FILE DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT
"I WAS A COMMUNIST SPY FOR THE FBI" RADIO SHOW

FILE NO. 100-371266
WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 32 8 607E

DIRECTOR DEFERRED

THE NY TIMES OF AUG. EIGHT CONTAINED AN ARTICLE ON PAGE TWENTYTHREE, COLUMN FOUR, ENTITLED "WARNERS TO FILM COMMUNIST STORY" READING AS FOLLOWS--"WARNER BROTHERS TODAY ANNOUNCED ACQUISITION OF SCREEN RIGHTS TO QUOTE "I POSED AS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI UNQUOTE, A RECENT SATURDAY EVENING POST SERIAL BY MITAYECETIC, PUBULISHED WITH THE ADDITIONAL CREDIT QUOTE AS TOLD TO UNQUOTE. A WRITER AND PRODUCER WAS ASSIGNED TO THE FILM PROJECT AT ONCE, ACCORDING TO THE STUDIO, PRODUCTION IS SCHEDULED FOR QUOTE THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE UNQUOTE IN THE DOCUMENTARY STYLE."

FOR INFO ONLY.

PITTSBURGH ADVISED
TO : Mr. Tolson

FROM : Mr. Nicholas

DATE: August 7, 1950

SUBJECT: For record purposes, Warner Brothers called. Warner Brothers are contemplating purchasing the Matthew Gregory series of stories which have appeared in the Saturday Evening Post. Before entering into any negotiations, they wanted an informal expression from the Bureau as to whether the Bureau would look kindly toward such a project or would be opposed to such a project.

I told that the Bureau's position would, of course, have to be one of neither approving nor disapproving; that if they bought the story we would, of course, be glad to read the script and without assuming any responsibility and without either approving or disapproving, make any suggestions that occurred to us.

He stated he understood and agreed that it would be impossible for us to do anything more.

LEN:MP
WARNER BROTHERS PICTURES - RESEARCH. AUG. EIGHT ISSUE OF HOLLYWOOD VARIETY AND HOLLYWOOD REPORTER, MOTION PICTURE TRADE PAPERS, CARRY NEWS ITEMS ANNOUNCING WARNER BROS. PURCHASE OF SATURDAY EVENING POST SERIES QUOTE I POSED AS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI UNQUOTE, FOR MOTION PICTURE PRODUCTION. ARTICLES INDICATED PLANS FOR IMMEDIATE PRODUCTION WILL BE UNDERTAKEN. BUREAU WILL BE ADVISED OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. END AND ACK PLS.
Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Mr. Tolson
FROM: L. B. Nichols

DATE: December 2, 1950

SUBJECT: For record purposes, the Warner Brothers Studios called me and stated that they wanted to change Matt Cucetic's story from "I Posed As A Communist For The FBI" to "I Was A Communist For The FBI."

I told that it appeared that this title was merely a matter of words and that since we had no connection with the Cucetic story we would not take any position.

LBN: mcq
Mr. Tolson

L. B. Nichols

March 26, 1952

of Warner Brothers Pictures came in today. He stated some time next week they contemplate having a print of the picture based upon the Matthew Cvetic story "I Was A Communist Spy for the FBI." He stated a final title had not been assigned to this picture but this would probably be done in the next few days, and he doubted that they would use the title above-mentioned.

stated Warner Brothers contemplates taking Cvetic to the various cities where there are Hearst papers and getting the local Hearst papers to sponsor Cvetic along with American Legion Posts. He wondered if we had any objection to this. I told him frankly it was too late for them to come to us for advice, they could do whatever they wished.

He then wondered if it would be possible for the Director to do a short recording pointing out the need for citizens to report information to the FBI. I told him the Director had spoken on this subject on numerous occasions but under no circumstances would the Director make a recording which would be utilized with the picture. He understood this and asked that I forget he asked. I told him that we simply would not have any part in doing anything which would constitute an endorsement of this or any other picture.

cc: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Jones

LBN: CMG

DIRECTOR'S NOTATION: "WELL HANDLED. H."

NOT RECORDED 70
JUL 21 1952
6 5 JUL 28 1952
Mr. Tolson

L. B. Nichols

April 2, 1951

By reference from the Director's office, at 12:55 P.M. today of Warner Brothers telephoned from New York and advised he had just come in from the coast and had seen the finished film, "I Was a Communist Spy for the FBI." This is the film based on the Matt Cvetic case.

stated he wanted the Director to know that he had just come down from the projection room with tears in his eyes; that this was a great film and he felt it could do more good than all of the money in the world and that he would like the Director to see it either in New York or in Washington, and that, of course, he would want to have the Director see it on the quiet with no publicity attached whatsoever.

stated he would be glad to come to Washington with the film if the Director would like to see it, as the Director may have some ideas of his own on the film. He said the picture is to have its first public showing in Pittsburgh on April 19th, and while he repeatedly said he wanted no publicity, it is obvious that he would like to get the Director's reaction to the film. He asked to be called back at Warner Brothers' office in New York, or at the , where he has Apartment in New York City.

It is recommended that we tell in view of the Director's schedule and commitments at the present time, it would be impossible to see the film at any specific time but if they want to send a print as his representatives have told us Director will try to see it.

JJM: CMC

DIRECTOR'S NOTATION: "I CONCUR. H."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREBIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE: 10-3-51 266-1
NOT RECORDED

70
JUL 21 1952

65 JUL 28 1952
April 16, 1951

SAC Hood called from Los Angeles.

[Redacted] of the Robert Orr Advertising Agency which handles Louella Parsons' program, came in to see him today with a script for the Louella Parsons show of April 22. In this show, Louella Parsons has on her program Frank Lovejoy who impersonated Matt Cvetic in the Warner Brothers picture "I Was a Communist Spy for the FBI." They also have a long distance recording of a telephone conversation with Cvetic.

Cvetic talks about Hollywood protecting [Redacted] and Sterling Hayden and of Communist retaliation against witnesses who divulge Communist programs and activities and then states "in the FBI, we know witnesses . . . . who were disposed of." Cvetic then states one way of doing it is to insert a poison needle in the body of one of these individuals, they die a few hours later, and there is no evidence of foul play.

Cvetic then talks about the fact he knows a Communist who is the head of a water works in one of the largest California cities, that this Communist could poison the city's population in a matter of hours. This Communist is presently being protected but that "we" will get him in due time.

I told Hood to see [Redacted] and first of all point out to [Redacted] that while we have not made any public comment on Matthew Cvetic we want [Redacted] to know for his own personal and confidential information that [Redacted] secondly, Cvetic has no right to presume to speak for the FBI as is conned by his use of the word "we", that Hood feels [Redacted] should know that it might be necessary for us to publicly deny Cvetic's alleged insinuations; thirdly, Hood would like for [Redacted] to immediately identify the case wherein a witness was disposed of with the poison needle; and fourthly, to immediately identify the Communist who is the head of a water works.

Hood stated [Redacted] was very much upset when he contacted him, that he has a very definite feeling that [Redacted] of a radical revision of the script.

