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01	report	Jesse Williard Gray	C	1	3/17/67	A
01a	report	Jesse Williard Gray	C	42	3/17/67	A
02	report	Jesse Williard Gray	C	50	2/25/66	A
02a	report	Jesse Williard Gray	C	1	2/25/66	A
03	report	Jesse Williard Gray	S	46	2/23/65	A
03a	report	Jesse Williard Gray	S	1	2/23/65	A
04	report	Jesse Williard Gray	C	5	2/5/64	A
04a	report	Jesse Williard Gray	C	1	2/5/64	A
05	report	Jesse Williard Gray	C	12	1/29/60	A
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Autodeclassification guide
7/20/22 CTS

Collection Title Federal Records NACCD (Kerner Commission)**Folder Title** Gray, Jesse Williard**Box Number** E8**Restriction Codes**

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
New York, New York

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

MAR 17 1967

Bufile 100-357847
NYfile 100-91911

Title Jesse Williard Gray

Character Security Matter - C

Reference is made to New York report of
Special Agent Vincent J. Ascherl, dated and captioned as above.

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

DECLASSIFIED
Authority FBI Auto Declass Guide, 7/24/01
CTS, NARA, Date 10/2/19

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION12

Copy to: 1 - Secret Service, New York City (RM)
3 - 108th MI Group, New York City (RM)

Report of: VINCENT J. ASCHERL Office: New York, New York
Date: 3/17/67

Field Office File #: 100-91911 Bureau File #: 100-357847

Title: JESSE WILLIARD GRAY

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

JESSE GRAY is under court order to pay stipulated sum regularly for support of estranged wife, ROSALEE GRAY, and his two children. GRAY was arrested by NYCPD on five occasions in 1966, and again on 1/27/67. Charges included scofflaw, simple assault, disorderly conduct and non-support. GRAY is reported as residing with MAXINE GREEN, 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, NY. JESSE GRAY continues as Director of Community Council on Housing, 300 W. 121st St., NYC. GRAY spoke at meeting of Harlem Council for Peace, NYC, 2/27/66; he spoke at rally of Labor Negro Vanguard Conference, Newark, NJ, 4/30/66. Communist affiliation of associates and/or contacts set forth. Evidence set forth of JESSE GRAY's opposition to US involvement in Vietnam. Activity in behalf of Revolutionary Action Movement, Black Panther Party and Coordinating Council for Black Power set forth for period May, 1966 to October, 1966. JESSE GRAY participated in numerous racial demonstrations, rallies and meetings during period January, 1966 through October, 1966.

- C -

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Authority: FBI Auto Declass Guide, 5/24/19
CTS, NARA, Date: 10/2/19

NY 100-91911

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

Individuals designated with an asterisk (*) are characterized in Appendix I. Organizations designated with an asterisk (*) are characterized in Appendix II.

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A. Marital Status

An article in "New York Amsterdam News", March 26, 1966, Negro weekly newspaper, page four, entitled "Jesse Gray Freed In Family Spat" quoted Mrs. ROSALEE GRAY as stating that she and JESSE were married 19 years ago.

JESSE GRAY is under court order to pay his estranged wife, ROSALEE GRAY, 1809 Seventh Avenue, New York City, a stipulated sum of money regularly for her support and that of their two children, JESSE, JR., and GAIL GRAY. There is no record of a divorce proceeding or legal separation between JESSE and ROSALEE GRAY. They have no other children. His marriage to ROSALEE was his first marriage.

NY T-1
January 31, 1967

ROSALEE GRAY, on April 14, 1966, complained to a business acquaintance that JESSE GRAY owed her at that time two checks for support. She said that her son had to work in the evening to help pay the bills.

It was learned by same source on April 29, 1966, that JESSE GRAY was in Family Court on that date with his wife, ROSALEE. JESSE allegedly was \$200.00 in arrears in support payments. He paid \$150.00 in court. JESSE GRAY allegedly told the Judge that he was going away for a short time and Mrs. GRAY retorted that the only place he was going was to see "that woman on Long Island, Mrs. GREEN".

NY T-2
May 23, 1966

B. Arrest Record

A hearing concerning JESSE GRAY's arrest for Scofflaw on February 8, 1966, was held in Manhattan Criminal Court, Part 5D, on May 2, 1966. JESSE GRAY appeared and pled

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not guilty to numerous unanswered traffic summonses. Bond was set at \$250.00 which was made by JESSE GRAY and he was ordered to appear for trial in Manhattan Criminal Court on various dates in August and September, 1966.

Records Manhattan Criminal Court
Part 5D
100 Centre Street, New York City
Examined May 4, 1966 by SA ASCHERL

JESSE GRAY on various dates in August and September, 1966, appeared in Manhattan Criminal Court, 52 Chambers Street, New York City, to stand trial on numerous unanswered traffic summonses, most of which were for illegal parking. In all of the above cases, JESSE GRAY changed his plea to guilty and paid fines imposed which varied from \$5.00 to \$10.00 on the separate charges.

Records Manhattan Criminal Court
Branch at 52 Chambers Street,
New York City
Examined September 23, 1966 by
SA ASCHERL

JESSE GRAY was arrested by the New York City Police Department on March 19, 1966, and charged with Simple Assault against his wife, ROSALEE GRAY. JESSE GRAY gave his address as 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, New York. He was taken to Night Court and released on \$500.00 bail. This information was obtained from an article in the "New York Herald Tribune", March 20, 1966, page two.

An article in the "New York Herald Tribune" of March 22, 1966, page two, reported on the appearance of JESSE GRAY in Criminal Court, Manhattan, in response to the above charge. The article reported that the above assault charge was dropped.

JESSE GRAY was arrested on May 17, 1966, in Harlem and charged with deliberately stalling his car in traffic.

NY T-3
May 19, 1966

NY 100-91911

On June 23, 1966, at 1:00 pm, JESSE GRAY, Director of the Community Council on Housing (CCH) was arrested by the New York City Police Department on a charge of disorderly conduct after he attempted to force his way into the office of Mayor LINDSAY of New York City. JESSE GRAY had been demonstrating at that location to demand better housing conditions for residents of Harlem. Arrested with GRAY on this occasion was MAXINE GREEN.

Sergeant JOSEPH O'BRIEN
Bureau of Special Services
New York City Police Department
June 23, 1966

On the above occasion, MAXINE GREEN attempted to prevent JESSE GRAY's arrest. She kicked Police officers and was herself arrested.

NY T-4
June 28, 1966

The "New York Times", July 27, 1966, page 18, in an article entitled "Gray, Rent-Strike Leader, Arrested On Non-Support", related that JESSE GRAY was ordered on the evening of July 26, 1966, by Criminal Court Judge ARTHUR BRAUN to appear in Family Court on July 27, 1966, to answer a charge of non-support brought by his estranged wife, ROSALEE. Mrs. GRAY told the Court that her husband owed \$250.00 for the support of herself and their two children. GRAY was released when friends posted \$250.00 bail set by Judge BRAUN.

The "New York Amsterdam News", August 6, 1966, page three, contained an article entitled "Jesse Gray Freed Of Charges". This article related that JESSE GRAY appeared in Family Court, New York City, in the previous week, to answer charges of non-support. GRAY allegedly produced a receipt in Court showing that he had paid his estranged wife, ROSALEE, \$195.00. GRAY was freed of the charges.

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JESSE GRAY, on December 6, 1966, was sentenced in Manhattan Criminal Court, 100 Centre Street, New York City, to pay \$50.00 fine by Judge J. WOLFE CHASSEN. JESSE GRAY paid the fine which resulted out of an earlier arrest of JESSE GRAY on May 17, 1966, for disorderly conduct. This information was obtained from the "New York Daily News", December 7, 1966, page 104.

Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Identification Record for JESSE GRAY, FBI Number 277307B, reflects that JESSE GRAY was arrested on January 27, 1967, and charged with violation of Section 722 of the Penal Code of New York State (Disorderly Conduct) . His fingerprints were submitted by the Criminal Courts, City of New York.

C. Residence

As of December, 1965, JESSE GRAY was residing with MAXINE GREEN at 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, New York. This source advised on January 27, 1967, that according to information he developed, JESSE GRAY continues to reside with MAXINE GREEN in Long Island City, New York. It is noted that her address continues to be 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City.

NY T-3
December 1, 1965 and
January 27, 1967

JESSE GRAY continues to reside at 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, New York.

NY T-1
January 31, 1967

Records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, New York City, examined January 19, 1967, by IC JOHN L. KAPP, reflected JESSE GRAY's residence as 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City.

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D. Employment

This source made available on May 18, 1966, a leaflet issued by the Community Council on Housing (CCH), 300 West 121st Street, New York City. This leaflet reflected that JESSE GRAY was Director of this organization as of May, 1966.

NY T-3
May 18, 1966

A circular distributed in Harlem on June 18, 1966, to protest the shooting of JAMES MEREDITH, civil rights worker, carried JESSE GRAY's name as Director of the CCH.

NY T-5
June 20, 1966

JESSE GRAY is currently Director of the CCH, 300 West 121st Street, New York City. He also lists his occupation as free-lance consultant and free-lance lecturer.

NY T-1
January 31, 1967

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

A. Activity In Behalf Of The
Harlem Council For Peace (HCP)*

JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers at a meeting of the HCP which was held at Audubon Ballroom, 166th Street and Broadway, New York City, February 27, 1966, at 5:00 pm. Also on the speaker's panel at this meeting was HERBERT APTHEKER* who called for a merger of the Civil Rights movement and the Peace in Vietnam movements. The premise he used for unification of the two movements was that the situation in Vietnam was analogous to the plight of the Negroes in America. JESSE GRAY, in his speech, also called for unification of the two movements.

NY 100-91911

NY T-6 through NY T-13
February 27, 1966 to
March 14, 1966
NY T-2
March 14, 1966

**B. Activity In Behalf Of Labor Negro
Vanguard Conference (LNVC) ***

JESSE GRAY attended a rally of the LNVC held April 30, 1966, at Military Park, Newark, New Jersey. CLARENCE COGGINS * was one of the speakers. He spoke of his political campaign for United States Senator for New Jersey. JESSE GRAY also spoke in support of CLARENCE COGGINS.

NY T-14
April 30, 1966

C. Communist Affiliation of Associates and/or Contacts

This source described RUDY JONES * as an associate of JESSE GRAY as of January 27, 1966. RUDY JONES was one of several individuals in charge of a meeting sponsored by the CCH and held on January 27, 1966, at a building on West 128th Street, New York City. RUDY JONES commented to several people present that he was a Marxist.

NY T-3
January 28, 1966

NY 100-91911

On the afternoon of July 21, 1966, at the office of the Northern Student Movement, 514 West 126th Street, New York City, BILL STRICKLAND of the Northern Student Movement, held a private meeting with JACK O'DELL*, JESSE GRAY, and other unidentified individuals. The details of the conference were not known but the subject of discussion was the organizing of the Negro ghetto.

NY T-16
July 28, 1966

D. Opposition to United States Policy in Vietnam

A rally for JULIAN BOND was held on January 30, 1966, at the Union Baptist Church, 240 West 145th Street, New York City. Approximately 250 people attended. One of the speakers was JESSE GRAY. JULIAN BOND is the Negro who has been elected to the Georgia legislature.

NY T-10
February 1, 1966

The following sources also reported on JESSE GRAY's attendance and participation in the JULIAN BOND rally held on January 30, 1966:

NY T-25
January 31, 1966
NY T-11
January 31, 1966
NY T-26
February 1, 1966

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At the above rally JESSE GRAY stated that he was opposed to Negroes being drafted to fight in Vietnam. He talked about the percentage of Negroes being drafted as against Whites. He wanted the Negro soldiers to come home and help fight the Klan. He also talked about "slumlords" and said that the only way you can get anything from the white man is to make trouble for him.

NY T-13
February 2, 1966

JESSE GRAY participated in a protest parade against United States involvement in Vietnam which was held on Fifth Avenue, New York City, on March 26, 1966.

NY T-4
March 31, 1966

PAUL BOUTELLE* on April 10, 1966, discussed his recently formed organization, the Afro-Americans Against The War In Vietnam*. He said the organization had chapters in Boston, Chicago and Baltimore. BOUTELLE stated that in New York he was supported by JESSE GRAY, among others.

NY T-4
April 15, 1966

On May 24, 1966, WILLIAM EPTON *, Vice President of the Progressive Labor Party (PLP), 336 Lenox Avenue, New York City, stated that a meeting had been held on May 23, 1966, and a new committee called the Black United Action Front (BUAF) had been formed to protest United States participation in the war in Vietnam. WILLIAM EPTON further stated that the BUAF was not a project of the PLP*, but a broad community project consisting of about 15 different organizations in Harlem working collectively to demonstrate against the war in Vietnam.

NY T-17
May, 1966

NY 100-91911

As of June, 1966, JESSE GRAY was one of the leaders of the BUAF.

NY T-4
June 14, 1966

On June 25, 1966, Special Agent personnel of the FBI observed a protest march and rally sponsored by the BUAF, 139 West 125th Street, New York City. This march proceeded through Harlem to 110th Street where a rally was held at 3:00 pm. The march and rally protested the drafting of black youth. MAE MALLORY * acted as Mistress of Ceremonies at the rally. She introduced JESSE GRAY as one of the speakers. JESSE GRAY and the other speakers protested United States intervention in Vietnam.

JESSE GRAY's participation in the above protest march and rally was also reported by the following sources:

NY T-18 - July 5, 1966
NY T-3 - June 25, 1966

III. ACTIVITY IN BEHALF OF RACIAL
AND/OR HATE-TYPE ORGANIZATIONS

A. Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM) *

JESSE GRAY on May 27, 1966, met with MAX STANFORD* of RAM at the "22 Restaurant" on 135th Street, New York City. JESSE GRAY stated that he was pleased with the way STOKELY CARMICHAEL was doing and he now thought that the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) would be more militant under CARMICHAEL's leadership.

NY T-3
May 31, 1966

General GORDON BAKER of Detroit, Michigan, and of the organization RAM was in New York City on May 30, 1966, and in contact with JESSE GRAY, among others. BAKER stated he

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would remain in New York two days. While in New York, he discussed RAM business.

NY T-3
May 31, 1966

The following source reported that JESSE GRAY, MAXINE GREEN, MAX STANFORD of RAM and other individuals were present at the residence of JESSE GRAY, 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, during the evening of June 19, 1966, where they discussed various civil rights organizations and the general overall situation concerning civil rights.

NY T-3
June 20, 1966

B. Black Panther Party (BPP)

The Black Panther Party sponsored a rally at the Fountain Spring Baptist Church, 158 West 126th Street, New York City, during the evening of September 13, 1966. Approximately 125 people attended the rally. One of the speakers was JESSE GRAY. The rally was held to gain support for a school boycott in Harlem which protested alleged racial discrimination in the schools. The BPP, which is inactive, has espoused the concept of "Black political power".

NY T-3
September 14, 1966

C. Coordinating Council For Black Power

On Wednesday evening, October 12, 1966, a group of people gathered at the ACT office in Chicago, Illinois, for a meeting concerning Black Power. About 50 people were in attendance and JESSE GRAY of New York City gave the main speech of the evening. GRAY spoke of organizing the Negro on a city-wide basis and then on a nation-wide basis, pointing out that the Negro was represented by too many different groups which should be joined together with some type of board of directors. GRAY stated that all Negroes should

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have firearms at their disposal, commenting that sooner or later the Negro in Africa will rise up and drive out the White man and that this time it can be expected that the white race all over the world including the United States, will attempt to retaliate against all Negroes. GRAY talked about the inequity of Negro servicemen fighting in the front lines of Vietnam and talked about Negroes who have attempted to claim conscientious objection to military service. GRAY suggested that if Negroes are going to object to military service, they should do so in a body.

NY T-21
October 14, 1966

IV. PARTICIPATION IN RACIAL
DEMONSTRATIONS AND MEETINGS

A. Functions Sponsored By Community Council on Housing

The following demonstration planned by JESSE GRAY of the CCH, took place on January 24, 1966, at 125th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City:

A group of demonstrators with hands clasped, extended themselves in a line across the intersection of 125th Street and Seventh Avenue and effectively blocked traffic in all directions. This demonstration was to call attention to the need for poverty money and the need for jobs in Harlem. The pickets were arrested by Police for obstructing traffic. JESSE GRAY was not among those arrested.

NY T-3
January 25, 1966

Those individuals who were arrested in Harlem on Monday, January 24, 1966, for blocking traffic were in court on February 4, 1966. JESSE GRAY and the Reverend ROBERT KINLOCH, Negro Baptist Minister, were also there with them. GRAY and the Reverend KINLOCH called off the demonstration in

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front of the Criminal Courthouse, 100 Centre Street, New York City, in support of those who were arrested.

NY T-2
February 14, 1966

JESSE GRAY presided at a meeting held February 4, 1966, in the office of CCH, New York City. This meeting was attended by those who were arrested at the traffic obstruction demonstration on January 24, 1966. JESSE GRAY tried to instill some spirit into these individuals and suggested that they could assist in participating in various demonstrations such as kicking in doors and putting furniture back in residences where a landlord had evicted someone.

NY T-3
February 7, 1966

A meeting was held at CCH, New York City, on March 1, 1966. Present at this meeting were several of the individuals arrested on January 24, 1966, for blocking traffic. The purpose of the meeting was to decide how they should plead in court on the following day. JESSE GRAY was in attendance.

NY T-22
March 8, 1966

The "New York Herald Tribune", April 12, 1966, page two, contained an article pertaining to JESSE GRAY, Harlem Rent-Strike leader. The article related that JESSE GRAY had called Criminal Court Judge MANUEL A. GOMEZ "the most rotten Judge" he knew. This was after Judge GOMEZ had ordered 14 of those arrested on January 24, 1966, for blocking traffic to pay \$50.00 fine or serve ten days in jail for disorderly conduct. Immediately after sentencing, JESSE GRAY and the 14 went to the City's Council Against Poverty office, 100 Church Street, and demanded help. The executive secretary of the City agency, one SIDNEY GARDNER, allegedly told JESSE GRAY, "It is not the City's responsibility to pay fines".

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JESSE GRAY was instrumental in collecting from various stores, the money to pay fines imposed on the 14 persons who participated in the traffic demonstration on January 24, 1966. JESSE GRAY stated that he got the money from store owners in Harlem and from certain individuals in the entertainment world.

NY T-2
April 19, 1966
NY T-3
April 22, 1966

JESSE GRAY and the Reverend ROBERT KINLOCH were on January 31, 1966, conducting a sit-in at the City's Council Against Poverty office, 100 Church Street, New York City. The purpose of this sit-in was to get better and more jobs and better housing for the people of Harlem. Reverend KINLOCH commented that various stores, bars and restaurants on 125th Street donated food, sandwiches, and money for the sit-in demonstrators.

NY T-2
February 14, 1966

An article in the "New York Times", February 8, 1966, page 26, entitled "Jesse Gray And 24 Scuffle In Vain Bid To See Lindsay", narrated that a delegation of about 25 people, mostly Negroes, scuffled with Police on February 7, 1966, in an attempt to get into City Hall to see Mayor LINDSAY about jobs and housing. Among the demonstrators were JESSE GRAY and members of the CCH. No arrests were made. JESSE GRAY left the area at 6:00 pm.

The above demonstration was also reported by NY T-2 on February 14, 1966.

An article in the "Journal American" dated February 15, 1966, on page three, narrated that four associates

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of JESSE GRAY were arrested inside City Hall on February 14, 1966, after refusing to end a ten hour sit-in demonstration to protest slum conditions. The arrests came after Police had barred JESSE GRAY and four others from bringing food to the demonstrators.

JESSE GRAY stated on February 28, 1966, that on Saturday, February 26, 1966, the CCH, New York City, sponsored a demonstration at New York City Police Department Headquarters protesting the hiring of Police Commissioner HOWARD LEARY. JESSE GRAY stated that about 25 people took part in this demonstration.

NY T-3
March 1, 1966

JESSE GRAY participated in the above picketing at Police Headquarters on February 26, 1966, in the company of MAXINE GREEN. Picketing was sponsored by the CCH.

NY T-4
March 1, 1966

A meeting was held at the office of CCH, 300 West 121st Street, New York City, on the evening of March 1, 1966. JESSE GRAY was in charge. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and plan a demonstration on Saturday, March 5, 1966, in front of the 28th Precinct, New York City Police

NY 100-91911

Department, to protest the hiring of Police Commissioner HOWARD LEARY.

NY T-3
March 2, 1966

The following source advised on March 7, 1966, that the above demonstration scheduled for March 5, 1966, had not materialized.

NY T-23
March 7, 1966

JESSE GRAY was Master of Ceremonies as well as one of the principal speakers at a mass rally to protest the shooting of JAMES MEREDITH which was held at Lenox Avenue and 127th Street, New York City, on June 11, 1966. This rally was sponsored by the CCH. JESSE GRAY compared the position of the Negro in Harlem with the status of the Negro in Mississippi.

NY T-24
June 13, 1966
NY T-8
June 14, 1966
NY T-3
June 16, 1966
NY T-16
June 16, 1966
NY T-5
June 20, 1966
NY T-23
June 17, 1966

A mass rally sponsored by the CCH, 300 West 121st Street, New York City, was held on Saturday, June 18, 1966, at 115th Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City. JESSE GRAY was one of the principal speakers. He urged the Negroes to unite for Black Power. About 300 people attended the rally.

NY T-5
June 20, 1966

NY 100-91911

JESSE GRAY of CCH conducted a street rally on Lenox Avenue between 114th and 115th Streets, New York City, on June 18, 1966. A crowd of 250 people attended. JESSE GRAY made the remark that Negroes should rather die in Harlem for freedom than in Vietnam.

NY T-23
July 22, 1966

The following source advised on September 20, 1966, that JESSE GRAY of CCH would lead a group of youths to picket at the residence of a United States Congressman residing in the one thousand block of Grand Concourse of Bronx, New York, on September 21, 1966. This source further stated that the purpose of this picketing would be to protest this Congressman's alleged support of the attempt on the part of Congress to remove ADAM CLAYTON POWELL from his leadership position on the Education and Labor Committee.

NY T-3
September 20, 1966

Ten persons picketed in front of Congressman JAMES H. SCHEUER's residence at 1020 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York, on the evening of September 21, 1966. The purpose of this picketing was to support Congressman POWELL's fight to retain his leadership of the Education and Labor Committee. JESSE GRAY was not observed in attendance.

NY T-6
September 21, 1966

On September 23, 1966, there were about 25 pickets outside Public School 201, located at 127th Street and Fifth Avenue, New York City. JESSE GRAY was present and appeared to be a leader of the group. The demonstration protested alleged racial discrimination on the part of the Board of Education.

NY T-2
October 6, 1966

NY 100-91911

B. Functions Sponsored By Harlem Back Street Youth (HBY)

On August 23, 1966, early in the afternoon, approximately 50 people including JESSE GRAY, picketed in front of 250 Broadway, New York City, where the City Department of Human Resources is located. Approximately 25 demonstrators including JESSE GRAY, went to the Department's conference room and at 3:20 pm, the group with GRAY, left the area. This was reported as a demonstration by the HBY, an anti-poverty group, to demand year-round jobs.

Detective GEORGE MARTRAGONO
Bureau of Special Services
New York City Police Department
to SA JOHN R. HAWKEN
August 23, 1966, and
NY T-3
August 23, 1966

The HBY as of August, 1966, was located at 300 West 121st Street, New York City, and was headed by MAXINE GREEN who has the title of Director. It is noted that this is also the address of the CCH.

NY T-3
August 8, 1966

At 4:40 pm on September 30, 1966, JESSE GRAY, Director of CCH, led a group of approximately 80 Negro youths in a picketing demonstration at 250 Broadway, New York City, at which address is located the Headquarters of the City Department of Human Resources. Also participating actively in this demonstration was MAXINE GREEN. The pickets carried signs calling for jobs for Negro youth.

Detective PETER MADOR
Bureau of Special Services
New York City Police Department
September 30, 1966

NY 100-91911

C. Harlem Unemployment Center Meeting

JESSE GRAY attended a meeting at the Harlem Unemployment Center, 139 West 125th Street, New York City, on April 4, 1966. The purpose of this meeting was to consider future demonstrations to protest alleged discrimination against Negro labor at construction sites in Harlem. Also attending this meeting was BILL EPTON of PLP.

NY T-2
April 6, 1966

D. Miscellaneous Demonstrations and Contacts

This source made available on April 28, 1966, a two page press release prepared by JESSE GRAY. The press release is headed "All Black March On The White House Conference", and calls for a boycott of the White House Conference on Civil Rights scheduled for June 1,2, 1966. JESSE GRAY described the White House Conference as "a cruel white engineered hoax to deceive black people". The press release is signed JESSE GRAY, "Chairman of the Black March".

NY T-19
April 28, 1966

The following source advised on May 14, 1966, that JESSE GRAY was organizing a demonstration against the White House Conference on Civil Rights June 1,2, 1966. GRAY, the coordinator of this protest demonstration, hoped to attract a large number of demonstrators from various parts of the country. GRAY had espoused a belief that the White House Conference on Civil Rights was designed to neutralize those attending. He said the Negro did not need any more conferences, just money for the ghetto.

NY T-20
May 14, 1966

NY 100-91911

STOKLEY CARMICHAEL of SNCC was in contact with JESSE GRAY on May 23, 1966. They discussed the forthcoming Black March Against the White House Conference scheduled for June 1,2, 1966, in Washington, D.C. JESSE GRAY allegedly stated that CARMICHAEL and SNCC were in agreement with him in that they felt the White House Conference would accomplish nothing.

