FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

HQ FILE: 100-50869

SECTION 17

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOTICE

THE BEST COPIES OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE REPRODUCTION OF THE FILE. PAGES INCLUDED THAT ARE BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE RESULT OF THE CONDITION AND OR COLOR OF THE ORIGINALS PROVIDED. THESE ARE THE BEST COPIES AVAILABLE.
August 3, 1962

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I want to thank you for your recent letter and also for placing my name on the mailing list of your Bureau. The information that comes in your bulletins is very informative and I can use it in my courses against Communism and also in my sermons.

I am completely honest when I say that if our nation had more men like you as leaders, we would not be in the condition that we are in. I admire you greatly for your integrity and the splendid leadership that you have given, and I feel that your department offers very vital protection against further Red infiltration.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

13 AUG 1962

Thank you Sir.

396

CORRESPONDENCE
Your letter of July 24, 1962, has been received, and I want to thank you for your kind remarks regarding my administration of the FBI.

With respect to your inquiries, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In light of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the individual or publications you mentioned.

I would like to point out that the Communist Party in this country has attempted to infiltrate and subvert every segment of our society. However, the Party's efforts are being thwarted by the FBI's internal security programs, by investigation, arrest and prosecution of Party functionaries, and by widespread, intelligent public opposition to the communist philosophy. These achievements are being accomplished through orderly, legal procedures, and I assure you this Bureau is continuing to handle its responsibilities in this field with the same dispatch and thoroughness that have characterized our investigations in the past.

Relative to the article by Mr. Cassels, in line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions. In addition, I have never been an Elder of the National Presbyterian Church; however, I was at one time a Trustee of this Church in Washington, D.C.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: I ENCLOSURES: See next page.
Statement on Communism - 7-15-62
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: We have had one prior correspondence with [redacted] during March, 1960, which letter was acknowledged on 3-30-60. This letter also requested the Director's comments regarding the Air Force manuals which she mentions in her current incoming and their allegations that communists have infiltrated the clergy. Our answer to her prior communication stated our policy against giving evaluations relative to organizations, publications or individuals.
Dear Mr. Hoover,

July 24, 1962

I am writing to you because I consider you to be one of America's most outstanding leaders. I have the utmost trust and confidence in you, and I hope you will be able to take the time out of your busy schedule to answer a few of my questions.

First, let me say that I do not belong to the John Birch Society or any Rightist Group. I have, however, been trying to get at the truth concerning the charges that have been made in reference to the infiltration of Communists into the clergy. The Rightists are forever quoting "J. Edgar Hoover" to prove their point...and the Liberals quote likewise.

I feel that there has most certainly been "unfounded charges" made against some of America's Clergymen, but whenever a newspaper or magazine article plays up these "unfounded charges", it always tends to label "Extreme Right" on anyone who believes that some of America's church leaders did have Communist affiliations, as brought out in the Air Force Manual 45-1050 and vouched for by Representative Francis E. Walter of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. You see, I have tried to get as much government information as possible, relating to this. And who are we going to trust if we can't trust the various branches of our U.S. Gov't?

I wrote the House of Representative for the Hearing on Feb. 25, 1960 covering the controversial A.P. Manual. Among many other specific charges, Mr. Arens, the Staff Director, said on page 1303 "Thus far of the leadership of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America, we have found over 100 persons in leadership capacity with either Communist-front records or records of service to Communist causes. The aggregate affiliations of the leadership, instead of being in the hundreds as the chairman first indicated, is now, according to our latest count, into the thousands, and we have yet to complete our check...."

Probably you won't commit yourself, but I am still trying to get at the truth so I will boldly as you (1) As a leader of an investigative branch of our government, do you think Mr. Arens' Committee was accurate in the Feb. 1960 Hearing (in particular, page 1303)?

Mr. Louis Cassels wrote an article in Look Magazine April 24, 1962, whereby he quoted Rev. Dr. Charles D. Kean as saying "Through vicious attacks against clergymen in general, and the NCC in particular, radicals of the Right have spread...discord...confusion...etc." Mr. Cassels stated that you also share Rev. Kean's concern. In fact, Mr. Cassels article in Look Magazine looks very much like it had your whole hearted endorsement, according to his "quote from you.

Would you please tell me - in black and white - (2) whether or not you think the charges made against some of the leaders in the NCC were "true" or "false?

It is unfortunate that approximately 75 men, active in the NCC, could cause much suspicion of Communists in the entire National Council of Churches Organization. Frankly, I am not as concerned with the "Communist infiltration bit as I am with the "Liberals" in the NCC who would deny basic truths about the person of our Lord Jesus Christ. But that still doesn't hinder me from wanting to secure the truth or falsity of those charges!
I don't know why I should particularly accept "you..." word over that of Francis E. Walter...but an awful lot is being said to discredit the House Committee on Un-American Activities...even by outstanding church leaders. And that is why I seek your opinion. If you have ever published anything concerning your view points of the A.F. L manual charges, or the charges against the NCC leaders with Communist-affiliations, please refer me to the publication.

I would certainly go along with Mr. Cassels in labeling a person an "Extreme Right" who would drop obscene notes in collection plates...midnight phone calls...etc. But I am of the opinion Mr. Cassels would label anybody an "Extreme Right" who didn't go along with the NCC program right down the line...and the NCC would have us believe that the Russian Orthodox churches under Nikodem are completely free from the domination of Mr. Kruschev and the Communist state. What folly!! Of course some do add that there is a 'calculated risk' involved. And according to the NY Herald Tribune (11/23/61) The World Council of Churches delegates said that they "are not unaware that the Soviet government may try to use for political purposes the presence in the council of the Russian Orthodox Church. LiY? Well, I don't even want to go into that at all. It has no bearing on why I am writing to you.

My final question is (3) Did you whole heartedly support Mr. Cassels article in Look April 24? He apparently brought out the fact that you are a Ruling Elder of the National Presbyterian Church (which I suppose is a member of the NCC)...thereby making it look very official that you do endorse and agree with all that the NCC does.

Mr. Hoover, I am just one little person—but a lot of people look up to you for honest answers, not because of your important position as Director of the FBI, but because you are a Christian.

Sincerely yours,
Dear [Name]

Your letter of July 11th has been received, and I would like to thank you for your kind remarks.

In response to your inquiry, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. Please do not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the organization about which you asked.

Enclosed is some literature which I trust will be of interest to you. There is no charge for these items or any service this Bureau is privileged to render.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (5)
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Do You Really Understand Communism?
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
The Sunday School - Key To Tomorrow
"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"

NOTE: "Guides contain no references to correspondent or the Independent Christian Church Movement."

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐
J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bur. Of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you in regards to your most wonderful work that you are doing against the "Fight Against Communism. I am very grateful to you and will feel indebted to you always.

I am a minister of the "Independent Christian Church Movement." We are independent of all councils or any organizations. We do not believe in any councils at all, including the "National Council of Churches."

If it would be at all possible that you could send me some information on the National Council, I would appreciate it very much. I have run across many people in my ministry that will not believe that the Nation Council is communist infiltrated. They will not believe any government organizations except the F. B. I.; So I am depending on you to give me some help on this matter. If at all possible. I feel that we either defeat communism now, or we give our file country to the Communist Devils.

If it be necessary, I would be glad to pay for this information. I do need this information very badly, please help if it be at all possible.

In The Master's Service
Your Brother in Christ

7-11-1962

[Signature]

30 JUL 1962

EX. PROG.

100-50869-953
Dear [Name]

I have received your letter of June 28th, and it was certainly thoughtful of you to write as you did. You may be sure that Assistant Director William C. Sullivan shares my appreciation for your kind comments.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosure

NOTE: Buffles contain no derogatory information regarding correspondent and only prior correspondence was in 1958 when he made inquiry concerning oil wells.
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It has been a great source of reassurance and gratification to me and the great bulk of people with whom I work in the Council of Churches that you have endeavored to counteract the many false charges being hurled against the church leadership of America. Mr. William Sullivan in his lectures has done us a great service. So much irresponsibility was demonstrated in attacking and criticizing our churches that was causing confusion and division within our ranks. While the church is not above criticism and needs continually to be re-examined, yet a serious situation was being created unfairly that was weakening the whole moral and spiritual fabric of our nation.

Let me assure you that it was a great help to us when Mr. Sullivan made those statements reassuring the people of the loyalty of the great bulk of our churches and pastors. This will let you know our deep appreciation.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

CC: Mr. J. C. Moore
July 5, 1962

Dear [redacted]

Your letter of June 29, 1962, with enclosure, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subject of your inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Correspondent not identifiable in Bureau. Much correspondence has been received concerning the religious groups named in correspondent's letter; they are well known to the Bureau, and no data is being stated in this note concerning them. Correspondent enclosed a first-class stamped envelope to be utilized for reply.

[Stamps and markings on the page]
J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir;

In our small town of [redacted], a group of citizens have organized and plan to build a Baptist Church. We are at present affiliated with Northern or American Baptist Association. Some of the members are of the impression because the American Baptist Association is a member of National Council of Churches, they are aiding Communism. Due to this reason some of the members want to change to Southern Baptist Association because they are not a member of National Council of Churches.

Will you please advise me if being a member of National Council of Churches, or a member of Assoc. is aiding Communism?

Yours truly

/s/ [redacted]

Address per envelope:

EX-116
REC-21
B JUL 6 1962

8-RMw
June 29, 1902

J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

In our small town of [redacted], a group of citizens have organized and plan to build a Baptist Church. We are at present affiliated with Northern American Baptist Association. Some of the members are of the impression because the American Baptist Association is a member of National Council of Churches, they are aiding Communists. Due to this reason some of the members want to change to Southern Baptist Association because they are not members of National Council of Churches. Will you please advise me if being a member of National Council of Churches is aiding Communists? Yours truly,
July 2, 1962

Dear [redacted],

Your letter of June 26, 1962, has been received, and I want to thank you for your very kind remarks. For your information, I have never been an Elder in the National Presbyterian Church; however, I was at one time a Trustee of this Church in Washington, D.C.

While I would like to be of assistance, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In light of this, I am sure you will understand why I cannot comment concerning the organization you mentioned.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]


NOTE: Buffles contain no identifiable information concerning any individual.

(continued next page)
NOTE (continued): The National Council of Churches of Christ (NCCC) includes in its membership the leading Protestant churches in the country. Various critics of the Council, without access to factual data to support their assertions, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. The FBI, of course, has not investigated the NCCC. (100-50869)
36 June, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.
My dear Mr. Hoover:

As a Ruling Elder in our local First Presbyterian Church, our minister, has requested me to hand a committee to evaluate the National Council of Churches as it is related to our church.

I must confess that the entire problem is highly explosive with countless angles. A statement to me from you would be most deeply appreciated. If you please, sir, as Director of our FBI and as a Ruling Elder in our Church - the National Presbyterian Church - I should like to have words directly from you, giving your evaluation of the National Council of Churches. Is the overall program of the organization helpful and constructive? In your opinion, are there countless communists and fellow travelers in the Protestant Clergy? In your opinion, are there countless communist sympathizers on the various Committees representing the National Council of Churches? If so, what can we do to get rid of them?

I would be so deeply grateful for your word on the above request. Our study would carry much weight if we were privileged to have an expression directly from you. Thanks most sincerely.

Permit me, Mr. Hoover, to express to you the sentiment felt by countless millions of our people; Your loyalty and devotion to duty are lastingly appreciated, as are you as a Christian gentleman; of that I have no doubt, none at all -- nor do you, to be sure.

Sincerely yours,

[Name]

[Redacted]
June 12, 1962

Dr. Eugene Carson Blake  
Chairman  
General Public Interpretation Committee  
National Council of the  
Churches of Christ  
475 Riverside Drive  
New York 27, New York

Dear Dr. Blake:

Your letter of June 6th has been received in

Mr. Hoover's absence from the city, and I know he would

want me to thank you and your Committee for your expression

of confidence and kind comments. You may be sure your

communication will be brought to his attention upon his return.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy  
Secretary
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Some weeks ago I wrote you a letter in my capacity as Stated Clerk of The United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. to express my appreciation of your positive role in upholding the integrity of the American clergy. My appreciation was based not only on your general record but also on certain statements you have made from time to time, such as those directly and indirectly quoted in a recent article in LOOK Magazine by Mr. Louis Cassels.

I should like to reiterate on this occasion the same sentiment, this time in my position as Chairman of the General Public Interpretation Committee of the National Council of Churches. At a recent meeting of this committee, I was asked to convey the committee's deep appreciation for your statements on behalf of the American clergy. This I am pleased to do.

The significance of this action is that it was voted by representatives from the following churches which are members of the National Council: American Baptist Convention; Armenian Church of America; Augustana Evangelical Lutheran; Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ); Greek Archdiocese of North and South America; The Methodist Church; Presbyterian Church in the U.S.; Protestant Episcopal Church; United Church of Christ; United Lutheran Church in America; United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

I thought you would like to know the great value which is placed on your judgment.

