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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JOSEPHINE BAKER

PART 1 OF 2

BUFILE: 62-95834



Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

Subject of Request: JOSEPHINE BAKER

FOIPA No. _____ /190-_____

Dear :

Enclosed are copies of documents from FBI records. Excisions have been made to protect information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 and/or Section 552a. In addition, where excisions were made, the appropriate exempting subsections have been cited opposite the deletions. Where pages have been withheld in their entirety, a deleted page information sheet has been substituted showing the reasons or basis for the deletion. The subsections cited for withholding information from the enclosed documents are marked below:

Section 552

Section 552a

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(1) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A) | <input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(2) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B) | <input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(3) <u>26 (USC) 6103</u> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1) |
| _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2) |
| _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(3) |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(6) | | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7) |

(See Form 4-694a, enclosed for an explanation of these exemptions.)

Pursuant to your request, 615 page(s) were reviewed and 359 page(s) are being released.

During the review of material pertinent to the subject of your request, documents were located which

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

FBI/DOJ

FILE DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT JOSEPHINE BAKER

FILE NUMBER 62-95834

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

Transmit the following message

[REDACTED] (S)

CABLEGRAM

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

SECRET

JOSEPHINE BAKER, SPECIAL INQUIRY. SUBMIT ALL INFORMATION YOUR
FILES [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (S) BAKER AMERICAN BORN NEGRESS, NIGHTCLUB ENTERTAINER
IN FRANCE SINCE NINETEEN TWENTY FIVE, MARRIED TO DOUGLASS,
ORCHESTRA LEADER, PRESENTLY IN UNITED STATES. URGENT
IMMEDIATELY.

CC FOREIGN SERVICE DESK

DJS

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/SL

DATE OF REVIEW

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Enc. MSC 0215-0245

CK IB
340-1410

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

65

SENT VIA cable

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

[REDACTED] (S) 950

Per [REDACTED]

bl

b7c

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Laughlin _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/psk

DATE OF REVIEW QADR 9/1/82 b1

[REDACTED] RECEIVED VIA THE
STATE DEPARTMENT. (s)

URGENT

JOSEPHINE BAKER, SPECIAL INQUIRY. REBUCABLE TODAY.

[REDACTED] (s)
b1
per
State
Dept.

ROLLAND O. L'ALLIER

RECEIVED: b1 [REDACTED] (s)

5:00 PM MW

RECORDED - 562 - 95834 - 2

[REDACTED] (s)
cc: Mr. Bishop
Mr. Ferris

[REDACTED] (s)

b1

R

DO-4

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Laughlin
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Mohr
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

November 5, 1951

Jo Baker

The attached letters were sent in by Walter Winchell. They concern Josephine Baker, the colored singer who was recently involved in the incident at the Stork Club.

Concerning the top letter, which is from one [redacted] and [redacted] alleges that he saw Josephine Baker in Leningrad, as a guest of the Soviet Union, in 1936, Mr. Winchell states: "Hoover, can we check this please?"

Attachments
eff

[redacted]

[redacted]

see reply

*no answer required
11/12*

*b7c
7644 2*

6 ENQ

RECORDED - 5

162-95834-3

NOV 14 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/4/82 BY SP-1 GSK/JSR

50 DEC 6 1951

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

-76

Room 4236, 1951

645
646
647

Director 5633 Mr. Newman 5524
 Tolson 5744 Mr. Renneberger
 Ladd 5736 B-114
 Belmont 1742 Mr. Rogers 5228
 Clegg 5256 Mr. Sizoo 7204
 Glavin 5517 Mr. Trotter 7204
 Harbo 7625 Mr. Wick 5640
 Nichols 5640 Records Section
 Rosen 5706 Personnel Files
 Tracy 4130IB Mail Room 5533
 Miss Gandy 5633 Supply Room B118
 Holloman 5636 Tours 5627
 Leonard 6222IB Reading Rm. 5531
 McGuire 5640 Photo Lab. 7620
 Mohr 5744 Miss _____
 Nease 5633 Room _____

CRIME RECORDS SECTION

r. Jones _____ Call Me
 r. Bishop _____ See Me
 r. Carroll _____ APPROPRIATE ACTION
 r. Carter _____ NOTE & RETURN
 r. Dalbey _____ SERIALIZE & RETURN
 r. Hart _____ Room 4240
 r. Kemper _____ Miss Copeland
 r. Nagel _____ Mr. Coppel
 r. Stukenbroeker _____ Mrs. Isles
 r. Suttler _____ Miss McNally
 r. Youngblood _____ Miss O'Briant
 r. _____ Miss Qualls
 Miss _____ Miss Reichert
 _____ Mrs. Stadel

INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RJK

Crime Records Section

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

November 26, 1951

38921

From Walter Winchell

Mr. Tolson ✓
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols ✓
 Mr. Belmont ✓
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Laughlin _____
 Mr. Jones _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Holmes _____
 Miss Gandy _____

[Handwritten signature]

b7c

Attachment
arm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RJK

[Handwritten notes]
 Ack
 November 27
 SP-1

b7c

[Redacted]

Monday
October 29th, 1951

Dear W. W. (Walter Winchell)

Just read your column on J. B. (Josephine Baker) in today's Daily Mirror, in your last paragraph Mr. Rayburn gives a summation of J. B.'s attitude in the year 1935. In 1936 I visited Leningrad from Helsinki, Finland on a 3 day visit. The month was June "I think"? Anyhow the correct dates on, still on, the U.S.S.R. visa issued in Helsinki on my old passport, a British passport, I'm a Scotchman. Well I wandered into the Russian bar at the hotel one night of the 3 I was there & who was the "Big Shot" of the evening, surrounded by Red Commisars & French Reds, & actually singing & drinking with them to her heart's content, but J. B. The only colored person there. She came to the U.S.S.R. with a large group of French Reds, who in 1936 were being rewarded by the Politbureau for their work in the French Elections that year by a free trip to the U.S.S.R. "as guests of the Soviet Union." If you with your connections "check up" you will probably find J. B. is just a highly colored copy & a poor one at that, of Mati Hari. But still doing her stuff for Uncle Joe. The Reds wined & dined her no end & were laughing up their sleeves at her, as they have no Negroes in the U.S.S.R. she was just a novelty, & a good stooge. Looks to me she is still following the line everywhere she goes.

Sorry she implicated you Walter, but that might have been one of her assignments? You know how the Reds "love you."

Sincerely,

[Redacted]

b7c

COPY-eff

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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/10/92 BY SP-1 AS/BJP

NOV 14 1951 38922

W.H. This please?

DEAR W.W.

Just hand you ~~the~~ J.B. in today's
Daily MIRROR, in your last paragraph Mr Raymond gives a
summation of J.B's attitude in the year 1935, in 1936
I visited LENINGRAD FROM HELSINKI, FINLAND ON A
3 DAY VISIT, THE MONTH WAS JUNE "I THINK"? ANYHOW
THE CORRECT DATES ON, STILL ON, THE U.S.S.R. VISA ISSUED
IN HELSINKI ON MY U.S. PASSPORT, A BRITISH PASSPORT,
IN A SCOTCHMAN, WELL I WANDERED INTO THE RUSSIAN
BAR AT THE HOTEL ONE NIGHT OF THE 3 I WAS THERE
& WHO HAS THE "BIG SHOT" OF THE EVENING, SUR-
ROUNDED BY RED COMMISSARS & FRENCH REDS,
& NOTABLY DRINKING WITH THEM TO HER
HEARTS CONTENT BUT J.B. THE ONLY COLORED
PERSON THERE. SHE CAME TO THE U.S.S.R WITH A LARGE
GROUP OF FRENCH REDS, WHO IN 1936 WERE BEING REWARDED
BY THE POLITBUREAU FOR THEIR WORK IN THE FRENCH
ELECTIONS THAT YEAR BY A FREE TRIP TO THE U.S.S.R.
"AS GUESTS OF THE SOVIET UNION" IF YOU WITH YOUR
CONNECTIONS "CHECK UP" YOU WILL PROBABLY FIND J.B. IS
JUST A HIGHLY COLORED COPY, & A POOR ONE AT THAT
OF MATI HARI. BUT STILL DOING HER STUFF FOR
VINCE J.C. - THE REDS NINED & DINED HER NO END &
WERE LAUGHING UP THEIR SLEEVES AT HER, AS THEY HAVE
NO NEGROES IN THE U.S.S.R. SHE WAS JUST A NOVELTY, &
A GOOD STOOGUE, LOOKS TO ME SHE IS STILL FOLLOWING
THE LINE EVERYWHERE SHE GOES -
SORRY SHE IMPLICATED YOU WALTER, BUT LAST NIGHT
HAVE BEEN ONE OF HER ASSIGNMENTS? YOU KNOW THE
REDS "LOVE YOU"
Sincerely
[Redacted]

RECORDED - 5 62-95834-3

NOV 14 1951

W.H. [Signature]

Hotel New Yorker

Monday AM

Dear Mr. Winchell,

At 57 this happens to be my first letter to Press etc. etc.

Re-Jos. Baker business, you are now on right tract. J.B. is a #1 phoney as you knew all along. I was surprized that it took you so long to collect your wits this time. Don't slip.

b7C
[REDACTED] and have lived in Brunswick, Ga. my entire life. Our population happens to be unusual, 50% white, 50% colored. It's one of the few communities in U.S. not counting Talmadge, Rep. (He has yet to get a majority vote out of our county, neither has _____).

We have never had a race riot, lynching or trouble of any sort, thought you'd be interested in this --- BUT!

We also (Jews I mean now) have the famous "Cloister" hotel at our famous Sea Island, which is definitely restricted to Jews. Of course the dining rooms & club rooms are open to the public, but from what I understand the service is also slow. Of course or should I say I have yet to patronize their public rooms.

But I have tried several times to get a reservation at the Stork Club and they are always "So Solly." Aren't you hanging out at the wrong Bistro???? Forgot to mentio I'm supposed to be a nice Jew.

b7C
[REDACTED]
Brunswick, Ga.

COPY-eff

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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP 1084/PSK

dining room & club rooms
are open to the public. But
from I understand the
service is also slow -
Of course or should I say
I have yet to patronize
their public rooms.
But I have tried
several times to get a
reservation at the Stork
Club and they are always
"So Solly". Aren't you
hanging out at the
Wholly Beatro???. Forget
to mention I'm supposed to
be a nice Jew. [REDACTED]

BP



Monday
7 AM

HOTEL NEW YORKER

THIRTY-FOURTH STREET AT FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/10/00 BY SP-10/BJP

Dear Mr. Michael
This happens to be
my first letter to
you etc etc -
Re. Joo. Baker
Business you are now
on right tract
is a #, Philip
you knew all along

ENCLOSURE
162-98134-3
NOV 4 1967
RECORDED - 5
107
STAPLE

not counting ³ Talmadge Rep-
" has got to get a majority vote
out of our county, Georgia (as far as)
we have never had

a race riot, lynching or
trouble of any sort. I
thought you'd be interested
in this — But!

We also (just I mean
"non") have the famous
"Coister" Hotel at our famous
Sea Island — which is
definitely restricted to
Jews — of course the

I was surprised that
it took you so long to
collect by our Wets this
time — Don't slip —

[Redacted]

and have lived in
Dunwoody, Ga my entire
life — Our population
happens to be unusual
50% white 50% colored,
the one of the few
communities in U.S.

BC

Springfield, Mass.