NY T-3
May 25, 1966

Approximately 25 people departed from the area of 121st Street and Eighth Avenue, New York City, about 8:00 am, June 1, 1966, on a bus trip to Washington, D.C. Among those on the bus was JESSE GRAY. The group arrived in Washington, D.C., at 1:30 pm, June 1, 1966. They went to the Sheraton Park Hotel in Washington, D.C., and along with about 20 others, they participated in a picket line outside the Sheraton Park Hotel from 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm. Various signs were carried by the demonstrators protesting the White House Conference on Civil Rights which was underway at the hotel. Later on June 1, 1966, from about 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm, a rally was held in a park in Washington, D.C., which was attended by approximately 200 people. One of the speakers at this rally was JESSE GRAY. The New York group departed Washington, D.C., at 9:30 pm and arrived back in New York at 2:00 am on June 2, 1966.

NY T-3
June 2, 1966

About 10:00 am Sunday morning, February 20, 1966, a group of people assembled on 110th Street in Harlem for a march through Harlem in memory of the late MALCOLM X *. JESSE GRAY was observed in the crowd.

NY T-2
February 23, 1966

NY 100-91911

JESSE GRAY attended a Black Power Planning Conference held in the Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C., September 3, 1966. At this conference, the concept of "Black Power" was discussed and the guidelines and goals were set forth. Part of the conference was held in ADAM CLAYTON POWELL's committee room.

NY T-4
September 9, 1966

JESSE GRAY was the principal speaker at a meeting of a "Black Power" group which was held at the office of ACT, 413 East Oakwood Boulevard, Chicago, October 12, 1966. JESSE GRAY urged a fusion of all splinter groups within the Black Power movement. He agreed that all Negroes should have guns but only for purposes of self-protection.

NY T-21
October 14, 1966

DICK GREGORY, Negro comedian from Chicago, arrived in New York City at 3:00 pm on February 11, 1966, and went directly to 100 Church Street, New York City, to join JESSE GRAY in his rent-strike demonstration which was then taking place. GREGORY remained with JESSE GRAY until about 7:00 pm.

NY T-4
February 15, 1966

On May 2, 1966, LOUISE JEFFERS * spoke about the Organization for Afro-American Unity * taking part in union activity. She said they should organize the black office workers and black entertainers into a union. LOUISE said it would increase membership in the Organization for Afro-American Unity (OAAU). LOUISE said she had spoken to JIM HAUGHTON of the Harlem Unemployment Center, New York City, and to JESSE GRAY and that they were willing to help form such a union.

NY T-4
May 17, 1966

NY 100-91911

It was reported in areas of Harlem around December 21, 1965, that JESSE GRAY and BETTY SHABAZZ, widow of the late MALCOLM X, had an important meeting at the Truth Restaurant on Sunday, December 19, 1965. The nature of the business discussed was not known to this source.

NY T-3
December 21, 1965

JESSE GRAY of CCH, about August, 1966, received a cablegram from Communist China. MAX STANFORD of RAM also claimed to have received a cablegram from Communist China about the same time.

NY T-3
August 10, 1966

In respect to the above cablegrams, the following source on September 7, 1966, made available a copy of the cablegram from Peking, China, dated in August, 1966. The cablegram was directed to certain Negro leaders in Harlem and was signed "Rally of People of All Circles in Peking Opposing United States of America Imperialism and Supporting American Negro People in Their Struggle Against Racial Discrimination - August 8, 1966". The cablegram expressed support from 700 million Chinese people for the American Negroes' struggle and stated that this struggle of the Negroes in the United States constituted a powerful support to the Vietnamese people in their "struggle against United States oppression".

NY T-27
September 7, 1966

NY 100-91911

APPENDIX I (INDIVIDUALS)

HERBERT APTHEKER

HERBERT APTHEKER was elected a member of the Communist Party National Committee at the 18th National Convention of the CP,USA, held in New York City, June, 1966.

NY T-28
June 26, 1966

PAUL BOUTELLE

PAUL BOUTELLE was known to be a member of a New York Local, Socialist Workers Party (SWP) * as of November, 1965.

NY T-29
November 19, 1965

CLARENCE COGGINS

A characterization for CLARENCE COGGINS is contained in the characterization of the Labor Negro Vanguard Conference.

WILLIAM EPTON

As of May, 1966, WILLIAM EPTON was Vice President of the PLP and Chairman of the Harlem Progressive Labor Party Club, 336 Lenox Avenue, New York City.

NY T-17
May, 1966

LOUISE JEFFERS

On April 13, 1965, NY T-4 furnished information which reflected that LOUISE JEFFERS was at that time Chairman of the Cultural Committee of the Organization for Afro-American Unity.

NY 100-91911

RUDY JONES

RUDY JONES attended a meeting of the CP Waterfront Section which was held on August 8, 1958, in New York City.

NY T-30
August 11, 1958

MALCOLM X

A characterization for the late MALCOLM X is included in the characterization of the OAAU.

MAE MALLORY

WILLIE MAE MALLORY was involved in a racial incident in Monroe, North Carolina, in 1961, following which she was indicted and convicted for kidnapping. The North Carolina Supreme Court reversed the conviction in January, 1965, on the grounds that Negroes were systematically excluded from the Grand Jury of North Carolina. For approximately the past two years, MALLORY has been active and influential in the Workers World Party* (WWP), which organization furnished MALLORY financial and propagandistic support during her court fight.

In May, 1965, MALLORY was reindicted on the charge of kidnapping by the Union County, North Carolina, Grand Jury.

NY T-31
May, 1965

JACK O'DELL

NY T-32, in July, 1962, advised that as of that time, HUNTER PITTS O'DELL aka Jack O'Dell, was considered by the CP as being a member of its National Committee. The Fall, 1965, issue of "Freedomways" lists JACK O'DELL as its

NY 100-91911

Associate Managing Editor. A characterization of "Freedomways Associates", which carries a characterization of "Freedomways", is attached hereto.

MAX STANFORD

A characterization for MAX STANFORD is contained in the characterization of RAM.

APPENDIX II (ORGANIZATIONS)

1.AFRO-AMERICANS AGAINST
THE WAR IN VIETNAM

A source advised between February 3 and May 31, 1966, as follows:

Afro-Americans Against the War in Vietnam (AAAWV) was formed as an "Anti-War" committee in January, 1966, at the initiative and under the control of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP).

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

AAAWV is comprised of the "Negro Fraction" of the SWP, and in addition to providing this fraction with an activity, AAAWV gives the SWP an opportunity to link its "Negro Struggle" with its protests against United States policy abroad.

AAAWV attempts to discourage negro support for the Vietnam war effort.

AAAWV Chairman is Paul Boutelle, SWP member in New York City. The group operates out of the Harlem Unemployment Center, 139 West 125th Street, New York, New York. Its mailing address is P.O. Box 384, Cathedral Station, New York, New York.

APPENDIX

1.

FREEDOMWAYS ASSOCIATES, INC.

The records of the New York State Secretary of State, Albany, New York, show that the Certificate of Incorporation of Freedomways Associates, Inc., was filed on March 2, 1961.

On May 24, 1961, a source advised that a report was given on "Freedomways" at a meeting of the National Board, Communist Party, U.S.A. (CPUSA), held on May 24, 1961. It was stated that the central purpose of "Freedomways" is to develop a theory and positive criticism of currents in the Negro Movement, as well as to raise the level of understanding and discussion taking place in Negro life today and to project a socialist and pro-Soviet orientation.

On May 25, 1961, a second source advised that "Freedomways" was set up for the CPUSA by JAMES JACKSON.

The Second Quarter, 1966, issue of "Freedomways," self-described as "A Quarterly Review of the Negro Freedom Movement" published by Freedomways Associates, Incorporated, 799 Broadway, New York City, lists the following as its editorial staff:

JOHN HENRIK CLARKE, Associate Editor
ESTHER JACKSON, Managing Editor
J. H. O'DELL, Associate Managing Editor
JOHN L. DEVINE, Art Editor

A third source made available information on July 1, 1964, indicating that JOHN HENRIK CLARKE attended the first and founding meeting of the American Institute for Marxist Studies (AIMS) which was held on December 19, 1963, and continued on January 10, 1964.

This source also made available information on August 14, 1964, indicating that CLARKE is an "Associate" of AIMS.

On March 16, 1966, a fourth source advised that JAMES JACKSON, accompanied by his wife, ESTHER JACKSON, was scheduled to depart on March 25, 1966, from the United States en route to Moscow to attend the 23rd Congress of the CP of the Soviet Union. This source described JAMES JACKSON

APPENDIX (CONT'D)

2.

FREEDOMWAYS ASSOCIATES, INC. (CONT'D)

as a member of the National Committee, CPUSA.

This source advised in July, 1962, that as of that period, O'DELL was considered by the CPUSA, as being a member of its National Committee.

On January 30, 1961, SYLVIA M. BRENNER DEVINE, 415 South 50th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, advised that her former husband, JACK DEVINE, mentioned on December 17, 1960, that he was still in the CP and that the CP is his whole life.

On July 24, 1963, a fifth source described JOHN DEVINE as a CP member.

APPENDIX

NY 100-91911

1.

LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE
Formerly known as the
Labor-Negro Vanguard Party,
also known as
Labor Vanguard Democrats

In a press release dated November 18, 1961, the
LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD PARTY (LNVP) stated:

"The growing influence of the irredentist
forces upon the policies of our nation as indicated by
the alarming drift towards war and the outlawing of the
Communist Party (CP) has accentuated the need for all
racial, progressive, and liberal forces to unite in a
common party."

In a leaflet entitled, "Call to Progressive
Minded America", issued by the LNVP, its founding convention
was scheduled for November 25, 1961, in New York City. The
aims and purposes were listed as:

1. For the resurgence of the American
Labor Movement.
2. For the winning of the struggle for
Negro rights.
3. For an end of the cold war.
4. For economic security and higher
mass living standards.
5. For the end of the exploitation
of man by man.

APPENDIX

NY 100-91911

2.

LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE

A source advised on December 19, 1961, that CLARENCE COGGINS is considered the Provisional Chairman of the LNVP. Other active members include BERNARD (Whitey) GOODFRIEND, ALVIN OLIVER, WILLIAM CLARK, and RODNEY OLIVER.

A second source advised on December 12, 1959, that CLARENCE COGGINS, BERNARD (Whitey) GOODFRIEND, ALVIN OLIVER, WILLIAM CLARK, and RODNEY OLIVER were all members of the Harriet Tubman Section of the Essex County, New Jersey, CP which was expelled from the Party with no right of appeal by action of the 17th National Convention, CP, USA, being held December 10-13, 1959.

On January 15, 1963, the first source advised that the LNVP is now using the name LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE (LNVC) and is the name the organization is now known by and under which name all leaflets are issued.

The May 2, 1965, issue of the "Newark Evening News", a daily Newark, New Jersey, newspaper, contained an article that the Labor Vanguard Democrats, running an insurgent slate in the June 1, 1965, Democratic Primary opened their official Campaign May 1, 1965, with a "May Day Rally" in Military Park at Newark.

WILLIAM CLARK headed the Labor Vanguard Democrat ticket as candidate for Governor of New Jersey. Other candidates on the ballot were ESTHER NETTE of Newark, candidate for Assembly; HERMAN D. KLEIN of East Orange, candidate for Freeholder; and ALVIN OLIVER of Newark, candidate for Essex County Clerk.

On May 18, 1965, a third source advised that the LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE had been inactive for about seven months until CLARENCE COGGINS and ALVIN OLIVER stimulated the current political activity under the designation of Labor Vanguard Democrats.

APPENDIX

1.

HARLEM COUNCIL FOR PEACE
Also known as Central Harlem
Committee on Viet Nam

A source on January 10, 1966, advised that the idea for the meeting and formation of the Central Harlem Committee on Viet Nam, which met on January 9, 1966, in New York City, was conceived at a Communist Party meeting held on December 18, 1965, between representatives of the Communist Party, United States of America, New York District and Harlem Region, Communist Party. On January 21, 1966, the same source advised the Committee had now adopted the name of the Harlem Council For Peace (HCFP).

A second source on February 10, 1966, furnished a circular issued by HCFP, self-characterizing itself as an ad hoc committee formed by a group of concerned people representing several organizations.

The first source on January 17, 1966, advised that the purpose of the group is to foster sentiment against the Viet Nam War.

A third source on February 1, 1966, furnished a draft of proposed literature for the HCFP. This draft listed the following aims and purposes of the organization:

1. The War Against Poverty in Harlem.
2. The liberation of non-white people here in the United States.
3. The right of free expression as guaranteed by the constitution of the United States.

The first source on May 10, 1966, advised that the HCFP was located at 357 Lenox Avenue, New York City.

APPENDIX

1.

MUSLIM MOSQUE, INCORPORATED (MMI)

The March 13, 1964, edition of "The New York Times", a daily newspaper published in New York, New York, contained an article on page 20 which indicated that MALCOLM X (LITTLE), former national official of the Nation of Islam (NOI), who broke with the NOI on March 8, 1964, publicly announced in New York City on March 12, 1964, that he had formed the Muslim Mosque, Incorporated (MMI). The MMI, according to the article, would be a broadly based politically oriented black nationalist movement for Negroes, only, financed by voluntary contributions. In this public statement, MALCOLM X urged Negroes to abandon the doctrine of non-violence when it is necessary to defend themselves in the civil rights struggle, and he also suggested that Negroes form rifle clubs to protect their lives and property in time of emergencies in areas where the government is unable or unwilling to protect them.

Incorporation papers of the MMI filed on March 16, 1964, with the Business Section, Clerk of Courts, New York County, New York, New York, reflect that the MMI was incorporated under the Religious Corporation Law of the State of New York to work for the imparting of the Islamic Faith and Islamic Religion in accordance with "accepted Islamic principles". The principal place of worship to be located in the Borough of Manhattan, New York, New York.

The May 23, 1964, edition of the "New York Amsterdam News", a weekly Negro newspaper published in New York City, contained an article by columnist JAMES BOOKER in which he indicated that he had heard that the visit by MALCOLM X with Muslim leaders during his African tour has changed him to become soft in his anti-white feelings and to become more religious.

On October 6, 1964, a confidential source advised that the MMI is apparently affiliated with the true orthodox Islamic Religion through its affiliation with the Islamic Foundation (of New York), 1 Riverside Drive, New York City. The only teachings of the MMI are on the Islamic Religion.

APPENDIX

2.

MUSLIM MOSQUE, INCORPORATED (MMI)

This confidential source advised on May 17, 1965, that the headquarters of the MMI are located in Suite 128, Hotel Theresa, 2090 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York, where they were established on March 16, 1964. These headquarters are shared with the Organization of Afro-American Unity, Incorporated (OAAU) which was also headed by MALCOLM X.

MALCOLM X was assassinated on February 21, 1965, while addressing an OAAU rally at the Audubon Ballroom, Broadway and 166th Street, New York City.

This same confidential source advised on September 8, 1965, that the activities of the MMI following the death of MALCOLM X were limited to the teaching of classes in the Islamic religion and a class in judo for self-protection. These classes were held regularly until the latter part of July, 1965, when they were discontinued. Since then, the MMI has held no meetings and there has been absolutely no activity by the MMI which appears to be completely "dead".

APPENDIX

1.

NATION OF ISLAM

In January, 1957, a source advised that ELIJAH MUHAMMAD has described his organization on a nationwide basis as the "Nation of Islam" and "Muhammad's Temples of Islam."

On April 29, 1966, a second source advised that, ELIJAH MUHAMMAD is the national leader of the Nation of Islam (NOI); Muhammad's Temple of Islam No. 2, 5335 South Greenwood Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, is the national headquarters of the NOI; and in mid-1960, MUHAMMAD and other NOI officials, when referring to MUHAMMAD's organization on a nationwide basis, commenced using either "Mosque" or "Temple" when mentioning one of "Muhammad's Temples of Islam."

The NOI is an all-Negro organization which was originally organized in 1930 in Detroit, Michigan. MUHAMMAD claims to have been selected by ALLAH, the Supreme Being, to lead the so-called Negro race out of slavery in the wilderness of North America by establishing an independent black nation in the United States. Members following MUHAMMAD's teachings and his interpretation of the "Koran" believe there is no such thing as a Negro; that the so-called Negroes are slaves of the white race, referred to as "white devils," in the United States; and that the white race, because of its exploitation of the so-called Negroes, must and will be destroyed in the approaching "War of Armageddon."

In the past, officials and members of the NOI, including MUHAMMAD, have refused to register under the provisions of the Selective Service Acts and have declared that members owe no allegiance to the United States.

On May 5, 1958, the first source advised that MUHAMMAD had, upon advice of legal counsel, tempered his personal statements and instructions to his ministers concerning the principles of his organization in order to avoid possible prosecution by the United States Government.

APPENDIX (CONT'D)

2.

NATION OF ISLAM (CONT'D)

however, he did not indicate any fundamental changes in the teachings of his organization.

On May 2, 1966, a third source advised that MUHAMMAD had, early in July, 1958, decided to de-emphasize the religious aspects of the teachings of Islam and to stress the economic benefits to be derived by those Negroes who joined the NOI. This policy change, according to MUHAMMAD, would help him acquire additional followers and create more interest in his programs.

APPENDIX

1.

ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN
UNITY, INCORPORATED (OAAU)

On June 28, 1964, MALCOLM X LITTLE, founder and leader of the Muslim Mosque, Incorporated (MMI), publicly announced the formation of a new, all Negro, militant civil rights action group to be known as the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU), with himself as Chairman. This announcement was made at a public rally held at the MMI in the Audubon Ballroom, Broadway and 166th Street, New York City.

A printed and published statement of basic OAAU aims read by MALCOLM X at this meeting indicates that it shall include "all" people of African descent in the Western Hemisphere, as well as "our" brothers and sisters on the African continent. It is patterned after the "letter and spirit" of the Organization of African Unity established (by African heads of States) at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in May, 1963.

A recording of the remarks of MALCOLM X at this meeting indicates that the aim of the OAAU is to eliminate differences between Negroes so they can work together for "human rights," while the initial objective is to "internationalize" the American civil rights movement by taking it to the United Nations. LITTLE condemned the non-violent civil rights movement and claims that Negroes should be taught to protect themselves, when and if necessary. The OAAU will sponsor a program for Negroes of Education, politics, culture, economics, and social reform.

MALCOLM X was assassinated on February 21, 1965, while addressing an OAAU rally at the Audubon Ballroom, New York City.

On February 28, 1966, a confidential source advised that the president and head of the OAAU is ELLA COLLINS, a half-sister of the late MALCOLM X, who resides in Boston, Massachusetts.

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APPENDIX

2.

ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN
UNITY, INCORPORATED (OAAU)(CONT'D)

On April 12, 1966, the same confidential source advised that the headquarters of the OAAU are located in Suite 128, Hotel Theresa, 2090 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

On April 13, 1965, a second confidential source advised that on March 26, 1965, the OAAU filed a Certificate of Incorporation with the Department of State, State of New York, Albany, New York, and henceforth the organization's true name will be Organization of Afro-American Unity, Incorporated.

APPENDIX

1.

PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY

A source advised on April 20, 1965, that the Progressive Labor Party (PLP), formerly known as the Progressive Labor Movement (PLM), held its first national convention April 15-18, 1965, at New York City, to organize the PLM into a PLP. The PLP will have as its ultimate objective the establishment of a militant working class movement based on Marxism-Leninism.

The "New York Times" City Edition, Tuesday, April 20, 1965, page 27, reported that a new party of "revolutionary socialism" was formally founded on April 18, 1965, under the name of the PLP. The PLP was described as an outgrowth of the PLM. Its officers were identified as MILTON ROSEN, New York, President, and WILLIAM EPTON of New York, and MORT SCHEER of San Francisco, Vice Presidents. A 20-member National Committee was elected to direct the party until the next convention.

According to the article, "The Progressive Labor Movement was founded in 1962 by Mr. ROSEN and Mr. SCHEER after they were expelled from the Communist Party of the United States for assertedly following the Chinese Communist line."

The PLP publishes "Progressive Labor," a bimonthly magazine, "Challenge," a biweekly New York City newspaper, and "Spark," a west coast newspaper.

The June 1, 1965, issue of "Challenge," page 6, states that "this paper is dedicated to fight for a new way of life-where the working men and women own and control their homes, factories, the police, courts, and the entire government on every level."

The source advised that the PLP utilizes the address of General Post Office Box 808, Brooklyn 1, New York, but also utilizes an office in Room 622, 132 Nassau Street, New York City, where PLP publications are prepared.

1.

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT (RAM)

On November 3, 1964, a source made available a document entitled, "The Revolutionary Action Movement Manifesto", the document having been obtained by the source from an individual known to be a member of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM).

This document stated, in part, that RAM was officially organized in the Winter of 1963 by Afro-Americans who support the revolutionary objectives of ROBERT F. WILLIAMS, who was then residing in Cuba, and his concept of organized violence to achieve the liberation of the Afro-American people in the United States. This Manifesto disclosed that RAM had oriented its program to one of education and political revolution and the organization of a "black" political party with revolutionary objectives, having recognized the need for a "black revolution" that could and would seize power. RAM philosophy is described in this document as one of revolutionary nationalism, that is, one involving the struggles of the non-white races of the world against exploitation and enslavement by the white capitalist and imperialist nations.

Regarding WILLIAMS, it should be noted that on August 28, 1961, a Federal warrant was issued at Charlotte, North Carolina, charging him with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution for the crime of kidnaping. Subsequent to the issuance of this warrant, WILLIAMS fled the United States to Cuba, where he published a monthly newsletter entitled "The Crusader" from Havana. As of December, 1966, WILLIAMS was residing in Peking, China.

This source, in September, 1964, advised RAM is dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the United States, by violence if necessary, and to its replacement by a socialistic system oriented toward the Chinese Communist interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. RAM is entirely non-white in membership, clandestine in nature, and owes its primary allegiance to the "Bandung World", that is, the non-white races of the world rather than to any national entity, as such.

2.REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT (CONT'D).

On November 16, 1964, a second source advised he learned recently from a RAM member that the organization began in Detroit, Michigan, largely under the impetus of DON FREEMAN, described as the "Father" of RAM and referred to as RAM's "Black Stalin". FREEMAN served as RAM Chairman, with MAXWELL STANFORD, now residing in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as RAM Field Chairman.

On January 23, 1967, a third source advised that the RAM still remains active; however, there is no formal headquarters, as such, for the RAM.

NY 100-91911

APPENDIX

1.

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY -
NEW YORK LOCAL

A source stated on August 25, 1960, that the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) New York Local (NYL) was founded in 1938 in New York City.

A second source stated on May 20, 1966, that the NYL was affiliated with and followed the aims and purposes of the National SWP.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-91911

APPENDIX

1.

WORKERS WORLD PARTY

On April 17, 1959, a confidential source advised that on February 12, 1959, a Socialist Workers Party (SWP) minority group under the leadership of National Committee member, SAM BALLAN, split from the SWP.

The source stated that this minority group, referred to as the Marcyites, after many years of program and policy differences on varied issues concerning tactics and interpretation of political events, split from the SWP on the grounds that the Party was liquidating itself by departing from the Marxist precepts of LEON TROTSKY and retreating from the fight for the world socialist revolution. The final issue which ultimately forced the split was the minority's opposition to the SWP regroupment policy which involved cooperation with the Communist Party (CP) periphery-individuals characterized by the minority as petty-bourgeois.

The minority program, according to source, advocated unconditional defense of the Soviet Union and has as its goal the building of a revolutionary party with a complete proletarian orientation for the purpose of overthrowing capitalism in the United States and throughout the world.

On May 12, 1960, source advised that this minority group had chosen the name Workers World Party.

On May 2, 1966, a second confidential source advised that the Workers World Party, which maintains headquarters at 46 West 21st Street, New York, New York, supports the People's Republic of China in its ideological dispute with the Soviet Union.

The SWP and the CP have been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to: 1 - Secret Service, NYC (RM)

Report of: VINCENT J. ASCHERL Office: New York, New York
Date: FEB 25 1966

Field Office File #: 100-91911 Bureau File #: 100-357847

Title: JESSE WILLIARD GRAY

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis: JESSE GRAY was arrested on three occasions by New York City Police since September, 1965, his last arrest being for two unanswered traffic summonses on 2/8/66. JESSE GRAY is estranged from his wife ROSA LEE GRAY. He currently resides with MAXINE GREEN in her apartment, 4-B, at 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, New York. JESSE GRAY is Director of Community Council on Housing, 300 W. 121st Street, New York City. Communist background of associates set forth. At some time during period December, 1964, to November, 1965, JESSE GRAY was active in behalf of or received support from Progressive Labor Movement, Harlem Freedom Forum, Washington Park Forum. During period December, 1964 to December, 1965, JESSE GRAY attended meetings and/or functions of racial organizations such as Organization for Black Power, Revolutionary Action Movement, Federation for Independent Political Action, Organization of Afro-American Unity, ACT, and Deacons for Defense & Justice. Activities related to Community Council on Housing during period January, 1965, to November, 1965, set forth. JESSE GRAY attempted to enter Democratic Primary as candidate for Mayor, City of New York, during summer, 1965; however, he withdrew from race in August, 1965, because campaign petitions were invalid. JESSE GRAY was invited speaker at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, 12/8/64, and spoke on subject "Black Radicalism as True Path to Social Change in U.S."

- P -

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: FBI Auto Declass Guide, 5/24/19
By: CTS, NARA, Date: 10/2/19

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GROUP I

Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

NY 100-91911

Alabama Relief Committee.

NY T-9
July 8, 1965

Progressive Labor Movement (PLM)

This source stated in May, 1965, that the PLM supported financially JESSE GRAY's Federation for Independent Political Action located at 139 West 125th Street, New York City.

NY T-2
May 6, 1965

JESSE GRAY on November 26, 1965, was in contact with DAVID DOUGLAS of the Harlem Branch PLM. They discussed holding a rally in support of WILLIAM KFTON.