Sincerely,

Eugene Carson Blake, Chairman
General Public Interpretation Committee
June 25, 1962

Dear [Name]

Your letter of June 17th has been received in Mr. Hoover's absence from the city. You may be sure it will be brought to his attention upon his return.

I thought you might like to know that in line with this Bureau's long-standing policy, Mr. Hoover cannot comment on articles which he has not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bureau. In view of the tenor of correspondent's letter, it is deemed advisable to utilize an in-absence reply in this instance.
RE: LOOK MAGAZINE - APRIL 24, 1947

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It may be that I have seen comments from you on the notorious article published by Look magazine and written by Cassels. If so, would you please direct me to the proper source? If you haven't taken a stand, would you tell me why you have let this go unchallenged?

I refer, of course, to "The Rightest Crisis in Our Churches". To me, this article, smearing without documentation, and filled with half truths should be refuted as promptly as possible. It has given untold comfort to the Leftists in our many churches and has done irreparable harm to our patriotic citizens everywhere.

Your comments would be much appreciated.

Most sincerely,

[Signature]
June 22, 1962

Dear [Name],

Your letter of June 19th has been received and I want to thank you for your kind statements and sentiments. It is hoped our endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret I am unable to help you in connection with your inquiry and trust you will understand the reasons for this policy.

The FBI has never published a list such as you mentioned; however, enclosed is a copy of a list of organizations designated by the Department of Justice pursuant to Executive Order 10450. Perhaps you will also want to obtain a copy of "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" which was prepared by the House Committee on Un-American Activities. This booklet may be obtained for seventy cents from the Superintendent of Documents, United States Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.

I am also sending some literature I thought would be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

E. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)
NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Buffies nor was any information located in Buffies concerning his church. In view of his statements, he is being added to the Special Correspondents' List.
Hon. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

You and your office have always held a place of high esteem in my thinking. Going back into my childhood I can recall the days when Melvin Purvis was one of the agents, and some cereal company was offering the kids of my day little badges for sending in box tops. This was one of my first wonderful impressions of the F.B.I. and as children will, we had our games of agents and gangsters.

I have been in the Christian ministry for over twenty years, and I realise now at forty the very serious dangers that face our nation, particularly in the realm of International Communism. I have your book "Masters of Deceit", and the Overstreet's book on "What We Should Know About Communism." I have tried in a sober, sane way to educate my congregation by having reputable speakers come in and in recommending materials such as your book for them to read. Recently a group that I feel had their inception from a John Birch Society has been making some violent charges against the National Council of Churches. I have been quite concerned about some of these charges, and that is the reason for my letter to you. Do you feel that the National Council is communistic, and do they pose any threat to basic concepts of Christianity in our nation? I have the utmost confidence in you and I know that any reply that you give me will be based on fact, and not emotion or fancy. I am interested in the facts as my local congregation does not contribute any money to the National Council, but our National organisation does. Also if you can furnish me with a list of subversive organisations in this Country I would greatly appreciate it, as there is a constant flood of material coming to the ministers' desks, and much of it I question, particularly in regard to so-called peace movements and disarmament.

I am the type citizen who wants the facts so that I will know what I am fighting and where, but by the same token I do not want some innocent person to suffer at the hands of those ultra conservative groups that are seemingly branding everyone, including our ex presidents Truman and Eisenhower.

Realising how busy you are, I regret to add one more thing to your schedule but I will certainly abide by the information that you will send.

May God bless you and your department in the very fine work that you are doing to preserve our liberties and to promote the ideas of our founding fathers.

Very sincerely yours,
Memorandum

TO: Director, FBI
FROM: SAC, Indianapolis (62-1553)

DATE: 6/4/62

SUBJECT: J. IRWIN MILLER, President, National Council of Churches
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Bosnyarite 6/1/62.

Mr. J. IRWIN MILLER, President, National Council of Churches, was interviewed by SAC at his office in the Irwin Management Company, 2555 Washington Street, Columbus, Indiana, on 6/4/62. Mr. MILLER stated that he was aware of the article which appeared in THE COMMERCIAL APPEAL, Memphis, Tennessee, on 5/15/62 and had never read this article. He stated, however, that he never made any statement to the press that the fact that there were no Communists in the National Council of Churches had been confirmed by the FBI.

Mr. MILLER stated that he travels a great deal and is well acquainted with press interviews and is aware of the entrapment questions frequently lodged by reporters. He stated that he is extremely careful and cannot understand how the news reporters in this instance could have misquoted him.

He recalled during the press interview that he stated he had never found any evidence of any Communist in any business, enterprise or social or civic organization in which he had been involved. He then referred the reporters to the article in LOOK MAGAZINE dated 4/24/62 by J. EDGAR HOOVER, Director of the Bureau, which article contained a very strong general statement by Mr. HOOVER concerning the loyalty of the Protestant ministry. He stated that he has often referred reporters to articles and speeches by Mr. HOOVER and Mr. SULLIVAN of the FBI, but has never made any statement such as the one quoted in instant article.

He is well aware of the Bureau's role as an investigative agency and has the greatest respect for their accomplishments in their field. Mr. MILLER stated that under no circumstances

8 DISCLOS

54 JUN 27 1962
IP 62-1553

did he wish to create an impression that he was in possession of any confidential information from the FBI which he could not rightfully obtain.

In view of the above, no further action is being taken in this matter.
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, INDIANAPOLIS (62-1553)

J. IRWIN MILLER, President,
National Council of Churches,
Columbus, Indiana
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Re letter of Director to dated 5/23/62 which advised Indianapolis to contact MILLER and submit results not later than 6/4/62.

Secretary, Irwin Management Company, 235½ Washington Street, Columbus, Indiana, advised SAC on 6/1/62 that MILLER is unavailable for interview as he is currently traveling on the West Coast. She stated she expects him to return to Columbus, Indiana, sometime over the week end, exact time and date unknown, and that he may be available for interview on Monday afternoon, 6/4/62, prior to leaving Indiana for another trip covering the rest of next week. Arrangements have been made for an appointment with MILLER on Monday, 6/4/62, and Bureau will be advised immediately of the results of contact.
June 15, 1962

ST-113

Dear [Name]

Your letter of June 10, 1962, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the files of the FBI are confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice and are available for official use only. In addition, this Bureau, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I hope you will not infer in this connection either that we do or do not have the information you desire.

I would also like to point out that the Communist Party in this country has attempted to infiltrate and subvert every segment of our society. The Party's efforts, however, are being thwarted by the FBI's internal security program, by the investigation, arrest and prosecution of Party functionaries and by widespread, intelligent public opposition to the communist philosophy. These achievements are being accomplished through orderly legal procedures.

Enclosed is some material on the general topic of communism which I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

L. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
listed next page

NOTE: Buffers contain no record identifiable with correspondent.
Encls:
"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Why Reds Make Friends with Businessmen
Communism and The Knowledge To Combat It!
The Communist Menace: Red Goals and Christian Ideals
June 10, 1962

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am a deacon in a little church. We have a wonderful pastor and a fine group of young people with whom we are doing a wonderful work. However, our problem is this. There is a small dissident group who are concerned about our affiliation with the National Council of Churches. I fear they are going to wreck our church and harm many young lives. This group seems to feel that the N.C.C. is full of Communists or fellow travelers.

Could you please give me the information as to how many, if any, Communists are in the National Council of Churches. Could you also tell me how much influence Communists have on the N.C.C. Also, could you tell me the percentage of Communists, if any, in the Protestant clergy.

Any other pertinent information will be gratefully accepted. It could be the means of keeping a number of fine young people from being hurt.

Yours truly,
June 13, 1962

Dear [Name]

Your letter of June 6th has been received in Mr. Hoover's absence from the city, and I know he would want me to thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing as you did. You may be sure your communication will be brought to his attention upon his return.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in files. Since he has presumed that the Director permitted the use of his name and position in order to authenticate the article by Louis Cassels, it is deemed advisable to acknowledge his letter by in-absence reply in this instance.
June
1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you very much for permitting the use of your name and position to authenticate the position taken by Louis Cassels in the April 24th issue of LOOK. His article "The Rightist Crisis in Our Churches" is a very significant one. We are glad to see articles of this nature appear so that the public might be better informed.

Sincerely,
June 12, 1962

Honorable John Stennis
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I have received your letter of June 8th, with enclosure, and it was good of you to write me relative to the inquiry of your constituent.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. In view of the above, I am sure you will understand why it is not possible for me to comment in the manner indicated nor am I able to offer him any suggestions in this regard.

Your thoughtfulness in communicating with me concerning this matter is appreciated. I am returning your enclosure as you requested.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

1. M. A. Jones - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Senator Stennis is on the Special Correspondents' List. His file contains no derogatory information identifiable with
United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

June 8, 1962

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It will be greatly appreciated if you will give your careful study and attention to the enclosed and let me have a full report in duplicate regarding this matter.

Please return the enclosure with your reply.

Yours truly,

John Stennis
United States Senator

Enclosure
June 1, 1962

Honorable John Stennis
United States Senator
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

At the present time we are studying the literature published by the Methodist Publishing House and we also have a committee appointed to study the whole question of Communism and the contacts that Communism is trying to establish through churches.

One question we would like for you to help get an answer to is, "What is the attitude of the Federal Bureau of Investigation toward the National Council of Churches and does the FBI have suggestions that would be helpful to us who are trying to arrive at a complete understanding of same?"

If you can assist us on the above we will appreciate it very much.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

ENCLOSURE
Hon. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On behalf of our churches, and on my own behalf, I would like to say that we would much prefer that the F.B.I. name us in an open, forthright statement to our American public than to have an unnamed official pass information to a reporter of the UPI who uses it to discredit us in the name of the F.B.I. Many in our churches are deeply disturbed.

Sincerely yours,

MC/rt

MAY 2, 1962

ENVELOPE

EXP. PROC.
TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
     (ATTN: CRIME RESEARCH SECTION)
FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (66-0)
SUBJECT: CHRISTIAN BEACON
        ARTICLE RE FBI
        NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

On 5/11/62, Circuit Riders, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio, telephonically contacted this office and requested an Agent be sent to his office regarding an article about the FBI appearing in the captioned publication.

On 5/11/62, an Agent of this office in conformance with SAC Letter 62-27, read the article in the presence of [Redacted] but made no comment. [Redacted] advised that he wished to retain his copy of captioned publication.

The article occupies all the front page of the issue dated 5/3/62, and is continued on the inside of the publication. The article is based on an article in Look Magazine, entitled, "The Rightest Crisis in Our Churches, 4/24/62". The Director and the FBI are mentioned many times, as well as Assistant Director SULLIVAN.

This publication is published at Haddon and Frazer Avenues, Collingswood, New Jersey.

LEAD: NEWARK DIVISION
      AT COLLINGSWOOD, NEW JERSEY

Will, if not already done, obtain and send to FBI the 5/3/62 issue of captioned publication.

57 JUN 67
May 31, 1962

Dear [Name],

Your letter of May 22nd has been received, and it was good of you to write as you did. It is a pleasure to know of your confidence in the work of this Bureau.

Enclosed is some literature I thought would be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)

Mall It Be Law or Tyranny?
Let's Fight Communism Sane!
Faith in God—Our Answer to Communism
Christianity Today Series The Communist Menace

NOTE: Correspondent wrote November 28, 1961, complimenting Mr. Sullivan's address in Phoenix on 11-13-61. He cannot be further identified as to name.
May 22nd, 1964

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

My colleagues and I of this church appreciate very much your stand that the clergymen of the Protestant Churches are not heavily infiltrated with communists.

We heard your Deputy in an address in Phoenix that certainly strengthened our position and our feeling of the trustworthiness and competence of your Bureau and its personnel.

Please accept our thanks and gratitude.

Yours truly,
Mr. Edgar Vincent, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Vincent:

I am informed that Mr. Earl Johnson, First Vice President of United Press International, has stated that Lucie Cusseals of your office was called by your office and congratulated on the good job done on the article which appeared in the April 24th issue of Look magazine.

My answer to this has been, that in my opinion if such a call was made that it was made without your knowledge or authority. If I am in error in making such an assumption, I will appreciate you advising me.

Sincerely,

0 National Council of Churches
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am informed that Mr. Earl Johnson, First Vice President of United Press International has stated that Louis Cassels' office was called by your office and congratulated on the good job done on the article which appeared in the April 24th issue of Look magazine.

My answer to this has been, that in my opinion, if such a call was made that it was made without your knowledge or authority. If I am in error in making such an assumption, I will appreciate your so advising me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

COPY: nm

[Handwritten note]

[Handwritten note]

EXP. PROC.

[Handwritten note]
May 24, 1962

Dear [Name],

I have received your letter of May 16th, and it was thoughtful of you to write as you did. I appreciate your kind remarks and am enclosing some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

- Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (6)

Let's Fight Communism Sanely
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Army of Free Men
Do You Really Understand Communism?
Faith to be Free Speech

NOTE: BUT THIS LETTER CONTAIN NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION AND ONLY PRIOR CORRESPONDENCE WAS ON 1234-85 3.28 16.25
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
FBI,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Some time ago I wrote you voicing my appreciation for the work of Wm. C. Sullivan, who had just spoken to the Phoenix Ministerial Association. The part you and Mr. Sullivan held so well in the recent article, "The Militant Crisis in Our Churches" has further indebted all of us to you.

