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01	report	Afro-Americans Against the War in Vietnam (AAAWV) (Boston) open 5/9/13	C	9	7/15/66	A
01a	report	Afro-Americans Against the War in Vietnam (AAAWV) (Boston) open 5/9/13	C	1	7/15/66	A
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11/27/2007

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CONFIDENTIAL
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Copy to:

Report of: JOHN F. NOONAN
 Date: 7/15/66

Office: Boston, Massachusetts

Field Office File #: 100-36939

Bureau File #:

Title: AFRO-AMERICANS AGAINST THE
 WAR IN VIETNAM (AAAWV) (BOSTON)

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - SWP

Synopsis:

Informants advised: that an organization known as Afro-Americans Against the War in Vietnam (AAAWV) was advertising meetings to be held at the Blue Hill Christian Center, 288 Blue Hill Ave., Roxbury section of Boston, Mass.; that BOB and JOHANNE EUBANKS acted as Chairman and Secretary respectively; that at meeting on 5/25/66 only 10 persons present, none of whom would help the EUBANKSes in organizational work; that AAAWV participated in demonstration at local Draft Board 32, Dorchester, Mass., 5/6/66; promoted march protesting war in Vietnam on 6/11/66; and on 7/1/66 described organization as insignificant in its affect on the Negro community.

- C -

DETAILS:

I. NAME AND LOCATION

On May 4, 1966, BS T-1 advised that an organization calling itself Afro-Americans Against the War in Vietnam (AAAWV) was publicized itself through the circulation of a flyer which announced a meeting of the organization to be held on May 4, 1966 at the Blue Hill Christian Center, 288 Blue Hill Ave., Roxbury section of Boston, Massachusetts.

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GROUP 1

Excluded from Automatic
 downgrading and
 declassification

DECLASSIFIED

Authority MS.152R.013.001/1
 By NARA, Date 4/2/13

BS 100-26939

BS T-1 advised that the Blue Hill Christian Center is financed by funds from the Andover-Newton Theological School, Newton, Massachusetts, for the purpose of trying to educate, spiritually, persons in the Roxbury section of Boston who are financially deprived. Through spiritual education it is hoped to attract these people to a Christian way of life and a higher degree of financial security. The director of the Blue Hill Christian Center is Rev. VIRGIL A. WOOD.

On June 17, 1966, BS T-2 advised that the Rev. VIRGIL A. WOOD, Director of the Blue Hill Christian Center, Roxbury, Massachusetts, is in his opinion the most militant figure in civil rights circles in the Greater Boston area. Rev. WOOD is Chairman of the New England District of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference whose National Director is the Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

II. OFFICERS

On June 1, 1966, BS T-1 advised that flyers advertising the activities of the AAAWV are signed by JOHANNE EUBANKS as Secretary. BS T-1 stated that at a meeting of the AAAWV at the Blue Hill Christian Center on May 25, 1966, ROBERT EUBANKS, husband of JOHANNE EUBANKS, acted as Chairman of the meeting.

On February 14, 1966, BS T-3 advised that the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) held its east coast conference at 873 Broadway, New York City, New York February 5-6, 1966. Among those present were BOB and JOHANNE EUBANKS of Boston.

A characterization of the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) is contained in the appendix.

III. MEMBERSHIP

On May 6, 1966, SA DONALD A. BASSETT observed a group of eight Negroes and four caucasians picketing Local Draft Board 32, 500 Columbia Road, Dorchester, Massachusetts. SA BASSETT also advised that DAVID O'BRIEN, a member of the Boston branch of the Committee for Non-Violent Action who was present at the scene, stated that the pickets were members of the AAAWV.

On the same date SA WILLIAM E. ROBERTSON observed the picketing at 500 Columbia Road, Dorchester, SA ROBERTSON was told by DAVID BENSON, a member of the Committee for Non-Violent Action who was observing the picketing, that the demonstrators consisted of twelve persons, members of the AAANV. BENSON stated this is a group which has been in existence for approximately two weeks. He stated it is a militant anti-white group which is not affiliated with the Committee for Non-Violent Action.