NY T-10
November 26, 1965

Communist Party (CP)

At a meeting of the National Negro Commission, CP, United States of America, held March 20, 21, 1965, in the Woodstock Hotel, New York City, a CP member present gave a report and among items mentioned by him was the statement that the CP should reassess JESSE GRAY's program and JESSE GRAY himself and make a decision as to whether the CP supports GRAY's program or not.

NY T-11
March 23, 24, 1965

On July 1, 1965, a ^{meeting} membership of the Borough Hall Club, Kings County CP, was held at 9 Cranberry Street, Brooklyn, New York. In the course of this meeting, LENNIE RUBINSTEIN, member of the Borough Hall Club CP, stated that he would work in support of JESSE GRAY for

NY 100-91911

Mayor of New York City and he did not care if he was expelled from CP for doing it. The other CP members present were upset over HUBBINS' position since it had been decided that the CP was going to support a different candidate for Mayor.

NY T-12
July 8, 1965

Washington Park Forum

Washington Park Forum (WPF) is characterized in the Appendix.

JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers at a meeting of the WPF held July 4, 1965, at Washington Park, Chicago, Illinois. Approximately 400 individuals attended this gathering. JESSE GRAY spoke on the school situation in Chicago, Illinois, and urged his hearers to protest rehiring of BENJAMIN C. WILLIS as school superintendent.

NY T-13
July 6, 1965

NY T-14
July 28, 1965

On Sunday, July 11, 1965, a meeting of the WPF was held in Washington Park, Chicago, Illinois. Approximately 300 individuals gathered in Washington Park for this meeting. JESSE GRAY from New York was one of the speakers. He charged that the Chicago Police Department was brutal in its treatment of the Negro.

NY T-13
July 13, 1965

NY T-14
July 28, 1965

**III. ACTIVITY IN
RACIAL ORGANIZATIONS**

A. Organization For Black Power (OBP)

An organizing conference of the OBP was held in Washington, D. C. on May 29 - 31, 1965. The purpose of this conference was to form a coalition of the more militant and radical civil rights organizations. JESSE GRAY took a leading role in the activities discussed at this conference.

NY T-15
June 1, 1965

NY T-16
June 2, 1965

A meeting of individuals active in the OBP was held on Saturday, June 19, 1965, in Cleveland, Ohio. JESSE GRAY was in attendance. The talks ranged from direction of the civil rights movement to attitudes among Negroes in general. GRAY stated that in his opinion the "Movement" needed an incident with which the people in the "ghetto" could be identified, such as a police brutality case.

NY T-16
June 24, 1965

NY T-17, on July 13, 1965, made available an announcement circulated by OBP which set forth the purpose of OBP and listed JESSE GRAY as Chairman of the organization. The circular stated that the OBP is part of the revolutionary struggle of people all over the world to liberate themselves from the determination of the United States to impose its way of life on the whole world. The circular was dated July 4, 1965.

JESSE GRAY was in attendance at an organization meeting of OBP held July 3 and 4, 1965, in Chicago, Illinois. JESSE GRAY was one of the principal speakers at the meeting. He described the OBP as a "Revolutionary Organization to Seize Power in the Black Ghetto". JESSE GRAY stated that the

NY 100-91911

OBP must become a cadre that groups can call on in time of crisis.

NY T-16
July 9, 1965

GRAY was present in Chicago, Illinois, on July 3, 1965, and attended the above conference of the OBP. GRAY was one of the principal speakers and stated that the OBP must take advantage of issues such as the Administration's Policy on Viet Nam and the Dominican Republic. He urged that the OBP in its future activities stress the issues of importance to people in the "ghettos", namely issues of discriminatory housing, police brutality and segregated schools.

NY T-15
July 6, 1965

WILLIAM DAVIS who was East Coast Director of the OBP as of July, 1965, was in contact with personnel in the CCH in July, 1965, and complained about JESSE GRAY's leadership in the OBP. DAVIS stated that GRAY had not shown up for certain meetings and that everybody was "pretty disgusted" with GRAY because he ran away and did not tell anybody anything.

NY T-1
July 16, 17, 1965

This source made available a leaflet captioned "Black Youth Must Not Die in South Viet Nam". This leaflet was issued by the OBP, 6 East 117th Street, New York City, which at that time was also headquarters for the CCH. This leaflet was distributed on August 7, 1965 in Harlem.

NY T-3
August 13, 1965

NY 100-91911

Special Agent personnel, FBI, on August 7, 1965, observed a rally conducted by JESSE GRAY and the OBP at the corner of 129 Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, from 5:30 p. m. to 9:30 p. m. Approximately 300 people attended this outdoor rally. One of the speakers was CLARENCE GOGGINS of New Jersey, Coordinator of GRAY's mayoralty campaign. A circular distributed at this rally stated "Black Youth and Black Americans Must Not Die In South Viet Nam."

JESSE GRAY was the principal speaker at this rally. He described himself as an agitator who would encourage people in the black ghetto to organize for black political power. JESSE GRAY stated that Negroes in Viet Nam should turn their guns on the white men instead of on the Vietnamese.

NY T-18 also attended the above rally on August 7, 1965, and furnished substantially the same information as set forth above, on August 8, 1965.

JESSE GRAY's attendance at the above Saturday rally on August 7, 1965, was also reported by the following sources:

NY T-19
August 13, 1965

NY T-21
August 9, 1965

NY T-20
August 7, 1965

NY T-3
August 12, 1965

A street rally sponsored by the OBP was held on August 14, 1965, at the corner of 129 Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City. JESSE GRAY was the principal speaker. In his remarks he was generally critical of the New York City Police Department and its system of assigning police. JESSE GRAY claimed that the Police Department never send colored policemen into white areas.

NY T-22
August 19, 1965

NY 100-91911

JESSE GRAY, National Director, OBP, attended a conference of the OBP held in Detroit, Michigan, September 4, 5, 1965. Accompanying JESSE GRAY on this occasion was his girl friend MAXINE GREEN. At the September 4, 1965, session of this conference JESSE GRAY stated that many Negroes were opposed to fighting in Viet Nam. GRAY spoke about the need to capitalize on the Viet Nam situation in not going into military service. GRAY also spoke against the United States Government's war on poverty. GRAY was in charge of the morning session of the OBP conference held September 5, 1965. He spoke about the need for unity among various Negro organizations. GRAY stated the Government was misleading the people, so that the Government could control the masses. JESSE GRAY dismissed the members during the afternoon of September 5, 1965, and told them to go back to their communities "with an iron fist".

NY T-3
September 8, 16, 1965

Substantially the same information set forth above was furnished by NY T-15, September 7, 1965.

JESSE GRAY was one of the principal speakers at the "Mass Rally on Black Power Politics" held Saturday, October 23, 1965, at 125 Street and 7th Avenue, New York City. GRAY's speech dealt with politics in Harlem; GRAY proceeded to criticize current candidates for political offices in New York City. He urged Negroes to unite and establish their own political power.

NY T-4
October 25, 1965

WILLIAM RODMAN DAVIS, 2621 West Thompson Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, advised Special Agent Personnel, FBI, September 14, 1965, that JESSE GRAY participated in meetings with other OBP leaders in Philadelphia over the weekends of September 11 to 13, 1965. At these meetings GRAY was one of the speakers. DAVIS stated that GRAY's

NY 100-91911

remarks at these open-air meetings in the Negro communities, such as "Molotov Cocktails", Negro defiance of police and "Standing Up for Rights" would not lead to violence in his opinion.

The "Philadelphia Tribune", a biweekly Negro-oriented newspaper, September 14, 1965, Page 1 carried a story headlined "Rain, Cops Stymie 'Militants' Seeking A Foot Hold In Philadelphia". The article narrated that JESSE GRAY spoke at three different locations in Philadelphia. GRAY allegedly stated "the only solution to our problem is to run every white man out of our communities."

Lieutenant GEORGE FENCL, Commissioner's Office, Philadelphia Police Department, on September 16, 1965, advised that JESSE GRAY and some of his companions were detained for questioning by the Philadelphia Police Department on September, 11, 1965, as a result of activity on that date in the Negro communities in Philadelphia. One of those arrested with GRAY was MAXINE GREEN.

B. Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM)

RAM is characterized in the Appendix.

At a meeting of RAM members held in Brooklyn, New York, August 12, 1965, organizing of a "Freedom Army" was discussed. JESSE GRAY was to be considered political head and spokesman for the group. One of the RAM members present stated that RAM would be backing JESSE GRAY and JESSE GRAY would be part of RAM.

NY T-3
August 12, 1965

On Sunday, August 15, 1965, JESSE GRAY met with members of RAM. They discussed cooperation between OBP and RAM. GRAY invited RAM members to attend a forthcoming conference of the OBP to be held in Detroit over Labor Day Weekend, 1965.

NY T-3
August 16, 1965

NY 100-91911

On August 25, 1965, JESSE GRAY met with members of RAM and they discussed the relationship between RAM and the OBP. They agreed that RAM and OBP should work together.

NY T-3
August 26, 1965

A conference of the OBP was held in Detroit, Michigan, September 4 and 5, 1965. This conference was also attended by members of RAM. JESSE GRAY presided at the September 4, 1965 session of the conference. JESSE GRAY, National Director of OBP was one of the principal speakers and gave a speech concerning the poor economic conditions of the Negroes in the United States. Later on the afternoon of September 5, 1965, after the OBP conference was adjourned a short rally sponsored by RAM was held on 12th Street in Eastern Detroit. One of the speakers was JESSE GRAY,

NY T-17
September 8, 1965

On the afternoon of September 14, 1965, JESSE GRAY met with members of RAM in New York City. JESSE GRAY spoke about renting a loft for training purposes and of obtaining housing for the "Brothers" and office space for the "Freedom Army"

NY T-3
September 15, 1965

A meeting of members of the OBP was held in Philadelphia on Saturday, November 6, 1965. JESSE GRAY was in attendance at this meeting. It was decided at this meeting to oust RAM from the OBP. This action was taken because RAM had joined with those advocating the burning of draft cards. It was stated that the OBP does not agree with RAM and therefore decided on the expulsion of RAM.

NY T-17
November 15, 1965

NY 100-91911

**C. Federation for Independent Political
Action (FIPA)**

On February 25, 1965, from 7:00 p. m. to 8:15 p. m. a rally sponsored by FIPA, 139 West 125 Street, was held at 125 Street and 7th Avenue, New York City. Principal speaker at this rally was JESSE GRAY who told a crowd of approximately 200 that the blame for the death of MALCOLM X should be placed on outside forces and not on Negroes who shot him down. He blamed MALCOLM's death on the "White Power Structure".

NY T-23
February 25, 1965

On August 16, 1964, NY T-24 advised that MALCOLM X was founder of the Muslim Mosque, Inc., and President of this organization as of August, 1964.

Muslim Mosque, Inc., is characterized in the Appendix.

The following sources also reported JESSE GRAY's attendance at the above rally sponsored by FIPA on February 25, 1965:

NY T-24 NY T-26
February 26, 1965 March 9, 1965

NY T-2 NY T-27
March 5, 1965 March 3, 1965

NY T-25
February 25, 1965

**D. Organisation For Afro-American
Unity (OAAU)**

The OAAU is characterized in the Appendix.

NY 100-91911

At a meeting of the OAAU held December 7, 1964, at the Hotel Theresa, Room 128, an official of the OAAU stated that the OAAU backs JESSE GRAY in his rent strikes.

NY T-27
December 16, 1964

On March 4, 1965, a closed membership meeting of the New York Local, Socialist Worker's Party (SWP) was held at 116 University Place, New York City. At this meeting a report was given on the Harlem Memorial Meeting held on February 25, 1965, by JESSE GRAY for MALCOLM-X.

One of the SWP members present at the above SWP meeting criticized JESSE GRAY and stated that GRAY had not supported MALCOLM's program and was always fighting with MALCOLM X for leadership in Harlem. GRAY was not at the Sunday rally in January, 1965, when MALCOLM X was killed; however, JESSE GRAY conducted a memorial rally at MALCOLM's death trying to create an image of himself as a supporter of MALCOLM X and also trying to assume leadership from MALCOLM X.

NY T-28
March 19, 1965

The SWP has been designated pursuant to executive order 10450.

SWP, New York Local, is characterized in the Appendix.

Funeral services for MALCOLM X were held on February 27, 1965, in Faith Temple, New York City; burial was in Ferncliff Cemetery, Hartsdale, New York. Observed in the church during the funeral service was JESSE GRAY.

NY T-2
March 1, 1965

NY 100-91911

A memorial tribute to MALCOLM X was held on May 26, 1965, at Rockland Palace, New York City, from 9:00 p. m. to midnight. JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers at this memorial tribute. He gave a eulogy on MALCOLM X.

NY T-24
May 27, 1965

JESSE GRAY's participation in the above memorial tribute was also reported by the following sources:

NY T-22
June 1, 1965

NY T-3
May 28, 1965

NY T-7
June 1, 1965

At a closed membership meeting of the New York Local SWP held May 27, 1965, at 116 University Place, New York City, a report was given on the MALCOLM X memorial meeting held on Wednesday May 26, 1965, at Rockland Palace, New York City. It was mentioned that JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers at the memorial meeting and he was described as an "exciting" speaker.

NY T-26
May 28, 1965.

E. ACT

A leaflet from the Chicago Headquarters of ACT, self-described as "an organization of Militants", made available on December 9, 1964, reflected that ACT was founded in Chester, Pennsylvania, on April 15, 1963. JESSE GRAY of New York City was described as being one of the individuals responsible for organizing ACT.

NY T-15
December 9, 1964

NY 100-91900

On Friday, April 30, 1965, JESSE GRAY was in Chicago and engaged in a discussion of civil rights activities with LAWRENCE LANDRY. LANDRY as of April, 1965, was ACT National Chairman and in charge of all ACT activities in Chicago. GRAY stated he was desirous of getting a program going "in the streets of Harlem." He felt there was potential in capitalizing on the resentment most Negroes felt toward police authority. Both GRAY and LANDRY at that time were in agreement that the Administration's Anti-poverty Program was a "Sham".

NY T-15
May 3, 1965

A racial demonstration against the administration of Superintendent of Schools BENJAMIN C. WILLIS, Chicago, Illinois, and sponsored by Chicago ACT was held on the evening of July 14, 1965, at Du Sable School, 49th and Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. This demonstration was lead by JESSE GRAY. During the demonstration approximately 100 teen-age youths from Robert Taylor Homes, a Chicago Housing Project, started throwing stones at the school structures. The stones damaged school property to the extent of approximately \$250.

NY T-29
July 15, 1965

JESSE GRAY was present at a racial demonstration on the evening of July 15, 1965 at Du Sable High School, 5030 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Approximately 75 individuals participated in this demonstration and some began throwing debris into the excavated area for the new class rooms. At about 10:00 p. m., LAWRENCE LANDRY of Chicago ACT spoke to the demonstrators whereupon they disbanded. The purpose of the above demonstrations was to protest alleged racial discrimination on the part of Superintendent BENJAMIN WILLIS.

NY T-30
July 16, 1965

NY 100-91911

F. Deacons For Defense and Justice

JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers at a street rally held on October 23, 1965, at 125 Street and 7th Avenue, New York City. The speakers urged support for the Deacons For Defense and Justice (DDJ), condemned the "slum lords" of Harlem and criticized the Government's Anti-poverty Program.

NY T-7
December 7, 1965

NY T-3 also reported on the above street rally held October 23, 1965. This information was received November 10, 1965. This source stated that generally all of the speakers stressed the importance of black supremacy and the need of the Negroes to unite in their struggle for a better country.

On October 25, 1965, a meeting was held at Emanuel AME Church on 119th Street, New York City, concerning plans to support the DDJ. Among those in attendance was JESSE GRAY who was one of the featured speakers.

NY T-3
November 10, 1965

JESSE GRAY's attendance at the above meeting at Emanuel AME Church was also reported by New York T-27 on October 27, 1965, and by NY T-7 on December 7, 1965.

IV. ACTIVITY RELATED TO
COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON HOUSING (CCH)

JESSE GRAY was principal speaker at a rally held at the Church of the Masters, 122 Street and Morning Side Avenue, New York City, January 14, 1965. JESSE GRAY represented the CCH and talked about his "Slum Lord" Program. He stated he was in favor of the Welfare Workers' strike,

NY 100-91911

and stated his group would support them.

NY T-7
January 19, 1965

NY T-31
January 19, 1965

NY T-2
January 15, 1965.

JESSE GRAY on January 16, 1965, led a group of pickets in front of the Mayor's residence, New York City, to protest the fact that some houses in the Bronx were without heat. It was observed that among the pickets were several individuals of JESSE GRAY's CCH, including RUDY JONES.

NY T-2
January 19, 1965

The "New York Times", January 22, 1965, Page 17 contained an article entitled "Harlem Sit-In At City Hall Wins Promise of Heat for Tenements". This article related that two groups of Harlem tenants conducted a sit-in at City Hall on January 21, 1965, to protest a lack of heat and hot water in their tenements.

The sit-in terminated at 6:25 p. m., after the demonstrators had been assured that the City would see that heat and hot water were restored. During the demonstration JESSE GRAY and others were afforded an interview in the office of City Councilman J. RAYMOND JONES.

JESSE GRAY and seven pickets representing the CCH, New York City, on January 25, 1965, picketed the 25th Precinct, New York City Police Department at 148 East 126 Street, New York City. The purpose of their picketing

NY 100-91911

was to protest the arrest of MAJOR WILLIAMS described as a right hand man of JESSE GRAY and active in the affairs of the CCH. MAJOR WILLIAMS, male Negro, was arrested by New York City Police Department, on January 25, 1965, in Harlem and charged with felonious assault, resisting arrest and policy making.

Detective EDWIN COOPER
BSS
New York City Police Department
January 26, 1965

NY 100-91911

On April 24, 1965, JESSE GRAY conducted a rally which he termed the "World's Worst Fair". The rally started at 2:00 p.m. at 125th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City. JESSE GRAY spoke to a crowd of about 200 people. They spoke about slums on 117th Street and other ghetto sections of Harlem. JESSE GRAY led the demonstrators on a march to the 25th Precinct, New York City Police Department (NYCPD), located at 126th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City. There they demonstrated in front of the precinct until 6:00 p.m. During the demonstration, a makeshift casket was carried bearing the name of former New York City Police Commissioner MICHAEL MURPHY.

NY T-7
April 26, 1965

At the above demonstration on April 24, 1965, JESSE GRAY delivered a blistering attack on the Police Department. He made accusations of corruption and graft in the Police Department and called for the establishment of a Civilian Review Board. He also called for a ninety-eight per cent Negro police force in Harlem. JESSE GRAY made the statement that, "The only way we are going to convince these people that we mean business is by fighting back with the same violence they are showing us." He stated he was not in favor of the nonviolent approach because he could not love people who were bombing his people, beating them with clubs, and murdering children.

NY T-21
April 26, 1965

The following source also reported JESSE GRAY's attendance at the above rally on April 24, 1965.

NY T-19
April 28, 1965

NY 100-81911

Special Agent personnel, FBI, on August 6, 1965, observed an anti-poverty march and picket by JESSE GRAY and his supporters. The purpose of this march and picketing was to demonstrate opposition on the part of JESSE GRAY against the anti-poverty program of the City of New York, especially as it related to the Harlem community. On August 6, 1965, JESSE GRAY and three supporters marched from Broadway and Canal Street, New York City, to 100 Church Street, headquarters of the New York City anti-poverty committee, where they were joined by sixteen other pickets. They formed a picket line at that location which was maintained for a brief period.

Special Agent personnel, FBI, on November 16, 22, 29, 1965, observed sit-ins staged by approximately thirty Negroes with some Negro children, at the Office of Economic Opportunity, 40 East 41st Street, New York City. These sit-ins were sponsored by the CCH, 300 West 121st Street, New York City. JESSE GRAY participated in the sit-ins. The purpose of these demonstrations was to manifest a protest on the part of JESSE GRAY and his group against the Administration's current war on poverty, and to demand that the Office of Economic Opportunity move into the Negro ghetto with emergency repairs.

V. POLITICAL ACTIVITY
(Mayoralty Campaign)

The "New York Post", issue of June 17, 1965, page 3, in an article entitled, "Jesse Gray Plans Mayoralty Race" contained the following notice:

"Harlem rent strike leader JESSE GRAY intends to enter the Democratic primary fight for Mayor. The announcement was made by CLARENCE COGGINS, National Chairman of the Labor Vanguard Democratic Party, at a press conference last night at the Community Council on Housing, 6 East 117th Street, New York City.

NY 100-81811

Labor Vanguard Democratic Party
is characterized in the Appendix.

"The Worker", issue of June 20, 1965, page 12, in an article entitled, "Jesse Gray Enters Race For Mayor" related that JESSE GRAY last week announced that he would run for Mayor of New York City in the Democratic primary. GRAY had earlier stated that he would seek the nomination for City Council President."

"The Worker" is an East Coast
Communist newspaper.

A rally advertised as a "Jesse Gray For Mayor Kick-Off Rally" was held on July 17, 1965, at Lenox Avenue and 115th Street, New York City, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This meeting was opened by CLARENCE COGGINS who spoke about conditions in the ghettos, police brutality, and the need for a Civilian Review Board. He introduced JESSE GRAY as the principal speaker. JESSE GRAY spoke against the Administration's war on poverty. He stated that the war on poverty served merely to confuse the people in the ghettos. He said that he was not in favor of sending Negroes to any land to fight for someone's freedom when they did not have freedom at home.

NY T-32
July 23, 1965

JESSE GRAY held a street rally on Friday evening, July 23, 1965, from 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at 125th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City. Approximately 120 persons attended. JESSE GRAY announced that he was running for Mayor of the City of New York, and asked his hearers to sign petitions putting his name on the ballot.

NY T-5
July 30, 1965

NY 100-81812

JESSE GRAY, on July 25, 1965, at the Wells Supper Club, 131st Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City, gave a press party to announce his full slate in the forthcoming mayoralty elections in New York City. He announced his slate as follows:

JESSE GRAY for Mayor
HAL KOPPERSMITH for President of City Council
JOSE SANTOS for Controller

NY T-7
August 19, 1965

On August 14, 1965, a street rally was held at 129th Street and Lenox Avenue, New York City, at which a speaker urged the election of JESSE GRAY as Mayor of New York City. One of the speakers, RUDOLPH JONES, a candidate for New York State Senate, told the Negroes not to go to Vietnam to fight, since they should fight for freedom in America first.

NY T-4
August 17, 1965

An article in the New York "Herald Tribune", dated August 21, 1965, page 3, entitled, "Jesse Gray's Nominating Petitions Are Challenged", related that an attorney asked the State Supreme Court on August 20, 1965, to invalidate the nominating petitions of JESSE GRAY on the ground that the petitions contained "blatant forgeries".

An article in the New York "Herald Tribune", dated August 28, 1965, page 4, entitled, "Jesse Gray's Out of Race" related that JESSE GRAY had withdrawn from the mayoralty race. The attorney representing JESSE GRAY admitted to the court that he, himself, had found more than one thousand invalid signatures on the petitions.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS

JESSE GRAY, upon invitation, was speaker at Withrow Court, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, at 8:00 p.m. on December 8, 1964, before an audience of students and faculty members. His topic was "Black Radicalism As A True Path To Social Changes in the United States". In his speech JESSE GRAY protested racial discrimination against the Negro. He doubted whether the Civil Rights Bill would truly change the "situation in the South". He said he did not believe Mississippi was going to be changed short of an "invasion" of Mississippi. JESSE GRAY protested against police corruption. He was in favor of organizing "black power" as a basis to rehabilitate the Negro ghetto.

One of the questions asked of JESSE GRAY at the conclusion of his speech was the following:

"Are you or have you ever been a Marxist?"

JESSE GRAY answered, "I consider myself a Marxist now. I am a black radical Marxist?"

NY T-33
May 25, 1965

On February 3, 1965, JESSE GRAY spoke before a meeting called by the Medical Committee for Human Rights, 100 West 77th Street, New York City. The purpose of this meeting was to form a working force that would be a nucleus for future activities and projects of the organization. The Medical Committee for Human Rights was designed to engage in civil rights work in the South from a medical standpoint. JESSE GRAY spoke about housing problems in the Harlem community, New York City.

NY T-34
February 8, 1965

NY 100-91911

On Sunday, March 14, 1965, a civil rights march was held in Harlem, New York City, to protest racial discrimination against the Negroes in Selma, Alabama. The demonstration was sponsored by the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee and the Congress of Racial Equality. After the march, a rally was held at the Hotel Theresa, New York City, where one of the speakers was JESSE GRAY. One of the objectives called for by the speakers was Federal intervention in Selma, Alabama, in the area of civil rights.

NY T-35
March, 1965;
NY T-36
March 22, 1965;
NY T-27
March 17, 1965;
NY T-37
March 26, 1965;
NY T-38
March 26, 1965

On the afternoon of April 23, 1965, a rally was held by the Independent Action Committee for Social Progress on the Lower East Side. The rally was held at police headquarters, 240 Centre Street, New York City. The purpose of the rally was to call for a Civilian Review Board. JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers of the rally.

NY T-39
April 26, 1965;
NY T-40
May 4, 1965

JESSE GRAY was in attendance at a meeting of Haryou-Ast held May 23, 1965, in the Hotel Theresa, 2090 Seventh Avenue, New York City. Some 300 people attended this meeting including PAUL SCREVANE, at that

NY 100-81821

time an aide to former Mayor ROBERT WAGNER of New York City. People from many groups and organizations were present to discuss city money to Haryou-Act.

NY T-7
May 26, 1965

A rally against United States involvement in the war in Vietnam was held on July 31, 1965, at East 3rd Street between Avenues B and C, New York City. JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers at this rally.

