



Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

April 24, 2014

MR. JASON LEOPOLD



FOIPA Request No.: 1256124-000
Subject: 105-LA-16570

Dear Mr. Leopold:

The enclosed documents were reviewed under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Title 5, United States Code, Section 552. Deletions have been made to protect information which is exempt from disclosure, with the appropriate exemptions noted on the page next to the excision. In addition, a deleted page information sheet* was inserted in the file to indicate where pages were withheld entirely. The exemptions used to withhold information are marked below and explained on the enclosed Explanation of Exemptions:

Section 552

☐ (b)(1)

☐ (b)(2)

☐ (b)(3)

☐ (b)(4)

☐ (b)(5)

☒ (b)(6)

☐ (b)(7)(A)

☐ (b)(7)(B)

☒ (b)(7)(C)

☒ (b)(7)(D)

☒ (b)(7)(E)

☐ (b)(7)(F)

☐ (b)(8)

☐ (b)(9)

Section 552a

☐ (d)(5)

☐ (j)(2)

☐ (k)(1)

☐ (k)(2)

☐ (k)(3)

☐ (k)(4)

☐ (k)(5)

☐ (k)(6)

☐ (k)(7)

13 pages were reviewed and 13 pages are being released.

☐ Document(s) were located which originated with, or contained information concerning other Government agency(ies) [OGA]. This information has been:

☐ referred to the OGA for review and direct response to you.

☐ referred to the OGA for consultation. The FBI will correspond with you regarding this information when the consultation is finished.

☐ In accordance with standard FBI practice and pursuant to FOIA exemption (b)(7)(E) and Privacy Act exemption (j)(2) [5 U.S.C. § 552/552a (b)(7)(E)/(j)(2)], this response neither confirms nor denies the existence of your subject's name on any watch lists.

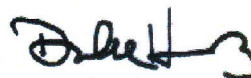
For your information, Congress excluded three discrete categories of law enforcement and national security records from the requirements of the FOIA. See 5 U.S.C. § 552(c) (2006 & Supp. IV (2010)). This response is limited to those records that are subject to the requirements of the FOIA. This is a standard notification that is given to all our requesters and should not be taken as an indication that excluded records do, or do not, exist. Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Explanation of Exemptions.

☒ You have the right to appeal any denials in this release. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Director, Office of Information Policy (OIP), U.S. Department of Justice, 1425 New York Ave., NW, Suite 11050, Washington, D.C. 20530-0001, or you may submit an appeal through OIP's eFOIA portal at <http://www.justice.gov/oip/efoia-portal.html>. Your appeal must be received by OIP within sixty (60) days from the date of this letter in order to be considered timely. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA Request Number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

☐ The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject(s) of your request was the focus of the investigation. Our search located additional references, in files relating to other individuals, or matters, which may or may not be about your subject(s). Our experience has shown when ident, references usually contain information similar to the information processed in the main file(s). Because of our significant backlog, we have given priority to processing only the main investigative file(s). If you want the references, you must submit a separate request for them in writing, and they will be reviewed at a later date, as time and resources permit.

☒ See additional information which follows.

Sincerely,



David M. Hardy
Section Chief
Record/Information
Dissemination Section
Records Management Division

Enclosures (2)

In response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request submitted to Records Management Division in Winchester, VA, enclosed is a processed copy of FBI Los Angeles File 105-LA-16570.

It is unnecessary to adjudicate your fee waiver as there are no associated fees.

This material is being provided to you at no charge.

Note: Handprint names legibly; handwriting satisfactory for remainder.

Subject's name and aliases UNSUBS		Address of subject		Character of case SEDITION	
Complainant [Redacted]		Complainant's address and telephone number [Redacted]		Complaint received <input type="checkbox"/> Personal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Telephonic Date <u>4-1-64</u> Time <u>9:30 am</u>	
Subject's Description	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Height	Hair	Build
	Age		Weight	Eyes	Complexion
	Scars, marks or other data				
Facts of complaint <p>[Redacted] is Chief of the Fiscal Division, Veterans Administration Out Patient Clinic, 1031 S. Broadway. He stated that he had become acquainted with a [Redacted] an MD doing research for the VA and that [Redacted] recently gave him a tape recording which she thought he might be interested in. [Redacted] took the tape home and played same and found that it consisted largely of parodies that were highly inflammatory and derogatory toward the Armed Services of the United States, U. S. defense systems and the FBI. He stated that after hearing the tape he became highly incensed and that his feelings of revulsion were shared by his family and some neighbors who also heard the tape. He advised that he does not know who made the tape or whether [Redacted] had anything to do with it's preparation, however, he stated that both [Redacted] and her husband who goes under the name of [Redacted] are in positions where they have electronic and recording equipment available and could reproduce tapes in some quantity. He believes that [Redacted] does research for the LA County Hospital. He stated that it is possible that the tape was prepared with US Government equipment. [Redacted] advised that he is holding the tape at his home at the above address and had told his wife that he was going to have the FBI come by and listen to it. [Redacted] stated that he wanted his identity concealed, however he was advised that if it was necessary to follow through on the matter, this might not be possible to do.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION: Secure tape, prepare transcription to determine whether this is seditious material.</p>					
Action Recommended <p style="text-align: center;">W. N. Provinse (Agent)</p> <p style="text-align: right;">105-83570-1 <i>[Signature]</i></p>					

