you with the following information I have received concerning rioting and trouble which began in the Harlem area in New York City on August 1, 1943.

It is reported that at approximately 10:00 P. M., on August 1, 1943, a white police officer attempted to arrest a Negro woman for disorderly conduct at the Braddock Hotel in Harlem. Thereafter a Negro soldier is said to have interfered, seizing the officer's night stick and beating him to the floor. The police officer shot the Negro soldier in the shoulder and both were removed to the Suydenham Hospital, the Negro soldier being placed in the Bellevue prison ward.

It is related thereafter a crowd of 300 Negro civilians and Negro soldiers gathered and demonstrated. It is also reported that approximately 200 Negro soldiers and sailors demonstrated in front of the 28th Precinct Station in Harlem.

At 12:50 A. M., August 2, 1943, Mayor LaGuardia spoke on Radio Station WNYC, at which time he described the incident as related above and requested the people of Harlem to leave the streets and go to their homes. He assured the citizens that city authorities could cope with the situation adequately. In further describing the incident, Mayor LaGuardia informed crowds had gathered in the street and several small groups were milling about spreading false rumors and gossip, and that occasionally a bottle was thrown through glass windows. He promised the citizens of New York a complete investigation of the entire incident.

By 2:15 A. M., August 2, 1943, the rioting was still in progress and had accelerated in tempo. It is alleged that shooting and stabbing occurred subsequent to Mayor LaGuardia's radio address. At 5:20 A. M., three unconfirmed deaths had been reported. It was additionally

reported that soldiers were looting liquor stores in the area and that Negro civilians were allegedly starting fires. By this time the area which was said to have been involved included from 145th Street on the North to 110th Street on the South and from Fifth Avenue on the East.

At 7:30 A. M., August 2, 1943, it was reported that trouble was still occurring in the Harlem area and that 5,000 police and 1,000 detectives had been assigned to the area. It was said that the United States Army had moved trucks into the area and attempted to remove all Army personnel. The extent of their success in this matter was not reported. It was again reported at this time that three deaths had occurred, that two police officers were seriously injured and that an unknown number of Negro citizens had been hurt.

A representative of the New York Police Department has informed that after viewing the damage caused during the trouble, it appeared that this was worse than the damage caused in the 1935 riots in New York City. He stated that it appeared to them that all of the thugs and hoodlums in Harlem took advantage of the initial trouble to loot and rob stores and other business establishments. A large number of arrests are said to have been made after dawn broke on August 2, 1943, at which time, according to the New York Police Department, the trouble had subsided.

At approximately 8:00 A. M., August 2, Mayor LaGuardia is said to have made another radio address, at which time he stated the situation could not be considered a riot but rather it was confined to disturbances and fights.

It has been stated that at about 9:15 A. M., August 2, the disturbances and trouble had subsided. In this connection a representative of the Police Department there has informed that it cannot be stated whether trouble or rioting will again break out.

A confidential source of information, a Negro minister in the Harlem area, has advised that a rumor fairly prevalent was being spread in the Harlem area that the Negro soldier who had been shot by the white policeman as related above had actually been killed. This rumor is said to be without any foundation and on the contrary it is reported that the Negro soldier who was shot by the policeman received but a minor wound and has been treated at the hospital and will be released in the very near future.

Further information received from the New York Police Department is to the effect that the situation in Harlem is of a spontaneous origin and no indications have been reported of any plan or organized movements.

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In addition there have been no indications reported of any white people organizing in groups to take part in the trouble.

As I receive additional details in this matter I shall, of course, make them available to the President and you immediately.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
AUG 3 1943

2376

7

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

It has been determined through a highly confidential and completely reliable source that Steve Nelson, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, who resides in Alameda County, California, recently discussed with a Party functionary the Communist Party's reorganization under the provisions for dissolution of the Industrial Sections as laid down by the National Plenum of the Party which was held in New York City during June, 1943. Nelson was asked what issues the Party would raise in the future to catch the public eye and to keep the Party members active. Nelson is quoted as stating: "There is always going to be a good issue from now on until the Revolution."

I thought that the President and you would be interested in this remark as indicative of the official attitude of the Communist Party toward revolutionary activities in the United States.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AUG 3 1943

2377
7
PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

I believe that the President and you will be interested in information and comments concerning the racial situation in Washington which were furnished to me by a confidential source who is a member of the negro race. In his opinion there is at the present time a most disturbing undercurrent of racial unrest in the City of Washington as evidenced to him during a recent visit in the city. He expressed his personal concern regarding the matter, but stated he was at a loss to predict any outcome or state what particular preventive measures might be taken.

In the opinion of the informant, the Communist agitation among what he termed the less desirable colored element in Washington is very pronounced and it is his impression that the better element of the negro population is exceedingly worried about the ever present possibility of racial disturbances which might reach the proportions of a riot. He feels that he is not exaggerating in stating that about 80 per cent of the colored population in Washington has access to firearms or other weapons although in this connection no substantiation was offered by the informant. In summation, this source of information feels that the situation at present in Washington with regard to racial conditions might be termed electrified and in his opinion the situation is worse in Washington from that viewpoint than in other cities. 1

With regard to the foregoing data, I believe it will also be of interest to be apprised of additional reports and allegations emanating from other sources other than the above described and concerning racial conditions in the Capital.

Recently a representative of the Washington Police Department has stated that there have been large numbers of negroes coming to Washington from Southern states where they have been accustomed to segregation. In Washington, according to this source, the new "freedom" obtained by them causes them in many instances to "run wild", this being particularly true with respect to the younger element. He has also referred to a recent

Major General Edwin M. Watson

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"line-up" of 42 negro suspects, stating all were between the ages of 18 and 20 years.

Two confidential informants, both of whom are negroes and who have proven reliable in the past, have recently expressed their opinions as to the racial situation in Washington at the present time. Both have stated that conditions are tense and that a large number of negroes feel that racial trouble will break out in Washington. One informant has estimated that as high as 90 per cent of the people in his acquaintanceship have these feelings, while the other informant has stated that 30 or 40 per cent of the people, mostly among the laboring class, have these sentiments. They have also referred to talk heard by them of efforts being made on the part of negroes to protect themselves in the event trouble should arise. Neither of the informants have advised, however, of any specific statements as to the purchases of weapons.

One of the Bureau's confidential informants has stated that he believes the negroes who will cause the most trouble are the younger negroes between the ages of 16 and 18 years who are not in the Army and who have shown an insolent attitude that they will "take nothing from anyone". Another informant has stated that he has noticed the "sporting type" negro who has no regular employment is the type anxious for trouble. Both have advised that they know of no organizations or groups desiring trouble, rather that they are opposed to any conflict. They have stated that this is true with unions as well as employers who reportedly have attempted to "soft-pedal" racial trouble.

It should also be stated that for over a period of a year and a half numerous rumors and unsubstantiated allegations have been reported to this Bureau, the general theme of which indicates possible racial trouble and disturbances. As a whole, these rumors were found to be without foundation or to contain such general and nonspecific information that any inquiries made with respect to them proved negative in results. The climax of these rumors took place during the week of May 2-9, 1943, when a large number of telephone calls and inquiries were received by this Bureau in which the substance of the rumors was supplied. All were to the effect that there would be a race riot in the City of Washington. These rumors grew in proportion as the week passed and newspaper offices were said to have been flooded with inquiries on the matter. In tracing some of the rumors back to the original source it was usually ascertained that some person had made the remark there would be a race riot "some day" in Washington and this remark had then been turned and twisted until the riot was "expected today" and even to the point that "we are having a race riot".

Major General Edwin M. Watson

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It was during this same week that an organization in Washington known as the Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities conducted a campaign of picketing various street intersections in Washington to demand the employment of negroes by the Capital Transit Company. This organization climaxed its week of activities with a mass meeting held on May 7, 1943, in Franklin Park in Washington. It might be noted this organization has been in existence for over a year and has had for its purpose the obtaining of employment for negroes in public utilities. According to reliable informants, this organization has considerable Communist influence in it and numerous meetings held by the group are reported to have had Communist Party members and reported Communist sympathizers as speakers. According to informants, the officers of this organization were aware of the prevalency of the rumors and they are said to have been most anxious to avoid any violence as a result of their activities, realizing that this would defeat their purposes. However, the Chairman of this organization, William S. Johnson, an alleged Communist Party member, reportedly remarked that bloodshed would be necessary before any tangible results could be obtained. To the objection that violence might militate against them, Johnson is said to have stated that if negroes were afraid to die for their rights they would never get them.

With regard to organizational and recruiting activities of the Communist Party in the City of Washington, recent figures have been reported showing that 175 new recruits were obtained in the Party during the period from February 1, to April 30, 1943, approximately 150 of whom were said to be negroes. A previous membership figure has been reported as totalling approximately 625 of which, it has been said, almost 50 per cent are negroes. An approximation can be made that there are over 400 negro Communist Party members in Washington. It should be pointed out that the influence of the Party among negroes is extended through the Party's influence in such organizations as the Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities, a local chapter of the National Negro Congress, and through an organization which was until recently active and which is known as the Council of United Negro Labor Leaders in Washington. Numerous meetings have been held by these organizations in Washington for the past year and a half in which the attendance varied and at times reached as high as 500. An estimate as to the extent of influence on the part of the Party among the negroes through individual contacts of its members cannot be made, however.

With regard to the previously mentioned allegation that 80 per cent of the negro people in Washington have firearms and other weapons available, no definite figures have been received by this Bureau other than a recent estimate made by a ranking official of the Washington Police

Major General Edwin M. Watson

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Department. This source informed that in his opinion 25 per cent of the negro population may possess arms and ammunition. It is believed his estimate is based on information supplied by informants, observations of officers, and the number of negro arrestees who carry concealed weapons.

In February, 1942, it might be noted, allegations were received of a considerable amount of ice picks being purchased by negroes. There was at that time a survey made by the Washington Police Department which was made available to this Bureau reflecting that the majority of business establishments carrying this type of merchandise had noticed no unusual demand. A few had had an indication of an increased demand in the Summer and Fall of 1941. These demands had ceased by February, 1942.

It has also been reported that during the period of January 1, 1942, to September 26, 1942, a pawnshop known as the National Pawnbrokers, located in Arlington County, Virginia, sold 525 pistols and revolvers of which 147 were sold to negroes. Of this figure, it was reported that 125 resided in Washington. No additional figures have been reported as to the purchase and sale of arms to negro citizens in this area.

Recently another confidential informant of this Bureau, a negro, who has been considered reliable in the past, reported that in his opinion racial relationship in the Washington, D. C., Union Station is very tense, and should racial violence occur it may well begin at this place. Another informant, having no connections with the last named informant, has voiced similar views and has reported that the situation dates back to an incident occurring at the Union Station during the latter part of 1942 at which time the Washington Terminal Police allegedly physically mistreated one of the porters. The reason for this incident is not known, but it is said that bad feeling has existed since that time. It has also been reported that on the night of June 22, 1943, a porter at the Union Station jostled a white sailor which, according to the informant, might have resulted in racial violence if prompt action had not been taken by local police and the Navy shore patrol. The sailor involved had struck the porter for having jostled him. This incident is said to have occurred when a large number of sailors, many of whom were allegedly under the influence of liquor, were leaving the Station on leave.