CC: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Jones

LBN: FML

DIRECTOR'S NOTATION: "BY ALL MEANS, MAIL THIS DOWN. H."
Office Memorandum – UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Mr. Tolson
FROM: L. B. Nichols

DATE: April 3, 1951

SUBJECT: SAC Ostholthoff, Cincinnati, advised telephonically that a [redacted] representative of Warner Brothers, told him that the film, "I Was A Communist Spy," based on the activities of Matt Cugnet was to open in Cincinnati on April 20th and that Warner Brothers was bringing Cugnet to Cincinnati and they were planning a large reception and a great deal of publicity. [redacted] invited Ostholthoff to attend the reception and is, of course, interested in giving as much publicity and coverage to the reception as possible.

Ostholthoff was told not to attend the reception and not to be brought into any publicity on the film whatsoever.

JHM: CMC

cc: Mr. Jones

8/21/50  37/250  97

RECORDED  INDEXED 97 APRIL 12 1951
April 17, 1951.

My dear General:

I thought you would be interested in reading the enclosed editorial which appeared in the April 16th issue of Motion Picture Herald.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

(By Special Appointment)
Warners’ Anti-Red Film
Timely and Hard-Hitting

WITH sharp timeliness Warner Brothers Pictures makes available this week to the theatres of the nation a hard-hitting subject dealing with the Communist conspiracy under the title, "I Was a Communist for the F.B.I."

The timeliness of this picture is sharply emphasized against the current disclosures of Communist activities on the part of some Hollywood people which have been brought out in the Un-American Activities Committee hearings in Washington.

These disclosures are inevitably disquieting to the American public which right now is in no mood tightly to excuse the kind of Red penetration which took place in Hollywood and about which too little indeed was done.

The one fatal danger to which the motion picture was exposed was Red coloring of the picture itself. As is now well-known nothing of this kind was allowed to take place. There may have been some lack of watchfulness about employee loyalty in the studio—fostered by ideological confusions which were quite general not only with the public but in government as well and by no means confined to Hollywood. But there was no lack of watchfulness about what went on the screen.

The organized industry is this time avoiding the silly adventures out of which it embarked at the time of the earlier probe of Hollywood by the Un-American Activities Committee. This time it is sensibly recognizing the right and duty of the Congressional Committee to expose treason and is cooperating accordingly.

But the public opinion impact of the disclosures, dealing with names which the public familiarly associates with the screen, is by no means good for the motion picture business. Hence the advent right now of the Warner Brothers picture is especially fortunate and opportune.

Under the generalship of Mr. Jack L. Warner and with the spirited cooperation of Mr. Bryan Foy there emerges in "I Was a Communist for the F.B.I." a powerful and moving dramatic narrative. The industry in its higher purposes and necessities has not been too fortunate in some of the subjects dealing more or less directly with the Communist conspiracy which have been previously released. It is fortunate in this one.

The picture within the limitations of a popular dramatic subject is revealing and informative relative to some of the most poisonous aspects of the Red intrigue as practiced in this country. But for purposes of audience impact it is far more than that. It has a very real warmth and appeal, dealing centrally with the retelling of the true story of a genuine national hero who made a great sacrifice in the nation’s defense.

Audiences will be moved by such incidents as that of a father who so loved his country as to be willing to appear as a traitor in the eyes of his son and will be thrilled by melodramatic flashes of the kind which have long been representative of the craftsmanship of Bryan Foy.

The theatre man who is alert to the repercussions of the current Washington revelations will in his own immediate interest and in his solicitude for the welfare of the industry at large see in this current Warner release a significant opportunity. The subject ought to be played enthusiastically—broadly across the nation and quickly.

—Marvin Quigley
April 23, 1951

Dear [Name]

Thank you very much for your note of April 17, 1951, and the enclosed copy of an editorial from the Motion Picture Herald.

I have read with interest this editorial and I certainly appreciate your thoughtfulness in making it available to me.

With kind personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

RBC: mcq
FBI SAN ANTONIO 5-7-51 10-52 AM CST MSB
DIRECTOR, FBI URGENT
MOTION PICTURE QUOTE "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI UNQUOTE." INTERSTATE THEATERS, SAN ANTONIO, ADVISES ABOVE PICTURE TO OPEN MAY TEN NEXT IN SAN ANTONIO, REQUESTS PHOTOGRAPH OF THE DIRECTOR TO BE USED FOR PUBLICITY PURPOSES. WAS ADVISED IT WAS DOUBTFUL IF A PHOTOGRAPH COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE. SUCH A PHOTOGRAPH IS AVAILABLE IN THIS OFFICE IF BUREAU DESIRES THAT IT BE MADE AVAILABLE. UNLESS ADVISED TO CONTRARY THIS PHOTOGRAPH WILL NOT BE MADE AVAILABLE TO:

INC INTIRE

END

ACK

12-54 PM OK FBI WA JD

DIRECTOR'S NOTATION: "ABSOLUTELY NO. H."

7 JUL 21 1952

ORIGINAL FILED IN 10-3-72 409-19
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

4 5 JUL 28 1952
Mr. Tolson

L. B. Nichols

Special Agent in Ottawa, called at 5:05 p.m. and talked to Holloway.

Matthew Cvetic is in Montreal in connection with the picture "I Was A Communist for the FBI" and was being wined and dined, and the had been invited to these affairs and wanted some guidance from as to Cvetic.

was advised that Cvetic has no official connection with the FBI and that the FBI had no official connection whatsoever with the picture "I Was A Communist for the FBI." It was also pointed out to that Cvetic has been touring the United States in connection with this picture and apparently was being given cocktail parties and other affairs by those in charge of the picture.

stated that this was sufficient information and that he would merely tell the that Cvetic had no official connection with the FBI and that the Bureau had no connection whatsoever with the picture.

The above is being submitted for record purposes.

FCH:mrh
Mr. Tolson

L. B. Nichols

Bethesda Theatre, called Holloman on May 22, 1951, and asked if we could furnish him with some pictures, posters and other material that could be placed in the lobby of his theatre during the showing of the movie "I was a Communist for the FBI."

He was advised that we would not be able to assist him in this matter. He then asked if it was a fact that the FBI had officially cooperated in the making of this picture. He was advised that we had no official connection with it whatsoever.

He stated that he therefore understood our position perfectly and mentioned that he worked for the FBI. It is noted that he is assigned and is assigned as a having entered on duty
TO: Mr. L. B. Nicholls
FROM: Mr. F. C. Holloman
DATE: May 3, 1951

SUBJECT: SAC Hosteny, Milwaukee, called this morning in regard to the Warner Brothers picture "I Was a Communist Spy." This is the picture concerning Matthew Cuetico.

Hosteny has received an invitation from a representative of Warner Brothers in Milwaukee to attend a luncheon on Monday, May 7, 1951, in regard to publicity for this movie. He has also been invited to appear on a television program on next Tuesday evening May 8, 1951, which will have as its purpose the promotion of this picture. Cuetico will be in town. An effort will also be made to have the Chief of Police on the television program.

SAC Hosteny was instructed that under no circumstances is he to attend the luncheon or appear or appear on the television program. He stated that he would follow these instructions and was merely calling to advise of these developments.
May 18, 1951

Dear [Name]

Your letter dated May 12, 1951, together with enclosure, has been received. The interest which prompted you to write is sincerely appreciated, and I am grateful for your thoughtfulness in giving me the benefit of your observations.