It is quite probable that you will have opinions of this article differing from my own. It is my conviction that the vast majority of our people, both in and out of the Churches, feel that your article—or rather your part in it—is the sanest method of combating threats to our liberty; and it is my hope that many of them will voice their conviction to you.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

May 16, 1962
A lengthy article in the "Christian Beacon" concerns the Cassels' article. The FBI, the Director and Assistant Director William C. Sullivan are mentioned several times. The article does not challenge the accuracy of any quotation made by the Director, Mr. Sullivan or any other representative of the Bureau. It charges that Cassels used quotations from FBI authorities erroneously, that he arrived at false conclusions and that his article was an effort to support these false conclusions and discredit the Rightists who are fighting communism and religion including Dr. McIntire. The article indicates that Dr. McIntire has never made any statement indicating that the clergy is overrun with communists. He states he knows this is not true but there are some in the clergy. He states further that it is undisputed that communism has attempted to use religion and has been successful in influencing some religious leaders who are not communists.

He states Mr. Cassels falls apart when it is understood that Dr. McIntire and others have never made the implications that Cassels attributed to them.

The article by Dr. McIntire is not particularly critical of the Director or the FBI. It points out the quotations are accurate but that Mr. Cassels misused them in developing his story. However, the article does make the Bureau the crux of this
Memorandum to Mr. DeLoach
Re: Dr. Carl McIntire

controversy, and it is not felt that the Director or the Bureau should become any further injected into this situation.

RECOMMENDATION:

That no acknowledgment be made.
May 23, 1962

Dear [Name]

I have received and carefully noted the contents of your letter of May 17, 1962.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Buffles contain no identifiable information concerning correspondent.
F.B.I. Dir. J Edgar Hoover  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover

In a recent issue of Look Magazine, dated April 24, 1962, wherein Louis Cassels, editor of "United Press International," and F.B.I. Agent William Sullivan, have now placed the F.B.I. in the center of irresponsible controversy - at a time when the communist conspirators are looking for favours from other unsuspecting quarters, And Whereas We, who are opposed to communism, who have always depended upon you, at a time when the chips are down. Now call upon you Mr. Hoover, to clear this matter up, without further delay Please.

COPY: nm
Dear Mr. Horner,

In a recent issue of "The Magazine," dated April 24, 1962, Mr. Thomas Cottrell, editor of "United Press International," and Mr. G.L. Agent William Sullivan, has now placed the FBI in the center of irresponsible controversy. At a time when the comment, conspirators are looking for favors from other unsuspecting quarters, and whereas we, who are opposed to communism, who have always depended upon you, at a time when the chips are down.

Now call upon your Mr. Horner to clarify things. And this up with— but purely delay plans.

[Signature]
Memorandum

TO: Mr. DeLoach

FROM: M. A. Jumpy

DATE: 5-23-62

SUBJECT: "CHRISTIAN BEACON" ARTICLE MENTIONING FBI

You will recall that SAC, Cincinnati, advised us that Circuit Riders, Inc., had brought to the attention of that office an article in captioned publication which mentioned the FBI. SAC, Cincinnati, set out a lead for the Newark Office to obtain a copy of "Christian Beacon" which is published in Collingswood, New Jersey, by Dr. Carl McIntire.

SAC, Newark, has furnished the Bureau the publication in question by air-mail 5-21-62. Virtually the entire issue, which is dated 5-3-62, contains items attacking the recent article in "Look" magazine by Louis Cassels which criticizes those who accuse the churches of communist influence. McIntire, in this issue, asserts that Cassels is an apostate for the National Council of Churches (NCC) which is "soft on communism." He goes on to say that Cassels has attempted to use the FBI in attack on the "religious right." He quotes from the Director's testimony in 1947 and from "Masters of Deceit" to support his assertion that communists are engaged in infiltrating religious groups. He states that Cassels, in his "Look" article, has implied that Assistant Director William C. Sullivan has been appointed by Mr. Hoover to defend American clergymen.

On page 8, McIntire makes this statement: "The times call for courageous, heroic action even if LOOK magazine, the powerful, developing hierarchy of the National Council of Churches, and even the officers of the FBI may be lined up against it"; this statement implies criticism of the Bureau.

Buffels reflect that Dr. McIntire was an organizer of the American Council of Christian Churches and is an outspoken foe of the NCC. He has bitterly criticized the Revised Standard Version of the Bible and has stated publicly that communists are using the NCC in the United States. We have had a number of inquiries in the past concerning Dr. McIntire's statements on communism, and the Bureau is well aware that he is considered a controversial figure. In view of this, it is felt that we must definitely should not take any action with regard to this issue of "Christian Beacon."

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

JVA:vc

67 JUN 6 1962
Dear Mr. Buschmeyer:

Your letter of May 15, 1962, has been received in Mr. Hoover's absence from the city. I know he would want me to write and thank you for your kind remarks regarding his administration of the FBI, and you may be sure your communication will be brought to his attention upon his return.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

NOTE: Files reflect we have had no prior correspondence with
May 15, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am a little delayed in making a response to what was called to my attention again by Lou Cassels' recent article which I read while on my way to do a preaching mission among our armed forces on [insert location]. As the secretary of one of the churches which is a constituent member of the National Council of Churches, I want to express my appreciation for what you have done across the years to clarify misunderstandings about your personal attitude toward the National Council of Churches, and to express special appreciation for the most helpful influence which you have exercised through sending Mr. William C. Sullivan to make his helpful speeches.

Please know how deeply many of us appreciate the consistently high standards of excellence you maintain in dealing with so many complicated situations in our present distraught world. Again thank you for your many public services.

Cordially,

[Signature]

PSB:vj

ST-100

13 MAY 28 1962
May 24, 1962

Dear [Name],

I have received your letter of May 21st, and I want to thank you for your kind prayers and generous comments relative to my efforts as Director of the FBI. It is my hope that our future endeavors will warrant your continued approval.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. Also, information contained in the files of the FBI is confidential and available for official use only pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of the foregoing, I am sure you will understand why it is not possible for me to comment in the manner you have suggested, and I trust you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relative to the subjects to which you have referred.

Enclosed is some literature I hope you will find to be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

May 24, 1962
Enclosures (4)

Bulwarks of Liberty
An Army of Free Men
"You Versus Crime"
"The Faith To Be Free"

NOTE: Buffles contain no information identifiable with correspondent. The organizations, publications and individual mentioned in his letter have been previously brought to the Bureau's attention.
May 21, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
The Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am writing to you as one of the responsible officials of our government to ask some question of mutual concern. First, I would like your considered opinion as to the National Council of Churches. It is being attacked from various quarters of our country and some of the accusations allege that it has some "pink leaning" members in its staff of operations. Are there any known Communists, so far as you know, among the staff and directors of the NCA?

Secondly, I would like your opinion concerning the Church League of America, Wheaton, Illinois. Particularly I am concerned with their publication A Manual For Survival in which they attack many responsible areas of our government for Communist leanings, etc. Also, they attack a major portion of the American Clergy for their alleged "pink leanings". In launching their attack they quote rather freely from the Congressional Record and the HTAC. If you are aware of this particular publication can you tell me if it is valid or not? Do they quote the Congressional Record, etc., correctly and in its proper context?

The General Chairman of the Church League of America is Edgar C. Bundy who is also the author of Collectivism In The American Clergy. If you can give me some appraisal of this individual I would appreciate it very much. I am asking for the above information as a private citizen, for private consumption and I hope that you can be of help to me in this matter. I am increasingly aware of the crisis that faces our nation, but I am more and more disturbed by extremists organizations of one kind or another that spring up to attack and criticize.
As a private citizen I am not unappreciative of the distinguished service you have rendered to our country down through the years. I certainly hope that you will be able to continue to serve our nation's interest many more years. You have one of the greatest positions of public trust in our nation and I pray God's richest blessings upon you daily as you seek to serve Him. I am thanking you in advance for your help in this matter and I shall look forward to hearing from you soon.

With every good wish and kindest personal regards, I am

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

WII/oc
May 23, 1962

Dear [Redacted],

Your letter of May 14, 1962, has been received, and I want to thank you for your kind remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. Your expression of confidence is deeply appreciated.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you in your study of the communist menace.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]

Enclosures (5) Shall it Be Law or Tyranny?
Let's Fight Communism Sanely
4-17-62 Internal Security statement
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Files contain no derogatory information concerning correspondent He wrote the Bureau in November, 1961, an appreciation for a speech delivered by Assistant Director Sullivan to the Phoenix United Ministerial Association. This letter was acknowledged on 11-24-61. Title refers to correspondence.
May 14, 1962.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I want to thank you for helping to get the article on "Rightist Crimes in the Churches" in LOOK magazine. Mr. Cassells did a good job and I advertised this issue in our churches and had many buy it and study it individually and in groups. That is what we need in these days to keep our country safe and strong.

Our American Baptist Churches in Arizona are not afraid of communism because we trust you and our leaders in Washington and in the meantime we tend to business by preaching and teaching the positive affirmations of the Christian Religion.

Thank you again for all your good service to our country.

Sincerely yours,
Dear [Name],

Your letter of May 16th has been received, and I appreciate your interest in writing as you did. It is hoped our endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

In response to your request, there is enclosed some literature I thought would be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent wrote November 30, 1941 and commented favorably upon the appearance of Assistant Director Sullivan in Phoenix. He also asked about "Operation Abolition." His letter was acknowledged by the Director 12-7-41. The name of one applicant appeared on a list in 1940 of an organization made up of intellectuals, organized to protect and condemn the "attack on communists," claiming that such attacks constituted an infringement of the Bill of Rights. One was alleged to have been a very strenuous conscientious objector in 1941.
May 16, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I wish to commend you for the defense of the clergy in the United States who are coming under increasing attack from the lunatic fringe out on the far right. Please continue to speak the truth with all courage, knowing that there are many ministers who appreciate your support.

We appreciate your sending Mr. William Sullivan to Phoenix about a year ago. He stated that there has never been any substantial Communist infiltration of the American clergy.

If you have any documents which express your ideas as stated by Mr. Sullivan or the ideas which appeared in the April twenty-fourth issue of Look Magazine, I would appreciate having copies of them.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Redacted]
May 23, 1962

Dear [Name],

Your letter of May 13th has been received, and it was good of you to write as you did. It is hoped our endeavors will continue to merit your approval.

Communism continues to be a great threat to the future of this Nation, and I firmly believe each of us should make a determined effort to gain a broad knowledge of the objectives and operations of the communist conspiracy so that we may effectively resist its influence. At the same time, it is imperative that we remain calm, rational and thoroughly accurate in what we say and do in opposing this menace. We must not needlessly divide ourselves.

Enclosed is some literature I thought would be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Name]

Enclosures (5)

An Army Of Free Men
Young People Can Help Defeat Communism
Communism and The Knowledge To Combat It!
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Correspondence cannot be identified in files.
May 18, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

My wife and I and many people of our community wish to thank you for your forthright statements about the true dangers of Communism and the true strength of the churches in their opposition to Communism and other extremism. Your part in backing William C. Sullivan in his defense of the churches of America is truly appreciated. We also appreciate your statement of a few months past to the effect that although the Communists might be backing a certain movement at some particular time that that movement was not necessarily Communist--ideas and movements needed to be studied and evaluated as to whether they were good for America.

I am a teacher of government in our local high school and have been subject to attack because I led my classes in discussions pro con on such subjects as the Bill of Rights, the United Nations, and the possibilities of disarmament.

I think the quiet, sober citizens of the United States need encouraging statements from many of the leaders in our government. I thank you for being one of those who have spoken out for rational thought.

Yours truly,
Dear [NAME]

Your letter of May 16th has been received, and I appreciate your interest in writing as you did. I hope our endeavors will continue to merit your approval.

Communism continues to be a great threat to the future of this Nation, and I firmly believe each of us should make a determined effort to gain a broad knowledge of the objectives and operations of the communist conspiracy so that we may effectively resist its influence. At the same time, it is imperative that we remain calm, rational and thoroughly accurate in what we say and do in opposing this menace. We must not heedlessly divide ourselves.

Enclosed is some literature I thought would be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (3)

An Army of Free Men
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
Let's Fight Communism Safely!

NOTE:
May 16, 1962

Dr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Hoover:

Let me commend you for the work you have done in the F.B.I. during the past several decades.

More especially I am grateful for the attitude you and your department have toward Communists in the Churches during the past year. Until the past year I had the feeling that the Right Wing in this country was using certain statements which came out of your office and twisted them to their convenience and trying to convince people of the Churches and of the country that the Church was infiltrated with Communists.

Beginning with a pamphlet which came from your office and got into my hands last summer and helped greatly by the speech Mr. William Sullivan made in Phoenix during last winter and by the article "HIGHEST CAUSES IN OUR CHURCHES" by Mr. Louis Cassells in LOOK Magazine April 24, 1962, it seems to me that the tide is turning in favor of a more objective attitude toward the Church.