Both informants have attributed the tense situation in the Union Station to crowded conditions there, to a lower type of redcap employee at the Station, and to the increased turmoil attending train arrival and departures.

Major General Edwin M. Watson

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Should additional pertinent information in this matter be received I shall make the same available to the President and you.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AUG -4 1943

2378
See also 2375
PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

I wanted to inform the President and you of further details reported to this Bureau concerning the situation in the Harlem area in New York City.

It is reported that five people were killed, six hundred injured and five hundred arrested. Estimates have been made of the damage caused by looting and plundering totaling millions of dollars. In this connection it has been further reported that the looting which was done during the early morning of August 2, 1943, included the area involving 6th, 7th and 8th Avenues between 110th Street on the South and 155th Street on the North in the Harlem area. It is said that most of the looting was done by groups of young Negroes, the majority of whom were between the ages of fifteen and twenty, although there were some both younger and older. These Negroes are said to have roved in gangs totaling fourteen or fifteen members.

As of August 3, 1943, it was reported that the New York State National Guard had been ordered to stand by for an alert call. White Military Police were replacing colored Military Police throughout the area. It is said that the reason for this action is that the colored Military Police, although doing their job effectively, seem to be sympathetic with the colored people. As of August 3, 1943, a large number of extra police were placed on call and there was also an increased number of auxiliary police called to duty.

While sporadic looting is said to have occurred throughout the day of August 2, 1943, the situation became comparatively quiet on the night of that day. A few minor incidents are said to have occurred during the early morning of August 3, 1943.

As of possible additional interest to the President and you, I wanted to supply you with information concerning the line of action reportedly

Major General Edwin M. Watson

Page Two

taken by the Communist Party in this matter. According to confidential informants, members of the Communist Party to whom they had talked at first branded the affair as being a result of "Fascism, police brutality, racial discrimination and 'Jim Crowism.'" Party members were allegedly ordered to stay away from Harlem and take no action until a meeting could be called. On the night of August 2, 1943, a meeting of Communist Party functionaries was said to have taken place at Academy Hall, New York City, at which time the main decision was made that the Party would take no action until the rioting and trouble had quieted.

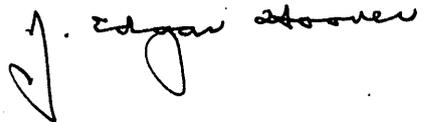
With regard to the action taken by City authorities in deputizing Negro citizens for auxiliary police duty, it was reported that the Communist Party was exceedingly interested in this matter. A confidential informant has advised that Martin Young, who is the head of the Industrial Section of the Communist Party in New York City, requested another Party functionary to obtain recruits and to direct certain other colored persons to the 28th Precinct Police Station for enlistment.

It has been additionally reported that Robert Minor, national functionary of the Communist Party, considered the actions of Mayor La Guardia in seeking the assistance of Walker White, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Max Yergan, who is reported to be closely connected with the Communist Party and who is President of the National Negro Congress, a Communist front organization, as being very satisfactory.

As additional pertinent details come to my attention in this matter, I shall make them available to the President and you.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

 J. Edgar Hoover

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AUG -4 1943

2377
7
PERSONAL [REDACTED]
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER
10-B

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

I wanted to make available to the President and you an estimate of the factors which are said to cause racial unrest in the vicinity of the Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, area, as supplied to this Bureau by confidential informants.

The informants advised that the Negroes in this area in discussing the recent New York riots have been laying plans against the police, and their general attitude has been to let the riots come. The Negroes' feelings against the Philadelphia Police Department have been running very high and informants believe that Philadelphia is in a crisis. The informants also stated if rioting breaks out the Negro action will be directed towards police and white shop owners within the colored districts in Philadelphia. To combat this, the informants advised, a Businessmen's Association was formed to alleviate incidents creating ill feelings between the colored and white shop owners.

If riots are to occur, informants have expressed the opinion they will take place within the next ten days as a result of the feelings caused by the recent trouble in the Harlem area of New York City. They have pointed out, however, that pressure by industrial firms in the Philadelphia area has caused the white newspapers to refrain from headlining the New York trouble, while the Negro newspapers will headline the incidents unless pressure prevents them. The Negro newspapers will go to press Wednesday and Thursday, August 4 and 5, 1943. In this connection other confidential sources have expressed opinions that the Negro newspapers, if they headline the Harlem situation, will cause a great reaction among the Negro population.

Major General Edwin M. Watson

Page 2

It has also been reported the colored candidates for the Fall elections have been warned that if riots occur they will be taken from the ballot. Relative to this, informants state it will have no effect on the situation which they believe is becoming increasingly tense.

On July 13, 1943, the City Police Committee met with the Mayor of Philadelphia to plan an interracial committee to alleviate tension. However, at this meeting the Mayor did not and has not as yet appointed an interracial committee. The informants stated that pressure is being brought upon the Mayor by colored politicians for him to appoint this committee. Yet, the informants advised, the committee will probably have little effect as the only likely individuals for appointment thereon are not true representatives of the colored race who can appreciate the problem.

Confidential informants have also advised this Bureau that the granting of shipyard homes to house Negroes within the White area in Philadelphia is also becoming a tense problem. The whites have circulated petitions and held mass meetings to prevent any Negro occupancy. On the other hand, informants stated, the Negro leaders and their organizations demand Negro occupancy and the whites in the area are highly incensed.

No further information concerning this situation is available at this time. I shall, of course, furnish the President and you with additional information as it is received by this Bureau.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AUG -4 1943

2360
7
PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

As of possible interest to the President and
you, there is being transmitted herewith a memorandum
setting forth information regarding the possible over-
throw of the present Prado Government in Peru in the near
future.

With assurance of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(E)(2)
Justice Dept. letter, 9-21-72
By DBS, NLR, Date JUL 8 1975

AUG -4 1943

Threat of Revolution in Peru

Information has been received from a reliable, confidential source at Lima, Peru, that Haya de la Torre, leader of the popular Aprista Party, is definitely of the opinion that a political revolution will occur in Peru during this year. According to the information received, the leaders of Union Revolucionaria, including Manuel Mujica Gallo, Carlos Miro Quesada and Mario Ureta, plan to effect a revolution after Congress has assembled in late September. The present plans, however, are indefinite.

It has been reliably ascertained that Haya de la Torre denies that the Aprista Party is planning a revolution. He contends that the Apristas are engaged merely in anti-government propaganda and that the Apristas plan to benefit by the revolution of Union Revolucionaria through concessions which they hope to obtain.

According to information previously received, Union Revolucionaria was founded in 1933 by General Sanchez Cerro who was succeeded by Luis A. Flores. Flores, who has been exiled to Chile, followed the Party's Fascist pattern. In 1939 the Party divided into two factions, one of which was headed by Flores and the other by General Cirilio Ortega, the latter group opposing President Prado and the Allied Nations. The Party, which is considered to have little influence according to the information received, circulated anti-United States propaganda on the occasion of Vice President Wallace's recent visit to Peru. Flores has been reported as definitely sympathetic with the Axis Powers and against the foreign policies of President Prado. While the Party is small, several prominent Peruvians are allied with it and some of its wealthier members are related by marriage to Prado.

Further information, received in 1941, related that the Party is banned in Peru, and documentary evidence indicates very close cooperation with the German Government.

On June 10, 1943, Haya de la Torre, stated that a revolution led by high military officials is expected within a short time. Although Haya de la Torre denied that the Aprista Party would support this revolution, it is significant that propaganda distributed among the Peruvian armed forces was very similar to that used by de la Torre's followers.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
AUG -4 1943

2381
also see 2384

PERSONAL AND [REDACTED]
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

As of possible interest to the President and you, there is enclosed herewith a memorandum setting out information received from a reliable, confidential source concerning the holding of a Congress of the Confederation of Workers of Latin America beginning July 26, 1943 in Havana, Cuba.

When additional information is received concerning the Congress, it will be promptly forwarded for your attention.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(E)(2)
Justice Dept. letter, 9-21-72
By DBS, NLR, Date JUL 8 1975

AUG -4 1943

MEMORANDUM

Re: Confederacion de Trabajadores de America Latina
(Confederation of Workers of Latin America - C.T.A.L.)
Congress Held in Havana, Cuba, July 26, 1943.

The Congress opened on July 26, 1943 at Havana, Cuba, the first meeting being held in the headquarters of the Confederation of Workers of Cuba (C.T.C.).

The first meeting of the Congress was attended by President Batista, of Cuba, together with the principal leaders of the Cuban Government which has contributed \$5,000 toward the expenses of the Congress and is paying all hotel bills of the delegates attending.

Thirty-five delegates were reported to be in attendance at the opening of the Congress, representing Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Uruguay and the United States.

The delegates from Mexico are Vicente Lombardo Toledano, President of the C.T.A.L., and Andre Simon, alias Otto Katz, reported to be Communistic.

Enrique Rodriguez, delegate from Uruguay, is reported to be a leader of the Communist Party in that country. Jacob Potofsky, an official of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, is the sole representative from the United States at the Congress. It is reported that the American Federation of Labor has no representation at the Congress, having declined an invitation to send delegates, as did the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the Railroad Brotherhoods and the Canadian Unions.

It is reported that in the opening speech, President Batista told the assembled delegates that "neither the United States of America nor Great Britain nor Russia are a peril but that the solution of all problems depends upon the peace and security established in each country." President Batista further declared that no regime or ideology is to be feared in view of the Democratic principles guaranteed by the Atlantic Charter.

Lombardo Toledano delivered a speech on the opening day of the Congress, at which time he stated that postwar economic reconstruction cannot be attained according to the "New Christian Order," which means a return to feudalism or free capitalistic competition, all of which will result in super-Imperialism. The session of July 27, 1943 was devoted to a report of Lombardo Toledano in which he traced the developments of the labor movement and its present status in each of the South American countries as well as in Cuba and in Mexico. Lombardo Toledano stated that the C.T.A.L. will request businessmen, manufacturers and bankers to meet with the workers to discuss means of increasing production and raising economic levels in each country. He further declared that the C.T.A.L. is not only preoccupied with the unification of Latin American workers but is also concerned with the unification of the workers of the world. Lombardo Toledano declared that a congress of workers

of the world should be called, at least a congress of workers of all anti-Fascist countries. He also made it known that the intentions of the C.T.A.L. are to enter into a "Comite de Sindicatos Anglo Sovieticos."

Lombardo Toledano praised the Congress of Industrial Organizations of the United States as being the "Godfather of the C.T.A.L." He criticized the American Federation of Labor for its failure to accept overtures of the C.T.A.L., charging that this attitude hinders cooperation of Latin American workers with the war efforts of the United States.

Information received from confidential sources indicates that Lombardo Toledano intends to visit Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic, immediately after the closing of the C.T.A.L. Congress in Havana for the purpose of asking President Trujillo for permission to organize a Free Workers Organization and will request liberal treatment of political organization in the Dominican Republic. It is said that this visit of Lombardo Toledano is in response to an invitation which he accepted on the condition that he be free to speak and act with a view toward doing something along political and economic lines for workers in the Dominican Republic. It is reported that he intends to organize in that country an international workers' committee composed of representatives of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, the American Federation of Labor and the C.T.A.L. in a campaign to inaugurate the organization of peasants and workers, with particular emphasis upon an anti-Fascist campaign.

