

OF 10-6
Justice Dept., FBI

Survey of RACIAL CONDITIONS in the U.S.
SECTION 1 (Folder 1)

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SURVEY OF RACIAL CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES



SECTION I

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
J. Edgar Hoover, Director

OUTLINE

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
SEP 24 1943

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PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

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

Dear General Watson:

I wanted to make available to the President and you the accompanying monograph concerning a "Survey of Racial Conditions in the United States."

This material includes information received by this Bureau as late as August 5, 1943, and represents data concerning un-American forces, as well as social, economic and political factors which affect racial conditions. No investigation, however, has been made with respect to these factors. The information relative thereto has been furnished by sources of information in offering their opinions and conclusions as to the causes of racial unrest and tension in various areas in this country.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

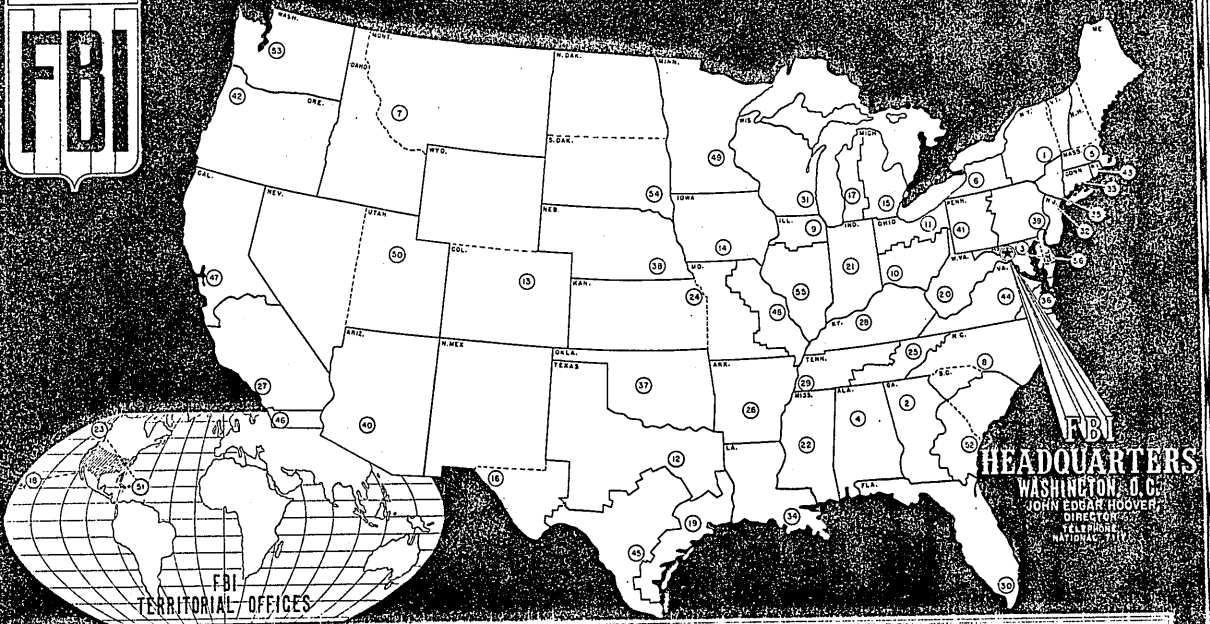
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E.O. 11652, Sec. 5(E)(2)
Justice Dept. letter, 9-21-72
By RHP, MLR, Date

Attachment



FIELD DIVISION DISTRICTS



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INTRODUCTION

SURVEY OF RACIAL CONDITIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

For a period in excess of two years the Federal Bureau of Investigation has received reports and allegations of forces with foreign influence and with anti-American ideology working among the Negro people of this country as well as exploiting them. Based thereon, inquiries and investigations have been undertaken to determine why particular Negroes or groups of Negroes or Negro organizations have evidenced sentiments for other "dark races" (mainly Japanese) or by what forces they were influenced to adopt in certain instances un-American ideologies. Observations and inquiries have been made into the maneuverings on the part of subversive groups to exploit members of the Negro race in this country.

From the data which have been developed through the investigative jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as well as from information voluntarily supplied by various sources, this survey has been prepared. It portrays the existing picture in this matter as based upon these data and this information, broken down hereinafter according to the areas enveloped by the fifty-six Field Divisions of this Bureau. To supplement this section, there has been prepared a compilation of information in the form of an appendix which forms the second section. The appendix deals with organizational activity and is meant to elaborate on references to various organizations and groups throughout the body of this survey.

It is pointed out that the myriad factors to be considered in racial conditions in this country, including, broadly, economic, political and social aspects, have presented themselves in practically all of the areas included in this survey. They necessarily have had to be considered inasmuch as these factors have been outlined and described by sources of information in their opinions or conclusions based upon their reasoning as to the causes of racial unrest or dissatisfaction. It might be noted these aspects have also been referred to by various sources in an attempt to controvert some of the allegations that there is un-American-inspired agitation among colored people in certain areas.

The information contained in the ensuing pages of this study does not, nor is it meant to, give rise to an inference that Negroes as a whole or the Negro people in a particular area are subversive or are influenced by anti-American forces. At the same time, it must be pointed out that a number

of Negroes and Negro groups have been the subjects of concentrated investigation made on the basis that they have reportedly acted or have exhibited sentiments in a manner inimical to the Nation's war effort.

It has been stated previously that reports and allegations have been received by the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning the reasons for racial conditions as they exist in certain areas. They have been numerous and have been augmented by innumerable complaints received from the public in a majority of the Field Divisions of this Bureau. The complaints have related of unrest, discontent and disaffection among members of the Negro race. They have included allegations of statements or utterances by members of the colored race which on the surface appear to be definitely in opposition to the war effort. At the same time, there have been instances of subversive activities alleged to exist among certain Negroes.

Upon receipt of such complaints and allegations, investigations and inquiries were promptly instituted. The results thereof, along with additional information reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, are set out immediately hereinafter in the form of digests, grouped in geographical areas of the United States. Preceding each geographical area is an introduction summarizing the important factors and forces considered responsible for racial unrest and discontent in the area involved. Following the digests is set forth the conclusion. Thereafter, forming Section Two of this survey, is the appendix which includes information concerning organizational activity among the Negroes of this country.

NORTHERN SECTION OF THE UNITED STATES

There are set forth in the following pages that data received by those Field Divisions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation which are grouped alphabetically in this section devoted to the industrial North. Briefly, it includes those areas East of the Mississippi River, beginning with Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the North and ending with Springfield, Illinois, at the Southwestern border and stretching East along the Ohio River to include at the Southeastern portion the cities of Washington, D. C., and Baltimore, Maryland.

To summarize, the information reflects there are myriad factors to be considered in the racial situation in this area. In industrial centers and particularly in the larger cities there has been a tremendous increase in immigrants coming from other States, especially the South and rural areas. This migration has included both white and Negro people. As a result, increased housing shortages, crowded transportation facilities and an overcrowding of amusement and recreational facilities have become decidedly more acute. This, coupled with the increased tempo of living since the country's national defense effort was begun, has added to the complexity of conditions. There has also been an increase in returns from employment as well as added chances for employment. Persons never before accustomed to the increased tempo and complex nature of living have experienced them, perhaps for the first time.

A new militancy or aggressiveness has been reported to be existent among the Negro population throughout this particular section of the country. Old boundaries are crossed by the lifting of many restrictions to which these people have heretofore been subjected in other sections.

One of the primary results of all this has been a demand by Negroes, both individually and collectively, for increased and better employment, the erasure of alleged discrimination in industry, better housing and more and diversified recreation. Added with these are those political and economic demands which are made for the Negro population not only in this section but in other sections of the country, particularly the South, where there naturally exist long-established customs, habits and methods not pertinent to the North. The abolition of the poll tax, the breaking down of "Jim Crow" laws and the cry for doing away with alleged discrimination in the Armed Forces have been tossed into the way of living of these Negroes. Yet, in many instances they do not appear to be directly or even

remotely affected; however, the adoption of these demands by respective Negro groups and organizations in this Northern section establishes the idea of the new militancy or aggressiveness.

Numerous spontaneous riots, clashes and fights involving the two races have occurred in varying degrees. No plan for organized effort in these has been reported or brought to light, yet their occurrence reflects a tenseness heretofore not prevalent. Increase in crime and juvenile delinquency has been apparent.

It will be noted from the ensuing pages there are numerous forces, social, political and economic in origin, which break into the picture of racial conditions and relations in this section of the country. Of subversive forces, the most outstanding is the Communist Party, which, it will be noted, is active in every Field Division, influencing the Negro population. This, of course, includes various arms of the Party such as groups and organizations it influences or controls.

There are also to be considered the number of cults, groups and organizations which are reported in many instances to have decidedly anti-white sympathies. Usually their size is small; however, the influence which they have cannot be estimated by the amount of membership in view of the wide possibilities of individual members spreading their sentiments. While there has been no apparent connections between numerous reports of expressions or activities anti-white in character on the part of individual Negroes, their existence and prevalency should be considered in relation to the anti-white groups.

There are in varying degrees of militancy a number of Negro organizations which can be classified as unaffiliated or independent in nature. These groups, while with different leadership and in many instances entirely different membership, have, almost as a whole, championed the advancement of the Negro race in an aggressive manner.

An important factor to be considered in this section of the country is the Negro press and the effect it has, as well as the make-up and character of its content.

There will be noted hereinafter, especially in the information appearing in the digests concerning industrial Northern cities, several instances of walkouts and refusals to work with Negroes on the part of white people. An example of this is evidenced in the Packard Motor Car Company strike in the early part of June 1943 when approximately 25,000 white workers

went out on an unauthorized strike in protest of the up-grading of Negro workers in one of the departments in the plant. Refusals to work, however, have not been solely confined to members of the white race. It will be noted that there are several instances appearing hereinafter reflecting protest demonstrations by Negro workers in condemnation of alleged failure on the part of various industries to place them in skilled or better-paying jobs. It is believed that consideration should be given to both white and Negro activity along these lines, especially inasmuch as such activity and the attitude it infers have a definite bearing on race relationship and racial conditions in this country.

Having a definite bearing in the field of labor, as far as they affect race relationship, are the varying policies of different unions and locals thereof in the acceptance of Negroes into their ranks in an unqualified manner. This has been said to lead to consternation and confusion in the minds of Negroes.

Among the social and economic factors which are apparent are the inadequate housing and recreational facilities, alleged instances of discrimination against Negroes in employment and in other phases of everyday life, and the reported shortage of educational facilities.

Reports have been received in a number of areas in this section that a degree of unrest and dissatisfaction among the Negro people in this portion of the United States possibly results from what is described as a lack of good Negro leadership. There is an apparent lack of coordination and many times a lack of cooperation among this leadership. This situation has been pointed to by both Negro and white sources of information as a matter that should be remedied. These sources have, on several occasions, expressed their opinion that the present-day Negro leadership is selfish, chauvinistic and centered in its own self-advancement.

In examining the situation in this area, it is believed significant to note that preventive or alleviating measures for bettering racial conditions and race relationship are said to be generally absent. There have been, however, reports of recent attempts on the part of local governmental authorities establishing racial commissions and making attempts to establish better race relationship.

Immediately following are digests of information received by the Field Divisions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation which are to be considered in connection with this section of the country.

ALBANY FIELD DIVISION

It was reported during the latter part of July, 1942, that no foreign inspired agitation existed among the American negroes in the territory covered by the Albany Field Division. The approximate negro population in Albany, New York is reported to be 3,000. In Schenectady, New York, the negro population is reported to be 1,100 and in Syracuse, New York, 2,082.

Throughout the entire Albany area alleged discrimination with regard to employment and housing conditions is said to be the main cause for discontent among the Negroes. Furthermore, there has been an influx of Negro families in this area which is said to be a possible source of trouble. Large increases are expected in the population of Negroes in this area in view of the fact national defense industries are employing skilled Negro employees.

The Albany Inter-racial Council, Inc., and the Booker T. Washington Community Center are reportedly the most active organizations. It is stated these organizations are interested primarily in the welfare of the colored people. It is reported the Albany Inter-racial Council, Inc., operates the Booker T. Washington Community Center.

In the area of Syracuse, New York, there have been rumors to the effect that the negro soldier is being discriminated against in the South. These rumors seem to have resulted from newspaper stories appearing in the Afro-American, the Pittsburgh Courier and the Chicago Defender. It is reported there also have been rumors concerning discrimination against negro persons relative to rental of housing facilities and eating places which appear to be based on a local social problem. The negro housing problem in the vicinity of Syracuse appears to be serious as large increases are expected among the negroes as the result of employment by national defense plants of skilled negro employees.

It is reported that a group of alleged Communists held a meeting at Syracuse, New York, on August 9, 1942, and laid emphasis on "Jim Crowism" in the United States Army.

In the vicinity of Utica, New York, where it is said there are some eight hundred Negroes residing, unemployment and housing conditions are said to be the most prevalent causes for discontent and unrest. Reports have been received to the effect that there is unrest among the Negroes in this area although no indications have been reported reflecting un-American or unpatriotic sentiments. Many of the Negroes are said to be employed on bean farms in neighboring communities.

Sources of information who have been interviewed in this city and in

its vicinity state that although the bean farms help the unemployment situation to some extent that is still one of the main factors in the discontent among the Negroes there. No indications of Communist Party activity or activity of pro-Axis organizations have been reported.

In the areas including the cities of Albany, Syracuse, Rochester and Utica, such Negro newspapers as the Chicago Defender, the Pittsburgh Courier and the Afro-American are circulated and contain many statements relative to the mistreatment of the Negroes in the Armed Forces, defense industries and in other walks of civilian life. It is said that these newspapers tend to further the unrest or dissatisfaction which is caused by economic, social or political matters. One local Negro newspaper is published here, the Progressive Herald, published in Syracuse, New York. This newspaper is said to be a staunch supporter of the Republican Party and has never contained writings or articles of a radical nature.

During the latter part of October, 1942, Ben Davis, Jr., negro Communist and candidate during the 1942 elections for congressman at large on the Communist Party ticket in New York State, made a speech in Syracuse, New York, seeking votes there. During his visit, he is reported as having obtained the help of the mayor of that city to obtain lodging at a hotel, restricted for white people. He also reportedly obtained the support of a number of the local negro citizens who formed the Non-Partisan Committee for Ben Davis.

An isolated complaint was received in January, 1943 that a colored maid of a white family in Albany made the statement, "If the Japs win maybe the colored people will have a better chance in this country." The employer was astonished at this remark and could recall no similar statements made by the maid. The inquiries conducted in this regard fail to reflect that the maid making these statements had any connections with any subversive or un-American group or organization, on the contrary it was ascertained she belonged to two well established negro social organizations. This maid who made the statement expressed her ignorance of the Japanese Race being colored and informed she had never seen a member of the Japanese Race and expressed having difficulty understanding how a person could be a member of the colored race without looking like a Negro.

This incident has been cited as an example of a Negro, according to the employer, repeating a statement she had heard someone else make.

BALTIMORE FIELD DIVISION

Numerous complaints have been received that the American Negroes favor a Japanese victory in the present war. Investigations have been made concerning these complaints to ascertain if the complaints were foreign-inspired, but the investigations were made with negative results.

An outside source advises that the pro-Japanese propaganda among the colored people does not originate from Japanese sources but starts within the colored people themselves.

The Baltimore edition of the colored newspaper "Afro-American" tends to agitate racial feelings by stressing race discriminations within and outside the Armed Forces.

Investigation has revealed that the Japanese and German propaganda among the Negroes in the vicinity of Baltimore, Maryland, affects only the "fanatical fringe" of the colored population.

It has been reported with regard to the State of Maryland, especially in and around Bethesda, Maryland, allegations have been made to the effect that large groups of Negroes have been purchasing knives and other dangerous weapons. Sources of information interviewed with regard to this advised that there has been no out of the ordinary purchasing of such items by Negroes although one store is alleged to have had approximately one hundred Negro men purchase knives from it. This information was subsequently looked into and it was found that a contingent of Negro soldiers had stopped at a hardware store and that some twelve to eighteen of the individuals bought hunting knives there.

The main offices of the "Afro-American," a Negro newspaper with national circulation, are in Baltimore, Maryland. It has constantly published articles of a militant nature demanding extended rights and privileges for Negroes and, in some instances, carried on active campaigns with regard to local Negro matters.

Allegations of the existence of "Eleanor Clubs" among Negro domestics in this area have been reported; yet, inquiries based on the allegations that the "Eleanor Clubs" are foreign-inspired, have failed to reflect anything pointing to their actual existence.

It has been reported that in the Snow Hill, Maryland, area, there are farms on which reportedly a large number of Negroes work in growing fruits and vegetables for nearby canning plants. It is said that recently these Negroes have become very independent and unsatisfactory as workers, although, they are earning more than ever before. Some of the Negroes, allegedly, have

been heard to make such remarks as "when the Japs come over they won't bother us; they are only after the white people," and "after the war, the whites will be working for the colored people." No indications, however, have been reported to the effect that any foreign forces are at work inspiring such sentiments.

In such areas as Salisbury, Pocomoke City, and in Princess Anne, Maryland, isolated reports have been received alleging that individual Negroes have made anti-American statements which allegedly contained sympathy for the Axis powers. Inquiries and investigation relative to these allegations failed to reflect any organized un-Americanism among the Negroes in the areas mentioned.

It was reported that in the City of Baltimore there has been a Moorish Movement for at least eighteen or nineteen years. It was said that there are separate groups in the Movement. One of the groups, which is said to exist in the vicinity of Freemont Avenue and Lead Street in Baltimore, has been described as being composed of a "low type" of individual. Recently a selective service board in the area has come in contact with several members of one of the groups of the Movement, and they have been described as being highly incensed when they are labeled as Negroes, feeling rather that they are "Moors." It should be stated that in connection with these groups a confidential source of information has advised that during his long residence in the City of Baltimore and because of its popularity among Negro inhabitants, he could with reason say that no Japanese inspired activity among the Negroes in Baltimore has come to his attention. He went on to say, however, that the only agitation presently influencing the Negroes of that city is that of the Communist Party and its various fronts.

The Communist Party in this area, mainly through Dr. Albert Blumberg, his wife Dorothy Blumberg, Selma and Sinch O'Har, Young Communist League leaders, have been agitating considerably among Negroes, endeavoring to obtain them jobs with the Telephone Company in Baltimore and with the Baltimore Transit Company. In this activity, reports indicate the Party has worked in cooperation with certain writers of the Baltimore "Afro-American." In this connection the following information reported concerning a state meeting, sponsored by the Communist Party on September 2, 1942, is believed to be significant:

The meeting was held on the corner of Arlington and Mosher Streets, and the main speaker was William C. Taylor, then Chairman of the Baltimore, Maryland Communist Party, who began by stating that the attention of the colored people should be focused on the impending political election. He stated that the people such as Governor Dickson of Alabama and Governor Talmadge of Georgia ought to be defeated. He continued, saying that individuals who believed in equal opportunities for all and who fight for the Negroes' freedom ought to be elected. He pointed out that Negroes ought not to sell their votes to crusader white politicians for \$2.00 or a glass of beer, or according to Talmadge, Negroes should continue to accept the \$2.00 or a glass of beer but ought to cast his

vote for the Negro candidate. He warned the Negroes present not to listen to the members of their own race who were merely tools in the hands of white politicians, who advocated that Negroes seek no change in their conditions and said that Negroes controlled by white politicians are "Uncle Toms."

On April 16, 1943, a mass meeting was sponsored by the Total War Employment Committee at the Enon Baptist Church in Baltimore. There were approximately 17,000 people present, seven or eight being white. The principal speaker at this meeting was Reverend Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., of New York City, a Negro councilman and preacher there. Powell labeled Baltimore as the worst city in America for discrimination and race hatred. He said Negroes everywhere were showing dissatisfaction but that with the proper organization and direction Negroes should be able to sway certain important elections. He praised the Total Employment Committee for its connections with the Chesapeake and Potomac Power Company and the Baltimore Transit Company of that city.

Recently the informants have advised that the Communist Party is actively engaged in attempting to organize Negro workers at the Bethlehem Shipyards.

A source of information who is in a position to observe activities among Negroes in the Baltimore area, especially has expressed the opinion that potential racial trouble is the most outstanding item in the present picture of the geographic area which includes Baltimore. He said the consensus of opinion of local reliable contacts continue in the belief that Southern Negroes will not plan any violence, but being emotionally controlled, they may be led into violence and disorder by a "spark" that ignites the resentment kept smoldering in them by the constant inflammatory propaganda of the Negro press, the Communist leaders and other outside influence being brought to bear on them.

On July 28, 1943 at 7:00 A.M. a strike occurred at the Bethlehem Steel Shipyards, Sparrows Point, Maryland. Involved in this strike were eight hundred Negroes, workers of the shipyards. It is stated that these workers ceased work in protest of the company's excluding Negroes from the company-conducted riveting school. The actual outbreak developed when, on July 26, 1943, colored employees were allowed to enter the school. The white members of the school immediately raised the issue and to appease them, it is stated, the management excluded the Negroes, whereupon the eight hundred Negroes ceased work.

It appears that constant efforts at conciliation on the part of the management resulted in the majority of the strikers returning to work on July 29, and on that day approximately two hundred colored workers were discharged for refusal to resume work. It is also reported that the white workers refused to work on any job with colored workers and on July 29 threatened to drive them from the yards. The management, to avert violence, ordered all employees out of the yards until Monday, August 2, 1943. The total number of workers involved is stated to be five thousand white and fifteen hundred colored.

As of August 3, 1943 the situation had quieted, and practically all of the workers reported for work, returning to their jobs without any incidents occurring. At that time, however, a small faction of the workers did fail to report for work, held meetings attended by approximately forty men and protested the agreement with the workers to return to their jobs. The meetings are said to have lacked organization and leadership. Seven men were suspended from their work and subsequently discharged for their agitational efforts during the trouble. Police agencies which had been stationed at the yard withdrew during the afternoon of August 3, 1943. The United States Army, however, retained a force at Logan Field, which is near the yard, although it did not station men on the shipyard's property.

It is reported that the shipyard is under contract with the United States Maritime Commission and ninety per cent of its output is for that agency. No portion of the plant is government owned, although a small percentage of the facilities is being rented from the United States Maritime Commission. The work stoppage resulted in complete cessation of production from Friday morning, July 30, 1943, through Saturday, July 31, 1943.

The Bethlehem Steel Shipyards had a contract with the Industrial Union Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO, Local No. 33. The Union was represented by Phillip Van Gelder, National Secretary and Treasurer; Edward Denhard, Executive Secretary; and Louis Dene, President of Local No. 33. Management representatives advised that employees had for all practical purposes repudiated the Union and advised that this was not a Union affair and that they would not be influenced by the Union. Reportedly, members of the United States Conciliation Service, War Production Board, President's Committee on Fair Employment and other organizations conferred with management and Union officials; however, all efforts at conciliation to date have failed.

According to the information received, the principal agitator at the shipyards was John Albert Jacobs, who is colored and twenty-seven years of age. He was born in Georgia and has been in the company employ since 1937. William R. Sandlin and George E. Boulding, both colored, were also reportedly active agitators. Jacobs was described as an eloquent mob leader. It was stated that the attitude of the white workers at that time was absolute refusal to return to jobs with colored workers and colored workers were demanding equal opportunity with whites in all respects.

During several weeks prior to that time rumors were received which indicated a state of extreme tension between the white and colored residents of Baltimore, Maryland, and it was reported that any serious incidents occurring at the proper time to engage the attention of large numbers of white and colored persons might then have precipitated a serious race riot in Baltimore. This, it was stated, was particularly true in view of the fact that this city has a large, unassimilated, migratory white and Negro population.

On Saturday, July 10, 1943, the interracial friction at the Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyards resulted in a fight among several white and Negro employees in the plant cafeteria. This fight resulted in several individuals, white and black, being arrested and fined by the local police. Reportedly, the colored workers initiated the fight due to their insistence that they should be allowed equal rights. Following the fight, plant police were holding four colored workers for the local police, and it is reported that four shop stewards caused considerable difficulty by insisting that the plant police give them a complete report of the incident. These shop stewards were white employees.

