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Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

[REDACTED]

b1

(S)

In April, 1954, the Legal Attache, Paris, forwarded a report on Josephine Baker dealing with her race prejudice, which was submitted by the Political Section of the American Embassy in Paris. The document goes into detail concerning her activities, primarily dealing with anti-United States statements and her fight for racial equality. In summing up, the report indicated that Baker appears to have confined her political interests to the question of race prejudice, that although in several instances she has identified herself with communist-supported causes, her main activities seem to have been limited to her association with a French organization, the "International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism (French abbreviation LICA). Baker in her statements wherein she represented this organization indicated that she had suffered the terrible consequences of racial discrimination in the United States and she was bent on exposing such conditions wherever she goes. According to this report, LICA was an anticommunist organization. Although a number of the campaigns of LICA have coincided with campaigns backed by the communists, it does appear that the organization is entirely anticommunist. (U) Declassified per 9/1/83 State Dept. letter. GS/RSK 4/1/83.

Released
per
STATE

In 1954 American newspapers carried accounts of a libel action that had been previously filed by Baker against Walter Winchell and the Hearst Corporation for \$400,000. Baker in this civil action alleged that Winchell had indicated that Baker was a "Fascist, a communist or one who consorts with communists, an anti-Semite, an anti-Negro, an enemy of the people of her own race, intelligently dishonest, a fraud, and a person of low or doubtful character." This action arose out of the Stork Club incident.

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

183

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER

~~SECRET~~

The New York Office advised in May, 1955, that an examination of the civil court docket for the United States District Court in New York City revealed that a special pre-trial hearing had been held following which the case was dismissed.

An article in the "Washington Star" on May 6, 1954, date lined Tokyo, indicated that Baker had issued a statement saying that she planned a trip to Russia "where many races live in harmony." She adopted two Japanese boys while on a concert tour in Japan and stated "she hoped the boys may one day follow the footsteps of Paul Robeson who she described as a great man who has fought the battles for racial justice and world peace."

An article in the "Daily Worker" on April 13, 1956, indicated that Josephine Baker sang her last adieu to the Paris stage on April 12, 1956. She sang for more than an hour to a jammed auditorium for her final performance of her career.

Subsequent information in Bureau files indicates that Baker has continued her travels throughout the world and continues her anti-United States statements in lectures, and conferences. It appears that most of her activities have been in connection with or under the auspices of the International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism.

~~SECRET~~

184

THREE DEPARTMENTS
I. DAY AND BOARDING
FOR TEENAGERS AND ADULTS
II. WARDROBE DESIGN
III. CHARM DEPARTMENT

Established 1919

WATERMAN SCHOOL

722-724 Oak Street - Cincinnati 6, Ohio

April 1, 1960

Immigration and Naturalization Service and J. Edgar Hoover
Washington, D. C.

I, like many others, am very concerned with the re-entrance
of Josephine Baker into the United States. Whenever I am in
doubt I first take matters up with Gordon Scherer, our Congressman.

In his reply he said he was advised that she was here on
an "H" visa as a "temporary worker." Evidently, Immigration
did not find it could refuse this visa and issued it rather
reluctantly.

Be that as it may, I am sure you are more aware of
Josephine Baker and her destructive attitude than we are, as we
only have hearsay, whereas, you have records. Now, the point
of this letter is that I and several organizations of which I am
affiliated have a strong feeling that whoever scheduled
Josephine Baker's appearance in Chicago should be investigated
with the so-called proverbial "fine toothed comb". I think it
is rather serious that persons such as Josephine Baker can go
around the world doing everything in their power to destroy us
and then come back and "break bread with us". Talk about Judas,
he was a Piker compared to this kind. I would appreciate any
information you have to offer.

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature block]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/7/82 BY SP-1/CS/RC

REC-20 62-95834-64

15 APR 15 1960

ask 4-#60
pub 6/7/60
1 cont. let
4-8-60

CRIME REC. 6

Send your child to the Waterman School if you wish him to have
discipline, training, guidance and respect for law and order.