On June 1, 1966, BS T-1 advised that the AAANV met at the Blue Hill Christian Center, Roxbury, Massachusetts. The meeting was chaired by ROBERT EUBANKS. There were ten persons present at the meeting, including ROBERT EUBANKS and his wife, JOHANNE. ROBERT EUBANKS discussed a protest march being planned in Roxbury for June 11, 1966. He attempted to get volunteers from among the members present to make up placards, think up slogans to go on the placards and to contact people and attempt to arouse interest in the proposed march. No one in the audience was willing to help the EUBANKSes in any way. BS T-1 stated that it appeared that the other eight persons present at the meeting were there strictly out of curiosity as a result of reading flyers announcing the meeting. The meeting was held on May 25, 1966.

BS T-1 stated it did not appear that any members of the audience were actually members of the group.

II. PURPOSE

BS T-1 stated that JOHANNE EUBANKS, Secretary of the organization has stated that as the name of the organization implies the organization is opposed to war in Vietnam and intends to seek the support and sympathy of the Negro population by claiming that a proportionately large percentage of the casualties in the Vietnam war are Negroes in comparison with the white casualties. Further, the Negroes are being asked to fight for freedom in Vietnam when freedom for the Negroes has yet to be won in America.

In connection with Negroes serving in the armed forces the organization offers what it calls "Draft Counselling". BS T-1 stated that he is not aware if this counselling goes to the extent of offering advice as to how the draft may be avoided or just what form the counselling takes, or in fact if anyone has sought such counselling.

V. CONNECTION WITH THE SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

On June 1, 1966, BS T-1 made available a flyer advertising a memorial meeting to be held May 26, 1966 at 295 Huntington Ave., Boston, Massachusetts. The meeting was to honor the martyred LEO BERNARD and his two co-workers who were shot and critically wounded at the Detroit headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) on May 16, 1966.

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

BS T-1 advised that the location where the meeting was to be held was the SWP headquarters in Boston. The flyer identified various persons who would speak at the meeting, among whom were LAWRENCE P. TRAINOR of the SWP, GERSHON HOROWITZ of the YSA and a representative of the AAAWV.

On April 15, 1966, BS T-4 advised that PAUL BOUTELLE, a member of the SWP, had stated on April 10, 1966, that the SWP is sponsoring a newly formed organization known as the AAAWV. Chapters exist in Boston, Chicago and Baltimore. BOUTELLE stated that the money to support this organization would have to come from the SWP at the start because of the poor turnout at meetings and rallies.

On May 20, 1966, BS T-5 advised that an Executive Committee meeting of the Chicago YSA was held May 19, 1966 at Chicago, Illinois. One of the committee members, FRANCINE CHAUNCEY, advised that she had received a letter from the YSA of Boston, a characterization of which appears in the appendix, concerning the activities of the Boston AAAWV. The letter came from a member of the Boston branch of the YSA and stated that the AAAWV now has a hard core of ten members in Boston.

VI. ACTIVITIES

On May 4, 1966, BS T-1 made available a flyer which announced that the AAAWV would hold its next meeting on Wednesday, May 4, 1966, at 8:00 p.m. at the Blue Hill Christian Center, Roxbury, Massachusetts. The flyer was in the form of a letter signed by JOHANNE EUBANKS, Acting Secretary. The flyer stated that at that time Mr. JAMES HAYES, whom the flyer did not further identify, would speak to the organization about all forms of non-cooperation with the draft, the various cases

which have been tried and their outcome. The flyer stated this organization is working to find an attorney who will attend the meeting to provide the group with other necessary legal information. The flyer stressed that it is most important that individuals should attend the meeting to learn all the legal aspects of non-cooperation with the draft.

On May 6, 1966, SA DONALD A. BASSETT observed the picketing of Local Board 32, Municipal Building, 500 Columbia Road, Dorchester, Massachusetts. The picketing was promoted on the occasion of one GARY GRAHAM HICKS returning his Selective Service Notice of Classification Card to a member of that Selective Service Board. The picketing was carried out by eight Negroes and four Caucasians, and the group identified as members of the AAAWV.