October 28, 1951

Dear Walter Winchell,

I have always considered you to be a good judge of character, and after reading your Sunday column on my notorious countrywoman, Jo Baker, I am convinced of it. It was good to see that you had seen right through her race hating campaign. She professes to want to help our race, and yet she calmly goes about destroying the little progress made toward better race relations. It seems that instead of aiding our race, she is instead just stirring up every little incident that could possibly be interpreted as racial. Not to say that she should sit by while Negroes are insulted, but it does seem funny that no matter where she goes, some white person always picks her out to abuse. If she is so terribly anxious to do something about racial prejudice, why doesn't she join the various colored organizations or contribute to our charities? Maybe she does, but I've never heard of it. Her chief ambition in life seems to be to make fabulous salaries, wear priceless gowns, marry European counts and arrest Texans for supposedly calling her a nigger. It made me sick to read how she had gone to France and depicted us as near slaves in this wonderful country of ours. I know there is still a lot to be desired in the treatment of Negroes, but her running to Paris to be "treated like a human being" isn't helping any. Why couldn't she stay here and fight like millions of other Negroes are doing? My mother says that years ago when she saw Jo Baker perform in New York, her act was so immoral that its no wonder they "panned" her. I know she has come a long way from what she was, but from what I've read, she had no scruples about how she got there either. If she loves Paris so much, why didn't she stay over there and "live like a human being"? Since all Negroes can't afford Parisienne hospitality, we'll just have to stay here and improve our country. When Miss Baker forced Miami Club owners to admit Negroes while she was acting there, it probably never occurred to her that the minute she left, the barriers would again be resumed. Most of my race don't want to be "tolerated." All we ask is a fair chance to prove ourselves. I suggest Jo Baker copy our Negro celebrities like Ray Robinson, Lena Horne, Duke Ellington and others. Of course if she can't stand this wicked treatment, she can always go back to her beloved France, and good riddance.

Sincerely yours,

A colored student

COPY-eff

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GSE/PC

Springfield, Mass
October 28, 1951

Dear Walter Winchell,

I have always considered you to be a good judge of character, and after reading your Sunday column on my notorious countrywoman, Jo Baker, I am convinced of it. It was good to see that you had seen right through her race hating campaign. She professes to want to help our race, and yet she calmly goes about destroying the little progress made toward better race relations. It seems that instead of aiding our race, she is instead just stirring up every little incident that could possibly be interpreted as racial. Not to say that she should sit by while Negroes are insulted, but it does seem funny that no matter where she goes, some white person always picks her out to abuse. If she is so terribly anxious to do something about racial prejudice, why doesn't she join the various colored organizations or contribute to our charities? Maybe she does, but I've never heard of it. Her chief ambition in life seems to be to make fabulous salaries, wear purple lace gowns, marry European counts and arrest tens for supposedly calling her a nigger. It made me sick to read how she had gone to France and depicted us as near slaves in

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DATE 8/22/82 BY SP-10/BJA

RECORDED 62-95834-11
NOV 24 1951

this wonderful country of ours. I know there is still a lot to be desired in the treatment of Negroes, but her meaning to Paris to be "treated like a human being" isn't helping any. Why couldn't she stay here and fight like millions of other Negroes are doing? My mother says that years ago when she saw Jo Baker perform in New York, her act was so immoral that it's no wonder they "panned" her. I know she has come a long way from what she was, but from what I've read, she had no scruples about how she got there either. If she loves Paris so much, why didn't she stay over there and "live like a human being"? Since all Negroes can't afford Parisienne hospitality, we'll just have to stay here and improve our country. When Miss Baker forced Miami Club owners to admit Negroes while she was acting there, it probably never occurred to her that the minute she left, the barriers would again be resumed. Most of my race don't want to be "tolerated". All we ask is a fair chance to prove ourselves. I suggest Jo Baker copy our Negro celebrities like Ray Robinson, Lena Horne, Duke Ellington and others. Of course if she can't stand this wicked treatment, she can always go back to her beloved France, and good riddance.

Sincerely yours.

A colored student

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: November 2, 1951

FROM : D. M. Ladd

~~SECRET~~

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER

CLASS. BY SP-10 S/L

PURPOSE:

DATE OF REVIEW

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

To advise you, pursuant to your request, of information appearing in our files relative to Josephine Baker, Negro singer and entertainer.

SCOPE OF SEARCH:

In the preparation of this memorandum Baker's name was searched through the single initial and with a combination of the first name with various middle names and initials. Baker's known married names were also searched. The search was not limited to locality and included a search of both criminal and subversive references.

PERSONAL HISTORY:

According to the April 2, 1951, issue of "Life" magazine, Josephine Baker is the daughter of a St. Louis, Missouri, Negro washer woman. This article stated that Baker, who as of the time of the article, was alleged to be 45 years of age, began her Paris night club career in 1925, and has spent most of her life since that time in France.

This "Life" article further stated that Baker was reported to have at one time been married to a Negro tap dancer and supposedly married one Pepito Albertino in the 1920's. In 1937, Baker gave up her United States citizenship and married a French broker by the name of Jean Lion. This marriage was dissolved by a divorce in 1940. Baker married her present husband, a Frenchman, band leader Jo Boullion, in 1947.

According to the March 12, 1951, issue of "Time" magazine, Baker has been a French citizen since 1937, and during the occupation of France by the Germans, during World War II, spent her time in North Africa. This article further stated that while in North Africa, Baker became a Lieutenant in the Free French Air Force, did intelligence work, drove an ambulance, and entertained troops.

DJS:djb:dm

RECORDED - 122

62-95834-104

INDEXED - 122

NOV 5 1951

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7 DEC 12 1951

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WPK

16

BUREAU INVESTIGATION:

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No investigation has been conducted by this Bureau relative to Josephine Baker.

INFORMATION APPEARING IN BUREAU FILES:

Activities in Defense of Willie McGee

As you will recall, the Communist Party during the early part of 1951, took a great interest in and engaged in extensive activity in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and, subsequently during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense.

"Counterattack," a publication of "Facts to Combat Communism," 55 West 42nd Street, New York City, in letter No. 200 dated March 23, 1951, carried an item entitled, "Josephine Baker Won't Support Communist Fronts." According to "Counterattack" Baker cancelled a speaking engagement at a "Save Willie McGee Rally" scheduled for March 19, 1951, when she learned that the rally was sponsored by the American Labor Party and that Paul Robeson, well-known Negro entertainer and Communist Party apologist, and former United States Representative Vito Marcantonio of New York City would also speak at the same rally. (100-350512-393)

In a report dated March 29, 1944, the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, stated that "For years the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture the entire American Labor Party throughout New York State. They succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the American Labor Party, but outside of New York City they have been unable to win control."

[REDACTED]

(100-25869-129)

b7D

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17

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According to the April 14, 1951, issue of "L'Unita Del Popolo" Josephine Baker was very interested in and urged the salvation of Willie McGee. (100-122084-184)

The California Committee on Un-American Activities in a 1948 report characterized "L'Unita Del Popolo" as being among publications which the Committee found "to be Communist initiated and controlled or so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin Solar System."

b1 [REDACTED]

b1 [REDACTED] (S) (100-270288-6) (u)

b7D [REDACTED]

b7C [REDACTED] (100-3-73-334)

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited as Communist by the Attorney General.

b7D [REDACTED] (u)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

b7D

(100-3-90-218) (S)

Relative to Baker's interest in the Willie McGee case while in Detroit, Michigan, the May 16, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker" carried a story under the by-line of William Allen entitled, "'Pulitzer Prize' Paper Gagged Josephine Baker." According to this story Baker, who at that time was appearing at the Fox Theater in Detroit, Michigan, contacted the editor of the "Detroit Free Press" and advised him that she would like to make a statement on the "legal murder" of one of her people, Willie McGee, who she stated was an innocent man framed on a charge of raping a white woman. This article went on to state that after receiving assurances that her statement would be printed in the "Detroit Free Press," the statement never appeared.

[REDACTED]

b1

(100-340539-17) (S)

b1 (S)

[REDACTED]

b7D

Alleged Racial Discrimination by Stork Club

On October 16, 1951, according to newspaper articles appearing in numerous newspapers throughout the country, Josephine Baker, Mrs. Bessie Buchanan, Harlem service leader, and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Rice, of the French theater, alleged that they had been made to wait an unreasonable length of time before being served

- 4 -
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SECRET

feed at the Stork Club in New York City. The principals involved complained that they had been subjected to racial discrimination.

As you will recall, Walter Winchell, in his Sunday night broadcast of October 21, 1951, in referring to this incident stated that he had been at the Stork Club at the same time as Baker on October 16, 1951, but had left before she had, and at no time while he was there had he noted anything proximating an "incident." Winchell continued to the effect that he had later heard that after he had left, Baker and her party became involved in some "incident" and that Baker had been insulted. Winchell stated that he himself deplored the situation but that he was equally perturbed that he was being brought into the picture and that pressure was being brought to bear upon him to denounce the alleged discriminatory actions of the Stork Club management against Baker and her party.

In his broadcast of October 28, 1951, Winchell mentioned the Baker incident and in effect stated that he could not be pressured into denouncing Sherman Billingsley and the Stork Club.

In Winchell's syndicated column appearing in the public press on October 29, 1951, Winchell quoted a letter which had been addressed to him by George S. Schuyler, New York editor of the "Pittsburgh Courier," a leading Negro newspaper. This letter in effect accused Baker of being "used" by the Communists and Communist Party front organizations and denounced the criticism of Winchell which resulted from the alleged discrimination against Baker at the Stork Club.

The Stork Club has been subjected to periodic picketing since October 16, 1951.

b7D

[REDACTED]

SECRET
~~SECRET~~

SECRET

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7C

b7D

FOREIGN ACTIVITIES:

According to a report of the United States Military Attache, Paris, France, dated May 13, 1949, a copy of which was furnished to this Bureau, Josephine Baker provided part of the entertainment at a rally sponsored by the DeGaulle Political Party held in Paris, France, on May 1, 1949. General Charles DeGaulle was the principle speaker at this particular rally. (109-12-231-637)

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED]

(b)(3)
(S) USC
1202(f)
for info

MISCELLANEOUS:

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7D

(100-48754-101)

- 6 **SECRET**

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

b7D

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

Under date of June 19, 1951, Dorothy B. Ferebee, President, National Council of Negro Women, Inc., 1318 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., addressed a letter to you advising that the National Council of Negro Women would present Josephine Baker on July 2, 1951, at the National Guard Armory in Washington, D. C. An invitation was extended to you to attend.