185

REC-2062-95834-64

April 12, 1960

[Redacted address block]

b7c

Waterman School
72B-724 Oak Street
Cincinnati 6, Ohio

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/7/83 BY SP.105/RS

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated April 1, 1960, addressed also to the
Immigration and Naturalization Service, has been received, and
the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

Although I would like to be of service, it is not
within the scope of this Bureau's authority to make evaluations
or draw conclusions as to the character or integrity of any
organization, publication or individual since we are strictly a
fact-gathering agency. Furnishing information of the type you
desire would, in effect, constitute an approval or disapproval of
the individual you named, and I am unable to answer your inquiry.
Please do not infer in this connection either that we do or do not
have the data in our files.

I am taking the liberty of enclosing some material
concerning the general subject of communism which may be of
interest to you. A copy of your letter is being referred to the
Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, U. S.
Department of Justice, 119 D Street, Northeast, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,
John Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures (4)
Communist Illusion & Democratic Reality March, 1960, LEB Introduction
Director's statement concerning 17th National Convention, CP

RWE:jah

TELETYPE UNIT

NOTE NEXT PAGE

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

MAILED 8
APR 13 1960
COMM-FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM
B I
APR 13 5 57 PM '60

REC'D-READING ROOM
APR 12 4 36 PM '60

REC'D LEB
APR 13 9 26 AM '60

63 APR 31 9 10 AM '60

b7c

NOTE: [REDACTED] Bufile 62-95834-63
reflects a summary regarding Josephine Baker who has not been investigated
by the Bureau but regarding whom there is derogatory information in the
files. In view of this, it is believed above acknowledgement will be most
satisfactory.

1 - Bell
1 - Belmont

The Attorney General

May 24, 1960

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/7/82 BY SP1 GSK/RSK

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FRANCE

With reference to my talk with you on
May 23, 1960, concerning Josephine Baker

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

Baker is a dancer and an expatriated
United States citizen who has permanent residence in
France but who is now in the United States. In the
past, she has been procommunist in her statements and
has denounced the United States on a number of occasions
publicly.

[REDACTED]

MAY 24 5 11 PM '60
RECEIVED
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b7D

MAILED 27
MAY 25 1960
COMM-FBI

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

62-95834

REC-11622438-67

RECEIVED BY SECURE BECE 1960

1 - Bufile

FIB:JFW:119

67 MAY 25 1960

b7C
b7D
[Handwritten signatures and initials]

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FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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184

The Attorney General

[REDACTED]

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b7D

*The Department of State and the Commissioner,
Immigration and Naturalization Service, have been furnished
the facts in this matter.*

*1 - Mr. Lawrence E. Walsh
Deputy Attorney General*

SECRET

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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/PSK
DATE OF REVIEW 9/7/82 RABR

4:48 PM

May 23, 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. BELMONT
MR. PARSONS

While talking to the Attorney General on another matter, I stated I had a case which has broken out in California about which I was going to call him pertaining to Josephine Baker, who was allowed into the Country after she had originally been denied a visa.

b7C
b7D

I advised the Attorney General that we had sent the information to the Immigration and Naturalization Service because it was not a matter within our jurisdiction; that she was really not eligible for entrance into the United States, but was allowed to come in and no doubt the press will be getting hold of it.

[Large redacted block of text]

b7C

The Attorney General inquired as to what her nationality was, and I told him it was American, but I thought she had forfeited her American citizenship and taken out French citizenship; that she traveled throughout the world; had been in South America where she was damning the United States; had appeared in

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____

1 - Mr. Ingram
JEH:edm (7) *edm*

REC-20 62-95834-66

EX-107

SENT FROM B. O.
TIME 10:21 AM 1960

19

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for Messrs. Tolson, Belmont, Parsons

May 23, 1960

benefits for the Soviet Government; and in France and Italy had given out anti-American material over the years. I stated when she first applied, her visa was denied; that it was appealed and apparently the State Department and Justice Department had waived the restrictions and allowed her to come in under an exception. The Attorney General stated he did not remember this case.

I told the Attorney General that he might think it wise to have somebody look over the Baker case because I thought it was going to break in the press and he might want to get the facts on it and be prepared to handle it.


The Attorney General thanked me for this information.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~
SECRET

b7C

192

3:36 PM

May 24, 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. PARSONS
MR. BELMONT

While talking to the Attorney General on another matter he made reference to the Josephine Baker Case. She had been allowed into this country after having originally been denied a visa. He stated he had checked this matter with General Swing and learned that the Department of Justice had not issued a waiver, but that the State Department had granted a visa to her.

