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Agency Information

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
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TO : SAC, DALLAS
FROM : SA W. HARLAN BROWN
SUBJECT : DL-6-S (u)

DATE: 1/23/62

CLASS. & EXT. BY 6383 JET/HK
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Appeal # 9-0172 per previous release

On 1/11/61, DL-6-S, in person, furnished SA W. HARLAN BROWN a handwritten report dated 1/7/61, which report has been serialized as 134-1A-651. (u)

That report revealed that on Sunday, 1/7/61, the CP State Committee met at DAN YARBOROUGH's place in South Dallas. YARBOROUGH, who runs a junk yard, is friendly to the Dallas CP people. The plan to have the CP State Committee meeting at AUGUSTIN ESTRADA's vacant house at Farmers Branch fell through; the house had no heat and the gas had been turned off. (u)

According to informant, those present at the meeting from San Antonio were JOHN STANFORD and THEO CASTILLO. From Houston were MONA SCHACHT and a fellow whose first name is FRANK. Representing (u)

- 1 - 134-1A-651A (u)
- 1 - 100-10172 (D. Yarborough) (u)
- 1 - 100-671-5 (Organization)
- 1 - 100-7995 (A. Estrada)
- 1 - 100-8749 (J. Stanford) (u)
- 1 - 100-10101 (M. Schacht) (u)
- 1 - 100-8001 (J. Landin)
- 1 - 100- (Security Measures)
- 1 - 100- (Int. Relations)
- 1 - 62-3035 (ACLU)
- 1 - 100- (Membership)
- 1 - 100-10581 (CCCL)
- 1 - 100- (Dom. Adm. Issues)
- 1 - 100-671-21 (P&P)
- 1 - 100-7894 (Harvey O'Connor) (u)
- 2 - Houston (RM) (1 - Mona Schacht SM-C)
(1 - CP, USA, Organization, IS-C)
- 2 - San Antonio (RM) (1 - John William Stanford IS-C)
SA #100-7232 (u)
(1 - CP, USA, Organization, IS-C)

DECLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/GCE
ON 3/4/98 (JFK)

WHB:HM
(19)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
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ADVISED BY ROUTING
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DL 134-1A-651A ~~(S)~~ (X) (u)

Dallas were AUGUSTIN ESTRADA and JOE LANDIN. MONA SCHACHT and FRANK _____ drove from Houston in FRANK's 1954 white Cadillac. FRANK is an oil worker. THEO CASTILLO and JOHN STANFORD on Sunday morning picked up ESTRADA at his house then drove to JOE LANDIN's house. THEO and JOHN waited a block away from JOE LANDIN's house, while AUGUSTIN went after JOE LANDIN. ESTRADA and JOE LANDIN in LANDIN's car led the way to the Dallas Hotel. CASTILLO and STANFORD followed in their car. When they arrived at the hotel, JOHN STANFORD went after MONA SCHACHT. Then AUGUSTIN and JOE followed THEO, JOHN STANFORD and MONA SCHACHT to the Greyhound Bus Station, where FRANK was waiting. FRANK got in his car which was parked nearby and was followed by AUGUSTIN and JOE LANDIN in JOE's car, and JOHN and THEO and MONA in their car. FRANK parked his car at a parking place on Lamar Street, then was picked up by THEO. Both cars stopped a couple of streets from the parking place and all of them climbed into JOE's car, leaving THEO's car parked on the street. They went to the meeting place from there. ~~(S)~~ (X) (u)

The agenda the group drew up was as follows: ~~(S)~~ (X) (u)

- PEACE
- CIVIL LIBERTIES
- CIVIL RIGHTS
- YOUTH WORK
- LABOR
- ORGANIZATION
- MISCELLANEOUS

~~(S)~~ (X) (u)

|

~~(S)~~ (X) (u)

|

~~(S)~~ (X) (u)

JOHN STANFORD, according to informant, read an article from either the September or December issue of POLITICAL AFFAIRS. The article was about the KENNEDY ADMINISTRATION. At a recent news conference, JOHN STANFORD said, a Texas editor had told the President that what was needed in the office of the President was not a weak sister, but a man on horseback who would tell Russia that the USA could annihilate her. KENNEDY pointed out that there was a great difference between the editor and himself; that he (the President) was responsible for millions of lives. KENNEDY, STANFORD continued, had challenged the extreme rightists, but at the same time left the door open for them with his cold war policy. ~~(S)~~ (X) (u)

