

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : INSCOM/CSF
RECORD NUMBER : 194-10002-10212
RECORDS SERIES : DOD-AFFILIATED PERSONNEL AND INCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : PAGES 1483-1499

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : [RESTRICTED]
TO :
TITLE : [RESTRICTED]
DATE : 05/07/70
PAGES : 17
SUBJECTS : SCHEER, ROBERT

BLACK PANTHER PARTY

SAN FRANCISCO MIME TROUPE

PEACE AND FREEDOM PARTY

"RAMPARTS" MAGAZINE

STUDENT MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE TO END THE WAR IN
VIETNAM

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

REPORT

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
CLASSIFICATION : ~~SECRET~~
RESTRICTIONS : 3, 4
CURRENT STATUS : RELEASED WITH DELETIONS
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 11/02/97
OPENING CRITERIA : COMPLETION OF REVIEW BY FBI
COMMENTS : COORDINATION WITH FBI HAS BEEN COMPLETED AND
DETERMINED TO BE RELEASABLE WITH RESTRICTIONS, PER LTR
DTD 5 NOV 97

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

3

Copy to: 1 - SECRET SERVICE, SAN FRANCISCO (CLASS 3) (RM)

Report of: DARWIN B. GREEN

Office: SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Date: 5/7/70

Field Office File #: 100-46832

Bureau File #: 105-106720

Title: ROBERT SCHEER

Character: SECURITY MATTER - MISCELLANEOUS

Synopsis:

ROBERT SCHEER is self employed as a free-lance writer or author for various national magazines. SCHEER's residence is 3016 Bateman Street, Berkeley, California. He has been traveling extensively in the United States and abroad giving anti-war speeches and supporting the New Left and the Black Panther Party. He is known to have been in Paris, France, in January, 1970. On 2/22/70, SCHEER was in Eugene, Oregon, where he spoke at a rock festival. In the February, 1970, issue of "Ramparts" Magazine, SCHEER was billed to travel with the San Francisco Mime Troupe throughout the Southwestern United States during March and April, 1970. SCHEER addressed students at Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, on 4/15/70, and appeared with the San Francisco Mime Troupe. He spoke at the Third Annual Art Festival, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, on 4/17/70. SCHEER appeared at his residence in Berkeley, California, on 4/23/70, where he was interviewed by Buagents on another matter. SCHEER was endorsed to run for U. S. Senator by the Peace and Freedom Party at their convention held 2/21/70, and 2/22/70. He filed for this office by mail on 3/20/70.

- P -

~~SECRET~~

REVIEWED BY FBI/JFK TASK FORCE

ON 11/2/97 dld

property of the FBI and is loaned to

☐ RELEASE IN FULL

☒ RELEASE IN PART

☐ TOTAL DENIAL

0243355

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

1483

CLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/GCL
DECLASSIFY ON: (b)
(JFK) 6/6/97

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832
DBG:nac

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence

ROBERT SCHEER is currently residing at 3016 Bateman Street, Berkeley, California. Person who will always know his whereabouts is his ex-wife, ANNE WEILLS, 3073 Bateman Street, Berkeley, California.

SF T-1
April 23, 1970

SCHEER has an unlisted telephone number at his residence, 845-6961.

SF T-11
April 24, 1970

B. Employment

SCHEER is a self-employed free-lance writer or author and editor for various national magazines, including "Scanlons Monthly," a national magazine described by WARREN HINCLE, former president of "Ramparts Magazine," as a "New Muckraking Monthly" with the San Francisco office known as Scanlons Liberty House, located at 451 Pacific, telephone number 392-1101.

SF T-1
April 23, 1970

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

1484

~~SECRET~~

"RAMPARTS" MAGAZINE

"Ramparts" in a letter to subscribers dated May 1, 1968, announced that beginning June 1, 1968, it would be published biweekly at a yearly subscription price of \$15. In this letter "Ramparts" described itself as follows: "...the first national publication to consistently reveal the ribbon of lies supporting America's involvement in Vietnam; we stripped the curtain from America's 'invisible government' by exposing CIA's unlicensed intrusion into our domestic lives; we dared to write about the applications of the Catholic Church's political power; we warned, years before the Kerner report, that white racism was the base of America's racial problems; we blasted away at the corroded institutions of Cold War liberalism.

" 'Ramparts' is now the largest left-of-center commercial magazine in the history of the United States..."

~~SECRET~~

- 2a -

1485

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832
DBG:nac

C. Finances

The "San Francisco Examiner," a daily paper, San Francisco, California, in its January 22, 1970, issue, placed an article stating:

1486

- 2b -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832

DBG:nac

"A suit for \$150,000 damages was filed against East Bay authorities today by Robert Scheer, editor and writer for Ramparts Magazine.