Very truly yours,

J. E. H.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/7/82 BY SP-1 CSK/pak

cc-Mr. Ingram

JSH:ZH (7)

REC-35

62-95834-67

EX-112

MAY 26 1960

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont 55
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____

SENT FROM D. O.
 TIME 5:17 PM
 DATE 5/24/60
 BY JSH

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

1 - Mr. Kayne
1 - Liaison

62-95834

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/7/82 BY SP-1 GSK/psk

Date: May 24, 1960
To: Office of Security
Department of State
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Subject: JOSEPEINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FRANCE

Baker is a dancer and an expatriated United States citizen with permanent residence in France, but who is now in the United States. In the past she has been procommunist in her statements and has denounced the United States on a number of occasions publicly.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

BY COURIER SVC.
DATE ONLY
05 MAY 25
COMM - FBI

MAY 24 5 16 PM '60

- Tolson
- Mohr
- Parsons
- Belmont
- Callahan
- DeLoach
- Malone
- McGuire
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Trotter
- W.C. Sullivan
- Tele. Room
- Ingram
- Gandy

51 JUN 2 1960

EX 109 REC 98
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

RECEIVED - 10720K

1 Xerox copy to Legat, Buenos Aires for info along with [unclear] from m.l.c. 4-19-66 serial 22

b7c

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Office of Security
Department of State

[REDACTED]

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b7D

[REDACTED]

The Attorney General has been furnished the above information.

[REDACTED]

1 - The Commissioner VIA LIAISON
Immigration and Naturalization Service

TO [REDACTED] JvNS
5/25/60
PBB

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

Handwritten initials/signature

Tolson	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Belmont	_____
Callahan	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
McGuire	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
W.C. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: May 22, 1960

FROM : Mr. D. F. X. Callahan

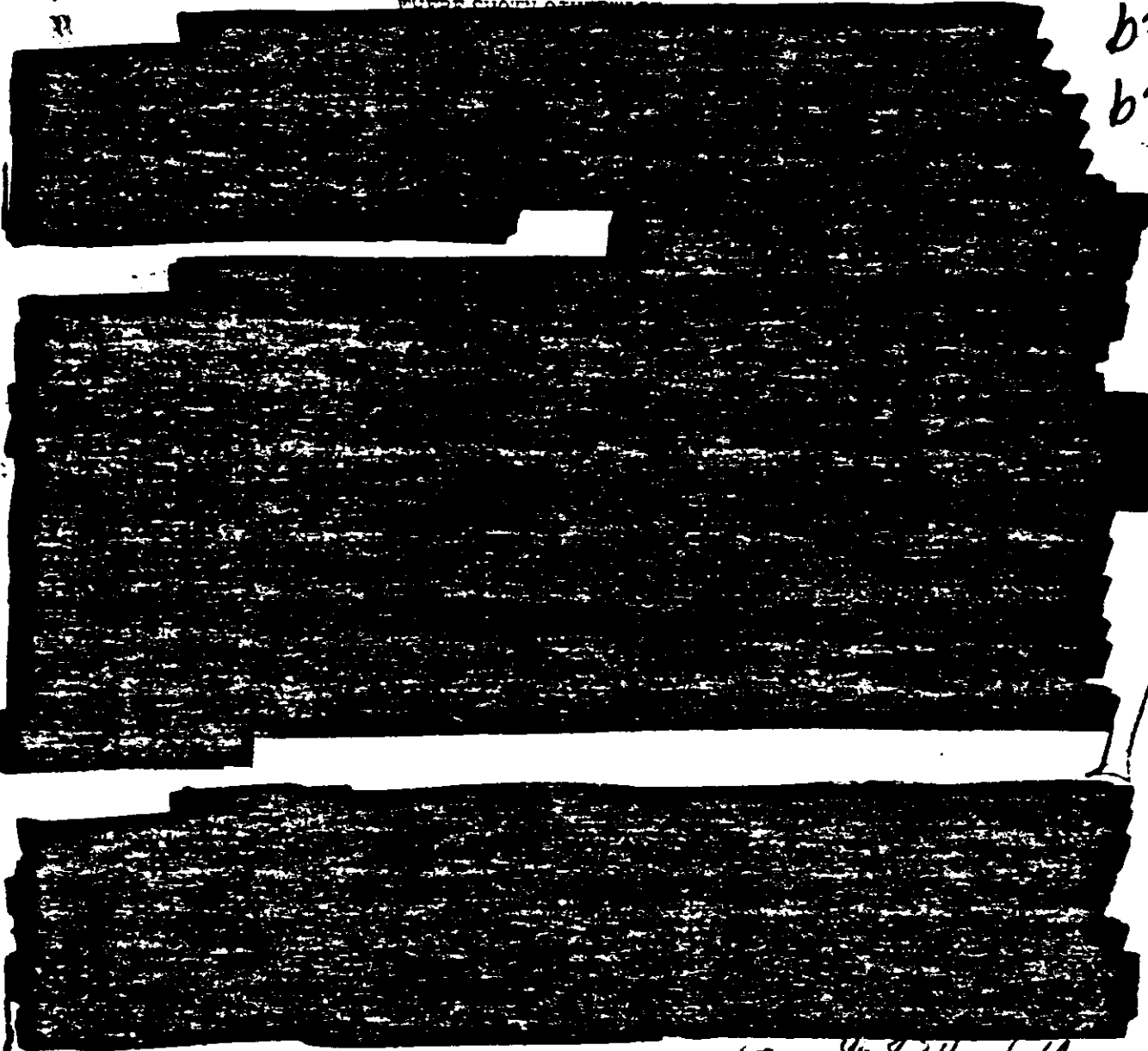
CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
IS - FRANCE