One of the white employees involved in this affair stated that a race riot in Baltimore, Maryland was imminent. He advised that in almost every section of the city there was talk among the whites of a coming riot and that there were four to five fights during each shift between white and colored workers at the Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyards. He also stated that the Negroes were being urged to "start something" by members of the Communist Party at the yard. He also advised that he knew the inside workings of the Communist Party inasmuch as he had formerly been a Communist. According to this informant, Milton Moskowitz, one of the four shop stewards referred to herein, was one of the principal agitators in the yard who was making an effort to create racial hatred and prejudice. Moskowitz along with Bernie Silezson and Martin Garfinkel, two other reported agitators in the yard, were, reportedly, members of the Communist Party and active in labor affairs of Local Union No. 43 of the Industrial Union Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO.

The following elements were reportedly believed to be contributing factors to the racial tension existing in the Baltimore area:

1. Afro-American Negro newspaper publishes editions which constantly agitate the colored population by means of inflammatory articles.
2. The CIO labor newspapers, which stress racial, job and social equality.
3. Communist agitation over a period of months.
 - a. Preaches doctrines of racial equality.
 - b. Fosters interracial groups and dances.
 - c. Agitates for equal rights and job opportunities.
 - d. Urges Negroes to support CIO labor candidates to prevent Negro segregation and inequality in job opportunities.
 - e. Street meetings in Negro districts for recruiting of members.
4. Scheduled labor union elections at Glenn L. Martin and Bethlehem Fairfield.

- a. CIO group in control at Bethlehem believed to be Communist dominated and pro-Negro.
 - b. Anti-Communist group in Fairfield is attempting to oust Communists from control.
 - c. Electioneering at Glenn L. Martin's by independent union features anti-Negro bias.
5. Over-crowded housing conditions together with the inability to settle the housing project dispute.
6. Over-crowded transportation facilities and street car incidents.
7. Present picketing of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company by Negroes because of their refusal to hire Negro operators.
- a. Sponsored by the Total War Employment Commission (Communist dominated).
 - b. Young Communist League activity in utilities dispute.
8. Existing feeling and tension in Baltimore resulting from the recent Detroit and Beaumont race riots.
- a. Informant advises Negroes expect and wait for a riot in Baltimore.
9. National Association for Advancement of Colored People continues to agitate against Jim Crow segregation, and for equal rights.
10. Baltimore Urban League (colored) urges the elimination of racial barriers; expanding of job opportunities. Cooperates with Local CIO Union No. 43 IUMSWA, Communist dominated.
11. Miscellaneous. On July 3, 1943, Negro alleged to have roughly handled white woman in Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyards.
- Unconfirmed rumors of a race riot in Baltimore scheduled for July 4, 1943.
- July 4, 1943, a Negro's hand was cut by a bayonet of a Coast Guardsman during an incident at the Bethlehem Fairfield Shipyards.
12. Unconfirmed rumor that local Negroes planned action July 8, 1943 designed to remove segregation barriers by attempting to gain admittance to restaurants, theaters and other facilities restricted to whites.
- Collection of numerous knives, clubs and some guns taken from the workers at the Bethlehem Fairfield Yards during the past weeks.
- A fight between approximately thirty whites and Negroes several weeks ago in section of Baltimore where white and colored neighborhoods meet.

BOSTON FIELD DIVISION

A survey in this area fails to show information reflecting any pro-Axis inspired agitation among the Negroes. In the State of Massachusetts there are said to be approximately 55,000 Negroes, of whom 47,000 are native born, while 8,000 are foreign born.

Reported to be active in this area are branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the National Negro Congress, a Communist front organization. The causes being furthered by both of these organizations are the establishment of separate units for colored and white soldiers in the Army and sailors in the Navy and agitation by these groups for increased employment of Negroes in defense industries and Governmental agencies.

At the present time no indications have been received evidencing influence of the Communist Party in these particular policies. Rather they are said to be the result of the decisions of the leaders of these groups, decided independently of Communist influence. It is noted, however, that the National Negro Congress activity forms potential grounds for agitation for the Communist Party.

A prominent Negro source of information who is said to be well known in the Boston area has been contacted for information in his possession indicating possible pro-German or pro-Japanese activity among the Negroes. This source of information has advised that he knows of no attempts to agitate among members of his race by members of pro-Axis organizations or individuals favoring ultimate pro-Axis domination of the United States.

With regard to Communist activity among the Negro population in the Boston area, the source of information has advised that it is possible Communists may infiltrate legitimate Negro organizations existing in this area inasmuch as these organizations are composed of people from many walks of life. The informant advised, however, that the more important Negro organizations in this area have for their purpose propagandizing for better conditions for Negroes.

Two Negro newspapers are published in this area, namely "The Boston Chronicle" and "The Boston Guardian." No information as yet has been received reflecting articles or editorials printed in these newspapers which are of an un-American tenor.

A prominent Negro publisher in the Boston area has advised that for the past ten years he has observed no agitation among Negro groups in this vicinity. He advised, however, that approximately ten years ago an unknown Japanese held meetings in Boston, the exact purpose of which never was clear to him. It was his opinion, however, that this Japanese was interested primarily in the collections he obtained rather than any movement involving the colored races of the world. It was his recollection that this individual left Boston for New York where he continued his activities and was subsequently arrested. He could furnish, however, no specific details.

On April 27, 1943 the Boston branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sponsored a mass meeting at the People's Baptist Church in Boston which was attended by approximately two hundred twenty Negroes. The purpose was a membership drive to obtain three thousand additional members. At the meeting Julian B. Steele, president of the local branch, urged all to participate in the membership drive so that a united fight could be made to combat the growing wave of "reactionary southernism." He referred to a housing project in Boston called Old Orchard Park, a wing of which was set aside for Negroes in a segregated partition. Steele also mentioned, according to reports, several Negro soldiers stationed in the South who forwarded their membership fees, and how one soldier in Georgia had written that the Army was fighting not only on the two battle fronts but in the South on a third front--namely, fighting the Negro.

Several other speeches were made mainly dealing with matters of discrimination and with organizational details. It was announced that the Boston branch intended in no way to lessen its pressure to have Negroes admitted to other housing projects, as well as to the Old Orchard Park project, without segregation.

BUFFALO FIELD DIVISION

It is reported the Communist Party in this area at the present time is centering most of its activity among the Negro population and is using "Jim Crowism" as the main talking point.

On July 19, 1942, the Communist Party in the Buffalo area sponsored a "Conference for full use of Negro labor power to produce for Victory". There were many prominent individuals from Buffalo who were in no way connected with the Communist Party listed among the sponsors. One of the main speakers at this meeting was Ferdinand Smith, National Secretary of the National Maritime Union, a reported Negro Communist Party member. Alleged instances of discrimination in employment and other phases of Negro life were dealt with.

Relative to the Communist Party in and around the Buffalo area, it is reported that at all of the large Party meetings, the question of racial discrimination has been discussed and various defense plants in and around Buffalo have been condemned for failing to hire Negro labor. It has also been reported with regard to the Communist Party Negro members who at one time dropped out, that they have rejoined the Party because of the activities by the Party in allegedly attempting to obtain employment for Negroes in industry in this section.

In and around Rochester, New York, it has been reported that the Communist Party has been exceedingly active among the Negro population of that City, but that it has been unsuccessful in recruiting many members from this source.

Also active in the Rochester area is the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Chapter. It is reported that in one of the meetings of this Chapter, in March 1942, two members of the Communist Party who stood on their feet and announced their affiliation with the Communist Party urged members of the Chapter to combine with the Party in order to "Effectively fight against the discrimination shown to the Negroes."

In and around the vicinity of Elmira, New York it is reported that the head of the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Miss Philippa Stowe, an assistant to

Bernard Burton, secretary of the Communist Party there, is reportedly able to effectively spread Communist propaganda among the Negroes in that City through her position with this organization. It is reported that with the exception of the Communist agitation in and around this City, there has been no subversive propaganda spread among the Negro people.

With regard to Japanese agitation among the Negroes in and around Rochester, New York, it has been reported that a small meeting of Negro people was held in the summer of 1941 which was addressed by a Japanese student. It is alleged that at the meeting the Japanese speaker talked concerning discrimination shown to the Negroes in the United States and hinted that in a conflict to come, Japanese and Negro people should combine to overcome the white race against which they would be pitted. The source of information supplying the same was unable to furnish further identifying or substantiating information.

The Hamitic Mohammedan Club is said to have a building at Central Avenue and Leopold Street in Rochester, New York. Members of the club have stated that Mohammedans have always been friendly with the Fascist Powers and gave an illustration in the fact that the Moors led Franco's Army in the Spanish Revolution. Several members are also alleged to have talked about Japanese military might and how that is the only country in all history that has never lost a war. Investigation of this group is continuing.

A Mohammedan group reportedly active in this area has styled itself the Addeynue Allaha Universal Arabic Association Incorporated. It is said the group originated in Buffalo in 1938 and at the present time has approximately 250 members in Buffalo, New York and 75 active members in Rochester, New York. Members have been described as believing they are of Arabic or African descent and have for a number of years been living under a slave name. It is said that their belief is that their American name was given them by slave masters who took them captive and brought them to the United States. Because of this, it is reported they feel they must change their names and adopt those which their forefathers bore. It is reported that the Moslem belief is followed by them. The allegation has been received that this particular group has caused some unrest among the Negro community in Buffalo because of their difference in religious views and their beliefs that they are not really Negroes.

A source of information has advised that several years prior to the interview he had been told by an unknown member of the organization that the organization has a deep hatred for all Jewish people; although no further specific information has been received relative to such allegations.

It has been reported that all of the members of this organization, who are eligible to be inducted into the armed forces under the Selective Training and Service Act have registered as conscientious objectors and were so classified. In this connection several of the known members of the organization made claims for exemptions on the grounds that they are unable to eat food other than that prepared by members of their own faith. And because of this, they could consequently not eat the food served them in the armed forces. One of these known members in his form No. 97 (conscientious objector form) stated "I believe in peace at all times and that there should never be no war. Do not believe in fighting but in case of war must help in some way to defend the country in which I live". The individual making this claim is known now as Arresa Rukabun and formerly known as Troy Vaughn. In this same form Rukabun gave his religious sect as being "Moslem Believers in the religion of Islam, its governments and Mecca which is in Arabia". Rukabun also stated in a letter written to his Selective Service Board under date of January 21, 1942, that he could take no active part in the military service and added "I am of the Mohammad faith and is known to the world over as Moslem which the Japs or in the manority of.....since the Japs or of Dark Race I regard them and respect them as my people."

In the Rochester area the Addeyune Allahe Universal Arabic Association, Inc., has conducted classes in a school at its headquarters at 473 Central Avenue, Rochester, New York. The alleged professor in charge of these classes was one Mohammed Ez Al Deen. A confidential informant has reported the professor's talks were much in favor of Japan winning the present war and that he was bitter against the white race. Another teacher at the school one Mobarrak Hasson is said to have expressed similar beliefs and the hope that the white race will be conquered in the war.

During the period of February through May 1943 the Communist Party in Rochester, Buffalo and Niagra Falls pointed much of its efforts toward recruiting new members from the Negro population in these cities. In connection with its recruiting activities, the Party has distributed numerous pamphlets, a large number of which concerned the history of the Negro. It attempts to obtain support of Negroes by pointing to its own

efforts in allegedly removing discrimination and segregation barriers existing against the Negroes. A representative of the Negro race has referred to the Communist Party's activities among the Negroes and has expressed the opinion that it should be kept in mind that with the problems of racial discrimination continually confronting the Negro people, they present a fertile field for the activities of a group which on the surface appeared to be fighting in their behalf.

Another representative of a well organized Negro organization has said that to the best of his knowledge there is no deliberate agitation among the Negroes in this city; rather, it is his opinion the problem of racial discrimination is of sufficient import in itself that no deliberate agitation is needed to supplement it.

CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

According to the 1940 census, the Negro population in the City of Chicago and its environs totals approximately 300,000 persons. It is stated that this number has remained almost constant during the past thirty years. Recently, however, there has been an influx of Negroes from the South, said to be coming to the Chicago area primarily to seek employment in defense industries.

The vast majority of this population lives on the South Side of Chicago, between 14th Street on the North and 70th Street on the South, Cottage Grove Avenue on the East and Halstead Street on the West. The area is densely populated; in many instances several families live together in two rooms or in small apartments. The Negro section is located in what was formerly a white residential section. The residential buildings were originally attractive and well constructed but have since been allowed to deteriorate and become run down. Many of them do not have adequate toilet facilities and there is improper lighting in a vast majority of the residences. Sanitation in this area, however, is considered good, the proper disposal of waste being effective.

It is said that the crime rate for this area has always been very high and that there has been on an average of two and three murders a week which seldom are publicized in any of the newspapers.

It is said that in this area, although there are quite a few Negroes earning salaries in connection with defense work far above those to which they are accustomed, the vast majority of them are in a very poor economic condition. One of the larger Negro associations in this area is a taxicab association involving several thousand owners and drivers of Negro jitney buses. This is a close-knit association and hundreds are said to receive good wages.

There are several thousand small Negro churches scattered throughout the Negro area which provide the focal point for most of the social activities of these people. Each of the churches have a few members from the immediate neighborhood and in many instances there is a formal dress ritual or mysticism which retains the interest of the group. In recent years athletic contests among Negroes have increased to the point that there recently were observed several softball and baseball teams playing in games which had attracted thousands of spectators.

There is one major high school in this area, the Du Sable High School, which provides a frequent meeting place for various Negro organizations. In this regard, a teacher of history in this school has advised that during the past twenty years in the Chicago area he has observed very little gain in the average Negro's education or his feeling of social responsibility. This lack of gain is attributed to the inability of the average Negro to obtain responsible employment. Furthermore, the uneducated Negro is stated to be deeply interested in

fanatical or mystical organizations, of which there are many in Chicago, because of the fact that it gives the individual Negro some feeling of importance to be associated with a secret organization of this type. In this connection, this same source of information has advised that the attraction for the mystical or fanatical has existed for over a period of years and that very little of it, in his estimation, comes from actual foreign-inspired propaganda and agitation.

ATTITUDE OF THE NEGRO TOWARD THE WAR

Several sources of information have advised that there is a great deal of lack of interest, if not opposition, to the war effort at the present time. The Negroes in this area of Chicago are said to be poorly organized and uncooperative in Civilian Defense activity, in their purchase of war bonds and stamps and in enlistment in the Armed Forces. With regard to Civilian Defense activity, an informant who is active in Civilian Defense work in the South Side of Chicago advises that members of the Chicago Office of Civilian Defense have conducted lectures and have been active in publicizing the value of thorough organization in the Civilian Defense program. The general response to this has been "Why should we cooperate with Civilian Defense? This is the white man's war. Let him take care of us."

In the sale of war bonds and stamps, this same informant also advises of endeavoring to sell the same to persons residing in his residential block and informs that his attempts were met with opposition, although those same individuals have money for nonessential and luxury items.

Another source of information, a Negro, who is highly educated and who is employed in a Governmental capacity, advises that he has discovered that the attitude among the colored population in the Chicago area toward the war effort has been uncooperative and that there is a great deal of unrest with an undercurrent of dissatisfaction throughout the area. This source of information advises that much of the unrest and dissatisfaction can be traced to the age-old question of the Negro and the white man as a result of centuries of discrimination and class separation. He has stated that in discussions with hundreds of colored people in this area, many have expressed the general theme that the present conflict does not concern the Negro. He advises, however, that the Negroes are quite concerned over discrimination being showed them with respect to defense industry employment.

A well educated and intelligent colored professional man in the South Side of Chicago has been interviewed with respect to the Negro situation there and he advises that the average Negro feels very keenly his inability to obtain a position with many of the Government agencies and his additional inability to obtain employment in defense industries on a comparative basis with the white man. The opinion has been expressed by this source of information that the reason Negroes are not more educated than they are at present is because there are many college graduates among the Negro people who cannot obtain a position commensurate with their training. He believes

the Negro in general is patriotic although his class consciousness has developed to the point where the Negro regards the war effort with but a lukewarm interest. This source of information states he is aware of the undercurrent of dissatisfaction but advises that more of this can be traced to the feeling of class consciousness and a lack of proper education of the Negroes by responsible authorities. He advises that among the intelligent colored people there is no doubt that an American victory will be beneficial to the Negro race but that the majority of the colored people in this area have not had this brought to their attention forcibly enough or often enough. He has further stated that he believes the situation is improving among the majority of Negro people with respect to cooperation in the war effort because of the fact that a considerable number of colored youths have been called into the Armed Forces.

ORGANIZATIONS ACTIVE AMONG THE NEGROES IN THIS AREA

Investigation and inquiries made with respect to foreign-inspired agitation among the Negroes in this area has failed to reveal pro-German and pro-Nazi activities among the Negroes in this area. However, several individuals, Negroes have been reported as having alleged German sympathies but investigations of these individuals have failed to reveal there is any organized appeal made in the colored area by pro-German forces. An anonymous complaint has been received to the effect that Negro preachers of two different colored churches on the South Side of Chicago have made remarks to the effect that when defeat comes to the United States the Negroes will make slaves of the white race. Investigation of this matter has not shown any connection with any outside source.

Many reports have been received indicating that pro-Japanese forces have conducted some work among the Negro race in an effort to win their sympathy to the Japanese Government. The line of attack is stated to be that the colored population comprises about 85 per cent of the total population of the world and that inasmuch as the Japanese are also of the colored race all such people should band together to defeat the white people. An investigation of these reports has revealed several extremely radical groups believing in the Islamic religion or following mystical teachings and preachings that Allah is the living god who is to set them all free.

Moorish Science Temple of America

This group is active in the Negro area in Chicago and is said to be the largest preaching the belief of Allah and the Islamic religion. The Koran is their bible and a five-point star on a red flag constitutes the Moorish flag. The organization in Newark, New Jersey was allegedly founded in approximately 1913. In 1928 the Moorish Science Temple produced an off-spring in Pittsburgh and Detroit and a National Convention was held in Chicago at which time there were estimated to be seventeen temples with more than 15,000 members. Several flare-ups within the ranks causing dissension therein have resulted in several independent branches. In Chicago there are six

individuals claiming to be the true successors of the prophet Noble Drew Ali, the founder of the original group.

A confidential source of information has advised that some of the officers of the group appear to be making a racket of their organization in that none of them have gainful employment and are allegedly living on the dues collected from their members. All of the groups are extremely secretive and ritualistic and meetings are generally held in the homes of the leaders, the members being taught in these meetings consistently that the black man is superior to the white man. The membership of the various groups following the various leaders is said to vary from 50 to 200 persons.

Investigations of each of these groups bearing the name Moorish Science Temple of America are being conducted.

Allah Temple of Islam

Another of the groups teaching belief in the Islam religion is the Allah Temple of Islam, the main chapter of which is located at 104 East 51st Street, Chicago, Illinois. It is estimated that from 200 to 300 Negroes in the City of Chicago are members of this Temple. Investigation of this group reveals that the members are for the most part from the lower class of Negroes and are strong believers in mysticism. One of the leaders of this group, Gulam Bogans, who has also been known as Elijah Mohammed and Elijah Muck Muck, is presently under \$5,000 bond for failure to register under the Selective Training and Service Act. A Federal Grand Jury sitting in Chicago returned an indictment on October 23, 1942, against Elijah Mohammed in eight counts, charging sedition. An indictment was also returned at this time against Linn Karriem and Pauline Bahar, as well as Sultan Mohammed of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and David Jones of Washington, charging them with conspiracy to commit sedition.

It was reported that various leaders of the Japanese people believed the Government was justified in arresting the leader of this cult. These Japanese were said to have stated there was no Japanese activity within the organization in recent years and if there had been any Japanese individual active in the organization he must have returned to Japan long ago.

In December, 1942, Elijah Mohammed was sentenced in Washington on a violation of the Selective Service Act for a term of from one to five years. The United States Attorney in Chicago advised on May 27, 1943, he was considering dismissing the indictment on the sedition charges against this individual and presenting the facts to the Department for an opinion.

The Peace Movement of Ethiopia

This organization, said to be large and independent, has headquarters at 3144 South State Street, Chicago, Illinois, and sponsors meetings at this address and business sessions on Wednesday evenings. The general sessions of the group, open to the public, are held at the Boulevard Hall, 366 East 47th Street, on Sunday evenings and attract an average crowd of from 200 to

350 persons. The organization was founded by Madam Mittie Maud Lena Gordan, a large mulatto, born in Webster Parish, Louisiana. She is stated to have been active in colored movements of a radical nature for a great number of years, having lost a son in a race riot near Springfield, Illinois, in 1928 or 1929. The alleged objectives of the organization are the return of Negroes to Ethiopia or Liberia. Madam Gordan was arrested on September 20, 1942, on charges of violation of the Sedition Statutes and sentenced two years and placed on probation three years after the termination of her sentence.

The Colored American National Organization (The Washington Park Forum)

This organization meets in Washington Park, 53rd and South Park Avenue, Chicago, on Sunday afternoons in open forum. The organization has been meeting for a considerable period of time and its leader, a college graduate, one Stokely Delmar Hart, is stated to have made many seditious remarks indicating his intense displeasure of any activity of the white man and reflecting his sympathies with Japan and his wish for a Japanese victory. This individual was arrested on September 20, 1942, on charges of violation of the Sedition Statutes. Hart was found guilty May 27, 1943, and was sentenced to three years in the custody of the Attorney General on June 11, 1943. Motion for a new trial, probation and arrest of judgment were overruled.

Universal Negro Improvement Association

This organization is comparatively inactive in the Chicago area at the present time and the membership of it is presently small in number. It is reported, however, that members of this group are expanding their activities among former members of the Peace Movement of Ethiopia. It is said that the members of the organization are critical of the white race but there is no indication that members of this organization are encouraged to violate the Selective Training and Service Act or to be non-cooperative with the war effort.

This organization traces back to the Marcus Garvey Movement among the Negroes subsequent to the last war in which the program for the return to Africa was promoted.

Just subsequent to the National Conference of the March on Washington Movement it was reported that Randolph and James R. Stewart, national head of this organization, conferred relative to the merging of their forces in a common objective. One Toliber, a leader of a unit of the Universal Negro Improvement Association at 3536 South Cottage Grove, Chicago, Illinois, is said to have been asked by the March on Washington Movement to unite with it. The total number of members of the March on Washington Movement

in Chicago is approximately 5700 members, while the strength of the Universal Negro Improvement Association in Chicago is not known, although it is believed to be small.

The arrest of the leaders of the Washington Park Forum, the Peace Movement of Ethiopia, and the Allah Temple of Islam, and 70 members of the latter group by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on September 20, 1942, is said to have had a desirable effect in the area, and the reaction among the vast majority of the colored population as reported by sources of information and its publication, is said to have been good. However, reports concerning individual Negroes have been received subsequently to the effect that pro-Japanese or pro-German statements were made by them. These, of course, are all subject matters of investigation and inquiries are being continued.

COMMUNIST PARTY INFLUENCE AMONG THE NEGROES IN CHICAGO

The Communist Party since the invasion of Russia by Germany has agitated on behalf of the Negro, urging that additional rights be granted him in economic, political and cultural matters. At the same time, however, it urged the Negro population to support the national war effort completely. However, in its work among the Negroes, the Party has combined its agitation on their behalf with the remainder of the Communist Party line.

The following statements made by John Williamson, National Committee member of the Communist Party, at the Midwest Conference of Communist Party leaders held at the Sherman Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, on March 18 and 19, 1943, reflect the attitude of the Party toward Negroes:

"We must see ourselves as a force for unity of all the Negro people. The war is changing the thinking and actions of the Negroes, a change of attitude under the pressure of the March on Washington Movement. The fact that while previously it was anti-war in its main outlook, today it has changed so that it now has incorporated the war as one of its issues.

"Under our leadership, labor unions must be in the forefront of the anti-poll tax drive. Later we must exhibit activity to abolish all Jim Crow practices with special attention to the various aspects of this problem as affects the Army. The special question of transportation in the South, in the Air Corps and the danger of the War Department calling solely on Negro troops to be dispatched to the farms, all of these things we must learn to prevent, to solve them and to overcome them. We must fight for the re-establishment of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

"In this connection, we should strive to strengthen the existing labor victory committees, to establish them whenever possible to further activate and extend the National Negro Congress which is reviving its

activities, expending it as a real factor towards the Unity Movement of the Negroes and in the course of all this, to conduct ourselves to make our own contributions and our own position clear so that we will be able to recruit even larger numbers of Negro workers into the Party."