I am returning your enclosure at this time, and you may desire to use your own good judgment concerning the suggestion which you set forth. I am also sending along some material which I thought you might find of interest.

Sincerely yours,

[Name]

[Name]

Enclosure

U. S. News and World Report
Unmasking the Communist Masquerader
Free to Freedom

NOTE: Enclosure is a letter addressed to the "Office of Propaganda, Pentagon Bldg.," suggesting that extensive distribution be afforded to the motion picture "I Was A Communist for the F.B.I." This is a film in which Matthew Cueto is connected, and the Bureau did not participate in it. In 1943 correspondent communicated with the Director and set forth information of interest to other government agencies. At that time she was advised to report any data of value to our New House Office. (62-58216-5553)

Enclosure is signed by [Name], and this name is being used in the outgoing.

65JUN1 1951
My dear Mr. Hoover,

I send you the enclosed letter to the propaganda office. I trust to your judgment as to whether it is a good idea or not. Look among those who saw the picture I send all sorts of comment which led me to write this letter. Use your own judgment as I feel you would know better than I.

My husband served in the 1st Y 2 world war, my 2 oldest boys served in the 2nd. One of them is now in Korea fighting the 3rd war (?) and one are in the Navy on the U.S.S. Oceon and one in Camp Pickett replacement center 43'd Illinois, 799.8.

We don't want war but more importantly we don't want communism.

Sincerely for the family.

[REDACTED]

RECORDED: 81 100-371266-8
INDEXED: 81 1951-05-14

May 14 1951

EX-130
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO:        Mr. Tolson
FROM:      L. B. Nichols

DATE: May 18, 1951

SUBJECT:

called stating he had talked to was praising the picture "I Was A Communist for the FBI" and he thought everybody should preach the lessons of this picture from the housetops and wondered if the Bureau could do anything to help him in this exploitation.

I told him the picture was made for Warner Brothers and we could take no stand in this regard.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

RECORDED: 130 16-31, 1956
INDEXED: 130 16

MAY 25 1951

EX-92

62 JUN 7 1951
May 26, 1951

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

Please let me know the official attitude that the Bureau takes toward the current motion picture I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI.

In your opinion does the picture fairly and accurately depict the operation of an FBI agent?

Is there involved any element of unreasonable exploitation of the prestige and interest in the FBI?

The picture has played our Ritz Clearfield and some very good comment has been voiced.

Yours truly,

MID-STATE THEATRES, Inc.
June 2, 1951

Mid-State Theatres, Inc.
Clearfield, Pennsylvania

Dear [Redacted],

Your letter of May 26, 1951, has been received.

Inasmuch as the FBI did not participate in the production of the motion picture which you mention, it is not within my province to comment in this regard. I trust you will understand that the FBI receives numerous requests to endorse commercial ventures of all types and I have found it necessary to adopt a uniform policy of refraining from making remarks concerning situations wherein this Bureau has not taken an active part.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC: Pittsburgh, with copy of incoming.

NOTE: Neither correspondent nor his corporation are identifiable in files.

RBC

Mailed 6
JUN 2 1951

COMM-FBI
MAY 29, 1951

MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Last night I saw the picture entitled "I was a Communist For the P.B.I." After seeing this picture I would not feel good unless I expressed my sincere appreciation to you for your splendid organization.

This letter may not mean too much coming from me, but I had to let you know my high regard for the Bureau. During my time as a peace officer and as head of a large plant protection force during the last war, I had the pleasure of working with several of your agents whom I learned to respect and admire.

May I say to you, it has always been my desire that not in the to far future all enforcement officers will attempt to reach the standards set by your organization for law enforcement officers.

To a great degree the security of our nation is in your departments hands, and I feel sure if the complacent public will but cooperate with you and other law enforcement officers this security will forever be ours to enjoy as we have in the years past.

In closing may I say, not only am I proud to be an American, but I am also proud that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is an important cog in this great country of ours.

Respectfully Yours.

[Signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS DECLASSIFIED DATED 5/7/51 BY SCHEUER

EXPEDITED PROCESSING

RECORDED 5/30 1951
INDEXED 15 JUN 16 1951
June 7, 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE \#13-5-51

Dear [Name]

Your letter dated May 29, 1951, has been received and I did want to write you this note to express my appreciation for your fine comments concerning the FBI and my administration of its activities.

It is certainly reassuring to know of the high regard you have for this Bureau and I hope that our efforts will continue to merit your confidence and support. We are indeed grateful for all your past cooperation with us in matters of mutual interest.

Enclosed is some material which I thought you might like to read.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
OFFICE MEMORANDUM  UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO:     Mr. Tolson
FROM:   L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: Certain informant called and spoke to Holloman today. He stated that he was on his lunch hour and wanted to ask if the picture of the Communist Spy for The FBI was based on facts or fiction.

Holloman advised that the FBI had no connection whatsoever with the filming of this picture and therefore could not be of assistance to him in regard to his inquiry.

Holloman stated that he thought this was a very horrible and brutal propaganda picture and that the Communists were pictured as nothing more than automatons.

Although I did not agree that was sympathetic toward the Communists and is apparently a young boy and somewhat naive, I thought that his conversation should be recorded to FBI: hmc.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

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☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request or the subject of your request is listed in the title only.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

 Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld inasmuch as a final release determination has not been made. You will be advised as to the disposition at a later date.

Pages were not considered for release as they are duplicative of

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-3712662 - Non- redhead document
DIRECTOR, FBI (AIR MAIL)                May 29, 1952
SAC, SAN ANTONIO (62-0)

MATT CVETIC
INFORMATION CONCERNING

This is to advise that Radio Station KWATX, Waco, Texas, has advised this office of a transcribed dramatic program which is being planned by his station. He informed that this program will be entitled "I Was A Communist For The FBI," will be a thirty-minute transcribed weekly program, sponsored by a local grocery store chain. He advised that this transcription was prepared by the Frederick Ziv Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, and that this program will be presently weekly for the next fifty-two weeks, beginning the second week of June 1952. He informed further that to introduce this program, MATT CVETIC, author of "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI" is being brought to Waco, Texas, and will speak at a local school auditorium at 8 p.m. on June 3, 1952, concerning his experiences while reportedly serving as an informant for the FBI.

It has advised that these dramatic programs are purported to be excerpts from the book, "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI." I made inquiry as to whether or not a Bureau representative would introduce CVETIC at this speaking engagement, but he was advised that this would not be possible.

The above is being submitted for information purposes.
Dear Mr. Hoover:

We are playing a picture show at the Indiana Theatre in Kokomo, Indiana on July 29 thru 31 which concerns 140 million Americans and a small number of communists that are in this country.

The picture is "I Was A Communist for the F.B.I." which have been seen already.

This type of film does not appeal to the majority of the movie-going public, therefore it is necessary to exploit the film as much as possible with the hope of increasing attendance.

Here is a film which I believe all Americans should see, then they would realize how important it is for each individual to do his part in stamping out the Red menace.

I have read the story of Matt Cvetic in the Saturday Evening Post and am eagerly awaiting the picture.