"The action in federal court named Sheriff Frank Madigan, the County of Alameda, and the City of Berkeley as defendants.

"It grew out of Scheer's arrest--among 391 others--during the People's Park demonstrations in Berkeley last May 22, an arrest which he claimed violated his rights under the 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th, 8th, and 14th Amendments.

"Scheer, saying he was present as a member of the working press, charged that he was held at the Santa Rita prison farm, denied the right to counsel or access to bail, and physically and mentally harassed, assaulted and punished.

"Subsequently, all the charges on which he was arrested were dismissed by the Berkeley-Albany municipal court, he added."

The results of this suit are unknown at this time.

A confidential source advised a check in the amount of \$2,500 on the closed account of ROBERT SCHEER, Bank of America, South Berkeley Branch, Berkeley, California, was cashed in Beirute, Lebanon, on January 25, 1970. This check, account number 5544-2336, was closed on September 22, 1967. The invalid check has been returned to the Chemical Bank of New York, Collection Department, Post Office Box 5006, New York, New York. Above source also advised this was the second such check cashed in the past year or so, both for the same amount, and both cashed in Beirute, Lebanon.

SF T-3

March 13, 1970

The only known open bank account for ROBERT SCHEER is an account at the Bank of America, Fisherman's Wharf Branch, 330 Bay Street, San Francisco, California. However, this

1487 - 3 -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832
DBG:nac

account has been inactive for several months and has a current balance of \$124.01.

SF T-4
January 10, 1970

SF T-5
April 30, 1970

II. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam (SMC)

The SMC sponsored an address by ROBERT SCHEER at Arizona State University on April 15, 1970. Approximately 500 students were in attendance, as reported under the section of this report entitled "Speeches."

SF T-6
April 15, 1970

A characterization of SMC is contained in the Appendix of this report.

B. Speeches

A confidential source abroad advised ROBERT SCHEER addressed the English Speaking Group of the Movement for Disarmament, Peace and Liberty (MDPL) of Paris on January 23, 1970. Source also advised SCHEER was at that time residing in Paris. (S)

SF T-7
January 27, 1970

On February 22, 1970, a "rock Festival," billed as a "benefit for the Chicago Conspiracy 8" was held in MacArthur Court (gymnasium) on the campus of the University of Oregon (UO), Eugene, Oregon, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. The function was produced by "Praxis," a "lefty media corporation," and was organized by RONNIE DAVIS, who is affiliated with the "Praxis" organization.

1488 - 4 -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832
DBG:nac

One of the speakers was ROBERT SCHEER, former editor of "Ramparts" Magazine. SCHEER spoke in opposition to the conspiracy law under which the "Chicago 7" were tried, and at one point stated that he had crossed state lines twice with the intent to incite riots in the sense that some of the members of the "Conspiracy 7" had done so.

At the peak of the evening, the size of the crowd in attendance of this festival was estimated to be 1,200 by the "Oregon Daily Emerald," student newspaper, UO, although other sources estimated the crowd to be not more than 600 at any time during the evening.

SF T-8
February 22, 1970

ROBERT SCHEER delivered a speech in the Great Hall Auditorium of the Law School at Arizona State University (ASU), Tempe, Arizona, on April 15, 1970. SCHEER spoke before an audience estimated at 500 persons. The audience appeared to be composed mostly of students from ASU. He was scheduled to deliver an anti-war speech, but instead, his remarks were devoted to local issues on the ASU campus. He was sponsored by the SMC.

SF T-6
April 15, 1970

The "Arizona Republic," a daily newspaper, Phoenix, Arizona, printed an article in its April 16 edition stating:

"Robert Scheer, a former editor of Ramparts magazine, bounced onto the ASU campus yesterday morning with a news conference in the Memorial Union. He blasted ASU administrators for allegedly cancelling payment of his speaker's fee and for disapproving the appearance with him of a 15-member San Francisco mime troupe.

- 5 -

1489

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832
DBG:nac

The San Francisco Mime Troupe is a radical theater group which performs in satire and farce, "... to expose to laughter a whole range of myths, fears, and prejudices on both sides of the color bar." The San Francisco Mime Troupe has recently been active in performing at anti-war demonstrations throughout the nation.

"The subsequent appearance of Scheer and his unauthorized troupe at a student Anti-War Day workshop resulted in obscene chantings by Scheer's group and by student supporters during the five hours the group was on campus.

- 5a -

1490

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832
DBG:nac

"Scheer asserted that he and the mime troupe had been invited by the ASU student government to take part in the campus workshop and that they had subsequently been cancelled out by the ASU administration.