DATE OF REVIEW OADR *after*

D. F. X. Callahan

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE



b7C
b7D

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-61132-

62-95834

- 1 - [redacted]
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Donahoe
- 1 - Mr. Kayne
- 1 - Mr. Callahan

~~SECRET~~ 109

REC-98

62-95834-69

4 JUN 1 1960

6/2/60 6/1960 *Handwritten initials*

(6)

197

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont
RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER
62-95834

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

b1
b7C
(S)

Josephine Baker, Bufile 62-95834, is former Negro singer and entertainer who spent most of her career in France. While never identified with the Communist Party directly, Baker has lent her support to pro-Negro causes in which the communists had interests.

[REDACTED] (S) She has lectured in several countries throughout the world and in speaking has denounced the United States and pointed up alleged "atrocities" against Negroes in the United States.

b1

[REDACTED]

b7C

ACTION:

Above for your information. Any action necessary will be taken upon receipt of details from Los Angeles Office.

teletype attached

~~SECRET~~

198

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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199

FBI

Date: 5/23/60

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Parsons _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Callahan _____
- Mr. DeLoach _____
- Mr. Malone _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tamm _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Mr. W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Ingram _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Transmit the following in _____

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~ (or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-61132)

FROM: SAC, WFO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

[Redacted]

b7c

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

DATE OF REVIEW WDR 9/7/82

b7c

ReLA teletype 5/22/60. Indices WFO reflect local newspaper, "Times - Herald," of 11/8/52, carried item dated Buenos Aires, Nov. 7 re: JOSEPHINE BAKER in which President EISENHOWER was subject of her bitter attack. BAKER asserted among other derogatory remarks that "famous German persecutions will seem like child's play now that IKE has been elected," further "colored people in the U.S. will suffer as they never have before," BAKER was in Buenos Aires at the time and article states she has "carried on a running attack against U.S. racial discrimination."

[Large redacted block]

b1

(S) No identifiable information in indices regarding [Redacted]

RUC

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - New York (RM)
- 2 - San Francisco (AM)(RM)
- 2 - Los Angeles (AM)(RM) (105-5862)
- 1 - WFO

EX 109

REC-98

62-95834-71

JUN 1 1960

JUN 2 1960

AIRTEL

Approved: James H. Gale
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

~~SECRET~~
NAT. INT. SEC.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

b7C

5-23-60

TELETYPE

URGENT

CLASSIFIED BY ~~SP-1 GSK/BSK~~
DATE OF REVIEW ~~1/7/82~~

TO SACS SAN FRANCISCO
LOS ANGELES

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

b7C

[REDACTED]

RE LOS ANGELES TEL MAY TWENTYTHREE LAST.

[REDACTED] DISCONTINUE INVESTIGATION THIS CASE. (S)(U)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/BSK

JFW:frl

ful

NOTE ON YELLOW:

[REDACTED]

Baker was admitted to US after the inadmissibility clause was waived by AG and INS. We have no responsibility for her activities and should not investigate this matter.