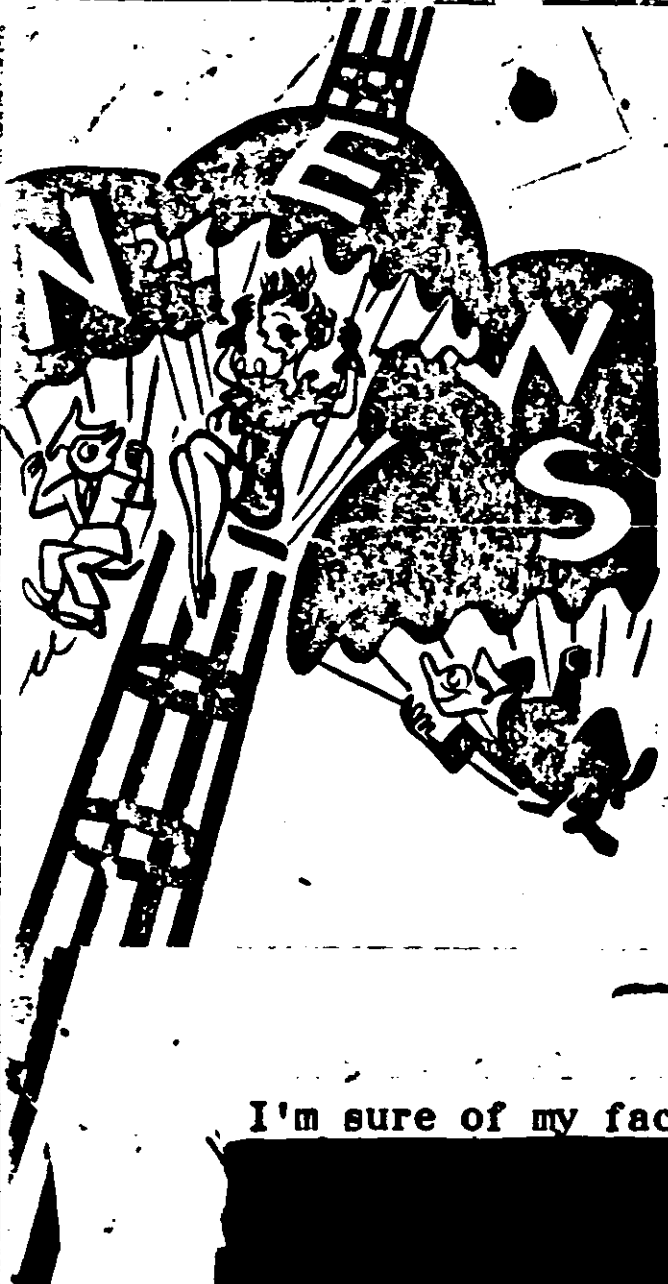
By letter dated June 27, 1951, Miss Helen W. Gandy, acknowledged the above referred to letter for you and advised that a prior engagement would prevent you from attending. (100-345801-8)

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For your information. ✓

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SECRET

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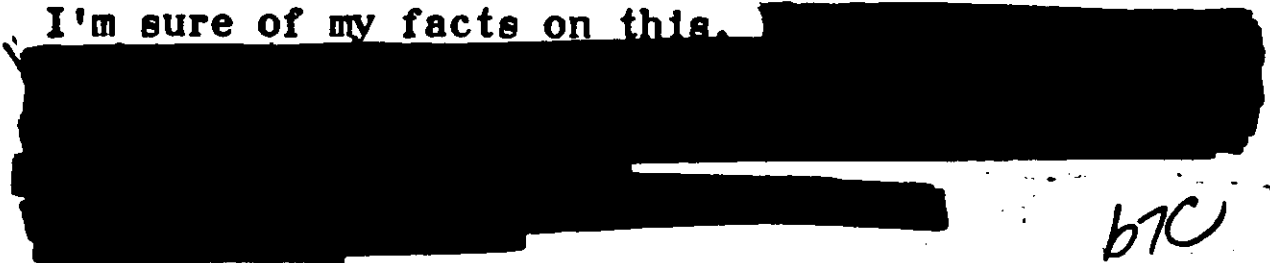
W-1-1

G.I.R.-6

When Josephine Baker came over on her last trip, she was delayed for many hours because she was trying to bring in a Russian maid. She was not permitted to do this. How do you like that? She won't even employ a Negro maid.

To Hoover - True? h w

I'm sure of my facts on this.



b7C

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *9/2/82* BY *SP-1 GSK/BL*

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INDEXED - 132

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(c), (b)(7)(d) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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4-11

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

7-17, 1952

- TO:
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Director | <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Mohr 5744 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tolson, 5744 | <input type="checkbox"/> Miss Gandy, 5633 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Ladd 5736 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Holloman 5633 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Belmont 1742 | <input type="checkbox"/> Records Sec. 7235 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Clegg, 5256 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pers. Records 6631 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Glavin 5517 | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Room 5531 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Harbo 7625 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mail Room 5533 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Rosen 5706 | <input type="checkbox"/> Teletype 5644 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tracy 4130 IB | <input type="checkbox"/> Leave Clerk 2266 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Laughlin 1742 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical B-114 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Supply Room B-118 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Nichols 5640 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. McGuire 5642 | <input type="checkbox"/> Miss Lura |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Wick 5625 | <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Chisholm |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Crosby 5636 | <input type="checkbox"/> Miss Corrigan |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Miss Pownell |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Jones 4236 | <input type="checkbox"/> Miss Beals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Leonard 6222 IB | <input type="checkbox"/> Miss Dumas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Trotter 7204 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Eames 7204 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Wherry 5537 | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. English 5627 | |

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> See me | <input type="checkbox"/> Note & return |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For your info | <input type="checkbox"/> For appropriate action |



b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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 DATE 9/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

L. B. Nichols
 Room 5640, Ext. 691

MR. A. H. BELMONT

June 23, 1952

MR. L. L. LADD

MCCARRAN COMMITTEE REQUESTS;

JOSEPHINE BAKER

b7c

[redacted] of the McCarran Committee called today and asked if it would be possible to have a summary of any information in the Bureau's files concerning [redacted]

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted]

b7D

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted] also asked if it would be possible to have a summary of any derogatory information in the Bureau's files on Josephine Baker, the Colored chanteuse, who it will be recalled, recently was involved in an incident at the Stork Club in New York City in which she alleged that she had been discriminated against.

Appropriate memoranda are being prepared and will be submitted to you for approval.

LL: [redacted]
CC: Mr. Ladd
CC: Mr. Nichols

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DATE 9/29/82 BY SP1 GSK/RSK

62-95834- ✓

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147 JUL 1 1952

JUL 15 1952

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson
FROM : L. B. Nichols
SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER

DATE: June 30, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

✓ Jnt
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b7D
b7C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

b7C

cc: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Belmont

LBN:MP 368

RECORDED - 42

162-95834-6

13 JUL 24 1952

[REDACTED] b7C

Memorandum to Mr. Tolson
Re: Josephine Baker

June 30, 1952

RECOMMENDATIONS:

memo to
McCarran
7/15

1. || It is suggested that a summary be prepared on
Josephine Baker for the McCarran Committee.

memo to
Sec. of Internal
Rev. 7/15/52

2. [REDACTED]

b7D

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I concur.
d.

✓

38

July 15, 1952

JOSEPHINE BAKER

b7D

[REDACTED]

The above information is furnished for whatever action you deem appropriate.

[REDACTED]

Memorandum, Nichols to Tolson 6/30/52 re: Josephine Baker)

Original to Bureau of Internal Revenue

62-95834

[REDACTED] *jh*

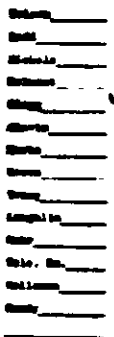
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DATE 9/8/82 BY 8108/ps

Direct to [REDACTED] b7c
Cont. Hood - Hand
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U.S. - U.S. of Sav &
per Mr. Nichols R/S
also furnished

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62-95834-6



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: July 15, 1952

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
(McCarran Committee Request)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/82 BY 9-1684/PSK

PURPOSE:

To furnish information concerning Josephine Baker -
pursuant to the request of the McCarran Committee.

BACKGROUND:

Reference is made to Mr. Nichols's memorandum to Mr. Tolson
dated June 30, 1952

and that a summary of information
contained in Bureau files be furnished to the McCarran Committee.

There is attached hereto a blank memorandum for the Bureau
of Internal Revenue. There is also attached a blind memorandum,
thought suitable for dissemination, which incorporates information
received from reliable Bureau informants and from public sources.

SCOPE OF SEARCH:

In the preparation of these memoranda, the search was
limited to the main file and any references since November, 1951,
at which time all previous references were reviewed in connection
with a memorandum for the Director concerning Josephine Baker.
Baker's name was also searched in the Identification Division where
no criminal record was found. However, an Alien Registration print
received in January, 1951, was located on one Josephine Baker, a
French Negro artist who was born on June 3, 1906, at St. Louis,
Missouri, in connection with Visa Application No. 1510052.

BUREAU INVESTIGATION:

No investigation has been conducted by the Bureau concerning
Josephine Baker.

Attachments (2)

62-88217
cc - 62-95834

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INDEXED - 9/17 AUG 8 1952

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memo to
7-31-52

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2-11-52
1 copy
attached
please

SEARCHED
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INFORMATION NOT INCLUDED IN BLIND MEMORANDUM:

The following information is not being included in the blind memorandum as there is no evidence that Miss Baker actually took part in these Communist activities on her behalf.

According to the November 12, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, a Conference on Equal Rights for Negroes in Arts, Sciences, and Professions was held on November 10, 1951, at "The Pythian" in New York City, under the auspices of the National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. The November 14, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker" stated that one of the measures adopted at this conference was a telegram to Josephine Baker commending her forthright action in the Stork Club incident. (100-3-4212 p. 86; Dissemination: [REDACTED] b2
McInerney, D/R, 2/14/52)

The National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions has been cited as a Communist front by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities in a House Report No. 1954, dated April 6, 1950.

b7C
b7D [REDACTED] 100-3-4-7089 p. 30; Dissemination: ONI, OS
G-2, D/R, 3/21/52)

In regard to the Stork Club incident, it will be recalled that on October 16, 1951, according to newspaper articles appearing in numerous newspapers throughout the country, Josephine Baker, Mrs. Bessie Buchanan, Harlem service leader, and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Rico, of the French theater, alleged that they had been made to wait an unreasonable length of time before being served food at the Stork Club in New York City. The principals involved complained that they had been subjected to racial discrimination. (62-95834-4)

DISSEMINATION:

The substance of pertinent information appearing in the blind memorandum has been appropriately disseminated.

b7c

cc given
7-31-52
z

ACTION:

That the attached blind memorandum be forwarded to the McCarran Committee.

That the attached blank memorandum be forwarded to the Bureau of Internal Revenue via liaison channels.

July 15, 1952

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

JOSEPHINE BAKER

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

According to the April 8, 1951, issue of "Life" magazine, Josephine Baker is the daughter of a St. Louis, Missouri, washer woman. This article stated that Baker, who as of the time of the article, was alleged to be forty-five years of age, began her Paris night club career in 1925, and has spent most of her life since that time in France.

The article further stated that Baker was reported to have at one time been married to a tap dancer and supposedly married one Pepite Albertine in the 1920's. In 1937, Baker gave up her United States citizenship and married a French broker by the name of Jean Lion. This marriage was dissolved by a divorce in 1940. Baker married her present husband, a Frenchman, band leader Jo Bouillon, in 1947.

According to the March 12, 1951, issue of "Time" magazine, Baker has been a French citizen since 1937, and during the occupation of France by the Germans, during World War II, spent her time in North Africa. This article further stated that while in North Africa, Baker became a Lieutenant in the Free French Air Force, did intelligence work, drove an ambulance, and entertained troops.

ACTIVITIES IN THE DEFENSE OF WILLIE MCGEE

Josephine Baker took a great interest in and engaged in extensive activity in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and, subsequently during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense.

"Counterattack," a publication of "Facts to Combat Communism," 55 West 42nd Street, New York City, in letter No. 200 dated March 29, 1951, carried an item entitled, "Josephine Baker Won't Support Communist Fronts." According to "Counterattack" Baker cancelled a speaking engagement at a "Save Willie McGee Rally" scheduled for March 19, 1951, when she learned that the rally was sponsored by the American Labor Party and that Paul Robeson, well-known entertainer and Communist Party apologist, and former United States Representative Vito Marcantonio of New York City would also speak at the rally. (100-350-512-393)

ORIGINAL TO ATTORNEY GENERAL
1 - McCarran Committee

62-95834-7
ENCLOSURE

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[REDACTED]

5/7/51) In a report dated March 29, 1944, the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, stated that "For years the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture the entire American Labor Party throughout New York State. They succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the American Labor Party, but outside of New York City they have been unable to win control."