A speech was made at this same Conference by Phillip Bart, Organizational Secretary of the Communist Party for District 8, including the Indiana-Illinois area, in which he reported on the membership recruiting drive. He referred to the figure of 39 per cent as being the proportion of Negroes who had been recruited into the Party since the beginning of the membership drive on January 1, 1943. The total number was set by him at 137 new members of the Negro race. This figure, of course, represents an out of proportion number of Negro recruits as compared with the number of white recruits.

In the Chicago area the Communist Party has been working for and among Negroes there through mainly its influence in labor unions and the International Workers Order, especially in promoting its program as to the manner in which Negroes should be treated. This is in addition to its recruiting campaign. The actual effect on the Negroes as a result of the Communist Party's activities is more a result of the Party's agitational campaign for Negro rights rather than its attempt to recruit them.

The following details are set forth concerning a Conference on Racial Problems, held on June 5, 1943 in the aldermanic chambers of the City Hall in Chicago, Illinois which are believed to exemplify the Communist Party's exploitation of the Negroes - in this case using the Detroit riots of June 20-22, 1943 as a means to its end:

This conference is reported to have been called by Fullerton Fulton of the Chicago Industrial Union Council, CIO. Confidential informants of this Bureau have advised that Communist Party leaders in the Chicago area also had a definite part in the arrangements for the meeting. Approximately 175 people, the majority of whom were white, attended.

According to Fullerton Fulton, the purpose of the meeting was to guard against the danger of race riots in the Chicago area and to reiterate that the Congress of Industrial Organizations will not tolerate racial discrimination in Chicago.

Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago appeared by invitation and spoke briefly advising of the dangers of unnecessary stimulation in inter-racial problems. He left the meeting early subsequent to informing that he had given a statement to the press relative to a committee he would appoint to study these problems.

The following individuals were the principal speakers at the meeting: A. L. Foster, Executive Secretary of the Chicago Urban League; Samuel Levin, President of the Illinois State Industrial Union Council, CIO; Oscar Brown, President of the Chicago Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; Edward A. Strong, National Secretary

of the National Negro Congress, a Communist front organization; Earl B. Dickerson, reported Communist sympathizer, who represented the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee; Michael Mann, Secretary of the Chicago Industrial Union Council, CIO; Robert Travis, Vice President of the Illinois State Industrial Union Council, CIO, and member of the Executive Committee of District 8 of the Communist Party; William L. Patterson, Director of the Abraham Lincoln School and member of District 8 of the Communist Party; Clifford Townsend, a labor union representative; Louise Thompson, Midwest Director of the International Workers Order and member of the Executive Committee of District 8 of the Communist Party; and Frank McCullough, reported Communist sympathizer and representative from the Mullenbach Institute.

In substance, Foster is reported to have stated that interracial understanding is contingent upon better housing conditions and elimination of discrimination in the Armed Forces and industry. He is said to have blamed neighborhood Negro newspapers for fomenting hatred and prejudices.

Oscar Brown in his talk reportedly stated that there are approximately 250 major defense industries in Chicago which refuse employment to Negroes and by so doing act in a subversive manner. He blamed the present situation on discrimination in the administration of the Selective Training and Service Act and on segregation in the Armed Forces.

Edward Strong, reported Communist, declared the outbreak in Detroit was not a race riot but an organized insurrection against the United States. He claimed that of the 28 Negroes killed, almost all were killed by policemen and that of 1,300 persons in jail in Detroit, 1,200 were Negroes.

Earl B. Dickerson stated the Negro people should join forces with the Congress of Industrial Organizations as the best way to obtain their desires. He claimed there is a "second front" in the United States and that Negroes are not content to sit back as they did in the first World War but rather were demanding full equality at the present time.

Robert Travis, previously identified, demanded that school text books be revised to delete anti-Negro statements and reportedly called for a drastic reorganization of the Chicago Police Department.

William L. Patterson attributed the Detroit race riots to Fascists, the Ku Klux Klan, German-American Bund elements, and industrial manufacturers who refused to adhere to the President's order concerning discrimination.

Clifford Townsend in his turn stated Negro soldiers were ready to take up their guns and "clean up" the South. He reportedly said that 98 per cent of the Negroes are ready to die for freedom.

Louise Thompson is said to have concurred with the comments of

the previous speakers.

At the end of the meeting a 12-point program, with certain amendments, was unanimously adopted. This program included the formation of a continuation committee to work with the one to be appointed by Mayor Kelly. It also urged sending a telegram to the President urging him to address the people of this country and ask them to avoid actions leading to mob violence.

In summarizing the effect of the Communist Party on the Negroes in this area, it is believed that although the Party is soliciting all-out cooperation on the part of Negroes in the war effort, it is constantly through its various forces, bringing to the attention of the Negroes alleged instances of discrimination, segregation and denial of equal rights, the effect of which only serves to further agitate the Negroes residing there.

The Chicago Defender

The Chicago Defender was started as a private enterprise by Robert S. Abbott, one of the leading colored men of his day. Abbott died in 1940 and left his estate, including the Robert S. Abbott Publishing Company, in the form of a trust. At the present, James B. Cashin, Negro attorney, is chairman of the Trustee Board. It should be stated that Cashin is reported to be one of the wealthiest Negroes of the United States and bears an excellent reputation.

John Fengegacke, a nephew of Robert S. Abbott is presently the active manager of the publication. Fengegacke is a young College graduate and is highly thought of. The widow of Robert S. Abbott, Mrs. Edna Abbott, is the present Vice President.

Metz T. P. Lochard is the Secretary-Treasurer. Lochard has been with the publication for approximately twenty-five years, having worked his way from the position of an office boy to that of Secretary-Treasurer. Lucius Harper is the editorial manager and is in a large part responsible for the policy of the Chicago Defender.

Considerable information has been reported concerning Metz Lochard and Lucius Harper. Confidential sources of information have reported that these two individuals have been present at many meetings of the Communist Party District No. 8 in Chicago, Illinois, and that at several meetings held since July 1942 both Harper and Lochard have been seated on the speakers' platform and have had made addresses at meetings of the Communist Party. With regard to Harper, it has been stated that he takes advantage of every opportunity to appear at the Communist Party affairs and that his political party work has always been the Communist Party's work.

A review of the editorials appearing in the Chicago Defender reveals that the publication is strongly behind the war effort and that it is most active in calling for a second front. A review of the issues of the paper also reveal that a considerable number of news items dealing with alleged discrimination against the Negro in army camps and alleged acts of brutality against Negro soldiers appear in its issues. Numerous sources of information interviewed in this area state that the newspaper is one of the leading exponents of a program for unification of the Negroes. Likewise the recent lynchings in Mississippi have brought headlines in the Chicago Defender and occasioned a great deal of unrest among the Negroes in this area. Confidential sources of information reported that the attitude among the general Negro classes following the lynchings has not been good.

The Pittsburgh Courier, the Chicago edition of it, is the only other Negro newspaper with an office in Chicago. A. N. Fields, an attorney and a former assistant Illinois State attorney, is the head of the Chicago branch of the Pittsburgh Courier. A confidential source of information has advised that Fields is a very responsible Negro who bears an excellent reputation. Informant has further advised that the quality of this paper is determined in Pittsburgh and not in Chicago and that A. N. Fields has therefore very little to do with the editorial policy or management of the paper.

MARCH ON WASHINGTON MOVEMENT

On June 30, 1943, the National Conference of the March on Washington Movement convened in Chicago, Illinois and it has been scheduled to continue through July 4, 1943, culminating in a demonstration in the form of a parade on Sunday, July 4, 1943. The first session of the Conference took place on the evening of June 30, 1943, and was attended by approximately 500 persons. A. Phillip Randolph, National Leader of this organization, presided, and he is related to have said that the March on Washington Movement was founded to express condemnation of those Governmental policies which permit racial discrimination and segregation. He is said to have announced that the Convention would consider the development of what he described a powerful non-partisan political bloc to bring pressure on Congress for the enactment of the anti-poll tax and anti-lynching bills. This political bloc, according to Randolph, will ask that Negroes be given "first-class citizenship status."

Randolph is reported to have also stated the President would be requested to form a national race commission for the purpose of achieving a Congressional investigation of race riots.

Dr. Lawrence Ervin, who is the Eastern Regional Director of the organization, also spoke at the opening meeting and stated the "Negro must fight for his rights" and "who in hell is going to tell the Negro how he should go about getting his rights."

At 12:00 noon, July 1, 1943, a business session of the Convention was held and in attendance were approximately 110 people. The Credentials Committee at this meeting made various reports. The Convention's program was outlined and permanent national committees previously appointed by the Executive Board of this organization were announced.

An afternoon session was held on July 1 which was attended by approximately 270 delegates and members of the public. A discussion on "The Outlook and Future of the Fair Employment Practices Committee" was engaged in by Earl B. Dickerson and Milton P. Webster, both of Chicago, who were former members of this Committee, and Harold Stevens and Thurman Dodson, delegates to the Convention from Washington, D. C. A dispute arose between the Protestants and Catholics when Dodson is said to have attacked the President for appointing Monsignor Haas as head of the Fair Employment Practice Committee on the ground that Monsignor Haas was not suitable because of his training as a Catholic priest. Stevens, a Washington delegate, led the dispute against Dodson.

There were two resolutions adopted at the afternoon meeting of July 1, one condemning the action of Monsignor Haas for his decision in the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding Corporation case in Mobile, Alabama, which permitted Negroes to work on only four of the ways in the shipyards. This action was labelled as discrimination against Negroes. The second resolution was an appeal to have Dickerson and Webster reappointed to the new committee of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

It is said that both of the resolutions were sent to the President by telegram. In this connection, Randolph is reported to have read a resolution in the form of a telegram to the minority and majority leaders of both Houses of Congress, to the Vice President, and to Congressman Fish of New York in which an appeal was made that legislation be passed to create a "Commission on Race in America." It is allegedly desired that this commission rule on all racial questions arising in the United States. The last resolution was unanimously adopted.

A confidential informant has also advised that a decision on an actual march on the City of Washington will not be reached or discussed in open meetings at the Convention until an answer has been received to the three previously mentioned resolutions.

The evening session of July 1, 1943, was held at the Metropolitan Community Church, and approximately 600 persons attended. The speakers included Layle Lane, New York Unit Secretary of the organization; Carl Hansberry, wealthy Negro Chicago real estate owner; Cordelia Green Johnson, President of the Beauty Culturists League of America; Henry Johnson, United Mine Worker Union representative; Bayard Rustin, Fellowship of Reconciliation; Dr. George Edward Haynes of the Federal Council of Churches in America, all of whom are Negroes. All of the speakers criticized the discrimination against the segregation of the Negroes in labor and in the armed forces. Among other things urged were that Negroes secure political, social, and economic freedom by the use of purchasing power and the right to vote, to be found in the total Negro population. Hansberry advised Negroes to take advantage of all legal means to secure freedom from racial discrimination. Bayard Rustin of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, which organization has been cooperating with the March on Washington Movement in the "direct action non-violence program" to secure Negroes' rights, urged that the March on Washington movement follow this program. This program includes Negroes testing "Jim Crow" laws and customs through the use of non violence. Rustin said

that violence would be suicidal and that no results would come from the use of force.

It should be noted that the Fellowship of Reconciliation, a militant pacifist organization, has provided some of its membership to assist in such a program which is copied after the technique used by Mohandas Gandhi of India.

E. Pauline Myers, National Executive Secretary of the March on Washington Movement, in a meeting on the morning of June 2, as well as other speakers, stressed the importance of members not responding to violence on the part of white agitators and policemen. At this meeting a program was suggested whereby Negroes would be educated by this organization for teaching non-violence technique to include approaching white proprietors of restaurants, bus companies, and theaters to secure services for both Negroes and whites. It should be noted this program was outlined largely by members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

A committee on this program decided on the morning of July 2 that experiments would be made with the non-violence technique in the cities of New York, Washington, Richmond, Chicago, and Los Angeles. The committee also recommended that the organization establish an institute to teach this technique with headquarters at New York City.

The Conference continued through July 4, 1943 and ended with a mass meeting at the Dusable High School in Chicago. In attendance were approximately 2200 Negroes. Among the speakers were Dr. Charles Wesley Burton, President of the Chicago Unit; Dr. William Stuart Nelson, Director of the "Action Program" of the March on Washington Movement; Dr. E. Stanley Jones, white, a missionary to India who has been described as an aid to Mohandas Gandhi; A. Philip Randolph, Dr. James Horace, Negro preacher at the Monumental Baptist Church; and Rev. T. B. Chapman, Shilo Baptist Church, Englewood, Illinois.

The rallying power of the Chicago Unit of the March on Washington Movement cannot be definitely established although as will be noted from above approximately 2200 Negroes were in attendance at the last session of the National Conference. At a meeting held by the organization in the summer of 1942, approximately 8200 persons attended. Thus it can be seen a degree of support is had among the 300,000 Negroes in Chicago. There is, of course, to be considered, influence through the activities and utterances of the members in Chicago.

CINCINNATI FIELD DIVISION

Concerning the general situation among the Negro inhabitants of this area, it has been reported that there appeared to be dissatisfaction and anger because of discrimination against them as well as an apathy towards the war effort. A number of reports have been received to the effect that Negro inhabitants of the area have made such remarks as "why should I fight for this so-called democracy when my people have no equal opportunity with the whites and when by fighting we would merely be killed by the Japanese instead of lynched by Southern whites". There have also been allegations received that some of the inhabitants have become arrogant and unamenable to law and order. Two incidents have been pointed out wherein Negroes have thrown rocks at police cars and where the police officers involved did not dare to do anything about it. It is further alleged that this attitude on the part of the Negroes in the area has become increasingly noticeable. It has been the subject of many reports to the Cincinnati Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The general feeling in the area was described as being in danger and that someone is apparently scaring the Negroes to an anti-white hatred. It is also alleged that the publicity organization which is responsible for a part of the attitude is the Pittsburgh Courier.

There are seven Negro newspapers published in the territory covered by the Cincinnati Field Division. The editorial policy of all these newspapers follows the national war effort and advocates better conditions for the Negroes.

The editor of "Union" published at Cincinnati, Ohio wrote a front page editorial on December 18, 1941, containing statements that Japan merits credit and appreciation. The editor asked why some colored people call the Japanese names, and wanted to know if it was to curry favor with the whites. The organizations active in the vicinity of the Cincinnati Field Division are as follows:

The Universal Negro Improvement Association is active in Cincinnati, Ohio and James R. Stewart, the president of this organization, made a speech at Cincinnati on February 22, 1942, in which he stated, "We will remember Missouri and then Pearl Harbor" --- "To hell with Pearl Harbor". Stewart also made a speech in Cincinnati on May 17, 1942, in which he allegedly made pro-Japanese statements.

It is reported the original purpose of the Universal Negro Improvement Association was the redemption of Africa, transporting all Negroes there, and setting up an independent government controlled and operated by Negroes. It is said the organization has approximately two hundred members.

The March on Washington organization has had some activity in Columbus, Ohio even though a definite organization has not been formed. It is reported that colored people at Dayton, Ohio have not supported the movement very strongly but there has been discussion of the movement in the local colored papers.

An organization known as the March on Tokyo is reportedly active in the vicinity of Columbus, Ohio but an outside source reports that the primary interest of the colored people connected with this movement was to win the war and to make the winning of equal rights for the colored, a secondary cause.

The Double V Program has been quite active in the vicinity of Cincinnati. It should be noted this organization was started by a colored person from Kansas, and was adopted by the Pittsburgh Courier newspaper which conducted a campaign to organize chapters throughout the United States. This organization is also active in the vicinity of Dayton and Columbus, Ohio.

In this area local chapters of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People are in existence and are continuing their campaign against discrimination and denial of equal rights to Negroes. The organization is active in Cincinnati, Columbus, Dayton, Hamilton, Hillsboro, Lockland, Newark, Portsmouth, Steubenville, Urbana and Zanesville, Ohio.

In the vicinity of Columbus, Ohio the Communist Party has also been active in agitating and propagandizing among the Negroes for their support. As indicative of this it was reported that on August 26, 1942 a Communist Party meeting was held in the Negro Masonic Hall in Columbus, Ohio at which Ruth Ferloss, organizational secretary of the Columbus Communist Party urged everyone to write the President protesting the sentence of the three Negro soldiers in Louisiana to death on rape charge. It was further reported that it was announced on August 31, 1942, at a Communist Party meeting in Columbus, Ohio that the Party was having some success in recruiting Negro professors at Wilberforce University, a Negro educational college at Dayton, Ohio.

Another organization in the Columbus, Ohio area, reported to be formed and sponsored by Negroes is the Vanguard League which is active in agitating for Negro rights. It is stated that its president, Frank Shearer is reportedly a Communist Party member.

In the Dayton, Ohio area an organization known as the Swatita Club is said to have been active. Actually the organization had no Axis leanings. It is said to be composed of young, married Negro couples and is thoroughly patriotic. Recently the name of the organization was changed to the Eight Twenty-Five Club to remove all doubt.

Among the Negro newspapers in this area are the Dayton Forum, published at Dayton, Ohio, the Butler County American, published at Hamilton, Ohio, and the Ohio State News, published at Columbus, Ohio. These newspapers have a patriotic appeal and urge full participation by the Negroes in the war effort.

An incident occurring in Xenia, Ohio, during the last part of January and early in February 1943 has been reported in which near riots resulted between white and Negro people in that city because of the refusal by motion picture theater operators to admit Negroes to afternoon and evening performances. This trouble is said to have been instigated by student representatives of Wilberforce University and Antioch College. It was also reported that some of the professors at these two colleges were in the matter. In this connection, a letter has been furnished by a confidential and reliable source written by one of the white students instigating Negroes to test segregation measures in the theaters. This letter is set forth in part to exemplify the type of agitation conducted by such white forces:

"The action we took Tuesday night was very successful. The Negro students got here at five. We ate, had a meeting and then started out. It was very carefully planned. The object was to diffuse the Negro students throughout the theatre after the movie had started. Small groups started out for the movie, getting there before time at set intervals. The Negroes, of course, were separated. The Wilberforce students sat in the Jim Crow section. I and John Deihl timed it so that we were the last pair of white students to get there. We were followed by a Negro couple. We got to the theatre a couple of minutes late and gave the sign to the couple behind to go in as the picture had started. They walked in, after buying their tickets, and went all the way down the aisle past the Jim Crow section which is in the very back. The owner followed them right down to tell them to go back. As he went down, all the Wilberforce students got up and quietly diffused throughout the theatre, seating themselves by the Antiochians who were by the aisle. Dennis, the owner, then, had to lean over 2 people to tell the Negroes to go back and was completely ignored by all. There wasn't a thing he could do and he knew it. We really broke a precedent. We had a meeting upon returning after the show. A Negro student and I had formed a proposition which I presented at the meeting. I pointed out that this wouldn't be enough, that we would have to approach the Negroes in town and get them to cooperate in similar manner in the future. Though legally within our rights, the very fact that there are

"Jim Crow sections in Springfield and Dayton makes it clear that it is tremendously difficult to get a suit filed, without continual postponement, etc. I proposed an action committee to deal with problems of discrimination here and in Xenia. The committee would be composed of our and Wilberforce's students and would meet as frequently as possible. Any idea for action would be taken to the respective CCC committees and we would thus get mass action. The motion was passed and I was elected one of the 4 members - which made me a bit embarrassed as I had suggested the creation of the sub-committee."

At Columbus, Ohio, a prominent Negro has offered his opinions and information relative to the restless attitude on the part of Negroes there. He has pointed to the Curtiss-Wright Corporation in that city where he alleged there is an extremely tense atmosphere. He has referred to several fights involving only two people, usually a white and a Negro employee. With reference to these fights, he has alleged that a foreman in one of the departments at Curtiss-Wright had called Negro employees together and told them he hoped they could band together for self-protection in leaving the plant and returning to their homes which, according to the source of information, inferred it would be perfectly all right for Negroes to start fights with white workers. He has cited another instance in which he alleged a shop steward of a union at this plant had advised Negroes in the union to fight back and to resist slurs on their race. The source of information stated such instances only serve to incite Negroes and to encourage them to commit acts of violence.

The source of information continued in referring to the Curtiss-Wright Plant situation, saying that it was aggravated by the fact that for the first time Negroes have been obtaining positions of good pay and responsibility. Then, he has added, many of the workers are whites from Kentucky and other southern States who resent working side by side in comparable positions with Negroes. He furnished the opinion that over and above the antipathy between the southern whites and the Negroes there is possibly outside influence being asserted which is purposely inciting Negroes and helping them form the attitude they are beginning to take in this area.

There are a large number of Negro organizations in this area, the leaders of which express sentiments varying from a militant nature in demanding equal rights to an anti-white feeling bordering on a pro-Japanese sentiment. In this connection, a white confidential source of information has advised of being in touch with Negro leaders of the various organizations in Cincinnati for a number of years. He stated that during the last two or three years it has become plain that a large percentage of Negroes in the poorer class in Cincinnati were pro-Japanese in their sentiments. He related one cannot approach any Negro, with the exception of some of the better educated

and more wealthy individuals, without hearing at one time or another praise for the Japanese or statements by the maker that he would prefer Japan to win the war. He gave as an explanation for this the teachings of such men as Mimo de Guzman which fell on the receptive ears of Negroes in the early 1930's and the repetition of them by Negroes who accepted the teachings of De Guzman.

This source continued, stating that spreading pro-Japanese sentiment has been easy in that Negroes had already been filled with the idea they were unjustly dealt with by the white people in this country and were willing to accept any other "master" in preference. He has also offered the opinion that allegiance to a foreign power and talk of rebellion, along with the use of titles and uniforms, have been appealing to many Negroes' minds.

Among the more militant Negro groups in the Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus and Springfield areas, at meetings of which pro-Japanese or at least anti-white sentiments have been expressed, are the Universal Negro Improvement Association, the Future Outlook League, the Good Samaritan Negro Improvement Association, and the Moslem Sect. There are also such militant organizations which confine themselves to strong anti-discrimination and segregation views as the Urban League, the March on Washington Movement, the Double V Clubs and the Vanguard League. There is, of course, the continued agitation in these areas by the Communist Party working through its fronts, urging Negroes to engage in the war effort wholeheartedly but at the same time playing upon alleged instances of discrimination and the denial of equal rights, thus exploiting the Negro and causing added unrest.

The full import of the influence of the above-mentioned anti-white and in some instances pro-Japanese groups cannot be evaluated inasmuch as while the attendance at the meetings rarely exceeds 250 or 300 persons, the extent of spreading and teaching by members of the principles dealt with is not known. However, the number of complaints received of individual Negroes expressing pro-Japanese sentiments have increased and are not confined merely to one particular area. In all instances, however, those organizations expressing an anti-American or pro-Japanese attitude are under investigation and are receiving constant attention.

CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION

General

A source of information who is believed to be in close contact with the Negro population in the Cleveland area has been contacted for his views regarding the racial situation there. He has stated that from his experience and observations there are two distressing things among the Negro population of Cleveland at the present time. One is the inability to obtain employment for which they are qualified and the other is the alleged mistreatment accorded Negro soldiers in Army encampments in Southern States. He has advised that he has heard of no Negro openly expressing any desire of an alliance with a foreign power and that he has never heard one suggest such crimes as espionage or sabotage. He added, however, that he believes there is a strong feeling among Negroes that they should use every law, device, and measure of pressure available, in fact, anything short of subversive activity itself, to obtain for themselves rights and privileges which they have never before been accorded. It was his further opinion that the Northern Negro is becoming more interested in his situation than ever before.

This same source of information has advised that he believes there is a great amount of discontent among Negro boys between 18 and 25 years of age. He pointed out that such Negroes have finished high school and feel that they are as well equipped to assume positions in certain industries or at least as well equipped to receive training in preparation for these positions as are any white people. He continued stating that these individuals have been denied opportunities and for that reason they are disgruntled at the white people because they are in control of defense plants. As a result, he stated Negroes in this age bracket "carry a chip on their shoulders" and as a further result rowdiness, purse snatching and petty crimes among Negroes are increasing. In summation he stated that he believed most of the trouble or the unrest and agitation among the Negroes is a result of discrimination against them by white people.