Attached is a Western Union Telegram with copy regarding the movie, if this is not out of your line I would appreciate you sending this to me collect. I would have it showed up and use as display for the "I Was A Communist for the F.B.I." film. This would be a great booster for both the picture and the F.B.I.

Yours very truly,

Indiana Theatre
Kokomo, Indiana

If at all possible I would like some wanted pictures of known communists to use in my advertising.
"I WAS A COMMunist FOR THE F.B.I. WILL JOLT MILLIONS! IT'S THE H'ARD HITTING TRUE STORY OF OUR OPERATOR MATT GYETIC WHO BECAME A COMMUNIST, WAS DISOWNED BY HIS SON FOR NINE LONG YEARS.

BUT REMEMBER...HE WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I.

GOOD LUCK...THE PICTURE'S TERRIFIC.

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS DISCLOSSED.

Sender's name and address (For reference)
100-37126-6-13
Enclosure

Sender's telephone number
July 13, 1951

100-371266-13

INDIANA THEATRE
Kokomo, Indiana

Dear [Name]

Your letter dated July 5, 1951, with enclosure, has been received and I appreciate the interest which prompted your writing me.

While I would like very much to be of assistance, I thought you might like to know that the FBI did not assist with the production of the film you mentioned and, therefore, it is not within my province to comment concerning it nor furnish material of the type you request.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

G.I.R.-5

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Indianapolis, with copy of letter.

ATTENTION SAC: Correspondent requested an endorsement of the film entitled "I Was A Communist For The FBI" and asked for photographs of known Communists to use in advertising the film.

RBC:moq:rm

1951
SAC, Los Angeles

January 31, 1952

Director, FBI

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

100 - 371266 - 14

"I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI"
RESEARCH (Crime Records)

Requies of January 22, 1952, captioned as above, indicating that [redacted] of NBC phoned your office concerning the recording of the captioned radio show.

It is desired that you contact [redacted] immediately and definitely point out to him that the FBI has had absolutely nothing to do with the captioned matter and will have absolutely nothing to do with the radio program. He should be advised that scripts pertaining to this program should not be forwarded to the Bureau. Any information indicating that radio people in your locality are commenting about the connection of the FBI with this program should be brought to the Bureau's attention immediately. In your conversation with [redacted] no doubt should be left in his mind about the Bureau's status in connection with this program.

GLC: rm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
TO: Director, FBI

FROM: SAC, Los Angeles

DATE: January 22

SUBJECT: "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI" RESEARCH

[Handwritten note: Miss Gandy]
[Handwritten note: Mr. R. S. Sarbo]

[Handwritten note: Mr. Rosen]
[Handwritten note: Mr. Tracy]
[Handwritten note: Mr. Laughlin]
[Handwritten note: Mr. Mohr]
[Handwritten note: Tele. Room]
[Handwritten note: Mr. Nease]

Mr. Glavin has telephoned that the story, "I Was A Communist For The FBI" is being recorded for radio consumption. It will be recorded in short series in the form of an open end transcription and will be sold to various sponsors in series form, each series being complete in itself.

Mr. Tracy wanted to know how to obtain clearance for the use of the name FBI, and it was suggested that he address queries to the FBI in Washington. He said he would suggest to the recording company that they send each script to the Bureau prior to making a recording.

JCE: MES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

[Handwritten note: Recorded 20]

[Handwritten note: EX-83]
May 9, 1952

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

My Dear Mr. Hoover:

We’ve been very interested in securing a sponsor for the Frederick Wiswell production "I Was A Communist For The FBI," but there is always the skepticism on the potential sponsor’s part that this program is not a bona fide document, and that it may be frowned upon by your department.

I well realize the tremendous scope and breadth of your duties, Mr. Hoover, however, I would appreciate receiving a note from you pertaining to the Bureau’s view on this program.

I don’t mean to use your letter as a selling tool, but rather as a means to dispel this skepticism of which I spoke.

With the hope that this doesn’t inconvenience you, I remain

Cordially yours,

[Redacted]
May 14, 1952

Radio Station KME
Post Office Box 567
Beatrice, Nebraska

Dear [Redacted],

Your letter of May 9, 1952, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, it is not possible for me to comment on the radio program concerning which you inquired. Inasmuch as the FBI has had no connection whatsoever with either the preparation or production of this program.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

cc - Omaha, with copy incoming.

NOTE: Full name being set out as above since initials on letter indicate that [Redacted] is not a nickname. Policy in instant letter secured from SAC letter number 13, 1952, dated 2-1-52.

COMM-FBI
MAY 15 1952
MAILED 20
Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, BALTIMORE (80-0)

DATE: 6/11/52

SUBJECT: "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI"
by MATT CVETIC
INFORMATION CONCERNING

On June 1, 1952 SAC [Redacted] received an invitation
from the Chamber of Commerce, Delaware, Inc. to attend a
private audition of the Radio Program "I Was A Communist For
The FBI" based upon the work of MATT CVETIC.

The Chamber of Commerce had been asked to sponsor
a 52 week program of this show and invited a small group
to the audition. The comments and advice of those attending
was to be requested.

[Redacted] Chamber of Commerce,
Delaware, was thanked for the invitation, which was respect-
fully declined.

Above for information.

CJF:cm
cc: 66-745

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE: 6/11/52 BY [Redacted]
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Mr. Nicholas
FROM: M. R.

DATE: June 23, 1952

SUBJECT: "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI"
STATION WRC (NBC)
7:00 P.M., 6/23/52

The program tonight, starring Dana Andrews as Matt Cletic, was entitled "Rich Man—Poor Man" and opened at a Communist cell meeting under the direction of David Bowden (phonetic) who announced that the next sucker on the Party list was Jules Jordan, a young, naive millionaire who had only two loves, his wife and his magazine, "Open Thought."

Bowden and Cletic work on Jordan's liberal sympathies and get him to underwrite an organization called "American Liberty Fund," the profits of which go into the Party's coffers. Cletic notified the FBI of this and tells them to await further word from him. Cletic, at Bowden's urging, contacts Jordan and complains because Jordan's editor, Harry Ranier had fired an editorial writer on the magazine named Creuko who has been accused by Ranier of being a Communist.

At dinner on a later date at Jordan's home, Bowden and Cletic incite the enmity of Jordan's wife who believes he is being duped by the Communists. Bowden has microphones in Jordan's office and hears Ranier, the editor, complain about the policy of the magazine, which is slanted more and more in favor of the Communists.

At a Party meeting Bowden reports on the success of the "American Liberty Fund" and orders Cletic to kill Ranier, the editor. Cletic enlists the aid of the FBI. That night Ranier accompanies Cletic in the latter's car as they presumably proceed to Jordan's home. They are, by prearrangement, intercepted by the FBI. Cletic reports back to Bowden and tells him that he, Cletic, has planted false Communist credentials cards in Ranier's desk and then notified the FBI, who now have Ranier in custody.

The scene switches to Jordan's home where he expresses complete shock at the news about Ranier. Jordan agrees, over his wife's vigorous objections, to turn over the job of running his magazine to Bowden and Cletic. The last scene is in the press room of the magazine as Jordan rushes in on Bowden and Cletic, denounces them and relates that his wife has finally opened his eyes.