It is reported that the only foreign diplomat to address the C.T.A.L. Congress during the first two days in session was Dmitri Zaikin, Charge d'Affaires of the Russian Legation in Havana, Cuba, who brought greetings from Premier Stalin.

The above-mentioned Jacob Potofsky, previously reported as being a C.I.O. delegate from the United States, is reported by another source to be in attendance at the Congress as a personal friend of Lombardo Toledano. Potofsky addressed the Congress on July 29, 1943, giving a report on the labor movement in the United States. He is reported to have stated that enemies of labor in his country have passed laws detrimental to labor, taking advantage of dissension which exists between C.I.O., A.F. of L. and other labor organizations. Potofsky expressed hope that the postwar period would see an industrialization period and stated that the C.I.O. wants better standards of living in Latin America. It is known that Potofsky conferred with President Batista in what he termed a courtesy call.

Leon Rentreria, head of the Cuban Maritime Union, appeared at the Congress after having first declined in a letter to Lazaro Pena, Communist leader and Secretary-General of the Confederation of Cuban Workers. Rentreria had written to Pena that the Congress had already "railroaded" its program in advance.

On July 29, 1943, the Congress received a telegram from the Central Council of Soviet Syndicates expressing regrets for being unable to send a delegate. This message stated that the Anglo-Soviet Syndical Council has recently discussed its extension to the unions of countries struggling at the side of the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition.

At the July 29, 1943 session, the C.T.A.L. Congress delegates signed a letter to President Batista requesting that the Cuban Government approve the sugar workers' retirement and social assistance legislation. This session of the Congress was also devoted to Lazaro Pena, Secretary-General of the Confederation of Cuban Workers who set out the developments of that organization and related its achievements on behalf of labor. The delegates at this time sent greetings to the leaders of the United Nations and to the Congress of Spanish Refugee Youth being held in Mexico City. A report criticizing "outrages" allegedly committed by the Cuban Mining Company and the Nicaro Nickel Company, both American-operated concerns in Cuba, was presented to Jacob Potofsky, C.I.O. representative from the United States. The aid of the C.I.O. was solicited in obtaining better working conditions at these mines.

On July 29, 1943, Lombardo Toledano, accompanied by Andre Simon and Lazaro Pena, conferred with President Batista for nearly two hours. After this conference, Toledano was interrogated and replied that with reference to labor difficulties in the United States, they should be arbitrated in wartime. It was reported that Toledano planned to leave for the Dominican Republic together with his wife and daughter, Angel Miolan, Isaac Liebson and Andre Simon, at the close of the C.T.A.L. Congress.

The session of July 30, 1943 was postponed. The delegates were guests of Dr. Anselmo Alliegro, Cuban Minister of Education, at Ceiba del Agua, in Pinar del Rio Province, along with Prime Minister Zaydin and Minister of Labor Suarez Rivasa.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AUG 7 1943

2387
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PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

As of possible interest to the President and you
there is being transmitted information obtained from a highly
confidential and reliable source indicating a possible over-
throw of the Arroyo government in Ecuador.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(E)(2)
Justice Dept. letter, 9-21-72
By DBS, NLR, Date JUL 8 1975

AUG 7 1943

RE: THREAT OF REVOLUTION IN ECUADOR

Information has been received from a highly confidential and reliable source that the incumbent government of Ecuador, headed by Dr. Carlos Arroyo Del Rio, is expecting a revolutionary attempt under the direction of a newly formed political group called the Alianza Democratica Ecuatoriano. This revolutionary action is expected to start immediately before Congress convenes on August 10, 1943, or shortly thereafter.

The Alianza Party is reported to consist of a united front of all elements and political groups opposing the present administration, including the Communists, Socialists, Independent Liberals, Conservatives, Vanguardistas, and others. These elements are reported to have openly come out in support of Jose Maria Velasco Ibarra, ex-president of Ecuador who is presently a political refugee residing in Chile.

The revolutionary attempt is believed to be relying on the medium of the popular appeal of Velasco Ibarra for its success. Information received indicates that the government authorities will make an attempt to break up the block that has formed against the government by arrest and confinement of the leaders of the Alianza Party within the next few days, as the government definitely fears a revolutionary move on the part of the opposition.

It will be recalled that ex-president Velasco Ibarra has been reported as the most powerful candidate in the coming presidential election of the Republic of Ecuador. President Arroyo Del Rio, it is reported, will not permit freedom of election in spite of the constitutional provisions in this respect and will not permit the return of Ibarra to Ecuador. Velasco Ibarra not only has the support of the newly formed united front of the Alianza mentioned above, but is also supported by such individuals as Galo Plaza who is a steadfast enemy of the incumbent government and President Arroyo. Galo Plaza, it will be recalled, is a brother of Jose Maria Plaza who is presently serving a sixteen year jail sentence in prison at Quito, Ecuador, for leading the uprising against Arroyo's administration in May, 1942.

Dr. Alberto Acosta Soberon, brother-in-law of ex-president Velasco Ibarra, is reported to have recently stated that he did not think that there would be a revolution nor did he feel that Velasco Ibarra would return to Ecuador while the incumbent President Arroyo was in power.

Acosta Soberon has frequently been mentioned as a compromise candidate for the presidency as between the Socialists and the Leftists on the one hand and the Conservatives on the other. The Conservatives have previously been reluctant to back Ibarra because he was reportedly unreliable and might by now be a complete Communist. It was further stated

that Ibarra has been notorious for changing his beliefs from one political extreme to the other.

The government of Ecuador, as reported by an informant, is expecting the return of Velasco Ibarra from Chile for the purpose of heading a revolution. In this regard the government is stated to have taken every precaution to prevent his return and is watching the frontiers closely.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

August 9, 1943

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PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

I thought that the President and you would be interested in information that has recently come to my attention dealing with the background and motivation of a series of articles touching on the social and other aspects of the film industry in Hollywood, California.

These articles were written by a staff writer of the Chicago Tribune and were syndicated in very many papers throughout the country during July of this year. The information in the attached memorandum has come to me from ordinarily reliable sources.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Attachment

MEMORANDUM

A series of articles under the by-line of Marcia Winn has been appearing in papers throughout the country dealing with social conditions in Hollywood, California, and in this connection touching on vice conditions, the politico-labor aspects of the film industry and allied matters. In tone and material, these articles have been in derogation of personnel of the film capital and have made particular use of the incidents involving Errol Flynn and Charlie Chaplin. The motion picture recently released, "Mission to Moscow" was discussed at some length in these articles in a highly critical fashion and attention was paid also to the activities in Hollywood of William Bioff and George Brown who are presently serving sentences for violations of the Anti-Racketeering Statute.

The author of these articles, Marcia Winn, is a special writer for the Chicago Tribune and it has been reported that she spent some time in Hollywood recently at the instigation of Colonel Robert McCormack, owner of the Chicago Tribune, for the purpose of getting material to be used as a smear campaign against the present administration. It is alleged that this material was to be pointed at proving that the present administration had connection with and control of the film industry, approved its spectacular and corrupt social life and utilized the powerful propaganda possibilities of the film industry in an illegal and unethical manner.

It has been ascertained that leading figures in the film industry who were believed to be somewhat opposed to the present administration as evidenced by their opposition and protest to the activities of Lowell Mellett and the Office of War Information, were contacted by Miss Winn and advised that Colonel McCormack intended to utilize his newspaper channels in opposition to the administration of President Roosevelt by showing a direct "tie-in" between the administration, the Office of War Information and the film industry; that the Chicago Tribune would attempt to prove this "tie-in" by exposing vice conditions and other derogatory conditions allegedly existent in Hollywood to lay the responsibility on the leaders of the present administration. It has been ascertained that in contacting these film industry leaders Miss Winn demonstrated particular interest in the Flynn and Chaplin cases, the film "Mission to Moscow" and matters relating to Bioff and Brown.

Miss Winn contacted several high executives of the film industry and nearly all of the publicity departments of the leading companies. It is reported that when her purposes became apparent and when it became known that her intention was to paint an unpleasant picture of Hollywood, the representatives of the film companies were discreet and careful in their interviews with her.

The early articles of this series dealt particularly with prostitution and vice allegedly existent in the film capital and it was specifically stated that 300 girls per month were forced into prostitution having become involved with the racketeer fringe of the film industry after being unsuccessful in achieving a movie career.

It has been reported that the publication of these articles was delayed for some time while efforts were made to obtain nation-wide syndication for them. It has been stated that the actual syndication did not achieve the most complete coverage desired and that in particular the press on the West Coast was uncooperative in publication of them.

It has been reported that District Attorney Fred Howser of Los Angeles County furnished some of the material used in the articles by Marcia Winn and that Howser was motivated to do this because of his recent open conflict with Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
AUG 11 1943

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also see 2381

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PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

It has been determined that at the recent convention of the Confederation of Latin American Workers held at Havana, Cuba, one Otto Katz was a delegate from Mexico.

Otto Katz is an outstanding German Stalinist now living in Mexico who has been variously reported as an agent of the Communist International and a former member of the OGPU.

Information has been received through a confidential source that Otto Katz is reportedly telling his close friends in Mexico that the dissolution of the Communist International "is only on paper" and that a change is inevitable because the United States will probably fight the Soviet Union as a result of differences regarding postwar plans.

I thought the President and you would be interested in the foregoing.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(E)(2)
Justice Dept. letter, 9-21-72
By DBS, NLR, Date

JUL 8 1975

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AUG 19 1943

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

RE: MAX WEISER WEINREB, WA. MAX WEISSER;
ROBERTO RUF; M. SCHUMANN, WAS. M.
SCHUHANN, MAX SCHUMANN; MAJER SCHUMAN

Dear General Watson:

As of possible interest to the President and you, information has been received from a confidential and reliable source relative to the activities of the above named individuals in dealing in counterfeit money and the black dollar market in Quito, Ecuador.

Dr. Max Weiser Weinreb, manager of the Cooperativa de Credito para Industria, Comercio y Agricultura in Quito, Ecuador, is reportedly engaged in transmitting counterfeit United States currency from Ecuador to Panama as well as being engaged in the black dollar market in Ecuador. It is reliable reported that Max Weiser approached an individual with a view to selling him American currency at a rate below the present exchange rate in Ecuador, which currency was to be exchanged through a contact in Panama. Five twenty-dollar bills in American money were purchased by the informant and upon obtaining possession of the currency it was immediately determined that the money was obviously counterfeit. It is stated that Weiser placed on deposit in the Cooperative Bank in Quito an amount equal to the currency sold the informant which was to be refunded to him in the event he was unsuccessful in disposing of the currency in Panama.

Major General Edwin M. Watson

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Investigation by this Bureau through a confidential source has disclosed that one Roberto Ruf, a German refugee residing in Quito, Ecuador had acquired the currency in Portugal and in Barcelona, Spain, and it had been smuggled to South America by a relative of Ruf's. Of a total of \$1,380. in United States currency purchased, Ruf had disposed of one five hundred-dollar bill and five twenty-dollar bills which included the amount purchased by the informant. The \$780. remaining in the possession of Weiser and Ruf was reported to be counterfeit currency. With regard to the five hundred-dollar bill disposed of by Weiser and Ruf, it was not known whether this currency was counterfeit. However, it had been sold to an American citizen named Joseph A. Lowenstein, an employee of the accounting firm, Loeb and Tropper of New York City. This currency had been sold to Lowenstein at a rate lower than the existing rate of exchange in Ecuador.