NY T-41
August 4, 1965

An article in the "New York Post", August 15, 1965, page 77, entitled "Gray Leads March On Police Station", narrated that JESSE GRAY addressed about 100 persons on a Harlem street corner on the evening of August 14, 1965, and then led about 35 marchers to the West 135th Street police station. The purpose of the march was to underscore requests that a Negro police officer be put in command of the precinct and that ninety-nine per cent of the Harlem police force be Negro.

The substance of the above rally and march on August 14, 1965, was also reported by NY T-42 on August 26, 1965.

VII. CHARACTERIZATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS MENTIONED

MARVIN BELSKY

NY T-43 advised during April, 1961, that Dr. BELSKY, whom this source believes to be Dr. MARVIN BELSKY, was as of that time, a secret member of the CP.

NY 100-69191

GRACE BOGGS

NY T-44 advised on April 4, 1962, that as of March 10, 1962, GRACE BOGGS was a member of the Correspondence Group of the Johnson-Forest Group.

The Johnson-Forest Group has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A characterization of the Correspondence Group is contained in the characterization attached hereto of the Facing Reality Publishing Company or Committees and the sources mentioned therein have furnished reliable information in the past.

CLARENCE COGGINS

A characterization of CLARENCE COGGINS is included in the Appendix under the Labor Negro Vanguard Conference.

WILLIAM EPTON

During the Progressive Labor Party (PLP) National Convention held in New York City from April 15-18, 1965, WILLIAM EPTON was elected Vice-President of the PLP.

NY T-45
April 20, 1965

NY 100-91911

On December 20, 1965, EPTON was convicted by the State of New York of conspiring to advocate criminal anarchy, advocating criminal anarchy, and conspiring to incite a riot.

RUDOLPH JONES

NY T-46 advised on August 11, 1958, that a meeting of the CP Waterfront Section was held August 8, 1958, in New York City, and that RUDOLPH JONES attended this meeting.

HAL KOPPERSMITH

NY T-47, on April 10, 1956, furnished a press release, dated April 4, 1956, which announced that HAL KOPPERSMITH, on that date, informally announced his candidacy for Congress in the 20th Congressional District, Manhattan, on the American Pioneer Socialist ticket. In this press release, KOPPERSMITH issued a statement which contained the following:

"I am a non-communist socialist who believes that anti-communism is the road to insanity, inhumanity, and the atomic annihilation of us all." And, "I believe we must build a united front of all democratic forces in America to battle the creeping Fascist forces."

NY T-47 advised on April 10, 1956, that KOPPERSMITH, a candidate for Congress, on March 31, 1956, stated he regarded the New Deal as an abortive but well

NY 100-91911

intentioned attempt at instituting socialism in America. NY T-47 stated KOPPERSMITH described himself as anti-communist but said he was soliciting support from any organization including the Communist Party but doubted that he would get their support. KOPPERSMITH stated he entertained little serious hope of winning a seat in Congress but hoped to build up an organization, get a newspaper going and obtain money.

JOSE SANTOS

NY T-48 advised on October 13, 1964, that JOSE SANTOS, as of October, 1964, was a member of the Movimiento Pro Independencia de Puerto Rico (MPIPR) in New York City.

A characterization of the MPIPR appears in the Appendix attached hereto.

1.

APPENDIX

FACING REALITY PUBLISHING
COMPANY OR COMMITTEES

A source who has furnished reliable information in the past on August 1, 1958, stated that as a result of the split in the Johnson Forest Group (JFG), which occurred in 1955, two factions emerged, the Johnson Faction and the Forest Faction. According to the source, the Johnson Faction was composed of the followers of C.L.R. JAMES, also known as James Johnson, and the Forest Faction was composed of the followers of RAE DWYER, also known as Freddie Forest. The co-founders of the JFG were C.L.R. JAMES, also known as Johnson, who was deported from the United States as an undesirable alien in 1953, and RAE DWYER, known as Forest.

The JFG has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A second source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on November 26, 1962, that subsequent to the split in the JFG, the Johnson Faction took the name Correspondence Group, which continued until February, 1962, when this group again split with the majority aligning themselves with JAMES behind the leadership of MARTIN GLABERMAN of Detroit, Michigan, and the minority group aligning themselves behind the leadership of JAMES BOGGS.

On February 18, 1965, this source advised that on February 8, 1965, he had learned that the Correspondence Group, whose national Chairman was JAMES BOGGS, has ceased operations completely and no longer maintains headquarters at 7737 Mack, Detroit.

This source reported on July 18, 1962, that the majority of individuals under leadership of MARTIN GLABERMAN at Detroit, Michigan, who formerly belonged to the Correspondence Group there had taken the name Facing Reality Publishing Company or Committee, while the three former members of the Group at New York had met informally in support of the Detroit group, which had issued neither directions nor instructions. The New York Group has no officers or headquarters.

NY 100-91911

2.

APPENDIX

FACING REALITY PUBLISHING
COMPANY OR COMMITTEES

On March 7, 1963, the same source advised that the Facing Reality Publishing Company or Committee seeks to create a Marxist society based on the dialectical concepts of Marxism-Leninism as interpreted by C.L.R. JAMES, establishing government by workers rather than government by a Marxist political party. The prime movement in securing the support of the people is considered to be a publication to be used by the workers in their daily fight against capitalism. This group rejects the vanguard party concept of Marxism and has established the theory that trade unions keep the workers under subjugation by preventing their channeling of their own efforts to take over the means of production and through this to in turn take over governmental processes. This group rejects all present forms of governments, except those new nationalist governments, as capitalists, or in the case of Russia, State Capitalist.

On May 4, 1965, the same source advised that the Facing Reality Publishing Committee continues to meet at 3513 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

1.

APPENDIX

HARLEM FREEDOM FORUM

Also known as
Harlem Freedomways Forum,
Freedomways Forum

A source advised on May 18, 1962, that WILLIAM ALBERTSON had contacted LILLIAN MARTINEZ during May, 1962, at which time he requested her to take the assignment of forming a new organization, the formation of which had been previously discussed at Harlem Communist Party (CP) meetings. This organization would be called Freedomways Forum and in appearance would be a non-CP organization, but in effect would be a new front for the Harlem CP through which all Harlem CP work would be accomplished.

The source advised on November 6, 1963, that a meeting of a committee specifically selected by the 11th A.D. Club of the Harlem CP was held at 2235 5th Avenue, New York, New York, on November 1, 1963, at which a definite decision was made to establish the Freedomways Forum which would be known as the Harlem Freedomways Forum (HFF). It was unanimously agreed that the HFF would be a broad front formed by the CP not only to discuss the problems of the community but also to serve as a source of recruitment of new members for the CP.

The source advised on September 16, 1964, that at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the HFF held at 799 Broadway, New York, New York, on September 14, 1964, it was decided to change the name HFF to Harlem Freedom Forum (HFF).

The source advised on May 20, 1965, that there is no established headquarters for HFF, that meetings of HFF are held at the homes of various members. The mailing address of HFF is Post Office Box 693, Manhattanville Station, United States Post Office, New York, New York 10027.

A second source advised on October 13, 1963, that WILLIAM ALBERTSON was Executive Secretary of the New York District of the CP, United States of America, at that time.

2.

APPENDIX

HARLEM FREEDOM FORUM

The July 7, 1964, issue of "The Worker", an East Coast Communist newspaper, published a statement of the New York District of the CP, United States of America, stating that WILLIAM ALBERTSON had been expelled from the CP.

A third source advised on May 17, 1965, that LILLIAN MARTINEZ was a member of the Harlem Region of the CP, United States of America, at that time.

1.

APPENDIX

LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE
Formerly known as the
Labor-Negro Vanguard Party,
also known as
Labor Vanguard Democrats

In a press release dated November 18, 1961, the
LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD PARTY (LNVP) stated:

"The growing influence of the irredentist
forces upon the policies of our nation as indicated by
the alarming drift towards war and the outlawing of the
Communist Party (CP) has accentuated the need for all
racial, progressive, and liberal forces to unite in a
common party."

In a leaflet entitled, "Call to Progressive
Minded America", issued by the LNVP, its founding convention
was scheduled for November 25, 1961, in New York City. The
aims and purposes were listed as:

1. For the resurgence of the American
Labor Movement.
2. For the winning of the struggle for
Negro rights.
3. For an end of the cold war.
4. For economic security and higher
mass living standards.
5. For the end of the exploitation
of man by man.

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I. BACKGROUND

Characterizations of individuals mentioned in this report are set forth at the end thereof, where such characterizations were available.

A. Arrest Record

JESSE GRAY was arrested on the morning of September 2, 1965, by New York City Transit Police at Queens Plaza Subway Station, New York City. JESSE GRAY had become involved in an argument with a subway station attendant. The subway attendant called Transit Police who made the arrest. GRAY was charged with disorderly conduct.

Detective LAWRENCE MC QUADE
Bureau of Special Services
New York City Police Department
September 2, 1965

An article in the New York "Herald", September 23, 1965, (an interim newspaper published during the newspaper strike) entitled "JESSE GRAY Fined \$10.00", stated that JESSE GRAY on September 22, 1965, paid a \$10.00 fine in Kew Gardens, Queens Criminal Court, for a disorderly conduct charge arising out of his arrest on September 2, 1965.

JESSE GRAY was arrested at 3:05 p. m. on November 10, 1965, by New York City Police Department. GRAY had been involved in a fight with a parking lot attendant in Mid-Manhattan. Both parties demanded the arrest of the other and both were brought to the 14th Precinct Station House where each pressed simple assault charges. Both parties were issued summonses returnable November 19, 1965, at Manhattan Criminal Court, Part 10, 100 Centre Street, New York.

Lieutenant FRANKSLATER
14th Precinct
New York City Police Department
November 16, 1965

Records of Manhattan Criminal Court examined on February 14, 1966, reflected that this case was

NY 100-91911

dismissed January 13, 1966.

Records of Manhattan Criminal Court, 100 Centre Street, New York City, Part 5D, reflected on February 14, 1966, that JESSE GRAY was arrested for two unanswered traffic summonses. This case was up for hearing February 9, 1966, and was adjourned until April 7, 1966, in Part 5D. This arrest was made February 8, 1966.

Records, Manhattan Criminal Court, examined February 14, 1966, by SA ASCHERL

B. Marital Status

Records of the Bureau of Special Services (BSS) reflected in December, 1965, that ROSA LEE GRAY had forwarded a letter to the Queensbridge Housing Police, Queens, New York, in which she discussed JESSE GRAY and MAXINE GREEN's living together in GREEN's apartment, 4B, at 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, New York.

Records BSS examined
December, 1965, by
SA AUGUST J. NICEK

Mrs. ROSA LEE GRAY, estranged wife of JESSE GRAY, contacted a clerk in the office of the Community Council on Housing (CCH), New York City on July 28, 1965. Mrs. GRAY discussed rent owing on her apartment, 1809 7th Avenue, New York City, and stated that MAXINE GREEN gets JESSE GRAY's "time and money."

This source further advised on August 6, 1965, that Mrs. GRAY stated on that day that she was leaving her daughter GALE GRAY with JESSE and MAXINE GREEN and that she would keep JESSE GRAY, JR.,

NY T-1
July 28, 1965, and
August 6, 1965

C. Residence

NY 100-91911

As of January, 1965, JESSE GRAY was residing in Apartment 4-C at 1809 7th Avenue, New York City, with his wife ROSA LEE GRAY.

NY T-2
January 20, 1965

JESSE GRAY was residing as of December 1, 1965, at 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City, New York, with MAXINE GREEN.

NY T-3
December 1, 1965

JESSE GRAY continues to reside with MAXINE GREEN in her apartment 4-B at 41-15 Vernon Boulevard, Long Island City at the present time.

Patrolman CHARLES BENTLEY
New York City Housing Police
Queensbridge Housing Project
Queens, New York
February 11, 1966

D. Employment

A leaflet issued by the CCH at a rally in Harlem held October 23, 1965, carried the name JESSE GRAY as Director of CCH, New York City.

NY T-4
October 26, 1965

Special Agent personnel, FBI, on September 28, 1965, observed that the CCH had removed from 6 East 117th Street, New York City and had taken up new quarters at 300 West 121st Street, New York City.

The CCH, organized by JESSE GRAY, was located at 300 West 121st Street, New York City, as of October, 1965.

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It had a full-time staff and was open every day between the hours of 10:00 a. m. and 6:00 p. m.

NY T-5
October 22, 1965

An article in the New York "Herald Tribune" February 9, 1966, Page 11, reported JESSE GRAY's arrest by the New York City Police Department on February 8, 1966. The article described JESSE GRAY as Current Director of CCH.

**II. EVIDENCE OF SYMPATHY
AND/OR SUPPORT FOR THE COMMUNIST
MOVEMENT**

A. Communist Background of Associates

As of July 16, 1965, RUDOLPH JONES described himself in a communication as "Assistant to the Director, Community Council on Housing", 6 East 117th Street, New York City.

NY T-1
July 16, 1965

RUDY JONES was working in the office of CCH, 6 East 117th Street, New York City, in July, August and October, 1965.

NY T-1, July - October, 1965

WILLIAM EPTON of Progressive Labor Movement was in contact with JESSE GRAY on April 22, 1965. They discussed the use of photographs depicting alleged police brutality.

NY T-6
April 22, 1965

Progressive Labor Movement (PLM) is characterized in the Appendix.

NY 100-91911

On March 27, 1965, at 118th Street between 5th and Madison Avenues, New York City, a street rally was conducted by JESSE GRAY with BILL EPTON of PLM. Literature passed out at the rally indicated that the purpose of the rally was to "end police brutality"; and establish a civilian review board.

NY T-7
April 7, 1965

JESSE GRAY and WILLIAM EPTON of PLM as of May, 1965, were collaborating in Harlem in civil rights agitation, ostensibly in behalf of the Negro in his quest for civil rights guaranties.

NY T-8
May 7, 1965

At a cocktail party for WILLIAM EPTON held at 211 West 106th Street, New York City, Apartment 7-C, on August 28, 1965, it was stated by one of those in attendance that JESSE GRAY had been there earlier and left.

NY T-2
August 31, 1965

On July 19, 1965, JESSE GRAY was in contact with MARVIN BELSKY and they discussed the candidacy of WILLIAM FITTS RYAN of New York for Mayor of New York City.

NY T-1
July 19, 1965

JESSE GRAY on August 24, 1965, was in contact with GRACE BOGGS of Detroit, Michigan. They discussed the forthcoming conference of the Organization For Black Power (OBP) on September 4, 5, 1965, in Detroit. GRAY

NY 100-91911

stated that one pressing problem with regard to OBP was money.

NY T-1
August 24, 1965

CLARENCE COGGINS who resides in New Jersey was in contact on July 12, 1965, with a clerk in the office of CCH, then located at 6 East 117th Street, New York City. COGGINS represented himself as JESSE GRAY'S campaign manager in GRAY'S campaign for Mayor of New York City.

NY T-1
July 12, 1965

B. Support for Characterized Organizations

Harlem Freedom Forum

Harlem Freedom Forum (HFF) is characterized in the Appendix.

At a meeting of the Harlem Freedom Forum (HFF) held on December 30, 1964, at 742 Saint Nicholas Avenue, New York City, a member of the HFF present at the meeting stated that he had contacted JESSE GRAY with regard to HFF. GRAY told this individual that he would cooperate wherever possible with the HFF.

NY T-9
January 6, 1965

A rally was held on June 25, 1965, at Upper Park Avenue Baptist Church, located at 85 East 125th Street, New York City. Among the speakers at the rally was JESSE GRAY who made an appeal for funds. This rally was sponsored by HFF, the Central Harlem Mothers' Association and the Mississippi-

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APPENDIX

LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE
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4. For economic security and higher
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5. For the end of the exploitation
of man by man.

2.

APPENDIX

LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE

A source advised on December 19, 1961, that CLARENCE COGGINS is considered the Provisional Chairman of the LNVP. Other active members include BERNARD (Whitey) GOODFRIEND, ALVIN OLIVER, WILLIAM CLARK, and RODNEY OLIVER.

A second source advised on December 12, 1962, that CLARENCE COGGINS, BERNARD (Whitey) GOODFRIEND, ALVIN OLIVER, WILLIAM CLARK, and RODNEY OLIVER were all members of the Harriet Tubman Section of the Essex County, New Jersey, CP which was expelled from the Party with no right of appeal by action of the 17th National Convention, CP, USA, being held December 10-13, 1962.

On January 15, 1963, the first source advised that the LNVP is now using the name LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE (LNVC) and is the name the organization is now known by and under which name all leaflets are issued.

The May 2, 1965, issue of the "Newark Evening News", a daily Newark, New Jersey, newspaper, contained an article that the Labor Vanguard Democrats, running an insurgent slate in the June 1, 1965, Democratic Primary opened their official Campaign May 1, 1965, with a "May Day Rally" in Military Park at Newark.

WILLIAM CLARK headed the Labor Vanguard Democrat ticket as candidate for Governor of New Jersey. Other candidates on the ballot were ESTHER NETTE of Newark, candidate for Assembly; HERMAN D. KLEIN of East Orange, candidate for Freeholder; and ALVIN OLIVER of Newark, candidate for Essex County Clerk.

On May 18, 1965, a third source advised that the LABOR-NEGRO VANGUARD CONFERENCE had been inactive for about seven months until CLARENCE COGGINS and ALVIN OLIVER stimulated the current political activity under the designation of Labor Vanguard Democrats.

2.

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1.

APPENDIX

MOVIMIENTO PRO INDEPENDENCIA DE PUERTO RICO
(Puerto Rican Independence Movement) (MPIPR)

The MPIPR was organized November 23, 1959, at Ponce, Puerto Rico, according to its first Secretary General, JUAN MARI BRAS, for the avowed purpose of working for the independence of Puerto Rico. It was stated that the organization did not advocate violence but would accept anyone who believed in Puerto Rican independence regardless of his beliefs as to the use of violence provided he agreed with the MPIPR Declaration of Principles.

Since its inception, the MPIPR has had as its leader and guiding force JUAN MARI BRAS who, speaking on behalf of himself and the organization, said the MPIPR does not advocate violence as a means of obtaining independence for Puerto Rico only because he felt violence would be ineffective against the power of the United States Government. He stated that he believed in the right of the Puerto Rican people to use violence to obtain their freedom if and when the circumstances were such that they could possibly be successful in their efforts.

A confidential source advised that on February 20, 1964, the MPIPR Secretary of Youth, BENJAMIN ORTIZ BELAVAL, stated that although the use of arms and violence is not presently advantageous to the Puerto Rican independence movement, the right would be reserved to use arms and violence in the future.

The MPIPR has missions throughout the Island of Puerto Rico and in New York, New York; Chicago, Illinois; and Buffalo, New York. It has an estimated membership of between 1,000 and 1,300 persons according to Police of Puerto Rico.

Since its inception, MPIPR and its leaders have frequently expressed sympathy for the communist revolution in Cuba and with the Castro Government in Cuba.

APPENDIX

1.

MUSLIM MOSQUE, INCORPORATED (MMI)

The March 13, 1964, edition of "The New York Times", a daily newspaper published in New York, New York, contained an article on page 20 which indicated that MALCOLM X (LITTLE), former national official of the Nation of Islam (NOI) who broke with the NOI on March 8, 1964, publicly announced in New York City on March 12, 1964, that he had formed the Muslim Mosque, Incorporated (MMI). The MMI, according to the article, would be a broadly based politically oriented black nationalist movement for Negroes, only, financed by voluntary contributions. In this public statement, MALCOLM X urged Negroes to abandon the doctrine of non-violence when it is necessary to defend themselves in the civil rights struggle, and he also suggested that Negroes form rifle clubs to protect their lives and property in time of emergencies in areas where the government is unable or unwilling to protect them.

Incorporation papers of the MMI filed on March 16, 1964, with the Business Section, Clerk of Courts, New York County, New York, New York, reflect that the MMI was incorporated under the Religious Corporation Law of the State of New York to work for the imparting of the Islamic Faith and Islamic Religion in accordance with "accepted Islamic principals". The principal place of worship to be located in the Borough of Manhattan, New York, New York.

The May 23, 1964, edition of the "New York Amsterdam News", a weekly Negro newspaper published in New York City, contained an article by columnist JAMES BOOKER in which he indicated that he had heard that the visit by MALCOLM X with Muslim leaders during his African tour has changed him to become soft in his anti-white feelings and to become more religious.

On October 6, 1964, a confidential source advised that the MMI is apparently affiliated with the true orthodox Islamic Religion through its affiliation with the Islamic Foundation (of New York), 1 Riverside Drive, New York City. The only teachings of the MMI are on the Islamic Religion.

APPENDIX

2.

MUSLIM MOSQUE, INCORPORATED (MMI)

This confidential source advised on May 17, 1965, that the headquarters of the MMI are located in Suite 128, Hotel Theresa, 2090 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York, where they were established on March 16, 1964. These headquarters are shared with the Organization of Afro-American Unity, Incorporated (OAAU) which was also headed by MALCOLM X.

MALCOLM X was assassinated on February 21, 1965, while addressing an OAAU rally at the Audubon Ballroom, Broadway and 166th Street, New York City.

This same confidential source advised on September 8, 1965, that the activities of the MMI following the death of MALCOLM X were limited to the teaching of classes in the Islamic religion and a class in judo for self-protection. These classes were held regularly until the latter part of July, 1965, when they were discontinued. Since then, the MMI has held no meetings and there has been absolutely no activity by the MMI which appears to be completely "dead".

1.

APPENDIX

NATION OF ISLAM

In January, 1957, a source advised ELIJAH MUHAMMAD has described his organization on a nationwide basis as the "Nation of Islam" and "Muhammad's Temples of Islam."

On May 7, 1965, a second source advised ELIJAH MUHAMMAD is the national leader of the Nation of Islam (NOI); Muhammad's Temple of Islam Number 2, 5335 South Greenwood Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, is the national headquarters of the NOI; and in mid-1960 Muhammad and other NOI officials, when referring to Muhammad's organization on a nationwide basis, commenced using either "Mosque" or "Temple" when mentioning one of 'Muhammad's Temples of Islam.'

The NOI is an all-Negro organization which was originally organized in 1930 in Detroit, Michigan. MUHAMMAD claims to have been selected by Allah, the Supreme Being, to lead the so-called Negro race out of slavery in the wilderness of North America by establishing an independent black nation in the United States. Members following MUHAMMAD's teachings and his interpretation of the "Koran" believe there is no such thing as a Negro; the so-called Negroes are slaves of the white race, referred to as 'white devils,' in the United States; and the white race, because of its exploitation of the so-called Negroes, must and will be destroyed in the approaching "War of Armageddon."

In the past, officials and members of the NOI, including MUHAMMAD, have refused to register under the provisions of the Selective Service Acts and have declared that members owe no allegiance to the United States.

On May 5, 1958, the first source advised MUHAMMAD had, upon advice of legal counsel, tempered his personal statements and instructions to his ministers concerning the principles of his organization in order to avoid possible prosecution by the United States Government; however, he did not indicate any fundamental changes in the teachings of his organization.

On May 3, 1965, a third source advised MUHAMMAD had, early in July, 1958, decided to de-emphasize the religious aspects of the teachings of Islam and to stress the economic benefits to be derived by those Negroes who joined the NOI.

1.

APPENDIX

ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN
UNITY, INCORPORATED (OAAU)

On June 28, 1964, MALCOLM X LITTLE, founder and leader of the Muslim Mosque, Incorporated (MMI), publicly announced the formation of a new, all Negro, militant civil rights action group to be known as the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU), with himself as Chairman. This announcement was made at a public rally held by the MMI in the Audubon Ballroom, Broadway and 166th Street, New York City.

A printed and published statement of basic OAAU aims read by MALCOLM X at this meeting indicates that it shall include "all" people of African descent in the Western Hemisphere, as well as "our" brothers and sisters on the African continent. It is patterned after the "letter and spirit" of the Organization of African Unity established (by African heads of States) at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in May, 1963.

A recording of the remarks of MALCOLM X at this meeting indicates that the aim of the OAAU is to eliminate differences between Negroes so they can work together for "human rights," while the initial objective is to "internationalize" the American civil rights movement by taking it to the United Nations. LITTLE condemned the non-violent civil rights movement and claims that Negroes should be taught to protect themselves, when and if necessary. The OAAU will sponsor a program for Negroes of education, politics, culture, economics, and social reform.

On May 17, 1965, a confidential source advised that the headquarters of the OAAU are located in MMI headquarters, Suite 128, Hotel Theresa, 2090 7th Avenue, New York City.

MALCOLM X was assassinated on February 21, 1965, while addressing an OAAU rally at the Audubon Ballroom, New York City.

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APPENDIX

2.

ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN
UNITY, INCORPORATED (OAAU)

On April 13, 1965, a second confidential source advised that on March 26, 1965, the OAAU filed a Certificate of Incorporation with the Department of State, State of New York, Albany, New York, and henceforth the organization's true name will be Organization of Afro-American Unity, Incorporated.

APPENDIX

1.

PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY (PLP)
PROGRESSIVE LABOR MOVEMENT (PLM)

A source advised on April 20, 1965, that the PLP, formerly known as the PLM, held its first national convention April 15-18, 1965, at New York City, to organize the PLM into a PLP. The PLP will have as its ultimate objective the establishment of a militant working class movement based on Marxism-Leninism.

"The New York Times," City Edition, Tuesday, April 20, 1965, page 27, reported that a new party of "revolutionary socialism" was formally founded on April 18, 1965, under the name of the PLP. The PLP was described as an outgrowth of the PLM. Its officers were identified as MILTON ROSEN, New York, President, and WILLIAM EPTON of New York and MORT SCHEER of San Francisco, Vice Presidents. A 20-member National Committee was elected to direct the party until the next convention.