Another source of information, a Negro, who has been interviewed has advised that the attitude of Negroes generally in the Cleveland area with reference to the present war effort is that they are discontented because they cannot obtain defense employment. He added that he felt the Negroes are not enthusiastic over entering into the Army inasmuch as they feel the United States Army is the only organization which has use for Negroes. As a consequence, he concludes that he is being denied equal

rights and opportunities. This same source of information has related that he has obtained no indications reflecting any indication that the Negro's attitude is influenced by foreign-inspired agitation. He has stated that Negroes are interested in no other country and feel the United States is their home. He added that in his opinion Negroes feel their problem is one to be solved at the home front. He said that he believes the consensus of opinion among the Negroes in this area relative to the international situation is that although they are not satisfied with their treatment in this country, they, as a whole, do not believe they would receive better treatment under any other government or any other form of government.

Another source of information who is in a position to know and understand the Negro situation in this area, has been interviewed and had advised that he believes there is no disloyalty among the Negroes and that there is the feeling that they do not want the United States or the United Nations to be defeated but at the same time the Negroes do want some of the hardships and limitations which they suffer lifted. Continuing, he advised that among the more intelligent Negroes there is no attempt to use the present situation as a lever for bargaining power to gain the ends that the Negro race has, as a whole, been seeking. He said, however, that there is considerable effort among the unlettered class to accomplish this. He believes that there is now existing more of a nationalistic tendency than heretofore ever existed and the reason for this is that the Negro is becoming interested in the "plight" of his race as a whole. He said there is a considerable amount of discrimination against Negroes especially by defense industries and that in his opinion the way to overcome these discriminations is to place qualified Negroes in positions and let them prove that they, even though they are Negroes, could do the same job as the white man.

With regard to the Negroes' entrance into the armed forces, he advised that a considerable portion of the Negroes had resigned themselves to the inevitable and reasoned that they might as well join the Army. The same source pointed out although a considerable number of Negroes wanted the war to last some period of time they felt the Negro race as a whole would accomplish more in an international crisis toward having the limitations and discriminations against them removed than in ordinary times. He said that they did not wish to see the United Nations lose the present war but they would like to see the United States and England get shocked very hard before victory, hoping

that it would make them realize that discriminations practiced against the Negroes were wrong. He believed that there was no actual subversive element among them. It should be pointed out at this time that the opinion expressed by this source of information with regard to the Negroes, desiring England and the United States to be shocked, has not been supported by other sources of information interviewed.

Organizations in Cleveland Area

The Unity for Victory Conference

The Unity for Victory Conference was held September 19-20, 1942, at the Cedar Y.M.C.A. It was a two-day affair which was broken down into various discussion groups with each group reporting to the General Assembly at the close of the Conference. It was attended by white people from various defense plants and a representative of the Fair Employment Practices Committee in Cleveland, Ohio. No information has been received reflecting any subversive activities as far as the group is concerned. However, the issues which were agreed upon by various panels, reportedly were comparable to those usually adopted in Communist Party or Communist delegated meetings. They were the urging of the immediate opening of a second front, the urging of the formation of volunteer mixed regiments, the urging that Negroes insist that the Secretary of War request citizens in the South to protect Negro soldiers through the creation of more Negro Military Police, the agreeing that Red Cross discrimination against the Negroes must be eliminated, and the urging that discrimination against Negroes be eliminated in connection with defense employment and training.

The Grant Lodge of the Fraternal Order of Vulcan

This organization which has offices in the Woodland Market Building, Cleveland, Ohio, recently held a mass meeting in Youngstown, Ohio, on September 15, 1942. The meeting dealt with various alleged discriminatory practices against and denial of, equal rights to Negroes.

The organization is a fraternal order organized for the purpose of uniting Negroes to pool their resources for economic independence and to provide jobs in various types of business for its members. It also has the purpose of breaking down prejudice against the Negroes.

The Future Outlook League, Incorporated

This organization has its headquarters in Cleveland, Ohio and has also been in existence in the Alliance, Ohio area. Its President is John O. Holly, a Negro, who makes militant speeches at Negro gatherings, reportedly following the line of fighting racial discrimination against the Negroes in war plants, as well as seeking employment for them in industry. There have been reports that some of the speeches assume the aspect of "anti-white". It has held meetings in various cities of Ohio, including Alliance, Youngstown, Cleveland, Columbus and Toledo. It is reported to have some affiliation with the Vanguard League, and at one time it is reported to have offered its support to the March on Washington Movement.

Recently Holly contacted officials of the Ohio Bell Telephone Company at Cleveland, Ohio, demanding that Negro girls be employed as telephone operators and threatening in effect that if such action was not taken by the company, a mass meeting would be held in front of the telephone building in Cleveland. Holly is reported to have warned that when a group of people gather in such a manner, anything might happen. The outcome of Holly's conference with the Telephone Company officials has not been reported. However, it is known that no meeting such as threatened by Holly took place before the telephone building in Cleveland.

It is further reported that this organization succeeded in changing the policy of the Palmer Machine Company in Akron, Ohio with regard to the hiring of Negro women. This was also the case with the Globe Crayon Company.

This organization is said to employ an individual by the name of Dewey M. Young, who is said to be the legal advisor and special investigator of the organization. Young is reported to have advised that his work is to investigate the circumstances surrounding reported acts of discrimination against Negroes and to proffer charges against those discriminating.

The Universal Negro Improvement Association

This organization, which has its national headquarters at 2200 East 40th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, has for its national president, James R. Stewart, subject of an active investigation being conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It publishes a monthly magazine entitled "The New Negro World". Investigation of the organization to date reveals that it caters to the more ignorant class of Negroes and has for its purpose the redemption of Africa and the transporting of all Negroes who are interested in going there from this country to ultimately establish a free and independent government controlled and operated by Negroes only.

It is pointed out that in the February issue of "The New Negro World", which is edited by Stewart, an editorial written by Stewart was to the effect that if Negroes were to be discriminated against as they have been in the past, then he would say "to Hell with Pearl Harbor" rather than "Remember Pearl Harbor".

The Negro Press

In the Cleveland area there are two publications published by Negroes which are the "Call and Post", a weekly newspaper with offices at 2319 East 55th Street, and the "Cleveland Herald", a weekly newspaper published at 2290 East 71st Street. It is reported these two newspapers have consistently for over a year, dealt in a militant fashion with matters affecting Negroes. There is being set out hereinafter various types of articles appearing in these papers since August 1941.

In August and September 1941, there were articles complaining about "Jim Crowism" in the armed forces and the treatment afforded Negroes in the armed forces in Southern States. Other articles, however, during these two months were matters of general interest containing very little agitation against discrimination.

During the period September 20 to October 19, 1941, there were articles first referring to alleged mistreatment of Negroes in the South and its potential effect on the war effort and an accompanying demand for fair treatment for the Negroes there. Another article alleged that there was discrimination against Jews and Negroes in the Air Forces of both the Army and the Navy. Another article, however, at this time reflected that the Negroes were better off under the United States Government than under Axis domination. Still another article reflected that Negroes were buying

Defense Bonds and that if Hitler was counting on race prejudice as a disrupting factor in the United States he was "counting his chickens before they hatched".

During the period of October 20 to November 19, 1941, an article reflected that the Negro has no pride in the way he is treated in the United States but that under Axis domination he would be thrown into barbarism. Another article pointed out that labor unions were discriminating against Negroes in employment in United States defense industries.

During the period November 20, through December 19, 1941, articles entitled "Comments on Current Events" reflected that the policy of the Negro is to fight for the defeat of Hitler but at the same time to extend democratic rights to all people. There was also an article during this period depicting the great disadvantages the Negro would suffer under Axis domination. Another article during this period discussed the attack on Pearl Harbor as a "stab in the back" and went on to state that in spite of mistreatment of the Negro in this country he was ready to serve in the armed forces.

During the period from December 20, 1941, to January 19, 1942, it was said that Negroes were expecting better and more generous treatment from his fellow citizens.

During the period January 20 to February 19, 1942, considerable space was devoted to the lynching and burning of a Negro in Sikeston, Missouri, it being pointed out that such instances did not make the Negro happy, however, he was still loyal.

During the period February 20 through March 19, 1942, an editorial appeared expressing the hope for more employment for Negro women. Another article during this period reflected that "white supremacy" in the Orient was taking a "beating". During this period it was also pointed out that a great tragedy existed in the wasted labor caused by discrimination against the Negroes.

During the period of March 20 to April 19, 1942, editorials appeared complaining about the alleged mistreatment and discrimination practiced in the armed forces against the Negroes.

During the period April 20 to May 19, 1942, articles appeared stating that the continued enlistment of Negroes in that area as messmen in the United States Navy, the only capacity in which they were able to

serve, was an indication of the unquestioned loyalty of the Negro. Another article during this period pointed out that of all the discriminations practiced against the American Negro in the Northern States the Polish people seemed to have the biggest part. Another article appeared defending the Negro press stating that it was not subversive and opposed to the war effort but opposed rather to the way Negroes were being treated in the present war effort.

Youngstown, Ohio

In this area sources of information interviewed advise they believe there is no foreign-inspired agitation among the Negroes there but stated rather it is the general and widespread belief that there is discrimination existing against the Negroes. One source of information has cited the fact that there are many Negroes in the Army and that as a consequence their relatives in civilian life would not oppose the war effort.

One source of information was interviewed who is reportedly "extremely liberal if not radical" in many of his views, has advised that the proper way to solve the Negro problems is by one of three methods:

1. Through interracial committees with no publicity or fanfare.
2. Mass meetings.
3. Agitation against racial discrimination.

He stated that as far as the average Negro was concerned he believed that he is making money, having a good time, and not doing much thinking. He related, however, that on the other hand, thinking Negroes believe the final outcome of the Indian situation will be an indication possibly of what will happen to the Negroes in the United States.

A Negro member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars who has been contacted with regard to the Negro situation in and around Youngstown, Ohio, has advised that the only information he has received with regard to un-American activities among Negroes are those of the Jehovah's Witnesses sect.

With regard to the popularity and the effectiveness of Negro organizations in and around Youngstown, it was reported that inasmuch as

there is no Negro District in that area, for that reason it is difficult for organizations to operate and maintain strength.

Future Outlook League

Until recently the Future Outlook League existed in Youngstown, Ohio, and had for its president a Negro by the name of Bertram Carlson. Carlson is said to have been close to the Communist Party, if not a member of it and at one time solicited membership into the Party. He was arrested in Cleveland, Ohio, in October 1941 for carrying a dangerous weapon on the night of a dinner given in honor of the Communist Party Secretary for Cuyahoga County. The organization had for its purpose the agitation for anti-discrimination moves.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

This organization is active in the Youngstown, Ohio, area and is headed by Reverend H. B. Gibson who is said to have caused considerable agitation relative to the mistreatment of Negroes by white people in this area.

Communist Party

Although it has a general interest in obtaining cooperation of Negroes in the war effort, the Communist Party still is active in the Cleveland and Youngstown area in agitating for and among the Negroes. There are various indications that the purpose for such agitation is to gain the support of Negroes rather than to aid them in their alleged plight.

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

In the Detroit area, where there are well over 100,000 Negroes, there are all of the settings for a boom city. In all phases of the economic and social life in this city and its environs there is an electrified air. Much of this has been the result of an abnormal increase in the population during the past three years of both whites and Negroes. This increase can be set forth as follows:

White people:	Totalling 450,000 persons
Negroes:	Totalling approximately 35,000 persons

The general increase in the population has added to the congestion in the Detroit area, especially in regard to amusement facilities, eating places, public transportation and traffic. It has also created a great and deplorable congestion and shortage of housing facilities both for Negroes and whites.

These factors, taken into consideration with the increased tempo of life brought about by the war and the preparation for it, are supplemented by reported social and economic inequalities between whites and Negroes in the area, as well as by subversive and allegedly un-American forces exploiting the Negro population. All of these forces, each with its proportionate share, contribute to make the general Negro population in Detroit antagonistic, unsatisfied and unsympathetic in many instances with the war effort.

Set forth hereinafter is that information broken down into its various phases which has been received, along with the confidential opinions and conclusions of confidential sources of information, which reflects these various forces among the Negro population in Detroit:

PRO-JAPANESE AND ANTI-WHITE INFLUENCE

The records of an investigation by this Bureau reflect that in 1933 and 1934 a Japanese propagandist, Naka Nakane, an alien was very active and to some extent, not measurable at this time, effective among the Negroes in Detroit. He originated in 1933 what was then termed a secret organization for Negroes, the Development of Our Own, by representing himself as Satakata Takahashi, a Major in the Japanese army, and stating he was the representative in the United States of the Japanese Black Dragon Society, an ultra-nationalistic patriotic group. The Develop-

ment of Our Own was incorporated in Lansing, Michigan, as a patriotic brotherhood. Through this organization Nakane was said to have promised assistance, arms and money to the Negroes in a war against the white race, claiming that Japanese agents were all over the United States in the interests of his organization working through the Universal Negro Improvement Association.

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

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

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

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

Five members of the Allah Temple of Islam in Detroit have been questioned regarding their failure to register under the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 as amended. Three of the five have been released at the direction of the United States Attorney upon their agreeing to register. Two, however, were held and pleaded guilty for failure to register. In the interviews with these individuals all refused to admit any person had counseled them to evade the provisions of this Act. They all did advise they refused to register because they were registered with the Holy City of Mecca and, therefore, should not be registered again.

There is a branch of the Universal Negro Improvement Association in Detroit which meets at 1516 Russel Street. A Reverend Wheat, said to be formerly of Chicago, Illinois, is described as the Detroit leader, while one William Sherril has been organization head in the Detroit area. In this connection, it should be pointed out that Sherril in 1939 as a candidate for the Common Council of Detroit polled more than 15,000 votes. The extent of membership in this organization is not presently known. However, it is known that in July 1942 a meeting was held at the headquarters of the organization and approximately 300 attended. Reverend Wheat spoke at this meeting and reportedly admonished Negroes to reject the white man's ideas and to think independently and said that white men have suppressed defenseless Negroes. He is said to have urged that Negroes take advantage of the war situation to secure their rights.

William L. Sherril is the author of a regular column published in the Negro newspaper, "The Michigan Chronicle." In October 1942, in one of his articles in his column entitled "Listen, America," he expressed himself as follows:

" . . . We cannot defeat Japan -- we cannot destroy Hitlerism until we have honestly set forth to defeat and destroy the enemies of tolerance, fair play, justice and interracial good will within our own borders . . . We can't expect 100 per cent of our population to stand wholeheartedly behind the Cause for which we say we fight when only the 90 per cent is permitted the right to work anywhere, the right to live anywhere, the right to vote anywhere, and the right to be protected by the law, anywhere."

PRO-GERMAN OR FASCIST INFLUENCE

It is said that the better class of Negroes in the Detroit area is definitely opposed to the Axis beliefs and they will do anything in their

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power to assist the United States in defeating its enemies. With regard to German or Italian inspired agitation, trouble and unrest, no information has been received to the effect that such forces are at work among the Negroes in this area.

COMMUNIST EXPLOITATION OF THE NEGROES

Outside of economic and social forces and influence, the Communist Party and its various elements are believed to be by far the most responsible of all subversive groups. While the exploitation of the Negro population in Detroit has been one of its foremost activities since 1931, the Party's campaign in Negro agitation has been accelerated during the past three years.

There has been an intensified drive for membership among the Negroes in this area by the Communist Party and special efforts have been made to recruit Negroes, especially, according to confidential informants, those who are skilled workers or who have recently completed their trade training. The approach made by the Communist Party is that the Negroes should support the war effort in an all-out manner; yet, at the same time the Party decries alleged abuses of or discrimination against them. It not only pertains to the denial of equal rights and instances of discrimination, but supports social intercourse and the abolition of separation of races. In this connection, a confidential informant who has been in the Party and is well schooled in its techniques and who presently serves as a private intelligence gatherer has advised the consensus of opinion among Party members is that no trouble will result from their disruptive efforts until after the war when Negro labor and employees hired during the war will be replaced by men returning from the Armed Forces. The opinion was offered that the Communist Party believes that after the war is over there will be at least a short period of unemployment, after which men returning from the Armed Services will replace the newly trained skilled workers including the Negroes who will be forced out and onto a waiting list. Discontent will be the result and according to the source of information the Party believes the Negroes who will be replaced will then become good Party members.

This same source of information has also advised of knowing of instances where well-trained and educated Negroes in Detroit have been discriminated against as far as obtaining employment is concerned. This in turn causes discontent and a cynicism which fertilizes the Negro's mind to a point where he is receptive to Communism.

The Communist Party in the Detroit area has, besides adopting an intensive recruiting campaign among Negroes, extended its efforts through both white and Negro Communist Party members to control or influence Negro organizations. These organizations, in their order of importance, are the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Detroit Branch, the Citizens Committee for Jobs in War Industries, the Metropolitan Detroit Council for Fair Employment Practices, the Negro Youth Council for Victory and Democracy, the National Negro Congress, and "The Michigan Chronicle."

The Civil Rights Federation, which is guided by Jack Raskin, has been exceedingly active in agitating for and among Negroes in the Detroit area. The Civil Rights Federation is described as a Communist front organization and Raskin, its Executive Secretary, is stated to be extremely close to the Communist Party, and Pat Toohey, State Secretary of the Communist Party for the State of Michigan. In its attempt to influence and agitate among Negro organizations, the organization is reported to have received through Jack Raskin from John Bancy, Negro director of the Detroit Urban League, the mailing list of some 750 names which is said to reach practically every Negro organization in Detroit.

The organization has been extremely active in making plans to circulate a petition among prominent people to be sent to the Fair Employment Practice Committee with regard to the alleged discrimination in Detroit against Negroes. It has also been active in circulating petitions urging the recipient thereof to write his Senator and Congressman to support the Geyer anti-poll tax bill.

Mention should be made generally of Jack Raskin and his activities with regard to the Negro situation in this area. Raskin, who is reported to be a member of the Communist Party and organizer of Section 9 of the Communist Party in Michigan, is in frequent contact with Pat Toohey, Secretary of the Communist Party of Michigan, with reference to meetings, maneuvers and other activities directly connected with the Negro situation. He is often in contact, giving instructions or suggestions, with Negro leaders who are either sympathetic to the Communist cause or are closely affiliated with the Communist Party. He has also worked, according to a confidential informant, with Governmental representatives concerned with the Negro problem in Detroit, offering suggestions and support. In one instance, he planned with a Governmental representative to secure skilled Negro women workers for the purpose of directing them to various industries in Detroit where they were to apply for jobs. The purpose of this was to obtain cases of alleged discrimination so that certain employers could be cited.

Following is a list of leading Detroit Negro Communists and sympathizers who are reportedly active in the Party's work among their race. It is believed significant to set these names out along with their respective capacities:

Christopher Columbus Alston - Executive Secretary of the National Negro Congress; member and organizer of Communist Party.

James Anderson - Member of Section 1, Communist Party in Detroit since 1931; has been assigned to aid in building Communist Section in Ford Local 600, United Automobile Workers of America, CIO.

Ernest Austin, alias James Austin - Reported to have been a member of the James Ashford Branch of the Young Communist League in 1939.

William V. Banks - Reported to have been a member of the Communist Party from 1931 to 1933.

Joseph Harris Billups, alias Joe Hill - Candidate for Congress on the Communist Party ticket in 1932.

Alex Black, alias Robert Black - Has been a member of the James Ashford Branch of the Young Communist League and is employed by the Department of Public Works in Detroit.

Mamie Geraldine Bledsoe - Michigan sponsor of National Free Browder Congress; member Sojourner Truth Citizens Committee, Metropolitan Detroit Fair Employment Council; active in affairs of Civil Rights Federation.

Rose Blount - Worker and organizer in the Communist Party; prominent in Nathaniel Turner Club and International Negro Congress.

Jane Brown - Member in 1939 of Young Communist League; reported at present time to be Communist sympathizer.

William Brown - Has been interested in Detroit Workers School organized by Communist Party.

Eddie Butler - Member of Unit No. 2, Communist Party, since 1935; has been a member of International Labor Defense.

Anne Cash - Distributed and circulated Party literature and petitions in years 1935, 1936 and 1940.

Don Antonio Clarke - Former Financial Secretary of the James Ashford Branch of the Young Communist League.

Veal Clouch, alias Veal Clouth - Employee Ford Motor Company; reported Communist Party member and organizer.

John Conway - Sponsor second Michigan conference of National Negro Congress; alleged Communist Party member.

Gloster Current - Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People; member of Sponsorship Committee of the Free Browder Congress; reported to be constantly in contact with the offices of the Civil Rights Federation, a "Communist front", and the Communist Party.

Leon F. Curtiss - Militant member of the Communist Party and Young Communist League.

John Dancy - Director Detroit Urban League; sponsor Michigan Free Browder Congress.

Curtis Davis, alias Clifford Hill - Has been President of James Ashford Branch of Young Communist League; active in the Communist Party sub-organising committee; was on Negro committee of the Communist Party.

Tom Dennis, Jr. - Employee Willow Run Bomber Factory; reported member of the Young Communist League.

Otis Eaton - Employee Ford Motor Company; active in affairs of Civil Rights Federation.

Robert Evans - Detroit attorney; appeared at a Negro mass meeting on July 24, 1942, sponsored by the Communist Party, at which time he exhibited a ticket for the Ella Reeve Bloor birthday party.

Charles C. Diggs - Michigan State Senator; Communist sympathizer; spoke with James Ford, National Committeeman of the Party, at a Negro mass meeting on July 24, 1942.

Luke Fennell - Reported Communist Party member.

Mrs. Margaret Ferguson - In 1940 signed petition to place Communist Party on Michigan ballot; was Recording Secretary of the State Committee, International Workers Order in 1941; is said to be active in the Civil Rights Federation.

Mrs. Rosa Grace - President of the Detroit Association of Women's Clubs; is said to have cooperated closely with Jack Raskin, Executive Secretary of Civil Rights Federation, and Pat Toohy, Michigan State Secretary of the Communist Party.

Walter Hardin, also known as Walter Harding - Member of Michigan Sponsoring Committee, National Free Browder Committee; alleged Communist.

Mattie Henderson - Former leader in Section 1 of the Communist Party; said to have been active in Communist Party as late as 1940.

Ben Hicks - Reported Communist sympathizer.

Reverend Charles C. Hill - Active in Civil Rights Federation and cooperates closely with it.

Joe B. Hill - Member of the James Ashford Unit, Young Communist League.

Henrietta Jackson - Member James W. Ford Unit of the Communist Party, Detroit.

Paul Kirk - Active in Communist Party affairs; said to have attended National Training School of Communist Party in New York City in 1935.

William Latimore - Has been a member of the Young Communist League in Detroit.

Felix B. Maise - Active since 1923 in the Communist Party; has been an organizer in District 7; now a member of the Organizing Committee, Ford Local 600, United Automobile Workers of America, CIO.

Louis Martin - Editor of the Michigan Chronicle; sponsor of the Committee to Free Earl Browder; presently active in Party affairs.

Hodges Mason - Reported Communist Party member; former member of the National Executive Board of the National Negro Congress, a Communist front.

David Mates - Member of the Communist Party Michigan State Committee.

Doctor James J. McClendon - Sponsor of the National Free Browder Congress; said to associate with Communist Party members.

Frank McDonald - Member of the Communist Party.

Reverend John Miles - Active member District 7, Communist Party; active in Civil Rights Federation; member of the National Negro Congress and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

C. Hayward Naben, also known as Hayward C. Maben - Alleged section organizer of the Communist Party.

Leslie Powell - Member of Section 1, Communist Party.

Ivory Scott - Recently was active member in James Ashford Branch, Young Communist League.

John Simmons (brother of LeBron Simmons) - Associate of Communist Party members and attendant of Communist Party affairs.

LeBron Simmons - President of the National Negro Communist Unit in Detroit and member of Negro Committee, District 7, Communist Party.

Ellsworth Steen - Said to be an active organizer of Communist Party in Flint, Michigan.

Frank Sykes - Has been active in Communist Party since 1934; spoke at a meeting on July 24, 1940, where candidacy of James W. Ford for the Vice Presidency of the United States was promoted.