EX 109
REC-98
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

62-95834-72

JUN 2 1960

MAY 23 1960

TELETYPE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

51 JUN 2 1960

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

~~SECRET~~

MAY 23 1960

TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/19/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

CLASS BY SP-1 GSK/RSK
DATE OF REVIEW MAR 9/7/82

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

URGENT 5-23-60 PM 2-48 PM MC
TO DIRECTOR, FBI 62-61132 AND SAC, SAN FRANCISCO
FROM SAC, LOS ANGELES 105-5862 1-P

[REDACTED]

LOS ANGELES TEL MAY TWENTY-ONE.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

END AND ACK IN ORDER PLS
WA 5-50 PM OK FBI WA MS
SF OK FBI SF MPD

TU DISCT
MAY 2 1960

REC-62 95834-579 LA
MAY 10 1960
JUN 1 1960
~~SECRET~~
INT/SEC

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62-95834-74

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FBI

Date: 5/24/60

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-61132)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (62-8199)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/18/82 BY SP-1084/RSK

b7C

Re Los Angeles teletype to Director and SACs
NY, San Francisco and WFO, 5/21/60.

Files of the NYO contain no information
identifiable with [REDACTED]

b7C

With regard to JOSEPHINE BAKER, the Bureau's
attention is invited to the matter captioned [REDACTED]

with particular reference to NY letter to the Bureau
dated 12/20/53.

[REDACTED]

EX 109

RUC

- 3 - Bureau (62-61132) (RM) REC-98
- 2 - Los Angeles (105-5862) (RM)
- 1 - San Francisco (Info) (RM)
- 1 - Washington Field (Info) (RM)
- 1 - New York (62-8199)

62-93834-75

[REDACTED] dmb
(9)

b7C

4/25

Approved: _____ Sent _____ Per _____

51 JUN 2 1960

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

NAT. INT. SEC. [REDACTED]

Per

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

62-61132-

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For your information: _____

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

62-95834-75

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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.

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For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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62-95834-77

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207

- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Donahoe
- 1 - Mr. Bell

The Attorney General

May 27, 1960

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/7/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PL

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FRANCE

With reference to my memorandum dated
May 24, 1960, concerning the activities of Josephine
Baker and the allegations made against her by her
manager, William L. Taub

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

MAILED 27
MAY 31 1960
COMM-FBI

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

62-95834

REC-80

JUN 2 1960

1 -- [REDACTED]

TIB:sp (9)
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Cover memo Donahoe to Belmont
prepared 5-26-60 by TIB:mskac,
same subject, re this outgoing.

67 JUN 2 1960

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-95834-78

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For your information: _____
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209

The Attorney General

Josephine Baker requested on May 25, 1960,
to be interviewed by agents of this Bureau.

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

b7c

14
He volunteered that she had never been a communist and was pleased by the treatment she had received in the United States except for Taub. She said her publicity man, Ernest F. Quirot, who was present during her interview, was in San Francisco and Los Angeles to publicize her chateau in France for the tourist trade to France and she had planned to send money with him to France for her chateau and for her family but she had no documents to send.

In view of the above, this Bureau is taking no further action in this matter.

1 - Mr. Lawrence Walsh
Deputy Attorney General

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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211

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Belmont	_____
Callahan	_____
Loach	_____
Malone	_____
McGuire	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
W.C. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : A. H. Belmont *ANS*

DATE: May 26, 1960

FROM : S. B. Donahoe *SD*

1 - Mr. Parsons
1 - Mr. Belmont

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
IS - FRANCE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/7/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PRK *[Signature]*

[REDACTED]

Baker is a former Negro singer and entertainer who has spent most of her career in France. She has never been identified as a Communist Party member directly but has lent her support to communist causes and has denounced the United States on occasions in the past, particularly insofar as alleged "atrocities" against Negroes in the United States.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In addition, Baker, who asked to be interviewed, denied she had ever been a communist.

Enclosures *sent 5-31-60*
62-95834

NOT RECORDED

REC-77 62-95834-90

1 - [REDACTED]
TIB:hst:kac (6)

KAC
DF

b7C

* This was set forth in our memo of 5-24 to the A.G.