I have known many hundreds of ministers during my thirty-five years as a pastor. They seem to me to be down-right dedicated men—dedicated to Christ and the building of the Church. Some may be more liberal than I, but I believe they are liberal out of dedication to Christ and concern for the common man, rather than motivated by Communism or even Fabian Socialism.

So, thank you very much, for the share you are having in the lessening of tensions in the Church and the country.

Sincerely yours,

REC-7

[Redacted]

13 May 21, 1962
May 23, 1962

Dear [Name]

Your letter postmarked May 19, 1962, has been received.

In response to your inquiries, I would like to advise that the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not furnish evaluations or comments relative to the character or integrity of any individual, organization or publication. In addition, information in our files is confidential and available only for official use pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. In view of these policies, we did not make the statement referred to in the newspaper clipping you enclosed.

I have no objections to your disseminating this reply.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

Ind - Indianapolis - Enclosures:

ATTENTION SAC: "You are being sent two copies of a letter received from [Name] and two copies of a newspaper clipping he enclosed. Mr. J. Irwin Miller, President of the National Council of Churches, is quoted in this newspaper article as saying that "There are no Communists in the National Council of Churches, and this has been confirmed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation."

Follow-up made for June 4, 1962.
ATTENTION SAC continued: Bufiles reflect that Miller is the Chairman of the Cummins Engine Company, Inc., Columbus, Indiana, and I have had limited cordial correspondence with him. He should be contacted as soon as possible by an experienced and mature Agent and he should be tactfully advised that this Bureau has never made the statement specifically quoted in the paper, and he should be tactfully advised not to create such an impression. Submit results of your contact under above caption to reach the Bureau no later than June 4, 1962.
to: Director, FBI
to: Director HUAC

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing a clipping taken from our local newspapers (clipping enclosed to letter to FBI) in which Mr. J. Irwin Miller, new President of the National Council of Churches states that there has never been a communist in the National Council of Churches.

If this is true then I would like it verified by the two unimpeachable sources to whom this letter is addressed. I would like permission to give the answer, (which ever direction it may take) wide dissemination.

Very respectfully yours,

[Signature]

17 MAY 24 1962

REC 54

CORRESPONDENCE
May 11, 1962

Dear [Name]

Your letter of May 7, 1962, has been received.

It was certainly thoughtful of you to write as you did, and I appreciate your kind remarks.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in files and there is no derogatory information concerning his organization.
May 7, 1962

The Hon. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

This is to express my deep appreciation for permitting Mr. Louis Cassells to use your photograph and quotes in his fine article entitled "The Rightest Crises In Our Churches" published in Look April 26.

As you are doubtless quite aware, your out-of-context quotes have appeared in much of the extremist right-wing literature. The Look article and Mr. Sullivan's speeches should offset some of the harm done the Protestant churches by the allusions to you carried in irresponsible publications.

May I express sympathy as well as thanks that your name had to figure in the pari-mutuel betting issue in Texas recently. The pro-gambling crowd has been quoting you for quite some time. The "thanks" is for your statement that such quotes were unauthorized.

Pari-mutuel betting lost in both Democratic and Republican primary referenda but the margin was not sufficient likely to squelch the gambling advocates. You will be quoted perhaps in legislative hearings next year when pari-mutuel measures come up again.

Thanks for cooperating in the Cassells article!

Sincerely,

---

Act 5-11-62
8312

EX-115

CORRESPONDENT

REG-69

MAY 1962

EX-115

CORRESPONDENT
May 8, 1962

Look Magazine, Editor
460 Madison Avenue
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Editor,

National Council of Churches

The article "Rightist Crisis in Our Churches", by Mr. Louis Cassels contains the greatest number of distortions of truth in one article that I have ever read. The author has valiantly attempted to eliminate important facts, smear the irreproachable character of true American patriots, establish innocence by association, and suppress the truth.

My first charge of eliminating important facts I will substantiate by asking two questions:

1. Why is no mention made of the reams of evidence obtained by the security committees of our Government, which evidence proves beyond any doubt the infiltration by Communists into our Churches?

2. Mr. Cassels mentions the Air Force manual controversy, but why does he fail to include in his discussion the fact that a Congressional investigation proved that the statements in the manual were true?

He attempts to smear the irreproachable character of true American patriots.

He gives "top billing" to the Rev. Dr. Carl McIntire, whose "record" goes back to 1929. Mr. Cassels carefully (or ignorantly) omits the reason for the establishment of an Independent Foreign Missions Board. This "act of defiance" came about when indisputable evidence proved that missionary funds were being used in the support of a missionary advocating communism. Dr. McIntire, in order to preserve the Faith and maintain a clear conscience toward God, could not support such a missionary. Confronted with the choice of submitting to the authority of a Church organization or obeying Scriptural conviction, he chose the latter, even though it meant the loss of the very property and building he and his congregation worshipped in. Such is the character of the man Mr. Cassels would defame.

Why does not Look Magazine allow Dr. McIntire, Edgar Bundy, Billy James Hargis and others speak for themselves and defend their respective positions, rather than discredit them through the inference and sarcasm of a biased reporter?
He seeks to ESTABLISH SPOKENNESS BY ASSOCIATION

Evidence of the F.B.I. and J. Edgar Hoover substantiates beyond any question the fact of Communist infiltration into the Churches. The F.B.I. policy of withholding criticism of groups and individuals except the Communist party and its members has been used to misrepresent their position.

On March 6, 1961, Mr. Hoover goes on record to declare that Churches have been infiltrated.

Mr. Cassels SUPPRESSES THE TRUTH

He eliminates the information that the National Council of Churches has never been able to refute the charge that many of their leaders and members support Communist causes.

The political lobbying of the N.C.C.C.A. supports such Communist objectives as:

1. Admission of Red China into the United Nations.
2. Abolition of the House Committee on Un-American activities.
3. Nuclear disarmament, and others.

In closing let me ask:

If the Communists are so happy about the "extreme rightist", or in other words, the Anti-Communist movement, as Mr. Cassels indicates is the case, why do they exalt the

500 CHURCH LEADERS (WHO) BID GOVERNMENT TO HALT ARMS RACE - headlines in the Worker, April 6, 1962 ?

Why does the Communist Manifesto of December, 1960 call for doing everything within the party's power to stamp out Anti-Communism?

This new Communist drive is making its effect in American newspapers, periodicals, Look Magazine, and in our Government itself, as military Officers are held in fear of expressing publicly the true nature of the Communist Conspiracy.

Perhaps Look Magazine should present these facts sometime.

Sincerely yours,

Copy
Dear [Name],

I received your letter, with enclosure, on May 9th and want to thank you for your good wishes and your interest in writing as you did. I certainly appreciate your kind remarks.

It is always reassuring to hear from citizens who demonstrate an awareness of the evils of communism and who desire to combat this threat to our freedoms. Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Edgar Hoover]

Enclosures (5)

What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Faith in God--Our Answer to Communism
Let's Fight Communism Sanely
The Communist Party Line
Faith to be Free

NOTE: Files contain no information identifiable with [Name] or his organization. He enclosed a letter relating to this group. Upon

BS:pp
(3)
RECEIVED:DIVC.A.O.

MAY 17 1962
May 2, 1962

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Let me congratulate you highly upon the enlightened statement of yours which I read in the April 24th issue of Look magazine. It was quoted in connection with an article on, "The Rightest Influence in the Churches".

You are absolutely right in your statement that our attacks upon each other, without basis in truth, serve only to divide us and help the Communist cause. It is most refreshing to read this article and see that increasingly the American people are awakening to the vicious nature of this concerted attempt to undermine the churches and their councils in our day.

Having said this, I do want to assure you of my wholehearted support of your efforts to combat communism. I am vigorously and wholly opposed to Communism and all its works. It is the very antithesis of Christianity and all we stand for. Moreover, I do not know of a single minister in my very large acquaintance who approves of Communism.

You will, I am sure, have overwhelming support of the sensible people of America in your efforts to clarify the difference between an effective combating of Communism and the exploitation of the Communist issue as a means of discrediting someone with whom we do not agree.

Best wishes to you in your great work.

[Signature]

[Handwritten note in corner: "MAY 6, 1962"]
Dear [Name],

I have received and carefully noted the contents of your letter dated May 3, 1962.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. I regret that I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer in any connection either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Enclosures (5)
10-1-61 LEB Intro
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
NOTE: Bufffiles contain no derogatory information and she is not further identifiable. Only prior correspondence was in 1953.

May 9, 1962
COMI-FBI

[Signature]
J. Edgar Hoover  
F.B.I.  
Washington, D.C.  

Dear Mr. Hoover:  

In "The Rightist Crisis in Our Churches" by Louis Cassels in Look for April 24 you are quoted as follows: "Unfounded charges against America's clergymen are weakening religious institutions which stand on the front line in the fight against communism."

Is this quoted out of context? Or are you really condemning the activities of such men as Dr. Carl McIntire, Rev. Billy James Hargis, Edgar C. Bundy, Myers G. Lowman?

I have checked as thoroughly as I am able and am convinced that Communist and Communist Front activity is a reality in the NCC and World Council of Churches.

Am I mistaken?

Very truly yours,
May 9, 1962

Dear [Redacted]

I have received your letter of May 3rd and want to thank you for your interest in writing and your expression of confidence in my administration of the FBI.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]

Enclosures (5)

What You Can Do To Fight Communism
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
Let's Fight Communism Sanely
The "Communist" Party Line
The Faith To Be Free

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Buffels.

[Redacted]
May 3, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
FB.I  
Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Having just read the Look magazine article "Rightist Crisis in our Churches," I wish to inquire if you do or do not approve of the article, and the impression it leaves.

work to save our country — Sincerely with thanks for your

REGAR

EX-134

100-56869-927
12 MAY 1962

84
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
3B. D.  
department of justice  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Thomas,

Having just read the Look magazine article "Right to live in our Churches," I wish to inquire if you do or do not approve of the article, and the impression it leaves.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Theodore [Signature]

Ack 5-9-62

BS: 1140

10c 5-8-62/12
May 9, 1962

I have received your letter of May 6th and want to thank you for your interest in writing and your expression of confidence in my administration of the FBI.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

In response to your request, it is a pleasure to enclose some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
- The Courage of Free Men
- The Faith To Be Free
- The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in files.
Mr J Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, DC

Dear Mr Hoover:

I am curious about your picture and that of Mr Sullivans with quotations appearing in the April 24' issue of "Look." It is intending to intimate that you say there is no communist infiltration in the church. I know you are not saying this but I would be interested to know if this appeared with your permission.

With you please send me copies of some of your talks and publications on communism if they are available.

Keep up your good work - you have all loyal Americans with you--

Sincerely

/a/ [Signature]

May 6, 1962
Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am curious about your picture and that of Mr. Sullivan with quotations appearing in the April 24 issue of "Look". It is interesting to intiate that you say there is no Communist infiltration in the Church. I know you are not saying this but I would be interested to know if the above appeared with your permission.

Will you please send me copies of some of your talks and publications on communism if they are available.

Keep up your good work. You have all loyal Americans with you.

Sincerely,

May 31, 1962

[Signature]

[Handwritten notes:]
- May 7, 1962
- Ex. 132
- REC 91
- 100-50869-924
Dear [Name]

I have received and carefully noted the contents of your letter dated May 1, 1962. Thank you for your kind remarks concerning the FBI and me.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Enclosed is some literature I thought would be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
4-17-62 Internal Security statement
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: No derogatory or further identifying information was located in Buff
correspondent.

MAY 8 = 1962
COMM-FBI
J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have just finished reading Louis Cassells' article "The Rightest Crisis in Our Churches" in Look Magazine of April 24. I believe this article to be unfair and unjust, but the thing that disturbed me most was the implication given by Mr. Cassells that you and the F.B.I. deny any substantial communist infiltration into the churches and that you feel that all anti-communist groups are actually aiding the communist cause.

I first became concerned about communism in the United States after reading your book "Masters of Deceit". After much reading and study of communism, I became convinced that the National Council of Churches was aiding the communist cause. Their pronouncements of being favor of recognition of Red China, unilateral disarmament, a ban on nuclear testing (regardless of what other countries do) and their support of United Nations' policy for a one-world government, to mention a few, led me to believe that communist influence must be very strong. The names of N.C.C. advocates on adds calling for the abolishing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities seemed to confirm my fears.

Though I do not believe that most clergymen are actual communists, I feel that many of them are unknowingly aiding the communist cause and that this poses just as great a threat to our American way of life.

I have the greatest faith in you and the F.B.I., Mr. Hoover, and though I realise how busy you are, I would greatly appreciate it if you would tell me if the F.B.I. stands behind this article as giving a clear picture of the situation in our churches and if it correctly expresses your attitude toward the anti-communist groups.

Sincerely yours,
May 8, 1962

Dear [Name],

It was most reassuring to read your thoughtful letter postmarked May 3, 1962, and Assistant Director William C. Sullivan and I want to thank you for your confidence and support. Your best wishes and offer of assistance are indeed generous, and I hope that our efforts will continue to merit your approval.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosure

NOTE: Bufiles reflect no record identifiable with correspondent.
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington - 25 - D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has long been held in great esteem by my family and we often speak of how grateful we are for the FBI. Indeed you have set a high standard in a high office to witness to your love of God and Country. It's time to put on paper our very real appreciation.