This information has been forwarded to the Treasury Department for whatever action is deemed appropriate.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
AUG 20 1943

2306
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PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

As of possible interest to the President and you, there is enclosed herewith a memorandum setting out additional information received from a reliable, confidential source concerning the holding of a Congress of the Confederation of Workers of Latin America on July 26, 1943 in Havana, Cuba. The information set out in the enclosure will supplement that forwarded to you under recent date in the matter. It will be noted from the enclosure that among the resolutions passed by the Congress in Havana, it was resolved to request that the President grant the unconditional release of the Puerto Rican leader, Pedro Albizu Campos.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(E)(2)
Justice Dept. letter, 9-21-72
By DBS, NLR, Date JUL 8 1975

MEMORANDUM

Re: Confederacion de Trabajadores de America Latina
(Confederation of Workers of Latin America)
C.T.A.L. Congress held in Havana, Cuba
July 26, 1943

I. BACKGROUND OF THE CONGRESS

The Executive Council of the CTAL, the Workers' Confederation of Latin America, presided over by the Mexican leader, Vicente Lombardo Toledano, held meetings in Havana every day from July 26, 1943 to August 1, 1943, inclusive.

The CTAL comprises: the Workers' Confederation of Mexico (CTM); the Workers' Confederation of Cuba (CTC); the Workers' Confederation of Chile (CTCH); the General Labor Confederation of Argentina (CGT); the Workers' Confederation of Colombia (CTC); the Workers' General Union of Uruguay (UGT); the Workers' Confederation of Costa Rica, though not duly consolidated; and some other unimportant unions of Latin American countries.

On July 23, 1943, "Hoy," the Communist daily newspaper of Havana, carried an article dealing with the plans of the Congress which was to begin in a few days. The article optimistically declared that such personages as Walter Citrine, representative of the English trade unions and President of the International Labor Federation, centered in London, would attend, as well as the secretary of the latter organization, W. Schevanel; representatives of the CIO and AF of L; directors of the railroad brotherhoods and farmer organizations of the United States; directors of unions of the USSR, Sweden, Turkey, and Free France, as well as delegates of central unions of countries invaded by the Nazis who find themselves in exile. Delegates from India, China, Australia, South Africa, and Jamaica also promised their attendance, according to "Hoy."

A considerable number of social and educational functions were planned for the delegates, which will be set out in detail later in this memorandum. In fact, before the Congress opened, Leon Renteria, head of the Cuban Maritime Workers' Union, wrote to Lazaro Pena, a leading Cuban Communist and Secretary General of the CTC, that he would not attend

because the program was fully prepared in advance to be railroaded through without discussion. However, Renteria appeared at the opening session of the Congress and made a brief speech of welcome.

II. PROGRAM OF THE CONGRESS

The following is the program to be discussed by the Council of the CTAL:

- 1) The efforts of the Latin American workers to contribute more effectively to the victory against Hitler and his allies.
- 2) The economic problems that actually affect the peoples of Latin America.
- 3) The coordination of the economic plans of all the Latin American countries at the termination of the war to face the necessities of the peoples who have carried the weight of the war.
- 4) The examination of the interior political situations of the Latin American countries.
- 5) The future political relations between the United States and Latin America.
- 6) Minimum program of development of Latin American countries in the post war.
- 7) Intervention of the international worker's movement in the discussion of the problems of peace.
- 8) Report of the President of the CTAL.

III. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES OF THE CONGRESS

A. SESSION OF JULY 26, 1943

1) Persons in Attendance

Members of the Cuban Government

Fulgencio Batista, President of the Republic;
Dr. Jose Suarez Rivas, Minister of Labor;
Dr. Rafael Guas Inclan, Governor of Habana Province;
Carlos Saladrigas, Candidate for Presidency;
Luis Rodolfo Miranda, Sub-Secretary of State;
Dr. Juan Marinello, Minister without Portfolio and
President of the Union Revolucionaria Comunista;
Dr. Bravo Acosta, Minister of Government;

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Dr. Miguel Angel Caspedes, Sub-Secretary of Justice;
Dr. Sosa de Quesada, Minister of National Defense;
General Manuel Benitez, Chief of the National Police;
Dr. Ramon Zaydin, Cuban Prime Minister;
Dr. Joaquin Martinez Saenz, Minister of Agriculture;
Dr. Anselmo Alliegro Mila, Minister of Education;
Pastor del Rio, Parliamentary leader of the Democratic Party;
Dr. Portuondo Domenech, Minister of Health;
Dr. Alejandro Vergara, Director of Immigration;
Dra. Ofelia Dominguez, Directress of War Propaganda;
Senator Jorge Manach;
Dr. Francisco Bobes, Director General of Labor;
Sergio Parra Perez, Director General of Inspection of
the Ministry of Labor;
Dr. Andres Domingo Morales del Castillo, Secretary of
the Presidency;
Colonel Jaime Marine;
Dr. Marino Lopez Blanco;
Pedro Lopez Dorticos.

Members of Consular Services

Mr. Garret G. Ackerson, of the United States Embassy;
Dimitri Zaikin, Charge d'Affaires of the USSR;
Dr. Yuan Tao-Feng, Charge d'Affaires of China;
M. Antoine Bervin, Charge d'Affaires of Haiti;
M. Philippe Grousset, representative of the Free French.

Labor leaders and representatives

Vicente Lombardo Toledano, President of the CTAL;
Lazaro Pena, Secretary General of the CTC;
Ramon Leon Renteria, Vice Secretary General of the CTC;
Elas Roca, Secretary General of the URC;
Jacob S. Potofski, delegate of the CIO;
Bernardo Ibanez, Vice President of the CTAL;
Salvador Ocampo, Secretary General of the Confederacion
de Trabajadores de Chile;
Enrique Rodriguez, of the Union General de Trabajadores
de Uruguay;
Victor Cordero, representative of the workers of Costa Rica;
Wenceslao Medrano and Alberto Barda, delegates of the workers
of the Dominican Republic;
Alberto Sanchez, delegate of the workers of Puerto Rico;

Guillermo Rodriguez, delegate of the workers of Colombia and vice president of the CTAL;
Jose Morera, Angeles Echevarria, Carlos Fernandez, Angel Cofino, Juan Arevalo, and Jose Miguel Espino, Executive Committee of the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Cuba;
J. Argana, delegate of the workers of Argentina;
Fidel Velazquez, Isaac Libenson, Mario Montenegro, Juan Godinez, and Luis Gomez, the Mexican delegates

Various other figures attending

Anibal Escalante Dellunde, Director of "Hoy;"
Julio Cesar Gonzalez Rebull, Director of "El Crisol;"
Dr. Angel Alberto Giraudy, President of the FNA;
Mario Massens, Director of "Avance";
Salvador Garcia Agüero, Congressional representative of URC;
Lygia Prestes, sister of Luis Carlos Prestes;
Juan Payret;
Davis Alfaro Siquieros, Mexican painter;
Eduardo Canas, representing the ANEPC;
Dr. Arturo Comas Calero, President of the Maternity Board.

2) Opening Ceremonies

The first meeting began at 9:30 p.m. on July 26, 1943, with various artistic presentations. Dr. Suarez Rivas was the first to speak, formally opening the meeting. Messages of greeting sent by the Presidents of Chile, Costa Rica and Mexico, and by the Vice President of the United States were read. The President of the Republic made his entrance into the Worker's Palace at 10:45 p.m., receiving an ovation. He effusively embraced Vicente Lombardo Toledano and Lazaro Pena.

Ramon Leon Renteria made a speech of welcome in the name of the CTC and the CTAL, and expressed appreciation of the fact that Cuba was selected for this meeting, and saluting the delegates. He was followed by Dimitri Zaikin, who brought the salutation of the Russian people and Stalin. It is noted that the representative of Soviet Russia was the only member of the diplomatic corps to address the Congress.

Lazaro Pena was introduced as the next speaker, and he received a tremendous ovation from the crowd. He made a lengthy speech, discussing the Cuban war efforts, made in spite of the obstacles placed in the way by such reactionary forces as the Lonja del Comercio and the newspaper "Diario de la Marina," and referred also to obstacles placed in the way of the United States by obstructionists and "Munichists" who are working for a negotiated peace. He mentioned briefly the work facing the CTAL in their meeting, and castigated the "Trotskyists" who have made accusations against Lombardo Toledano.

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President Fulgencio Batista followed Pena to the speaker's position. He expressed the honor felt by the Cuban people at having Cuba chosen for the site of the convention, and he said that the delegates were on free and democratic soil, where they could speak freely, and could make a resolution from the workers of America to the workers of the world that the postwar peace will be based on social justice.

He stated that the Cuban people have declared to the American people and to their strong president that the Cubans wish to offer all, without receiving anything, and what is received now matters little. That which interests the Cubans is that in the future there be liberty, justice, and independence. Batista further stated that neither the United States of America nor Great Britain nor Russia are a peril, but the solution of all problems depends on the peace and security of each country. He further declared that no regime or ideology is to be feared because in the reign of democracy promised in the Atlantic Charter, each people will be as free as it wishes.

The final speech of the evening was made by Lombardo Toledano. He said that the principal reason for the meeting of the workers was to proclaim that their principal task is to continue winning the war. In order to win the war, it will be necessary to bring about the total invasion of the European Continent and secure an unconditional surrender of the Fascists. However, he declared, appeasement elements of the United States and England praise contrary methods, supporting the idea of a partial invasion of Europe and negotiating separate peace treaties with the Fascist governments, placing a "Darlan" in each of them.

He continued that the workers of Latin America offer their efforts to win the war, increasing production, and offering contingents of thousands of volunteers who want to fight on the battlefields under the banners of the Latin American countries. He rejected the accusation made that disturbances are being planned which will take place when the war is over.

In referring to plans advanced for the postwar period, he mentioned the economic doctrine of equilibrium, which advocates the return to the age of free capitalist competition, and he said that it was a theory of super-imperialism which tends to restore the world dictatorship of monopolies and the Trotskyist theory of revolution simultaneously in all the world. He also stated that the postwar economic reconstruction cannot be based upon "the new Christian order proposed by the Catholic church because it would mean a return to feudalism." He declared that the only possible solution was the right of self determination by the people of the kind of government that they wanted, in agreement with their stage of national development, and under the fundamental and invariable principle of democracy. He said that

in the postwar the principles set forth in the Atlantic Charter should be complied with, and that is the aim of the Latin American workers.

3) List of Delegates and Their Affiliations

Argentina -- Jose Maria Argana. The representative of the workers' organization of Argentina known as CGT. This organization is reported to have been divided since the last Congress in December 1942. It now has two sections, CGT 1 and CGT 2. The latter is dominated by Communists and has been dissolved by the present military government of General Ramirez. CGT 1 has broken relations with the CTAL; however, Argana was accepted as the Argentine delegate. He is a Socialist.

Chile -- Bernardo Ibanez and Salvador Ocampo. Bernardo Ibanez is a Vice President of the CTAL and a representative of the Chilean workers. He is a Socialist. Salvador Ocampo is a regional secretary of the CTAL and Secretary General of the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Chile. He is a Communist.

Uruguay and Paraguay -- Enrique Rodriguez. He was a representative of the Union General de Trabajadores de Uruguay. He also represented Paraguay. He is a Communist.