While the theme of this particular show has some merit, the script was poor and the ending was juvenile in its impact.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Room 5744 ☣ 24, 1952

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Personnel Files Section
Records Section

See Me For appropriate action

Send File Note and Return

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/2/52 BY

Clyde Tolson
Office Memorandum - United States Government

TO: Mr. Nicholas
FROM: M. A. [Redacted]
SUBJECT: "I Was A Communist!" Radio Program

DATE: July 1, 1952

The fourteenth presentation of the radio series "I Was A Communist," in which Dane Andrews portrayed Matt Cuetic, heard on June 30, 1952, over Radio Station WRC, was monitored by Special Agent [Redacted] Crime Records Section.

This episode involved a trip by Cuetic to Canada and successful efforts on his part to uncover a Communist espionage plot in the vicinity of Montreal, Canada. Nothing of an unfavorable nature concerning the FBI was included in this presentation.

The episode began with Cuetic traveling to Canada in the company of a Russian Secret Police Agent, Mr. Milhigh (phonetic). Milhigh had been furnished the name of one Mr. Ferguson by the FBI as a confidential contact in Canada. During the trip Milhigh, in response to a question by Cuetic, startled Cuetic by calling him an FBI Agent. He then made the remark that in the Russian Secret Police work each Agent looked on everyone as a potential FBI Agent.

Upon arrival in Canada, Cuetic contacted Ferguson who told him about an espionage case involving a leak of secret information from the Owlshead Project, a joint Canadian-American guided missile project. Ferguson exhibited pictures of Owlshead workers whom he suspected and further mentioned that Milhigh might be the logical Russian contact man in this case.

While in Canada, Cuetic lived at the Communist Party Headquarters and taught classes in a Communist Party school. He was introduced as the Secretary of the Slav Congress in the United States. At the Party Headquarters he observed a young blond girl whom he suspected of working for the Party. He discovered that this girl was a sister of one Paul Verner, and he recognized Verner as one of the suspected workers at the Owlshead Project. He subsequently ascertained that Verner had been coerced in some way into furnishing plant secrets to the Party and that his sister was acting as his unwilling courier.

He reported this information to Ferguson, and it was planned that the police officials attempt to get Verner to confess by
Memo to Mr. Nichols

July 1, 1952

telling him that his sister had furnished a complete story of their activities.

Under the ruse of taking him to the Communist Party Headquarters, Cuetic got Verner out of the latter's house. They were then surprised by Ferguson and several Canadian policemen. Verner bolted and, in an attempt to escape, jumped into a nearby canal. Cuetic pulled him out and Ferguson and the policemen took him into custody. Verner then made a confession and it was anticipated that he would testify against the Party.

Cuetic proceeded to his Communist Party school and Ferguson and the policemen prepared to raid the Communist Party Headquarters in order to recover the stolen documents and secrets furnished to the Party by Verner.

Cuetic concluded the story with a statement that in his participation in this work he had no recognition and no friends and that he always walked alone.
Your letter of September 12, 1952, has been received.

While I would like to be of service, I regret that the extreme pressure of official duties precludes my complying with your request. In this regard, I thought you might like to know that this Bureau had no connection with the preparation or production of the radio program "I Was a Communist for the FBI."

I do hope you will understand the reason for my inability to respond to your offer.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

cc - Detroit, with copy of incoming

TEB: mad: mmh
September 12, 1952

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On October 5th our station will begin broadcasting the radio program called "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI." starring Dana Andrews. As I am sure you are familiar with this program, you will recall it is a half-hour drama broadcast once a week for 22 weeks.

Just prior to the entire broadcast, we are planning to have a 15-minute program during which leading law enforcement officers of this area will make some remarks about the series and what their agencies do in the fight against the communist mess.

If you could consider it, we would very much like to have you send us either a short recorded message or a written message for us to broadcast during this preliminary program. If you do not wish to mention either the station or the program we would be very pleased just to have a general message from you as to the importance of this fight against communism in which the Federal Bureau of Investigation is one of the nation's leaders.

We are very thankful for any favors you may render in this nature.

With kindest regards,

W. A. Pomeroy, Gen. Manager

W. D. SEP 24 1952

Broadcasting 5000 Watts Daytime - 1000 Watts Night - 1320 K C
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, MOBILE (100-0)
SUBJECT: Radio Program, "I WAS A COMMUNIST SPY FOR THE FBI"

DATE: November 13, 1952

Re SAC letter number 13 (A) dated 2/1/52.

For the information of the Bureau, radio station WABB, Mobile, Alabama, is carrying a weekly broadcast of the program, "I WAS A COMMUNIST SPY FOR THE FBI", which program was begun in Mobile on Wednesday night, November 12, 1952, to run for 52 weeks.

It was brought to the attention of this office on November 17, 1952, that the principal of a local school had urged students and their families to listen to this program, inasmuch as there are 1,000 Communists in Mobile.

Mobile, was contacted November 17, 1952, and advised that she had inserted the following statement in a weekly notice to students of that school:

"COMMUNISM: Tuesday afternoon I heard a preview of the program that will be given over WABB tonight and for fifty-one successive Wednesday nights from 7:30 to 8:00. It is an absolutely TRUE story of FACTS we all should know. The gentleman who explained the program to us said there were one thousand COMMUNISTS in Mobile. We hope you will tune in tonight and every Wednesday night from now on as long as the series lasts."

Mobile explained that she had attended a preview on November 11, 1952, in the studios of radio station WABB and had heard an unidentified man explain this radio program and that this man had said that the program was being put on at the request of an unnamed Government agency. She stated that the man definitely remarked that the program was an "absolutely true story of fact."

The man then went on to say that there are Communists wherever there is a Longshoremen's Union, and that there are more than 1,000 Communists in New Orleans, Louisiana. Mobile stated that she got the impression from the man's statements that there are also 1,000 COMMUNISTS in Mobile.

80-37-66-19 X

RECORDED 39

CC: Cincinnati
    New Orleans
    New York.

DE 9-20-1952

THE X

SECURITY INFORMATION: CONFIDENTIAL
also stated that the man remarked about a recent explosion at the Standard Oil Company Plant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and left the impression that the explosion was Communist inspired.

a FC of this office who is a advised that the identity of the man referred to by is who is a representative of the Frederick W. Ziv Company, Cincinnati, Ohio. (It is noted that reference SAC letter lists the address of this company as New York City.)

advised that he was not present at the time made his appearance in Mobile on November 11, 1952, on behalf of this radio program. was informed by of the following information:

was present at the meeting and introduced Present at this meeting were representatives of various schools and civic clubs in Mobile. According to the statement that the American Legion had made a survey of the Communist situation in the Gulf Coast Region and that the head of the American Legion in the State of Louisiana had told that there are 1,000 card carrying Communists in Mobile, Alabama. Allegedly went on to say that the city of Mobile is very important to the Communists and that the 1,000 members are not active now but will be active in the event of hostilities.

advised that he ascertained that is presently in New Orleans, Louisiana, arranging to put on this same radio program in the City of New Orleans and that headquarters is in Cincinnati, Ohio.

It is pointed out that no representative of this office was in attendance at the meeting referred to on November 11, 1952, and that each person who has made any reference to this program has been forcefully advised that the Bureau has not had and does not intend to have any connection with this radio program.