23 JUN 2 1960

NAT. INT. SEC.

52 JUN 7 1960

b7D
UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-61132-
b7C

212

Memo to A. H. Belmont
re: 62-61132

[REDACTED]

ACTION:

b7C

We are taking no further action in this matter and so advising the Attorney General, State Department and INS in the enclosed letters.

over G P V [initials]

id

[initials]

[initials]

~~SECRET~~

[Redacted] b7C

Legal Attache, Paris (105-245)

June 3, 1960

Director, FBI (62-95834)

~~SECRET~~

JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FRANCE

CLASS. BY SP10CK/PEK

DATE OF REVIEW 9/1/82

RA

Subject, born in 1905 or 1906 in St. Louis, Missouri, is at present in the United States appearing in night clubs as a singer and dancer. In 1937 she gave up her United States citizenship and became a French citizen. She has resided for the most part since 1925 in France. She is married to one Jo Boullion.

[Large redacted block]

b7C

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

WFO should contact the Visa Section, Department State, for the same purpose. Information obtained as a result should be submitted in form suitable for dissemination.

2 - Washington Field

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (Route through for review)

JFW:tp
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/1/82 BY SP10CK/PEK

EX 109

REC-62 62-95834-81

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

MAILED 27
JUN 3 1960
COMM-FBI

FBI
REC'D MAIL ROOM

19 JUN 8 1960

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~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

214

- 1 - Mr. Parsons
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Donahoe
- 1 - Mr. Bell
- 1 - Liaison

62-95834

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

Date: May 27, 1960
To: Office of Security
Department of State
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FRANCE

Reference is made to my letter dated
May 24, 1960, concerning the activities of Josephine
Baker and the allegations made against her by her
manager, William L. Tamm.

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

BY COURIER SVC.
12 JUN 31
COMM. FBI.

1/ REC-13 62-95834-82

[REDACTED]

1960

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

b7C
TIB:tp
100
REC-13
ED 1
WVIF

Cover memo Donahoe to Belmont prepared re this subject by TIB:mst:kac 5/26/60.

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

50 JUN 8 1960

215

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-95834-61132

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62-95834-82

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216

Office of Security
Department of State

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

Josephine Baker requested on May 25, 1960,
to be interviewed by agents of this Bureau.

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7C

she volunteered that she had never been a communist and was pleased by the treatment she had received in the United States except for Taub. She said her publicity man, Ernest F. Quirot, who was present during her interview, was in San Francisco and Los Angeles to publicize her chateau in France for the tourist trade to France and she had planned to send money with him to France for her chateau and for her family but she had no documents to send.

In view of the above, this Bureau is taking no further action in this matter.

- 1 - The Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service

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62-95834-NR 5-24-60

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For your information: _____

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62-95834-NR 5-25-60

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230

PAGE FOUR

[REDACTED]

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED] JOSEPHINE BAKER REQUESTED TO HAVE AGENTS
INTERVIEW HER. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C

END PAGE FOUR

221

PAGE FIVE

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED] SHE VOLUNTEERED THAT SHD HAD NEVER BEEN A COMMUNIST AND WAS PLEASED BY THE TREATMENT SHE HAD RECEIVED IN THE U.S. EXCEPT FOR TAUB. SHE SAID HER PUBLICITY MAN, ERNEST F. QUIROT WHO WAS PRESENT WHILE SHE TALKED WITH AGENTS, WAS IN SF AND LA TO PUBLICIZE HER CHATEAU IN FRANCE FOR THE TOURIST TRADE TO FRANCE AND SHE HAD PLANNED TO SEND MONEY WITH HIM TO FRANCE FOR HER CHATEAU AND FOR HER FAMILY BUT SHE HAD NO DOCUMENTS TO SEND. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

FURTHER INVESTIGATION SF. NO REPORT BEING SUBMITTED. RUC.

END AND ACK PLS.