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Relative to Baker's interest in the Willie McGee case while in Detroit, Michigan, the May 16, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, carried the story under the by-line of William Allan, State Board member, District No. 7, Communist Party, and Michigan correspondent for the "Daily Worker," entitled "'Pulitzer Prize' Paper Gagged Josephine Baker." According to this story Baker, who at that time was appearing at the Fox Theater in Detroit, Michigan, contacted the editor of the "Detroit Free Press" and advised him that she would like to make a statement on the "legal murder" of one of her people, Willie McGee, who she stated was an innocent man framed on a charge of raping a white woman. This article went on to state that after receiving assurances that her statement would be printed in the "Detroit Free Press," the statement never appeared. (100-3-90-216)

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b7C

[REDACTED]

100-3-75-594)

16897;

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

b7D

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

MISCELLANEOUS: 9/11/51; G-2, ONI, OSI, 1/8/52)

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

OSI, D/R, 10/16/51, "Daily Worker" of May 25, 1951, reported that the Committee for the Negroes in the Arts was planning a brunch on May 27, 1951, at the Hotel Theresa, New York City, to pay special

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tribute to Josephine Baker and twelve other personalities for their work on behalf of Negro artists.

b1

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Dis.: ONI, OSI, D/R, G-2
(100-368227-15, 16)

10/19/51;
b2

(100-368227-15, 16)

b7E

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7D

b7E

[REDACTED] Dis.: D/R, G-2

(100-368227-15, 16)

Dis.: D/R, G-2

ONI, OSI - 11/21/51)

b1

[REDACTED] Dis.: D/R - 5/20/52)

(Dis.: D/R - 5/20/52)

This material contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

Omit

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SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~ CC: Mr. L...
~~SECRET~~

Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont

Mr. Laughlin
Mr. D. J. Sullivan

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

July 31, 1952

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62-95834-7

DIRECTOR, FBI
SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNAL SECURITY
(McCARRAN COMMITTEE)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Attached are memoranda containing data in the files of
this Bureau, copies of which have been furnished to a representative
of the McCarran Committee pursuant to requests received from that
Committee for information concerning the following individuals:

Josephine Baker

[REDACTED]

b7c

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

DATE OF REVIEW

9/29/82

In response to requests for information in the Bureau's
files concerning the following individuals, the Committee's repre-
sentative was advised orally that there was no derogatory informa-
tion identifiable with the subjects of their inquiry:

[REDACTED]

b7c

G. I. R. - 3

The Committee's representative was advised orally that
there was no information in the Bureau's files which could be
identified with the following individuals, concerning whom a
request for information was made by the Committee:

[REDACTED]

b7c

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FBI
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Attachments (8)

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LLL:net
DJS:

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL
AUG 4 1952

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AUG 4 3 21 PM '52
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C), (b)(1) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.


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For your information: _____

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Pursuant to a request from the McCarran Committee for information regarding Communist infiltration of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UERMIA) in the Philadelphia area, the Committee's representative was orally advised that Tom Delaney and Sam DiMaria, both former Communist Party members and both organizers of Local 155 of the UERMIA in Philadelphia, recently led an attempt to oust the Communists from this Local. Further advice was given that the anti-Communist activities of Delaney and DiMaria, as regards the UERMIA in Philadelphia, were given considerable publicity in the local press in Philadelphia, and further, that both Delaney and DiMaria had given representatives of the "Philadelphia Evening Bulletin" information for a series of articles on the Communist Party infiltration into the UERMIA in the Philadelphia area.

Further oral information was furnished that Delaney and DiMaria had been interviewed by representatives of the House Committee on Un-American Activities as a result of the publicity they received in the Philadelphia area.

In answer to a request for information concerning the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers - IUMS the Committee's representative was orally advised that there was in publication a book entitled "Official Proceedings of the 47th Convention, International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, Held in Nogales, Arizona, 9-10, 14-51." The Committee's representative was further advised that this book contained the identities of all persons participating in the Convention and also included all of the talks and statements made at the Convention verbatim, and all of the resolutions which were proposed and passed at the Convention. Further oral information was

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

given to the Committee's representative that according to reliable reports, the resolutions passed at the Convention were entirely consistent with the then current Communist Party line.

It was further stated that a pamphlet entitled "It's a Trick," published by the Educational Department of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers - IUMS, Chicago, Illinois, encouraged Union members to fight for the rights of Communists to be members of this Union and of any Union.

Further oral advice was furnished to the Committee's representative that the January 29, 1951, issue of "The Union," the official publication of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers - IUMS, contained an attack against the McCarran Act, charging that it was a thought-control law. This attack is consistent with the Communist Party propaganda directed against the McCarran Act.

Further information was furnished that the July 30, 1951, issue of "The Union" carried a statement issued by the Executive Board of the Union on July 18, 1951, which condemned the Supreme Court's decision upholding the conviction of the national leaders of the Communist Party under the Smith Act.

[REDACTED]

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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[REDACTED] b1

(S)
Also pursuant to requests, the following addresses were furnished to a representative of the McCarran Committee:

John Clark
President, International Union of Mine, Mill
and Smelter Workers
3403 South Lincoln Street
Englewood, Colorado.

Orville D. S. Larson
Vice President, International Union of Mine,
Mill and Smelter Workers
408 Hicks Canyon
Miami, Arizona.

[REDACTED] b7C

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DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
September 4, 1952

~~SECRET~~ AIR COURIER

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080 EWR
ON JUL 11 1977

Director, FBI

Re: JOSEPHINE BAKER
FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS

Dear Sir:

Attached is a clipping from the Rio de Janeiro afternoon newspaper, "O Globo," dated August 29, 1952.

The article, with two photos of JOSEPHINE BAKER, is headed "Josephine Baker A Serviço De Uma Grande Causa" (Josephine Baker at the Service of a Great Cause). JOSEPHINE BAKER is the United States night club and musical comedy star who went to France in the '20s and became a big attraction there. It is believed that she became a French citizen. It will be recalled that some months ago, when she was in the United States, she became involved in an incident at the New York night club, The Stork Club, in which she accused the management of racial discrimination. In some way, Walter Winchell, the newspaper columnist, came into the picture in opposition to her. The writer knows of the incident only through sparse newspaper attention given it here in Brazil.

The attached article tells of her intention to form a Rio de Janeiro branch of the World Association Against Racial and Religious Discrimination. (Newspapers September 4, 1952, announce that the event took place.) The president of the organization in Rio is to be AFONSO ARINOS DE BELLO FRANCO, sponsor of an anti-racial law, and presently a member of the Federal House of Deputies, and just named House leader of the UDN (União Democrática Nacional - National Democratic Union - conservative party in opposition to the present government).

The article reports the results of an interview with JOSEPHINE BAKER, who is presently in Rio, where she has had a

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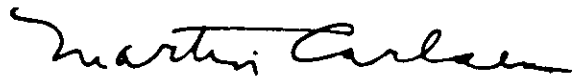
B. J. [Signature]

successful run in at least two night clubs and one theater in a small revue. Other names in the World Association are ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, RALPH BUNCHE, ARTHUR GARFIELD HAYS, BARRY GRAY and TED POSTON. She refers to the Stork Club incident, and to Winchell. As to that incident, she said that she and her friends won out, "Today there is a law against racial discrimination in the State of New York."

The closing paragraph states that she will attend the official installation ceremonies of the association in Haiti and in Cuba. It does not state when this will be. At another point in the article, it states that from Rio she will go to Uruguay.

The above is for the completion of the Bureau's files.

Very truly yours,



MARTIN CARLSEN
LA

Attachment
MC:jar

O Brasil, diz Josephine, por ter atingido a um admirável progresso dentro dos melhores princípios democráticos, é um país-símbolo da concretização do ideal por que me bata.

A famosa atriz negra, mais um ramo da Associação Mundial Contra a Discriminação Racial e Religiosa — Será seu presidente o deputado Affonso Arinos de Mello Franco — O Brasil, diz Josephine, por ter atingido a um admirável progresso dentro dos melhores princípios democráticos, é um país-símbolo da concretização do ideal por que me bata.



Josephine fala também com os olhos...

JOSEPHINE BAKER A SERVIÇO DE UMA GRANDE CAUSA

Vai ser inaugurado no Rio, por iniciativa da famosa atriz negra, mais um ramo da Associação Mundial Contra a Discriminação Racial e Religiosa — Será seu presidente o deputado Affonso Arinos de Mello Franco — O Brasil, diz Josephine, por ter atingido a um admirável progresso dentro dos melhores princípios democráticos, é um país-símbolo da concretização do ideal por que me bata.



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 DATE 9/2/82 BY SP-16SK/psk

...Associação Mundial Contra a Discriminação Racial e Religiosa. O presidente desta entidade será o deputado Afonso Arinos de Melo Franco, senhor de uma lei antidiária aprovada após ruidoso incidente ocorrido há dois meses, quando um hotel desta cidade recusou-se a alugar um apartamento à bailarina norte-americana Katherine Dunham.

Depois de minha permanência aqui pelo — declarou Josephine Baker — sobre conveniência que o Brasil pode ser tomado, analisando, como o símbolo da democracia racial e religiosa. Por isso, estou acompanhada em que o país da semana vindoura seja o país brilhante e grandioso possível. Há, aqui, de que não há dúvida por todos os brasileiros, na ocasião.

Aquela entidade, bem como a Associação Mundial de Cultura, foram fundadas pela famosa atriz negra, que sempre se mostrou interessada em todas as questões relacionadas com o progresso e a igualdade das raças humanas.

— No Brasil — disse ainda Josephine Baker — que se pode sentir, melhor do que em qualquer outro lugar do mundo, a sensação de um povo que respeita os semelhantes como seres humanos, iguais. Aqui, pode-se encontrar um ex-otro defensor do racismo de alguma religião intransigente: seu número, porém, já de ser muito insignificante. O que se registra, nas praças, nos restaurantes e lugares públicos é, sobretudo, edificação.

Josephine Baker, que acaba de ganhar uma temporada vitoriosa nesta e noutras cidades do país, embarcará no mês vindouro para Montevideo, onde, além de suas atividades artísticas, também se ocupará de promover a instalação das entidades associadas locais que dirige. A respeito da legislação anti-racial brasileira, ela entusiasmadamente:

— Trata-se de uma iniciativa de alcance inimaginável. Em países como a França, as nações da Escandinávia, a Itália, etc., não existe discriminação racial, por um instinto natural do povo — da mesma forma que ocorre no Brasil. Porém, foi esta a primeira nação a incluir entre suas leis uma que me parece das mais sábias e necessárias.

— Pois — continua Josephine — é necessário não esquecer que a ideia de superioridade da raça branca é uma ideia perigosa. Convém lembrar que três quartas partes da população mundial são formadas de seres de cor — negros, amarelos, vermelhos, mestiços. Portanto, querer defender a supremacia de uma raça numericamente inferior constitui, por si só, uma ideia perigosa, além de rejeitada todos. Não é o tom de pele que distingue os seres. O que os humanos é o mesmo das de cor.

Em discursos que tem proferido em algumas universidades norte-americanas, Josephine Baker sempre gosta de se referir, em primeiro lugar, ao Brasil.

...e depois não está em nenhuma das universidades de países. Temos de ser contra a discriminação, seja qual for. Algumas pessoas de cor, numa atitude de reação, costumam querer defender a separação entre brancos e negros ou amarelos. Isso também, é um erro. Precisamos, ao contrário, de racismo branco e contra o racismo de cor. Ambos são um mal.

Em sua palestra com o repórter do GLOBO, Josephine Baker relembra episódios que lhe ocorreram recentemente, nos Estados Unidos. Em Nova York, o mais famoso "night-club" da cidade, "The Star", deixou de servi-la, na noite em que foi lá com alguns amigos. O jornalista Walter Winchell que sempre se disse defensor intransigente da igualdade racial, mas que costuma escrever os seus artigos naquela "boite", tomou posição contra a atriz "colored", no ruidoso incidente. Josephine Baker, contudo, não desistiu e, auxiliada por seus companheiros de idéias, enfrentou a poderosa organização que se levantou contra ela.

— Acabamos vencendo — diz a atriz. — Hoje em dia, já existe uma lei contra a discriminação racial no Estado de Nova York. É verdade que tal lei só existe naquele Estado. Isso não é muito; mas já é alguma coisa.