Colombia -- Guillermo Rodriguez. He is a Vice President of the CTAL and a representative of the workers of Colombia. He is a Communist.

Costa Rica -- Victor Cordero. He was the representative of the workers of Costa Rica, and is a Communist.

Dominican Republic -- Wenceslao Medrano and Alberto Barda. These two individuals attended as representatives of the workers of the Dominican Republic. However, there is no workers' organization in the Dominican Republic. Politically, they might be termed Trujillistas.

Mexico -- Vicente Lombardo Toledano and Fidel Velazquez. Lombardo Toledano is President of the CTAL, and is a Communist. Fidel Velazquez is Secretary General of the CTAL and Secretary of the Mexican labor organization, CTM. He is not a Communist but a believer in constructive unionism.

Puerto Rico -- Alberto Sanchez. He represented the workers of Puerto Rico and is a Communist.

United States -- Jacob Potofski. He is an official of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers and a representative of the CIO. It is said that he is not a Communist but cooperates with them. Information has been received

MEMORANDUM

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that Potofski was not the official representative of the CIO, and could not bind this organization to any course of action. He was present at the Congress as a fraternal delegate because of his personal friendship with Lombardo Toledano.

Cuba -- Lazaro Pena and Ramon Leon Renteria. Pena is a Vice President of the CTAL and the Secretary General of the Confederacion de Trabajadores Cubanos. He is a Communist. Renteria is a regional secretary of the CTAL, the president of the FOMN (Federacion Obreros Maritima Nacional), and vice Secretary General of the CTC. He is not believed to be a Communist.

In attendance as fraternal delegates were the Cuban labor leaders -- Jose Morera, Angel Cofino, Carlos Fernandez, Jose Miguel Espino, Angeles Echevarria, all Communists; and Juan Arevalo, a Socialist.

From Mexico City, Luis Gomez and Mario Montenegro, both anti-Communists, attended as fraternal delegates.

David Alfaro Siquieros, a famous painter and a Communist, attended as a representative of the Continental Committee of Art for Victory.

David C. Naltah attended as representative of the workers' organizations of the English colonies in the Caribbean. He is not a Communist but is believed to carry out their instructions.

Frederick Field attended as the representative of the Council for Pan American Democracy, reputed to be a Communist front organization. He also represented the magazine "New Masses."

Angel Miolan, Jimenez Grullon, and Virgilio Mainardi attended as representatives of the Dominican Revolutionary Party.

Otto Katz, alias Andre Simon, arrived in Havana with the Mexican delegation to the Congress as an observer. He is a well known Communist and the author of "Yo Acuso" and the editor of a Communist newspaper in Mexico City. During his stay in Havana, Katz had a lengthy conference with President Batista. Information has been received that during the conference, Katz attempted to convince Batista that the only way in which the labor movement can attain the power it desires is to incorporate the principles of Communism in every labor syndicate and union throughout the world. It has also been reported that Katz tried to induce Batista to become the head of all Latin American labor movements. By so doing and by supporting the principles of Communism, Katz reportedly assured Batista that he would become an important figure in the postwar world.

Information concerning the labor and political affiliations of these delegates was received from an individual who is personally acquainted with them.

4) Program of Entertainment Arranged for Delegates

The July 27 issue of the newspaper "Hoy" carried the following program of entertainment which had been arranged for the delegates:

- July 27 - 4:00 p.m. A punch of honor given by the Sindicato de Estibadores in La Cotorra.
- 9:00 p.m. A punch of honor in the Union de Obreros de la Industria Cigarrera.
- July 28 - 12:00 m. An official visit to the Ministry of Labor.
- 2:00 p.m. Visits to La Corona tobacco factory, Crusellas and Co., and El Cuno.
- 5:00 p.m. A coffee of honor in the Centro Benefico Juridico de Trabajadores de Cuba.
- 9:00 p.m. A cultural act in the Sindicato de Omnibuses Aliados.
- 11:00 p.m. Punch of honor in Delegation No. 2 of the Hermandad Ferroviaria de Cuba.
- July 29 - 5:00 p.m. A visit to the Maternity Hospital.
- 7:00 p.m. A punch of honor at the Frente Nacional Antifascista.
- 9:00 p.m. A punch of honor at the Sociedad de Conductores de Carros y Camiones.
- 11:00 p.m. A punch in the Club de Cantineros de la Republica de Cuba.
- July 30 - 2:00 p.m. Visit to the Technological Institute of Ceiba del Agua.
- 9:00 p.m. A punch of honor at the Casa de Cultura.
- 11:00 p.m. A punch in the Federacion Gastronomica.
- July 31 - 5:00 p.m. A punch at the Sindicato de Plantas Electricas, Gas y Agua.
- 9:00 p.m. A punch at the Sindicato de Tabaqueros.
- 10:30 p.m. Coffee at the Sindicato de Motoristas y Conductores de la Habana.

11:30 p.m. Punch in the Federacion Local Maritima del Puerto de la Habana.

B. SESSION OF JULY 27, 1943

The second session of the Council of the CTAL opened at 10:00 a.m. in the Hall of the Federacion Sindical de Plantas Electricas, Gas y Agua. The presidium was occupied by Lombardo Toledano, President; Fidel Velazquez, Secretary General; and Vice Presidents Bernardo Ibanez, Lazaro Pena and Guillermo Rodriguez. The previously named delegates were present as well as the fraternal delegates and observers.

1) Report of Lombardo Toledano

The second session was dedicated to the report made by the President, Lombardo Toledano.

Lombardo Toledano described the economic crisis which has been caused by the dislocation of commercial relations of the Latin American countries with their European and American markets. He referred to the lack of foresight of these countries in not developing their own economic resources which are simply waiting for a plan. He said that the CTAL will appeal to the capitalists, industrialists, merchants, bankers, etc., in order to unite them to the workers in undertaking to intensify production and raise the economy of each country.

He added that the CTAL has aspired to draw closer to similar organizations, and on two occasions has approached the AF of L and workers' organizations of Canada, not only for reasons of class and doctrine, but also because of patriotic motives. He criticized the American Federation of Labor for failure to accept CTAL overtures, charging that this attitude hurt the cooperation of Latin American workers in the war effort of the United States. He said that the CIO has been like a godfather to the CTAL and has always lent its aid.

Now the moment has arrived not only to be concerned about the unity of the American workers, but also world proletarian unity, he declared. He announced the proposal of the Council to convoke an international assembly of workers of the world, or at least of those countries which are fighting against Nazi-Fascism. He also announced the intention of the CTAL to enter the Committee of Anglo-Soviet Unions, following a resolution adopted by the Third Congress of the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Mexico.

Lombardo Toledano closed his speech by making brief reference to the sindical situation in each of the Latin American countries.

C. SESSION OF JULY 28, 1943

1) Reports by Delegates of Conditions in Their Respective Countries

The third session of the CTAL Congress began at 10:00 a.m., July 28, 1943. The meeting consisted of the giving of reports by various delegates of the American central unions.

The first speaker was David Naltah, delegate of the workers' organizations of the British Colonies in the Caribbean. He outlined what those workers have done to win the war, and referred to the meeting held in Camaguey on May 20th by representatives of these workers' organizations with representatives of the British government, in which it was agreed to demand a Dominion status, and the cessation of the colonial status. A new flag proposed for the new dominion was displayed. Naltah stated that King George, President Roosevelt, and the Cuban government have been notified, and he requested the aid of the CTAL in their efforts to obtain such a status.

The Vice President of the CTAL, Bernardo Ibanez, discussed the politics of Chile, and spoke of the cordial attitude of President Rios toward the Chilean workers' confederation.

The CIO representative, Jacob Potofski, followed Ibanez. He declared that the CIO has always considered the importance of the Latin American problems, and has recently created a committee to study them. The purpose of this committee is to cooperate with the Latin American workers, and aid them to realize a greater war effort.

In the short existence of the committee, it has intervened in the problem of the tin workers of Bolivia, and when President Penaranda visited New York, a meeting was held with him. Members of the committee also visited with President Morinigo of Paraguay on behalf of jailed labor leaders.

He stated that there are also labor difficulties in the United States, and due to the unfortunate fact that the workers are distributed in the CIO, AFL and other workers' organizations, the enemies of labor have taken advantage of this division to pass laws against them in Congress. In addition, John L. Lewis has broken the agreement of the workers not to interrupt production by provoking strikes in the coal mines.

He declared that the CIO workers would aid the New Deal in 1944 and they hoped that in the postwar period they would be even more united to Latin America and that the industrialization of Latin America to raise its standards of living would be a reality.

Potofski added that there is confusion in the United States relating to the problems of Latin America, and that there are certain prejudices,

MEMORANDUM

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not only against the latter, but also against the Soviet Union, which has not been understood in a long time.

The next speaker, Guillermo Rodriguez, Colombian delegate and Vice President of the CTAL, spoke of the persecution of the Ecuadorian workers by President Arroyo del Rio, and stated that the President of Venezuela, Medina Angarita, had promised that he would permit the holding of a Peruvian workers' congress. Rodriguez declared that in Panama the workers' organizations had encountered some difficulty because of the attitude of the American authorities in the Canal Zone. He suggested the visit of directors of the CTAL to Venezuela, Ecuador, and Panama, stating that the interchange would strengthen the popular fight.

The last of the delegates to speak was the delegate from Puerto Rico, Alberto Sanchez, representing the Federacion General de Trabajadores de Puerto Rico. He began his speech by expressing his gratitude for the aid lent by the CTC of Cuba toward unifying the workers of his country. He made a detailed report of the worker situation in Puerto Rico, and of the fight of the people to enjoy their independence, in agreement with the promises of the Atlantic Charter.

He said that in holding the Third Congress of the Federacion General de Puerto Rico, the CTC had sent directors Cofino and Malpica to help them in the same. He showed his displeasure and indignation at maneuvers of Juan Arevalo, in aid of the "disreputable" Federacion Libre de Trabajo, which adheres to the AFL. He stated that this attitude of Arevalo's could not be ignored, and he asked that the CTAL take steps to insure that no divisionists exist in the Latin American workers' labor movement.

At the finish of this speech, Angel Cofino requested the floor to state that Arevalo's personal opinion could not be interpreted as the collective opinion of the CTC, and for that reason it was disauthorized.

The morning session was adjourned at 2:15 p.m., and the meeting reconvened at 5:45 p.m.

Juan Arevalo asked for the floor to make clear his stand regarding the denunciations of Alberto Sanchez. He declared that the CTC does not maintain relations with the Federacion de Trabajadores de Puerto Rico, and that in the files of the Federacion Obrera Maritima Nacional, which is an older organization than the CTC, there is no record that the last named Puerto Rican organization exists, and the FOMN has taken the stand of recognizing the Federacion Libre de Puerto Rico. He terminated by affirming his wish that the CTAL would maintain relations with the Federacion Libre de Puerto Rico.

Lazaro Pena then requested the floor to define the position of the CTC in this matter. He said that he respected the resolutions taken by the FOMN, but independent of these are the resolutions of the Executive Committee of the CTC - of which the FOMN is a member - and that they should be respected and obligatory for all. The President of the FOMN, Ramon Leon Renteria, was designated as delegate to the Congress of the Federacion de Trabajo de Puerto Rico, and for unavoidable reasons, was unable to go. If he had gone, he would have carried out the majority resolutions of the Executive Committee of the CTC, Pena declared.