JOHN STANFORD, it was determined by informant, read a form letter from the ACLU headquarters to its chapters in different cities. The letter indicated that the ACLU, as it had told the Supreme Court, was against the outlawing of the CP. The letter gave some reasons for the ACLU's stand and added that while the organization was not adequately prepared to take cases of individuals who would not register as communists, their cases would be taken case by case. The letter suggested the Supreme Court's decision in outlawing the CP would cause several years of court litigation (to make the law clearer and effective). It seemed that if nonregistering CP members were to be arrested the law would have to be more explicit. Another organization had also made the statement that it would take such cases. JOHN ~~(S)~~ (X) (u)

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DL 134-1A-651A ~~(S)~~ (u)

STANFORD gave them the name and address that the CP members could contact if arrested for not registering as CP members. That organization is the Committee For Constitutional Rights, 22 East Street, Room 325, New York City, New York. These organizations, he said, were not pro-communist. A communist could not belong to them. The fact that these organizations had made such statements, STANFORD added, was encouraging. He regarded it as a good sign. ~~(S)~~ (u)

JOHN STANFORD said that it was a sure thing that a nation was going to war when it outlawed the CP. He further stated that HITLER had proved that. Communists knew when the imperialists are set on war, and they exposed the imperialists' war trends - the government knew this and the result was the outlawing of the CP. ~~(S)~~ (u)

THEO CASTILLO denounced the bomb shelters as a hoax. He said they were constructed under the assumption that the blast would take place a certain distance from it. If the bomb exploded in the atmosphere, chances were its (shelter's) occupants would suffocate. CASTILLO called the construction of shelters a money making scheme. MONA SCHACHT added that in addition to all of that, KENNEDY's consideration of a bomb shelter program served to condition the American people into believing war was inevitable. ~~(S)~~ (u)

JOHN STANFORD suggested the group read a book put out by the American Friends Committee. The book, "We Can't Trust The Russians," proved that we could trust them. FRANK CASTILLO pointed out that some folks he knew actually believed our A bombs were keeping the Russians from attacking us. He had told them that Russia would never attack the USA first. JOHN STANFORD, stressing the importance of disarmament, saw the danger of a nuclear war being ignited by accident. JOE LANDIN added that the falling of a giant meteor could start a war. STANFORD said that the United States had used the bomb on people while the Soviet Union had not. There was a contradiction, JOE LANDIN said, in the U. S. policy on East Berlin. While President KENNEDY was willing to risk an all out war over "free access" in East Berlin, he was forgetting the plight of millions of Negroes who don't have "free access" to public facilities in the South. ~~(S)~~ (u)

At this time, STANFORD stopped the discussion to tell the group he favored following the national office's pattern of abolishing all CP officers, as well as the State Committee. The group agreed. JOHN STANFORD added that in the future they (former CP State Committee members) would meet as interested observers of the critical political developments of the present time. ~~(S)~~ (u)

MONA SCHACHT, according to informant, reported she was working with two committees, "WOMEN FOR PEACE" and the "COMMITTEE FOR PEACEFUL ALTERNATIVES." She reported on her work in the latter organization. A woman in the organization had started red-baiting and MONA thought she was referring to her. It turned out that the woman was referring to someone else. She had "MARTIN" in mind, she said. MARTIN had been ~~(S)~~ (u)

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~~(S)~~ (u)~~Confidential~~

HENRY GONZALEZ' campaign manager. Before she had found this out, MONA had explained to the membership that anybody, any organization, who spoke out for peace would be red-baited - it was an old trick, and they had to decide whether to continue their good work or break up. They had decided to continue. She stated the organization was doing very well and they had publicized it in the local press, by radio and had bought a large ad in the "OBSERVER." The publicity, she said was costly and wondered if it was worth it. JOHN STANFORD said it would be worth it if other cities would form similar peace committees. ~~(S)~~ (u)

FRANK CASTILLO told the group of an ad in a Houston newspaper urging the establishment of a Peace College. The ad was paid for by JOE WEINGARTEN, a businessman. CASTILLO said that if it took a Peace College to have peace, he was for it. ~~(S)~~ (u)

Informant further determined that JOHN STANFORD read a letter he had received from HARVEY O'CONNOR, President of the Emergency Civil Liberties and former editor of the Oil Worker. O'CONNOR will be in Texas from mid-January to March. He will stay at the Maverick Ranch in Boerne, Texas. STANFORD reported he had contacted O'CONNOR and had asked him what he charged as a speaker. O'CONNOR seemed insulted, said he didn't ask for pay, but felt proud to talk to people on the BRADEN-WILKINSON cases. MONA SCHACHT added that her organization was trying to have the ACLU sponsor him as a speaker. ~~(S)~~ (u)

It was decided the next meeting of the CP State Committee will be in Houston on 4/15/62. The Dallas representatives will get a room at a hotel there and they will meet one of the other CP members on Sunday morning at 8 A.M. at the Greyhound Bus Station. They will make arrangements to go to the meeting place. ~~(S)~~ (u)

Informant had no additional information. (u)

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