Juntamente com Josephine Baker, trabalham na Associação Mundial Contra a Discriminação Racial e Religiosa, nomes conhecidos como os de Eleanor Roosevelt, Ralph Bunche, Arthur Garfield Hays (o maior perito em direitos humanos, nos Estados Unidos), Barry Gray, Ted Postan, etc. A Associação já conta filiais em mais de dez países, entre os quais o Japão, a França, a Itália, a Escandinávia, alguns Estados norte-americanos, México, Haiti, etc.

— No Brasil — diz Josephine Baker — embora a Associação já estivesse fundada há meses, não promovemos a sua inauguração porque desejávamos esperar pelo deputado Afonso Arinos, para convidá-lo para a presidência. Aquela parlamentar já aceitou e, na semana vindoura, devemos realizar a solene instalação da entidade. O Sr. Herbert Moses será padrinho da mesma e vários deputados e intelectuais já prometeram o seu apoio incondicional. Não há, no mundo, país que mereça tanto ser citado como membro da nossa organização; pois, para mim, se existe um modelo, um símbolo de progresso nas relações humanas, o Brasil é este símbolo, porque atingiu um admirável grau de progresso dentro dos princípios da não-discriminação.

Josephine Baker também assistirá à instalação oficial da A. M. G. D. R. R. no Haiti e em Cuba. Quando regressar a Paris, dentro de alguns meses, terá lugar uma grandiosa manifestação pública em sua homenagem, quando o país estiver em maior grau

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

October 14, 1952

Director, FBI
JOSEPHINE BAKER

There is attached a memorandum dated October 14, 1952, concerning Josephine Baker which incorporates information appearing in our files.



b7C
b7D

The Bureau of Internal Revenue has been advised of the allegations concerning Baker's income as reflected in the attached memorandum.

Attachment

1 - Ross L. Malone, Jr.
Deputy Attorney General

(Attachment)

S: fjb, nck, lcc

PK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/28/82 BY SP10/PLK

OCT 15 12 57 PM '52
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECORDED - 143

MAILED 2
OCT 16 1952
COMM-FBI

INDEXED - 143

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
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Tracy
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74 NOV 26 1952

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

66 OCT 29 1952

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ON 10/18/82

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PAK

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Amended ef
DATE 10/26/88 SP

October 14, 1952 DATE OF REVIEW None 9/8/82

JOSEPHINE BAKER Summary

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

According to the April 9, 1951, issue of "Life" magazine, Josephine Baker is the daughter of a St. Louis, Missouri, washer-woman. This article stated that Baker, who as of the time of the article, was alleged to be forty-five years of age, began her Paris night club career in 1925, and has spent most of her life since that time in France.

The article further stated that Baker was reported to have at one time been married to a top dancer and supposedly married one Pepito Albertino in the 1930's. In 1937, Baker gave up her United States citizenship and married a French broker by the name of Jean Lion. This marriage was dissolved by a divorce in 1940. Baker married her present husband, a Frenchman, band leader Jo Bouillon, in 1947.

According to the March 12, 1951, issue of "Time" magazine, Baker has been a French citizen since 1937, and during the occupation of France by the Germans, during World War II, spent her time in North Africa. This article further stated that while in North Africa, Baker became a Lieutenant in the Free French Air Force, did intelligence work, drove an ambulance, and entertained troops.

ACTIVITIES IN THE DEFENSE OF WILLIE MCGEE

Josephine Baker took a great interest in and engaged in extensive activity in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and, subsequently during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense.

"Counterattack," a publication of "Facts to Combat Communism," 35 West 42nd Street, New York City, in letter No. 200 dated March 23, 1951, carried an item entitled, "Josephine Baker Don't Support Communist Fronts." According to "Counterattack" Baker cancelled a speaking engagement at a "Love Willie McGee Rally" scheduled for March 19, 1951, when she learned that the rally was sponsored by the American Labor Party and that Paul Robeson, well-known entertainer and Communist Party apologist, and former United States Representative Vito Marcantonio (New York City) would also speak at the rally.

SP
V.P.K.
B.

ENCLOSURE - 95-711-4
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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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[REDACTED]

b1

(S) 100-3-3866 p. 117 Miss: [REDACTED] Criminal Div.,
5/7/51) In a report dated March 29, 1944, the Special Committee on
Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, stated that "for
years the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture
the entire American Labor Party throughout New York State. They
succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the
American Labor Party, but outside of New York City they have been
unable to win control."

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

b1

(S) 100-270286- [REDACTED] Miss: D/R, 7/13/51)
Relative to Baker's interest in the Willie McGee case
while in Detroit, Michigan, the May 16, 1951, issue of the "Daily
Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, carried the story under the
by-line of William Allan, State Board member, District No. 7,
Communist Party, and Michigan correspondent for the "Daily Worker,"
entitled "'Pulitzer Prize' Paper Gagged Josephine Baker." According
to this story Baker, who at that time was appearing at the Fox Theater
in Detroit, Michigan, contacted the editor of the "Detroit Free Press"
and advised him that she would like to make a statement on the
"legal murder" of one of her people, Willie McGee, who she stated
was an innocent man framed on a charge of raping a white woman.
This article went on to state that after receiving assurances that
her statement would be printed in the "Detroit Free Press," the
statement never appeared. (100-3-90-216)

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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[REDACTED]

(100-3-75-594)

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

MISCELLANEOUS: 100-340533-17; 100-359582-25 p. 75; Disss: D/R, 9/11/51; G-2, ONI, OSI, 1/8/52

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] (S)

OSI, D/R, 10/1/51. The "Daily Worker" of May 25, 1951, reported that the Committee for the Negroes in the Arts was planning a brunch on May 27, 1951, at the Hotel Theresa, New York City, to pay special

- 3 - ~~SECRET~~
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tribute to Josephine Baker and twelve other personalities for their work on behalf of Negro artists.

b1

100-3-7021 p. 105; 100-3-4100 p. 140

b7D

10/19/51;

Criminal Division 10/3/51)

Diss:

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b7E

100-368227-15-16

Diss: D/R, G-2.

ONI, OSI - 11/21/51)

b1

100-14969-115 p. 19; Diss: D/R - 5/20/52)

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[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

*Referred to State Dept
(3) (8 USC 1202(a) 1)
for State 7/28/63*

[REDACTED] (62-95834-2)

b7D

[REDACTED]

(100-392496-1)

b7D

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] (62-95834-6)

ORIGINAL TO ATTORNEY GENERAL
cc-Ross L. Malone, Jr., AAG - 5 -

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According to an Associated Press release dated Mexico City April 16, 1952, which appeared in the "Washington Star" on the same date, Baker, in Mexico City, had announced the formation of an organization known as the "World League Against Racial Discrimination." According to this release, Baker stated that the league would fight discrimination against not only the Negro race but all others who were the targets of restrictive practices. Baker further announced that headquarters of the league would be in Mexico with branches in Cuba, Guatemala and El Salvador.

According to an article which appeared in the August 29, 1952, issue of "O Globo," a newspaper published in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Baker, while in that city, announced her intention of forming a Rio de Janeiro branch of the World Association Against Racial and Religious Discrimination. (62-95834-8)

According to articles appearing in the public press during the first part of October, 1952, Baker was in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and she was quoted as having made anti-American remarks to the press of that country.

According to Robert C. Ruark's column which appeared in the "Washington Daily News" on October 10, 1952, Baker in Buenos Aires, after visiting President Juan Peron, President of Argentina, had endorsed such quotations which appeared in "Critica," Buenos Aires newspaper as: "The persecutions are more shocking than before World War II with lynchings, condemnations without trial and electrocutions the order of the day." To this Ruark commented "She is speaking of America. How she would know about pre-World War II is rather baffling since she lived abroad and was wed to a series of Frenchmen."

Ruark's column also attributed the following remarks to Baker:

"White men prate of democracy and civilization and send the Negroes to die in Korea. In this horror of discrimination, where is democracy?"

"In America they hunt Christ with a gun and hang him from a tree."

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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"I have personally seen many lynchings and much brutality. The horror of seeing men, women and children killed like animals will never fade from my mind.

"I was terrorized on my last trip home. They wouldn't let me live in peace. My brother-in-law stumbled into a white man whose son complained 'Daddy, you promised me I could kill the next black I saw.'"

Quark further stated that Baker was quoted as having read the series in "Critics" and as having said "It's all unfortunately absolutely true."

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: October 14, 1952

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SECRET

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

PURPOSE: ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

DATE OF REVIEW: BADR 9/2/02

To submit for your approval a blank memorandum
for transmittal to the Attorney General which contains
information from our files concerning captioned individual.

DETAILS:

As you will recall, under date of July 15, 1952,
pursuant to a request received from the McCarran Committee,
a memorandum concerning Baker was prepared and furnished to
that Committee. On July 31, 1952, the Attorney General was
advised of the McCarran request and the original of the Baker
memorandum was forwarded to him. There is attached hereto a
blank memorandum which includes the information which was
furnished to the McCarran Committee in the memorandum of
July 15, 1952, plus information received subsequent to that
date.

However, this was not
furnished to the McCarran Committee because of the sources.

The remainder of the information appearing in the
blank memorandum on pages 6 and 7 has been received in the
Bureau subsequent to the date of the McCarran memorandum.

BUREAU INVESTIGATION:

No investigation has been conducted by this Bureau
concerning Baker.

COPIES DESTROYED

11 DEC 1 1964
Attachments

DVB/jb:nck 356

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RECORDED - 58

162-95834-10

OCT 21 1952

EX-164

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Memorandum to Mr. D. M. Ladd from A. H. Belmont
Re: JOSEPHINE BAKER

act
ACTION:

If you approve, there is attached hereto a cover letter to the Attorney General transmitting a blank memorandum concerning Baker.

I am sending it through but for life of me I don't know why it is placed as a "blank" memo. It represents contents of FBI files & nothing for us to be ashamed of.

 b7C

Also when did we advise Int. Rev re 



b7D

- 2 - ~~SECRET~~
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55

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

FROM : Mr. D. M. Ladd *DL*

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER

DATE: October 20, 1952

Tolson
 Ladd
 Nichols
 Belmont
 Clegg
 Glavin
 Harbo
 Rosen
 Tracy
 Egan
 Gurnea
 Harbo
 Mohr
 Pennington
 Quinn
 Nease
 Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/8/82 BY 6102/PK

PURPOSE:

(1) To reply to your inquiry as to why a memorandum to the Attorney General which was submitted as an enclosure with a memorandum from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Ladd under date of October 14, 1952, was submitted as a "blank memorandum."

(2) [REDACTED] b7D

DETAILS:

You will recall that under date of July 15, 1952, pursuant to a request from the McCarran Committee, a memorandum concerning Josephine Baker, colored singer, was prepared and furnished to that Committee. On July 31, 1952, the Attorney General was advised of the McCarran request and the original of the Baker memorandum was forwarded to him. Under date of October 14, 1952, a blank memorandum which included information which was furnished to the McCarran Committee, plus information received subsequent to July 15 was submitted with a memorandum from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Ladd to be forwarded to the Attorney General. You commented "I am sending it through but for the life of me I don't know why it is placed as a 'blank' memo. It represents contents of FBI files and nothing for us to be ashamed of. H." You further inquired "Also when did we advise Internal Revenue re [REDACTED]"

With reference to the blank memorandum, it was not intended to conceal the FBI as a source of information, it being noted that this was a blank memorandum form on Bureau letterhead. This form was used for convenience sake,

b7C [REDACTED]

RECORDED - 58

62-95834-11

OCT 21 1952

EX-164

WAA:n/r

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5 NOV 28 1952

DL
WAA

to avoid sending a lengthy letter to the Attorney General.

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[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7c

The New York Office has been requested to furnish an immediate reply to the Bureau's inquiry.

ACTION:

None. The above is for your information.

Q

WPK
RHS

W.A.A.

W.A.A.