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES

DATE: 4/8/64

FROM : SUPERVISOR NEAL MC GINNIS

SUBJECT: TAPE ~~RECORDING~~ OF FOLK SONGS OF
PETE SEEGER (PH) AND UNKNOWN
BRITISH SINGER
IS - X

Reference is made to Serial 1, which is self-explanatory.

SA [] obtained the tape recordings
in question from [] who provided same.

Tapes were played by SA EWING G. LAYHEW and the writer b6
and it appears they are folk songs by one PETER SEEGER (PH), b7C
the well known left-wing folk singer, and an unknown British
music hall entertainer. Nothing of a derogatory nature was
heard which required any investigative action on the part of
this Bureau.

The tapes were returned by SA []
on 4/3/64 and he was thanked for his cooperation.

NM:fet
(1)

CO LA

O & Close

Assign []

File Stripped
Initials []
Date 10/12/65

b6
b7C

105-16570-2

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 8 1964	
[]	

ES []

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Just Another Soybean For Singer Pete Seeger

By GARY HACHADOURIAN

There are many singers who ask their audiences to join them in song, but few ask with the sincerity, and few get the response, that Pete Seeger does.

Seeger, who is probably the best known folk singer in the country, made a special appearance last night at Ventura's Buena High School. The concert, sponsored by the Ojai Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, was a benefit for children who have been burned by napalm in the Vietnam War.

The audience of close to 800 was made up primarily of young people. Pamphlets speaking against the war and against the draft were handed out at the door by members of the Women's League and The Resistance. They were accepted and read by people of all ages.

There were no incidents. Seeger asked the audience to sing, and they did. When he walked off stage there was a standing ovation to draw him back.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

STAR FREE PRESS
VENTURA, CAL.

P-B-1

Date: 10-17-68
Edition:
Author: GARY HACHADOURIAN
Editor:
Title: PETE SEEGER

Character: SM-C
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: LA

☐ Being Investigated

105-16570-3

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED

OCT 21 1968
FBI - LOS ANGELES

4

ter seeped in, it was sopped
up by the sponge-like beans. No
one knew about the leak, for
quite a while, anyway.
"So when someone asks me
what good my songs are, I say,
just one more soybean."



PETE SEEGER SINGS

Don - 1005 -

1005 - 165704

105-165704

105-165711-4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 13 1976	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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Federal Bureau of Invest.

~~6842 VAN Nuys Blvd.~~

~~VAN NUYS, CALIF.~~

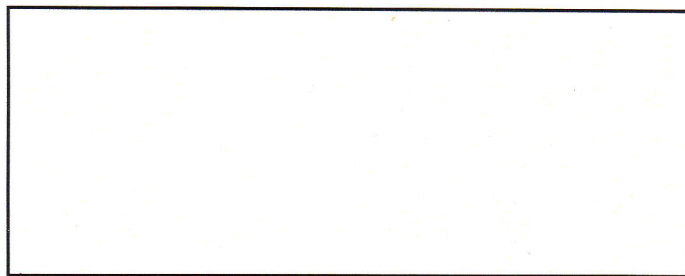
11000 Wilshire Bl.
Los Angeles 90024

Aug. 10

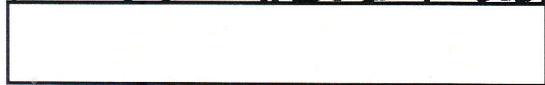
Federal Bureau of Investigation
6842 VAN Nuys BLVD.
VAN Nuys, CALIF.

Dear Sirs:

I would like to get some information on a man called Pete Seeger. I have heard he has something to do with the communist party. He is going to give a musical concert at the Hollywood Bowl in September. If you could please send me some information on him I would be very happy. In the meantime I am going to go to the public library and see what I can find. My address is:

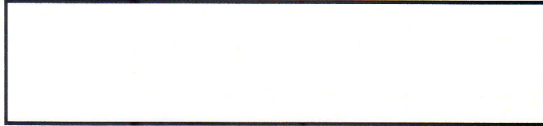


Thank you very much,



b6
b7C

11000 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90024
August 14, 1970



Dear 


b6
b7C

Thank you for your letter of recent date.