Shelton Tappes - Associate of Communist Party members and affiliated with Civil Rights Federation; President of Ford Local 600, United Automobile Workers of America, CIO.

Thomas Edward Tolan - Supported Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder; Chairman of Greater Detroit Unit; close associate of Communist Party members and affiliated with the Civil Rights Federation.

Herb Walker - Alleged President of Bomber Branch of the Young Communist League.

William Paul Wells, alias Paul Wills - Janitor, Chrysler Corporation; alleged advocate of Communism.

Beulah Whitby - Close associate of Communist Party members; a supporter of National Free Browder Congress; National President of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Society.

Reverend Horace A. White - Sponsor of Citizens Committee to Free Earl Browder; said to be an active supporter of Communist Party.

John White - Communist Party sympathizer.

Ed Williams - Reported active figure in Communist Party channels since 1931.

Lonnie Williams - Active in Communist Party since 1934; candidate for Attorney General of State of Michigan on Communist Party ticket in 1934; is said to have attended Lenin University in Moscow in 1935.

Merrill C. Work - One time member of the Negro Committee of the Communist Party; former Communist candidate for Lieutenant Governor of the State of Michigan.

Paul Wykoff - Chairman of the Sponsorship Committee of Negro Youth Win the War Conference; associate of Communist Party members and affiliated with Civil Rights Federation.

J. N. Young - Associate of Communist Party members.

James Banks - Member of West Side Branch of the Young Communist League.

Elmer Barnes - Member of Roy Hudson-Wonders Branch of the Young Communist League.

William Bartley - Alleged Communist, Jackson, Michigan.

Frank Berry - Member of the West Side Branch of the Young Communist League.

Reverend William Bowman - Reportedly active in affairs of the Communist Party, Pontiac, Michigan; reportedly in employ of the Ford Motor Car Company.

John Crump - Reported to have signed Communist Party petition, 1940.

Carl Hubbard - A reported Communist, Jackson, Michigan.

Marshal Jones - A reported Communist, Jackson, Michigan.

Alfonse Lee - Reported member, Unit 5, Section 2, District 7, Communist Party.

Mable Lee-Smith - Alleged President of Young Communist League Branch, Detroit.

Charles Tyson - Reportedly active in affairs of Young Communist League.

Edy Wilson - President, Ford-Roy Hudson Branch, Young Communist League.

With regard to the Negro membership in the Communist Party in the Detroit area, the following information has been reported with respect to the recent recruiting campaign of both the Party and the Young Communist League:

The Party expected to recruit 500 new members from February 1 to May 1, 1943, in Detroit. Of the 120 new members first recruited, 54 were Negroes which represented a percentage of well over 45 per cent. On April 13, 1943, it was reported at a Young Communist League meeting that 60 per cent of the 291 new recruits were Negroes. This figure was compared with a total of only 6 per cent of Negro members in the Young Communist League one and one-half years previous.

Subsequent reports as to the recruiting campaign were received that 885 new recruits were obtained. Approximately 50 per cent of the new recruits were Negroes. This figure brought the total of the Communist Party membership in District No. 7 to approximately 1,800.

The following information is set forth to reflect an example of Communist maneuvering with regard to the Negroes in the Detroit area. On December 24, 1942, Gloster B. Current, Negro, Executive Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Detroit, held a lengthy conference with Pat Toohey, Secretary of District 7 of the Communist Party for the State of Michigan. This conference was called by Toohey, a white man, who reportedly desired to acquaint Current with regard to the housing and dormitory situation at Willow Run. (The FHA has erected dormitories near the Willow Run Plant of the Ford Motor Car Company for the occupancy of employees of the Willow Run Plant.) Current is said to have informed Toohey he had visited the Willow Run bomber plant the previous week with other reported Communists. Toohey in turn is said to have told Current the members of the Federal Housing Administration were willing and agreeable to mix occupancy of the project if the United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, CIO, would make a decision. Toohey reportedly stated the Union leaders refused to take a firm stand because of the great excess of Southerners in Detroit, while other Union leaders were frightened. Toohey was said to have asserted there had been a meeting of top union officials a short time previous at which time they said they wanted the FHA to make a decision and they did not care which way it went. Toohey stated to Current if he and any others were approached on the matter they should take a firm stand inasmuch as the point brought up by the Union leaders was not actually the feeling of the automobile workers but was merely the fear expressed by some of their leaders as a result of recent disturbances in some of the plants. Toohey is said to have then warned Current had been approached by prominent leaders, including Union leaders who had persuaded him to accept an incorrect position. Toohey then explained there was a

coming election in the various locals of the UAW and that there had been a decided change in the membership with 400,000 new members coming in with "different ideas" and 1,000,000 members having gone into the Army. Toohy is further related to have remarked some of the Union leaders would raise the point that it was not the prerogative of the Union but of the FHA to decide on the mixed occupancy.

Toohy is further said to have explained the answer in avoiding trouble of bi-racial occupied homes was in the securing of a reasonable selection of tenants and not permitting undesirables to move in. He then is said to have referred to building up community spirit.

OTHER RADICAL GROUPS

In the Detroit area there are several Communistic and radical groups, in many of which membership is comparatively small, which agitate for added rights for the Negro. These groups are the Socialist Workers Party, the Proletarian Party and the Socialist Labor Party. These groups, while not large in membership, are extremely active in distributing pamphlets and other literature pertaining to the Negro situation. Their demands are militant and all vie among themselves for Negro support.

NEGRO ORGANIZATIONS

There are a number of Negro organizations in the Detroit area, the largest of which is the Detroit branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. A large majority of these organizations are reported to have Communist influence in them in varying degrees. All are militant in their programs to obtain equal rights for Negroes, to abolish discrimination and segregation, and to generally urge the betterment of Negroes.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

The Detroit branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, located at 446 East Warren Avenue, is led by Dr. James J. McClendon, President, and Gloster Current, Executive Secretary. This organization is said to have a membership of from 15,000 to 20,000. It stages large meetings in addition to holding regular business meetings. Its objectives are similar to those of the national organization. They are:

1. Educate America with regard to the Negroes.
2. Fight against racial prejudice.
3. End lynching.
4. Improve cultural conditions among the Negroes.
5. Secure votes for the Negro and educate the Negro in voting.

The Communist influence in this organization in Detroit is reported to consist of Dr. McClendon who is said to have constantly engaged in activities which follow the Communist Party line and, further, Gloster Current who is said to be an active Communist Party member.

On April 11, 1943, this organization sponsored, along with the Interracial Committee of the United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, CIO, an anti-discrimination parade and rally in Detroit in which approximately 2,000 Negroes took part. Participants included such organizations as the Socialist Party, the Workers Party, the Communist Party, the Citizens Committee for Jobs in War Industries, the National Negro Congress, various unions, Negro churches and miscellaneous civic groups. The general theme of the meeting was to demand the United States to cease discrimination. No violence took place during the parade. An exceedingly active part was taken in the parade and rally by members of the Communist Party and by Communist Party sympathizers. Among the speakers were Dr. James McClendon, Walter Harden of the Interracial Committee of the Union, Gloster Current, Reverend Charles A. Hill, reported Communist, Walter Reuther, Leonard D. V. Smith, and Michigan State Senator Charles C. Diggs.

A resolution called "The Cadillac Charter" requested the abolition of discrimination, segregation in housing and in the Army, the poll tax, and lynching.

National Negro Congress

The Detroit Council of this organization has its headquarters at 585 Gratiot Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. Its officers are as follows:

LeBron Simmons, President	
Coleman Young, Executive Secretary	
Hodges Mason)
Jennetta Welch)
John Conyers)
Nathaniel Smith)
Samuel Fanroy)
Reverend Charles Hill)
Luke Fennel)
) Executive Board

Robert Evans)	Executive Board
Arthur Perry)	(Cont'd)
Walter Carey)	
Quill Petway)	

Its program has been made up of the following matters:

1. Rent control.
2. Fair employment project council.
3. Participation in the fall elections of 1942.
4. Participation in and contributions to various "Win the War Conferences."

A confidential source of information has advised with regard to this organization that it is one of the contact fronts through which a great deal of the work of the Communist Party and the Civil Rights Federation is conducted. LeBron Simmons, Gloster Current and Coleman Young are said to be often in contact with Pat Toohey, Michigan State Secretary of the Communist Party, and with Jack Raskin, Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Federation.

The West Side Industrial Neighborhood Committee

This organization sponsored a meeting held on August 27, 1942, at Milford and Vinewood Avenues, Detroit. The circular advertising this meeting stated: "We, men workers, are fighting to secure jobs in industry for you." Approximately 200 people are said to have attended the meeting and several individuals alleged to have connections in the Detroit area spoke. Among them were Charles C. Diggs, State Senator Stanley Nowak, Lebron Simmons, Charles A. Hill. The speakers dealt generally with alleged discriminations in defense industries and referred to the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee and his executive order creating it.

Metropolitan Detroit Council for Fair Employment Practices

This organization, which has been organized in the City of Detroit, is headed by Edward W. McFarland and Miss Zaio Woodford, white attorney who is Chairman of the Grievances Committee. The organization has been active and working on the matter of alleged discrimination against Negro women at the Ford Bomber Plant at Willow Run, Michigan. It should be stated that Miss Woodford was a member of the original organizing committee of the Council at its inception in January 1942. She was also a sponsor of the Michigan Free Browder organization, a Communist front organization, and at present she is active in the affairs of the Civil Rights Federation, another Communist front.

On August 20, 1942, the Council held a meeting at the Lucy Thurman branch of the YWCA in Detroit, the purpose of which specifically was to discuss the subject of alleged discrimination against Negro women at the Ford Bomber Plant. The meeting is stated to have served as a climax to the picketing of the Ford River Rouge Plant (Gate No. 2) from 1:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. on that day. At the meeting Miss Woodford related that on May 29, 1942, a committee called on Harry Bennett of the Ford Motor Car Company who she said promised the committee that there would be no discrimination in the employment of women at the Bomber Plant. She continued, saying that since the visit there more than 1,000 women had been employed but not a single Negro woman. She alleged that complaints of this discrimination had been increasing so rapidly that the committee had drafted a telegram setting forth the facts of the case and sent it to Dr. McLane, Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, urging the Committee to hold a hearing with regard to the matter. At the time, Miss Woodford said no reply had been received from either Dr. McLane or from Mr. Ford who had been forwarded a copy.

It was said at the meeting that a general discussion then took place as to what part the United Automobile Workers of America Local should have in the case. It was decided that the Union could be of no help until Negro women were employed, at which time they should exert all efforts to maintain peace and harmony. It was then proposed that a questionnaire be drawn up and mailed to candidates for the State Legislature to determine their position on proposed fair employment legislation for the State of Michigan to be drawn up by a committee to which was named Miss Woodford, LeBron Simmons, who is a reported Communist, and others. Miss Woodford then stated that the "Daily Press" had failed to give any publicity to the alleged discriminatory practices and it was then decided that a report of the committee would necessarily have to talk to the various editors in an attempt to "straighten" them out in this difficulty.

The meeting was attended by approximately 50 persons representing various civil organizations in Detroit such as the Urban League, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Civil Rights Federation.

More recent activities reportedly engaged in by this organization are the cooperating with the Civil Rights Federation and other groups in attempting to procure bi-racial occupancy of the Willow Run housing project and the planning of an interracial youth committee of the organization as a contemplated step to bring about the eventual and permanent integration of Negroes and whites.

The Afro-American Benevolent Employment Association

In August 1942 it was reported that the Briggs Manufacturing Plant had been approached by groups and urged to employ Negro women in their plants. It is stated that there was considerable pressure placed on the company but that the company absolutely refused to deal with or make negotiations with individuals who approached it. In this connection, it has been confidentially reported that the company deems itself quite liberal regarding the employment of Negro men but that it absolutely drew the line when colored women were involved.

At the same time the Ford Motor Car Company had been picketed near its personnel offices, circulars were distributed advertising a meeting held on August 23, 1942, at the Ebenezer A.M.E. Church under the auspices of the Afro-American Benevolent Employment Association. On the circular it was stated "IF WE MUST FIGHT FOR VICTORY, WE MUST WORK AT ALL JOBS AND SERVE IN ALL MILITARY BRANCHES OF OUR GOVERNMENT, WITHOUT BEING JIM CROWED." Advertised as speakers were Reverend Charles A. Hill, William L. Sherril and Charles C. Diggs, Michigan State Senator. These individuals have previously been referred to as reported Communist sympathizers.

The meeting was held and was attended by approximately 200, the purpose of which, as presented by L. D. Smith, the principal speaker, was to "stir the people" and to let them know what is happening with respect to their "democratic rights." The meeting on August 23, 1942, was described by a source of information as one not having the purpose of good Americanism but the sole purpose was stirring Negroes into racial resentment.

Again, on October 3, 1942, a meeting was held under the auspices of this organization. It was attended by approximately 20 Negro men and women. Leonard D. Smith was again the main speaker. He is said to have consumed the entire time of the meeting in his speech which is said to have lacked unison and coherence but was forcible in effect. The topic of his speech was alleged to have been the effect of alleged injustices and inequalities said to have been forced on the Negroes in this country.

March on Washington Movement

On September 26 and 27, 1942, a national policy conference of the March on Washington Movement was held in Detroit, Michigan. Approximately 35 Negro delegates were in attendance from various large cities,

including New York, Washington, St. Louis, Chicago, Detroit, and Tampa, Florida. At the conference the organization's principles were formulated and the United States was divided into five regions which were in turn subdivided into lesser units. The purpose of the meeting was to institute a membership campaign to muster enough members for any concerted mass action. The question as to whether or not a march on the City of Washington would be made was postponed for discussion until the national convention could be held in Chicago sometime in May 1943. This organization in Detroit is alleged to have Communist influence in it, however, the National Committee of the organization has continuously opposed the Communist Party.

Negro Youth Council for Victory and Democracy

This organization was originally led by Edward Tolan, Negro athlete and reported member of the Communist Party, and Harper Poulson, active member of the Young Communist League. The reported purpose of the organization was to bring about interracial understanding between white and Negro youth. It has also devoted its program to such matters as anti-poll tax bill and employment of Negroes in defense industries. In all of its activities it is reported that Communist Party members and sympathizers take an active interest. The attendance at its meetings varies at 20 and over. In April 1943 its leader, Edward Tolan, was inducted into the United States Army and the leadership was given to a youthful Negro, one Arthur Bowman, who has in the past worked with the Republican Party. Bowman is said to oppose Communist influence in the group. However, Harper Poulson and other reported Communists interested in the organization are said to have inaugurated a campaign to discredit Bowman.

NEGRO PUBLICATIONS

The following Negro publications are printed in the Detroit area:

The "Michigan Chronicle" - Louis Martin, Editor, Detroit; the "Detroit Tribune" - J. Edward McCall, Editor; the "Detroit World Echo," Detroit; "Hamtramck News"; "Detroit Echo"; "Pittsburgh Courier," Detroit edition, John R. Williams, Editor; "Flint News," Flint, Michigan; the "Lansing Echo," Lansing, Michigan; the "Lansing State Echo"; the "Macomb County Echo," Mt. Clemens, Michigan; and the "Pontiac Echo," Pontiac, Michigan.

With regard to the "Michigan Chronicle," said to have the largest distribution, it has been reported that because of strong Communist

tendencies of its editor, Louis Martin, and by virtue of its printing news concerning the activities of Negroes in the Communist Party, it is believed to be to some extent influenced by the Communist Party. However, from general and outward appearances it deals with matters of interest to the Negro race in general.

The "Michigan Chronicle" is owned by the same company that owns the "Chicago Defender." The majority of its general news comes through the Associated Negro Press. Its editorial policy and local news apparently is directed by Martin and follows the Communist Party line. In this regard, a confidential informant has advised that James W. Ford on February 7, 1942, in speaking at the Fort Wayne Hotel in Detroit, stated Louis Martin told him he wrote no editorials or invaded no issues which did not take the same side as the Communist Party. It might be noted that Ford is a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party.

An examination made of the issues of the "Michigan Chronicle" over a period of several years has revealed the editorials written by Louis Martin have always been in accord with the current policy and program of the Party at that particular time. The paper has publicized to the fullest extent the activities of local organizations, several of which are reportedly Communist inspired and infiltrated which have as their objective the elimination of discrimination against the Negro. Local instances of alleged discrimination are given prominent attention and those in which some form of violence has been displayed have always been attributed to the Ku Klux Klan. Scandals, shootings, murders, divorces, lawsuits, family trouble -- all are given front-page attention by the newspaper.

The "Racial Digest," a magazine which is styled similarly to that of the "Reader's Digest," is published in the Detroit area. The exact circulation of the magazine is not known; however, it is a Negro publication and contains many articles pointing out alleged racial prejudices and discriminations. It has contained articles by Reverend Charles A. Hill and Lewis Martin, both reported to have close Communist connections. It has printed condensations from such publications as the "New Masses" and the newspaper "PM," the former of which is said to be closely allied with the Communist Party.

THE SOJOURNER TRUTH HOUSING PROJECT

This housing project was erected by the Federal Defense Housing Administration with Federal funds with the original purpose of providing

adequate housing facilities for Negro workers and their families engaged in national defense work. The project is located at Nevada and Fenlon Streets, a site which was recommended by the Detroit Housing Commission. It is named after a colored woman missionary, now deceased, who went by the name Sojourner Truth, and who is reported to have been active in the State of Michigan in the interest of the advancement of Negroes.

Because this project was located in a white neighborhood a violent storm of opposition arose to the Negro occupancy of the project and it is said to have caused the Federal Defense Housing Administration to change its regulations with respect to the occupancy so that only white persons were to take up residence there. This change resulted in a concerted effort on the part of the Michigan branch of the Communist Party and its front organizations, including the Civil Rights Federation, in an attempt to have the original regulations as to the occupancy placed in effect again. Delegates were sent to Washington, D. C., and in February 1942 the regulations were changed and the project was designated exclusively for Negroes. On February 28, 1942, the Negroes attempted to move in. White residents of the community and anti-Negro agitators of the National Workers League attacked them and a minor riot occurred. Almost one hundred Negroes and several white persons were arrested.

The riot caused a delay in the occupancy of the premises for approximately two months. However, in the month of April 1942 Negro families moved quietly into the project. The Communist Party, which was evidently active in agitation for Negro occupancy of the project, considered it a great victory and is presently attempting to apply its activities to other Government housing projects which are now being erected in the Detroit area.

THE COLONEL HAMTRAMCK HOUSING PROJECT

As an aftermath of the "Sojourner Truth victory" of the Party, members are reported to have immediately begun agitation for Negro occupancy of the captioned housing project. This project was being built in the City of Hamtramck with Federal funds for the purpose of housing war workers. No regulations have been formulated as to whether the project is for the use of Negro or white workers or both. Nevertheless the Communist Party and its fronts, except the Civil Rights Federation, have been constantly agitating and demanding that Negro workers be given their full share in the occupancy. Recently, under the direction of the Negro attor-

ney and reported Communist leader, LeBron Simmons, a temporary injunction was applied for and secured restraining the City of Hamtramck and its housing commission in designating the project for white workers only.

According to a confidential source of information, the injunction was to the effect that the Hamtramck Housing Authority could grant no more than 93 per cent of the project to white people and that there must be at least 7 per cent Negroes mixed in with them. It is said that segregation is not desired and rather interracial mixing in various units of the project is being sought after by the Communist Party.

RACIAL TROUBLE IN DETROIT SCHOOLS

Negroes in the Detroit area attend the same schools as do white people and from information received there has apparently been no agitation or trouble in the schools other than minor arguments among Negro and white pupils. However, on September 23, 24 and 25, 1942, at Lincoln High School in Detroit there occurred a race riot. The school has an attendance of approximately 600 out of which there are between 75 and 80 Negro students. In 1941 there had also been a race riot there.

On September 23, 1942, the Police Department of Detroit received a call from the High School to the effect that a riot had started after a Negro student had accidentally bumped into a white boy in a locker room. Three white boys were arrested and later released. Several Negroes were also arrested because of the participation. According to information received, the white boys were the cause of the trouble.

The "Detroit News" under date of January 14, 1943, stated 150 Negroes calling themselves "the Brewster Street gang" entered the Norvell School, 2963 Arndt Street, Detroit, at 3:50 P.M., on January 13 to beat up a certain Negro girl who allegedly was not a member of the gang. According to the article, when their entrance was opposed by a white teacher, the white schoolteacher was struck on the face and suffered a minor injury. Lieutenant Charles D'hondt of the Hunt Station, who, according to the paper, conducted an investigation, was quoted as saying the gang was led by a 15-year-old Negro girl. In addition to striking the white schoolteacher, it was said that the girls attacked three Negro teachers and a janitor who had been called to lock the door.

On April 5, 1943, a fight broke out between Negro and white children of the Lowell Junior High School in Flint, Michigan, resulting in a general melee after school had been dismissed. On April 6 and 7, 1943,

older boys from other schools, both Negro and white, gathered at the Lewis Street Bridge in Flint and a general riot ensued. Rocks were thrown, fist fighting was prevalent and according to reports some of the youths, particularly the Negroes, were carrying knives. An estimate was made that 1,000 persons of both the white and Negro races participated, requiring a large number of uniformed police to disperse them. After two hours the police were finally able to disband the group. It is related that after city officials addressed the public schools the children agreed to stop fighting on both sides.

RACIAL CONTROVERSIES IN NATIONAL DEFENSE PLANTS

In recent months considerable activity has been entered into by the Party in agitation among the Negroes because of three so-called "wildcat strikes" occurring early in the Summer of 1942 at the Dodge, Packard and Hudson Defense Plants in Detroit. The reported cause of all three of these strikes was the refusal of white employees to work side by side with Negroes who had been promoted to positions equal with theirs. The Party, through Jack Raskin, Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Federation, has insisted that this trouble was instigated by the Ku Klux Klan and Raskin is said to have originated the plan to have the Department of Justice investigate the "fifth column" activities in the above referred to plants.

Publicity is said to have been given to the strikes by all Communist organizations in the Detroit area. The "Michigan Chronicle," a Negro newspaper, under date of June 27, 1942, under the editorship of Louis Martin, referred to previously as a reported Communist leader, issued an editorial under the caption "Klan Plot Race War in Factories, U. S. May Act." Martin charged that the racial discrimination in Detroit, including the Sojourner Truth Housing Project, the Packard, Dodge and Hudson Defense Plant strikes and the trouble of the Hamtramck Housing Project, is a part of a pattern set out by the Ku Klux Klan and "their fifth column allies." He referred to a protest conference immediately following the strike at the Hudson Naval Ordnance Plant which was sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the National Negro Congress, the Civil Rights Federation, the Detroit Irwin League and International Committee of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO. This meeting, it should be stated, was conceived and planned by Jack Raskin, Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Federation.

Subsequently, at the convention of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO, Raskin's plan of having the Department of Justice in-

investigate the alleged fifth column activities in Detroit was introduced and was voted down immediately inasmuch as the United Automobile Workers of America considered it an attempt by the Civil Rights Federation to have an investigation made of the Union. It is said as a consequence relations between the Civil Rights Federation and the Union are presently strained.

In other sections of this summary references have been made to agitational moves for the employment of Negro women, especially at the Ford Motor Car Company. It is believed that the circumstances surrounding this should be set out.

On August 20, 1942, approximately 800 marchers formed a picket line around Gate No. 2 of the Ford Plant in Detroit. The picket line marched around this gate for approximately three and one-half hours. There was no disorder during the entire period of picketing.

Regarding the situation at the Ford Motor Car Company in the employment of Negroes, it is reported that arrangements were being made as rapidly as possible to hire Negro women in the Bomber Plant and in the Ypsilanti Plant, but the company needed to be very careful in placing Negro women among many white Southerners who had been hired in the plant inasmuch as careless placing would be likely to cause disturbances. For that reason the company had been very slow to hire Negro women.

In November 1942 a confidential informant advised of a rather acute racial situation in existence at the Foundry of the Ford Motor Car Company. The Foundry employees were said to be equally divided as to white and colored persons. During October and November 1942, according to the informant, numerous small instances of walkouts and slowdowns caused by the racial animosity occurred.