AIR FORCE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
(Security Classification)

TYPE IN THIS SPACE

10-1552

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

EMBASSY, Buenos Aires, Argentina

DESP. NO.

October 15, 1952

DATE

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

Received from the State Department
through Liaison channels

Embassy's Despatch 406, October 6

Date 10-24-52

ACTION	DEPT.	OLI	I	IBS	IFI	URA	IFS	SY	FD
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SUBJECT: Josephine Baker - Anti-Race Prejudice Organization

It has been reported to Mission that Josephine Baker, now terminating a two-week engagement in Buenos Aires (see reference despatch) plans to return to Argentina within three months to establish and direct an anti-race prejudice organization in Latin America, with headquarters in Buenos Aires.

When and if there is verification of this report, Mission will advise the Department.

2 J. Baker
W. B. R.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/KR

REVIEWED BY DSW DATE 8/29/85

FOIA EXEMPTIONS: b1, b2, b3, b4, b5, b6, b7C, b7D, b7E, b7F, b7G, b7H, b7I, b7J, b7K, b7L, b7M, b7N, b7O, b7P, b7Q, b7R, b7S, b7T, b7U, b7V, b7W, b7X, b7Y, b7Z

DECLASSIFIED / RELEASABLE

RELEASE DENIED

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

Barbara Aitken
Barbara Aitken
Assistant Press Attaché

BA/rs

RECORDED ~~83~~ 63

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62-95834-12

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INDEXED 63

74 NOV 26 1952

67 NOV 17 1952

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62-95834-12

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RESTRICTED
(Security Classification)

EIL 411/10-2052
IR: U32 Baker, Josephine

FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM: AMEMBASSY, Buenos Aires, Argentina. DESP. NO. 479

TO: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. October 20, 1952
DATE

REF: Embassy's Despatch 406, October 6, 1952

41 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.	OLI I IRS IPI IPS EUR/X SY ED
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al	REC'D OCT 27	OTHER	

Received from the State Department through Liaison channels
Date 11-3-52

SUBJECT: Recent Local Reporting - Josephine Baker Interviews

For the Department's information, Mission is attaching sample clippings from local dailies which published Josephine Baker's open letter to U.S. correspondent Herbert Clark after publication of his article about her in a recent edition of the New York Daily News.

In connection with the letter, addressed to Mr. Clark and signed by Miss Baker, "Democracia", "Critica", "La Epoca" and "Noticias Graficas" described Mr. Clark's article as an attack against Miss Baker and commented editorially with the supposition that Miss Baker's comments in earlier interviews (despatch 406 of October 6th) had aroused an angry reaction in the United States which was spearheaded in Argentina by correspondent Clark. Also widely quoted by local dailies were Miss Baker's comments bitterly criticizing Mr. Clark, an Argentine correspondent who was said to have accompanied Mr. Clark, and race discrimination in the United States in general. A translation of her published letter to Mr. Clark reads, in part, as follows:

"You are a typical scandal monger. You are the type of person who fights to prevent the people from joining hands in friendship...you are of the species which criticizes other countries and sends falsehoods about them to the United States...You well know that in the United States negroes are the object of threats and intimidations and that people of the white race who fight for our cause are the victims of terrorist acts. None theless I can tell you, Mr. Clark, and all who want to hear it, that negroes are no longer afraid. I have been telling the truth about race discrimination in the United States but now that you have attacked me in your articles, I propose to tell the absolute truth about the horrors and the atrocities which occur there and which are directed against all those who try to defend human rights...Those who attacked people like Barry Gray and Pearl Bailey, Mr. Clark, are living proof that North American democracy is a farce."

Accompanying the publication of Miss Baker's letter were reports of a protest from an organization called "Accion Incoamericana de la Republica Argentina" which expressed its support of Miss Baker's denunciation and suggested that journalists like Mr. Clark and his Argentine companion should be not allowed to remain in Argentina.

REVIEWED BY DW DATE 8/29/85

REASON(S)
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RELEASE DATE 11/19/01

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Page 2
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Dep. No. 479
From Buenos Aires.

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The Argentine Communist weekly "Propositos", which appeared before Miss Baker's denunciation of Mr. Clark, features a front page photograph of Miss Baker with an article headlined "The Great Negro Artist Issues a Call for the Unity of People". After a flattering description of Miss Baker's personal appearance, the author of this account reports that Miss Baker in an interview had expressed her intention to deliver three speeches. One was to be on the subject of race discrimination, another upon religion and culture, and a third on the urgent need for the people to join together in a spirit of unity and fraternity.

Barbara Aitken
Barbara Aitken
Assistant Press Attaché

Enclosure:
One envelope containing clippings

BA/wb

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EXEMPTED BY DSW DATE 11/3/85

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. DATE: October 21, 1952

REF: Subj. 406, Oct. 6, Ext. 477, Oct. 20, and Dipl. 224, Oct. 23

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Received from the State Department through channels
Date: 11-6-52

SUBJECT: Local Press Comment - Josephine Baker's Speech on Racial Discrimination Before Japan & Community in Buenos Aires

For the Department's information, a copy is attached of a sample clipping of local press reports on Josephine Baker's latest speech in Buenos Aires on the subject of racial and religious discrimination. Delivered to "a selected group of Japanese living in Buenos Aires and a number of Argentine intellectuals and professionals", Miss Baker's discourse was quoted in part by virtually all government-controlled Buenos Aires dailies and in full by evening daily critica of October 23.

Translated, Miss Baker's speech reads in part as follows:

"As you well know, I am dedicating my life to the struggle for the rights of human beings, be they black or white, because I do not believe in the superiority of the white race or in the superiority of the negro race.... I believe that you will agree with me that it is essential that the white and black races be united in brotherhood, but more especially that the colored people of the world be united so that they can recover their confidence in themselves—that confidence which they are rapidly losing because they have been told they are inferior...

"I believe that the white race is aware of the persecution of their colored brothers in all parts of the world and that their good hearts may bring them to their rescue. If everyone joins together against the horrible injustice, the situation of the world will change rapidly....

"I remember that at the beginning of the last war, France had no particular reason to go to war with Germany; but when she was informed of the atrocities and injustices committed against Jews, negroes and other innocent (victims) of the white race, the spirit of fraternity, equality and liberty lifted her to the point of arms and she pledged herself to join the crusade to save the ideals and justice of the world. I am with her, and I will again be with her should it be necessary because this is of us, this is our struggle and fortunately must protect our weaker brothers.

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71 NOV 26 1952

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CONFIDENTIAL
(Classification)

"If the people of North America and South Africa and other countries where racial and religious discrimination exists would take the bull by the horns and pass a law against it, I believe that discrimination would disappear immediately.

"If, on the contrary, men continue not taking this problem seriously, someday they will be suffocated by the monster of hatred. When people are aroused there are no limits to their vengeance.

"God has given to you and to me this mission...When a man is gravely ill and the doctor discovers that an operation can save his life, the doctor operates. The man may suffer by this operation but his life is saved. Thus it is with our struggle in many parts of the world where discrimination exists. We must at times hurt the people in order to save them.

"When I reflect on the situation in South Africa and other countries where race discrimination has been transplanted and above all on the situation in North America - I tremble with horror. I can very well understand why some negroes hate their white brothers...

"I want to tell you about my experience in San Francisco, California, one of the many cities in North America where discrimination exists. Let us speak of the situation of the yellow race, a situation which is deplorable.

"When I went to Los Angeles and San Francisco, I put myself at the disposition of the NAACP and of the Urban Legion. These organizations are fighting to obtain civil rights for the colored people.

"We went to banks, to large stores, hospitals, radio studios, television studios, railroad companies, breweries, restaurants and hotels, and we requested better work, better salaries and better social conditions. We requested that they return to the Japanese the businesses which had been confiscated after Pearl Harbor. Speaking of the Japanese, let us turn to a tragic situation.

"After Pearl Harbor, the Japanese were placed in concentration camps or were ordered to leave the country. Their businesses were confiscated. Some were so panicked that they sold them for almost nothing. These businesses represented a lifetime of struggle and work. All disappeared within a few hours. Some Japanese gave their businesses, their homes and their furniture to their negro brothers because they preferred that they benefit by the ownership of their possessions than that the white people should profit by them...

"The order was to leave the only home they knew, the only country they knew and the only language they knew..."

The next

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The next four paragraphs of Miss Baker's speech describe the "hated, confused, miserable, humble and profoundly sad" situation of the Japanese in the United States during the war years, and conclude with her description of the ways in which the white citizens of the United States would occasionally allow a Japanese actor, painter or artist ("not more than one or two in a generation") to attain limited success "as a pacification" because "the whites know that a little would calm the Japanese race and the white race could continue being master."

Miss Baker continued: "This same system is being employed with the negroes, Hindus, Indians and other colored races who live in North America...."

"It is for this reason that I am calling for unity of all the colored people of the world to regain their dignity and their self-confidence, I am also calling upon our white brothers to join us.. in proving to those who believe that the colored race is inferior...that all men are equal... that there is but one race, the human race."

Miss Baker concluded her remarks with the announcement that she will go to Japan in April or May for the official inauguration of the World Cultural Association Against Racial and Religious Differentiations. To supply the necessary financial backing of this organization, Miss Baker announced that she would perform in fifteen recitals, proceeds from which would be given to the organization's fund.

Before leaving Buenos Aires, it is anticipated that Miss Baker will give additional lectures on race discrimination, and the pattern which she has established indicates a likelihood that the treatment of Latin American minorities (Puerto Ricans, Mexicans) in certain sections of the United States may be the subject of some of them.

Since Miss Baker is presently a citizen of France, an information copy of this despatch is being sent to our Embassy in Paris.

Barbara Aitken
Barbara Aitken
Assistant Press Attaché

cc: Tokyo and Paris

[Handwritten initials]

Attachments: Newspaper clippings

EXCISE 3

REVIEWED BY DSW DATE 9/3/85

OTC

RDS of XDS EXT. TRAFFIC

RESTRICTED

CLASSIFY TYPE IN THIS SPACE

REASON(S) (Example: Class/Case)

ENDORSE EXISTING FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

01.611/10-632

DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE

RELEASE DENIED FROM PA OF FOI EXEMPTIONS

EMBASSY, Buenos Aires, Argentina DESP. NO. 406

October 6, 1952

REF :

18 For Dept. Use Only 18	ACTION IPB*	DEPT.	ARA	OLI	I	INS	IFI	BY	FD	Received from the State Department.
	REC'D OCT 9	I N O	OTHER							Date <u>10-25-52</u>

SUBJECT: Josephine Baker - Press Interviews in Buenos Aires

Of possible interest to the Department, Embassy is attaching representative clippings of a series of local press interviews with Josephine Baker, presently in Buenos Aires for a two-week engagement at a local film and vaudeville theatre.

Representing herself as a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, (a group to which - as all government dailies point out - Ralph Bunche also belongs), Miss Baker delivered a series of detailed and impassioned accounts of race prejudice in the United States, all of which have been given dramatic play by most newspapers in Buenos Aires. Evening daily "Critica" has presented the interview in a series of five chapters to date. Among quotes attributed to Miss Baker are the following:

"I will not cease (in my mission) to awaken the conscience of the world against the gravity and urgency of the problem. Above all, because I know that now is the moment to strike at the heart. As you know, the persecution of my race in the United States, and considerably less in South Africa, has been renewed in a most alarming degree since the relative respite during the second World War. Lynchings, condemnations without trial, electrocutions, are dealt out coldly to negroes in order to foment the climate of racial violence. These are the order of the day. In the country where I was born they continue to speak of 'democracy' and of 'civilization' while negroes are sent to die in Korea in the same miserable way as they are treated in the Yankee south."

"There are many, very many people, who, with the greatest naivete, look upon the United States as a model. It is necessary to open their eyes."