Frederick Field, delegate of the Committee for Pan American Democracy, saluted the delegates in the name of his organization. He explained the work carried on by his committee, and gave examples of the work done by it. He said that the liberty of Puerto Rico will be gained with the aid of the anti-imperialist masses of the United States. His committee is working for the law asking the cessation of the colonial status of Puerto Rico, and has asked for the complete amnesty of Albizu Campos. It has also asked the Argentine government for the independence of Victorio Codovilla.

Field declared that the yellow press of the United States falsely accused the Mexicans and Mexican descendants of being responsible for the riots that took place in Los Angeles, and he said that those responsible for the same were Fascists, and that the disorder was related to those of Detroit, Texas, etc. He terminated his speech in the name of the magazine "New Masses," thanking those present.

The following speaker, Victor Cordero, Delegate from Costa Rica, dealt briefly with the political situation in his country as concerning the workers' situation, and said that the presidential aspirations of Leon Cortes, whose so-called "Democratic Party" has joined the reactionary forces, constitutes a threat to the popular masses. He added that the Vanguardia Popular and Republicano Nacional Parties would fight untiringly for the maintenance of democratic principles in Costa Rica.

The last speaker of the afternoon session was Enrique Rodriguez, Secretary General of the Union General de Trabajadores del Uruguay. His report covered the activities of the UGT in the last year, and some of the wartime measures supported by the organization.

He said that after the revolution in Argentina took place, a commission of four labor leaders of Uruguay went to Buenos Aires to see General Ramirez, who refused to see them, although he knew that they had come to request the freedom of Victorio Codovilla and ask for a guarantee that the rights of the workers be respected, in the name of fifty unions of Uruguay.

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Rodriguez concluded by reading the report of A. Gamarra of the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Paraguay, who fled to Uruguay to escape the persecutions of President Morinigo. He requested that the CTAL direct a message to Morinigo, asking the freedom of the imprisoned labor leaders, and that the CTAL ask President Batista to solicit their freedom, when Morinigo is installed for his succeeding term.

D. SESSION OF JULY 29, 1943

The session of July 29, 1943 opened at 10:00 a.m. at the quarters of the Federacion Sindical de Plantas Electricas, Gas Y Agua.

1) Report of Lazaro Pena on Labor Conditions in Cuba

The first speaker of the session was Lazaro Pena, who made the report on Cuba. Pena described the achievements of the CTC in realizing the workers' unity, and outlined some of the accomplishments of the organization made not only for the laborers, but for the farmers, public employees, negroes, women and youth, and for industrial and economic improvement.

He said that in Cuba there are no important unions or sindical federations that do not belong to the CTC, and there are not even pretentious initials of other organizations -- only the letters, CTC. He briefly described the activity of the workers in collecting funds for the Workers' Palace, and claimed that with the exception of the benefit lottery that yielded the CTC \$57,000 for this purpose, the rest was collected by the workers. (This claim is contradicted by the reports of reliable informants who state that there have been at least two other lotteries which have benefited the CTC, and an article in "Hoy" in early June announced that there would be another special lottery which would aid the "Casa de la CTC" as well as other organizations.)

Pena mentioned the Third National Congress of the CTC held in December, 1942, describing the split caused by the "Trotskyist" group which made up the Comision Obrera of the Partido Revolucionario Cubano.

Pena told of the war effort of the CTC, subordinating all other interests to that of winning the war, supporting the obligatory military service, and making financial contributions to the United Nations. He stated that the reactionaries and Trotskyists accuse the Executive Committee of the CTC of being Communist, and that the anti-Communist banner that they have raised is the same as that raised by Hitler. He claimed that the workers know that the program of the CTC is not Communistic.

He mentioned the efforts of the CTC in helping to have the ORPA, the office of price control, created to help combat the high cost of living,

and he stated that the organization had been a powerful ally of President Batista in supporting his progressive measures, and would aid the next president to guarantee these measures of benefit to the people.

2) Remarks of Delegates at This Session

Salvador Ocampo, delegate from Chile, followed Lazaro Pena to the speaker's stand. He said that Latin American workers should study the conditions for the postwar, but in order to win the peace, the war must be won. He signified the necessity of overcoming the setbacks suffered in Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Ecuador, and suggested that the work of unity with the AFL be undertaken. He also suggested that within two months a world congress of workers be held.

David Alfaro Siquieros, delegate of the Continental Committee of Art for Victory, spoke next. He described the work done by the artists of various categories to aid the war effort, and requested that the CTAL pass a resolution to aid the work of this committee.

In the afternoon at 4:00 p.m., the delegates of the CTAL visited the Minister of Labor, Dr. Jose Suarez Rivas, and discussed social legislation and other matters.

The members of the Council of the CTAL met during the evening to consider different administrative questions of the organization.

Jose Morera and Wilfredo Contreras, directors of the CTC, in the name of their organization, gave Jacob Potofski a full report of the abuses that the North American enterprises, the Cuban Mining Company and the Nicaro Company, etc., are committing against the miners in Cuba. The document detailed the low salaries and terrible working conditions that are supposed to exist in these mines exploited by the above named enterprises. The CTC, through Jacob Potofski, has asked the cooperation of the CIO in solving this grave problem in the mining industry.

E. SESSION OF JULY 30, 1943

On July 30, 1943, the delegates of the CTAL visited the Technological Institute of Ceiba del Agua, accompanied by the Prime Minister, Dr. Ramon Zaydin; the Minister of Labor, Dr. Suarez Rivas; and the Director General of Labor, Dr. Francisco Robes. A representation of the CTC, including Jose M. Perez, Teresa Garcia, Carlos Fernandez, Angel Cofino, and Jose M. Espino, also attended.

At the Institute, Premier Zaydin made a speech which was not reported in the newspapers. A reliable source has reported that Zaydin declared that

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"superior races" have to disappear completely in America, and "while this has not been accomplished, we (the Latin American countries) are and remain semi-colonial countries of foreign powers as we are today, not being permitted to develop our economy as a base of prosperity. Until today we have not had the liberty for which the brave Mambises fought and gave their lives so that Cuba might be free. You delegates know that we have not had this economic liberty which is the fundamental base of a free and sovereign people. While men exist on our continent who do not want the economic development of our countries, we will continue to be what we have been up until today, what might be called a semi-slave country.

"It is necessary to fight so that our America does away with superior races, and until we are free of these, we will not have the liberty for which our liberators gave their lives, without result until now. So, brother delegates, it is necessary to fight for our liberty, as now the time to fight for it has come. You know well what the feeling of our people and of the government which received you, is, and is at your commands."

On the return of the group to Havana, it was announced that the evening session scheduled had been postponed, and would be held on Saturday morning, July 31, at 9:00 a.m. at the Sindicato de Plantas Electricas, Gas y Agua. During the evening, various commissions worked on the motions presented by the delegates before they could be sanctioned.

It was announced that the delegate from Bolivia, Jose Antonio Arze, would arrive on July 30 at Havana. He is director of the Confederacion Sindical de Trabajadores de Bolivia, a leader of the Partido Izquierda Revolucionaria, and was a candidate for the presidency of Bolivia in the 1940 elections.

At 6:00 p.m., Jacob Potofski was received by President Batista. Potofski congratulated the President on his speech of the opening evening, and expressed appreciation of the splendid relations maintained by him with the workers of Cuba. He also stated that the Latin American Commission of the CIO is interested in seeing a higher standard of life for Latin America, and the American worker, particularly of the CIO, looks for the betterment of the workers of Latin America. They also discussed the efforts of war and international problems, and the President, according to Potofski's interview with the press, is anxious that the war efforts do not fall behind.

F. SESSION OF JULY 31, 1943

At 10:00 a.m., July 31, 1943, the next to last meeting of the CTAL took place. The meeting was begun by the reading of various telegrams by the President, Lombardo Toledano, among which was a message from Walter Citrine, expressing regret for not having been able to attend, and a similar message

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of regret from the Workers' Confederation of India, and messages from other workers' and "antifascist" organizations.

After the presentation and discussion of various resolutions, which will be described later, Lombardo Toledano introduced the Secretary General of the Communist Party of Mexico, Diosinio Encinas, to those present. The latter greeted the delegates in the name of the Communist Party of Mexico, and stated that his organization offered its loyal and intense cooperation to all the resolutions passed in the meeting.

On the occasion of presenting a resolution soliciting the liberation of political and social prisoners, the Argentine delegate, Argana, suggested that the resolution not specifically mention Prestes and Codovilla, or any others. Great exception was taken to the suggestion by the Uruguayan delegate, Enrique Rodriguez, who said that such a plan was pseudo-munichism, and he went on to describe the work done by these men, and, in addition, how the fight for the liberation of Albizu Campos had resulted in the creation of the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Puerto Rico.

The Communist paper "Hoy" declared that the CTAL considers that the fight of the United Nations against the Axis is in its final phases, and should be obtained in the least time possible by means of an immediate and simultaneous invasion of Europe. To contribute to the victory, the CTAL agreed to intensify the production of strategic materials, the solidarity and economic aid for the United Nations, as well as sending Latin American workers to the battlefronts of Europe under the flags of their respective countries. The CTAL also condemned the criminal work of appeasers of the United States and Great Britain who are prolonging the war, or trying to conclude it rapidly by means of a negotiated peace. The CTAL agreed thoroughly with the policy of unconditional surrender reached at Casablanca.

On learning that an American commission composed of various labor leaders is to visit Chile, it was suggested to the Confederations of Workers of Cuba, Colombia, Mexico, and Puerto Rico that this commission be invited to those countries as well.

1) Resolutions Passed by the Congress

a) Concerning International Relations

1. The President of the CTAL should propose to the respective workers' central organizations of the United Nations and the countries whose central labor organizations are affiliated with the CTAL that a conference of the working class of the world should be held, with the purpose of studying the most important problems related to the conclusion of the war, as well as the fundamental conditions for the future peace.

2. The President of the CTAL is authorized, in the name of the Central Committee, to express to the Anglo-Soviet Sindical Committee the desires of the CTAL to maintain close relations with this committee, and to be incorporated in the same, at the time that the President of the CTAL deems appropriate.
3. To ask the Presidency of the CTAL that it express to the CIO and AFL, as well as to the railroad organizations of the United States, and the central unions of Canada, the proposition that a congress of the working class of the American continent be held to study the specific problems of the twenty-two countries of this hemisphere.
4. To carry out the last resolutions, to emphasize to the President of the CTAL the powers given to him for the purpose of visiting the workers and the directors of the United States, England, the USSR, and other countries fighting against Fascism.
5. To ask the Presidency of the CTAL to have a commission formed to study the problems of the post war, asking the collaboration of the persons he considers most capable, with the purpose of duly formulating the opinion of this international labor organization on post war matters.
6. The Central Committee of the CTAL agrees on the formation of a Central Committee of Aid to the Atlantic Charter in each of the Latin American countries, which will be devoted to spreading among the people the deep contents and the profound significance of the Charter, and which will also serve to group together antifascist persons and institutions, without consideration of their political or religious beliefs.
7. The Central Committee agrees to create a Department of Workers' Information, adjunct to the Presidency of the CTAL, and which all central syndicates should aid with the greatest cooperation possible. The purpose of this department is to publish the accords and resolutions of the CTAL, and the guidance and news indispensable for the mobilization of the workers' class and other progressive elements of the public.

b) Concerning Economic Conditions in Latin America

1. The Central syndicates should initiate and contribute to an economic plan in each country, entailing the progressive sectors, including farmers, workers, industrialists, merchants, stockmen, etc., with the purpose of a broad plan of economic cooperation of the American continents.
2. Suggestions should be made to the Presidency of the CTAL regarding what is done in this aspect, so that an interchange of experiences can be established among the central syndicates.