The above is being called to the Bureau's attention pursuant to existing instruction and no specific action will be taken in connection with this matter unless advised by the Bureau.
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, CINCINNATI (80-0)

DATE: 11/18/52

SUBJECT: "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE FBI"

Radio Station WING, 121 North Main Street, Dayton, Ohio, furnished the attached format of the above captioned radio program to SAC on September 18, 1952. SAC advised SAC on November 7, 1952, that the above mentioned format was used in selling the program at Dayton. The program will be carried over Dayton radio station WING for 52 weeks starting on November 19, 1952. It will be a half hour program based upon 52 experiences of MATTHEW CvETIC. The program will be sponsored by business, labor and industry through the American Legion at Dayton, Ohio.

The format is enclosed for the information of the Bureau.

HDS: REC

(1) enclosure (FM)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
ENCLOSURE TO BUREAU:

1 format re Radio Program
'I WAS A COMMunist FOR THE FED'

11/18/52
CIN. 80-0

ALL INFORMATION OBTAINED
ILLEGIBLE
DATE 8/31/50

ENCLOSURE
Proposed plan of programing and promotion of the radio show "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I." and the plans of the Montgomery county American Legion Post's, represented by the Montgomery County Un-American Activities Committee of the American Legion Council.

The following plans and information are the results of the Un-American Activities Committee meetings of July 30, and August 13, 1952, pertaining to the promotion and the plans of the radio show "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I.", and the related program of the American Legion in connection with their National program fighting Communism.

The information contained here-in is to be considered confidential, and is prepared for the American Legion, Sponsor of the program, and selected persons responsible for the production of the proposed plans.

Dayton, Ohio
September 1, 1952
SPONSORSHIP

"I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I."

1. Sponsors of the show will be Industry, and business firms in the Montgomery County.

2. Each program will cost $250.00.

3. Industries and business firms may purchase as many programs as they desire. However, it is the desire of the committee to have one sponsor for each program, a total of fifty two.

4. The show will be announced to the public with the following line: "Your American Legion presents "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I." made possible thru the combined efforts of industry, and business in the Montgomery County! This line will also be used in closing of the show and other forms of promotion.

5. Sponsors will be asked to conform with the statements set forth in the AGREEMENT FORM provided for the sponsor and the committee. This AGREEMENT contains all provisions for protection for the sponsor and the committee, as well as other parties concerned, per this plan.

6. Two sponsors may share one program, but no more than two, and any industry or business having more than two shows, may be asked to release a show or show's for the sponsorship by other industry or businesses.

7. Sponsors will not be permitted to use regular forms of advertising...all copy must be limited to public relations, or public service statements, and follow the general theme of the plan.

8. Sponsors will be urged to participate in the radio, T.V., Newspaper, and other forms of promotion, as well as scheduled meetings of the American Legion.

10. Sponsors are invited to attend the regular weekly meetings of the Un-American Activities Committee at studio "B" Radio station WING above Loew's theater, each Thursday evening at 8:00 PM. Contact Darby Nelson at AD 3288 or RA 9369, for any information not contained here-in.
UNAMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL
"I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I."

____ day of _____, 1952.

The ______________________, located in the City of ____________, Montgomery County, Ohio, does hereby promise and agree to sponsor ___(number) of radio programs of "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I." to be aired over Radio Station WING of Dayton, Ohio, as scheduled and promoted in accordance with the Unamerican Activities Committee, of the Montgomery County Council of the American Legion. The aforesaid Company agrees to pay for said program or programs, at the rate of Two Hundred Fifty ($250.00) Dollars per half-hour program and agrees to pay the total sum of ________________ Dollars for ______ one-half hour programs, said payment shall be made on or before the ____ day of ________, 1952.

In the event that said program or programs are for any reason not broadcast, the Unamerican Activities Committee of the Montgomery County Council of the American Legion and Radio Station WING of Dayton, Ohio, will not be liable under this contract and are released from any obligation herein other than refunding the payments made.

Committee Representative
Per This Agreement

Signed ___________________
Title ___________________
Per ___________________
RADIO PROGRAMING OF

"I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I.

1. The first program will be broadcast over Radio station WING on Monday Night October 6, at o'clock. The initial program will be presented as part of the ceremonies at the premiere performance on Oct. 6, at the Biltmore Hotel Ballroom.

2. The second program, and the following fifty one, will be aired each week at top-rated listing times, as indicated by standard Radio surveys, for this area. The program will be aired for a second time each week, pointed to the listeners who are unable to hear the program at the regular scheduled time.

3. Each program will be available to American Legion Posts following the regular broadcast, to be used in the plans related to the various posts in special presentations at public gatherings, regular scheduled meetings of civic groups within the scope of each post.

4. Transcribed copies of each program will be made available to each sponsor, on request, for special presentation at the sponsor may desire.

5. The program will be scheduled for special broadcast whenever the need arise, i.e., Flag Day, Independence Day, and etc.
GENERAL FORMAT OF RADIO PROGRAM:

"I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I."

Open with the American Legion March: _______SEC.

Music down and under:

ANN: The American Legion of Montgomery County, in its fight against communism, and other un-American activities, present, thru the sponsorship of business and industry. . . . . "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I."

Music up for ______SEC. Down and under ______SEC AND OUT.

ANN: Tonight the American Legion is proud to salute (Sponsors name) for their contribution in the crusade for a better America. . . . . and a fight against communism. . . . . Here is Legionaire_______ representing post_______ to introduce tonight's speaker.

Legionaire: Good evening ladies and gentlemen, this is Legionaire _________. Tonight is is my honor to present Mr. _______ of the _______ who is your sponsor of tonight's program "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I." And now here is Mr. _______ with a personal message for you.

Sponsor: Two-minute message.

Legionaire: Thank you Mr. _________, and now back to your announcer and the program of "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I."

Legion March music up for ______sec. and out.

FIRST PORTION OF PROGRAM: ......ZIV ET...... "I WAS A COM."

LEGIONAIRE: Two-Minute Message: PREPARED

SECOND PORTION OF PROGRAM: . . . . ZIV ET. . . . "I WAS A COM."

LEGIONAIRE: LISTEN again at _________ for a re-broadcast of tonight's program, and check your newspaper for time and schedule of other weekly American Legion radio programs. This is Legionaire_______ of post_______ returning you to your announcer.

Music American Legion March_______ Sec. down and under

ANN: You have just heard the ______ program of the Montgomery County American Legion and its fight against Communism, made possible thru the combined efforts of business and industry. Listen again next week and every week for this thrilling story of
Fifteen Minute Special Program:

1. Title of program..."LEGION CURSADE"
2. Time of program.....Friday evening...7:15 or etc.
3. Programed at peak listing time.
4. Featuring American Legion.....Sponsors....special guests, local and national leaders.
5. Sample Format:
   Open with American Legion March______Sec: down and under
   Ann: Presenting a special fifteen minutes of the most important program of the Montgomery.....the American Legion Cursade.....Here is your speaker for this evenings show.....legionaire

Legionaire: Introduces program and the general theme of the program.