"Let me recall to the inhabitants of Latin America the card placed in the books in Texas; until yesterday a Mexican State but later appropriated with blood and fire by the Yankees: 'This is a clean establishment and neither negroes nor Mexicans are admitted.'"

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"What does the famous statue of Liberty represent? Where is the democracy about which so many North Americans speak with conviction?The people in the United States who struggle against race prejudice and for justice live in terror."

On days subsequent to the interview Miss Baker paid tribute to Eva Peron at a meeting with General Confederation of Labor and made a personal call on Señor Raul Alejandro Apold, Subsecretary of Information.

She has been acclaimed by the local press as "Queen of African Rhythms" and "Venus of Ebony".

Barbara Atkins

Barbara Atkins
Assistant Press Attaché

Attachment:
1 envelope containing clippings

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REVIEWED BY *OSW* DATE *9/3/65*

CONFIDENTIAL
(Security Classification)

811.411/11-62

PDS or XDS EXT. DATE
BY AUTH. **FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH**

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DECLASSIFIED RELEASE BY: Buenos Aires, Argentina 567

RELEASE DENIED (P.M.T.)
SA. or TDOJ EXEMPTIONS DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

November 6, 1952
DATE

REF :

18 For Dept. Use Only	ACTION	DEPT.	OLI IBS IFI IPS SY PD				
	REC'D	IN F O	OTHER	Date			
MI	NOV 10						

SUBJECT: Josephine Baker - Lecture Series in Buenos Aires

For the Department's information, Mission attaches sample clippings from local dailies which reported the first of Josephine Baker's series of three lectures on racial and religious discrimination to be delivered before public gatherings in Buenos Aires. Admission to these lectures is free although it has been reported to Mission that tickets from the Subsecretariat of Information must be obtained before entrance actually is granted.

Miss Baker delivered her opening discourse on Tuesday, November 4, the evening following her benefit performance at the Teatro Colon for the Eva Peron Monument fund. The speech was delivered by Miss Baker in English and simultaneously translated into Spanish by interpreter Julio Cesar Barton.

Embassy officer who attempted to attend the lecture given at Teatro Odeon reported that although the theatre itself was not over-filled, its entrance was crowded with would-be attenders who were not permitted to enter without tickets, obtainable at the Subsecretariat of Information. (Although all local dailies had announced previously that entrance would be "absolutely free", they neglected to publish the information that it was necessary first to obtain tickets from the Subsecretariat.) Embassy Officer attending reports that among those denied admission to Miss Baker's lecture was a group of negroes who complained about being barred from entrance while the audience was filled with white citizens.

Typical headlines of dailies reporting Miss Baker's speech is Democracia's "There is no Civilization where the Spirit of the Ku Klux Klan is latent, Said Josephine Baker" and El Mundo's "It is Not Wise to Trust North American Promises Says Josephine Baker". The following are translated excerpts taken from the complete text of Miss Baker's speech as published by El Mundo.

Today I am

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(Classification)

"Today I am going to talk to you about discrimination and all its horrors. I have selected South Africa—where the situation is deplorable—and North America where it has arrived at its peak, although this is where one least would expect it considering the preachings of Democracy and the (U.S.) criticism of other countries which they consider not democratic."

After a short discourse on race discrimination as, according to Miss Baker, it is practiced in South Africa, she continued; "In North America there are states which have laws to defend discrimination and there are also states which lack these laws, but who practice discrimination as if they had laws which gave them this right."

Miss Baker then quoted extensively from several issues of Jet Magazine and the Pittsburg Courier on the subject of race discrimination. In the Pittsburg Courier of August 30, 1952, Senator John Sparkman is attacked; among Miss Baker's quotations from Jet (October 9, 1952), one attacks Vice-President elect Richard Nixon on grounds that he is anti-Jewish and anti-Negro in his attitudes. Other quotations cite alleged instances of negro persecution in various sections of the United States. A situation involving the visit of Burmese judge S. Thave Hniah to the State Department in Washington, which, according to Miss Baker, was reported in the September 4, 1952 issue of Jet, was also quoted.

Miss Baker continued; "Ladies and gentlemen, I have read to you about some of the horrors existing in a country which calls itself the guiding democracy of the world. I ask you - should such horrors exist in any country and especially in one which wishes to govern the world?"

"The United States is not a free country and, believe me, I am not jealous of those who live there....I have heard that steps are being taken to prohibit my return to the United States. This would not worry me in the slightest if I knew that the negroes no longer needed me. The reason I had to flee from that country two and one-half years ago was to put my name and myself at their disposal, and to do for them which I knew they could not do for themselves....If my entry into the United States is forbidden, for me this (will be) an honor because it will show that my work for humanity has been successful."

Miss Baker concluded her speech with a dissertation on North American troops in France, alleging that, despite French participation in the liberation forces, the North Americans "had the unscrupulous idea of taking possession of France", and that only by the "miraculous arrival of Free French troops led by General De Gaulle" had Paris been saved for the French. One of the final paragraphs which, in

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CONFIDENTIAL

Page 1 of 1
End No. 727
Dep. No. 367

From Buenos Aires

CONFIDENTIAL

El Mundo is emphasized by being set in large capital letters, reads, in translation as follows: "While the North American army needs us, (the United States) smiles and makes promises. But when we are no longer necessary, it humbles us and reveals that it feels no great love for us. This proves that it is not wise to trust in North American promises."

Miss Baker terminated her remarks with the statement: "This is the same thing that happened with the liberation of the slaves."

Barbara Aitken

Barbara Aitken
Assistant Press Attaché

Attachments:
4 newspaper clippings

BA/wc

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT *at Belmont*
 FROM : V. P. KEAY *(VPK)*
 SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
 NAME CHECK REQUEST

DATE: November 14, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 9/21/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BJL

SYNOPSIS:

Name check request received from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for information concerning Josephine Baker. Reason for request, may apply for admission to U.S. Baker has been associated with several Communist-front groups and active in the defense of Willie McGee, who was convicted in Mississippi on the charge of rape in May, 1951, and was defended by the Civil Rights Congress.

[Redacted] Baker has recently made numerous anti-American remarks in South America. Recommended that memorandum and report be furnished INS.

PURPOSE:

To advise that a name check request has been received from INS concerning captioned individual and to recommend that the attached memorandum and report be disseminated in answer thereto.

BACKGROUND:

INS has submitted a name check request concerning Josephine Baker, born June 3, 1906, St. Louis, Missouri. The reason for the request was given as "may apply for admission to U.S."

DETAILS:

No investigation has been conducted by this Bureau concerning Josephine Baker.

On November 2, 1951, a memorandum was prepared for the Director containing information in Bureau files concerning Baker. Under date of July 15, 1952, pursuant to a request from the McCarran Committee, a memorandum concerning Baker was prepared and furnished to that Committee. Under date of October 14, 1952, a memorandum was prepared and furnished to the Attorney General.

Attachment

b7c *[Redacted]* *WJB/jw*

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EX-130

62-95834-14

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[Redacted] *b7c*

Memo to Mr. A. H. Belmont
from V. P. Keay

RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER
NAME CHECK REQUEST

Josephine Baker, a colored singer, gave up her United States citizenship in 1937 when she married a French broker named Jean Lion. She has been associated with several Communist-front groups. She was active in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and subsequently, during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense. McGee was defended by the Civil Rights Congress.

b7D [REDACTED]

Baker left the United States in June, 1952, for South America. While in South America she has made numerous anti-American remarks to the press of that country.

There are attached for dissemination to INS a copy of the memorandum furnished the Attorney General on October 14, 1952, and a report dated October 30, 1952.

b7C [REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached memorandum and report be furnished INS in answer to this request.

Done
11/2/52
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

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Photo
CC TO: OSI-463902
REQ. REC'D 11-17
ANS. NOV 13 1962
BY: Shay and

November 12, 1952

JOSEPHINE BAKER

Born June 3, 1906 at
St. Louis, Missouri

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

According to the April 2, 1951, issue of "Life" magazine, Josephine Baker is the daughter of a St. Louis, Missouri, washer woman. This article stated that Baker, who as of the time of the article, was alleged to be forty-five years of age, began her Paris night club career in 1925, and has spent most of her life since that time in France.

The article further stated that Baker was reported to have at one time been married to a tap dancer and supposedly married one Pepito Albertino in the 1920's. In 1937, Baker gave up her United States citizenship and married a French broker by the name of Jean Lion. This marriage was dissolved by a divorce in 1940. Baker married her present husband, a Frenchman, band leader Jo Bouillon, in 1947.

According to the March 12, 1951, issue of "Time" magazine, Baker has been a French citizen since 1937, and during the occupation of France by the Germans, during World War II, spent her time in North Africa. This article further stated that while in North Africa, Baker became a Lieutenant in the Free French Air Force, did intelligence work, drove an ambulance, and entertained troops.

Josephine Baker took a great interest in and engaged in extensive activity in the defense of Willie McGee, a Negro who was convicted in the State of Mississippi on the charge of rape of a white woman and, subsequently during May, 1951, was executed by the State of Mississippi for that offense.

RECORDED - 57
INDEXED - 57
162-25834-15

"Counterattack," a publication of "Facts to Combat Communism," 55 West 42nd Street, New York City, in letter No. 200 dated March 23, 1951, carried an item entitled, "Josephine Baker Won't Support Communist Fronts." According to "Counterattack" Baker cancelled a speaking engagement at a "Save Willie McGee Rally" scheduled for March 19, 1951, when she learned that the rally was sponsored by the American Labor Party and that Paul Robeson, well-known entertainer and Communist Party apologist, and former United States Representative Vito Marcantonio of New York City would also speak at the rally. (100-350-512-393)

Attachment

Original to INS-Washington, D. C.

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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[REDACTED]

Criminal Div. 100-3-3866 p. 11, 12, 165.
In a report dated March 29, 1944, the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, stated that "For years the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture the entire American Labor Party throughout New York State. They succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the American Labor Party, but outside of New York City they have been unable to win control."

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

100-270288-6 (Diss: D/R, 7-13-51)
Relative to Baker's interest in the Willie McGee case while in Detroit, Michigan, the May 16, 1951, issue of the "Daily Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, carried the story under the by-line of William Allan, State Board member, District No. 7, Communist Party, and Michigan correspondent for the "Daily Worker," entitled "'Pulitzer Prize' Paper Gagged Josephine Baker." According to this story Baker, who at that time was appearing at the Fox Theater in Detroit, Michigan, contacted the editor of the "Detroit Free Press" and advised him that she would like to make a statement on the "legal murder" of one of her people, Willie McGee, who she stated was an innocent man framed on a charge of raping a white woman. This article went on to state that after receiving assurance that her statement would be printed in the "Detroit Free Press," the statement never appeared. (100-3-90-216)

Tolson _____
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Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

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(Tesur; 100-3-75-594)

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

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[REDACTED]

100-340533-17; 100-359582-25 p. 4; Diss.; D/R, 9-11-51; G-E, ONI, OSI 1-8-52

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[REDACTED]

100-3-12-2501 p. 73; Diss: ONI, G-2, OSI, D/R, 10-1-51)

The "Daily Worker" of May 25, 1951, reported that the Committee for the Negroes in the Arts was planning a brunch on May 27, 1951, at the Hotel Theresa, New York City, to pay special tribute to Josephine Baker and twelve other personalities for their work on behalf of Negro artists.

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100-3-7041 p. 105; 100-3-4100 p. 149; Diss and Criminal Division 10-3-51)

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(100-368227-15, 16)

Diss. D/R, G-2, ONI, OSI - 11-21-51)

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(S) D/R - 5-20-52)

100-14969-115 p. 19 Diss; 123

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- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
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- Belmont _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Mohr _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

*Referred to
State Dept.
(b)(3)
(USSC 100211)
for State 7/28/73*

[REDACTED]

(62-95834-2)

[REDACTED]

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(100-392496-1)

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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62-95834-6)

According to an Associated Press release dated Mexico City April 16, 1952, which appeared in the "Washington Star" on the same date, Baker, in Mexico City, had announced the formation of an organization known as the "World League Against Racial Discrimination." According to this release, Baker stated that the league would fight discrimination against not only the Negro race but all others who were the targets of restrictive practices. Baker further announced that headquarters of the league would be in Mexico with branches in Cuba, Guatemala and El Salvador.