On June 1, 1966, BS T-1 advised that at a meeting of the AAAWV at the Blue Hill Christian Center on May 25, 1966, ROBERT EUBANKS who chaired the meeting told about a door to door canvas conducted by himself and his wife in the Roxbury area to obtain people's reaction on the war in Vietnam. He claimed that all of the people he spoke to were against the war. JOHANNE EUBANKS stated that she got the same reaction from her contacts. ROBERT EUBANKS then stated that the organization was staging a protest march on June 11, 1966. The march was to protest the war in Vietnam and was to start at the Tremont Methodist Church on Tremont St., Roxbury, Massachusetts, go down Washington St. to the Dudley Street terminal of the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority and end in a vacant lot opposite Local Board 34 of the Selective Service System. A rally was to be held with prominent speakers.

BOB EUBANKS then requested volunteers to take part in planning the march such as preparing placards, thinking up slogans for the placards and contacting persons to interest them in participating in the march and spreading the news of the march to the local committee. None of the persons present volunteered to help in any way.

BS T-1 advised on June 1, 1966 that JOHANNE EUBANKS sent out notices addressed to members and friends announcing that the proposed march would be held on June 11, 1966, and that a meeting to formulate final plans for the march would be held at the Blue Hill Christian Center, June 1, 1966, at 7:30 p.m.

BS 100-36938

On June 13, 1966, Officer PETER RYAN, Intelligence Division, Boston, Massachusetts Police Department, advised that the AAAWV obtained a permit to hold a protest and rally on June 11, 1966, and would march from the Tremont St. Methodist Church to the corner of Warren and Dudley Streets, Roxbury, on that date. Officer RYAN advised that there were no more than thirty Negroes participating. None of the prominent speakers whom the group hoped to have address the rally appeared to participate. ROBERT EUBANKS made a short talk to the small group assembled on the topic of bringing Negro troops home from Vietnam. Officer RYAN stated that the affair was a colossal failure and did not even arouse the curiosity of the passersby.

On June 16, 1966, BS T-1 advised that when questioned about the AAAWV march on June 11, 1966, JOHANNE EUBANKS had stated that the less said about it the better. BS T-1 stated that approximately 25 to 30 persons participated in the march. He stated that he knows the AAAWV made an all out effort to gain support for the march and rally and 10,000 flyers advertising the affair had been distributed in the Negro communities.

On July 1, 1966, BS T-1 advised that he had received a form letter announcing a proposed meeting of the AAAWV at the Blue Hill Christian Center on June 28, 1966 at 7:30 p.m. BS T-1 stated that he learned that at 8:00 p.m. there was no one at the center, and it appeared that if the meeting was actually held at 7:30 p.m. that no one showed up and the EUBANKSes left. BS T-1 stated that he has not heard of any further meetings being scheduled to date, and that it would appear that the AAAWV is another one of the civil rights groups started in Boston which has failed to obtain any support.

BS T-1 stated that the affect of this organization on the Negro community is insignificant, however, it will probably remain a paper organization and as such lend the support of its name to any demonstrations or civil rights programs which come up in the future.

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APPENDIX

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

A source advised on March 13, 1961, that the Socialist Workers Party, Boston, Massachusetts, was formed in the latter part of the 1930's. This source stated that as of July, 1958, this group was the Boston local of the Socialist Workers Party.

A second source stated that as of May 21, 1965, the Socialist Workers Party, Boston, Massachusetts, is the local affiliate of and follows the aims and purposes of the national Socialist Workers Party.

The Socialist Workers Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order #10450.

1.

APPENDIX

YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

The May, 1960, issue of the "Young Socialist" ("YS"), page 1, column 3, disclosed that during April 15-17, 1960, a national organization entitled "Young Socialist Alliance" (YSA) was established at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This issue stated this organization was formed by the nationwide supporter clubs of the publication "YS."

The above issue, page 6, set forth the Founding Declaration of YSA. This declaration stated YSA recognizes the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) as the only existing political leadership on class struggle principles, and that the supporters of the "YS" have come into basic political solidarity with the SWP on the principles of revolutionary socialism.

A source advised on May 7, 1965, that the original YSA was an organization formed during October, 1957, in New York City, by youth of various left-socialist tendencies, particularly members and followers of the SWP. The leaders of this group were the guiding forces in the establishment of the national organization.

The source further advised on May 7, 1965, YSA is dominated and controlled on a national basis by the SWP through having SWP members comprise exclusively the National Executive Committee (NEC) and through an official SWP representative at all YSA NEC meetings. The YSA, in reality, is the youth and training section of the SWP and the main source of new SWP members.