According to the article, "The Progressive Labor Movement was founded in 1962 by Mr. ROSEN and Mr. SCHEER after they were expelled from the Communist party of the United States for assertedly following the Chinese Communist line."

The PLP publishes the Marxist-Leninist Quarterly", a theoretical magazine; "Progressive Labor," a monthly magazine; "Challenge," a New York City newspaper; and "Spark", a west coast newspaper.

The June 1, 1965, issue of "Challenge", page 6, states that, "this paper is dedicated to fight for a new way of life-where the working men and women own and control their homes, factories, the police, courts, and the entire government on every level."

The source advised that the PLP utilizes the address of General Post Office Box 808, Brooklyn 1, New York, but also utilizes an office in Room 622, 132 Nassau Street, New York City, where PLP publications are prepared.

1.

APPENDIX

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

On November 3, 1964, a source made available a document entitled "The Revolutionary Action Movement Manifesto," the document having been obtained by the source from an individual known to be a member of the Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM).

This document stated, in part, that RAM was officially organized in the Winter of 1963 by Afro-Americans who support the revolutionary objectives of ROBERT F. WILLIAMS, now residing in Cuba, and his concept of organized violence to achieve the liberation of the Afro-American people in the United States. This Manifesto disclosed that RAM had oriented its program to one of education and political revolution and the organization of a "black" political party with revolutionary objectives, having recognized the need for a "black revolution" that could and would seize power. RAM philosophy is described in this document as one of revolutionary nationalism, that is, one involving the struggles of the nonwhite races of the world against exploitation and enslavement by the white capitalist and imperialist nations.

Regarding WILLIAMS, it should be noted that on August 28, 1961, a Federal warrant was issued at Charlotte, North Carolina, charging him with Unlawful Flight to Avoid Prosecution for the crime of kidnapping. Subsequent to the issuance of this warrant, WILLIAMS fled the United States to Cuba, where he now publishes a monthly newsletter entitled "The Crusader" from Havana.

This source in September, 1964, advised RAM is dedicated to the overthrow of the capitalist system in the United States, by violence if necessary, and to its replacement by a socialistic system oriented toward the Chinese communist interpretation of Marxism-Leninism. RAM is entirely nonwhite in membership, clandestine in nature, and owes its primary allegiance to the "Bandung World," that is, the nonwhite races of the world rather than to any national entity, as such.

On November 16, 1964, a second source advised he learned recently from an RAM member that the organization began in Detroit, Michigan, largely under the impetus of DON FREEMAN, described as the "Father" of RAM and referred to

2.

APPENDIX

REVOLUTIONARY ACTION MOVEMENT

as RAM's "Black Stalin." FREEMAN served as RAM Chairman, with MAXWELL STANFORD, now of New York City, formerly of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, serving as RAM Field Chairman.

This source stated in May, 1965, there has been no formal headquarters, as such, for RAM but that headquarters have been with FREEMAN since he has played such a dominant role in the leadership of and has directed the policies and activities of the organization.

Within recent months, according to the second source, dissension within RAM has become evident and some dissatisfaction with FREEMAN's leadership has arisen. So far as is known, however, he remains the titular leader of RAM.

To date, according to the second source in May, 1965, RAM has organized units and membership in several of the larger cities in the United States east of the Mississippi River and the organization is currently active in attempting to recruit new members and expand its sphere of influence.

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APPENDIX

1.

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY-NEW YORK LOCAL

A source stated on August 25, 1960, that the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) New York Local (NYL) was founded in 1938 in New York City.

A second source stated on April 16, 1965, that the NYL was affiliated with and followed the aims and purposes of the National SWP.

The SWP has been designated
pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

NY 100-81911

1.

APPENDIX

WASHINGTON PARK FORUM also known as
The South Side Educational Forum,
Washington Park Open Forum

A source advised on June 11, 1954, that the Washington Park Forum (WPF) started in the 1930s as a spontaneous group of unemployed persons interested in discussing current events. In the late 1930s, the Communist Party (CP) penetrated and took over the WPF. From 1936 to 1940, the CP penetration was so great that it secured and maintained control of the WPF at that time.

A second source advised in May, 1957, that the CP of Illinois was attempting to regain control of the WPF which had been taken over by the Trotskyites.

A third source advised on January 16, 1963, that the "purpose and objectives" set forth in the WPF constitution include: "To discuss and educate on the issues of the day through presentation of speakers on different subjects, with free discussion by people in attendance,...to aid in the realization of the Declaration of Independence, to aid civil liberties and charitable organizations interested in expanding freedom..."

The third source advised on October 28, 1964, that the WPF recently changed its name to "The South Side Educational Forum;" however, most people still referred to it as WPF.

A fourth source advised on October 19, 1964, that the CP in the past had used the WPF as a platform to implement its program; however, there was no clear cut control of the WPF by the CP or any other organization. During the past 18 months the only apparent CP interest in the WPF was in the nature of a few speeches at WPF meetings by individuals connected with the CP; however, there has been no CP interest, not even in the nature of speeches.

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2.

APPENDIX

WASHINGTON PARK FORUM

A fifth source advised on November 5, 1964, that currently the CP of Illinois did not consider the WPF to be one of the main political forces in the Negro Community. The CP no longer discussed the WPF and in fact paid no attention to the WPF. Although individual CP leaders, such as CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, CP of Illinois Chairman, maintained personal contact with some of their friends in the WPF, there was no direct following from the CP to the WPF. The CP would consider using the WPF if and when expedient to the CP cause; however, the WPF was basically not considered worthy of concentration by the CP.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

22

New York, New York
February 25, 1966

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Bufile 100-357847
NYfile 100-91911

Title Jesse Williard Gray

Character Security Matter - C

Reference is made to report of Special
Agent Vincent J. Ascherl, dated and captioned as above,
at New York.

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

DECLASSIFIED
Authority FBI Auto Declass Guide, 9/24/19
By CTS, NARA, Date 10/2/19

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

3

SECRET

Copy to:

Report of:

VINCENT J. ASCHERL

Office:

New York, New York

Date:

2/23/65

Field Office File No.:

100-91911

Bureau File No.:

100-357847

Title:

JESSE WILLIARD GRAY

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: FBI Auto Declass Guide, 5/24/14
By: CTS, NARA, Date: 10/2/19

Character:

SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Current arrest record set forth. JESSE GRAY continues to reside at 1809 Seventh Avenue, New York City, and is employed as director of the Community Council on Housing, 6 East 117th Street, New York City. WILLIAM PATTERSON, Chairman, New York CP District, in January, 1964 stated that JESSE GRAY was not then a member of the CP, but friendly to CP. JESSE GRAY allegedly got out of the CP about five years ago. GRAY was speaker at meeting of Harlem Freedomways Forum 3/1/64, NYC. He attended "National Guardian" luncheon 4/14/64, Essex House, NYC. GRAY reported to have been in contact with various members of CP and PLM during January, 1964 to October, 1964. GRAY alleged to have received financial support from group of "white liberals", NYC in July, 1964. GRAY was active in behalf of Act, Muslim Mosque, Inc., Organization of Afro-American Unity, and NY Committee in Support of Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party Challenge during period March, 1964 through December, 1964. GRAY alleged to have played an active role in racial disturbances in Harlem, NYC, July, 1964. GRAY conducted rent-strike rally in NYC at Central Plaza on 11/19/64.

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NY 100-91911

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DETAILS

I. BACKGROUND

A. Arrest Record

Records of the Criminal Court, City of New York, 100 Centre Street, New York City, were examined on September 25, 1964 and reflected docket B 1257 (1964) on JESSE GRAY, charging him with violation of Section 1851 of the Penal Law (interference with police officer in performance of his duties). JESSE GRAY was arrested on February 7, 1964; was tried on April 9, 1964 and found guilty. He received a suspended sentence of sixty days in the Workhouse.

On June 30, 1964, Officer SHERMAN WILLIAMS, Human Relations Unit, Chicago Police Department, advised that eight persons were arrested at civil rights rallies held on June 29, 1964 at 47th Street and South Parkway, Chicago. These individuals were charged with unlawful assembly and conducting a public meeting without a permit. Among those arrested was JESSE GRAY of New York City. GRAY made bond and was released.

The New York "Amsterdam News" of January 30, 1965, page 2, contained the following information concerning the arrest of JESSE GRAY on January 26, 1965.

JESSE GRAY was arrested on a charge of assault on January 26, 1965, and paroled for trial in Manhattan Criminal Court on February 4, 1965. JESSE GRAY was alleged to have assaulted the manager of a car rental agency when the manager refused to accept his personal check.

B. Residence

JOHN POPE, Superintendent, 1209 Seventh Avenue, New York City, advised on October 8, 1964 that JESSE GRAY and his wife resided in Apartment 4C at 1809 Seventh Avenue, New York City as of that time.

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JESSE GRAY continues to reside at 1809 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

NY T-1
January 20, 1965

C. Employment

JESSE GRAY is employed as Director of the Community Council on Housing, 6 East 117th Street, New York City.

NY T-1
January 20, 1965

Concerning the Community Council on Housing, this organization was originally formed to help tenants in slum areas. The group was to take action on complaints from tenants against landlords. The organization gradually expanded the sphere of activity into participation in racial demonstrations and other objectives in the civil rights field aside from housing and rent problems.

NY T-1
November 5, 1964

II. AFFILIATION WITH
THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

A. Former Communist Party Membership

At a meeting of the Communist Party (CP), United States of America (USA), New York District Board, held on January 20, 1964 at the Hotel Woodstock, New York City, WILLIAM PATTERSON, Chairman of the meeting, made the statement that he had recently talked to JESSE GRAY and that, although GRAY is not now a member of the CP, he is still friendly towards the CP. PATTERSON further stated that GRAY

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got out of the CP about five years ago.

NY T-2
January 24, 1964
March 18, 1964

WILLIAM PATTERSON, as of February, 1963 was Chairman of the New York CP District.

NY T-3
February 11, 1963

At a meeting of the District Committee CP, USA, New England District, held September 13, 1964, at Chelsea, Massachusetts, ANNE TIMPSON, a CP member present at the meeting, commented that EDDIE TEIXEIRA, also a CP member, made the statement earlier that JESSE GRAY became a leader of the Negro people in New York after he had left the CP. TEIXEIRA felt that belonging to the CP hindered him in his mass work.

NY T-4
September 13, 1964

NY T-5
September 13, 1964

B. Harlem Freedomways Forum (HFF)

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the HFF, February 10, 1964, at Bermuda Hall, 402 West 146th Street, New York City, plans were finalized for an enlarged meeting of the HFF to be held March 1, 1964 at Convent Avenue Baptist Church, New York City. It was decided that

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JESSE GRAY would be the speaker at the coming meeting.

NY T-6
February 10, 1964

The HFF is characterized in the
Appendix Section of this report.

A membership meeting of the HFF was held on March 1, 1964 at Convent Avenue Baptist Church, 420 West 145th Street, New York City, attended by approximately 75 people. One of the speakers of the forum was JESSE GRAY. His speech dealt with slum conditions and the criticism of landlords.

NY T-7
March 5, 1964

NY T-6
March 2, 1964

At an Executive Committee meeting of the HFF held on September 23, 1964 at 402 West 146th Street, New York City, it was decided to contact JESSE GRAY to ask for his help in distributing leaflets for the November 15, 1964 meeting of the forum. This was part of an idea to gather as much outside help as possible, especially from people in the public eye.

NY T-6
September 24, 1964

A committee meeting of the HFF was held on Monday, October 5, 1964 at 742 St. Nicholas Avenue, New York City. At this meeting, a letter was drafted to be sent to various leaders in an attempt to establish a speakers list for future forums. JESSE GRAY was one of the persons considered as a future speaker.

NY T-7
October 15, 1964

NY 100-1911

C. "National Guardian"

The second annual "National Guardian" luncheon was held on April 14, 1964 at the Essex House, New York City. JESSE GRAY of Harlem was one of the guests in attendance.

NY T-8
April 21, 1964

The "National Guardian" is characterized in the Appendix Section of this report.

III. CP CONTACTS AND
EVIDENCE OF CP SUPPORT

At a meeting of the 11th Assembly District Club, Harlem Region CP, held on the evening of January 3, 1964, at the residence of WILLIAM STANLEY, 141 West 111th Street, New York City, STANLEY gave a report on housing. He stated he had met with JESSE GRAY, Director of the Community Council on Housing (CCH) and a leader of the rent strike in Harlem. STANLEY stated a drive was being made to get the tenants' organizations in Harlem to join a rent strike.

NY T-9
January 10, 1964

WILLIAM STANLEY was a member of the 11th Assembly District Club, Harlem Region CP as of May, 1962.

NY T-9
May 9, 1962

NY 100-9111

On January 31, 1964, it was learned by this source that HUNTER PITTS O'DELL had airplane reservations to travel with JESSE GRAY to Atlanta, Georgia on that date, which reservations were rescheduled for February 1, 1964.

NY T-10
January 31, 1964

Concerning the trip to Atlanta, Georgia, information furnished by this source on February 1, 1964 reflected that O'DELL was going to Atlanta, Georgia at the invitation of JAMES BEVEL, Field Secretary for Southern Christian Leadership Conference in Atlanta, Georgia, to attend the conference.

ANY T-11
February 1, 1964

HUNTER PITTS O'DELL, as of July, 1962, was considered by the CP, USA as a member of its National Committee.

NY T-12
July, 1962

On February 22, 1964, a meeting was held of the National CP Negro Commission at 306 East 43rd Street, Chicago, Illinois. BENJAMIN DAVIS gave a report and mentioned that the Negro people and the low-paid white workers must unite. He stated that they must unite around the strike in New York. He said JESSE GRAY has been the head of the rent boycott in New York and he has an excellent relationship "with us".

NY T-13
February 22, 1964

The "New York Times", page 27, column 4, of August 24, 1964, reported that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, National Secretary, CP, USA had died in New York City on the night of August 22, 1964.

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At a meeting of the CP, USA National Negro Commission, held in Chicago on February 22, 1964, RASHEED STOREY of New York, gave a report on the rent strike. STOREY stated that GRAY was "close" to the Marxist movement, but is not a member of the CP.

NY T-14
February 24, 1964

RASHEED STOREY was handling youth work for the New York District CP and was primarily responsible for CP work in Harlem, New York City, as of April, 1964.

NY T-15
April 8, 1964

On July 25, 1964, RASHEED STOREY made a statement that JESSE GRAY is a good leader and that he has done some good things. STOREY, however, stated he believed JESSE GRAY was being used by the Progressive Labor Movement (PLM).

NY T-16
August 25, 1964

The PLM is characterized in the Appendix Section of this report.

At the 40th Anniversary celebration of "The Worker" held March 5, 1964 at Carnegie Hall, 57th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City, approximately 1,000 people were present. JAMES E. JACKSON was one of the principal speakers at the affair and made the statement that "The Worker" supported the struggle of the Negro and Puerto Rican people, the Reverend MILTON GALAMISON and JESSE GRAY.

NY T-17
March 6, 1964

NY 100-91911

"The Worker" is an East Coast Communist newspaper.

JAMES E. JACKSON was a member of the National Committee CP, USA, as of January, 1964.

NY T-12
January 13, 1964

On July 26, 1964, a meeting of the New York District CP Industrial Division, Trade Union Commission was held at 11 Fort George Hill, New York City. JAMES TORMEY, present at the meeting, stated that he felt JESSE GRAY was becoming more of a negro nationalist and thus moving away from the CP's position.

NY T-2
July 26, 1964

JAMES TORMEY, as of February, 1963 was the Labor Organizer for the New York CP District.

NY T-3
February 11, 1963

On the evening of October 1, 1964, there was held a meeting of the CP Subcommittee on Negro American Labor Council (NALC) work at Chicago, Illinois. One of the subjects discussed at this meeting was the recent trip to New York City of ALICE TURNER and SALLY CALLAHAN and their meeting with JESSE GRAY in New York City.

ILL

NY 100-91911

At their meeting with JESSE GRAY, TURNER and CALLAHAN discussed with him new methods of implementing the civil rights struggle, but no specifics were decided upon. The feeling of the Illinois CP people towards JESSE GRAY was that since GRAY reportedly had become involved with the PLM group, the CP should avoid him. It was their feeling that further contact with GRAY would only lead the CP into trouble since the PLM was not projecting the true CP line.

NY T-13
October 14, 1964

From the Spring of 1964 until August, 1964, ALICE TURNER attended meetings of the CP Negro Commission, Illinois CP, and Subcommittee on NALC work of the Negro Commission, Illinois CP. To the knowledge of the informant, TURNER is not assigned to a CP club within the Illinois CP District, but due to the fact that she has been attending these meetings they considered her to be a member of the Illinois CP.

NY T-13
NY T-18
August, 1964

SALLY CALLAHAN was present at a meeting held on July 24, 1964 at Chicago, Illinois, at which CP members in the Chicago chapter of the NALC and Chicago chapter NALC members close to the CP were present.

NY T-18
July 27, 1964

This source learned that as of early July, 1964, JESSE GRAY, former CP member, who is friendly to the CP, wanted a relationship with Illinois Party personnel in

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connection with his plans to move to Chicago from New York, and work in the Negro civil rights movement through the ACT organization. GRAY reportedly, however, did not want to be too close to the Party as he felt this would jeopardize his activities. CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT was to be contacted by a representative of the Negro Commission, Illinois Party, to inquire whether CP funds could be allocated to back GRAY in this endeavor. GRAY planned to return to New York if no funds were available.

Contact with LIGHTFOOT was made in this regard on July 6, 1964; however, no money could be found to assist GRAY according to LIGHTFOOT. GRAY was informed of LIGHTFOOT's remarks.

NY T-14
July 6, 1964

~~CLAUDE~~ LIGHTFOOT was Chairman of the Illinois CP and member of the State Board CP as of September, 1964. NY

NY T-14
September 30, 1964

On October 1, 1964, MILTON ROSEN of the PLM made the statement that he had met with JESSE GRAY during the preceding week.

NY T-19
October 1, 1964

Also on October 1, 1964, MILTON ROSEN made the statement that JESSE GRAY and MALCOLM X at that time planned to form a political party of their own. MILTON ROSEN stated

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he would run one of his men on their political ticket.

NY T-22
October 23, 1964

MALCOLM X was founder and President of the Muslem Mosque, Incorporated. (MMI) as of August, 1964.

NY T-23
August 6, 1964

The MMI is characterized in the Appendix Section of this report.

"The Worker", issue of January 7, 1962, page 10, column 3, reported the expulsion of MILTON ROSEN, former Labor Secretary of the New York State CP, from the CP, USA. MILTON ROSEN was, as of November, 1963, National Chairman of the PLM.

NY T-20
November, 1963

On August 26, 1964, services for BENJAMIN J. DAVIS were held at the Unity Funeral Home located at 2352 Eighth Avenue, New York City. About 200 people were present in the funeral home and some 1,000 people had gathered outside. Among those standing outside during the services for BENJAMIN DAVIS was JESSE GRAY.

NY T-21
August 27, 1964

On November 7, 1964, a NALC, CP caucus meeting was held at 435 East 9th Street, New York City. CP members were present at this meeting, including CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT. LIGHTFOOT stated that in the near future he would attempt to meet with JESSE GRAY and JOSH LAWRENCE, and discuss with them

NY 100-91911

Negro affairs. He stated that neither JESSE GRAY nor JOSH LAWRENCE are presently members of the CP. (November, 1964)

NY T-2
November 9, 1964

On May 23, 1964, JOSH LAWRENCE stated that he had been a CP member in the past; had left the CP about six years prior to that date, having become disgusted with treatment he had received from CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT. LAWRENCE pointed out that he had reached a position in the national level in the CP before he left, but had been opposed by LIGHTFOOT in almost everything he did.

NY T-24
May 25, 1964

IV. EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO JESSE GRAY

On July 24, 1964, a meeting was held at the residence of CONSTANCE and EDWARD PEARLSTEIN, 10th Street and University Place, New York City. JIM HAUGHTON, described as a negro in his 30's, was the main speaker. He passed around leaflets, one of which described JESSE GRAY and his housing group. HAUGHTON praised GRAY and asked for a financial contribution of \$500.00. He did not receive this sum; however, he was assured that \$100 would be contributed by an unnamed donor. HAUGHTON spoke in favor of a mass black organization for the New York and Chicago negro communities, to channelize the nationalist feelings of the Negro community particularly the youth. HAUGHTON did not name this organization, but gave a telephone number of the office as FI 8 - 9100.

B. APPROX

1925/1973

JAMES

It should be noted that this is the telephone number of JESSE GRAY's Community Council on Housing located at 6 East 117th Street, New York City.

NY T-25
July 27, 1964

NY 100-91911

CONSTANCE and EDWARD PEARLSTEIN, as of March, 1964, were members of the Facing Reality Publishing Company, New York Local (FRPC - NYL).

NY T-25
March 27, 1964

The FRPC - NYL is characterized in the Appendix Section of this report.

JAMES HAUGHTON attended a reception held by PLM on September 21, 1963 at 800 Riverside Drive, New York City. Source stated that for the most part the people present expressed a pro-Chinese position whereas JAMES HAUGHTON and two others appeared to defend the position of the Soviet Union in the discussion.

NY T-26
September 25, 1963

According to this source, a meeting of "white liberals" was held on July 30, 1964, at 75 Bedford Street, New York City. The purpose of the meeting was to support the "militant" fight of the Negro. Mr. and Mrs. EDWARD PEARLSTEIN were present at the meeting. The main speaker was MAJOR WILLIAMS, who stated that he works with JESSE GRAY. The suggestion was made at this meeting to write a brochure on JESSE GRAY, describing his background and his fight against the "white power society". A collection of \$75.00 was taken up and turned over to MAJOR WILLIAMS.

NY T-25
July 31, 1964

On Wednesday, August 5, 1964, at 8:00 p.m., a meeting was held at 75 Bedford Street, New York City. This meeting was

NY 100-91911

described as a group of "white liberals" organized to help the Negro and "fight the white backlash". Several members present tried to steer the meeting towards support for JESSE GRAY.

NY T-25
August 11, 1964

On August 10, 1964, a meeting was held at 195 West 10th Street, at which CONSTANCE and EDWARD PEARLSTEIN were present. Their position was that they wanted the group to give full support to GRAY and his work.

NY T-25
August 20, 1964

JESSE GRAY and his assistants in the Community Council on Housing, New York City, during November, 1964, organized a fund - raising dance to raise money for the CCH. At a meeting of the dance committee held November 14, 1964, it was announced that CONSTANCE PEARLSTEIN's group had pledged to buy a block of tickets for the dance.

NY T-1
November 19, 1964
December, 1964

The above fund - raising dance was held on December 26, 1964 at Rockland Palace Ballroom, 155th Street and Eighth Avenue, New York City.

NY T-30
December 31, 1964

NY 100-91911

**V. SUBJECT'S INTEREST AND ACTIVITY
IN BEHALF OF RACIAL GROUPS**

A. Act

JESSE GRAY attended a meeting of Act held April 18, 1964, at Washington, D.C., and gave a speech at this meeting on the subject of housing. He further urged the audience to "stall-in" at the opening day of the World's Fair, New York City, April 22, 1964.

NY T-24
April 20, 1964

The Community Council on Housing (CCH), New York City, of which JESSE GRAY is Director, was host to Act at a conference held on May 23, 1964, at Mount Morris Park Presbyterian Church, Mount Morris Park and West 122nd Street, New York City. Act was described by this source as a new and growing "grass roots" organization of militant leaders. This source further stated that JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers at the above conference and gave a report on housing.

NY T-24
May 25, 1964

According to this source, a member of the CP of Illinois stated in July, 1964, that JESSE GRAY was in Chicago at that time as an Organizer for Act. It was further stated that GRAY was concentrating mainly among Negro youth. This source was unable to determine the veracity of this information through any of his sources.

NY T-27
July 8, 1964

NY 100-91911

On the evening of June 28, 1964, a civil rights rally sponsored by Act was held at St. Anselm's Parish Center, 210 East 61st Street, Chicago. Among the featured speakers was JESSE GRAY. Each speaker urged the audience of approximately 150 persons, to reject what they termed "moderation" in the civil rights struggle and to demonstrate for what is needed.

NY T-28
July 10, 1964

JESSE GRAY was in Chicago, Illinois, in July, 1964, and had made statements indicating that he was active in behalf of Act. GRAY allegedly stated that the only basis for the existence of Act was that they continued to organize the most impoverished and militant facts of the Negro people. GRAY is further alleged to have stated that he was not going to be close to the CP because he did not want to jeopardize his base. GRAY stated that in New York he had to be ruthless with CP people because they kept trying to involve him in a way in which he would not get involved.

NY T-14
July 6, 1964

JESSE GRAY, of New York, attended a conference in Atlantic City, ~~New Jersey~~, on August 27, 1964, at which leaders of Act discussed future plans of the organization. It was agreed that JESSE GRAY and STANLEY BRANCHE of Chester, Pennsylvania, would follow up on the Eastern Region of Act. It was also agreed at this meeting that the field secretary for Act would be either JESSE GRAY or STANLEY BRANCHE.

NY 100-91911

This source evaluated JESSE GRAY as "Marxist-Leninist oriented". Source was of the belief that JESSE GRAY was using Act as a means of creating a mass organization which he might control.

NY T-29
August 28, 1964

B. Muslim Mosque Incorporated (MMI)

Detective ERNEST LATTY, Bureau of Special Services, New York City Police Department, advised April 2, 1964, that on March 15, 1964, MALCOLM X and his new group, the Muslim Mosque Incorporated, held their first public meeting in the Dawn Casino, 2387 7th Avenue, New York City, with approximately 400 persons in attendance. At this rally MALCOLM X spoke and explained the reason for his break with the Nation of Islam (NOI) and the formation of the MMI. JESSE GRAY was present at this rally.

The NOI and the MMI are characterized in the Appendix, which includes a characterization of MALCOLM X.