_____ According to an article which appeared in the August 29, 1952, issue of "O Globo," a newspaper published in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Baker, _____ while in that city, announced her intention of forming a Rio de Janeiro branch _____ of the World Association Against Racial and Religious Discrimination.
_____ (62-95834-8)

_____ According to articles appearing in the public press during the first part of October, 1952, Baker was in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and she _____ was quoted as having made anti-American remarks to the press of that country.

Name _____
Last _____
Middle _____
Suffix _____
Class _____
Office _____
Date _____
Title _____
Room _____
Tracy _____
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File No. _____
Phone _____
City _____

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

According to Robert C. Ruark's column which appeared in the "Washington Daily News" on October 10, 1952, Baker in Buenos Aires, after visiting President Juan Peron, President of Argentina, had indorsed such quotations which appeared in "Critica," Buenos Aires newspaper as: "The persecutions are more shocking than before World War II with lynchings, condemnations without trial and electrocutions the order of the day." To this Ruark commented "She is speaking of America. How she would know about pre-World War II is rather baffling since she lived abroad and was wed to a series of Frenchmen."

Ruark's column also attributed the following remarks to Baker:

"White men prate of democracy and civilization and send the Negroes to die in Korea. In this horror of discrimination, where is democracy?"

"In America they hunt Christ with a gun and hang him from a tree."

"I have personally seen many lynchings and much brutality. The horror of seeing men, women and children killed like animals will never fade from my mind."

"I was terrorized on my last trip home. They wouldn't let me live in peace. My brother-in-law stumbled into a white man whose son complained 'Daddy, you promised me I could kill the next black I saw.'"

Ruark further stated that Baker was quoted as having read the series in "Critica" and as having said "It's all unfortunately absolutely true."

For your information, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] there is attached dated October 30, [REDACTED]

hereto a copy of the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] 1952, at New York, New York in the case entitled [REDACTED] (100-392496-5)

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

The foregoing information is being furnished as the result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance. It is for your confidential information and is not to be disseminated outside of your agency.

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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W

SAC, New York (105-5104)

November 12, 1952

Director, FBI (100-392476) - 5

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[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/18/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK b7c

Reference is made to the report of SA [REDACTED]
dated October 30, 1952, at New York, relative to the above-
captioned individual.

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The New York Office, as the office of origin in this
case, must follow this investigation closely and advise the Bureau
promptly of any and all developments pertaining to the activities
of [REDACTED] association with Josephine Baker.

- cc - 2 - Los Angeles (Attachment)
- 2 - Washington Field (Attachment)

WAA:awv

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DEC 27 1952

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SECRET AIR COURIER

*0-1 Paris Spec. 1/26/53 (42)
Ext. of 1/7/53*

Date: November 21, 1952

To: Legal Attache
Paris, France

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FE

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/RSK
DATE OF REVIEW BARB 9/2/82

Attached for your information is a copy of the report
of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 30, 1952, at New York,
entitled [redacted]

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[Large redacted block of text]

This matter must receive preferred attention and your
reply submitted to the Bureau at an early date.

Attachment
cc - Foreign Service Desk
cc - 100-392496

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COMM - FBI

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[Redacted signature and initials]
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[Redacted signature and initials]
b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, New York (62-0)
SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 11/14/52

61460

Attached herewith is a photostatic copy of an undated "G-2 Log Entry" furnished to this office by G-2, Governors Island, New York City.

The above is forwarded for the information of the Bureau in view of the current publicity being given MISS BAKER.

ENC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/02 BY SP-1 GSK/PS/WVW

EXPEDITED PROCESSING
NOV 19 1952

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NOV 17 1952

12-2

Lawrence Gardner
[Redacted] b7C

DEC 10 1952
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) Department of the Army, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 17, 1952

~~SECRET~~

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles (100-0)

1-1 to Capt. Paris 12-11-52

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER,
SOCIETY OF WORLD CULTURES
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Capt. Paris adv. matter being
closely followed. SARCE
Some internal trouble.

(s)bl 1-1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CLASS BY SP-1 ASK/PSK

DATE OF REVIEW 4/2/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

EXPEDITIOUS PROCESSING
NOV 20 1952

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ENCLOSURE PERIOD FILE

REG.

ENCLOS.

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G. I. RINDEXED-39

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(C), (b)(7)(D) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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ENCLOSURE (7)

CONFIDENTIAL	THIS SPACE
FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH	NOV 13 1952
Embassy, Buenos Aires, Argentina	

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON. November 13, 1952
 Embassy's Despatch 567, November 6, 1952

ACTION	DEPT.	REVIEWED BY
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Local Press Treatment - Josephine Baker's Speech		ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS <input type="checkbox"/>
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		RELEASE DENIED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (P.M.)
		PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS 55204(7)(C)

Concluding a series of three public conferences presented on November 4, 5 and 6 to audiences in Buenos Aires, Josephine Baker spoke on the subject: "Why Non-Race Discriminating Countries Should Join the Crusade for the Liberation of Humanity".

As previously announced by many local dailies, the subjects to be included in this terminating discourse were the following: "The Octopus and Race Discrimination"; "Experience in Brazil"; "Influence of the Press"; "Negro Armies and White Armies"; "Loyalty of the Negro in the War"; "White Actors Imitate the Negroes"; "The Ku Klux Klan"; "Associations Against Race Discrimination". According to advance notices, Miss Baker also planned to discuss the irritation of the North American press resulting from her visit with President Peron.

Although not all of Miss Baker's proposed subjects of discussion were dealt with in detail, the following translation of excerpts from the speech as published in El Mundo indicates the subjects which were given particular emphasis:

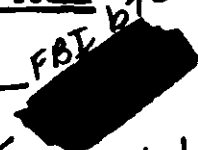
"Racial and religious discrimination is like an octopus which releases a black liquid to conceal itself....to give you an idea as to how the octopus functions, I will tell you that I was in Brazil some months ago....There I found a fantastic change...The great buildings which circled the beach of Copacabana did not impress me...and that was my first impression of North American influence...The second was the reaction of some of the people with whom I had contact in relation to my crusade. I sensed a resistance and a fear when I told them of discrimination in North America....

"I was in Montevideo a month ago....I realized that an organization was also necessary there. The situation is not against negroes but against the Jews, which I consider equally hateful and attack with equal strength, since they, too, are our brothers.

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Fr. Louis Alton

"I found that the greater part of the (Uruguayan) press is a bit hostile and fears to speak about my organization, because it is based on the problem of discrimination which exists especially in North America. Upon my arrival in Montevideo, the press was very kind to me, but after my speeches, only one newspaper dared to publish my discourse, and they told me that they had received a friendly visit from the American Embassy requesting them not to publish it. Of course this did not stop them (the one newspaper) but you understand what I mean concerning the influence of the press".

Turning to a discussion of World War II during the North African campaign, Miss Baker continued: "I personally hoped that by aiding the North Americans in this war, my people would never again suffer from discrimination....I was stunned to realize that the same people with whom and for whom we were fighting would use us for their own ends..."

"Ladies and gentlemen, we, the Free French, lacked uniforms and, while the Yankees held the gold of France under their control, we, the Free French who fought by their side, struggled for sheer idealism, with empty stomachs, without shoes for our feet. Our soldiers did not receive their pay for months and months..We were considered the poor relations. They accused us and they needed us desperately because this war was to save Wall Street from a crash like that of 1929....

"We, the Free French, had discarded all material thoughts, we were fighting for an ideal....In our ranks we saw men from Argentina, Brazil and many parts of the world...They knew that that meant sacrifice, while North America was calculating how much money it could get out of the war".

Miss Baker continued her speech with references to situations involving the negro actor Canada Lee, Willie McGee, and W.C. Handy, a negro composer who was allegedly unable to obtain hotel lodging in St. Louis, and a criticism of the activities of the Ku Klux Klan. She concluded:

"At this moment in North America I am branded...because I have the courage to speak of the atrocities resulting from race and religious discrimination.

"In the white newspapers of that country, there is hardly ever anything printed about negroes. But I am the latest news. I am the traitress; I am the undesirable. According to the newspapers they are taking measures to prohibit my entry to North America. I hope they know that none of those threats can prevent my carrying on my trust

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From Buenos Aires

until all men are equal...and although they can prevent my entry into their country, they will not stop my activities as long as there are those who need me....

"In North America I am considered the mouthpiece of President Peron. I would consider this a great honor if it were true; but since I am not aware of what the President thinks or says, it would not be easy for me to be his instrument' as they say. Besides, I believe that President Peron is loved and respected by his people for having ideas and his own beliefs.

"Upon hearing that for the first time, I was surprised..it even shocked me. But since then I have come to the conclusion that the thing which has most inflamed North America is not my campaign against discrimination but my being here in Argentina. North America will not pardon me for having visited this country, for admiring it and its people and its leader. She (North America) is trying to deceive you in the same way that she is deceiving so many innocent people of the world with her falsehoods....

"Every day I receive articles published in North American newspapers which angrily attack me. Every time I realize with greater clarity that it is not only for my claims against discrimination, because I have said these same things in other countries and in North America itself. It was precisely when I arrived in Argentina that the bomb exploded. It seems as though I have committed a terrible crime in coming here and in being received affectionately by President Peron and by the Argentine people... I committed the unpardonable crime of leaving flowers before the image of Señora Peron and of visiting the works of the Foundation....What most infuriated them was my visit to the social works of Señora Peron and my having signed the book of gold with the words 'Your Sister'. Ladies and Gentlemen, for the North Americans that was the crime of the year."

Miss Baker concluded her discourse with the naming of the following countries where her Association presently exists: Scandinavian countries, Italy, Mexico, North America, Japan, Cuba, Haiti, Brazil, France, Uruguay, Johannesburg, South Africa. She said she hoped a new branch would be established in Buenos Aires.

Although El Mundo printed Miss Baker's speech in full, most dailies (with the exception of the two English-language papers and Nacion, which did not carry it at all) published extracts. Singled out for particular emphasis were Miss Baker's remarks about the attitude of the United States toward her visit in Argentina and her comment about the possibility of a prohibition being put upon her entry into the United States. Epoca headlined its report of November 8 "Yankee Ambassador Inhibited Uruguayan Newspapers From Mentioning Josephine Baker" a Speecher".

El Lider

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El Lider and other government dailies published a Friday Press dispatch detailing Washington which reported an alleged declaration by an unidentified member of the U.S. Justice Department to a Friday Press correspondent indicating that Miss Baker's case was under study. All dailies publishing this dispatch, added as Miller's State editorializing on the alleged injustice of the Department of Justice action in not allowing Miss Baker to return "to her own country" because, according to these dailies, "she did not submit to the tyranny of the whites". Charlie Chaplin's case was also mentioned in this connection.

The English-language Buenos Aires Harold is the only newspaper to date which has published a Reuter's (erroneously attributed to United Press) report of Representative Adam Clayton Powell's comment to the effect that if it were true that Miss Baker had made statements attributed to her, he would ask that she should not be allowed to re-enter the United States.

Coincident with the reporting of Miss Baker's conferences, La Esfera Daily La Esfera bitterly attacked local independent daily La Opinion on the grounds that its ignoring of Miss Baker, her visit to Argentina and her conferences, constituted another proof of La Opinion's foreign orientation.

Copy of El Mundo's report of Miss Baker's latest discourse is attached.

Barbara Athan
Barbara Athan
Assistant Press Attache

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