It was reported in November 1942 a white employee at the Ford Island Park Plant in Detroit was attacked by two Negroes because of a remark made by him to one of them. The two Negroes, as well as the white employee, were discharged because of their participation in the fracas. It is alleged that officials of the Union, contrary to contract provisions of the company, pulled a Negro worker off the production line to get a statement relative to the dispute. A deduction was thereafter made in the pay of the Negro worker for the time lost conferring with the Union officials. The Negro worker verbally abused the foreman and disciplinary action was taken by the company. A two-hour work stoppage on Army tank

production reportedly took place caused by the Union officials protesting disciplinary action taken against the last-named Negro worker. In this connection, newspaper accounts were to the effect the Union was dissatisfied because the discharged men were fired without their grievances being properly handled.

It was also reported in November 1942 by a confidential informant that the 400 white and 300 Negro employees of the Detroit Steel Castings Company maintained tense feelings. It was said that some of the Negroes were of a low character, having poor morals, drinking excessively and remaining absent from the plant. It was said that there were approximately 25 or 30 Negroes who caused the trouble and threatened fellow employees, both white and Negro.

It was confidentially reported that on or about January 11, 1943, at the Hudson Plant on Jefferson Avenue in Detroit, a white foreman attempted to have a Negro loafing on the job return to work. An argument ensued and the Negro reportedly attacked the foreman and was joined by another Negro standing nearby. A white plant protection official is said to have attempted unsuccessfully to separate the combatants after which he shot each Negro in the leg.

On January 12, 1943, George Clarence Myers, a Negro, age 19, was indicted for sabotage in connection with his activities at the Chrysler Plant, East Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, where he was employed as a janitor. Myers had written obscene and unpatriotic statements across the face of patriotic posters in the Plant, one of which was "Your son should have died long ago. The Japs are going to win anyway." Another was "Americans are our enemies in the United States; they are rotten ----." Further, Myers kicked off gauges from a machine at the Plant causing about \$50 worth of damage and delay in the production of tank motors. Upon questioning, he stated his reason for committing the acts was that he wanted to quit the Chrysler Plant and take a better job at the Ford Plant, and there was some delay about his release. He denied any affiliations with any un-American organizations and his mother and sister advised they knew of no pro-Japanese organization with which he was connected. Plant protection officials at the Chrysler Plant said they observed other Negro employees were quite incensed over Myers' activities and some had offered to do him bodily harm.

In April 1943 it was reported that there was considerable agitation and tension among employees of the Plymouth Motor Car Company, especially in Department 81 which is said to employ quite a few Negroes. A source of information has informed that it is very apparent that resentment of Negroes being employed there exists among the white employees. In this connection, a pamphlet was made available as distributed by C. George "Pop" Edelen, President of Local 51, UAW-CIO (an alleged member of the Communist Party), entitled "Plymouth Management Intimidates Workers." This pamphlet stated, among other things, "We call upon all stewards on every shift to be on the lookout for these elements in the supervision and the 'company stooges' who are intimidating the Negro women in the plant. They should be reported to the local union office and they will be properly investigated by the Government."

It was reported on March 6, 1943, by a confidential source of information that for the previous three or four days there had been a great deal of Negro agitation at the Packard Plant in Detroit where an attempt had been made to employ Negro girls which, in turn, aroused many protests from white female employees. It was alleged that a former president of the Packard Local 190, UAW-CIO, one Kurt Murdock, had attempted to keep Negroes out of the Packard Plant. It was also reported in March that there had been numerous racial incidents in Department FF of the Packard Plant, including a two-hour walkout, when a Negro was put on the assembly line and when union stewards favored Negroes and made derogatory remarks to white workers. It is related that on March 18, 1943, 2,300 whites walked out of the Packard Plant in protest of the company hiring Negro women. It is said that approximately 1,000 man-hours were lost in this particular strike.

Another strike occurred at this Plant on March 20, 1943, when 250 white employees of the Gear Division stopped work in protest against the employment of four Negro women as machine operators. The white workers are said to have refused to resume work until the four Negro women were fired. The strike was unauthorized and the Union officials attempted to make the strikers resume work.

On April 12, 1943, an additional strike reportedly occurred at the Packard Plant when 100 Negro men remained away from work for one day in a dispute with the management over seniority rights. Christopher Alston, member of the Communist Party and Chairman of the Interracial Committee of Local 190, UAW-CIO, at the Packard Plant stated his Committee was in no way responsible for the strike but alleged something would have to be done for the workers and the matter would be taken up with the management.

On March 18, 1943, at the Aluminum Company of America in Detroit a tense racial situation reportedly developed over the hiring of Negro employees. A few whites and Negroes are said to have alternately walked out of the plant all during the day and in the afternoon 400 Negroes are related to have congregated in one part of the plant and refused to work.

On March 19, 1943, 160 white persons are said to have walked out of the United States Rubber Company in Detroit because of Negro women being employed. Some of the trouble was laid to Union organizers creating racial disturbances for a political front. No confirmation of this was received, however. It was also said that the white workers disliked the Negroes using the same locker rooms. It was further alleged that several Southern people in the plant refused to take any supervision from Negroes.

On March 19, 1943, an undetermined number of men are alleged to have walked out of the Wilson Foundry and Machine Company because of the racial issue.

It is related that on March 17, 1943, one Negro walked out of the Chrysler Highland Park Plant because his demand for higher wages did not go through regular channels. On the following morning eight Negroes in the Janitor and Shipping Department allegedly walked out in protest of this man being fired. During the day of March 18, 180 employees also reportedly walked out of the Plant because of the racial question. On March 19, 1943, it was reported that at a meeting of Negro members of Local 490, UAW-CIO, at this Plant, who were on strike, the following grievances were stated as being the reasons for their strike:

Failure to remove Negro women from heavy jobs and use them in semiskilled work for which they were allegedly trained.

Failure to upgrade Negro men.

On March 26, 1943, two Negro employees hired by the Vickers, Incorporated, Plant were said to have been the reason for 200 white persons leaving their work. Later additional white people quit, demanding segregation of the Negroes and separate rest room facilities.

It was reported that on March 23, 1943, a number of Negro men went on strike at the Chrysler Lynch Road Plant in Detroit, protesting the hiring of Negro women to mop floors. It is said that the women refused to mop the floors, stating the mops and the buckets were too heavy. The company in turn was reported to have provided lighter mops and buckets with rollers. However, the women are said to have still refused to work. The Negro men then joined them in the strike which was settled on March 25, 1943.

On April 13, 1943, 200 Negroes in the Dodge Division (Foundry) of the Chrysler Motor Car Company reportedly refused to work from 12:00 noon to 4:00 P.M. because one Negro woman had been demoted in her job which allegedly it was later shown she was not able to perform.

On the night of April 8, 1943, at the Ford River Rouge Plant one Glen Wagner, a white foreman, in the course of an argument with a Negro, Paul Jackson, called Jackson a "Nigger." Jackson hit Wagner who later died as a result of a fractured skull. Jackson was indicted for manslaughter.

At this same plant, on the night of April 9, 1943, two Negroes reportedly attacked a truck driver inside the plant after "catching" a ride on his truck and seriously injured him. The driver, not sure of their identity, believed they were workers in the Foundry. On the night of April 10, 1943, two keymen of Local 600, UAW-CIO, reportedly smuggled a Negro into the plant who had no reason to be there. The officials took action against the keymen and the entire steel foundry, about 1,000 men, is said to have gone on strike for one hour.

At the Willow Run Plant on April 9, 1943, a Negro woman reportedly fomented an unauthorized strike by 15 white women, after which she was transferred to the River Rouge Plant.

Allegations were received in March 1943 that the Detroit Street Railway was having an unusual amount of difficulty as a result of having hired many Negro employees during the previous months. At the time, approximately one-third of the bus drivers were said to be Negroes. According to unconfirmed reports since these Negroes were employees there had been an abnormal amount of service delays. It was said that the Negroes, almost to a man, were imbued with a rebellious attitude and were sullen and surly in their work. An unknown Negro of the Detroit Street Railway is alleged to have remarked that when the Japs take over the United States the Negroes will have their place in the Senate. It was also said that many white Southerners had taken positions as drivers and conductors on the vehicles and it was expected that serious racial trouble might result.

It was alleged in April 1943 by a confidential source that an informant advised the chief aim of a number of Negroes in both the Steel and Aluminum Foundries of the Ford River Rouge Plant seemed to be to make life miserable for white people by making an issue of almost anything that might arise. Another informant of this source has reportedly advised that the Negro committeemen in the Aluminum Foundry of this Plant argue almost constantly and incite other workers by their arguments with the foreman. Allegedly these Negro committeemen attempt to slow up production by talking to the workmen when they are attempting to do their jobs. Remarks are said to be constantly made against the white people employed there. This particular informant has related that since the death of the foreman who was killed by the Negro worker in the Foundry the Negroes have not created as much disturbances.

It has been further alleged that the main cause of the strikes which occurred in the Foundries of the River Rouge Plant was the constant bickering between the United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, CIO, and the Ford Motor Car Company. Each little grievance is allegedly magnified into a large issue which will determine whether the Company or the Union has the upper hand with the employees.

On March 28, 1943, 32 out of 64 employees, all Negroes, in the "Chip Pulling" and Janitor Departments of the Plymouth Motor Car Company went on strike in protest against the Government's order freezing jobs. These men demanded either releases from their jobs or additional pay. The Union was not behind the strike, according to information received.

It was reported that on May 15, 1943, the Hudson Naval Arsenal hired its first Negro toolmaker who went to work in the toolroom on May 14, 1943. All of the white employees there left the room refusing to work with him. The strike spread to the second shift which came on in the morning and 600 workers in all are reported to have refused to work. The strike was unauthorized by Local 150 of the UAW-CIO, which Union, through its officials, attempted to persuade the workers to return to their jobs without success. After a one-day layoff the men returned to their work and apparently continued as in normal times, working with the Negro employee.

The following information is set forth relative to the strike at the Packard Motor Car Company plant June 3, 1943:

Sometime prior to the strike Carl Purcell, Chief Steward of Department K. D. Packard Local No. 190190, United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, CIO, was asked by the management of the Packard Motor Car Company if there would be objection to the upgrading of three Negro semiskilled employees in the Tear Down and Reassemble Department of the Aircraft Division at that plant. Purcell is said to have stated there would be no objection. During the last week of May 1943 three Negroes were placed in this department. Subsequently white employees there walked out on strike. The Negroes are said to have then been removed and negotiations were reportedly made with union officials who assured that further interruption would not be caused.

On June 2, 1943, two Negroes were returned to this particular department and on the following day, June 3, all white employees of the department walked out followed by all other employees of the Packard Motor Car Company. Approximately 25,000 employees were involved and the particular plant manufacturing airplane and marine engines was shut down.

The strike was declared an outlaw wildcat affair and on June 6, 1943, R. J. Thomas, President of the United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, CIO, made a public speech at the Convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Detroit, stating he had absolute evidence the strike was promoted by the Ku Klux Klan and its reported successor organization in Detroit, the United Sons of America, and that he was turning over evidence to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and would demand a Congressional investigation. He added that transcripts giving names and other evidence had been turned over to the FBI in Detroit. At the same time allegations were received that the Union made feeble and superficial attempts to have the men return to work.

With reference to the allegations that the Ku Klux Klan had instigated the strike, the following information reported by a highly confidential and reliable informant is set forth:

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

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

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

It is to be noted that no data of any sort along these lines were turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation either by R. J. Thomas or by Jack Baskin, Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Federation in Detroit and organizer for Section 9 of the Communist Party for the State of Michigan. In this connection, a confidential opinion has been offered to the effect that blame placed by R. J. Thomas on the Ku Klux Klan was distinctly to his advantage as a means of covering the lack of union discipline in the strike, it being alleged there were many of the minor union officials and union members who participated in the strike.

On June 7, 1943, it was reported publicly by the Packard Motor Car management that the striking employees were returning to work and the three Negroes whose upgrading was the reported cause of the original controversy maintained their status. One foreman and twenty-six other workers were discharged by the War Department for their activities in connection with the strike.

During the entire affair and subsequent thereto no information or indications were reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation that subversive elements among the employees or activities of the Ku Klux Klan or any similar allegedly anti-Negro organization were responsible for the strike.

In connection with this particular section dealing with racial disturbances in plants, it is believed significant that the following information be set forth:

It is reported confidentially that on March 25, 1943, a Governmental field representative of an agency handling matters of Negro discrimination contacted another Governmental representative connected with the Hudson Naval Arsenal in Detroit, at which time the former advised of a Negroess having come to his office who complained that she had been discharged as a result of discrimination at the Hudson Naval Arsenal. The latter Governmental representative in checking into the matter found that the department in which the Negroess had worked ran out of work and that she had been transferred to another department where she complained the objects were to heavy for her to move. Employment officials told her that inasmuch as no other work was available she must necessarily be released but would be recalled when work was available.

These circumstances were explained to the first Governmental official who told the latter, however, that the case must necessarily be turned over to Reverend Hill. This is Reverend Charles A. Hill, Chairman of the Citizens Committee for Jobs in War Industries, an organization which has considerable Communist influence in it. On the same day Hill is reported to have contacted the official at the Hudson Naval Arsenal and directed him to re-employ the Negress "or else". He refused to listen to the facts which the Governmental official had secured and insisted that racial discrimination was the reason for the Negress being discharged.

On March 31, 1943, a delegation consisting of Reverend Charles Hill, Negro; Forrest Sheffield, Negro, affiliated with several Communist influenced groups; and Gloster Current, Negro, affiliated with several reportedly Communist influenced groups, visited the offices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Detroit to urge an investigation of alleged subversive forces causing anti-Negro demonstrations in Detroit war plants. It was pointed out by the delegation that plants had failed to utilize trained and skilled Negro employees. The jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was pointed out to him and upon leaving, Hill, who acted as principal spokesman, conceded he had no evidence of fifth column or subversive activity at work in the Detroit plants.

It was reported in May 1943 that a representative of a Governmental agency interested in Negro discrimination had been in contact with Jack Raskin, who has been previously referred to herein as Executive Secretary of the Civil Rights Federation and reportedly an organizer for Section 9 of the Communist Party, State of Michigan, relative to obtaining cases on Negro discrimination. It is reported that this Governmental representative was advised by Raskin how to obtain cases of discrimination as well as complaints. This same individual who is said to have been in contact with Raskin is reported to have been in the past very close to Raskin, seeking Raskin's judgment as well as supplying Raskin with plans of the Governmental agency he represented.

RIOTS

Set forth hereinafter is information relative to recent racial disturbances and riots occurring in Detroit and its environs. It is supplemental to that data concerning racial friction and trouble reported under previous headings, including "Racial Controversies in National Defense Plants" and "Racial Trouble in Detroit Schools".

Eight-Mile Road Affair

It was reported that on March 24, 1943, subsequent to a fight between Negro and white students at Lincoln High School in the Ferndale area, a group of white hoodlums allegedly instituted a reign of terror among Negro residents of the Eight-Mile Road Community which did not subside until March 26, 1943, when State and city police covered the area. It is said that hoodlums rode through the district in automobiles firing shots. Windows were smashed in four business establishments. A continued animosity was reported between youths at Lincoln High School. Three buildings containing four bullet holes were reported and on Friday, March 26, 1943, Negroes were alleged to have sat in the windows of their homes with firearms waiting for further violence. In this connection, it was said that the "zoot suit" colored boys from another section who constantly fight with Negro youths of the Eight-Mile Road area joined with the latter. By the next day, however, the situation had become quiet. The Eight-Mile Road section is described as a poor slum area. Subsequent to this situation a student council was formed at the Lincoln High School to formulate a program so as to prevent the occurrence of a similar situation.

The "Michigan Chronicle" of April 10, 1943, carried an article alleging that on the night of April 5, 1943, a "Klan inspired mob" of approximately 100 white members terrorized the Central Avenue section of Detroit's west side, smashing windows of the homes of seven Negro residents. It was said that the mob paraded the avenue from Tireman to Warren Avenue unchallenged by the police. The article continued, saying that feeling was running high in this community and that most of the men had been absent from their jobs apparently well armed anticipating the return of the mob. No confirmation of this information has been reported.

DETROIT RIOTS - JUNE 20-22, 1943

Origin of Trouble

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

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

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

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

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

Incidents During Riot

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

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

Until approximately 10:30 P.M., June 21, 1943, there were sporadic outbursts of trouble which included such activities as the beating of Negroes by white people in white areas of Detroit and the looting and destruction of property by Negroes in the Negro sections of this city. Much of the rioting after noon of June 21, 1943, was instigated, according to the reports received, by gatherings and groups of white persons in the white districts which are adjacent to colored areas in Detroit. These persons stopped street cars, automobiles and busses and dragged Negroes from them, mauling and beating them and chasing them on their way. According to the information received, this activity resulted in at least one death. Many of the white persons were teen-age youths with a sprinkling of girls. One such incident occurred on Fort Street adjacent to the Federal Building at about 5:30 P.M., June 21. This was witnessed by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and they observed approximately 200 youths stopping several street cars and busses from which they dragged Negroes whom they severely beat. These persons were dispersed by Detroit police and police auxiliaries.

Prior to the quelling of the disturbances white people were in complete charge of the white districts and just before the declaration of martial law these individuals roamed the streets in large numbers and disturbances were caused whenever a Negro was seen in these areas. Several

pitched battles occurred on the border of Hastings Street in the Negro district which is located just outside of the downtown area. It was necessary for the police to use forceful measures on several occasions.

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

No accurate figures as to the actual injury to production in the Detroit area resulting from the riots have been reported. Examples have been cited, however, one of which is to the effect that only three persons reported for work at the Bohn Aluminum Plant No. 3 which is a large foundry employing exclusively Negro personnel. It was alleged that 60 per cent of the Negro employees at the Ford Motor Car Company failed to report for duty on June 21, 1943. In addition, a large number of white persons are believed to have absented themselves from their employment since it was necessary for them to travel through the Negro district to reach their places of employment. Allegations were also received that a number of smaller plants necessarily had to decrease production because of employees being absent from work. It was also said that practically all of the scrap yards which employed large numbers of Negroes were shut down completely.

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

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

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

A state of martial law, pursuant to orders issued by the President, was declared in Detroit, Michigan, and troops moved into the city at 10:20 P.M. This was subsequent to the request of Governor Kelly made at 6:00 P.M., June 21, 1943, that Federal troops be dispatched to Detroit to be placed under State control. It was also said that at 9:05 P.M., June 21, 1943, the Governor of Michigan admitted that the situation in Detroit was out of control and requested assistance.

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

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

At Hamtramck, Michigan

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

At Fort Custer, Michigan

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

Arrests, Injuries and Deaths

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

Reports of Negroes Being Well Armed

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

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

The Detroit Police Department reported to the Detroit Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that there had been an increase

in the number of guns found on Negro arrestees. Their opinion was that this increase was a result of the feeling between whites and Negroes having been intensified. The Police Department also reported in October 1942 that for the previous four months permits for Negroes to purchase firearms had tripled. At that time the local officials said they did not know the reason for this other than they believed the Negroes were preparing for any trouble which might arise with white people.

Re Ku Klux Klan

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

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

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

The Ku Klux Klan has been blamed publicly by someone for almost every important racial difficulty in the Detroit area in recent months. In every instance it was to the advantage of the accusers to place the blame elsewhere than among themselves. For example, in the Packard Motor

Car Company strike, during the first part of June 1943, R. J. Thomas, President of the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO, publicly blamed the Klan under conditions where it was distinctly to his advantage to cover lack of union discipline inasmuch as many of the minor union officials and union members actively participated. The Communist Party and its forces, especially the Detroit Civil Rights Federation, it has been alleged, found it to their advantage to blame the Ku Klux Klan and the fifth column so that attention may be diverted from its own inflammatory agitation among the exploitation of the Negroes.

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

Fact Finding Board

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

This Board apparently immediately convened and after reviewing the facts presented, as well as the information previously available, reported to the Governor that as a result of its study there is no evidence at this time indicating that the riots were planned or inspired. The facilities of each of the members of this Board are presently being used intensively in the making of additional inquiries to ascertain whether or not the disturbances were, in fact, planned. The Detroit Police Department is extending every effort in this investigation and has assigned a large number of detectives to work on this problem. In addition, the

Michigan State Police are also conducting inquiries, and the Attorney General of the State of Michigan and the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office have added their staffs to assist in bringing to light any information that would be of assistance in determining the facts in this matter. It is incumbent upon this Board, of course, to report immediately to the Governor any facts brought to its attention indicating that riots were other than of a spontaneous character.

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

Interracial Committee

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

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

The following information has been reported concerning the individuals designated:

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

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

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

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

Contributing Factors in Riots

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

These sources have pointed to the abnormal increase in the population of Detroit which, they informed, has added to the congestion in Detroit, especially as it concerns amusement facilities, restaurants, public transportation and traffic. There has also been a deplorable congestion and a shortage of housing facilities, both for Negroes and whites. These are confronted with many white persons' antipathy toward close and intimate association with Negroes (this, according to the sources, being particularly true with many of the southern white people who have come to Detroit during the past few years) and the Negro's natural desire to receive complete equality with white people. These sources have cited the Sojourner Truth Housing dispute which has previously been referred to as well as the work stoppages and strikes, a number of which have been set forth hereinbefore.

The following statistics with regard to the population and the recent influx of people in Detroit who have come for employment are set forth:

As of April 1940 the population of Detroit proper was 1,623,452 of which number 149,119 represented the nonwhite population. This provided a ratio of nonwhite to the total population of 9.2 per cent. Figures in 1942, based upon sugar rationing, reflected the total population of Detroit to be 1,910,000, this being an increase over 1940 of 17.6 per cent. No figures are available, however, as to the increase in the Negro population. Since 1940, according to the records of the United States Employment Service, approximately 292,000 workers have come to the City of Detroit, of which total 101,000 were from southern States. Of the 101,000 approximately 50 per cent came from the States of Tennessee, Kentucky and Arkansas.

It is also reported that during the week of June 14-22, 1943, 3,438 persons migrating from outside the State of Michigan had registered with the United States Employment Service, of which number there were 653 nonwhites, or approximately 19 per cent.

In connection with these statistics, the following are set out to reflect the employment of Negroes in industry in the Detroit area:

In May 1940 22,000 Negroes were employed in 185 major industrial plants, constituting 5.6 per cent of the total employees. In December 1942 this number rose to 35,000, or 6.7 per cent of the total, and in May 1943 the total had reached the figure of 55,000 Negro employees in these plants, or 8.2 per cent. An estimate has been made that approximately 3,500 additional employees can be added to the figure of 55,000 to make up for small industrial plants which have not been reported. There are also figures available reflecting that 20 per cent of all employees are in a skilled labor classification, of which total 6.7 per cent are Negroes.

The following figures and accompanying information are set forth to reflect the wage increases in the Detroit area as they pertain to industrial employment:

Since 1941 wage increases, according to the War Manpower Commission, had been in excess of 20 per cent, which figure is based upon the 15 per cent permitted by the Little Steel Formula as well as on the applications for wage increases which have passed through the War Manpower Commission. It has been pointed out that as a natural and logical conclusion this figure is much higher for Negro employees than the average

white employees because of the large influx of Negro workers into war industries who had formerly been employed in lower-paying occupations or who had been unemployed. According to the Detroit Board of Commerce, the average weekly wage of factory workers in 1940 was \$35.80 whereas at the present time the figure has increased to \$58.50 representing a 39 per cent raise.

Communist Party Influence and Other Radical Groups

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

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

Negro Press and Leadership

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

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

Influx of White Southerners

Although statistics on the number of white southerners who have come to the Detroit area in recent months or years are not available, it

is definitely established that there has been a substantial number in the Detroit area. Along with some ignorant and class-conscious white persons who have come from the South have been the aggravated feelings against the Negro and objections to close association with Negroes, both socially and at work.

Juvenile Delinquency and Hoodlumism

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

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

The following information concerning juvenile delinquency is being set forth as an indication of this particular problem:

	January to May 1942	January to May 1943
Murder *	1	12
Assault	40	85
Malicious destruction of property	27	64
Carrying concealed weapons	14	37
Escape	74	72
Armed robbery	3	13
Breaking and entering	156	273
Disturbing the peace	77	91
Indecent liberties	5	14
Investigation	166	256

* The twelve arrests of juveniles for the crime of murder were the result of murders committed by gang activity.