We are pleased with your honest statements on the National Council of Churches, the Christian Churches and our government. Mr. Sullivan has been a courageous speaker too and some day I hope it may be my pleasure to hear you both in person.

We are living in very difficult days of attacks on Church and state. I believe the government must continue to give truth in leadership as you in the FBI. If at any time I could attempt to be of service to you I should be happy to try.

With my best wishes for continued success in the FBI and happiness in your Christian witness,

Sincerely,
Dr. C. Edgar Hoover

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

National Council of Churches

Dear Mr. Hoover,

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has always been held in great esteem by our family and the fine upholding of law through your dedication and service is truly appreciated.

Indeed, you have set a high standard in a high office. This nation is grateful for your service to our God and Country. We accept your resignation with great appreciation.

We are pleased with your

[Signature]

27th June

[Signature]

G.E. [illegible]
Honest statements on the National Council of Churches. The Christian Church and our government. Dr. Pulliam has been a courageous speaker too and some day I hope it may be my pleasure to hear you both in person.

We are living in very difficult days. I attack on church and state. I believe the government must continue to give truth in leadership as you do in the FB1. At any time I could attempt to be a lawyer to you I should be happy to try.

With my best wishes for continued success in the FB1 and happiness in your Christian ministry.

Sincerely,
May 4, 1962

Dear [Name]

Your letter of April 30th, with enclosures, has been received.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions. In accordance with the policy indicated, it would not be possible to authorize you to make statements similar to those set forth in your communication.

Enclosed is a copy of "Let's Fight Communism Sanely!" While there is no charge for material this Bureau is privileged to distribute, budgetary considerations together with the great demand for this literature have made it necessary to limit the amount furnished any one group or individual. I regret it is not possible to furnish you the quantity requested and hope you will understand our problem.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!

NOTE next page
NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Buffles. Her enclosures indicate opposition to the National Council of Churches, American Civil Liberties Union and that her organization is subject to entering controversies in which the Bureau would not want to become involved. It is believed she should act only upon the Director, or that, in view of the above, literature should be sent to her which might indicate the Bureau supports her views. Telephonically contacted the Director's Office 4-12-62 and was referred to Assistant Director Sullivan. He objected to the "Look" article by Louis Cason and stated he would probably write the Director after Mr. Sullivan assured him that the FBI had no connection with the preparation of the "Look" article and made it clear that the quotations were from public source material. On 4-12-62 [redacted] wrote the Director again expressing his dissatisfaction with the "Look" article and asked for suggestions as to how he might establish nationwide repudiation of it. He was answered by letter 4-19-62 and advise that we could make no comment on the article nor offer any suggestion of the type he requested.
J. Edgar Hoover
Director, FBI
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

My friend [redacted] has told me that he called your office April 12th. During his conversation with Mr. Sullivan, in regards to the article covering the "Crisis in the Churches", it is my understanding that Mr. Sullivan stated that the article was written and the pictures of both of you used, without any prior knowledge.

As your men here in [redacted] know, my husband and I have started a group called the [redacted] newsletter which we mail to about 1500 people.

In the May issue, I intend writing a very short article regarding the look smear. Short, because I don't think it warrants much comment, but I did want to say that your and the Bureau did not know that your pictures were to be used, your permission was not asked and that you had no prior knowledge of the article until it hit the newsstands.

And, if you have them available in that large quantity, I should like to include a copy of the reprint of your article in the Christian Herald of January 1962. (One of which you sent me last week.) If you would please let me know the cost, we will be most happy to forward a check.

If you grant permission for me to say this, I will forward a copy of the article for your approval prior to printing our newsletter.

May I take this opportunity to thank you from the bottom of my heart for serving this wonderful land of ours so faithfully and well. May God keep you and please know that you are in our prayers.

Faithfully yours,

30 April 1962
May 8, 1962

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of May 1st has been received, and I wish to thank you for giving me the benefit of your comments and observations. You may be assured that Assistant Director William C. Sullivan and I appreciate your very kind remarks.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]

Enclosures (3)

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Buffles.
May 1, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you in behalf of the Massachusetts Council of Churches for your splendid assistance in helping set the record straight in the recent LOOK Magazine article "The Rightist Crises in our Churches".

Certainly we are indebted also to your associate, Chief Inspector William A. Sullivan for his statement that "there can be no question as to the loyalty of the overwhelming majority of the American clergy."

It is such articles as these with such assistance as your own that will help the American people to fully realize the truth regarding the loyalty of our Protestant Clergy.

Once again our very sincere thanks to you for your continued assistance. It is most heartening for us to know that the heads of our Federal Bureau of Investigation have such a deep sense of responsibility to the Christian church.

Most sincerely,
May 4, 1962

Dear [Redacted],

I have received and carefully noted the contents of your letter dated April 28, 1962.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

The files of this Bureau must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and, therefore, I cannot be of assistance to you in connection with your request.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE:

May 15, 1962

[Redacted]

Note continued on next page
April 28, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In an article in LOOK Magazine (April 24, 1962; page 52), Mr. Louis Cassels stated:

"There is at least one group in America, however, that looks with complete favor upon the campaign against the churches (sic). The FBI has evidence that the real Moscow-directed Communists are jubilant about the whole thing.

"This should not surprise anyone..." a high FBI official says."

Since Mr. Cassels states that "the FBI has evidence", he presumably has seen this evidence, and it presumably is therefore not restricted.

Could you please inform me of the nature of this evidence? Specifically, I should like to learn in detail the evidence that the Communists approve of Billy James Hargis, Robert Welch, Edgar Bundy, and the Mindszenty Foundation, all of whom were mentioned by Mr. Cassels.

I would also be interested to learn the name of the "high FBI official" whom Mr. Cassels quoted.

I am seriously concerned about this matter, because it has been my impression that the Communists in their own literature have bitterly and repeatedly attacked most of the "rightists" whom Mr. Cassels attacked. If the Communists actually did look with "complete favor" on these anti-communist criticisms of instances of pro-Communist activity by church people, I would expect that some indication of this "complete favor" would be visible in their internal literature, as occurs with respect to the pacifist movement, Castro, etc. In this, I am trying to apply Item 6, Chapter 17 of Masters of Deceit. Has my reasoning been faulty?

Your comments would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
May 7, 1962

Dear [Redacted]

It was certainly thoughtful of you to write on May 1st, and I appreciate your kind remarks. Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted]

Enclosures (5)

Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
10-1-61 LEB Introduction
The Communist Party Line
Director's speech, "The Faith to be Free"

(Note: Correspondent is not identifiable in file.)
May 1, 1962

J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

This is to express my personal appreciation to you for the supporting quotations included in the April 10 issue of Look Magazine under the title: "The Rightist Crisis in Our Churches." I have recommended this article for reading to members of my congregation because of the false and unsupported accusations that have been made against church personnel and clergymen in recent months.

Gratefully yours,

[Redacted]

ACK
BS: 7-62

MAY 3, 1962

EX-108

18 MAY 9-1962

CORRESPONDENCE
May 7, 1962

Dear [Name],

Your letter postmarked May 2, 1962, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In this connection, information contained in our files is maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to your inquiry.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (4)
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
Deadly Duel
Faith in God—Our Answer To Communism
God and Country or Communism?

NOTE: Correspondent not identifiable.

RMW:bsw*
(3)

MAY 7, 1962
COMM-FBI
Dear Sir,

I'm a teacher of the [redacted] Church. I'm eighteen and very concerned with the work of our church.

Sometime ago a family left our church because they thought 'communism is at the head of our National Council of Churches'.

Could you please send me back round of the men in the National Council of Churches. And information assuring me weather there is or weather there isn't communism in the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely Yours,

/s/ [redacted]
Dear Sir,

I'm a teacher of the Church. I'm eighteen and very concerned with the work of our Church.

Someday ago, a family left our church because they thought Communion is at the head of our National Council of Churches. Could you please send me a backround of the men in the National Council of Churches and information assuring me whether there is or whether there isn't Communion in the National Council of Churches.

Sincerely yours,

Rick 5-7-62

Mr. C
Dear [Name]

Your letter of April 21, 1962, has been received, and I want to thank you for your very kind remarks concerning my administration of the FBI. Your expression of confidence in this Bureau is deeply appreciated, and my associates and I sincerely hope that our future endeavors will merit your continued support and approval.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

L. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

"Faith in God--Our Answer To Communism"
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Bufffiles containing identifiable information concerning correspondent. We have not concluded an investigation of the National Council of Churches although various critics of the organization with no access to actual data to support their
Note continued:

allegations, have claimed this group is communist controlled or influenced. This organization includes in its membership the leading protestant churches in the country. The spelling of correspondent's second name per the current telephone directory.
April 21, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I have recently finished reading your remarks contained in the article in LOOK Magazine written by Mr. Louis Cassels, and I am writing to send you my warmest thanks for your penetrating and influential statement.

As a businessman, I have consented to serve as [redacted] of the National Council of Churches because I feel that only obedience to the Christian Gospel can save this or any country, and that for the Gospel to be influential Christians must stand and speak and work together. In my position I have received criticism from my fellow businessmen, as you may now be receiving criticism. My reply is that business and labor and the professions all need the voice of the church. If the church continues to remind our nation to improve, to wipe out evils, to eliminate corruption, then Communism can never gain a foothold among us.

REG. 52 100-50052-918

I have also told them that in my opinion the day of the vigilante is over and that the job of uncovering and bringing to justice enemies of the state should be left to those authorities legally authorized.
charged with that responsibility.

This country has the greatest cause to be proud of you and of the FBI under your direction and long leadership. The FBI has been marvellously effective and at the same time careful of the liberty of the individual citizen. This has been no mean achievement, and you have the gratitude of the whole nation.

My thanks to you for bringing sense to our present national confusion.

Sincerely yours,
Dear [Name]

Your letter of April 24th has been received in Mr. Hoover's absence from the city. You may be sure your communication will be brought to his attention upon his return.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Candy
Secretary

NOTE:

In view of the above information, an in-absence reply is deemed advisable.

BS: nd 1(s)
MAY 9 1962
April 24, 1962

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

We who are leaders in the Indiana Council of Churches were tremendously gratified with the statements from you carried in the excellent article by Louis Cassels in Look Magazine. Deeply concerned as we are with the unity of the churches in this time of national and world crisis, we have felt the impact of the negative and I believe essentially self-seeking forces which are attacking cooperative Protestant agencies and pastors who exhibit any feeling for social justice and socio-economic problems.

Your statements are heartening and should help those people who have any objectivity whatever to steer away from these disruptive organizations and individuals. We have confidence in your leadership and are grateful for your procedure which safeguards individual rights, guarantees freedom of expression, and discourages amateur sleuthing which pins subversive labels on neighbors and others who differ in point of view.

I wish also to express our gratitude for the addresses of Chief Inspector Jillian Sullivan. They have been of the utmost helpfulness in bringing a degree of sanity into the confusing welter of charges and counter charges.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

GLH*NSD

REC-91 100 50869 917

EX=PROC

May 2
13 APR 1952
May 1, 1962

Dear [Name]

I received your letter, with enclosure, on April 23rd and want to thank you for writing and for your kind remarks.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you. I am returning the self-addressed, stamped envelope you so thoughtfully sent.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (6)
Correspondents Envelope
10-1-61 LEB Intro.
Let's Fight Communism Sanely
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
The Communist Party Line
11-27-61 Director's Speech
On 63

[Note: Correspondent is not identifiable in files.]

Received: Director

[Handwritten notes relating to the enclosure list and the status of the communication.]
April 21, 1962

Honorable, J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Acknowledging the extreme pressures of your position
I regret that I feel compelled to indulge in this correspondence.
However, local situation being what it is due to pressures
brought about by extremist groups I feel that I have no
alternative but to write and ask your personal opinion
regarding the article, "The Nighting Crisis In Our Churches."
This article written by Louis Cassels and was published in

My personal view is that if this article is authoritative
then it is one of the finest articles on the subject of
extremism that has been placed into public hands. As I am
in the position of being responsible for both religious and
patriotic education within my congregation and community I
feel that what ever position I personally support must be
supported by evidence of some authority.

Therefore, I shall greatly appreciate a letter of support
or a letter of denial to the contents of the above named
article. In particular I am concerned with portions referring
to you, your personal views, opinions, and that of your
exalted department. Please indicate in your reply if you
wish all or any portion of the letter content held in confidence.
I shall respect you wishes completely.

Again except my apology for the consumption of your time
and my gratitude for you service to Church and Nation. I am
respectfully,

Your Servant in Christ

P.S. Please find enclosed
self addressed/stamped
envelope for you conv.
Dear [Redacted]

It was good of you to write on April 26th and express confidence in this Bureau. I do appreciate your thoughtfulness in sending me your comments.