6. These programs will feature:
   a. Round table talks
   b. Prepared talks on fight against communism.
   c. Special messages from sponsors
   d. Legion activities.
   e. Information for public regards communist activities and the counter measures planned.
   f. Release of information from governement agencies and other sources.
   g. Each program to be conducted by one of the American Legion Posts in the County, on a rotating basis.

7. WING will schedule other regular broadcast of the general activities of the American Legion, and other special ceromones through out the fifty two week program.
SPECIAL RADIO PROMOTION
OF
"I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I."

1. Radio station WING will use a minimum of twenty spot announcements each week, promoting the show, the American Legion, sponsors, and the fight against communism.

2. WING will make available to the American Legion, industry and business, a five minute, six day a week, news program with special announcements promoting the show, sponsors, and the American Legion.

3. WING will make available to the American Legion, a weekly fifteen minute program, where by each Post will take turn in presenting a special program of their own pointed to the promotion of the over-all program in their fight against communism, with the invited participation of the sponsors.

4. WING will use their regular mailing list for promotion, and other standard promotion methods.

5. The newspapers will lend their support in promotion of the plan and the concentrated fight against communism.

6. WING will broadcast the entire proceedings of the premiere performance, the banquet, and the other activities on October 6.
Radio Promotion for program

"I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I."

1. Five minute News cast:
   a. Six per week...Monday thru Friday
   b. Preceeded and followed by special announcements and messages of the American Legion, Sponsor, and promotion of the Program "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I."
   c. This news cast as well as others will broadcast regular Associated Press releases on communist activities, when available.

2. Sample Program:

ANN: Here is the four o'clock news...brought to you by the American Legion, thru the sponsorship of business and industry, in the Montgomery County.

   One minute message:

Ann: And now here is the news.......etc etc etc

ANN: This has been five minutes of the latest AP News brought to you thru the combined efforts of business and industry, and the Montgomery County American Legion. Listen for the sensational program of Matt Cvetic, Staring Dana Andrews, this at "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I."

SAMPLE RADIO SPOT ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Spot announcements will be scheduled at selected times each week.

2. WING will use a minumim of twenty spots weekly.

3. Spots will be programed at the top-rated radio programs according to standard radio surveys.

4. The sponsor of that weeks program, will be honored on each announcement, in the build up of the copy.

5. Refer to the Frederic Ziv portfolio for sample announcements.

6. The publicity committee of the Un-American Activities committee will release the initial promotion not later than September 15, and step the activities up one week prior to Oct. 5, the "D" Day for The premiere.
Schedule of the premiere

1. Monday October 6, 1952 will be known as "D" Day for The American Legion's Plan of combating communism.

2. NOON LUNCHEON, AND PRESS CONFERENCE:
   a. Place.....determined at later date.
   b. All principle guests.....press.....radio.....T.V.

3. Motor-cade will leave from the Biltmore Hotel at 5:00 PM, containing principle guests.....proceed to soldiers monument for special ceromonies.
   a. WING will broadcast from the Biltmore prior to departure of motor-cade, and from the Soldiers monument.

4. Motor-cade will return to Biltmore, after ceromonies, with special interview at Biltmore intrence on Main st of principle guests.

5. At 5:30PM, during part of the special ceromonies at the Soldiers monument, aircraft from Vandalia, WPAFB, the Ohio National Guard, and others will fly over the Ceromonies and Dayton.

6. The American Legion, and other bands will participate in the ceromonies.

7. The banquet will be seated at 6:60 PM in the two ballrooms at the Biltmore Hotel.

8. Speaches will follow the banquet.

9. The official program of "I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I." will be aired at 9:00 PM.

10. Banquets will be promoted in each town and township through out the Montgomery County, by the American Legion, and other civic groups, and will be able to hear the entire proceedings from the Biltmore, thru special radio hook-ups.
Following is a list of the names and address of the American Legion UN*American Activities Committee, and the officers, and committee’s mf appointed.

Program for presentation of special material for the American Legion, and other related programs will be prepared by [redacted] and other selected members of the committee. They can be contacted at [redacted] on request.

Sponsors will be sent copies of the special material on completion and other data, pertaining to the over all plan as it develops.

Sponsors are urged to consider this material confidential, and ask that it be used only with the expressed consent of the committee.

WILL YOU PLEASE, MR SPONSOR, ATTEND OUR REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS AS OUR GUESTS, OR ASSIGN A MEMBER OF YOUR COMPANY TO ATTEND.
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a former Special Agent, I know you are always interested in statements made by the press and radio concerning the FBI.

Station KNEB, Beatrice, Nebraska. Each Sunday afternoon he gives a short narration on some matter of public interest. Attached is a copy of a narration delivered shortly before the recent election, which includes several comments concerning your organization.

I should like to again commend you and your organization on the fine job you are doing.

Sincerely,

[Redacted]
This is your Musical Album...a weekly feature of the Beatrice Steel Tank Mfg. Company and its subsidiary, Tote System Incorporated with music selected expressly for your Sunday afternoon listening pleasure.

The word safety has a multitude of meanings...on our highways we spend millions of dollars yearly to have the highways patrolled, to erect signs with the speed limit noted...the curves...the intersections...with automatic signals at well-travelled intersections so as to regulate the traffic...and you can probably think of many other means by which traffic is regulated...

In industry, large expenditures are also common...to insure the safety of the workers...to prevent them from being entangled in some of the moving parts of the machinery...or by putting railings on stairs and teaching the employees the use of fire extinguishers to properly fight fires...and other ways and means to prevent them from losing work days...and their income...and also their health...

In schools we've done the same...the children are given fire drills so that in the event of a fire...they may be taken out of the building in an orderly fashion...and by signs on bulletin boards in all schools safety is always in the minds of the teachers...and wherever you might go in this great land of ours, we are constantly talking about safety...how vicious the lack of safety is...it takes untold lives each and every day...on the
farm...many men lose arms or hands and fingers...and in some instances...their lives in the use of the farm implements...This is all a part of a plan to maintain ourselves and our country as they great country it is.

And yet...we've become a little curious about what steps are being taken for the safety of our government...we all know that we have one of the finest law enforcement and investigation departments in the world...the Federal Bureau of Investigation...the FBI as it's called and under its director it has attained a position of eminence even in the minds of the criminals because they are afraid...they know what it can do...but frequently we learn that this wonderful organization has had its effectiveness somewhat abated because somewhere along the path, some political intrigue has made it necessary to prevent the FBI from going on its unfettered way...this in itself is wrong...the more this splendid organization can have a freedom to operate in its own way, the more safe we will all be...whether it be from enemies foreign or domestic...and tho' we don't know the overall function of this organization, we can rest assured that all investigations are done with the proper procedure...certainly not that of a police state...where one is taken out of his bed in the dead of the night and thrown into prison...no, that is not the way of the FBI...similarly, when the FBI has completed its investigation...then the Justice Department takes over and the person is given a trial...this is not the way of the police state...in such a
state, there are no trials...but nonetheless, even in the Justice Department we've all known of a change in the procedure at times, depending on the defendant...who he is...
immediately of course the press and radio commentators, say that's politics...that it's just a condition that does exist...
but since we all know that it exists, why don't we do something about it...this involves the safety of our country. it doesn't matter whether the enemy be foreign or domestic...the individual is still an enemy...and should be treated as such...
The first reaction from all of us who make up the electorate, is "well, just what can I do about it", and the answer is plenty...
First you can write, wire or phone your congressman and senator and for that matter the president...have you any idea what an impact twenty million telegrams would make on a resident. If in the Kansas City election fraud, the president would have received that many, you can wager there wouldn't have been any hushing up of that scandal...also when the Communists have been investigated, and the "Red Herring" sign was put on these investigations, no resident would go against even five million letters or telegrams, the he wouldn't have right or the intestinal fortitude to do so...
Remember the power you hold in your vote and a little message with your signature on it...it has all the power...now, also, what you can do about it...in the second place, let's be a little more realistic about electing our officials...some of these men who are running for office would allow them to run your business that was was worth, say...in round figures, five million dollars...?
Put the question in that light...this government of ours is your business, and its worth a lot more than five million, or five billion or five trillion...the freedoms and liberties we enjoy have monetary values...by that we mean you just can't put a monetary value on them...because if you don't have...as many people in the world don't...no amount of money regardless of how large can get them back...