The headquarters of the YSA is located in Room 631, 41 Union Square West, New York City.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

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APPENDIX

YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE OF BOSTON

A source advised on October 30, 1959, that at a closed Socialist Workers Party (SWP) meeting held on October 29, 1959, at SWP headquarters in New York, New York, it was stated that a youth organization named the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) of Boston had just been officially formed.

The publication "Young Socialist" of May, 1960, reported during April 15-17, 1960, a national organization entitled YSA was established at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Boston was reported as one of the cities represented at this founding conference.

A second source advised on May 21, 1965, that the YSA of Boston continued to be active and that meetings of the YSA of Boston were regularly held at the headquarters of the SWP at Boston, Massachusetts. This second source further advised that the YSA of Boston is the Boston affiliate of the national YSA and follows the aims and purposes of that group.

The Socialist Workers Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order #10450.

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In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Boston, Massachusetts
July 15, 1966

12

Title	AFRO-AMERICANS AGAINST THE WAR IN VIETNAM (AAAWV) (BOSTON)
Character	INTERNAL SECURITY - SWP
Reference	Report of SA JOHN F. NOONAN dated and captioned as above at Boston, Massachusetts.

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

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NLS. 152R.013,001/2
By *ja*, NARA, Date *4/2/13*



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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Boston, Massachusetts

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

June 21, 1966

AFRO-AMERICANS AGAINST
THE WAR IN VIETNAM

On June 9, 1966, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that an organization known as Afro-Americans Against the War in Vietnam (AAAWV) was planning a protest against what they called the slaughter of black men in Vietnam and in favor of returning black troops home to the United States. The protest is to take the form of a march on June 11, 1966, through the streets from the Tremont Street Methodist Church, 740 Tremont Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts, to the corner of Dudley and Warren Streets, Roxbury. Here, in a vacant lot opposite Selective Service Board 34, a rally will be held at which Noel Day, chairman of the Massachusetts Freedom Movement, will speak. The Massachusetts Freedom Movement is one of the local civil rights groups located in Noel Day's residence at 43 Dale Street, Roxbury, Massachusetts.

This source stated that the AAAWV is really a paper organization run by Robert and Johanne Eubanks, husband and wife. Their efforts to organize the AAAWV has resulted in ten persons at the most attending meetings. These appear to be attracted to a meeting out of curiosity and don't return.

The AAAWV has made an all out effort to gain support for the march and rally and source understands 10,000 flyers advertising the affair have been distributed.

A second source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised on February 14, 1966, that the Young Socialist Alliance held an East Coast Socialist Conference at 873 Broadway, New York City, New York, on February 5-6, 1966. Among those present were Bob and Johanne Eubanks. A characterization of the Young Socialist Alliance is found in the appendix of this memo.

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NLS 152A-013-001/3
NARA, Date 4/7/13

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GROUP 1

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downgrading and
classification

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AFRO-AMERICANS AGAINST
THE WAR IN VIETNAM

On June 13, 1966, Officer Peter Ryan, Intelligence Division, Boston Police Department, advised the AAAWV obtained a permit to hold a parade and rally on June 11, 1966, and did march from the Tremont Street Methodist Church to Warren and Dudley Streets, Roxbury, on that date. There were no more than thirty negroes participating. Noel Day did not appear to speak and Bob Eubanks made a short address on the topic of bringing negro troops home from Vietnam. The affair was a colossal failure. It did not even arouse the curiosity of passersby.

On June 16, 1966, the first source mentioned advised that he had learned that when questioned about the AAAWV demonstration of June 11, 1966, Johanne Eubanks had stated that the less said about it the better. The source stated he learned that only twenty-five to thirty persons participated in the demonstration.

This memorandum contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

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APPENDIX

YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

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A source advised on May 7, 1965, that the original YSA was an organization formed during October, 1957, in New York City, by youth of various left-socialist tendencies, particularly members and followers of the SWP. The leaders of this group were the guiding forces in the establishment of the national organization.

The source further advised on May 7, 1965, YSA is dominated and controlled on a national basis by the SWP through having SWP members comprise exclusively the National Executive Committee (NEC) and through an official SWP representative at all YSA NEC meetings. The YSA, in reality, is the youth and training section of the SWP and the main source of new SWP members.

The headquarters of the YSA is located in Room 631, 41 Union Square West, New York City.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.