While I sincerely appreciate the interest which prompted your inquiry, I must advise you that by order of the Attorney General information in the files of this Bureau is confidential and available for official use only.

I am sure you will understand the reason for this rule. No inference, of course, should be drawn that we do, or do not, have information regarding the subject of your inquiry.

Very truly yours,


WESLEY G. GRAPP
Special Agent in Charge

1 - Los Angeles (105-16570)

 JGS/cjc
(1)

SEARCHED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED

105-16570-5

Date prepared

7/7/75

Date received

7/3/75

Received from (name or symbol number)

Received by

SA

Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)



in person



by telephone



by mail



orally



recording device



written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:
Date

Date of Report

7/3/75

Dictated _____ to _____

Date(s) of activity

Transcribed _____

Authenticated
by Informant _____

b6
b7C
b7D

Brief description of activity or material

Flyer regarding POLITICAL RIGHTS DEFENSE FUND

front group of Socialist Workers Party

File where original is located if not attached

* INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED BY AN ASTERISK (*) ONLY ATTENDED A MEETING AND DID NOT ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE.
VIOLENCE OR REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES WERE NOT DISCUSSED.

☐ Information recorded on a card index by _____ on date _____

Remarks:

CC: 100-83604 (POLITICAL RIGHTS DEFENSE FUND)

100-17375 (SWP)
100-57253 (YSA)
157-2720 (Rev. RALPH ABERNATHY)

100-70801
157-11156
100-75386
100-75386 (PHILLIP BERRIGAN)

100-68568
100-62234
100-68501 (CESAR CHAVEZ)

100-56111
157-5389 (CONGRESS OF AFRICAN PEOPLE)

157-1794
157-3583
100-3267
105-27952
100-61036
100-71288
100-61478
100-64492

b6
b7C
b7E

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUL 7 1975	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

Read by Nb

Continued on page two**

CC: 100-83604

(POLITICAL RIGHTS DEFENSE FUND)

105-18996

(MICHAEL HARRINGTON)

100-78978

157-7393

100-21145

(RING LARDNER Jr.)

100-21666

105-15256

100-32596

100-39307

100-2638

100-84957

100-40559

100-48285

100-34470

(LINUS PAULING)

100-79099

(PEOPLES PARTY)

105-16570

(PETE SEEGER)

100-68283

(BENJAMIN SPOCK)

157-4721

b6
b7C

INDEX:

[REDACTED]

OWEN CHAMBERLAIN

[REDACTED]

PATRICK GORMAN

[REDACTED]

MURRAY KEMPTON

WILLIAM KUNSTLER

[REDACTED]

EUGENE MC CARTHY

[REDACTED]

I. F. STONE

[REDACTED]

LEONARD BOUDIN

[REDACTED]

FRANK DONNER

[REDACTED]

JOHN HERSEY

JULIUS HOBSON

[REDACTED]

The Bill of Rights is at stake

Government agencies carry out illegal political operations that make a mockery of the Bill of Rights.

While many people once identified such tactics with the Nixon administration alone, government documents prove that these crimes predate Nixon and continue to this day.

It remains routine for federal agencies to spy on, disrupt and harass political activists who are accused of no crimes.

A landmark civil liberties suit to expose the scope of this harassment and to win a permanent injunction outlawing it is now in federal court and approaching trial.

Even the largest disclosure of secret FBI operations in the history of the bureau, this suit recently compelled the government to turn over 3,000 pages of files including the

"The FBI may have called it counterintelligence, but it reads a lot like lies and libel...like a mixture of the late Joseph McCarthy and the worst of Watergate."

--Bruce Morton, CBS TV News

For a full account of FBI counterintelligence operations, see the book by John Edgar Hoover, "The FBI: A History of the Bureau."

Among the targets of FBI operations are the Young Socialist Alliance, the Young Socialist Workers party and the Young Socialist Alliance, legal organizations who for years have been targets of admitted government spying and disruption. The Political Defense Fund is the non-partisan civil liberties group financing and publicizing the

Everyone's constitutional rights are at stake.

The issue is basic: Does the government have the right to brand as "subversive" socialists, unionists, Black groups and others guilty of no crimes? Or the right to interfere with lawful activities because of the ideas these groups and individuals espouse?

We say no.

The government says yes. The Justice Department has announced that to protect "continuing functions of the government" it will be spending taxpayers' money to finance the defense of federal agencies and officials against the PRDF suit.

What is the government defending in this suit?

The only "functions of the government" the administration could protect in this case are the illegal methods used by the FBI, CIA, IRS and other agencies to silence opposition.

Thanks to the post-Watergate revelations some of the abuses are now known. Many are still secret. The PRDF suit is a major new source of information about the clandestine activities of these agencies.

The government's arsenal of unconstitutional operations includes the following:

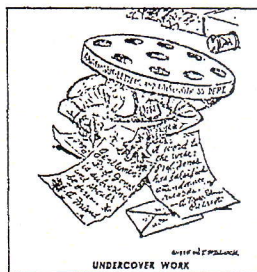
- The FBI initiated the Cointelpro during the 1960's in order "to expose, disrupt, misdirect, discredit, or otherwise neutralize" opposition. Targets included Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., the Black Panther party, the Socialist Workers party, the Communist party, the "New Left" and thousands of individuals.

One of those targeted by Cointelpro is Dr. Morris Starsky, a socialist professor and plaintiff in the PRDF suit. A malicious drive by the FBI, complete with "anonymous" poison pen letters, hounded him out of teaching posts in Arizona and California.

For years federal agencies secretly interfered in the electoral process, disrupting cam-

paigns of independent candidates and parties with whom the FBI disagreed.

- The FBI harassed with a special hatred



Black activists in the civil rights movement.

- FBI informers tried to sabotage the defense efforts in the Wounded Knee and Attica trials.

- Government agents provoked violence to try to discredit and divide opponents of the Vietnam war and racial oppression.

- The FBI infiltrated at least two unions in Florida during 1974 to try to sway a vote.

PRDF has the evidence

Government officials today claim that the worst abuses of the Hoover and Nixon eras are over. But are they over?

The PRDF suit has the evidence that refutes these claims.

FBI Director Kelley recently announced that back in 1971 the bureau formally discontinued Cointelpro actions. But PRDF attorneys documented in court evidence of 50 post-1971 incidents of Cointelpro-type disruption.

FBI "visits" to employers -- burglary -- wiretapping -- and even government complicity with a rightwing vigilante group in an armed burglary in Chicago.

Some previous suits against government surveillance have failed in court in part for lack of sufficient evidence of harm. The quantity and quality of evidence of government wrongdoing is substantial in the PRDF suit. Substantial enough, in the opinion of Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, to warrant a full trial where the broad constitutional issues can be settled.

And additional proof is forthcoming. Government agencies are under court order to make public all the rest of their secret files relating to all their actions against the plaintiffs.

Why is this test case so strong?

This suit challenges the underlying legal rationale for government harassment of those who oppose official policy.

The Socialist Workers party has been a prime target of harassment because of its vigorous participation in the movements against the Vietnam war, racial oppression and other social injustices. On the ballot in 23 states during the 1972 presidential elections, the SWP polled more votes than did any other radical party.

The Young Socialist Alliance, a nationwide socialist organization of high school, college and working youth, has supported candidates of the SWP and has suffered similar attacks.

Both are legal organizations. Neither advocates nor engages in violence or other illegal activity. And, by government admission, neither has done so throughout years of surveillance. The hallmark of thousands of pages of files and decades of spying is the complete absence of criminal activity and criminal charges.

Why then does the government try to disrupt the lawful activities of these and other

in the Nov. 14, 1971 New York Times Magazine.

Slandered by the Nixon administration for his defense of Daniel Ellsberg in the Pentagon Papers trial, Boudin has defended others unpopular with the government.

His career includes defending labor unions in the 1930's and '40's, witchhunt victims in the '50's and political activists like Dr. Benjamin Spock and the Berrigans in the 1960's.

Attorney Herbert Jordan, an associate of Boudin, has worked on a variety of civil liberties cases including one in 1972 which extended the right of smaller party candidates to campaign on armed forces bases.

At a PRDF news conference Boudin told reporters that the suit will be "a major step forward in reversing the erosion of political and civil liberties."

Boudin concluded, "This office never takes cases of this kind unless we believe we can win. This case is winnable."

Because of their *ideas*, ideas unpopular with the administration.

In an alarming rehash of McCarthy era tactics, the government lawyer tried to justify the proposed spying by reading quotations from Marx's *Communist Manifesto* of 1848.

Does the First Amendment protect the free speech of everyone *including* those who actively oppose administration policy?

That critical issue is the axis of this case. If won it can provide valuable precedents for all those subject to government attack. A victory will help tie the hands of the FBI, the CIA and other agencies which seek to assume the role of a political police.

The Political Rights Defense Fund is gathering wide public support for the case to show

the outrage felt by those committed to defending political and civil liberties. As indicated by the diverse views of PRDF sponsors, support of this suit does not imply agreement with the political outlook of the SWP or the YSA.

The costs of such a legal action are enormous. Your generous financial support can be crucial to its successful outcome.

A victory in this case will mean a victory for the political rights of everyone.

Mail to: PRDF, Box 649 Cooper Station,
New York, N.Y. 10003. (212)691-3270.

☐ Enclosed is \$_____.

☐ Please send me more information.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

[illegible]

Political Rights Defense Fund