3. To establish a Department of Study of Economic Problems of the post war to aid the presidency in these works.
4. To hold at the opportune time a continental congress of economic cooperation, in which producers, governments, and employers will be represented.

The CTAL asks all workers and central labor organizations to contribute to the reconstruction of the National Library of Lima. It also announced that the CTAL will organize a publishing concern to publish works that will contribute to the economic and political improvement of the workers.

Another resolution was passed to ask President Morinigo of Paraguay for the liberty of the anti-Nazi labor leaders who are imprisoned, and to ask that the labor organizations of the United States explain to the government and to the people the internal situation of Paraguay.

A resolution was passed to aid the political refugee workers who have been the victims of Nazi aggression. This aid will be especially lent to such constituted groups as "Free Germany," "Free Austria," etc.

As a postwar policy, the CTAL praises the control of the merchant marine by the respective governments, through autonomous commissions of technicians, with worker representation; the creation of an Inter-American Commission to coordinate the fleets and traffic; the guarantee of the existence of a merchant marine in each country and comparative pay and working conditions in all the merchant ships of the continent; to limit bulk shipments of raw materials; and to prohibit the construction of ships that will have as an objective the displacement of workers.

It was resolved to aid the people of Puerto Rico in their fight for independence, and to express the urgent hope that the United States will soon comply with the Atlantic Charter in respect to Puerto Rico.

Another resolution was that the central syndicates should initiate a broad campaign among the syndicates to explain to them the importance that the strengthening and development of the CTAL will be to them; that delegates be designated and maintained to visit other countries, particularly the United States and Canada; that the regional secretaries send monthly reports of their activities to the President.

The CTAL expressed its appreciation to Presidents Batista, Camacho, Calderon Guardia, Lopez, Medina Angarita, Rios, and Amegaza for the work that their governments are doing in behalf of the people, and it was resolved to offer a tribute to President Calderon Guardia of Costa Rica for the constitutional improvements that have benefited the workers.

It was resolved to lend moral support to the Continental Committee of Art for Victory, as well as to the national subcommittees, and to aid its president, David Alfaro Siquieros, to solve the problems that confront him.

It was resolved to request the unconditional liberty of the Puerto Rican leader, Pedro Albizu Campos, of President Roosevelt.

Another resolution recommended that the President of the CTAL accept the invitation that was extended him to visit the Dominican Republic.

c) Position of the CTAL with Respect to Postwar Period

1. The CTAL considers that this war is the product of the general crisis of the social system prevailing in the greater part of the world, and that its outbreak, progress, and conclusion are occurring in a period of historic transition. Therefore, the Latin American proletariat judges that it is contrary to the laws of historic evolution to postulate as an immediate solution at the conclusion of the present conflict the establishment of a single economic system, of a single form of society, and a single political regime for all the countries in the world.
2. For this reason, the CTAL rejects all solutions having a uniform and universal character that have been proposed up to the present time not only because they are utopian, but because they entail propositions contrary to the liberty and progress of the peoples. Among these solutions, the following hold a prominent place: the so-called Christian New Order, proposed by the Catholic Church is rejected as a return to feudalism; the Economy of Equilibrium (balanced economy), proposed by the lower middle class is rejected as a return to the period of free competition of capitalism; the theory of super-imperialism, proposed by financial capital is rejected as a tendency to set up a world dictatorship of monopolies; the Trotskyist thesis of the Permanent Revolution, proposed by the so-called Fourth International, is rejected as a tendency to carry out a simultaneous social revolution in the whole world at the conclusion of the war.
3. The CTAL considers as one of the most dangerous maneuvers being developed among the United Nations the proposal of alliance with factions represented ideologically by the Vatican, in order to establish in the peace a Christianized Imperialism, based on a corporative economic system and under a dictatorial political regime. This alliance is the one which seeks to allow the Fascist State to exist in Europe and to establish it in America, as has already occurred in Argentina.

4. With reference to the Trotskyist thesis of the Permanent Revolution, the CTAL judges that it is a matter of another provocative maneuver by international reactionary forces in order to sabotage the effort of the United Nations during the war and the postwar period. The Latin American proletariat has no immediate intention of imposing the dictatorship of the working class on the semicolonial countries of Latin America, but intends to continue the same struggle which up to the present it has been carrying on in favor of the national liberation of those peoples.
 5. To sum up, the CTAL considers that there cannot be at the conclusion of the war the same form of economic, social, and political organization for all the countries in the world, but rather the different forms required by the inequality of their historical development. Therefore, it judges that the best universal solution is the right of self-determination by the peoples which the Atlantic Charter makes sacred, and that the only common denominator can and should only be democracy, as the internal and external political system of each and every one of the nations of the earth.
- G. SESSION OF AUGUST 1, 1943

1) Closing Remarks of Delegates

The closing of the CTAL Congress was held Sunday morning, August 1, 1943 in the assembly room of the Ministry of Education. The act was presided over by the Prime Minister, Dr. Ramon Zaydin; the Minister of Labor, Dr. Suarez Rivas; the Secretary General of the CTC, Lazaro Pena; and the President of the CTAL, Vicente Lombardo Toledano.

The first speaker was Angel Cofino, representing the Confederacion de Trabajadores de Cuba. Among other things, he stated:

"We are satisfied to count with a man like Lombardo Toledano, who concerns himself over the problems of the workers and people of Latin America. The consequences of the Convention of the CTAL, for that reason, will be an epoch in the history of the world proletariat.

"The CTC calls to the CIO and the AFL to solder the continental proletariat unity. 'The hour is to unite,' as our great Marti said. We also call the workers of Canada to this unity. We wish to unite on a world-wide basis, we wish to have fraternal bonds with the Anglo-Soviet Trade Unions, and we also want to unite with the workers of Australia, India, and China.

"What we cannot understand in the middle of this fight is that Puerto Rico is maintained in the condition of a colony, and that antifascist directors like Codovilla and Prestes are kept in jail."

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The next speaker was Jacob Potofski of the CIO. He declared that the CIO is interested in the betterment of the workers of Latin America, and he said that he had received a cable from the War Fund Aid of the CIO informing that \$2,500 is being sent to be divided among the families of the workers who were killed in the tin mine strike in Bolivia. This sum will be distributed by the CTAL.

The next speaker, Alberto Sanchez, Puerto Rican delegate, stated, "I express my hope that at this time the free peoples of America will free Puerto Rico. The workers are forging a new America, an America that we felt and thought about, and the Atlantic Charter will be frustrated if the United States does not give Puerto Rico its independence.

"As in Cuba during the war against colonial domination, as yesterday in Spain, today Puerto Ricans are falling in battlefields for the liberty and independence of the people, for the independence that they want for their beloved Puerto Rico."

Fidel Velazquez of Mexico spoke next, and he reaffirmed the efforts that would be made by the Mexican workers in aiding the war effort, and in following the CTAL which leads the Latin American worker movement.

The meeting was saluted by Genaro Artiles, delegate in Cuba of the Union General de Trabajadores de Espana. He declared, "We support the formula of unconditional surrender approved by Roosevelt and Churchill in Casablanca, because it will be applied to Japan who is in war with the United States and England, but not with Russia, because it will be applied to Finland who is in war with Russia but not the United States or England, and it will also be applied to Spain, who is not in war with the United States nor with England, but is with Russia."

Guillermo Rodriguez of Colombia and Jose Maria Argana of Argentina made brief speeches which expressed enthusiasm over the leadership of the CTAL in the worker movement.

Bernardo Ibanez, director of the Chilean workers, stated that there is no country in the Americas free from misery or fear, because they are still fighting for their security. He affirmed that the fight for liberation of Prestes, Codovilla, and the other imprisoned labor leaders would go on.

Enrique Rodriguez of Uruguay spoke briefly, and was followed by the Minister of Labor, Dr. Suarez Rivas.

He declared in his speech, "The democracies, and not Roosevelt and Churchill in a personal way - as the President of the CTAL expressed it so

well in his speech at the opening - had to unite in the postulates of the Atlantic Charter, the future orientation of humanity.

"And it is for it that the watchful democracies, with the ideation set forth in the Atlantic Charter, begin in the middle of the fight to make studies on the reconstruction of the world, and against the five giants which face it in its route: the necessity; sickness; ignorance; destitution; and idleness; but you workers know that an even more terrible enemy of civilization exists, and this enemy is isolation.

"It is against these giants that we have to fight, Latin American workers, and our emblem of battle should be that announced by the President of the Republic and by the President of the CTAL, to demand the carrying out of the Atlantic Charter."

Dr. Suarez Rivas was followed by Lygia Prestes, sister of the imprisoned Luis Carlos Prestes. She expressed her gratitude for the resolution that was passed in behalf of the imprisoned political prisoners, and said that her brother has no other wish than that of fighting against Nazi-Fascism. She also expressed the hope that all the resolutions passed by the CTAL would be carried into effect by the peoples of America and of the world.

The delegates from Bolivia and Costa Rica, Jose Arze and Victor Cordero, spoke briefly, and they were followed by Vicente Lombardo Toledano, the last speaker.

Lombardo Toledano began by summarizing the philosophies of Mussolini and Hitler who saw war as a grand worthy human endeavor, and said that the group who love progress and are disposed to defend human acquisitions, is the democratic group, which constitutes the progressive conscience of the universe. On one side, the Fascists destroy; the others, the men who defend democracy, construct.

"They (reactionaries) call us destroyers. We call ourselves builders, individuals who wish to construct a new world of justice. They call us destroyers - and we agree with the term used by the reactionaries - but destroyers of what they, the reactionaries, want to maintain, and what we want to destroy."

He went on to denounce feudalism and the bonds that hold the Latin American countries in a colonial or semicolonial state. He insisted that better possibilities be offered the Latin American countries to break these bonds.

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He declared, "We are going to create a new world....and we are going to invite, to carry out this task, all the individuals of progressive spirit, in order that they help us in the integration of new countries.... We wish to destroy a worthless past, and construct a better future."

Addressing himself to Jacob Potofski, he declared, "Comrade Potofski, tell your companions of the CIO, of the AFL, to all your people, that this is our program, that we want a new Latin America, a new America, and a new world, that we do not want to feel the indifference of those who considered themselves our stepfathers, and that united, men and women of America, throwing aside any inferiority complex, in order to feel proud of being Americans, we dedicate ourselves to the realization of a new world."

Addressing himself to Lazaro Pena, Lombardo Toledano gave his thanks, and also to the others of the CTC and he stated, "I know, comrade Lazaro Pena, that recently you were not allowed to enter the United States because you are a negro. This must be told, denounced, so that the American people know it."

He closed his speech and the Congress with the exhortation, "To work, comrades, for the accomplishment of the resolutions of the Convention!"