	January to May 1942	January to May 1943
Out-of-city truants	142	319
Robbery	27	30
Auto theft	157	177
Drunkenness	—	13
Larceny	316	366
Forgery	1	4
Truants from home	126	148
Violation of parole	96	109
Incorrigible	43	46
Truants from school	61	80
Attempted rape	1	3
Lodgers	37	38
Gross indecency	1	6
Vicious violation of traffic	22	29

A juvenile is defined in the State of Michigan as any person who has not reached his seventeenth birthday.

Records of the Detroit Juvenile Detail reflect that 1,685 juveniles were taken into custody during the first five months of 1942. In the first five months of 1943, 2,435 juveniles were arrested. In analyzing the increase of juvenile committed crimes, the records of the Juvenile Detail indicate a rather stable juvenile problem prior to 1940. In 1940, 1941 and 1942 the records reflect a slow, steady increase in the latter type of crime activity. From information available for the first five months of 1943 the increase in juvenile crimes has been startling. It has been observed that the crimes committed in the last five months have been of a more vicious nature than those committed in the past. It was also pointed out that June of 1943 would see the greatest number of juveniles committed to the Juvenile Detention Home in the City of Detroit since that home was established. From the records it has been ascertained that forty per cent of the youngsters arrested for the commission of crimes lack proper parental supervision in that both parents are employed.

The opinion has been expressed that the percentage of Negro juvenile offenders has increased a considerable amount in the first five months of 1943. It is stated that the police had been bothered particularly by gangs of young Negroes, usually numbering five to ten members, attacking both colored and white. There is no apparent purpose for the attacks other than the fact that the victim receives a severe beating. It has been observed that these gangs will attack both colored and white

people; however, it is estimated that the attacks on white people number approximately two-thirds of all assaults. It was also stated that there had been few instances of white gangs attacking Negroes brought to his attention.

With reference to the race riot of June 21, 1943, it has been observed that the bulk of the juvenile crimes in the City of Detroit for the past two and one-half years have been committed by juveniles who have resided for many years in Detroit. However, in the case of the above-referred-to riot the records reflect that the juveniles arrested have resided for a comparatively short time in the City of Detroit. It was further noted that many juveniles arrested have come to Detroit from the southern part of the United States.

With reference to the situation that existed in the Detroit schools during the riot, it is advised that the intermediary schools in the riot section of the city were practically deserted during the time the riot was in progress. Many of the students came to school on the morning of June 21 and left school when word of the riot had spread through the school. Many of the students were taken out of the schools by their parents.

It is said that no actual trouble in the schools occurred during the riots and, further, there has been little trouble in the schools during the past several years. However, in some of the schools where both Negro and white students are in attendance trouble has occurred, usually starting with a fight between a white and a Negro boy, thereafter each race taking respective sides in the argument. It was indicated, however, that no trouble of any serious proportion has occurred in the Detroit schools.

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

With reference to the general crime situation in the City of Detroit with a view in mind of its general effect on the tense situation

that has existed in Detroit for the past several years the following figures are presented. Crime figures in general show an increase in crime since 1940 of 1.2 per cent. It is here noted that although the colored population of Detroit is only approximately 9 per cent of the total population, 37 per cent of the crimes in 1942 were committed by colored persons. In some specific cases, namely, crimes against persons, 40 per cent were committed by colored persons. In crimes against property 51 per cent were committed by colored persons, and in the specific crime of carrying concealed weapons and possessing weapons colored persons have committed 74 per cent of this crime.

Racial Policy of the City Administration

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

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

Negro Pressure Groups

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

The method of operation of these groups seems to make for wide-spread publicity and agitation upon every incident in which discrimination is involved or alleged. Instances are known to have been created. A

typical example has been cited by a confidential informant in which during a recent conference between Jack Raskin, who has been referred to hereinbefore, and one Jack Burke, described as a field representative of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, Burke urged Raskin to find Negro women who were to go to war plants and seek jobs on the possibility that discrimination might be developed and an issue raised.

High Wages and Employment Rate Among Negroes

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

Communist Party Exploitation of the Situation

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

The Party line, which was adopted relative to the riots in Detroit, was expressed by Patrick Toohey at a meeting of Communist Party

organizers on the night of June 22, 1943. He stated, "The brunt of the attack has been against the Negroes. Hundreds of unsuspecting Negroes have been led into murderous bloodshed. I mustn't use the word race riot -- it is Hitler's Fifth Column. The Negroes are not responsible. We exonerate them. We must punish the hoodlums and protect the Negroes. This is Axis inspired."

Committee for Jobs in War Industries

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

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

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

Charges Made by Communist Forces

Patrick Toohey at a meeting of Communist Party Section Organizers on June 22, 1943, in Detroit, stated that the brunt of the

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

At this meeting Toohey is said to have further advised that the Attorney General must be compelled to instigate an investigation based upon information by Communist Party members. James W. Ford, Negro member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, spoke at this meeting and affirmed what Toohey had said and advised that Toohey's remarks were in line with the general policy of the Party. Toohey thereupon requested affidavits be obtained showing who incited the riots and these affidavits be turned over to Jack Raskin of the Civil Rights Federation to be placed at the disposal of a grand jury. It should be noted that the "Detroit Free Press" for June 23, 1943, contained a long statement issued by the Communist Party captioned "Units for Freedom -- Smash the Fifth Column." This statement followed generally Toohey's remarks and mentions that "the anti-Negro riots" were an Axis-inspired effort to wreck the unity of the American people. It stated that the Negro people must be exonerated from any responsibility for these riots. It urged that Detroit citizens demand that the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the City Prosecutor in Detroit, Mr. Dowling, act upon "the great amount of information given them in the past year as to the work and activities of Detroit's fifth column, especially the Ku Klux Klan." Police officers were accused of delivering the brunt of their attack against the Negro people.

GRAND RAPIDS FIELD DIVISION

In the area covered by Southwestern Michigan, including such cities as South Haven and Benton Harbor and Cass County, Michigan, no indications have been reported reflecting un-Americanism or subversive activities among the Negroes. Inquiries have also been conducted in Kalamazoo and Ionia Counties, Michigan, with negative results. This is true in Lake, Newaygo and Muskegon Counties. There have been however, few complaints received in the City of Grand Rapids concerning individual Negroes making remarks reflecting possibly a pro-Japanese sympathy. These reports have been isolated, however, and mainly reflect remarks by individuals who made them when they were intoxicated or who did not realize their full import.

Unconfirmed reports are that approximately ten years ago, between 1930 and 1935, there was an attempt by an individual believed to have been Japanese to form a chapter of the Pacific Movement of the Eastern World. No specific information in this connection was furnished. Contacts made among Negro sources of information in this area brought out the opinion that such a movement had little effect on the 4,000 Negroes in the City of Grand Rapids.

There have also been reports that at least two individuals allegedly possessing a Communistic view have attempted to assert themselves in the activities of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People branch of Grand Rapids. Their efforts, according to sources of information, have been fruitless. These individuals are said to be white people. With regard to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People branch, no indications have been reported that this organization is engaged in subversive activities or is endeavoring to create unrest among Negroes there.

After the recent Detroit race riot many complaints were received regarding negro activities. Most of these complaints arose in Muskegon, Michigan, where the greater portion of the Negroes in the Grand Rapids Field Division reside. Rumors at that time were that a riot would break out at almost any time. The Negroes were alleged to be holding secret meetings in anticipation of any trouble. No reports were received indicating any subversive influence.

The Michigan State Police in this territory and the Muskegon Police Department have been active in investigating many rumors regarding Negro activity since the riot in Detroit and practically all of these have been unfounded.

Reports received reflect that there is much feeling of mutual distrust between the whites and colored in Muskegon due to a number of causes. Muskegon is strictly an industrial center. Three large foundries are located in that area and the greater portion of the Negroes are employed in these

plants. Due to the man power shortage, it has been necessary to import a large number of Negroes from the South to work in the plants. As a result, an acute housing shortage has arisen, thereby causing overcrowding and discontent among the Negroes. Many of these Negroes from the South come and work for only a short period of time and then return there. However, this is not always the case. This importation has caused resentment among the white workers, who state that after the war is over, many of the Negro laborers will remain and will have to be taken care of by private relief agencies in the event of another depression.

Further reports indicate that at the present time there is nearing completion a housing project in Muskegon Heights, Michigan, which consists of 176 units. This project was originally intended as a white housing project but was subsequently changed by Government order. The units are constructed near the adjoining residences occupied by the whites and, therefore, there has arisen some discussion which indicates that the white residents bitterly oppose the location of Negroes in that area.

In one instance a white resident, adjoining the project, is alleged to have stated that she could start a race riot in five minutes in Muskegon, Michigan. Information reported reflects that the person making this statement was Anna Van Tubergen, 817 Hinman Street, an employee at the Norge Corporation. She denied making the statement but stated that she was very bitter because the project was being located next to her home and because she had had to give up 180 feet of her lot in order that the project could be completed. She said that it was understood that when the project was located in Muskegon, it was to be a white housing project. She related that there was a great deal of feeling between the whites and colored working in the various plants in Muskegon and that this was due to a general dislike between the two races. She said she did not anticipate any trouble with her new negro neighbors but that she certainly wanted them to keep their distance and to keep off her property or otherwise trouble would start.

With reference to the secret meetings alleged to have been held by the Negroes, it was ascertained that the meeting referred to was a meeting held by the Negro Elks Club in Muskegon, which has been organized recently. This meeting was held in the C. I. O. Hall in Muskegon and was a regular meeting of that organization. At the present time the membership is reportedly composed of 63 members, including many of the Negro leaders in Muskegon and Muskegon Heights, Michigan. Jim Austin, 618 Ottawa Street, Muskegon, a recognized Negro leader in the community, is the Exalted Ruler. Meetings are held on the first and third Sunday of each month.

The lodge is said to have no permanent meeting place at the present time and the first rumor was that the meeting of some organization was being held in the basement of 813 Pine Street and that plans were formulated at that meeting by the Negroes to protect themselves in the event any trouble arose. It was reported that one of the first meetings held by the Elks Lodge was held at 813 Pine Street, but the rumors regarding the activity at that

meeting were ascertained to be unfounded and there was no indication reported of any activity by the members in anticipation of any trouble. There is no indication that the present Negro Elks Club is subversive in any way and, on the contrary, information reported indicates it is a legitimate organization.

It was reported that on July 3, 1943, three Negroes were attempting to buy guns and ammunition at Fremont, Michigan, from three hardware stores. The tag number of the car occupied by the Negroes was secured and it was ascertained that it was the property of one Willie McGrue, 6082 Beechwood Street, Detroit, Michigan. A subsequent check by the Michigan State Police disclosed that McGrue was a foreman at the Ford Motor Company in Detroit and that he was highly regarded and considered a reputable citizen. The attempted purchase of the shotgun and ammunition was made by McGrue, according to his story, for the purpose of hunting on his trip to visit a friend named George Foster, near Hesperia.

A confidential informant who is an employee at the Campbell, Wyant & Cannon Foundry in Muskegon advised that he has been making observation of the situation in Muskegon and at no point has he been able to ascertain that any radical group or foreign element was attempting to stir up any trouble, but he attributed the entire situation to the fact that there was a general feeling of racial hatred among the whites and colored.

He said that in the foundries the whites resented the use of the same bath facilities by the Negroes. The whites resent the fact that in one of the foundries a Negro is the head of the union; namely, Lakely Foundry, Muskegon, Michigan. He reported that only a few white men would attend meetings of the local union because there were so many Negroes at the meetings and as a result the Negroes in that local had gained control of the union. He was positive in his belief that no subversive elements were at work to create any discord among the races.

Recently many complaints have been received from various plants in the Muskegon territory that there was a large absenteeism among the Negro workers in the plant. These absenteeisms usually result over the week-end and the Negroes do not show up for work until around the middle of the week. The personnel manager in the various plants advise that many of these Negroes are shakeout men in the foundry and are very necessary in the war effort and when there is absenteeism among that group it causes dislocations throughout the entire plant.

The Factory Manager of the Campbell, Wyant & Cannon Foundry, Plant No. 3 has expressed the opinion that something was back of the absenteeism of the workers. However, he was unable to indicate any particular group or individuals who were trying to get the Negro workers to stay away from their jobs. When questioned about this situation, a confidential informant has advised that many of the Negroes were receiving high salaries and that they spend their week-ends in gambling and drinking and are unable to return to their jobs at the first of the week.

The Campbell, Wyant and Cannon Plant at Muskegon, a foundry manufacturing material in connection with the war effort and having a third class priority is said to have experienced a "walk out" on July 19, 1943. It is alleged that eighty-five Negroes employed at the plant on July 19, 1943, refused to continue work under a white steward at the plant. Thereafter the tension is said to have risen to the point where the plant had to close down. Thereupon officials of the plant reportedly requested State Police protection as a precautionary measure, and leaders of the local of the United Automobile, Aircraft and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, CIO, at the plant were endeavoring to arrange a "back to work" settlement.

No indications have been received of any organized subversive activity in connection with this situation.

INDIANAPOLIS FIELD DIVISION

In the northern part of the State of Indiana in the City of Gary, an organization known as the "Development of our Own" is reported to be active. It is stated that this organization, although having relatively few active members in that city, preaches racial equality and ultimate domination by the colored people. It is also stated to be pro-Japanese and has held meetings to that effect. In the same city, information has been reported to the effect that a Moorish Cult was at one time existent, and it is believed to have been broken up a few years ago, leading to the organization of the "Development of our Own." This latter group, reportedly pro-Japanese, has recently gone underground.

In connection with the "Development of our Own," the section concerning the Chicago Field Division should be reviewed. Several members in the Gary, Indiana, section have advised that there was a pro-Japanese sentiment among the members, and Emmanuel Pharr has been listed as a leader. The Gary unit has been led by one General Pope, the president of the organization.

It is also reported that a unit of the Peace Movement of Ethiopia has had a unit in Gary, Indiana, which has been led by one Harry Collins. This organization in Gary is said to have collected money for Mrs. Gordon, the president of the organization, who was arrested and convicted in Chicago, Illinois. An informant, who has attended meetings of this unit in Gary and the surrounding area, particularly at Indiana Harbor, has advised that there was a small attendance, not exceeding twenty-four adults.

In the City of Indianapolis there is a unit of the Universal Negro Improvement Association which is said to be extremely small in size, its meetings being attended by approximately eight to twelve individuals. Informants who have attended meetings have advised that the agenda dealt with the return of Negroes to Africa. No indications have been received that pro-Axis or pro-Japanese sympathies are prevalent among the members. There is also active in this city unit No. 15 of the Moorish Science Temple of America, which is said to meet every Friday and Sunday evenings. Its meetings are reportedly attended by approximately twenty-five persons. To date no indications have been reported that there is any un-American or pro-Axis activity connected with the group.

At one time there existed in the City of Indianapolis an organization described as the Black, Brown and Yellow Society of America, the purpose of which was alleged to be the obtaining of representation of its

members in the League of Nations. An additional aim of the organization was to assist Negroes to obtain their rights. The leader of this organization in 1942 stated his group had nothing to do with Japanese or Chinese nationals and that the organization had no affiliations of any sort. No recent indications of this organization's being active have been reported.

Another organization said to be active in the Indianapolis area during the latter part of 1942 was a group known as "Jobs and Justices for Negroes," which was described as extremely race conscious. It was reportedly organized in 1942 to allegedly cooperate with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Urban League and Negro churches. The organization, according to reports, has since been inactive. It should be noted, however, that at one time the Communist Party in Indianapolis appointed various members for the purpose of cooperating with this group.

Throughout the State of Indiana it has been ascertained that the Communist Party has been agitating among the Negroes in an attempt to make them conscious of racial discrimination. The Party is also stated to be very much interested in recruiting Negroes into the Party. In the Calumet area of Indiana, including Gary, Hammond and East Chicago, the Communist front organization, the International Workers Order, has organized a colored lodge, which, however, is stated to have but a few members. It has been reported that the Communist Party, especially in Indianapolis, considered the possibility of opening at least one Party center in the Negro district, which was considered an implement in the Party campaign to recruit Negro members. In this connection it should be noted that Party functionaries are making every effort to recruit Negroes in the Indiana area, stating they are the only group truly advocating the elimination of discrimination. Much of their work centers on the manufacturing concerns, where it is said some degree of success has been attained.

Subsequent information has been received that the Negro center planned by the Party in Indianapolis was established at 1208 North Senate Avenue in that city. As of June 20, 1942, when the formal opening took place, local functionaries of the Party were disappointed at the sparse turnout at the dedication.

In the latter part of May, 1943, the Communist Party in Indiana, especially in Indianapolis, was concentrating on sending the proper delegates to the conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Suggestions were made that several known Negro Communists be sent. In this connection, Elmer Johnson, the Executive Secretary of the Indianapolis section of the Communist Party, instructed one of the proposed delegates that he should attempt to have a resolution adopted at the conference

setting out details of alleged discrimination at various industrial plants and have it sent to the Fair Employment Practice Committee for investigation.

On June 23, 1943, a meeting was held at Communist Party headquarters in Indianapolis and, according to a confidential informant, Party functionaries were greatly concerned over the riots in Detroit during June 20 - 22, 1943. The Party officials are said to have contacted several local Negro leaders, at which time they placed blame for the Detroit riots on the Ku Klux Klan, Father Coughlin, Henry Ford and Gerald L. K. Smith. They also reportedly claimed that the riots were a part of the national conspiracy against the war effort. Plans were made to hold a meeting in this regard.

On June 11, 12 and 13, 1943, "The Indianapolis Institute on Race Relations and the Non-Violence Solutions" were sponsored by the Fellowship of Reconciliation at the Negro YMCA. At the meeting on June 12 approximately sixty persons attended, forty being white and the remainder colored. Bayard Rustin, Negro, youth secretary of the organization, explained the "action project," whereby members both Negro and white would enter a restaurant not catering to Negroes and request service in a group. Any discrimination or refusal to serve the Negroes would result in formal protests. At the June 13, 1943, meeting James Farmer, race relations secretary of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, spoke on the topic "spiritual basis for non-violence." Approximately seventy people attended, the figure being divided equally as to race. At this time he explained non-violence direct action technique and advised that Negroes should not put up with racial discrimination and segregation.

It is reported that various civic leaders in the city of Indianapolis have been concerned over the Negro situation in that city. It is further reported confidentially that local law enforcement authorities have in the past exhibited some laxity in coping with the situation; furthermore, scattered complaints have been received reflecting that there is a strong feeling against the white people on the part of the Negroes. On the night of August 15, 1942, a riot took place at one of the Negro night clubs in Indianapolis. This riot was started after two white policemen arrested a prostitute outside the establishment. The policemen were severely beaten and mauled by a mob which was estimated to range from one hundred to two hundred colored men. No information, however, has been received in regard to this riot reflecting possible pro-Axis agitation as the cause thereof.

In the City of Evansville, Indiana, there are approximately 8,000 Negroes. Active there are the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Negro Ministerial Alliance and the Council of Clubs. No information has been reported by confidential sources in this area reflecting organized agitation among the Negroes there.

Several instances reported to have taken place at the Chrysler Evansville Ordnance Plant, Evansville, Indiana, are said to reflect the attitude of at least some Negroes living in this area. It is said that a number of the members of this race, working at this plant, are engaging in practices bordering on the obnoxious, mainly that of pushing themselves into lines at lunch wagons and taking other advantages on every possible occasion. The general report is that the white employees as a whole have been considerate with the Negro employees there.

MILWAUKEE FIELD DIVISION

Informants in this area advise that the 12,000 Milwaukee Negroes are loyal and behind the war effort. A small group of Negroes, however, calling themselves Moslems, refused to register under the Selective Training and Service Act or take part in the "white man's war." The leader of this group has been indicted for violation of the Selective Training and Service Act and the members identified. The leader of the group has denied any Japanese connection on the part of this group but admitted that since the Japanese are a colored race, there is close connection with the Negro race. The activities of the group are, of course, being closely followed.

The Universal Negro Improvement Association, led by James K. Stewart, Cleveland, Ohio, sponsored a meeting on June 7, 1942, in Milwaukee, which was attended by approximately 250 Negroes. Stewart was the main speaker and his theme was "why fight for the white men when the white men never fight for them. . . ." This organization and its leader are receiving close attention.

The Communist Party in and around Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is reported to be actively engaged in agitating to end alleged discrimination in the Armed Forces and the national defense effort against the Negroes. In this connection, several mass meetings have been sponsored by the Party in the Negro section, at which time protests against the lynching of Negroes were made and Martin Dies was attacked. Such other measures as the establishment of a mixed army ending segregation of Negroes and full enforcement of the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments were demanded.

It was reported that there are approximately 42 Negro Communists in the State of Wisconsin, with approximately 36 of the total in Milwaukee. In this connection, a branch organizer is stated to have informed a Negro that the Negroes can only reach their true and due position under the Russian type of government and for that reason the Negro should work hard to bring Communism and the Russian government to the United States.

An organization, not subversive in nature, known as the Milwaukee Urban League, is stated to have been active during the past ten years in that city. This organization is reported to be chiefly interested in securing employment for Negro men and women in defense factories. The organization is supported by the Community Fund in Milwaukee. No reports have been received that this organization is agitating among the Negroes.

Recently the "Wisconsin Enterprise Blade", a weekly Negro newspaper, has been revived in the Milwaukee area. Its last publication was in the Fall of 1940 when it was discontinued because of financial difficulties. Its ex-publisher, J. Anthony Josey, is attempting to secure financial support to republish the publication so that a number of the large industrial plants

in Milwaukee may be circulated. It is thought the support from the Republican Party and industrial plants in and around Milwaukee is sought by the publisher.

Other newspapers which are distributed in this area are the Pittsburgh Courier, which is said to have a circulation of approximately 650 copies in the City of Milwaukee, the Chicago Defender with approximately 155, and the Chicago Bee with approximately a 50-copy circulation.

A confidential source of information has advised that the Communist Party activity among the Negroes in this area has little effect in that it is believed former Negro Communists have lost interest in the Party. This is laid to the fact that Negroes have secured jobs and do not feel that the Party has anything to offer them. In this regard it is said the Communist Party officials have been complaining about the lack of Negro attendance at their meetings and stated that the membership dues and subscriptions to the Daily Worker have dropped off considerably.

At one time in 1941, the March on Washington Movement organization was active in the City of Milwaukee, however, since that time it was discontinued. At present, however, it is believed that the Committee will be revived in the very near future. It is reported that in the past there were no indications of any subversive activity on the part of the members of the movement when it existed in the City of Milwaukee, but it was said by a Negro source of information that if the group would fall into the hands of a wrong group, it could definitely become subversive.

On December 8, 1942, a meeting was held in Walker Hall of the Milwaukee Auditorium, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at which Dr. Max Yergan reported Communist and member of the Council on African Affairs was the principal speaker. It is reported that there were approximately 150 people present, most of whom were Negroes. The invocation was said to have been delivered by Reverend I. M. Coggs, who was followed by Dr. Frank E. Baker of the Milwaukee State Teacher's College who acted as chairman of the meeting. Congressman elect Howard J. McMurray addressed the meeting. He spoke on "Freedom of Fear", linking this subject with that of "What Causes War?", according to reports.

Dr. Baker is reported to have introduced Dr. Max Yergan, Executive Director of the Council on African Affairs, an individual who has been reported to be a Communist and who has in fact been affiliated with many Communist front organizations. Dr. Yergan is said to have condemned the action in the Senate which blocked the passage of the anti-poll tax bill. He is then said to have called for greater democracy for the American Negro, for China, India and Africa. He reportedly warned the negro people

Fascism, pointing out the results of "Rule of Minority" in the conquered countries. He then is said to have urged that the Negro people of Africa be given arms so that they might join the Allies in fighting the Axis. He also is said to have urged this discrimination against the Negro in the armed forces, industry and in society be stopped. He also is said to have urged that a second front on the continent of Europe be opened. This last statement of Yergan's is, of course, in direct harmony with the Communist Party line.

Prosecution has recently been authorized against five individuals, members of a Moslem group in Milwaukee, for violation of the Selective Training and Service Act. The information developed concerning them reflects that they have counselled evasion of this law.

A complaint has been received relative to a former minister of a church known as the Church of Christ in God whose name is Clarence F. Dickerson. This individual, a Negro, is alleged to be making pro-Japanese statements and extolling the Moslem faith in connection with his alleged pro-Japanese statements; it is noted, however, that he is reported to have made highly exaggerated utterances and to have given the impression that he is highly important in the Moslem faith.