Detective FRED JENOURE, Bureau of Special Services, New York City Police Department, advised on March 23, 1964, that the MMI, on March 22, 1964, held an open rally in Rockland Palace, 8th Avenue and 155th Street, New York City, from 8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.. Attendance at the rally was approximately 1,000. The principal speaker was MALCOLM X.

The March 23, 1964 edition of "The New York Times" contained an article on page 18 concerning the above MMI rally. The article reflected that MALCOLM X announced that his first effort would be a Negro voters registration drive since Negro votes have the power to decide who will occupy the White House. He stated that "it's time for you and me to let the Government know its ballots-or bullets." He

NY 100-91911

added that down South "in order to start casting ballots, you have to have some bullets." He urged Negroes to join any black nationalist organization or any group practicing that philosophy. He stated "if it's necessary to form a Black Nationalist party or a Black Nationalist army - we'll form it."

The article also stated that MALCOLM X introduced as strong black nationalists, JESSE GRAY, Harlem rent strike leader, and Reverend NELSON C. ~~X~~ DUKES, pastor of the Fountain Spring Baptist Church, 158 West 126th Street, New York City, *NY*, both of whom were in the audience.

Detective FRED JENOURE further advised on April 13, 1964, that the Muslim Mosque held an open rally attended by approximately 550 people on April 12, 1964, in the Audubon Ballroom, Broadway and 166th Street, New York City. The featured speaker was MALCOLM X. At this rally, MALCOLM X introduced to the audience, among others, JESSE GRAY, leader of the CCH, who was in attendance at the rally.

C. Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)

The OAAU is characterized in the Appendix.

The July 1, 1964 edition of the "New York Journal American" contained an article on page 1 concerning MALCOLM X, Chairman of the OAAU. The article stated that MALCOLM X had announced the formation of the OAAU, which is a Negro organization dedicated to "fomenting of black revolution in this country by any means necessary, including arming Negroes." In an interview, the article related, MALCOLM X stated that he and other militant Negro groups have established a "brain trust", which is mapping an OAAU program. Members of this "brain trust", named by MALCOLM X, included the name JESSE GRAY, New York rent-strike leader.

NY 100-91911

Detective ERNEST LATTY, Bureau of Special Services, New York City Police Department, advised on July 6, 1964, that the OAAU held a public meeting on July 5, 1964, in the Audubon Ballroom, Broadway and 166th Street, New York City. The featured speaker was MALCOLM X. MALCOLM X spoke generally of the aims and purposes of the OAAU. MALCOLM X stated that a recent article appearing in the "Journal American" which alleged that he had established a "brain trust" of racial leaders in the OAAU was not true; that such an idea must have come from the imagination of some reporter since he claimed he never said such a thing.

On November 24, 1964, at 6:55 p.m., MALCOLM X, leader of the OAAU, returned, via air, to the United States from Africa at John F. Kennedy International Airport. Among the well-wishers who came to the airport to greet MALCOLM X was JESSE GRAY.

NY T-1
November 30, 1964

JESSE GRAY's trip to the airport to meet MALCOLM X was also reported by NY T-30 on November 30, 1964.

On November 29, 1964, JESSE GRAY attended a general meeting of the OAAU held at the Audubon Ballroom, 166th Street and Broadway, New York City.

NY T-30
November 30, 1964

NY T-1
November 30, 1964

NY T-23
December 2, 1964

NY T-31
December 1, 1964

NY 100-91911

Detective FRED JENOURE, Bureau of Special Services, New York City Police Department, advised on November 30, 1964, that JESSE GRAY attended the above general meeting of the OAAU and was introduced by MALCOLM X. JESSE GRAY came to the rostrum to make a few remarks concerning housing and unemployment in Negro communities.

D. New York Committee for the Support
of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic
Party Challenge

JESSE GRAY attended a meeting of the New York Committee for the Support of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party Challenge also known as the Ad Hoc Committee in support of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party Challenge, held December 2, 1964, at Manhattanville Center, New York City. The purpose of this committee was to challenge the seating of the regular Mississippi delegates to Congress, when Congress reconvened January 4, 1965.

NY T-30
December 4, 1964

A "kick-off rally" sponsored by the New York Committee for the Support of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party Challenge was held on December 20, 1964, at Williams Institutional Church, 2225 7th Avenue, New York City. JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers at this affair and urged support for the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party Challenge.

NY T-30
December 21, 1964

NY 100-91911

**VI. JESSE GRAY'S ROLE IN RACIAL
DISTURBANCES, HARLEM, NEW YORK,
JULY, 1964**

"The New York Times", July 20, 1964, page 16, column 6, contained an article entitled "Guerrilla War Urged in Harlem", in which it was stated that JESSE GRAY called for "100 skilled black revolutionaries who are ready to die", to correct what he termed "the police brutality situation in Harlem." This call, according to the article, was made by JESSE GRAY at a meeting in the Mount Morris Presbyterian Church, New York City, on July 19, 1964. JESSE GRAY allegedly was the leader of the rally.

WILLIAM STANLEY, a member of the Harlem Region CP, made the statement, in July, 1964, that JESSE GRAY and JAMES LAWSON, Harlem leaders of the Black Nationalists" were combining their efforts to continue the Harlem rioting. WILLIAM STANLEY characterized JESSE GRAY as an opportunist who would welcome a chance to lead the Negroes of Harlem. According to STANLEY, JESSE GRAY called for guerrilla warfare in his church speech on Sunday, July 19, 1964, at Mount Morris Presbyterian Church, New York City.

NY T-9
July 27, 1964

Detective ANTON WEIDINGER, Bureau of Special Services, New York City Police Department, on July 19, 1964, advised that JESSE GRAY, on that date, called for a march and demonstration at the United Nations, New York City, to be held on July 20, 1964, to petition the United Nations to take cognizance of the situation of Negroes in Harlem, New York.

NY100-91911

On July 20, 1964, SAS of the FBI observed the demonstration at United Nations Plaza, East 42nd Street and First Avenue, New York City. The demonstration began at 6:00 p.m. and terminated at 7:30 p.m., with approximately 250 participants, most of them carrying a flier put out by the Harlem Defense Council. JESSE GRAY was one of the speakers addressing the demonstrators. The demonstrators also carried signs protesting the shooting of JAMES POWELL, Negro youth, who was shot by Lieutenant GILLIGAN, New York City Police Officer, on July 16, 1964.

The Harlem Defense Council is characterized in the Appendix.

On July 23, 1964, WILLIAM PATTERSON, CP leader, expressed the opinion that JESSE GRAY had a hand in racial violence in Harlem in July, 1964. PATTERSON stated there had been contacts between JESSE GRAY and the CP and that JESSE GRAY had been persuaded to forget his idea of mobilizing a "guerrilla force."

NY T-32
July 23, 1964

On the afternoon of August 15, 1964, an outdoor rally was given by JESSE GRAY and the CCH at 109th Street and Central Park West. Approximately 200 people attended this rally. JESSE GRAY spoke against the "slum lords" of Harlem and also protested the ban against him, restraining him from holding demonstrations in the central Harlem area. After the rally, JESSE GRAY led a march to the school where the POWELL youth had been shot and from there he led a march to Gracie Mansion, official residence of the Mayor of the City of New York. The purpose of these demonstrations was to protest the shooting of the youth.

NY T-23
August 19, 1964

NY T-1
August 19, 1964

NY 100-91911

"The New York Times", August 11, 1964, page 25, in an article entitled "Gray Reports Improvement in Slums", stated that JESSE GRAY was one of several individuals under temporary court ban in August, 1964, barring them from holding demonstrations in the Harlem area as a precaution against further racial riots in that area.

~~NY~~ BAYARD RUSTIN, on September 2, 1964, made the statement that during the Harlem racial demonstrations in July, 1964, JESSE GRAY called on people directly or indirectly to use violence. JESSE GRAY further cooperated with the PLM; GRAY was enjoined, along with others, from holding demonstrations in Harlem in order to preclude any further racial strife. RUSTIN expressed the opinion that JESSE GRAY is "irresponsible."

NY T-33
September 2, 1964

In "The Saturday Evening Post", issue of July 11 - 18, 1964, page 76, BAYARD RUSTIN is the subject of a feature article captioned: "The Lone Wolf of Civil Rights". In it, RUSTIN is said to have come to New York in 1938 as an organizer for the Young Communist League (YCL), and as such, he had the job of recruiting students for the "Party". Furthermore, the article reports that during his first years in New York, RUSTIN gave most of his earnings to the "Party". He reportedly left the "Party" in 1941, the article states.

The YCL has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

NY 100-91911

The "Daily Worker", February 11, 1957, page 1 column 2, reported that BAYARD RUSTIN, Executive Secretary, War Resisters League, was an observer at the 16th National Convention of the CPUSA, held in New York City on February 9-12, 1957.

The "Daily Worker" was an East Coast Communist publication until it ceased publication on January 13, 1958.

NY T-34 advised on September 25, 1963, that during a meeting of the National Board, CPUSA, on that date, BENJAMIN J. DAVIS remarked that, "RUSTIN calls me constantly -- openly."

NY T-33 advised on February 19, 20, 1964, that BAYARD RUSTIN contacted BENJAMIN J. DAVIS on those dates and sought his advice as to how he could escape from a speaking engagement to which he was committed. On the latter contact, DAVIS told RUSTIN that he was working on his request and had contacted friends who had contacts with the group to which RUSTIN was to speak.

NY T-24 advised on January 21, 1964, that as of that date, BENJAMIN J. DAVIS was National Secretary of the CPUSA.

"The New York Times", August 24, 1964, page 27, column 4, reports that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, National Secretary, CPUSA, died in New York City on the night of August 22, 1964.

Detective RAYMOND J. CLARKE, Bureau of Special Services, New York City Police Department, advised on September 18, 1964, that the Corporation Counsel of the City of New York petitioned the Supreme Court, New York County, on September 17, 1964, to dissolve the injunction against JESSE GRAY and others which had been granted on July 24, 1964. The injunction prohibited them from conducting demonstrations in the central Harlem area of New York City. The Corporation Counsel's petition was based on the fact that racial tension in that area had diminished.

NY 100-91911

On September 30, 1964, JESSE GRAY was in contact with CLARENCE JONES and asked about the injunction then pending against him by the City of New York to restrain him from holding demonstrations in Harlem. JONES stated that he thought the injunction had been vacated.

NY T-35
September 30, 1964

This source identified a photograph of CLARENCE JONES as the person whom he knew during late 1953 or early 1954, to be a member of and in a position of leadership in the Labor Youth League.

NY T-36
February 26, 1957

The Labor Youth League has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

JESSE GRAY was not seated as a delegate at the State Convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) held in Buffalo, New York, October 2-4, 1964. The NAACP in Buffalo had received a report from the NAACP New York that JESSE GRAY should not be seated at the convention because of bad publicity he had received following the rioting in Harlem, New York, in July, 1964.

NY T-45
October 5, 1964

At a press conference held at the Office of the CCH, 6 East 117th Street, New York City, on October 5, 1964, JESSE GRAY referred to "guerrilla warfare" in Mississippi. He also said he wanted 100 people out of New York City who were "ready to die." GRAY further remarked that the

NY 100-91911

NAACP did not represent the masses of the Negro people. He said the NAACP should set up militant aggression. This source was unable to further clarify the above remarks attributed to JESSE GRAY.

NY T-30
October 7, 1964

At the above press conference, JESSE GRAY stated he had not been permitted to attend the NAACP State Convention as a delegate. JESSE GRAY stated that his attendance as a delegate was characterized as "would not have been in the best interests of the NAACP."

NY T-30
October 5, 1964

VII. RENT STRIKE AND HOUSING ACTIVITIES

JESSE GRAY was one of the leaders of a demonstration of tenant groups outside City Hall, New York City, on January 23, 1964. The purpose of this demonstration was to make a showing of strength at the rent control hearing then in progress in Council Chamber. During the demonstration, JESSE GRAY and others, among whom was JANE BENEDICT of the Metropolitan Council on Housing (MCH), went inside the Council Chamber and asked that room be made for the tenants. JESSE GRAY accused the members present at the hearing of holding a "rigged" hearing. He was asked to leave the Council Chamber and JANE BENEDICT left with him.

NY T-37
January 30, 1964

JANE BENEDICT was a member of the CP Housing Committee as of January 29, 1962.

NY T-38
January 29, 1962

NY 100-91911

At a meeting of the MCH Executive Committee held January 27, 1964, at Mc Burney Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), New York City. JANE BENEDICT discussed the rent control demonstration at City Hall on January 23, 1964, and related that when JESSE GRAY pulled his people out, there was nothing left to do but follow his lead. A position of unity had to be shown. JESSE GRAY did not consult with her nor wait for a decision to be reached. He acted on impulse.

NY T-39
January 30, 1964

The January, 1964 edition of "Tenant News" issued by MCH contained an article on rent strikes and reported that in Harlem a Coordinating Committee for rent strikes had been formed and was led by JESSE GRAY and Reverend HILDEBRAND, then President of the New York Chapter NAACP.

On February 15, 1964, there was a city-wide conference on rent strikes called by JESSE GRAY and the CCH. This meeting was held at Mount Morris Presbyterian Church, New York City.

NY T-37
February 17, 1964

On February 29, 1964, a Negro history party took place in Buffalo, New York. This party was sponsored by PLM. WILLIAM EPTON of New York spoke about rent strikes in New York City and said he was more familiar with rent strikes in New York City than elsewhere. WILLIAM EPTON stated that "Mr. GRAY", former CP Organizer, was at that time the Chief Organizer of rent strikes in New York City.

NY T-22
March 6, 1964

NY 100-91911

On January 12, 1962, WILLIAM EPTON was identified as a member of the Lower 13th Assembly District Club, Harlem Region CP.

NY T-9
January 12, 1962

WILLIAM EPTON ceased to be active in the CP during the winter of 1961-1962, and thereafter became active in PLM.

NY T-32
November 16, 1962

On March 13, 1964, a group of members from the MCH met at Felice Restaurant, Reade and Elk Streets, New York City. Among other things discussed was the question of the relationship of MCH to JESSE GRAY and his group. Consideration was given to breaking away from JESSE GRAY since he was characterized as "impetuous, wants followers by groups, cannot be trusted and does not represent the numbers he professes to represent." It was finally decided that the MCH would continue to work with JESSE GRAY without surrendering its individuality to him.

NY T-40
March 17, 1964

A mimeographed letter issued in February, 1964, by the MCH, 215 West 23rd Street, New York City, announced a "March on Albany" March 10, 1964, for decent housing, decent wages and voting rights for all. It was announced in the letter that as a result of a conference held the preceding week by CCH, that MCH and a number of its affiliates, as well as other housing and civil rights groups would pool forces to go to Albany on March 10, 1964.

NY 100-91911

It was also pointed out that as a result of the above conference, a continuation committee was formed called the City-Wide Committee for Decent Housing, and would serve as a temporary coordinating body for the housing groups.

NY T-37
February 26, 1964

The "March on Albany" was held on March 10, 1964, and delegations from New York City came to Albany to meet with Senators and the Governor of New York State. JESSE GRAY participated in this demonstration and was observed in the Governor's office.

NY T-40
March 17, 1964

JESSE GRAY and his organization, the CCH, sponsored a meeting at Central Plaza, 2nd Avenue and 7th Street, New York City, on November 19, 1964, on "Harlem and the Rent Strikes." JESSE GRAY was the principal speaker at this meeting and spoke of organizing rent strikes in New York City as a protest against slum conditions in the Harlem area.

NY T-41
November 23, 1964

Also attending the above rent strike rally at Central Plaza on November 19, 1964, were, among others, STEVE SELTZER and ROBERT APTER.

NY T-42
November 20, 1964

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LAWRENCE (STEVE) SELTZER participated in the June - August, 1964, trip to Cuba sponsored by the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba (SCTC).

Records of Immigration
and Naturalization Service (INS)
New York City, examined
August 14, 1964, by
SA MARTIN A. CROWE

The SCTC is characterized in the Appendix.

ROBERT HERMAN APTER is described as Circulation Manager of "Progressive Labor" a monthly publication of PLM.

On November 12, 1964, JESSE GRAY attended a meeting sponsored by the Independent Action Committee for Social Progress (IACSP) held at De Witt Reformed Church, Rivington and Columbia Streets, New York City. The chairman announced that the IACSP had been formed recently because there was great need for independent action to fight for the cause of Mobilization for Youth (MFY), which was under attack by the "Daily News", a New York City newspaper and by the Investigation Department of the City of New York. JESSE GRAY was one of the featured speakers. He called the investigation of MFY a "witch-hunt". He said the MFY was doing fine until it began to cooperate in rent strikes and other forms of protest. He said that as soon as it

NY 100-91911

became a militant group the hunt for subversives in the organization began.

NY T-43
November 16, 1964

NY T-39
November 19, 1964

NY T-41
November 19, 1964

NY T-44
November 13, 1964

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APPENDIX

FACING REALITY PUBLISHING COMPANY

A source who has furnished reliable information in the past, on August 1, 1958, stated that as a result of the split in the Johnson-Forest Group (JFG), which occurred in 1955, two factions emerged, the Johnson Faction and the Forest Faction. According to the source, the Johnson Faction was composed of the followers of C.L.R. JAMES, also known as James Johnson, and the Forest Faction was composed of the followers of RAE DWYER, also known as Freddie Forest. The co-founders of the JFG were C.L.R. JAMES, known as Johnson, who was deported from the United States as an undesirable alien in 1953, and RAE DWYER, known as Forest.

The JFG has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A second source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on November 26, 1962, that subsequent to the split in the JFG, the Johnson Faction took the name Correspondence Group, which continued until February, 1962, when this group again split with the majority aligning themselves with JAMES behind the leadership of MARTIN GLABERMAN of Detroit, Michigan.

On May 8, 1962, this source furnished material in which JAMES BOGGS, the National Chairman of the Correspondence Group, stated that the Correspondence Group made a clear and clean break with C.L.R. JAMES, and the 19th century development of Marxism. He stated that the Correspondence Group was trying to provide a center or basis where workers, technicians and intellectuals, Negroes and whites, women and men, the young and not so young, the common and the uncommon and all those alienated from one another in today's society, can speak their minds freely, cooperating where possible and clashing where necessary; however, at all times breaking down barriers and accepting responsibility for working out in action and in thought the fundamental problems of the total reorganization of society.

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This source reported on July 18, 1962, that the group of individuals at Detroit, Michigan, who formerly belonged to the Correspondence Group there, had taken the name Facing Reality Publishing Company or Committee, while the three former members of the Group at New York, had met informally in support of the Detroit group, which has issued neither directions nor instructions. The New York Group has no officers or headquarters.

On March 7, 1963, the same source advised that the Facing Reality Publishing Company or Committee seeks to create a Marxist society based on the dialectical concepts of Marxism-Leninism as interpreted by C.L.R. JAMES, establishing government by workers rather than government by a Marxist political party. The prime movement in securing the support of the people is considered to be a publication to be used by the workers in their daily fight against capitalism. This group rejects the vanguard party concept of Marxism and has established the theory that trade unions keep the workers under subjugation by preventing their channeling of their own efforts to take over the means of production and through this to in turn take over governmental processes. This group rejects all present forms of governments, except those new nationalist governments, as capitalist, or in the case of Russia, State Capitalist.

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APPENDIX

FACING REALITY PUBLISHING
COMPANY - NEW YORK LOCAL

On December 20, 1951, ARTHUR DAVIS, then of 130 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, furnished information which reflected that the New York Local, Johnson Forest Group (JFG) began functioning in September, 1951.

On July 18, 1962, a confidential source advised that the three former members of the Correspondence Group at New York were then meeting informally in support of the Facing Reality Publishing Company or Committee (FRPC).

On March 27, 1964, the source advised that the meetings of the group had become social rather than political and that the group no longer displayed any organizational efforts in participating in the program of the FRPC.

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APPENDIX

HARLEM DEFENSE COUNCIL

A confidential source advised as follows on July 26, 1964:

The Harlem Defense Council was formed in the summer of 1964, by Progressive Labor Movement in New York City as a front organization with its main objective being to recruit for the Progressive Labor Movement. The leaders of Progressive Labor Movement hope to use the Harlem Defense Council to recruit Negroes and others and gradually orient them toward the aims and objectives of Progressive Labor Movement.

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APPENDIX

HARLEM FREEDOM FORUM
Also known as Harlem
Freedomways Forum,
Freedomways Forum

A source advised on May 18, 1962, that WILLIAM ALBERTSON had contacted LILLIAN MARTINEZ during May, 1962, at which time he requested her to take the assignment of forming a new organization, the formation of which had been previously discussed at Harlem Communist Party (CP) meetings. This organization would be called Freedomways Forum and in appearance would be a non-CP organization, but in effect would be a new front for the Harlem CP through which all Harlem CP work would be accomplished.

The source advised on November 6, 1963, that a meeting of a committee specifically selected by the 11th A.D. Club of the Harlem CP was held at 2235 5th Avenue, New York, New York, on November 1, 1963, at which a definite decision was made to establish the Freedomways Forum which would be known as the Harlem Freedomways Forum (HFF). It was unanimously agreed that the HFF would be a broad front formed by the CP not only to discuss the problems of the community but also to serve as a source of recruitment of new members for the CP.

The source advised on September 16, 1964, that at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the HFF held at 799 Broadway, New York, New York, on September 14, 1964, it was decided to change the name HFF to Harlem Freedom Forum (HFF).

The source advised on November 30, 1964, that there is no established headquarters for HFF at the present time and that meetings of the HFF are held at the homes of the various members.

A second source advised on October 13, 1963, that WILLIAM ALBERTSON was Executive Secretary of the New York District of the CP, USA, at that time.

The July 7, 1964, issue of "The Worker," an east coast Communist newspaper, published a statement of the New York District of the CP, USA, stating that WILLIAM ALBERTSON had been expelled from the CP.

A third source advised on November 11, 1964, that LILLIAN MARTINEZ was a member of the Harlem Region of the CP, USA, at that time.

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APPENDIX

MUSLIM MOSQUE, INCORPORATED (MMI)

The March 13, 1964, edition of "The New York Times," a daily newspaper published in New York, New York, contained an article on page 20 which indicated that MALCOLM X (LITTLE), former national official of the Nation of Islam (NOI) who broke with the NOI on March 8, 1964, publicly announced in New York City on March 12, 1964, that he had formed the Muslim Mosque, Incorporated (MMI). The MMI, according to the article would be a broadly based politically oriented black nationalist movement for Negroes only, financed by voluntary contributions. In this public statement MALCOLM X urged Negroes to abandon the doctrine of non-violence when it is necessary to defend themselves in the civil rights struggle, and he also suggested that Negroes form rifle clubs to protect their lives and property in time of emergencies in areas where the government is unable or unwilling to protect them.

Incorporation papers of the MMI filed on March 16, 1964, with the Business Section, Clerk of Courts, New York County, New York, New York, reflect that the MMI was incorporated under the Religious Corporation Law of the State of New York to work for the imparting of the Islamic Faith and Islamic Religion in accordance with "accepted Islamic principals." The principal place of worship to be located in the Borough of Manhattan, New York, New York.

The May 23, 1964, edition of the "New York Amsterdam News," a weekly Negro newspaper published in New York City, contained an article by columnist JAMES BOOKER in which he indicated that he had heard that the visit by MALCOLM X with Muslim leaders during his African tour has changed him to become soft in his anti-white feelings and to become more religious.

On October 6, 1964, a confidential source advised that the MMI is apparently affiliated with the true orthodox Islamic Religion through its affiliation with the Islamic Foundation (of New York), 1 Riverside Drive, New York City. The only teachings of the MMI are on the Islamic Religion.

A second confidential source advised on October 20, 1964, that the headquarters of the MMI are located in Suite 128, Hotel Theresa, 2090 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York, where they were established on March 16, 1964. These headquarters are shared with the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU) which is also headed by MALCOLM X.

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APPENDIX

NATION OF ISLAM, formerly referred to as the Muslim Cult of Islam, also known as Muhammad's Temples of Islam

In January, 1957, a source advised ELIJAH MUHAMMAD has described his organization on a nationwide basis as the "Nation of Islam," (NOI) and "Muhammad's Temples of Islam."

On May 8, 1964, a second source advised ELIJAH MUHAMMAD is the national leader of the NOI; Muhammad's Temple of Islam No. 2, 5335 South Greenwood Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, is the national headquarters of the NOI; and in mid-1960, MUHAMMAD and other NOI officials, when referring to MUHAMMAD'S organization on a nationwide basis, commenced using either "Mosque" or "Temple" when mentioning one of "Muhammad's Temples of Islam."

The NOI is an all-Negro organization which was originally organized in 1930 in Detroit, Michigan. MUHAMMAD claims to have been selected by Allah, the Supreme Being, to lead the so-called Negro race out of slavery in the wilderness of North America by establishing an independent black nation in the United States. Members following MUHAMMAD'S teachings and his interpretation of the "Koran" believe there is no such thing as a Negro; that the so-called Negroes are slaves of the white race, referred to as "white devils," in the United States; and that the white race, because of its exploitation of the so-called Negroes, must and will be destroyed in the approaching "War of Armageddon."

In the past, officials and members of the NOI, including MUHAMMAD, have refused to register under the provisions of the Selective Service Acts and have declared that members owe no allegiance to the United States.

On May 5, 1958, the first source advised MUHAMMAD had, upon advice of legal counsel, tempered his personal statements and instructions to his ministers concerning the principles of his organization in order to avoid possible prosecution by the United States Government; however, he did not indicate any fundamental changes in the teachings of his organization.