Concerning the statement addressed to Lazaro Pena, information has previously been submitted to the effect that Pena never applied for a visa to visit the United States. Inquiries were made at the U. S. Embassy by Suarez Rivas, Secretary of Labor in the Cuban government, concerning the reaction of the U. S. government if Lazaro Pena, a known Communist, applied for a visa. He was informed that a decision could not be given in any case until an actual application was presented. No application for a visa for Pena was ever made. From misrepresentations such as the above, it could be inferred that Lombardo Toledano is attempting to create social unrest and racial disturbances. Because of this and similar statements, Lombardo Toledano has been severely criticized by labor leaders who think that he is trying to make a political movement out of an organization which they believe should be purely a labor movement. These leaders do not believe that the cause of labor can prosper when an individual or group of individuals is continually attacking other labor groups, their activities, and their leaders. Such a policy leads to a division in the ranks, and labor will suffer in the long run. Neither do they believe that attempts to accentuate the race problem will be beneficial to the cause of labor. Leaders who belong to this school of thought are equally opposed to racial discrimination, but they do not think that conditions that have existed for years can be changed overnight, and statements similar to the one made by Lombardo Toledano regarding Pena serve no other purpose than to create disturbances and unrest.

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H. PURPOSE OF THE CONGRESS

Information received from a source believed to be reliable indicates that the principal reason for convoking the Congress was to discuss plans to join the Anglo-Soviet Sindical Committee. The purpose of this Committee is to unite all the labor unions of the world into an international syndicate which will be employed to guide the subversive activities formerly directed by the recently dissolved Comintern.

It seems that the original intention was to establish propaganda headquarters in Havana, but recent indications are that the headquarters of the Latin American branch of this syndicate will be established in Mexico City.

It is believed that the intention is to consolidate the labor movement throughout the world along Communistic lines so that Russia will have a powerful bargaining factor at the peace table.

It is also regarded as important that the Congress went on record as being opposed, 1) to a revival of the Christian world order as advocated by the Roman Catholic Church because it is considered feudalistic, 2) to a return to capitalistic free competition which the Congress referred to as super-imperialism, and 3) to a world dictatorship of the trusts and monopolies existing in the United States and England.

I. REPORTS RECEIVED CONCERNING LOMBARDO TOLEDANO'S ACTIVITIES AND REMARKS

On July 31, 1943, Lombardo Toledano was interviewed by an individual known to this office. Reports had been contained in newspapers that he was planning to visit the Dominican Republic, and he was asked what usefulness he thought his visit to that country would have. He replied that although he knew Trujillo would try to obtain every possible advantage from the visit of a well known labor leader, he was sure the benefits of his visit would go to himself and to the workers of the Dominican Republic. Lombardo Toledano declared that he is more intelligent, more shrewd, and has more political sense than Trujillo. He also said that a speech of his would be enough to stir the masses of the Dominican people and to open their eyes to the real nature of Trujillo's regime and to the real tactics to follow to obtain their social deliverance.

However, he added that no one should worry about possible results of his visit to the Dominican Republic because he had decided not to go. He said that the American Embassy had granted him only one priority although he had applied for priorities for himself, his wife, daughter, and two secretaries. Since he is accustomed, as he stated, to travel the way he pleases, and not the way it pleases the United States or anybody else, he cancelled his visit to Ciudad Trujillo.

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He was asked what he believed were the most important results of the CTAL conference. He said that the most important decision taken in the conference was the proposed organization of a Consejo de Economia Americano Continental in which labor union leaders and representatives of the different American governments and of the most important industries in the Western Hemisphere will be asked to participate. He said he knew that very few governments would accept the CTAL invitation, because very few governments would realize that the work done in this proposed Consejo will be as much to their benefit as to the benefit of the workers.

Mention was made of the instinctive hatred of Spain which the masses of the Mexican people had until the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War. Lombardo Toledano said that Spain was not the only target of that hatred, and that this hatred was equally divided between Spain and the United States. He was asked why this was so. He answered that Mexico had freed herself from Spain only to fall into the hands of Yankee Imperialism.

From a reliable source, information has been received that during the week in which the Congress was in session, Toledano held several private meetings with leaders of the CTAL in a private apartment at the Hotel Sevilla Biltmore. At these meetings, Lombardo Toledano attacked the policy of the U. S. State Department, which department he considers as an enemy of the progress of the workers and which he accuses of influencing the leaders of the AFL and the CIO so that they would not lend their cooperation to bringing about the unity of the proletariat in Latin America. Because he was unsuccessful in seeing President Roosevelt when he attempted to, and because Nelson Rockefeller, Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, refused to assist him financially in organizing a Congress of the Labor Organizations of the Western Hemisphere, Lombardo Toledano is under the impression that he is regarded as a Communist leader in the service of Moscow.

During these private meetings, Lombardo Toledano also accused the U. S. State Department of organizing a commission composed of AFL and CIO members to visit the Latin American countries. He is suspicious of such a commission, fearing that it is an attempt on the part of the Department of State to create another labor federation in Latin America to offset the influence of the CTAL.

This same source continues that Lombardo Toledano has made it his practice to contact outstanding men among the Communists. Although he is supporting the war effort of the United States, he is doing this as a matter of necessity. However, he is not sincere in his cooperation and can be expected to return to his favorite theme of "Yankee Imperialism" at the close of the war.

MEMORANDUM

At one of the private meetings presided over by Lombardo Toledano, various leaders supported the attitude of the U. S. State Department because they believe that there are too many Communists and too much Communist propaganda in the CTAL. The delegate from Argentina, Jose Maria Argana, Secretary of the Southern Region of the CTAL, expressed his disagreement with the work of the Communists in his country. Fidel Velazquez, the delegate of the CTM of Mexico, and the Cuban, Juan Arevalo, also stated that the preponderance of Communists in the CTAL and the constant sending from one country to another of delegations composed of Communistic members bring about this opposition to the development of the CTAL in Latin America.

Because of this Communist domination, these individuals pointed out that the U. S. State Department, the AFL, and the Trade Union Congress of London will not lend their assistance in bringing about international labor unity. When these objections to the policy of the CTAL were voiced, Lombardo Toledano offered to resign as President of the CTAL so that its progress would not be hindered. However, his resignation was not accepted because the Communist leaders, a majority, were opposed to it.

This same source continued that Lombardo Toledano proposes to visit the American and Canadian labor leaders. He also plans to visit London for discussions with the Anglo-Soviet Committee on Labor Relations.

J. EXPENSES OF THE CONFERENCE

While in Havana, the majority of the delegates to the Congress lived at the Hotel Sevilla Biltmore, and most of them spent considerable time at the hotel during the day and night when not in conference sessions. A source within the hotel advised that the hotel bill for the entire party of delegates was to be paid by the local organization of the CTC. The money to pay the bill came from a special appropriation made by the President of the Republic for that purpose. According to this source, Sr. Rocca, a negro member of the House of Representatives, and Lombardo Toledano had gone to the President to request this appropriation, and that it had been granted in the amount of \$3,000.

On August 2, 1943, the Hotel Sevilla Biltmore received a letter from Juan Arevalo, Secretary of Foreign Relations of the CTC, which advised the hotel that the bill for lodging and any checks signed by the delegates to the convention would be paid by that organization. This letter was written on the stationery of the FOMN (Federacion Obrera Maritima Nacional), was dated August 1, 1943, and was signed by the above mentioned Juan Arevalo. This same source continued that the only charges made by the hotel against any of the delegates were for cash advances.

MEMORANDUM

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On Sunday, August 1, 1943, the entire delegation had luncheon at the Temple Restaurant, the check for which amounted to \$75. This check was paid by an individual who is believed to be a government official.

Arrangements were also made that the CIO would be responsible for the cost of long distance telephone calls made by the delegates. Although no final report has been received, it is estimated that the total cost of these calls will be between \$1,600 and \$1,800.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AUG 24 1943

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

As of possible interest to the President and you there is set out hereinafter information indicating that Fernando de Kobbe, the Spanish Consul at Vancouver, British Columbia, is acting as an espionage agent for certain Spanish principals in Madrid, Spain. We have known since Kobbe came into this hemisphere that he would operate as an agent but there has been almost no indication that he has been active.

Kobbe arrived in the United States on December 16, 1942, aboard the Spanish ship Marques de Comillas. We had prior knowledge of his arrival, as well as the fact that he would attempt to elicit secret information regarding the Allied war effort for transmittal to his principals.

On August 21, 1943, it was learned from a confidential source close to the Spanish Embassy that a letter had been received via the Spanish diplomatic bag addressed to Kobbe. It was learned the envelope contained three microphotographs and a secret ink note written on the back of an innocuous letter. The microphotographs contained instructions as to the type of information Kobbe was to obtain, codes to use for transmittal, secret inks for his mail correspondence, and mail drops to whom he should address his espionage correspondence. In addition, the envelope contained \$1000 in United States currency as remuneration for his work.

The secret ink note referred to above, which I believe will interest you, is quoted as follows:

"I have waited this while to communicate with you in case you were watched on your arrival. I am sending you the codes and I hope that soon you will send good news."

Major General Edwin M. Watson

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The Royal Canadian Mounted Police, who have, of course, been advised of this letter, have been monitoring Kobbe's every move since his arrival in Vancouver. We have been assisting them in every way it has been possible for us to do so. The investigation of Kobbe will continue and any information which comes to our attention which would be of interest to you will be placed at your disposal.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AUG 24 1954

2388

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

Information has recently been received reflecting that Morris Childs, Secretary of the Communist Party for the States of Illinois and Indiana, and member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, U.S.A., reportedly stated that the Communist Party was issuing instructions to labor organizers to campaign for the removal of Attorney General Francis Biddle and that Communist organizers should combine with A.F. of L. organizers in this campaign.

With reference to the recall of former Soviet Ambassador Maxim Litvinoff, Childs allegedly stated that in the event this situation came to a head, Secretary of State Cordell Hull and Under Secretary of State Sumner Welles were to be blamed for Litvinoff's removal. Childs allegedly informed that the Soviet Union is powerful enough today to "take care of Germany" and that the groundwork had been laid to Sovietize Germany. He also reportedly advised that the Soviet Union was stronger today than ever before and that its industrial facilities are operating at peak capacity and that its natural resources are well developed. He allegedly explained on this occasion that the Soviet Union would not "stay asleep to the United States not opening a second front in Europe" and that the United States had better "play ball with the Soviet Union." In connection with the present international situation, Childs reportedly advised that Cordell Hull, Sumner Welles and other government leaders are "double-crossing" the Soviet Union and that the President should be high-pressured into removing these cabinet officers. In connection with all of the above information, Childs allegedly informed that the same should not be discussed publicly.

The above information was obtained from a source considered to be reliable, which source has furnished correct informa-

General Watson

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tion in the past. In view of the nature of the information furnished, the same is being submitted as of possible interest to the President and you.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Respectfully forwarded to the President:

*Pat
Woll
for paper*

Woll
F.M.W.A

(says AF of L Executive Board has decided Wm. Green will not be re-elected but that he will be succeeded by Matthew Woll as President of AF of L at October Natl Convention)

J. EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

AUG 19 1943

2389

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

For the President's personal information, it has been reported through a very reliable confidential source that the Executive Board of the American Federation of Labor has decided that William Green will not be reelected President of the American Federation of Labor at the October National Convention of that organization, but that Green would be succeeded by Matthew Woll.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover