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TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-3-104-37)

FROM: SAC, PHILADELPHIA (100-42492)

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA - COUNTERINTELLIGENCE PROGRAM  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
(MEETING HALLS)

DECLASSIFIED BY 568 SLW/GCL  
ON 4/22/97 (JFK)

ReBulet to New York 1/20/64 captioned as above.

The overwhelming majority of meetings of leftist groups in Philadelphia are held at either:

- 1) Boslover Hall, 701 Pine Street or
- 2) Philadelphia Ethical Society Hall, aka Ethical Cultural Hall, 1906 South Rittenhouse Square.

Officers of Boslover Hall Association are:

President

DAVID S. LANDES

Secretary

HARRY BEICHMAN

Officers of the Philadelphia Ethical Society are:

KENNETH J. SMITH, Leader  
ROBERT C. LOWRY, Jr., President  
MARK W. HUBER, Treasurer  
REED KNOX, Jr., Secretary  
FLORENCE WILLARD, Office Secretary

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- 3 - Bureau (100-3-104-37)(Encl. 1)(RM)
- 2 - Philadelphia
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~~Confidential~~  
PH 100-42492

Two Yiddish speaking leftist organizations meet at the YMHA, 401 South Broad Street. These organizations are comprised of elderly Jewish people whose relative importance is diminishing as members die and are not replaced by new recruits. In view of the liberal Jewish tradition represented by an organization, such as the YMHA, it is questionable whether a counterintelligence offensive directed at YMHA officials for the purpose of having contracts for meeting rooms cancelled out would warrant the time and effort involved.

As the Bureau is aware, Boslover Hall has been the site utilized by the Philadelphia Social Science Forum Committee (PSSFC) for meetings during the 1963-1964 Series. In addition, a bazaar sponsored by "The Advocates" (District Press Committee, CPEPD) was held at Boslover Hall on 12/14, 15/63. On 3/20/64 "The Advocates" is sponsoring a banquet to be held at Boslover Hall. Both of these activities are for the purpose of raising funds for the support of "The Worker."

As set forth in Philadelphia airtel and LHM captioned, "BETTY GANNETT; IS - C," and dated 3/4/64, GANNETT was scheduled to teach a Marxist class on Political Economy at Boslover Hall commencing 3/4/64 and ending 5/7/64. The classes are to be held every other Wednesday. They are under the nominal sponsorship of the PSSFC.

On 3/4/64, PH 547-S\* advised IC DONALD J. WALL that BETTY GANNETT would not come to Philadelphia on 3/4/64 as so few persons had registered for the course. She is now tentatively scheduled to start the series on about 3/18/64, providing additional registrations are obtained. ~~(u)~~

PH 398-S on 3/5/64 advised SA JEREMIAH W. DOYLE that on the evening of 3/4/64 he went to Boslover Hall to attend the Political Economy class; however, the maintenance man there said that the management at Boslover Hall had received a call that afternoon notifying them that the class on 3/4/64 would not be held.

When JAMES H. DOLSEN, Secretary, PSSFC and member District Executive Committee, CPEPD, was successful

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in obtaining Boslover Hall for the 1963-1964 PSSFC Series, he stated that perhaps this would end the harassment of the PSSFC as they had been refused meeting places in hotels and other halls located in a more accessible area of Philadelphia.

(PH 55-S, 9/63)

A review of the file concerning the PSSFC reflects that this organization, which since its inception in 1958 has utilized CP leaders and prominent left orientated speakers, has utilized the following meeting halls:

Adelphia Hotel  
13th and Chestnut Streets  
1958 through 10/12/62

Benjamin Franklin Hotel  
9th and Chestnut Streets  
11/62 meeting

New Century Club  
124 South 12th Street  
1/63 through 3/63

Philadelphia Ethical Society Hall  
1906 Rittenhouse Square  
4/63 and 5/63

Boslover Hall  
701 Pine Street  
Utilized for 1963-1964 Series

The Ethical Culture Hall has been utilized by a wide variety of leftist organizations over the years. Among others, SANE, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, National Committee to Abolish the House Un-American Activities Committee, Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, Delaware Valley Committee for Democratic Rights, etc., have met at Ethical Culture Hall.

On 3/11/64 a meeting under the sponsorship of "The Guardian" is to be held there. MARK LANE, Attorney