As your individual stake in this country...you have a billion dollars invested...a billion dollars, or a trillion dollars invested in freedom and liberty...are you going to let someone run that business who doesn't know how to run a business...the safety of our government is in the hands of the people we elect as our representatives and we must know how effective they are...how efficient they are...we must know more about their morale fibre and their integrity...the past few years have proven to all of us that we simply can't take in anybody for officials in our government...

Please...we beg of you all...anyone who has reached the legal voting age...become informed before you vote...don't go to your appointed polling place and mark an "X" indiscriminately...you must...you must know about these individuals before you get there so you know for whom and for what you are voting...the safety of our government...your government is being held in that balance...
November 28, 1952

Dear [Redacted]

I have received your letter of November 23, 1952, in which you enclosed a copy of comments which were made just prior to the recent election.

It is naturally very gratifying to receive such a report and I very much appreciate your continued interest in our work.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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NOTE: [Redacted]  Former SA  

A letter dated 5-9-52 from an interested sponsor for the production of an "authentic document" by the FBI, advising that he was interested in securing a connection with either the FBI or [Redacted] production of this material. The letter is not otherwise identifiable in Bureau files.
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Date March 16, 1953 Time 7:30 PM

[Redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

When advised of the Director's absence from the office, [redacted] asked that the following message be given to Mr. Hoover:

He stated he was a friend of Mr. Hoover's and his address is [redacted] here in the city.

He said he was listening to the program "I Was A Communist for the FBI" and he thinks it is a recorded program and does not follow the script as originally written. He further stated that it is not giving the United States any break and he would like to have the script checked by the FBI. He said the program is obviously infiltrated.

He stated he would call in the morning as he would like to talk to Mr. Hoover about this.

A check of the personal files and the Bureau files failed to give any information on [redacted].
Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI
FROM: SAC, New Orleans (62-0-9161)
SUBJECT: MATTHEW CVETIC, aka Matt Cvetic
INFORMATION CONCERNING

The following is furnished for the information of the Bureau:

The April 26, 1953, issue of the New Orleans Item, a daily newspaper, Column 4, Page 11, reported that the captioned individual would come to New Orleans on Monday, April 27, 1953, to deliver a series of lectures under the auspices of Radio Station WDSU, New Orleans. The article stated that the appearance of CVETIC here is in connection with a radio series, "I Was A Communist For the FBI," which will be broadcast over WDSU radio next month.

RFC:mas

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE: 01 MAY 1953

78 MAY 7-1953
Mr. G. Edgar Hoover,
Director Federal Bureau Investigation,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

While listening to the program "I was a Communist for the F.B.I.", over Radio Station CKJW on June 7th at 6:30 P.M., several of the narrators referred to the Communists as

Now, I happen to be my family name and is of DUTCH origin and has been traced as far back as possible and are informed it is a DUTCH family name of ancient origin and has no established meaning except as "raped" by certain American Cartoonists and commentators and used in slang form.

The word was first used by a "crack-brained" cartoonist in the early 30's who had invented a new word. At first it appeared as only ridiculous, but of late has become seriously annoying having nitwits call us at 3 P.M. and wise cracking. How would you feel, were you in our place?

The narrator stated that all names and places were fictitious but as you can see the name is very much real.

Will you kindly see that all future radio or T.V. programs using F.B.I. material, delete the name [redacted] from it's identification of characters. We have no objection to the name [redacted] being used provided it is identified in it's true character.

Thanking you in advance for any courtesies extended, I am

Very truly yours,
June 16, 1953

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for the interest which prompted your letter of June 9, 1953.

While I can understand your concern in this matter, I regret that I cannot be of service. I thought you might like to know that the FBI has never had, and does not at present have any connection with the program "if you have a Communist in the FBI," and, therefore, can exercise no control over the material used on that program.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED TO
JUN 18 1953
COMM. FBI

198
On 7/17/53 at 12:00 Midnight a radio announcer on Station KOVO, Provo, Utah, was overheard describing feature programs for the coming week and in calling attention to the above program he made a statement to the effect that the program was based on material from the official files of the FBI.

SA... on my instructions contacted the Manager of Radio Station KOVO and ascertained that the announcer on that occasion was... who advised that he might have made a statement to the effect that the program was based on material from the files of the FBI that he knew the program was not actually based on FBI files and that any misstatement was made through carelessness. He advised that he regretted the misstatement that he had made and in the future would do no "ad libbing" concerning this program but would use records or disks furnished by the producers of the program. He stated that while in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II he had spent many months at Quantico and had a great respect for the FBI and would not intentionally make any incorrect statement concerning the Bureau.

Kovo, advised that he had instructed... not to do any further "ad libbing" concerning the program.

From the way the announcement was made there could be no question but that anyone hearing it would receive the definite impression that the program was prepared from the official files of the Bureau. I do not believe that... will repeat the mistake and it is indicated that it was a careless mistake. I do not believe any further action should be taken in the matter and no further action will be taken by this office.
AMARILLO TEX OCT 20

J EDGAR HOOVER

FED BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

I WAS A COMMUNIST FOR THE F.B.I.

MAX F CVEVIC

KINDLY ADVISE ME BY TELEGRAM COLLECT IF THERE'S ANY
AUTHENTICITY ON THE MAX CVEVIC PROGRAM. I'VE HEARD,
THIS PROGRAM FOR MONTHS AND HOW LONG CAN A JEW GET IN
SO MUCH TROUBLE THAT WE HAVE TO LISTEN TO IT WEEK BY
WEEK

10-21-53
3A OCT 21..
To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

OCTOBER 21, 1953

COLLECT DEFERRED

TRANSMIT THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO:

00-371244-26

UNABLE TO ANSWER YOUR INQUIRY OF OCTOBER TWENTY AS THE FBI HAS NEVER HAD ANY CONNECTION WITH THE RADIO PROGRAM YOU MENTION.

SINCERELY YOURS,

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ELT:grs:bnl-br

NOTE: Reply based on instructions contained in SAC Letter #52-13.
Address per telephone directory.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE: 12/23/53

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 22 1953

WESTERN UNION

63 NOV 19 1953

SENT VIA

35%