"At the unauthorized appearance of the mime troupe in the College of Law Great Hall, where Scheer was permitted to speak, numerous visual and audible references to sexual organs were made by the troupe. In addition, one of the male mime troupe members, in enacting a protest against ecological pollution, fondled the breast of a female member as 300 students watched.

"The troupe's performance used the references to sex to illustrate their contention that government and big business are raping and exploiting the earth."

The Third Annual Art Festival, University of Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada, was scheduled to run for 12 days, commencing April 15, 1970. ROBERT SCHEER was scheduled to be one of the speakers on April 17, 1970, at 8:15 p.m.

The San Francisco Mime Troupe also performed at the Art Festival on April 17, 1970.

SF T-9
April 17, 1970

C. Extent of Travel

A source abroad advised on January 27, 1970, that ROBERT SCHEER, active on behalf of the Black Panthers, arrived in Paris on January 23, 1970, and lodged at the Hotel Michelet-Odeon, 6 Place de l'Odeon, Paris 6. (S)

SF T-2
January 27, 1970

The Black Panther Party is characterized in the Appendix of this report.

1491

- 6 -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832

DBG:nac

ROBERT SCHEER appeared as a speaker at a rock festival sponsored by the Associated Students, University of Oregon (ASUO), Eugene, Oregon, February 22, 1970, as reported in Speeches Division of this report.

SF T-10

February 19, 1970

In the February, 1970, issue of "Ramparts" Magazine, ROBERT SCHEER was scheduled to talk in the Southwestern part of the United States in March and April with the San Francisco Mime Troupe.

As reported in the Speeches Division of this report, SCHEER traveled to Tempe, Arizona, and addressed students at the Arizona State University on April 15, 1970.

SF T-6

April 15, 1970

Also reported in the Speeches Division of this report, ROBERT SCHEER traveled to Las Vegas, Nevada, and delivered a speech at the Third Annual Art Festival, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, April 17, 1970.

SF T-9

April 17, 1970

On April 23, 1970, ROBERT SCHEER was at his residence, 3016 Bateman Street, Berkeley, California. He was interviewed by Special Agents of the FBI on a civil rights matter.

SF T-1

April 23, 1970

D. Political Activities

The "People's World" newspaper of San Francisco, in its February 28, 1970, edition, ran an article stating ROBERT SCHEER was urged to run for U. S. Senator on the Peace and Freedom Party ticket. Filing deadline was March 20, 1970.

1492

- 7 -

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832
DBG:nac

The "People's World" is a West Coast communist newspaper published weekly in San Francisco.

The "San Francisco Chronicle," San Francisco, California, dated March 26, 1970, issued an article entitled, "Scheer Beats the Deadline for Filing." The article went on to state:

"Robert Scheer beat the last Friday deadline for filing papers to appear on the June 2 primary ballot, it was disclosed yesterday. His papers arrived five minutes before the 5 p.m. deadline at the Alameda county courthouse by air from Paris.

"Scheer, a former editor of Ramparts magazine, seeks the Peace and Freedom party nomination for United States Senator. He is in Paris meeting with representatives of the Viet Cong and the North Vietnam."

- 8 -

1493

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~1

BLACK PANTHER PARTY, aka
Black Panther Party for
Self Defense

According to its official newspaper, the Black Panther Party (BPP) was started during December, 1966, in Oakland, California, to organize black people so they can take control of the life, politics, and the destiny of the black community. It was organized by Bobby George Seale, BPP Chairman, and Huey P. Newton, BPP Minister of Defense. Newton is presently serving a sentence of 2 to 15 years on a conviction of manslaughter in connection with the killing of an Oakland police officer.

The official newspaper, "The Black Panther," which further describes itself as the "Black Community News Service," states that the BPP advocates the use of guns and guerrilla tactics in its revolutionary program to end oppression of the black people. Residents of the black community are urged to arm themselves against the police who are consistently referred to in the publication as "pigs" who should be killed.

"The Black Panther" issue of September 7, 1968, contains an editorial by BPP Minister of Education, George Mason Murray, which ends with the following:

"Black men. Black people, colored persons of America, revolt everywhere! Arm yourselves. The only culture worth keeping is a revolutionary culture. Change. Freedom everywhere. Dynamite! Black Power. Use the gun. Kill the pigs everywhere."

Included in the introduction to an article appearing in the October 5, 1968, edition of "The Black Panther" is the statement, "...we will not dissent from American Government. We will overthrow it."

Issues of "The Black Panther" regularly contain quotations from the writings of Chairman MAO Tse-tung of the People's Republic of China and feature MAO's statement that "political power grows out of the barrel of a gun."

The national headquarters of the BPP is located at 3106 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, California. Branches have been established at various locations throughout the United States.

APPENDIX

- 9 -

1494

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

A source advised on August 1, 1960, the San Francisco Branch of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) was formed approximately in the early part of 1938, and the Oakland Branch of the SWP was formed in the latter part of 1938.

A second source advised on October 26, 1959, that the name of the Oakland Branch of the SWP was changed to the Oakland - Berkeley Branch of the SWP.

A third source advised on April 17, 1969, that the San Francisco Branch and the Oakland - Berkeley Branch of the SWP follow the policies and directives of the National SWP with which they are affiliated.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

~~SECRET~~

- 10 - 1495

APPENDIX

~~SECRET~~

SF 100-46832

STUDENT MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE,
Also Known As
Student Mobilization Committee to
End the War in Viet Nam;
National Student Mobilization Committee

A source advised on May 16, 1969, that the Student Mobilization Committee originally grew out of the National Student Strike for Peace conference held in Chicago, Illinois on December 28-29, 1966, which resulted in a call for massive antiwar demonstrations in New York City and San Francisco, California, on April 15, 1967. The National Student Strike for Peace was originally called by the Communist Party. Divisions arose between elements of the Communist Party and the Socialist Workers Party (SWP), culminating in a take-over by the SWP element in the Summer of 1968 and the Communist Party element withdrawing. Source further advised the Student Mobilization Committee locally and nationally is controlled by the SWP and its youth arm, Young Socialist Alliance (YSA), as evidenced by their participation in Student Mobilization Committee functions and their leadership role played in the Student Mobilization Committee.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

A report by the Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, Ninetieth Congress, First Session, dated March 31, 1967, entitled "Communist Origin And Manipulation of Viet Nam Week (April 8-15 1967)" stated that the Student Mobilization Committee and the April 15, 1967, antiwar demonstrations were communist dominated and inspired.

A second source on April 3, 1969, made available a copy of "The Student Mobilizer" dated April 5, 1969, which was self-described as being published by the National Office of the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Viet Nam, 857 Broadway, Room 307, New York, New York 10003. In this issue the aims of the Student Mobilization Committee were set forth as: Bring the GIs home from Viet Nam now; end campus complicity with the war; and win self-determination for Viet Nam and Black America.

In this issue of the publication, the Student Mobilization Committee pledged itself to organize high school students, college students, future draftees, GIs and all young people to fight until every last GI is brought home.

A third source on August 5, 1969, advised that the Student Mobilization Committee currently occupies Room 307 at 857 Broadway, New York, New York.

APPENDIX

- 11 -

1496

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~1**YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE**

(Known in the San Francisco Bay Area
as Bay Area Young Socialist Alliance,
Also Known As Bay Area Committee of
the Young Socialist Alliance,
Bay Area Committee for the Young Socialist)

A source advised on May 16, 1960, that the Bay Area Young Socialist Alliance (BAYSA) was formed in February, 1958, as the Bay Area Committee for the Young Socialist (BACYS). At a later stage in its development prior to adoption of the name BAYSA, the organization was known as the Bay Area Committee of the Young Socialist Alliance (BACYSA).

The source advised that as a result of a national convention held April 15-17, 1960, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, the BAYSA became a branch of the national organization to be known as the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) and will carry out in the Northern California area the policies of the YSA.

The source advised April 10, 1969, that the BAYSA is currently active and is composed of two locals: The San Francisco YSA and the Berkeley YSA.

The source advised on April 10, 1969, that the BAYSA, although ostensibly an independent organization, is in reality controlled by the San Francisco Branch, Socialist Workers Party (SWP) and the Oakland Branch, SWP.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

APPENDIX~~SECRET~~

- 12 -

1497

~~SECRET~~1YOUNG SOCIALIST ALLIANCE

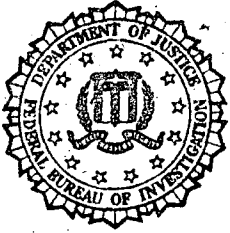
A source advised on May 15, 1969, that the Young Socialist Alliance (YSA) maintains its national headquarters at 41 Union Square West, New York, New York, and has as its official publication the "Young Socialist." The YSA is the youth organization of the Socialist Workers Party (SWP) and has been described by the SWP as the main recruiting ground for the SWP.

The SWP has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

~~SECRET~~APPENDIX

- 13* -

1498



~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. SF 100-46832

Title ROBERT SCHEER

Character SECURITY MATTER - MISCELLANEOUS

Reference San Francisco report dated
and captioned as above.

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

1. Mrs. EVELYN DONALDSON
Operations Manager
Bank of America
330 Bay Street
San Francisco, California

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

1499

~~SECRET~~