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APPENDIX

NATION OF ISLAM, formerly
referred to as the Muslim
Cult of Islam, also known as
Muhammad's Temples of Islam

On May 7, 1964, a third source advised Muhammad had, early in July, 1958, decided to de-emphasize the religious aspects of the teachings of Islam and to stress the economic benefits to be derived by those Negroes who joined the NOI. This policy change, according to MUHAMMAD, would help him acquire additional followers and create more interest in his programs.

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APPENDIX

"NATIONAL GUARDIAN"

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of December 1, 1961, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "National Guardian":

"National Guardian

- "1. 'established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a "progressive" weekly * * *. Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia.' (Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the ROSENBERGS and MORTON SOBELL, August 25, 1956, p. 12.)"

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APPENDIX

ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN UNITY (OAAU)

On June 28, 1964, MALCOLM X LITTLE, founder and leader of the Muslim Mosque, Incorporated (MMI), publicly announced the formation of a new, all Negro, militant civil rights action group to be known as the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU), with himself as Chairman. This announcement was made at a public rally held by the MMI in the Audubon Ballroom, Broadway and 166th Street, New York City.

A printed and published statement of basic OAAU aims read by MALCOLM X at this meeting indicates that it shall include "all" people of African descent in the Western Hemisphere, as well as "our" brothers and sisters on the African continent. It is patterned after the "letter and spirit" of the Organization of African Unity established (by African heads of States) at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in May, 1963.

A recording of the remarks of MALCOLM X at this meeting indicates that the aim of the OAAU is to eliminate differences between Negroes so they can work together for "human rights," while the initial objective is to "internationalize" the American civil rights movement by taking it to the United Nations. LITTLE condemned the non-violent civil rights movement and claims that Negroes should be taught to protect themselves, when and if necessary. The OAAU will sponsor a program for Negroes of education, politics, culture, economics and social reform.

On August 19, 1964, a confidential source advised that the headquarters of the OAAU are located in MMI headquarters, Suite 128, Hotel Theresa, 2090 7th Avenue, New York City.

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APPENDIX

PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY,
PROGRESSIVE LABOR MOVEMENT,
"PROGRESSIVE LABOR"

A source advised on July 2, 1962, that Progressive Labor groups held a conference in New York City on July 1, 1962, where MILTON ROSEN acted as chairman. He read a statement at this conference setting forth their intention to form a new Marxist-Leninist party in the United States. ROSEN stated that a more formal organization was necessary, one which would provide a frame-work for all who wanted to join in a united effort to build an American vanguard. The forces of this new organization are to consolidate all existing forces around Progressive Labor and organize additional forces; expand and improve political activities; win additional forces to an outlook of Marxism-Leninism and increase the open advocacy of socialism; develop a significant Marxist-Leninist program for the new party; and organize a collective organization of leaders and members.

"The Worker," an East Coast Communist newspaper, issue of January 7, 1962, Page Ten, Column Three, reported the expulsion of MILTON ROSEN, former Labor Secretary of the New York State Communist Party, from the Communist Party, United States of America.

A second and third source advised in February, 1963, that this new Marxist-Leninist party had not yet been organized on a formal basis, but that Progressive Labor groups had been formed in several localities in line with the proposals of MILTON ROSEN. The sources advised as of February, 1963, that the leaders of this group were referring to it as the Progressive Labor Movement.

A fourth source advised on March 15, 1964, that the Progressive Labor Movement follows, supports, and is politically orientated toward the Communist Party line of Red China rather than that of the Soviet Union.

A fifth source advised on March 28, 1964, that at a Progressive Labor Movement meeting held in New York City on that date, it was announced that the Progressive Labor

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APPENDIX

PROGRESSIVE LABOR PARTY
PROGRESSIVE LABOR MOVEMENT,
"PROGRESSIVE LABOR"

Movement would try to hold a national convention in New York City in September, 1964, to organize the Progressive Labor Movement on a more formal basis into a Progressive Labor Party.

The fifth source also advised that the Progressive Labor Movement publishes a monthly magazine called, "Progressive Labor" and also a quarterly theoretical publication called the "Marxist-Leninist Quarterly." The source also advised that starting June 1, 1964, the Progressive Labor Movement would start publishing a weekly newspaper in New York City.

The March, 1964, issue of "Progressive Labor" sets forth that it is published monthly by the Progressive Labor Company, General Post Office Box 808, Brooklyn 1, New York.

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APPENDIX

STUDENT COMMITTEE
FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA

"The Columbia Owl," weekly student newspaper of Columbia University, New York City, December 12, 1962, issue, page one, contained an article entitled "Students to Visit Cuba During Holidays." This article stated in part that the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was formed October 14, 1962, by a group of students from New York City universities, the University of Wisconsin, Oberlin College and the University of North Carolina, who stated that as students they would like a chance to see and evaluate the situation in Cuba for themselves and had received an offer of transportation and two weeks stay in Cuba from the Federation of University Students in Havana, as guests of the Federation. The Committee accepted the offer and applied to the United States State Department for passport validation which was refused; however, over fifty students planned to defy the State Department ban and go to Cuba.

A source advised on December 6, 1962, that during December, 1962, it was learned that the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba had recently been formed by the Progressive Labor Group.

A second source advised on September 13, 1963, that a group of 59 individuals who had assembled in New York City, departed New York City by air on June 25, 1963, and traveled to Paris, France; Prague, Czechoslovakia; and then to Havana, Cuba. The group remained in Cuba until August 24, 1963, at which time they departed by air for New York City via Madrid, Spain. The group arrived in New York City on August 29, 1963.

The same source advised that the leaders of the group were members of Progressive Labor and the trip was planned and organized by Progressive Labor members.

~~SECRET~~2.APPENDIXSTUDENT COMMITTEE
FOR TRAVEL TO CUBA

"The Columbia Owl," March 11, 1964, issue, page one, carried an article captioned, "Another Visit to Cuba Students Will Defy Student Travel Ban This Summer." This article sets forth in part that three members of the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba spoke at an assembly sponsored by the Progressive Labor Club of Columbia University. At this assembly VICKI ORTIZ, Student Committee for Travel to Cuba campus representative, stated that the Federation of University Students in Havana had extended another invitation for 500 students to visit Cuba in 1964. Miss ORTIZ stated that the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was, therefore, planning another trip to Cuba in July, 1964.

A third source advised on February 6, 1964, that he had received information that the name of the Ad Hoc Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was changed to the Permanent Student Committee for Travel to Cuba, in February, 1963. After the group arrived back in the United States from Cuba, in the latter part of August, 1963, the name of the organization was changed to the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba.

A fourth source advised on October 9, 1963, that the Student Committee for Travel to Cuba was utilizing Post Office Box 2178, New York 1, New York, as its mailing address.

~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York
February 23, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Bureau file 100-357847
New York file 100-91911

Title Jesse Williard Gray

Character Security Matter - C

Reference is made to the report of
Special Agent Vincent J. Ascherl, dated and captioned as
above.

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

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: FBI Auto Declass Guide, 5/21/01
CTS, NARA, Date 10/2/19

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONCONFIDENTIAL

Copy to:

Report of:
Date:

WILLIAM A. BRACKEN

Office: New York, New York

Field Office File No.:

FEB 5 1964
100-91911

Bureau File No.: 100-357847

Title:

JESSE WILLIARD GRAY

Character:

SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Subject resides at 1809 7th Avenue, NY, NY, and is employed as the Director of the Harlem Community Council on Housing, 6 West 117th Street, NY, NY. Informant advised subject's name mentioned at meeting of NY District Staff CP Headquarters, NYC, 12/31/63. "New York Times" article of 12/31/63, set forth. Informants could not furnish any additional information concerning subject.

- C -

DETAILS:I. BACKGROUNDA. Residence

By means of a pretext conducted by a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) on February 3, 1964, it was determined that JESSE WILLIARD GRAY resides in Apartment 4C, 1809 7th Avenue, New York, New York.

CONFIDENTIALGROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

DECLASSIFIED

Authority: FBI Auto Declass Guide, 5/24/07
By: CTS, NARA, Date: 10/2/19

NY 100-91911

B. Employment

The December 30, 1963 edition of the New York "Daily News" on page 5, in an article entitled "Rent Strikers Trap Living Proof" written by RICHARD HENRY, described JESSE GRAY as the Director of the Harlem Community Council on Housing.

The current New York City telephone directory lists the Harlem Community Council on Housing as doing business at 6 West 117th Street, New York, New York.

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

A. Evidence of Communist Party (CP) Associates

NY T-1 made available information on December 31, 1963, that at a meeting of the New York District Staff of the CP which was held at CP Headquarters, New York City, a brief resume was given of the tenant strikes, noting that JESSE GRAY is helping the tenants and giving them advice.

At this meeting WILLIAM ALBERTSON stated he thought the Party should become more involved in the matter of rent strikes. He referred to a recent court decision which he said held that the tenants had a legal right to withhold the rent until repairs were made. He suggested that the principal thing to do now is to operate these strikes not only in Harlem, but in other areas such as the Lower East Side of Manhattan and parts of Brooklyn.

NY T-1 advised on October 13, 1963, that WILLIAM ALBERTSON was Executive Secretary of the New York District CP as of October, 1963.

B. Miscellaneous

The following article from the late city edition of the "New York Times" dated December 31, 1963, is set forth in its entirety. The article appeared on page 30.

"'Bring a rat to court.' The author of this unlikely proposal, Jesse Gray, is the short, intense slum fighter who leads the Harlem rent strike. He asked for a harvest of rats, dead or alive, to dramatize in Civil Court yesterday the misery of slum dwellers who were refusing to pay rent until landlords did something about rodents, vermin, broken windows, cold radiators and stinking hallways. Mr. Gray knew that the court could hardly entertain rats as evidence for the defense or even as *amicus curiae*. But the approach was singular enough to gain publicity, and this was the main object of the strategy.

"Rats, Mr. Gray knew, have a shock value exceeding the most vivid description of tenement squalor and the nagging chill that permeates the Harlem ghetto in winter.

"Success After 10 Years

"Mr. Gray, head of the Community Council for Housing, had been agitating against slums for 10 years without conspicuous success when he began a rent strike last Nov. 1 in an area bounded by 115th and 118th Streets and Park and Eighth Avenues. A previous attempt to strike slum tenements had failed in 1959.

"This time the moral climate was more propitious. Mr. Gray found Harlem tenants less afraid. Stirred by the struggle for civil rights in the South, they were ready to listen to an agitator who told them not to be frightened by eviction notices.

"The agitator is undersized, even when heavily padded by sweaters and overcoat, but he is a formidable bundle of energy, who often worked 20 hours a day to organize the tenants. He is not a very effective speaker. However, he is shrewd and he has humor, and he can charm listeners with a frequent smile that flashes a row of buck teeth widely spaced.

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"He is not a city boy. He was born 39 years ago in a small town near Baton Rouge, La., the youngest of 10 children. He attended Xavier University in New Orleans until the start of World War II, when he entered the merchant marine.

"A Tailor By Trade

"He calls himself a tailor by trade, but he hasn't worked at tailoring for years. He started fighting alums in 1952, when he joined the Harlem Tenants Council. Five years later he started the Lower Harlem Council, subsequently renamed the Community Council for Housing. The council occupies a small storefront office at 6 East 117th Street, a tiny oasis of order and cleanliness in one of the most appallingly filthy blocks of Harlem.

"Anonymous postcards charging that Mr. Gray was a Communist were sent to newspapers after the 1963 rent strike appeared to be gaining ground.

"Asked about this, Mr. Gray denied he was a Communist. He said he had been questioned by the House Un-American Activities Committee because he had supported the right of Benjamin J. Davis, state chairman of the Communist party, to run for State Senate in 1958. He denied Communist party affiliation under oath but took the Fifth Amendment when the committee asked him to give the names of Communists known to him.

"Right to Beliefs Backed

"I felt Davis had the right to run for office," Mr. Gray recalled recently. "One has the right to his own beliefs, whether he is (Senator James O.) Eastland (Democrat of Mississippi) or Ben Davis."

"In 1961 Mr. Gray ran against Hulan E. Jack in the Democratic primary for leadership of the 14th Assembly District West, but he was defeated.

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"He lives in lower Harlem with his wife, Rosalie, a son, 13, and a daughter, 6. He says he is the only paid member of the Community Council for Housing, drawing \$75 a week. The council has about 2,000 members but only some 400, according to Mr. Gray, are able to pay the monthly dues of \$1.

Mr. Gray's goal is to organize every slum tenement in Harlem. Each building would have a tenants' committee, and the committee would call a strike whenever it believed that intolerable violations of the housing laws were ignored by the landlord.

"Then the committee treasurer would collect the rents and, instead of paying them to the landlord, would put them in a special account in a bank. The rentals would be held in an escrow account until the strike ended.

"Mr. Gray hopes to force the city to take over tenement buildings under receivership laws. He knows that the owners often do not have funds to rehabilitate the buildings. The eventual solution, he believes, is a massive drive by the Federal Government to eliminate slums."

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Informants familiar with certain phases of CP activity in the New York City area were contacted during December, 1963 and January, 1964, and all advised they could furnish no additional information concerning the subject.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
New York, New York

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Bureau 100-357847
New York 100-91911

Title **Jesse Williard Gray**

Character **Security Matter - C**

Reference is made to the New York report of
Special Agent William A. Bracken dated and captioned as
above.

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

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Authority FBI Auto Declass Guide, Staff log
By CTS, NARA, Date 10/2/19

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

5

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

Report of: JAMES E. CROWLEY Office: New York
Date: 1/29/60
File Number: New York 100-91911 Bureau 100-357847
Title: JESSE WILLIARD GRAY

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis: Subject resides Apt. 4C, 1809 7th Avenue, New York, New York; employed as Director of Lower Harlem Tenants Council, 110 West 116th St., NY. Informants reported: subject replaced as Harlem Region CP Organizer, but continued to be member of Harlem Region CP; attended meetings of Harlem Region CP 1/13/59, and 4/26/59, and was present at a meeting of Kings County CP 3/59. An informant also reported that leader of that Harlem Youth Congress sought additional financial help from CP through subject. Also mentioned as member of CP caucus group attempting to cause changes in NAACP policy and leadership. Observed at CP, USA Headquarters 8/59: Info received that subject ordered 15 copies of "The Worker" for his CP Club and was observed at 1959 May Day Celebration. Name appears as recipient of disbursement by the PRP-1959. Name appears as witness on four pages of 1958 PRP Independent Nominating Petition for BENJAMIN DAVIS.

-C-

DECLASSIFIED

By CTS NARA, Date 10/2/19
FBI Auto Declass Guide, 7/4/67

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NY 100-91911

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence

On January 5, 1960, a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) determined through observation that subject resides in Apartment 4C, 1809 Seventh Avenue, New York.

B. Employment

On November 13, 1959, NY T-1 advised that subject is Director of the Lower Harlem Tenants Council which had recently moved from 103 West 110th Street, New York, New York, to 110 West 116th Street. This information was confirmed on January 18, 1960, by a Special Agent of the FBI through a suitable pretext.

On February 20, 1959, NY T-2 advised that the Lower Harlem Tenants Council is a "Communist broad front" of which the subject is the Director. According to NY T-2, the Lower Harlem Tenants Council was then being used as a front, the main goal of which was to prepare the way for a "third party" in Harlem with the Communist Party (CP) controlling it.

NY T-2 explained that by the term "Communist broad front" he meant an organization ostensibly set up for ~~social~~ social, economic, or political reforms which the CP seeks to penetrate and eventually control.

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

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NY T-1 advised on September 22, 1959, that the Lower Harlem Tenants Council, directed by subject, had, by means of rent strikes in Harlem, gained a deal of publicity. On October 4, 1959, the same informant advised that subject was running for Mayor of Harlem (non-existent political office) in a popularity contest sponsored by the Amsterdam News, Harlem's leading newspaper. Participation in the contest was serving as a publicity stunt for GRAY and the Lower Harlem Tenants Council.

NY T-3, on July 24, 1959, advised that JAMES MALLOY had stated on July 22, 1959, that he had given subject twenty-five dollars of CP money to help with the expenses of his tenant organization.

NY T-1, on July 31, 1959, advised that JAMES MALLOY was then Organizer of the Harlem Region of the New York County CP.

AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

A. CP Membership and Party Status

NY T-4, on January 15, 1959, advised that he had been told a few days before by JAMES MALLOY, previously mentioned, that he had replaced subject as the Harlem Region CP Organizer and consequently subject was no longer Organizer.

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On February 6, 1959, NY T-5 advised that subject had been replaced as the CP Organizer in the Harlem area but that he had previously been on the payroll of the New York County CP.

On March 25, 1959, NY T-1 advised that JESSE GRAY, former Regional Director of the Harlem area CP, had become affiliated with the Fourteenth Assembly District, Democratic Club of Harlem and was organizing a housing group within this area. However, according to the informant, subject had some conflict with WILLIAM STANLEY, who had a similar housing organization. STANLEY reported that the CP could easily straighten things out, but subject, a rank and file member of the CP, had failed to attend a meeting for that purpose. STANLEY wanted the Harlem Region to take action against the subject to have him expelled from the CP but this had not been done.

On July 28, 1958, NY T-1 advised that WILLIAM STANLEY had been offered the post of Organizer of the Harlem Region CP but had refused because of other obligations.

NY T-6 advised on May 27, 1959, that subject, who had formerly been Organizer of the Harlem Region CP was then a rank and file CP member.

NY T-7 advised on June 10, 1959, that at a meeting of the Upper West Side Section of the New York County CP, SHERRING MILLS stated that JESSE GRAY belonged to the Harlem Section of the CP.

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On February 2, 1959, NY T-7 advised that SHERRING MILLS was then an official of the Upper West Side Section of the CP.

On October 23, 1959, NY T-6 advised that subject was still a member of the Harlem Region CP Club.

B. Attendance at CP Meetings

NY T-6, on January 19, 1959, advised that subject attended a Harlem Region CP meeting on January 13, 1959, at the home of PAUL ROBESON, Jr.

On February 2, 1959, NY T-8 stated that PAUL ROBESON, Jr. was a member of the New York State Committee of the CP and had attended a CP State Committee meeting on January 30, 1959.

On April 28, 1959, NY T-9 advised that subject was present at an enlarged membership meeting of the Harlem Region CP held at Bermuda Hall, 146th Street and St. Nicholas Avenue, New York, New York. NY T-9 advised that subject was one of the speakers at this meeting. He attacked the members and leadership for breaches of security, stating that the CP should not operate openly in Harlem. According to the subject's statements, CP members should get into mass organizations such as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), churches and unions and by getting into leadership in these organizations they could serve the Party better than they could as open Communists. This meeting was held on April 26, 1959.

NY T-1 advised on May 1, 1959, that subject was among individuals attending an enlarged membership meeting of the Harlem Region CP on Sunday, April 26, 1959, at Bermuda Hall. NY T-1 advised that the purpose of the meeting was described as being to discuss the evaluation of the CP in Harlem and theoretical aspects of the Negro Question.

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NY T-6, on April 30, 1959, and NY T-10, on May 1, 1959, also advised that subject was among the individuals attending the general membership meeting of the Harlem CP at Bermuda Hall, on April 26, 1959.

NY T-6 advised on August 6, 1959, that subject had been present for a Harlem CP Regional meeting on July 31, 1959, but after waiting until 10:00 p.m. for the meeting to start had to leave for another appointment.

NY T-6 advised that the subject's name and address appeared on a list of individuals who were sent invitations to a meeting of the Harlem CP to be held at Bermuda Hall, 10/30/59, at 8:00 p.m.

NY T-11 advised on March 9, 1959, that subject was among individuals attending both sessions of a Kings County CP Membership meeting at the Brighton Community Center, 3200 Coney Island Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, on March 6 and March 7, 1959. According to NY T-11, the purpose of the meeting was mainly to discuss and vote on the New York State CP resolution that CHARLES LOMAN be removed as chairman of the Kings County CP as a result of charges made against him by the New York State CP leadership.

C. Other CP Activity

1. Connections with Harlem Youth Congress

On February 16-17, 1959, NY T-2 advised that subject, during the time that he was Regional Organizer of the Harlem Region CP, had contacted ALBERT GILLIARD, who had expressed an interest in joining the CP. According to NY T-2, subject introduced GILLIARD to an individual

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named HERBERT WILLIAMS, who informed GILLIARD that the CP wanted to set up a youth group to be known as the Harlem Youth Congress which was to function ostensibly as a social-political type of youth organization having for its announced purpose, the achievement of equal rights for Negroes, but which, in actuality, would be a recruitment ground for new CP youth members. NY T-2 stated that GILLIARD was made the leader of the Harlem Youth Congress and around fifty-five individuals were recruited. However, little financial help was received from the CP and the need for more funds was taken up with the subject. According to NY T-2, the matter was then discussed at a regular meeting of the Harlem CP and more financial aid was promised, but only twenty-five dollars was subsequently received from the subject and GILLIARD announced that the group was disbanded. The subject then tried to call a meeting of the Harlem Youth Congress but was unsuccessful.

2. Participation in CP Efforts to Influence Policy of the NAACP

NY T-1, on July 31, 1959, advised that at a meeting of the Eleventh Assembly District Club, Harlem Region CP, held on July 24, 1959, JAMES MALLOY, Regional Organizer, stated that the CP had a caucus group composed of subject, PETTIS PERRY, and TED BASSETT, who had worked with delegates to the recent NAACP convention in an effort to give the NAACP a broader labor and civil rights platform. MALLOY mentioned that the CP force in the NAACP was limited, but that the ground work had been laid for a more militant leadership in the NAACP.

On June 30, 1959, NY T-12 advised that PETTIS PERRY was then a member of the National Committee, CP, USA.

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On November 28, 1959, NY T-13 announced at the New York State CP Convention on that date that TED BASSETT is New York County CP Educational Director.

On July 13, 1959, NY T-14 advised that the CP held a meeting on July 12, 1959, in order to discuss plans and procedures through which the CP could influence the NAACP convention to be held in New York, July 13-19, 1959. NY T-14 advised that the subject was responsible for obtaining quarters for CP members coming to New York for the convention.

On July 21, 1959, NY T-15 confirmed that the subject had appeared to be in charge of housing for certain CP members attending the NAACP convention based on statements made by GRAY on July 11, 1959.

3. Registration of Individuals into the CP

NY T-16 advised on April 2, 1959, that he had heard PEARL and ALLEN LAWS state that subject had registered two former members of the CP back into the Party but that the registration had been rejected by CP Headquarters.

NY T-17, on February 20, 1959, advised that PEARL LAWS was then a member of the Executive Committee of the Bedford-Stuyvesant Section, Kings County CP. On March 20, 1959, the same informant advised that ALLEN LAWS was Section Organizer of the same section.

NY T-6 advised on July 9, 1959, that at a meeting of the Harlem Region CP JAMES MALLOY, previously mentioned, stated that subject had registered HERBERT WILLIAMS into the CP.

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4. Subject at CP Headquarters

NY T-18, on August 20, 1959, advised that he had observed subject at the office of the CP, USA, 23 West 26th Street, New York, New York, on August 17, 1959.

5. Association with HUNTER PITTS ODELL

NY T-19 advised on November 18, 1959, that HUNTER PITTS O'DELL was then residing at the home of the subject, 1809 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York.

On January 16, 1959, NY T-19 advised that HUNTER PITTS O'DELL was at that time acting as Secretary in Charge of Negro and Southern affairs during the absence of JAMES JACKSON.

D. Evidence of Sympathy with the Aims and Purposes of the CP

1. "The Worker"

"The Worker" is an East Coast Communist weekly newspaper.

NY T-6 advised on February 17, 1959, that subject had put in an order for fifteen copies of "The Worker" for his CP Club.

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NY T-6 advised on October 20, 1959, that the subject's name and address appeared on a list of individuals whose subscriptions to "The Worker" had then expired and who were to be contacted for a renewal.

2. 1959 May Day Celebration

On May 7, 1959, NY T-9 advised that subject was observed in attendance at the 1959 May Day Celebration at Union Square, New York City on Saturday, May 2, 1959. Information concerning the 1959 May Day Celebration will be found in the Appendix hereto.

3. Peoples Rights Party (PRP)

On December 10, 1958, Mrs. HELEN ALLEN, Senior Clerk, Election and Law Bureau, New York Department of State, Albany, New York, made available to SA ROBERT A. BEERS, information from the Treasurer's Report, PRP. Report Number 00527, file October 28, 1959, shortly before the 1959 Elections, reflected that subject was the recipient of disbursements made by the PRP in the Election Campaign of 1959.

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

Records of the New York City Board of Elections, 80 Varick Street, New York, New York, made available November 18, 1959 to SA HENRY E. NAEHLE reflect that the handwritten name of subject appears as the signature of the witness on pages 852, 858, 861 and 864 of the 1958 PRP Independent Nominating Petition for the nomination of BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr. as candidate for State Senator, Twenty-first Senatorial District, New York City.

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"The Worker" issue of May 17, 1959, page 3, column 1 identified BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, Jr. as chairman of the New York State CP.

III. MISCELLANEOUS

Informants who are generally familiar with some phases of CP activity in the New York City area were contacted during January, 1960 and advised that they had no additional pertinent information concerning the subject.

APPENDIX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TRADE UNION COMMITTEE 1959
MAY DAY CELEBRATION

On November 13, 1958, a confidential source advised that during a meeting of the State Staff of the New York State Communist Party (CP) held on November 13, 1958, at CP headquarters, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, the question of May Day was raised. It was decided that they should start early and named LOUIS WEINSTOCK to be in charge of the committee to lay the foundation.

The February 22, 1959, issue of "The Worker," an East Coast Communist weekly publication, on page 16, announced a conference for March 7, 1959, at Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Avenue, New York City, for May Day plans. The announcement states "commemoration of May Day is being planned by a group of trade unionists it was disclosed last week by the Sponsoring Committee for a May Day Celebration."

The March 15, 1959, issue of "The Worker," on page 5, contained an article concerning the above conference reflecting that May Day would be celebrated in Union Square and that LOUIS WEINSTOCK was elected Chairman of the Committee.

On April 22, 1959, another confidential source made available a throw-away announcing that May Day would be celebrated on May 2, 1959, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Union Square under the sponsorship of the Trade Union Committee 1959 May Day Celebration, Room 3, 130 East 16th Street, New York City.

On December 9, 10, 1958, another confidential source advised that LOUIS WEINSTOCK was then a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, USA (CP), representing the New York District of the CP.

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FD-202
(5-6-54)~~CONFIDENTIAL~~6

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 4/19/56	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8, 26, 27; 2/2, 8-10, 22; 3/4, 9, 22, 23, 26-30/56	REPORT MADE BY JAMES M. KIRBY cmr
TITLE CHANGED JESSE WILLIARD GRAY, was		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

SUMMARY REPORT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Subject resides Apartment 4C, 1809 Seventh Avenue, NYC; Director, Harlem Tenant Welfare Consumer Council. Informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past, advised: subject in leadership capacity, Harlem Region, CP, 1955; attended secret meeting NY State-Harlem Regional Staff, CP, July, 1955; attended open CP meeting 6/29/55. GRADY O'CUMMINGS III, self admitted CP member, 1948-1950, advised one JESSE GRAY who resided 1805 or 1807 Seventh Ave., NYC, was CP Organizer between 1950 and 1953. LEWIS JAMES, self admitted former CP member, advised that in 1949 one JESSE GRAY, ship's delegate from "SS Excambion" to NYU Convention attempted to re-enlist him into CP. An informant, with whom sufficient contact has not been had to determine reliability, advised that one JESSE WILLIARD GRAY, Bell Captain, aboard "SS Washington" was member CP cell in 1948 and openly admitted membership. THAD L. MASON, self-admitted member CP, advised subject attended the International Maritime and Dock Workers Union Convention in Warsaw, Poland, December, 1950, and made CP contribution upon return to US. Informants, who have furnished reliable information in past, advised:

DECLASSIFIED

Authorized by FBI Auto Declass Guide, 04/10/01
By CTS, NARA, Date 10/2/19

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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NY 100-91911

Subject Campaign Manager for BENJAMIN J. DAVIS in 1952 for Assemblyman, 11th District, Harlem, NYC; was Vice Chairman, United May Day Committee, 1952. 1954 catalog, Jefferson School, listed name of one JESSE GRAY as instructor. Confidential source abroad advised that one JESSE WILLARD GRAY arrived England in November, 1950, to attend Second World Peace Congress but refused entry. 1/14/51 edition of "The Worker" discloses that one JESSE GRAY, rank and file delegate, attended the World Peace Congress and the Seamen and Dockers International Conference, Warsaw, Poland, 1950.

- 0 -

DETAILS: The title of this case is being marked changed to reflect the deletion of the aliases, JESSE WILLARD GRAY, JESSE W. GRAY, JESSE GRAY, JESSE WILLORD GRAY. The foregoing are either obvious misspellings or contractions of subject's true name.

I. BACKGROUND

Birth Data

Miss MILDRED SMITH, Passport Division, United States Department of State, Washington, D.C., made available on February 6, 1951, the Passport file of one JESSE WILLORD GRAY to SE LEO N. MURPHY. The file disclosed that GRAY was born on May 14, 1923, at Tunica, Louisiana, that his father, SAM GRAY, was born about 1883, that his mother, LOTTIE GRAY, was born about 1885 at Tunica, Louisiana.

Marital Status

The Passport file of the United States Department of State, heretofore mentioned, further disclosed that JESSE WILLORD GRAY was married to ROSA LEE BROWN on May 2, 1947, and that she was born on October 14, 1925, at Richmond, Virginia.

Identification Record

The following is the FBI Identification Record under Number 277307B received on February 19, 1953:

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Contributor of Fingerprints	Name and Number	Arrested or Received	Charge	Disposition
SOS Army	JESSE WILLIARD GRAY #56 MOD	electrician helper 11-26-42		
SOS Army	JESSE WILLARD GRAY #108-REM	applicant 4-1-43		
US Coast Guard Custom House New Orleans La	JESSE WILLIE GRAY #08174786	Coast Guard ID Card 7-29-43		

Residence

On January 17, 1956, a pretext telephone call was made by an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to an individual who represented herself to be the wife of subject. She stated that she and subject reside in Apartment 4C, 1809 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

On May 10, 1951, Mr. WADE ALEXANDER, Superintendent, 1809 Seventh Avenue, New York City, advised that subject resided in Apartment 4C, the apartment formerly occupied by HENRY WINSTON, and that subject moved in after WINSTON was remanded to jail in 1949. Mr. ALEXANDER stated that he knew HENRY WINSTON as one of the eleven convicted Communist Party (CP) loaders and that he had observed the same individuals visiting GRAY that had previously visited WINSTON.

On July 20, 1948, a conspiracy indictment was returned by the Grand Jury, Southern District of New York, against HENRY WINSTON and eleven other loaders of the CP, USA charging WINSTON and other loaders with violation of the Smith Act. On October 14, 1949, the jury returned a verdict of guilty against WINSTON and he was remanded by Judge HAROLD R. MEDINA, United States District Court, Southern District of New York. WINSTON was sentenced by

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Judge MEDINA to five years in prison and fined \$10,000.

WINSTON subsequently was released on \$20,000 bail and directed to surrender himself on July 2, 1951. When he failed to appear Judge SYLVESTER RYAN, Southern District of New York, issued a bench warrant for the arrest of WINSTON.

On March 5, 1956, HENRY WINSTON surrendered to Federal authorities, Foley Square, New York City.

On March 26, 1956, he was sentenced to three years for contempt by Judge ARCHIE DAWSON, United States District Court, Southern District of New York.

The Passport file of the United States Department of State, which has been mentioned heretofore, further discloses that JESSE WILLARD GRAY'S Passport application furnished Apartment 4C, 1809 Seventh Avenue, New York City, as his permanent address, and 3511 Broadway Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, as his previous address on July 9, 1943, at the time he received his Seaman's Certificate of Identification.

In 1949, the records of the Merchant Marine Personnel Records and Welfare Division of the United States Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C., were examined. They disclosed the following:

JESSE WILLARD GRAY applied for a Seaman's Certificate of Identification on July 9, 1943, and was issued Certificate Number Z275852. The records further indicated that GRAY furnished 3511 Broadway Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, as his residence but on his last three voyages he gave 573 West 150th Street, New York City, as his home address.

Employment

On December 5, 1955, T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that subject is Director of the Harlem Tenants Welfare Consumers Council, 306 Lenox Avenue, New York City.

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On September 21, 1953, a pretext telephone call by an agent of the FBI with an individual who identified himself as subject stated that he was the Director of the Harlow Tenants Welfare Consumer Council, 2 East 125th Street, New York City.

On January 17, 1956, a pretext telephone call by an agent of the FBI with an individual who represented herself as subject's wife stated that subject is employed by the Harlow Tenants Welfare Consumer Council, having been there since 1953.

T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 22, 1952, that the Harlow Tenants Welfare Consumer Council was organized as a Communist front organization. T-2 further advised that the above mentioned organization was founded as a Communist front organization with the purpose in mind to keep Communist leadership in all mass organizations and to have control of them. This organization is affiliated with the New York Tenants Council, according to T-2.

T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on August 2, 1949, that the organization then known as the New York Tenants Council was a Communist led organization.

On October 11, 1950, JOHN LAUTNER, former Chairman of the New York State CP Review Commission, advised that the New York Tenants Welfare and Consumer Council (NYTWCC) was under the control of the CP in New York City. LAUTNER stated that early in 1949, the organization was known to have reported concerning its activities before the organization, New York State CP.

The 1954-1955 Manhattan, New York, telephone directory contains a listing for the Harlow Tenants Welfare Consumer Council at 306 Lenox Avenue.

T-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on November 12, 1953, and on February 12, 1954, that the NYTWCC is extinct in the New York City area and exists only in small neighborhood concentrations.

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Former Employments

On February 22, 1951, Mr. WADE ALEXANDER, who has been mentioned previously, informed SA WILLIAM FITZPATRICK that at that time subject was unemployed.

Mr. C. F. HODDER, Labor Relations Officer, Moore-McCormick Steamship Lines, Pier 32, New York City, informed SA WILLIAM P. FITZPATRICK in 1951, that JESSE GRAY tentatively signed on the "SS Argentina" as a Cabin Boy on February 21, 1951, but was rejected by the United States Coast Guard as a security risk.

On July 12, 1950, Mr. J. O'CONNOR, Personnel Manager, American Export Lines, informed SA J. G. MC CARTHY that one JESSE WILLIARD GRAY, 513 West 150th Street, New York City, was employed as of that time by that company, assigned to the "SS Excambion."

Mr. WILLIAM OTT, Clerk, Personnel Department, United States Lines, Pier 61, North River, New York City, exhibited their records in 1949. They revealed the following:

JESSE W. GRAY, Seaman, Certificate of Identification Z 275852, had shipped with that firm on the following vessels:

"SS Marine Raven" from May 8, 1946, to June 29, 1946.

"SS America" from September 10, 1946, to October 10, 1946, as a boy.

"SS America" from October 28, 1947, to December 4, 1947, as a porter.

"SS Washington" from December 22, 1947, to May 15, 1948, as a boy.

Mr. OTT stated that GRAY signed aboard the "SS Washington" as a boy on April 11, 1949, but on April 13, 1949, GRAY demanded to be paid off 15 minutes before the ship sailed.

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Mr. F. R. MADAN, Assistant Labor Relations Officer, Moore-McCormick Lines, Pier 32, New York City, exhibited their records in 1949. The records disclosed that one JESSE W. GRAY signed aboard the "SS Joseph Hokkor" on April 10, 1944, but did not make the voyage inasmuch as he refused to sail on the ship; that GRAY subsequently made one trip as a bollboy aboard the "SS Brazil" from October 7, 1948, to November 15, 1948.

In 1949 Mr. LOUIS MC CALL, Ship's Personnel Officer, Grace Lines, Inc., Pier 64, North River, New York City, advised that one GRAY had shipped as a dockboy aboard the "SS Santa Paula" from December 11, 1948, to March 4, 1949.

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

CP Membership

T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on July 14, 1955, that the Harlem Region of the CP was opening a Harlem Regional Headquarters on July 15, 1955, at the old "youth" headquarters on 125th Street in Harlem, New York City. Informant further advised that subject was to be a part of the operating leadership of the Harlem Region.

On July 25, 1955, T-5 further advised that a party for JOSEPHINE HAYWARD, an oldtime CP member, was held on July 22, 1955, at the United Mutual Hall, 310 Lenox Avenue, New York City, sponsored by the Harlem Regional CP. Informant further stated that subject was in attendance at the party.

On July 7, 1955, T-5 further stated that subject attended a secret meeting of the New York State-Harlem Regional Staff of the CP on July 6, 1955.

T-5 stated on June 30, 1955, that an open CP meeting was held at 124 West 124th Street on June 29, 1955, and that the purpose of the meeting was to resolve the issue of factionalism which has existed in Harlem for an extended period of time. Informant stated that those in attendance comprised the Regional and Sectional leadership

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of the Harlem Regional CP and that subject was in attendance at this meeting.

④ On August 17, 1954, GRADY O'CONNORS III, a self-admitted CP member during the approximate period between 1948 to 1950, informed SA HAROLD K. STALLINGS that one JESSE GRAY a Negro, male, late 20's, residing at Seventh Avenue, New York City, at either 1807 or 1805, was a CP Organizer between the years 1950 and 1953.

✓ 771023-3
③ On January 14, 1954, T-6, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that subject was a CP member during his employment aboard the "SS Excalibur" in 1949,

② On December 14, 1951, LETTIS JAMES, a self-admitted former CP member, advised that in 1949 when he was a ship's delegate to the 1949 National Maritime Union (NMU) Convention from the "SS Excalibur," he was approached by one JESSE GRAY, also a delegate from the "SS Excalibur," who attempted to re-enlist him into the CP.

① Records of DIO, 3rd Naval District, New York City, checked on March 17, 1948 reflected that information was received by the Office of Naval Intelligence from a source with whom sufficient contact has not been had to determine his reliability. This source advised the Office of Naval Intelligence that one JESSE WILLIARD GRAY, a bell captain, was a member of a CP Cell operating aboard the "SS Washington" at that time, a ship operated by the United States Lines out of New York. This source further stated that GRAY was known by informant to have openly admitted CP membership.

CP Sympathies

THAD L. MASON, a self-admitted member of the CP from 1936 to 1946, advised on May 16, 1953, SAs PAUL F. DINSMORE and BLAKE E. TURNER that subject attended the International Maritime and Dock Workers Convention held in Warsaw, Poland, in December, 1950. MASON further advised that upon subject's return to the United States he made a financial contribution to the CP.

It is to be noted that the California Committee on Un-American Activities, 1949 report, pages 472-563, referred to the World Federation of Trade Unions, with which the International Maritime and Dock Workers Congress

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was affiliated, as a "Communist dominated and part of the Communist international solar system."

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

T-1, who has been mentioned heretofore, advised on September 16, 1952, that subject was Campaign Manager for BENJAMIN J. DAVIS and was attempting to have DAVIS'S name placed on the 1952 election ballot as a candidate for Assemblyman, 11th Assembly District, Harlem Section of New York City.

T-8, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on January 23, 1956, that BENJAMIN J. DAVIS is soon to become Chairman of the New York District of the CP. T-8 advised that in July 1951, DAVIS was incarcerated following a conviction for violation of the Smith Act and released in 1955.

"The Worker" issues of August 3, 1952, September 1, 1952, and September 3, 1952, carried story of GRAY's attempt to have DAVIS'S name placed on the Nominating Petition for the November, 1952, elections.

"The Worker" is the Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker" an East Coast Communist daily newspaper.

T-9, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 10, 1952, that subject was Vice Chairman of the United May Day Committee in New York City in 1952.

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

CP Schools

The Fall, 1954, catalog of the Jefferson School of Social Science (JSSS) lists the name of one JESSE GRAY as an officer and/or instructor. The catalog reflects that GRAY was to lecture on the housing question and tenant problem (theory-practice work shop).

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T-9 further advised on May 6, 1952, that subject was scheduled to be instructor on the Frederick Douglas Educational Center, Harlem, New York City, for the term beginning May 12, 1952. Informant stated that subject was scheduled to conduct a course entitled "The Negro People and the Labor Problem."

✓
T-1, previously mentioned, advised that the Frederick Douglas Educational Center is an "adjunct of the CP." Informant stated that it is a counterpart of the JSSS.

The Frederick Douglas Educational Center and the JSSS have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

CP Front Organizations

✓
T-1, mentioned heretofore, advised in November, 1954, that subject attended a rally of the Women's Committee of 100 on November 8, 1954, which was to defend WILLIAM M. PATTERSON of the Civil Rights Committee. T-1 further stated that the rally was held at the Renaissance Casino, 138th Street and Seventh Avenue, New York City.

✓
T-10, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on January 10, 1956, that WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, National Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Congress (CRC) stated that the CRC was dissolved at the National Convention of the CRC held on January 6, 1956, in New York City.

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

✓
T-10 on November 30, 1954, expressed the opinion that the Women's Committee of 100 had been formed about November of 1954 to afford protection to those political leaders who had been arrested because of their activities. T-10 felt that the future plans of this organization encompassed concentration on the struggle for civil liberties and freedom from oppression.

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T-10 has also theorized that the subject organization was operating under the protective cover of the CRC and that it was probably secretly sponsored by said Congress.

As of November, 1954, the Women's Committee of 100 used as its address 6 East 17th Street, New York City, T-10, on June 14, 1955, said that 6 East 17th Street is the address for the CRC.

On June 14, 1955, T-10 expressed a belief that captioned organization was dormant at that time and has had no recent activity. He stated that it becomes active only when funds are available or some action is required by the CRC.

Information included under subcaption "Employment" reflects subject on January 17, 1956 was Director of the Harlem Tenants Welfare Consumer Council. T-2 advised on February 22, 1952 that the foregoing organization was formed as a Communist front organization.

Miscellaneous CP Activities

T-11, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on December 11, 1952, that one JESSE GRAY, 1809 Seventh Avenue, Apartment 4C, New York City, was on a mailing list of free subscriptions to the "USSR Information Bulletin" as of June, 1952.

It is to be noted that the "USSR Information Bulletin" was a publication of the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D.C., and was distributed twice monthly.

On July 15, 1952, the United States Department of State directed the USSR to suspend Soviet Embassy publications in the United States.

An article contained in the "U.E. Blade," a mimeographed strike bulletin issued daily by the American Safety Razor Company, Strike Publicity Committee, Local 475, United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America (UEMWA), mentioned a speech made before a picket captain's meeting by subject who was

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described as being associated with the Harlow Trade Union Council. This article reflected that subject promised the strikers the support of the council.

The Harlow Trade Union Council has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Page 127, March 18, 1949, edition of "The Pilot," the official National Maritime Union (NMU) publication, contains a letter from the "SS Santa Paula" dated February 14, 1949, and signed by JESSE GRAY, Chairman, and MC DONALD LANE, Recording Secretary. This letter sets out a resolutions by the crew of the "SS Santa Paula" at a joint membership meeting. The resolution was against any alleviation of the NMU constitution. to expel Communists.

The October 6, 1949, edition of "The Pilot" contains an article which reflects that on September 12, 1949, one JESSE GRAY was a delegate to the Seventh Biennial Convention of the NMU from the "SS Excambion." At this convention GRAY voted against a resolution adopted by the NMU which pledged American seamen to re-affirm their faith in the United States and what it stands for and to defend the United States against any enemy, including the Soviet Union. He also voted against a resolution adopted by the NMU pledging to condemn Communists in the NMU and to enforce the expulsion of Communists out of the Union completely.

On May 13, 1954, T-6, who has been mentioned heretofore, advised that the NMU rank and file "The Pilot" is a publication which for over two years has been distributed to members of the NMU, CIO, by the Waterfront Section of the CP at New York City.

Page 1 of the March 15, 1950, edition of "The Pilot" contains a picture of JESSE GRAY as a candidate for the the post of National Secretary of the NMU. GRAY is described as a delegate to the Seventh Biennial Convention of the NMU in 1949, representing the "SS Excambion" and a delegate and ship's chairman aboard many other ships on which he sailed.

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On March 16, 1950, T-12, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that he received the following information from AL LANNON, National Maritime Coordinator, CP, USA:

LANNON informed him that a Rank and File meeting was held on the evening of March 16, 1950, at which time JACK LATRENSON issued an ultimatum to the group to include JESSE GRAY as a candidate for National Secretary. T-12 further advised that LANNON informed that a Rank and File Committee meeting was held on the evening of March 14, 1950, and that this committee voted 7 to 3 to take JESSE GRAY off the slate and to substitute LEROY WILLIAMS as a candidate for Secretary.

T-16, who was in a position to furnish reliable information, advised in June 1950, that the NMU United Rank and File Committee was formed by opponents of President JOSEPH CURRAN within the NMU.

According to T-16 the committee was a coalition of several factions of the NMU members. One of the factions making up the committee was the CP.

LANNON stated that on March 15, 1950, a rank and file meeting was held at which time about 70 persons were present. At this meeting LANNON'S group insisted on retaining GRAY as a candidate for Secretary. LANNON stated that after about five hours of arguing a vote was taken and that the vote was 35 to 14 in favor of retaining GRAY as a candidate.

Page 5 of the March 29, 1950, edition of the "Daily Worker" contains an article which reflects as follows, in part:

"ROBERT MC ELROY, veteran Rank and File seaman, heads a list of rank and file candidates opposing JOSEPH CURRAN, reactionary President of the NMU, and his followers in the Union elections that start April 1."

According to the article, included among the rank and file candidates was JESSE GRAY, Negro Seaman, Candidate for Secretary.

T-13, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 20, 1954, that Communists were active in the 1936 seamen's strike that led to the formation of the NMU, CIO. Up until about 1948, many of the officials of the NMU were members of the CP and set the policies of the union, so that in many respects they paralleled CP policies. As a result, many union members advocated policies

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similar to those of the CP in the belief they were advocating policies for the betterment of the unions. Beginning in 1946, NMU President JOSEPH CURRAN led a fight to oust the CP from control of the union. This effort gradually succeeded. Since 1949 the CP has exerted little or no influence in the NMU.

T-14, a confidential source abroad, advised on March 25, 1951, that one JESSE WILLARD GRAY, who was born at Tunica, Louisiana, on May 14, 1923, arrived in the United Kingdom in 1950 for the purpose of attending the Second World Peace Conference in Sheffield, England, and was refused leave to land.

It is to be noted that the site of the Second World Peace Conference was later shifted to Warsaw, Poland.

The following information is reflected in an article contained on page 4 of the January 14, 1951, edition of "The Worker," the Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker:"

"There is no question that the World Peace Congress in Warsaw last November actually represented the great majority of mankind, according to JESSE GRAY, 27 year old Negro seaman who was sent there as one of two delegates of the rank and file of New York's maritime workers.

"GRAY stayed in Poland for a month after the Congress to attend a conference of the Seamen's and Dockers International, an affiliate of the World Federation of Trade Unions. He returned to New York just a week ago.

"'Already, I've talked informally to well over 500 seamen in and around the union hall,' he told the Worker. 'There is immense interest in the Congress, and they asked all kinds of questions. They know the score, even if many are not ready to buck the Curran machine.'

"He emphasized the seamen want a peace program of trade with the USSR, the Eastern Democracies and China, and he plans to work for the organization of a peace movement on the waterfront that will include all who want peace regardless of union or political grouping."

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On December 15, 1950, Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE, 400 East 52nd Street, New York City, who attended the Second World Peace Conference at Warsaw, Poland, on November 11 to 22, 1950, advised that as in the case of other peace congresses he had attended, speakers preached the theme of hatred of the United States and in effect called for world revolution by force.

Mr. ROGGE furnished the above information to SAs JOSEPH A. CULLEN and JOHN T. MURPHY on December 15, 1950.

LOUIS F. BUDENZ, Former Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker" and a CP functionary until he broke with the Party in October, 1945, advised in 1950 that the World Federation of Trade Unions was Soviet controlled.

Page 2 of the January 29, 1951, edition of the "Daily Worker" contains an article which is captioned "Seamen Hail Warsaw Report By Their Negro Delegate." The article reflects as follows, in part:

"They went in the front lines of the war against Fascism, when 6,000 of their shipmates were lost at sea, and American seamen are in the front line today in the fight for peace. Seamen, dockers, and residents of the west side community filled the Yugoslav Hall auditorium Friday night for a rally of the Maritime Peace Committee.

"Hundreds of people listened enthralled as tall JESSE GRAY, rank and file leader in the National Maritime Union, told of the Warsaw Peace Congress, which he had attended as one of America's delegates.

"GRAY, who ran for NMU National Secretary in the last election against the pro-employer slate of JOSEPH CURRAN, contrasted the conditions of American and West European seamen and dockers with those of Czechoslovakia and Poland. In New York when he left, he said, there were 6,000 seamen on the beach. In Poland, he was told that the thriving Maritime industry could easily use that many more men.

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"In this country, he said, the employers, Coast Guard, and the pro-war labor leadership have joined to use the 'loyalty' gimmick to destroy seamen's rights so that if a seaman asks for two eggs today instead of one, the Government tells him he's a poor security risk.

"GRAY also attended the session of the Seamen's and Dockers International of the World Federation of Trade Unions in Warsaw. He told the American seamen how some of the dockers of Belgium, Holland, and France have gone without work for a whole year rather than load and unload cargo for a new war. And he described how members of the American peace delegation, with tears in their eyes as they witnessed their reception by the Polish people, asked, 'How can we think of having to fight this people?' "

On January 21, 1951, T-15, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that one JESSE GRAY attended a meeting of the expanded Executive Committee of the National Labor Conference for Peace held in Chicago, January 28, 1951. At this meeting JESSE GRAY of the NMU, who was also a delegate to the Second World Peace Congress, spoke on the screening program at the waterfront and the current raid on the marines, cooks, and stewards.

According to informant, GRAY stated that if members of the Progressive Waterfront Workers would speak out against the screening program and hit out for a program of peace, it would tend to halt the fear on the waterfront. GRAY proposed that instead of all the questions that were projected for the National Peace Crusade's public opinion appeal, they just take one question and stick to it. He proposed that this one question be "Bring the boys home from Korea," and that this question be the end of it.

T-9, who has been mentioned heretofore, advised on March 30, 1951, that JESSE GRAY, rank and file member of the NMU, was elected as a member of the National Resident Board at the National Labor Conference for Peace on January 28, 1951, in Chicago.

The National Labor Conference for Peace has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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III. MISCELLANEOUS

Informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past, and who are aware of certain phases of CP activity within the New York area, were contacted on March 9, 13, and 14, 1956, but stated that subject is unknown to them.

IV. DESCRIPTION

The following description of subject was obtained from the records of the Merchant Marine Personnel Records and Welfare Division, United States Coast Guard, the records of the Moore-McCormick Lines, and R. ROBERTSON, Superintendent, 513 West 150th Street, New York City:

Name	JESSE WILLARD GRAY
Birth	May 14, 1923
Place of Birth	Tunica, Louisiana
Race	Negro
Sex	Male
Height	5'6"
Weight	125 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Dark
Scars and Marks	Scar, size unknown, on left shoulder Scar on abdomen resulting from hernia operation
<u>Social Security</u> Number	435-30-4723
Seaman's Certificate of Identification	Z275852
Certificate of Service as	
Mossman	EL56220
FBI No.	277307B

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Marital Status	Married
Wife	ROSALIE GRAY, with alias ROSA LEE BROWN
Mother	LOTTIE GRAY, 7214 Edinberg, New Orleans, Louisiana
Father	SAM GRAY

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