Relative to the activities of members of the Moslem group in the Milwaukee area, a confidential source of information has advised that there were perhaps two or three hundred Moslem members in the city, but as of 1941 the only active members were a group of men and women totaling approximately twenty-five. It was said that at that time they had no recognized leader. Inquiries are, of course, being continued relative to this sect, and their advocacy of non-participation in war for Negroes.

In September, 1942 an organization known as the "National Progressive Negroes of America, Incorporated" was incorporated in the State of Wisconsin, the purpose of which was allegedly to further the service of Negroes to God, country and Negro race. The promoter of this organization was Moses Joseph Albany, who allegedly at one time was head of the Pacific Movement of the Eastern World in Kansas City, Missouri. The membership of this organization did not reach large proportions and it is said to have consisted of sixty-seven members. On February 9, 1943, Albany was arrested by the police in Milwaukee on a vagrancy charge. On the same date, the vice president of the group, one Meshack Jones, was arrested on a bigamy charge. Albany had a considerable criminal background, having served several sentences for housebreaking, assault with intent to kill, carrying concealed weapons, robbery, grand larceny and other crimes. While in Wisconsin, Albany made a living telling fortunes and blessing homes to make them lucky. He also dealt in prostitution. On February 16, 1943, he was sentenced to ninety days in

the house of correction, and upon the completion of his sentence he was immediately to leave Milwaukee. The organization which was begun by Albany was thereafter disbanded.

It was reported in February, 1943 that Ned Sparks, Secretary of the Communist Party for the State of Wisconsin, after ascertaining that "rank and file" Negroes had been recruited into the Party became angry with another Party functionary who had done the recruiting and stated that the Party desired only quality and not quantity in its Negro recruiting. He ordered that only outstanding Negroes should be recruited, saying that ordinary Negroes were not an asset to the Party because they would not work. He pointed out that they are active as members for a short time and then drop out.

The above incident can be cited as an example of how the Party is willing to exploit Negroes, yet cannot successfully use them as working members. It also reflects the lack of sincerity in the Party's program, especially with respect to Negroes. It is to be noted that these remarks by Sparks were directed to Katherine Hartmann, an organizer for the International Fur and Leather Workers Union of the United States and Canada, CIO, and an active Communist Party member.

In connection with the Party's activities in recruiting Negroes, a confidential informant has advised that the Party's activity in Milwaukee in March, 1943, did not amount to much for several reasons. He also pointed out that former active Negro members in the Milwaukee area do not even admit their former connections any more. He informed that in his opinion the only reason Communists ever gained any sort of a foothold in the Negro district was because in the early years of the Party's recruiting, Negroes were furnished a chance to socialize with white girls. He claimed that the novelty of this soon wore off, and that the vast majority of the Negroes became employed and do not have time to engage in Communism. Subsequent to March, 1943, however, in April and in May, the Party in the Milwaukee area is said to have renewed its activity in attempting to obtain Negro recruits. New organizers were appointed for the Negro section, and it was planned that prominent Communist speakers would appear at membership meetings to discuss some topic of vital interest to the Negro people. The Party also took an active part in a drive for better Negro housing.

There has been established in the City of Milwaukee an Inter-racial Labor Relations Committee, which has representatives from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and various CIO industrial unions. The Communist Party has taken an active part in this council and has supplied speakers for it. On June 13, 1943, Meyer Adelman, an active member of the Communist Party, spoke in place of Harold Christoffel, President of the Milwaukee County Industrial Union Council, CIO. An informant has advised that Adelman delivered a very

radical speech in which he said that he was going to obtain a group of Negro girls and take them to the Wisconsin Telephone Company with the demand that they be hired. He informed that he was sure the telephone company would not hire them but that it would start a fight. He also stated that he intended to get a group of Negro soldiers and take them to two prominent hotels where a demand would be made that they supply lodging for them at \$1 per night. He added, according to the informant, that he was also sure these hotels would not agree and that he, Adelman, would thereupon start "raising hell." He is said to have also remarked that the profits of all retail stores in the City of Milwaukee be distributed equally among the population. The source of information has advised that after Adelman's speech he had heard considerable comment on the part of Negroes that they were disgusted with Adelman and his remarks.

In April, 1943 it was reported that a strained relationship existed between Negro students at the University of Wisconsin in Madison and Navy men assigned to the Naval Radio Training School in Madison. It is said that several fist fights have occurred between southern Navy men and the Negroes, and as a result thereof there has been considerable activity on the part of Negro students in an attempt to abolish discrimination. Some time previously, in November, 1942, an organization known as the Negro Cultural Foundation was organized at the University of Wisconsin and its constitution was approved. The membership of this organization is approximately thirty. Its president, Argyle Stoute, is said to have been the organizer of the Negro Cultural Foundation. He is reported to have been expelled from New York University because of his agitational activity.

In February, 1943 a group known as the "Vanguard" was organized by Dr. Frederick Burkhardt, a professor of philosophy at the University of Wisconsin. In April, 1943 the organization took up the question of Negro discrimination and segregation. Professor Burkhardt at the meeting spoke of the problem of Negro troops stationed at Truax Field and mentioned the policy of the United Service Organization in the City of Madison, especially with regard to Negro discrimination and segregation. In June, 1943 it was reported that the "Vanguard" had discontinued its activity for the summer months.

Early in May, 1943 the Executive Secretary of the Urban League in Milwaukee informed that during the previous month, the Urban League had planned to cooperate with the Congress of Industrial Organizations to encourage Negroes to join labor unions in war plants and to become active members so that they would have the protection of the union in the postwar period. He informed that no specific unions were designated which the Negroes should join. However, he did point out that certain craft unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor prohibited Negroes from

joining. He further advised that his organization was attempting to campaign throughout the country to persuade A F of L craft unions to lift their ban against Negroes. He pointed out that in the past whenever Negroes have secured good jobs in factories they have done poor work and, consequently, lost the opportunity to become permanent employees. He stated that in this connection, education should be given to Negroes so that this situation could be remedied and they could find their places in industry.

Shortly after the riots in Detroit, a meeting was held in the offices of the Urban League in Milwaukee to form an Interracial War Council, reportedly done in accordance with instructions issued by the national headquarters of the Urban League for the purpose of continuing friendly relations between Negro and white inhabitants of this country. There were present at this meeting besides well-known Negro leaders, two members of the Communist Party, one a Negro and the other Josephine Nordstrand, Executive Secretary of the Wisconsin State Conference on Social Legislation, a Communist front. At this meeting Nordstrand proposed a mass rally. However, it was objected to because of the Communist connections, and the resolution was subsequently withdrawn. However, Josephine Nordstrand went ahead and made plans for a rally, calling on a number of prominent Negro leaders for their support. This rally was subsequently held on June 29, 1943 at which there were one hundred twenty persons present, thirty-two being white and the balance Negroes. A number of known Communists were recognized by informants. Edward Strong of the National Negro Congress, a Communist Party member, was the first speaker, who spoke not only on the Negro situation but reviewed the present war. He then referred to the Detroit riots, attacking the way the police handled the situation, and accused the fifth column as being responsible for them. The next speaker was James Dorsey, President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Milwaukee, who urged that Negroes in the area not engage in trouble with white people, saying that the odds were decidedly against them. He then referred to a large number of youthful Negroes who have engaged in vandalism and hoodlumism in the Milwaukee area. He also stated that Negroes who have been clamoring for employment in defense industries have utterly failed to perform their duties satisfactorily once they are so employed. He urged that if the Negro does his part in the war effort and shows white people he is capable of doing comparable work to them, his employment will be on a much higher level at the completion of the war. With regard to the speech made by Dorsey, it is reported that the Communist Party decided to prepare a Negro statement to be signed by trade unionists in the Milwaukee area condemning Dorsey for his statements and his failure to completely endorse the Negroes' side of the riots in Detroit.

With regard to the general situation among the Negro population in the Milwaukee area, after the Detroit riots it is reported that Negroes were more or less stirred up over the incident, although no indications were received of any organized movement or Negro agitation.

A number of incidents have occurred in the Sixth Ward of Milwaukee, a Negro section, mainly involving youthful Negroes who are said frequently band together in a crowd of from three hundred to four hundred, especially on weekends, and cause considerable commotion by yelling and shouting and forcing people off of the sidewalks. According to informants, the Milwaukee Police Department so far has effectively broken up such gatherings and serious trouble has not been caused. An informant has stated, however, that if these individuals decided to roam the streets in the white residential areas, trouble might ensue.

Another source of information has advised of hearing anti-Semitic talk in the Sixth Ward area but has added that this has been going on for a number of years, and in his opinion, it is meaningless. He has also informed of hearing considerable talk about the Detroit riots, and some by Negroes who stated that more white people were killed in these riots than were reported by the newspapers. He said further, it appeared to him that Negroes were glad the papers did not print the true facts, inasmuch as this would have led to more trouble. This same informant, a Negro, who is cognizant of the situation in the Milwaukee area, has informed that Negroes as a whole feel they are getting along well at the present time and have no desire to cause trouble.

NEWARK FIELD DIVISION

According to the 1940 census, there are approximately 250,000 Negroes in the State of New Jersey, with the heaviest Negro population centered in Essex, Hudson, Mercer, Monmouth, Union, Atlantic, Bergen and Camden Counties. The City of Newark leads the cities in New Jersey with a population of approximately 45,000 Negroes, followed by Atlantic City with approximately 16,000, Jersey City 13,000 and Camden 12,000.

The following Negro publications are the most widely distributed in the State of New Jersey:

The New Jersey Guardian, published in Newark, with an approximated circulation of 32,000.

The New Jersey Herald News, published in Newark, with a reported circulation of 22,000.

The Echo, published in Red Bank, New Jersey, circulation unknown.

The Afro-American, although not published in New Jersey, is said to have a comparatively wide circulation.

All of the foregoing publications are published weekly.

In the New Jersey metropolitan area, centered in and around Newark, New Jersey, sources of information advise there is no foreign-inspired agitation among the Negroes in that area although there are frequent voicings of dissatisfaction and unrest. The unrest, or dissatisfaction, is said to be a result of domestic, social and economic problems, and it has been further claimed that utterances condemning the national defense program usually result from the refusal of employers to employ qualified colored labor in the face of existing vacancies in industries manufacturing national defense material.

With regard to these expressions of dissatisfaction, it is stated that they do not mean the Negroes are disloyal to the United States, but rather are expressions of appreciation of knowledge of the anti-Negro tendencies in the United States. The opinion was also expressed concerning Negroes in this area that a false conception is obtained when Negroes voice dissatisfaction, especially as to the scarcity of opportunities for advancement during the present national emergency, in that certain groups tend to say such unrest is foreign-inspired. This source of information advised that the real cause, in his opinion, is the existence of actual discrimination and that the situation could become more serious even without foreign inspiration. Another phase of the situation, as expressed by this source of information, is to the effect that the Negro population is increasing its efforts to be of assistance to the gaining momentum of the national defense program; yet this effort on the part of the Negroes will be met by some factions with the rising tide of antagonism "that the Negroes must be kept in their place."

Sources of information contacted in the City of Newark advise of no reports or indications that pro-Japanese or pro-German forces are at work among the Negroes. However, it is stated that much of the "propaganda" urging Negroes to strive for equal rights and the abolishment of "Jim Crowism" is furthered by Communist Party agitation, although the original movement toward such betterment for the Negro actually sprung from the ranks of the Negroes prior to Communist infiltration. Certain nonspecific reports of alleged Japanese speaking to and mingling with Negroes several years ago were received, but no such influence is reportedly active at the present time.

In the cities of Kearny and Jersey City, inquiries as to the possible existence of pro-Axis activity among the Negroes fails to reflect such activity at the present time. In Jersey City, however, it was reported that the Communist Party had attempted to agitate among the colored population but had never met with success because of the attitude of the administration in that city toward the Communists.

Among the various organizations composed of members of the Negro race in the State of New Jersey are the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Urban League, the Moorish Science Temple of America, and the House of Israel. With regard to the first two of these organizations, no indications have been received of any pro-Axis influence in them. The Moorish Science Temple of America is said to be active in the cities of Newark, Camden, Glassboro and Montclair. In Newark there are two branches, one of which believes in the reincarnation of Noble Drew Ali, the founder of the Temple, while the other follows the dictates of C. Kirkman Bey, Chicago, Illinois. The exact extent of membership in this State is not known; however, the larger group in Newark is said to have a membership of approximately 300, while the smaller group has an active membership of approximately 55. Both of the groups have expressed definite anti-white sentiments. Investigations are being continued relative to the various temples throughout the State. Numerous reports have been received indicating pro-Japanese sentiments on the part of individual members of the sect.

With regard to the organization known as the House of Israel, a group claiming to be Jewish, although actually cultists who are pro-Japanese, has been broken up through the arrest of seven of its members for violations of the Selective Training and Service Act. The original group was composed of approximately twelve adults. The leader, whose real name is believed to be Rubin Thomas, used the name Rubin Israel and collected two dollars a week per family from his members to support a school in which he taught alleged doctrines.

At one time in the State of New Jersey there were active groups of the Universal Negro Improvement Association as well as the Pacific Movement of the Eastern World.

With regard to Communist Party activities in the State of New Jersey, the general Communist Party line prevails, urging assistance and an all-out effort in the war program. There are a number of Negroes who have been active in running for officers on the Communist Party ticket as well as several who are organizers for various industrial unions. Confidential sources indicate there are approximately 370 Negro Party members out of a total Negro population of 250,000. Of this number 118 were Party members as of January 1943, while the other 252 are new recruits secured during the membership campaign beginning in February 1943 and ending in May 1943. According to informants, this increase is not believed to indicate any real change in the general Negro attitude toward the Party which, they claim, remains skeptical.

The Negro sources of information and confidential informants who have been contacted for information in their possession relative to reported instances of foreign-inspired agitation among the members of their race have convincingly stated that they know of no current foreign-inspired causes of Negro unrest, although they do feel that the Negro is not getting a fair type of treatment in the current war effort and that this coupled with the fact that his designation generally is still retarded leads him to feel that he has a questionable stake in the war.

During the early part of June 1943 there were several disturbances among Negro and Italian high school youths in Newark resulting in the fatal shooting of a Negro boy by an Italian youth. In connection with these disturbances rumors of pending race riots began to circulate and reached a climax the week end of June 26, 1943, as adults throughout the city, according to reports, Negroes particularly, became increasingly incensed over the interracial aspects of the fatal shooting. Negro citizens are said to have complained vehemently that the Newark Police Department had not given them proper treatment and protection from Italian hoodlums. There were charges that an improper investigation had been made of the incidents and several Negro organizations called on or petitioned Newark city officials for a better coverage in Newark's race danger zones, particularly the 1st and 3rd Wards.

According to sources of information, tension among the Negro citizens in Newark has increased since these incidents. These informants have pointed out that since the beginning of the war both Negro and white people have filtered into Newark to seek better jobs. This has resulted in increased friction between the races, according to the informants, and Negroes are said to feel the pressure also of letters they receive

from their relatives in the Armed Forces containing incidents of alleged racial discrimination in the Armed Forces. A source of information has further advised that although there was a peaceful settlement in the Italian-Negro difficulties, there is still a tension and a considerable amount of this exists among Negro youths. This same informant has added that pictures in the local newspapers of the victims of the Detroit race riots incited the Negro youth and pointed out that the average Negro can only see the pictures and cannot read the captions and he, therefore, personally resents the beatings of Negroes portrayed in the pictures without attempting to analyze the background circumstances.

NEW HAVEN FIELD DIVISION

For the purpose of convenience the summary of information regarding this area concerning agitation among the Negroes, will be broken down according to the larger cities:

In the vicinity of Ansonia, Connecticut, it is reported that the Negro population of this area has been rapidly increasing, there now being approximately 3500 Negroes, most of whom have come from the Southern States and the Harlem Section of New York City. Contacts made with sources of information in this area reveal that there are no indications of any foreign inspired agitation among the Negroes here, and that a majority of trouble experienced is with lowering the number of violations of the law on the part of Negroes.

In the vicinity of Bridgeport, Connecticut, it is reported that the Negro population has been increasing because of prospective employment in defense industries there. No indications, however, have been reported reflecting unrest or dissatisfaction caused by un-American elements. In this area there has recently been issued a small newspaper or magazine entitled "Modern People", published in the Y.M.C.A. building, 1146 Barnham Avenue, Bridgeport, Connecticut. This magazine is stated to contain articles concerning discrimination against Negroes by local industries and, all in all, demands more rights and privileges for Negroes. The Bridgeport Herald, published in Bridgeport, Connecticut, is also stated to be active in its criticism of discrimination against the Negroes and alleged "Jim Crow" practices in the army camps. In the issue of this paper dated July 19, 1942, an article appeared concerning "Jim Crow" practices in army camps and the following was included in the article: "These things of which I have spoken happen each and every day in the camps that I have been in, and I think it is time somebody took time to see why the racial hatreds of the prejudiced South have to penetrate into the United States Army Camps. What kind of morale will Jim Crow practices bring to negro troops? After all, we are Americans too." The above statement was said to have been contained in a letter written by a Sergeant located at Fort Benning, Georgia. Numerous other articles have appeared in this paper concerning Negroes, including which was dated August 2, 1942, and entitled "New Negro now Fights for Complete Equality", and another in the issue dated August 2, 1942, entitled, "Racial Discrimination Charged in War Plants". It should be noted that no indications have been received reflecting un-Americanism inspiring these articles.

In and around Greenwich, Connecticut, it is stated, there is but a small Negro population, the larger part of which work as servants in private homes. The only active organizations in this area are said to be the Committee for Jobs for Negroes and the Colored Republican Club. The former club is said to be active also in Stamford and Fort Chester, New York. It has its headquarters at 20 Oakridge Street, Greenwich, Connecticut, and its avowed purpose is to combat racial discrimination in defense plants in southwestern Connecticut.

At the present time, in and around Hartford, Connecticut, it is reported, there are approximately 10,000 Negroes. Among the Negro organizations in Hartford are the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the North End Federated Club and the Moorish Science Temple of America.

Investigation is being conducted as a result of the report of an unidentified Japanese individual visiting in Hartford on the night of December 9, 1942, and speaking to the congregation of the Holy Ghost Church in this city. This individual is reported to have stated that Japanese were friends of the colored race and that it was best for the Negroes to join with Japan because it was to their best interests to do so. He is reported to have called the people there his brothers and sisters. Investigation into this matter has failed to reveal this individual's identity but the indications are that his efforts did not make much impression on the colored people in this area.

In this region it is stated that the editor of the Hartford Times, has criticized the failure of the community to take steps toward furnishing recreational facilities for Negroes in the 77th Coast Artillery stationed in Hartford, Connecticut. It is stated however, that in the Spring of 1942 a great deal was done to furnish facilities for the colored troops through the efforts of both colored and white organizations such as the Community Church, City of Hartford, Negro Citizens Community Council and the Independent Social Circle. With regard to the activity of the Social Circle, it is reported that this organization has subscribed to the Philadelphia Afro-American and the Pittsburgh Courier, both Negro newspapers, for the benefit of the men in the 77th Coast Artillery. An opinion has been expressed that such publications are not inductive to peaceable relations as both have been described as extremely radical in their opinions. It is also reported that the Chicago Defender, Negro newspaper, is distributed in the City of Hartford.

Information has been received reflecting that the Negro population in the vicinity of New Haven, Connecticut, is rapidly increasing. The majority of the Negroes are stated to be coming from the Southern States and from the Harlem Section of New York City. The Negro population in this area, at the present time, is estimated at from ten to twelve thousand; and it is stated that it has been growing to such an extent that it has been necessary for the local police department to employ three Negroes as policemen in the Negro district.

Among the Negro organizations reported to be active in the City of New Haven, are the Negro Community Council, The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Webster Institute, the Dixwell Community House, the Tents of America, and the Sons and Daughters of the South. It is also reported that the Negro churches in this area wield

a heavy influence among the Negroes. A Reverend Richard A. G. Foster, Pastor of the Varick Memorial Zion Church is said to be very prominent among the Negroes in this area. Numerous newspaper articles have carried stories of sermons and speeches made by Reverend Foster. On August 9, 1942, Reverend Foster reportedly spoke at a large gathering at which he requested the Negroes to unite in obtaining their rights. He is quoted as having said, "If we want segregation against us to cease, then we must stand together so that the powers that be, will recognize and see us as a powerful force. If we want job discrimination discontinued in New Haven and in the State, then we must not take no for an answer when we are prepared to have better jobs." It is reported with respect to Reverend Foster that he at one time was affiliated with a Communist front organization, the American Peace Mobilization, and that on March 20, 1941, he signed a round robin letter which opposed America's participation in war as a violation of constitutional rights.

In the vicinity of New Haven, Connecticut, it has also been reported that the Connecticut Conference of Social and Labor Legislation is active among the Negro population. This organization has been reported to have close Communist connections.

Information received concerning the area including Stamford, Connecticut, does not indicate that there is any foreign inspired or un-American activity, or agitation among the four thousand Negroes in this area. It is reported that Negroes in this area are quiet as a whole and that the only organizations active there are the Stamford Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the organization known as the Committee for Jobs for Negroes.

It is reported that in and around Waterbury, Connecticut, there has been a rapid increase in the Negro population as a result of the demand for labor. No information, however, has been received reflecting un-American activity among or by the Negroes in this area.

There has been in existence in the City of Hartford a branch of the Moorish Science Temple of America, which is said to have a charter, duly granted by the national organization. As to the membership of this organization, it is said that there are approximately one hundred fifty. A regional convention of this organization was held in Hartford in September, 1942, when approximately two hundred officers and delegates met. The general underlying philosophy in the speeches made at this convention was that of the religion involving the worship of Allah. It is alleged that the agitation which this organization causes is among the less educated and less wealthy class of Negroes in Hartford.

In the cities of New London, Torrington, Wallingford, Danbury, Norwich, Naugatuck, West Hartford, Plainville, Shelton, Wethersfield,

East Hartford, Middletown, Groton, Westbrook, Old Lyme, Essex, Saybrook, Chester, Haddam, Durham, North Branford, East Haven, Guilford, Madison, Clinton and Killingly, inquiries have been made for evidences of organized subversive activity among the Negroes, and these have met with negative results. It is to be noted that in most of these communities the Negro population is small.

On October 24, 1942 a Conference to End Discrimination in New Haven was held in that city and adopted general resolutions for the doing away with discrimination and segregation and denial of equal rights to Negroes.

In the Stamford area an organization known as the Committee to Promote Fair Employment Practice has been organized, the purposes of which are to provide full and equal opportunities for Negroes in employment in war industries as well as in training opportunities. This organization is said to have the support of various Negro pastors in that city as well as professional men.

Reports from the Bridgeport area indicate, especially with regard to industrial plants, that individuals alleged to have Communist sympathies have been agitating, particularly among the Negro employees. The industrial plants alleged to have been involved in this situation are the Stamford Rolling Mills, the Stewart Die Casting Company, the Jenkins Brothers Plant, the Bell Map Company, the Bridgeport Brass Company, and the Aluminum Corporation of America, Bridgeport. The individuals involved in the agitating, according to the reports, are Irving Dichter and Sam Gruber, the former reportedly being a member of the Communist Party in Bridgeport, while the latter has reportedly attended Communist Party functions. It is said that their activities center on the Negro employees in the foundries of the plants.

During the night of June 30 - July 1, 1943, rioting broke out in the vicinity of Hallen and Main Streets in New London, Connecticut. It took place between Negro members of the United States Maritime Training School at Fort Trumbull, New London, and white naval enlisted men reportedly stationed at the State Pier, New London. According to reports, Negro seamen of the Maritime School and the white naval seamen engaged in throwing rocks at one another. The trouble was broken up by police, who used their night sticks, and the Negro seamen left the scene of the rioting and walked in the direction of the Maritime Training School. At approximately 12:30 A.M. on July 1, the Negro seamen again reportedly got out of control and police were again called to break up the disturbance. The identities of the white seamen were not reported, however, the Maritime Training School identified thirty of the Negro seamen and confined them during an investigation. No indications were received that outside forces had attempted to stir up racial difficulties among the Maritime seamen.