Enclosed is some literature which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

E. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
The Communist Party Line
"The Faith to be Free" (Criss Award)

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in files.
April 26, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Cherished

National Council of Churches

I have read with much interest the article by Mr. Louis Cassells in the April 24th issue of LOOK magazine entitled "The Rightist Crises in Our Churches."

Allow me to express deepest appreciation for the quotation from yourself which is a great contribution to the article. The wise handling of our current problem by your Bureau is one of the greatest arguments for the American way of life.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

REC 40 100-50 69-915

EX 105

AG 1962 5 APR 30

CONFIDENCE
May 1, 1962

Dear [Name]

Your letter of April 24th has been received, and I have carefully noted its contents.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Enclosed is some literature which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
Communism and the Knowledge to Combat It!
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement

NOTE: We have had limited cordial correspondence from [Name], and have sent her Bureau literature in the past. That being sent now is not repetitious. It is not believed the Director should comment directly on her inquiry since it applies only to the church and church literature, as well as literature of the National Council of Churches. It is believed the enclosed material should be the only response in this regard.
April 24, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The article on the "Rightists" in connection with the Churches (Look, April 24) is very confusing to me. I cannot believe that you have, as it would appear on the surface, endorsed this article which uses so many doubtful sources of reference and so very many innuendoes. If you have not endorsed the contents of the article, how did they use your picture and quotes?

Those of us on the home front are terribly disturbed by what we see in some of our Sunday School literature (I have served on the Christian Education board of our local Presbyterian Church). We read the pamphlets and writing sent to us by the National Council of Churches. I am thinking particularly of their booklet "The Truth" and the one on "Operation Politicide," we are devoted to our church work and feel that, as you have so often said, the true church is the best defense against Commism, but we are confused and frightened by these things we find in our church literature.

No one in the entire country is looked up to as you are, Mr. Hoover, by most people. I have saved every quotation of yours and every article I have been able to find, and I know I am not alone in this.

Please give me whatever information and clarification you can on this Look article and on this subject in general.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Handwritten notes and markings]

6 April 62

[More handwritten notes and markings]
Dear [Name],

Your letter of April 26th, with enclosure, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. In addition, FBI files must be maintained as confidential due to a regulation of the Department of Justice. I regret I am unable to help you and hope you will not infer either that we do or do not have the specific data you requested.

Enclosed is some literature I trust will be of interest to you, together with the self-addressed, stamped envelope you so thoughtfully forwarded.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (6)
Correspondent's enclosure
The Courage of Free Men--2-22-62 Speech
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Buffiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent.

EFT: rap (3)
TRUE COPY

April 26 - 1962

Dear Mr Hoover.

Would you Please send me, or tell me how I can obtain information on the different heads of the (N.A.A.C.P.) and the (National Council of Churches) that are affiliated with various communist found organizations.

Enclosed find self addressed & stamped envelope -

Thank you very much

With Kind Regards

P.S.
My Dear Sir - How long do we have? - Pray for our Country.

ADDRESS PER ENVELOPE:
Dear Mr. Weaver,

Would you please send me, or tell me how I can attain information on the different heads of the (N. A. C. L.) and the (National Council of Churches) that are affiliated with various Communist front organizations. Enclosed find self-addressed and stamped envelope.

Thank you very much.

With kind regards.

P.S.

My dear sir - How long do we have? - They say our country...
Memorandum

TO: Mr. DeLoach

FROM: M. A. Jones

DATE: 4-17-62

SUBJECT: "THE RIGHTIST CRISIS IN OUR CHURCHES"
BY LOUIS CASSELS
4-24-62 ISSUE OF "LOOK" MAGAZINE

BACKGROUND:

My memo of 4-16-62 to you concerning the above-captioned article pointed out that quotations attributed to the Director and Assistant Director Sullivan were substantially correct and it was not felt that the original meaning had been altered in the quotations. With regard to the statement, "were substantially correct," the Director has asked, "What do you mean? Just what changes were made by Cassels?" Set forth below is information concerning quotations attributed to the Director and Mr. Sullivan.

QUOTATIONS ATTRIBUTED TO THE DIRECTOR:

On page 40 of "Look" magazine near the beginning of the article, Mr. Hoover is mentioned as a ruling elder of the National Presbyterian Church, and it is pointed out that he, as well as President Kennedy, shares a concern about extremist attacks on religion. It is noted that on your memo to Mr. Mohr of 4-3-62 setting forth a review of the galley proofs of the article, the Director noted he is not a "ruling" elder. The article quotes Mr. Hoover as stating that, "unfounded charges against America's clergymen" are weakening religious institutions "which stand on the front line in the fight against communism." These specific quotes cannot be located, but Cassels has apparently paraphrased them from the following statements made by the Director. In the Director's article entitled "Let's Fight Communism Sanely!" which appeared in the January, 1962, issue of "Christian Herald," the Director stated, "Innuendoes, false accusations and unfounded charges can only weaken the fight against Communism by diffusing the strength of the anticomunist forces." Later in the Director's article, he stated, "Clergyman--and men who believe in God everywhere--literally stand on the front lines of this giant ideological battle." In the Director's June, 1961, "Crusader" magazine article on communism, the Director, referring to ministers, stated, "In reality they stand on the front line today in the fight against communism." In this same article, the Director also stated, with reference to clergymen, that, "This is not the time for name calling, unfounded accusations or publicity-seeking charges designed to confuse, divide and weaken..."

ENCLOSURE

This Cassels is APR 3 1962

1 - Mr. DeLoach
2 - Mr. Belmont
3 - Mr. Sullivan

E.B. 1962

(6)
Jones to DeLoach Memo
RE: Article in "Look" magazine by Louis Cassels

On page 42 of "Look" magazine, the Director's picture appears, and below this he is quoted in large letters as follows: "Unfortunately, there are those who make the very mistake the Communists are so careful to avoid..." This is followed in smaller letters with, "...These individuals concentrate on the negative rather than on the positive. They are merely against communism without being for any positive measures to eliminate the social, political and economic frictions which the Communists are so adroit at exploiting. These persons would do well to recall a recent lesson from history. Both Hitler and Mussolini were against communism. However, it was by what they stood for, not against, that history has judged them." This quotation under the Director's picture is the last two paragraphs verbatim from the Director's statement, "The Communist Party Line," which he prepared for the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on 9-23-61.

QUOTATIONS ATTRIBUTED TO ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SULLIVAN:

On page 42 of the magazine beneath the Director's picture and quotation is Mr. Sullivan's photograph and the following quotation which is attributed to him: "Any allegation is false which holds that there has been and is, on a national scale, any substantial Communist infiltration of the American clergy." This quotation is a portion of a sentence which appears in the text of an address Mr. Sullivan gave at the Highland Park Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas, on October 19, 1961, and on page 44 of the magazine more of this sentence is set forth, and the quotation is attributed to this particular speech. There is a slight difference in the way the sentence is set forth in the "Look" article and the way it is contained in the printed text of Mr. Sullivan's speech. According to the "Look" article, the sentence is as follows: "To recapitulate, it can be stated factually and without equivocation that any allegation is false which holds that there has been and is, on a national scale, any substantial Communist infiltration of the American clergy..." At the end of this sentence, Mr. Sullivan also stated, "in particular the Protestant clergy," which "Look" did not include. Also, the quote was altered by stating, "any substantial Communist infiltration," when actually Mr. Sullivan stated, "an extensive or substantial..." Cassels rewrote it to suit himself and manipulation.

Mr. Sullivan is also quoted from his Highland Park Methodist Church speech as stating that, "There can be no doubt as to the loyalty of the overwhelming majority of the clergy of our nation, for they have been among the most consistent and dedicated opponents of communism.....In view of the great amount of time and money the Communists have spent propagandizing the American clergy, it is a remarkable tribute to them that they have resisted so successfully." This is an accurate quotation except that in the first sentence, "of our nation" should be "to our nation."

Other parts of Mr. Sullivan's Highland Park speech have been paraphrased by Cassels, the meaning of which is correct.

RECOMMENDATION: For the Director's information.
Memorandum

TO: Mr. DeLoach
FROM: M. A. Jones
SUBJECT: "THE RIGHTIST CRISIS IN OUR CHURCHES"
BY LOUIS CASSELS
4-24-62 ISSUE OF "LOOK" MAGAZINE

BACKGROUND:

The Director has asked, "Let me know just what our connection with the Look article is." The article appeared in the April 24, 1962, issue of "Look" magazine. It is entitled "The Rightist Crisis in our Churches" and was written by Louis Cassels, who writes religious articles for United Press International.

BRIEF RESUME OF ARTICLE:

Basically, this article is an attack on right-wing extremists who have been charging that some clergymen in America have been "soft" or sympathetic toward communism. Cassels singles out specifically Reverend Billy James Hargis, Reverend Doctor Carl McIntire, Edgar C. Bundy, Myers G. Lowman, Verne P. Kaub, and Robert Welch, founder of the John Birch Society. According to Cassels, these extremist right-wing leaders and groups specialize in making unwarranted attacks against clergymen and church organizations alleging communist sympathies, and he points out that the National Council of Churches has been a favorite target of these groups. Cassels points out how extremist charges have disrupted congregations, harassed ministers and generally hurt religious groups. Various prominent American clergymen are quoted regarding the harmful consequences of these bigoted attacks.

Both the Director and Assistant Director William C. Sullivan are prominently mentioned and quoted in the article, and near the beginning of the article, a quotation from the Director, as well as Mr. Sullivan, is prominently displayed along with their photographs.

ARTICLE PROOFS REVIEWED:

In early April, Louis Cassels, who is very friendly toward the Bureau, made available the proofs of this article. Cassels is the one who wrote this article. The proofs were reviewed in this Division and your memo to Mr. Mohr of 4-3-62 set forth a brief summary of the article, including the information concerning the quotes. It was pointed out that the quotations attributed to the Director and Mr. Sullivan were substantially correct and it was not felt that the original meaning had been changed.

1. Mr. DeLoach
2. Mr. Belmont
3. Mr. Sullivan
4. Mr. Morrell
5. ELC:mtf/1 (J)

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Date: 5 APR 80 1962]
Jones to DeLoach Memo
Re: "The Rightist Crisis in our Churches"

It is noted that no one in this Division worked with Cassels in the preparation of this article. Cassels called your office and advised that he had access to the speeches of the Director and Mr. Sullivan in the field of communism. At the time we reviewed the proofs, the article had progressed to a point where it could not be changed in the magazine. It was pointed out in your memo to Mr. Mohr that Cassels had gone quite far in defending the National Council of Churches, and that while favorable to the FBI, it would infuriate Bundy and his ilk.

RECOMMENDED ACTION RE INQUIRIES FROM PUBLIC:

It is noted that since the publication of this article, the Bureau has received a number of inquiries regarding whether the Bureau had any connection with its preparation. It is felt that we should reply to such inquiries along the line that "In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. We were not consulted on the content of this article and did not assist in its preparation. However, the quotations attributed to FBI officials are substantially correct." It is felt that we should go no further than the foregoing in reply to any inquiries we may receive as we do not want to become embroiled in the controversy the article seems to be stirring up.
April 25, 1962

Dear

Your letter of April 18th has been received, and I appreciate the interest prompting you to write as you did.

The FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In view of this policy I have made no statement relating to the specific group you mentioned.

The Communist Party in this country has attempted to infiltrate and subvert every segment of our society. However, the Party's efforts are being thwarted by the FBI's internal security programs, by the arrest and prosecution of Party functionaries, and by widespread, intelligent public opposition to the communist philosophy. These achievements are being accomplished through orderly, legal procedures.

Enclosed is some literature which may be of interest to you. Perhaps you will also want to read my book, "Masters of Deceit," which was written with the hope that it would help its readers to gain insight into the true nature of communist activities. This book should be available at your local library or bookstores.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

NOTE AND ENCLOSURES NEXT PAGE
Enclosures (5)

The Courage of Free Men
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Correspondent cannot be identified in Buffels.
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir;

Recently the Session of my church appointed me to a committee to study the National Council of Churches. Although there are many facets to this study, one which must be given much attention is the one involving the many charges of Communism which have been made. Knowing that many of these charges come from sources having ulterior motives, I am seeking information from unbiased sources. I know that you are more cognizant of conditions in regards to communist infiltration into all organizations, than any other person in the country, I am coming to you for information.

There have been conflicting reports as to statements made by you concerning the National Council of Churches. I should like to know exactly what you have said as regards the presence or absence of Communist activity in this body. Allow me to inform you for public use concerning any individuals involved, I should appreciate it greatly.
This is a difficult study to make, and I sincerely wish to find the truth, if it is possible.

Yours very truly,
April 23, 1962

Dear [Name],

Your letter of April 16th has been received and I can appreciate the concern prompting you to write.

While I would like to be of assistance, I am unable to comment in the manner you have indicated since the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, individual or publication. Also, information contained in FBI files is confidential and available for official use only pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice.

May I suggest, however, that in your personal evaluation of the merits of any organization you give careful consideration to its objectives and whether they are being achieved through orderly, legal procedures. I regret it is not possible to be of help to you in this instance and trust you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relative to the subject of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some literature I hope you will find to be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (4) Shall It be Law or Tyranny?
Communist Illusion & Democratic Reality
The Communist Party Line, One Nation's Response to Communism

Notes: Bufiles contain no derogatory nor additional pertinent information regarding correspondent.
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Director of Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have been receiving a number of comments concerning the National Council of Churches and their supposed affiliation with the Communist Party. Some of the accusations and comments are by such people as William James Hargis and Carl McIntire.

I would like to inquire, if I may, for some information from your office concerning the validity of these comments.

Frankly, does the FBI consider the National Council of Churches to be "a pink-tinged" organization? I know this is a very direct question but if it is possible, I would like an answer, as direct as the question.

Sincerely yours,
For your information

Respectfully

[Signature]

April 16, 1962

Editor's Column in "The Mailbag"

Dear [Name],

In your column of April 16th you bemoan an article written for "Look Magazine" of April 24th entitled "The Rightist Crisis in our Churches" by Louis Cassels.

In stead of pointing out where, in your opinion, the author could be wrong, you only question his integrity and his personal life, about which apparently nothing has come to your attention. Such information, however, has nothing to do whatsoever with the truth of the facts as indicated in the article. Failing any contradiction from you, one must presume the author to be quite correct, particularly since he apparently has the full support of J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the F.B.I.

I was rather amazed to read the advice to your readers, to ask the editor of "Look" for equal opportunity and space to reply to this article. The editorial columns of your newspaper represent, day-in, day-out, the most radical rightist views and little, if any space is ever devoted to any other standpoint, nor is there any opportunity of late to question these views. Charity, Mr. Editor, begins at home.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

13 APR 25 1962
April 23, 1962

Dear [Name],

I have received your letter of April 14th, and I want to thank you for your kind remarks relative to my efforts as Director of the FBI.

While I would like to be of assistance to you, the FBI being an investigative agency of the Federal Government neither makes evaluations nor draws conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In view of the foregoing, I am sure you will understand why it is not possible to comment in the manner you have suggested, and I trust you will not infer either that we do or do not have data in our files relating to the subjects of your inquiry.

Enclosed is some material I hope you will find to be of interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Medical Examiner

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (4)
Communism and The Knowledge To Combat It!
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
The Communist Party Line

NOTE: Buffs contain no information identifiable with correspondent.
April 14, 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director, F. B. I.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Many ministers in this part of California seem to have a very "liberal", if not communist, slant in their sermons and in their philosophy. I have been told that the National Council of Churches is the cause of this socialist or communist 'line'.

Do you think that the National Council of Churches is responsible for this and, if so, do you have any evidence to back it up?

Also, is it true that Union Theological Seminary is largely infiltrated by socialist-communists?

Do you think that many of our churches HAVE been influenced by communist infiltration?

Thank you for your good work in awakening America to the danger from communism, and also, in advance, for answering my questions.

Yours truly,
April 20, 1962

166-50869-904

Dear [Redacted],

Your letter of April 16th to Assistant Director William C. Sullivan has been brought to my attention.

Although I would like to be of service, information in FBI files must be maintained as confidential through a regulation of the Department of Justice.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (4)
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- Let's Fight Communism Safely Notice
- Shall It Be Law or Tyranny? (BERWICK)
- The Communist Party Line

NOTE: [Redacted], telephonically contacted the Director's office on 4-13-62 and was referred to Assistant Director Sullivan. His call was predicated on his dislike of the Look article by Louis Cassels and he stated he would probably write to the Director concerning it. Assistant Sullivan had assured him the FBI had no connection with its preparation and it had been made clear that the quotations had been taken from public source material. [Redacted] wrote the Director (continued next page)
on 4-12-62 and this was acknowledged on 4-19-62 in which the Director reiterated our position as stated by Mr. Sullivan in his telephone conversation with [redacted]. It would appear that [redacted] is becoming something of a pest and it is felt this perfunctory reply should be utilized. Selected reprints are being included. Buffles contain no other information identifiable with [redacted].
April 16, 1962

Mr. William Sullivan
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

I wish to thank you for your courteous consideration of my telephone call last Thursday, April 12, 1962. In view of the fact that I contacted you as a total stranger, I feel you were more than understanding and attentive to my questions.

I have forwarded a letter to Mr. Hoover which you will no doubt see and in that connection I am addressing you to determine further information in regard to the text printed next to your picture in the April 24th issue of Look Magazine article entitled "Rightist Crisis in Our Churches". The text I refer to above set forth the following: "Any allegation is false which holds there has been and is on a National scale, any substantial Communist infiltration of the American Clergy". Now I am interested in cold facts, not the use of a statement, or portion thereof, which makes general inferences aiding the views of another. Can you please provide quotable statistics on the following questions?

1. Has there been substantial Communist infiltration of the American Clergy anywhere in our nation even though it may not be on a National scale?

2. What percentage or figure constitutes substantial infiltration?

3. Where can documented information be obtained on known Communists, past or present, in the clergy?

4. How can we, as interested church members and citizens, help to expose the activities of the Communist Party in any given church organization?

It appears that it is considerably more difficult these days to defend the work of those dedicated to exposing subversion than it is to defend those who sympathize with persons or groups who parallel the goals of Communism. I appreciate your position in this situation and it is not an enviable one, however, any information or documentation you may forward or make available to me will be greatly appreciated and I do want to thank you sincerely once again for your cooperation and assistance. May God continue His blessings upon you in abundance.

Very sincerely yours,
April 20, 1962

I have received and carefully noted the contents of your letter dated April 16, 1962.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Sincerely yours,

E. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Buffels contain no derogatory information re [redacted] who is not further identifiable. Only outgoing of 1-11-62 was in reply to his letter reporting the existence of a large communist cell in San Clement, California. He named one [redacted] as the source of his information. Inquiry by Los Angeles Office failed to substantiate this information through check with security informants. No additional investigation was conducted.
Mr. John Edgar Hoover  
United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I refer to Look Magazine, April 24, 1962 edition, article entitled "The Rightest Crisis in our Churches".

As a Ruling Elder of [blank] Presbyterian Church, [blank] I am greatly concerned, as the conditions described in the above article are prevalent in our church to an extent of most serious proportions.

Your confirmation, by return mail, of the references to yourself and Mr. William C. Sullivan, on pages 43 and 44 of the article, would be most helpful to the Session, as will any personal comments on the subject that you would care to make.

I regret that we must ask for this intrusion upon your valuable time, but we are sure your answer can be most helpful.

Yours in Christ,

[Signature]

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
Dear [Redacted]

I have received and carefully noted the contents of your letter dated April 16, 1962.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Enclosed is some material I hope will be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

E. Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (3)
4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
The Communist Party Line.

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. She is referring to the Director's telegram of 4-12-62 to [Redacted] regarding the "Look" magazine article. This telegram stated that the Director does not comment on material not prepared by the Bureau; the opinions of the author in his article are his own; and that the quotations attributed to the Director and Mr. Sullivan are substantially correct. Bufiles indicate previous correspondence from [Redacted] in connection with his opposition to the National Council of Churches. All previous experience with him indicates he is an ardent member of the extreme right-wing.
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Re: Look Magazine, April 24, 1962  
Subject: The Rightist Crisis In Our Churches

I have the following information from the Committee of  
Christian Laymen, P. O. Box 285, Woodland Hills, Calif.:  
"We learned from J. Edgar Hoover's office today that they  
did not even know that the article 'The Rightist Crisis In  
Our Churches' was being written. Either Look or Cessels  
or both took photographs and copy prepared for another  
occasion some months ago and then by trickery made it appear  
as if it were all a part of the same story. Many people  
will never know but what J. Edgar Hoover concurred in every  
thing said in the article. The N.C.C. must be feeling the  
pressure when they feel obliged to resort to such tactics."  
The letter was dated April 12, 1962.

We who believe in Americanism - and not liberalism - have  
an opportunity to force Look magazine to retract what it  
has said and PRINT THE TRUTH.

If the above quotation is true you have no choice but to  
demand that THE TRUTH be printed.

Sincerely,
For the future, be careful not to be influenced by the present. Be patient, and consider the needs and desires of others. Always strive to improve your character and work towards the greater good. May success and happiness accompany your journey.

R. O. S.

June 19, 1962

[Signature]
NEED QUESTION

NEED QUESTION

In conclusion, may I

In conclusion, may I

Encourage you to

Encourage you to

A personal note

A personal note

If you have any

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For your information
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO: Mr. W. C. Sullivan

FROM: Mr. F. J. Baumgardner

DATE: April 19, 1962

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
INFORMATION CONCERNING
(INTERNAL SECURITY)

Circuit Riders, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio, and its Executive Secretary, M. G. Lowman, have been carrying on an anticommmunist crusade for the past several years. Their main target has been the communist infiltration of churches. In connection with this crusade, Lowman published, in April, 1962, "A Compilation of Public Records of 658 Clergymen and Laymen connected with THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES."

The introduction to this publication discloses that it is a compilation of affiliations of the personnel of the National Council of Churches (NCC) in pacifist organizations, one-world groups, socialist organizations, popular-front-type of action groups and communist-front organizations, publications, petitions, et cetera. According to Lowman, in 1961 communist fronts had the support of more than 1,200 different protestant clergymen but only a very small number of the clergymen have ever been members of the Communist Party. As a word of caution in the introduction, Lowman advises the reader of this publication to guard with the utmost care against the assumption that these men and women of the NCC are communists, communist sympathizers or Communist Party members. Any such assumption should be avoided with respect to the group of 658 as a whole and with respect to any individual member of the group.

OBSERVATIONS:

From a review of this publication and other previous publications of Lowman, there is no proof the individual who participated in the listed communist activity is identical with the person named in the pamphlet as a minister and the organizations mentioned are not documented as to their communist character. It appears that the general scope of alleged communist activity on the part of the individuals mentioned relates to the 1930's and 1940's.

ACTION:

For information.

100-50869
1 - 62-99405 (Circuit Riders)
1 - 100-403529 (Cominfil of Religion)

JTH:jmc:sky

ENCLOSURE

MAY 1, 1962
Memorandum

DATE: April 16, 1962

Mr. A. E. Belmont

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
NEW YORK CITY

1-Mr. Belmont
1-Mr. Mohr
1-Mr. DeLoach
1-Mr. Vick
1-Mr. M.A. Jones
1-Mr. Sullivan
1-Mr. Sixoo
1-Mr. Moore
1-Mr. Branigan

The above-captioned clergyman dropped by to see me to discuss the problem of communism generally and as it relates to the National Council of Churches in particular. He was in an audience to which I spoke in Connecticut in January of this year and, on being in Washington at a conference, he called and asked if he could see me. 

is a young man who served with the He makes a clear-cut, honest and very favorable impression. He started out by telling me that he is no pacifist, having been a former and he is ready to fight again for his country at any time. He told me that as an official of the National Council of Churches he is very disturbed over many false allegations made against officials of the Council relative to their communism or procommunism. He told me he is completely opposed to every aspect of communism and is willing to give his life fighting against it. He said that he is aware that some members of the National Council during the past 25 years have joined communist front organizations and, for all he knows, a few may have been members of the Party. He believes this is wrong and in his position is taking every step possible to prevent a recurrence of this type of activity. He told me that he does not think that any ranking officials of the Council today are connected with communist fronts or are in any way sympathetic to communist fronts. He said that if he knew that there were any of this kind he would do all that he could to have them removed.

told me very confidentially that the National Council, on learning of the charges made against some of the members for having communist front connections, asked them to submit to the high-ranking officials of the Council a written statement setting forth all the details of their connections with the Communist Party, communist fronts or communist individuals. A few were reluctant to do this but the Council insisted. Today, he said, they have on file copies of all of these statements which they are holding in the event that they believe it necessary to make them public or to otherwise put them to some good use.
Memorandum for Mr. Belmont
Re: [Redacted]

[Redacted] asked me if I had any suggestions as to how the National Council of Churches could keep itself completely free of communist connections. I referred him to different statements and articles by the Director, including the poster "What You Can Do To Fight Communism." I also mentioned to him that leaders of the Council should familiarize themselves with the Communist Party line in order to know what to avoid. Similarly, I pointed out that clergymen should not sign petitions or resolutions or join organizations or support causes unless they can be reasonably certain that they are not communist sponsored. I mentioned to him some other suggestions along these same lines.

In addition to the above, I left the impression with [Redacted] that clear-cut, forthright statements pointing to the dangers of communism, both inside and outside the U. S., on the part of Council leaders would help clarify doubts in the minds of individuals. He mentioned to me, as did [Redacted] of the National Council who I met some months ago, that they may consider writing a booklet on the dangers of communism in the U. S. and effective ways and means of combating it. I told him I thought this would be a very good idea if it is properly written. He said he would let me know if they decided to do this.

[Redacted] also advised me that in August of this year a few high-ranking Protestant clergymen in the U. S. will leave for Soviet Russia to hold conferences on theology with leaders of the Russian Church. I asked [Redacted] what did they hope to accomplish by this. He said they hoped to encourage the Russian Church leaders to maintain their strong Christian convictions and not to be swayed by political and economic considerations. Further, they hoped to explore the possibility of arriving at a set of theological principles which can be held in common. Lastly, they will try to create on the Russian theologians a favorable image of church life in the U. S. I asked [Redacted] if it had occurred to him that it is likely that these conferences in Soviet Russia will be recorded. He said that it had occurred to him and that all clergymen going to Russia will be so advised, that when they speak they will be speaking for the record, by a tape recording or otherwise.

[New Paragraph]

[Redacted] then told me that these Protestant clergymen will extend to the Russian clergymen an invitation to visit the U. S. in 1963. He said that when this was done and the invitations accepted he would be very glad to provide me with the names of the visiting Russian clergymen. The [Redacted] also said that when
Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

Re: [Redacted]

If they do come to the U. S., if the FBI had any interest at all in them, we could count completely upon his cooperation and the cooperation of other officials of the National Council in the matter. I thanked him for his interest in this matter and made no further comment.

A review of Bureau indices reflects nothing identifiable with

RECOMMENDATION:

For your information.

[Handwritten note:

The NCC has been noted for silence on its demands of communists internally.

C]
Your telegram of April 13, 1962, has been received.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Buffles contain no identifiable information concerning correspondent and no record of the Committee of Christian Laymen of Houston, Texas. The Bureau is aware of the article correspondent refers to in his communication.
J EDGAR HOOVER
WASHDC

THE RIGHTIST CRISIS IN OUR CHURCHES APPEARING IN APRIL 24 ISSUE
OF LOOK MAGAZINE MAKES IT APPEAR THAT YOU STAND AGAINST ANY
ANTI-COMMUNIST CAMPAIGN IN OUR CHURCHES. I CANNOT BELIEVE THIS.
DO YOU SIR APPROVE OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS ARTICLE

cc. Mr. D. Hook

MR. MOHR FOR THE DIRECTOR
April 18, 1962

I have received the telegram of April 15, 1962, from you and your husband.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: [redacted] are not identifiable in Bufiles.
J. Edgar Hoover

Federal Bureau of Investigation WASHDC

Read with disappointment looks "Rightest Crisis in our Churches"

In which Louis Cassells indicates that you have given your approval and that of Mister Sullivan to the contents, do you approve contents if not please publicize your answer many Christians honestly resent authoritarianism of the National Council Churches of Christ.
REC 50 100-5086 4 994  
April 19, 1962

Dear [Redacted],

I have received and carefully noted the contents of your letter of April 12th.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

In accordance with your request, enclosed is some material which I hope will be of help to you.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
- What You Can Do To Fight Communism
- Let's Fight Communism Sanely!
- 4-17-62 Internal Security Statement
- The Communist Party Line
- The Fight to be Free

NOTES: Correspondent is not identifiable as suspected.
TRUE COPY

April 12, 1962

Dear Mr. Hoover--

I will keep my question brief--How accurate is Mr. L. Cassells' article in the April 24, 1962, Look Magazine? (The Rightist Crisis in Our Churches). Has he interpreted and used your statements and opinions correctly?

I would appreciate this information as one who is trying to be a responsible citizen. I have read your book "Masters of Deceit" and would like to read now on the "Right" questions. Could you direct me to any articles you have written--or speeches made on this subject?

Yours truly--
April 12, 1902

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I will keep my question brief—how accurate was Mr. H. Gassels' article in the April 24 look Magazine? (The Rightist Crisis in Our Churches). Has he interpreted and used your statements and opinions correctly?

I would appreciate this information as one who is trying to be a responsible citizen. I have read your book "Masters of Hereafter" and would like to read now on the "Right" questions. Could you direct me to any articles you have written or speeches made on this subject?

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Name
Act 4.1902
HIA:42
April 18, 1962

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of April 13th, with enclosure, has been received, and I want to thank you for your kind statements. I hope our endeavors will continue to merit your support and approval.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Enclosed is some literature which may be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)

Director's Speech "The Courage of Free Men"
Communism and the Knowledge to Combat It!
Deadly Duel
The Communist Party Line
Director's Speech "The Faith to be Free"
NOTE: Bufiles indicate no derogatory information regarding correspondent, and we have had limited cordial correspondence with him. The Director last wrote to him in April, 1959, after he came to the Bureau to see the Director. The Director's regrets were expressed for not being in his office at the time of this visit.
April 13, 1962

J. Edgar Hoover, Esq.
Director of The Federal Bureau
of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Director Hoover:

My attention was called yesterday to an article by Louis Cassels of the UPI in the April 24th number of LOOK magazine and especially to a quotation on p. 42 from your pen.

Would you be willing to state: 1. whether this statement attributed to you was made especially for the Cassels article?
2. whether it was intended to be an endorsement of everything in the article?

Let me say at once that I have already noted (e.g. in the case of your fine article in the American Bar Assoc. publication) how 13% of the article devoted to setting out a balanced judgment has been seized upon for comment by "liberal" columnists and editorial commentators while the main gravamen of the article was wholly ignored by them. It seems to be a favorite occupation these days for left-of-center writers to comb through the writings of our most respected and absolutely trusted leaders to find gist for their complaints about the activities, admittedly not always wise, of loyal Americans trying to acquaint the nation with the perils it faces. Neither you nor the other trusted leaders are, of course, responsible in any degree for the distortions and omissions of others. Yet in such cases it is always helpful to know that the quotations from you, particularly, come from your general writings or speeches rather than were issued especially for added prestige they confer upon the article with which such quotations were used.

I have yet to read anything from your pen with which I disagreed in any way. May the Lord grant us some measure of the wisdom and judicial balance which you have always shown in our work for a free America.

Yours respectfully,

[Signature]

APR. 16, 1962
April 19, 1962

William E. Miller, Esq.
3/o Republican National Committee
1625 Eye St. N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

Dear Congressman Miller:

I protest earnestly the statement attributed to you on page 1 of the New York Herald Tribune so far as it relates to the Justice Department and the FBI. There is no possible resemblance to "Gestapo tactics" in the prompt action of these agencies in carrying out orders. Anyone can wake me up in any hour of the twenty-four for any reason appearing to him legitimate and especially any agency of government.

Having said that, I, as a Republican, want to tell you that I deplore the President's action against the steel industry. I agree with you that free enterprise rather than totalitarianism should be promoted in this country and believe that in a free economy prices inevitably adjust themselves to the laws of supply and demand.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

ENCLOSURE

895
Dear [Redacted]

The telegram dated April 14, 1962, from you and your associates has been received.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bureau contains no record of [Redacted] or [Redacted]. We have had one prior correspondence with [Redacted] in November, 1961, at which time she was furnished various reprint material on the topic of communism. The article referred to in the incoming has been called to the Bureau's attention previously.
J EDGAR HOOVER, FBI DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
WE SINCERE DEDICATED CHRISTIAN AMERICANS WISH TO PROTEST LOOK MAGAZINE ARTICLE "RIGHTIST CRISIS IN THE CHURCHES" THE ARTICLE SEEM TO EQUATE ALL QUESTIONING THE RIGHT OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES TO SPEAK FOR MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ON POLITICAL MATTERS WITH THOSE CHARGING COMMUNIST INFILTRATION WE URGE YOUR VIGOROUS INVESTIGATION AND DEMISE.
Dear [Name],

Your telegram of April 15, 1962, has been received.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Correspondent, whose full name is listed as [Name], according to [Telephone directory], is not identifiable to Buffies. Per his directory, his street, is spelled as the word...
J. EDGAR HOOVER

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHDC

ARTICLE "THE RIGHTEST CRISIS IN OUR CHURCHES" IN APRIL 24TH
ISSUE OF LOOK MAGAZINE IMPLIES YOUR APPROVAL OF ITS CONTENTS

THIS ARTICLE HIGHLY BIASED VICIOUSLY ATTACKS PATRIOTIC CITIZENS
CONCERNED ABOUT CHURCH AND NATION PLEASE REPLY WHETHER YOU
APPROVE ARTICLE YOUR SUPPORT CLAIMED BY PROONENTS OF THIS
SMEAR ATTACK ON CHRISTIAN AMERICANS

cc. m. deboah

MR. MOHR FOR THE DIRECTOR

BIA004 415A EST APR 15 62 SA035.
April 18, 1962

Dear [redacted]

Your telegram of April 14th has been received.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: [redacted]
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
APR 4 1962

WESTERN UNION

National Council of Churches

J EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR OF FBI WASHDC

ARTICLE IN LOOK MAGAZINE OF APRIL 24 SUGGESTS YOU APPROVE CONTENTS.
I SUGGEST YOU DISAVOW ALL THAT THEY SAY IF YOU WERE MISQUOTED

REC 57 100-50869-672

EX-118

10 APR 19 62

CC: Mr. DeRack 8/6
April 17, 1962

Dear Harold,

Your letter of April 10th has been received and I appreciate the interest prompting you to write as you did.

The FBI is an investigative agency of the Federal Government and, as such, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In view of this policy, I can assure you that I have never made any statement similar to that set forth in your communication.

Enclosed is some literature I thought would be of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosures (5)
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Office of the F. B. I
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have recently heard several persons "quoting" you to the effect that the National Council of Churches is a communist-front organization, or that its leadership is tinged with communism.

I have not read any such statements in your writings. Would you please tell me if these persons are in error, or have you made such statements. If so, where may they be found?

Thank you for your time in answering this letter.

Sincerely,
April 18, 1962

Dear [Name]

Your letter dated April 13, 1962, has been received.

The FBI, as an investigative agency of the Federal Government, does not make evaluations nor draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any organization, publication or individual. In view of this policy, I have never made any statement either approving or disapproving of the organization mentioned in your communication.

In line with our long-standing policy, we cannot comment on articles which we have not prepared. The quotations attributed to FBI officials were taken from remarks previously made by them on other occasions.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Correspondent may be identical with a representative of [Redacted] who wrote January 16th requesting one hundred copies of the Director's speech "The Future Is Ours." A field check by the FBI determined that [Redacted] is a conservative organization disseminating books, pamphlets and films to combat the communist menace, and its members are reputable individuals of the community. Literature is not being sent to this correspondent to preclude requests for large amounts and since he may use it in his controversial with the National Council of Churches.
April 12 1962

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

By now you are probably thoroughly familiar with the article in LOOK magazine of the current issue which appears to many readers as being thoroughly endorsed by you, the way it is presented. The article by Louis Cassels in my opinion, is designed to perform the same service to the cause of Socialism as many leftist organizations have been promoting for a long time, particularly since the Moscow conference in December 1960; i.e., to destroy the anti-communists.

I do not believe that you intended to convey to the reading public thru the medium of LOOK magazine, the impression that you endorse the National Council of Churches or the World Council of Churches. I do not believe that you have a policy of endorsing anything but Christianity and Americanism.

It may be that you are not familiar with all there is to be known about the National Council of Churches. The idea of unified Christian work, according to Christian teachings (the teachings of Jesus) no one need to complain about if individual Christians agree on it. But I feel sure that the NCC has allowed many persons to infiltrate into its management and control of methods and policies which have destroyed much of its usefulness to orthodox Christian Churches.

I have been particularly concerned about the filthy reading material which is recommended by the National Council of Churches in its reading list known as the "Negro American"—a list of 260 books, some of which contain the filthiest reading ever put into print. Our Board of Education here removed four of these filthy books when they were brought to their attention by our Grand Jury.

I know, from quotations from your own statements, how you disapprove of filthy literature and its influence on the young mind. I mention if you are familiar with the obscene "skit" which was put on in Michigan some time ago, under sponsorship of an arm of the NCC wherein a couple was shown on the dialy lighted stage kissing in a prolonged sequence; then the dialogue concerning whether they should go to bed together and finally deciding to go to bed. There is much more but these two things alone are enough to cause me to feel you do not endorse the NCC and I would deem it a great honor if you would drop me a note saying that you do not indeed endorse the NCC for the things they have done and written. Sincerely,

[Signature]

EX. 102 REG 57 V0C-5056-76
April 12, 1962

Dear [Redacted],

Your letter of April 3, 1962, your reference 112, has been received. The motives prompting your contacting this Bureau are appreciated, and the information you furnished is being made a matter of record in our files.

Enclosed are publications on the subject of communism prepared by the FBI which I hope you find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

R. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (5)
What You Can Do To Fight Communism
Shall It Be Law or Tyranny?
Deadly Duel
Christianity Today Series: The Communist Menace
One Nation's Response to Communism

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Literature disseminated by the United Society of Methodist Laymen, Inc., has come to our attention in the past, and it is a group of well to the right wing, something manifesting the degree of communist infiltration into clerical circles.

DCL: W (R) & F

RECEIVED: INRC 10:26

APR 19 1962
MAIL ROOM □ TELETYPE UNIT □
April 3, 1962

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I have apparently been placed on the mailing list of an organization that calls itself the "United Society of Methodist Laymen, Inc.". Their address is Box 517, Austin 63, Texas; their executive secretary is Robert L. Knight.

From reading their literature, I can see that they are very subversive in nature and one could imagine that Communist funds help this organization. I have written to them and requested that my name be removed from their mailing list.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

National Council of Churches