9-25 PM OK FBI WA WS

LA OK FBI LA KH

MTU DISV

222

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Belmont ✓
 Callahan _____
 DeLoach _____
 Malone _____
 McGuire _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Trotter _____
 W.C. Sullivan _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Ingram _____
 Gandy _____

TO : MR. L'ALLIER

7/19/60

SECRET

DATE: 6-8-60

FROM : S. J. PAPICH

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
IS - FRANCE

Donahoe

[REDACTED]

ACTION:

This information is being directed to the attention of the Nationalities Intelligence Section.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

SJP/nmm
(5)

- 1 - Mr. Donahoe
- 1 - Mr. Kayne
- 1 - Liaison
- 1 - Mr. Papich

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

DATE OF REVIEW 6/10/82

EX 101

REC-24

62-97134

18 JUN 14 1960

cc 62-61132

83
S. Kayne

1/11/60
6-15-60

50 JUN 20 1960

SECRET

223



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
American Embassy
Paris 8, France

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/10/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PSK

OK
NWP
WSD

Date: June 9, 1960
To: Director, FBI (62-95834)
From: Legat, Paris (105-245)
Subject: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INTERNAL SECURITY - FRANCE

ReBulet 6/3/60.

Enclosed herewith pursuant to Bureau instructions of referenced letter are five copies of a letterhead memorandum in captioned matter suitable for dissemination.

Mr. JOHN DIGGINS, U. S. Consul, U. S. Embassy, Paris, France, on 6/8/60 advised he is familiar with captioned subject's case, having handled much correspondence in subject's visa file in the past and having interviewed her on several occasions. He volunteered that WILLIAM L. TAUB has been the manager of Miss BAKER as well as several French entertainers of international reputation in the past.

Released
per State
Dept.
IAS
FAB
7/15/60 with cc for
6-27-60 by H.C. [unclear]
b7C
per State
Dept.
b7C
per State
Dept.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RUC
2 - Bureau (Encls. 5)
1 - Paris

REC-22

62-95834-84

53 JUN 27 1960 W

10 JUN 16 1960

NAT. INT. SEC. 124

Director, FBI

June 9, 1960

[REDACTED]

b7C
per
State
Dept.

[REDACTED]

b7C
per
State
Dept.

Subject's visa file reflects the subject was being "imported" to the U. S. by TAUB to do a song album for RCA and perform at the Regal Theater, Chicago, Illinois. This same file reflects subject was arraigned in court in Quebec on November 11, 1955, on fraud charges on a complaint by WILLIAM L. TAUB. Final disposition not shown.

Released
per
State
Dept.

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

225



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/10/82 BY SP-1 GSK/RK
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
June 9, 1960
JOSEPHINE BAKER

On June 8, 1960, Mr. CHARLES SELAK, Visa Section, U. S. Embassy, Paris, advised that his office in mid-1959 received information which indicated Miss BAKER would soon request a visa to enter the United States. In order to forestall any difficulty involved in the issuance of a visa to Miss BAKER, it was deemed advisable by the Visa Section, U. S. Embassy, Paris, to furnish Miss BAKER's complete background history to the Department of State so that the Department would have sufficient time to examine her case prior to an actual request in order to ascertain whether Miss BAKER qualified for a nonimmigration visa.

Mr. SELAK stated his Department by Department of State Cable No. 1250, dated September 18, 1959, advised that Miss BAKER was not considered ineligible under Section 212(a)(27)(28) or (29) of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 which authorized the issuance of a visa to Miss BAKER in the event she so requested one.

Miss BAKER, according to Mr. SELAK, applied for a visa to visit the United States in early February, 1960. On February 8, 1960, an H-1 visa (issued to temporary visitors of distinguished merit) was given to Miss BAKER. She departed from Orly, France, at 1 p.m. on February 10, 1960, via Air France, and arrived at New York City on February 10, 1960, at 3 p.m.

Mr. JOHN DIGGINS, U. S. Consul, Visa Section, U. S. Embassy, Paris, on June 8, 1960, advised he interviewed Miss BAKER prior to the issuance of her H-1 visa on February 8, 1960. He stated that the issuance of this visa was considered a routine matter and did not entail any hearings.

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

62 95 834 84

ENCLOSURE

Released
per State
Dept.

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SECRET

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE LOS ANGELES	OFFICE OF ORIGIN LOS ANGELES	DATE JUL 20 1960	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/21/60-7/10/60
TITLE OF CASE Josephine Barker		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY par
CHARACTER OF CASE MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING		ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.	

SYNOPSIS:

REFERENCES:

Los Angeles teletype to Bureau, New York, San Francisco, and Washington Field, dated 5/21/60.
 San Francisco teletype to Bureau and Los Angeles dated 5/23/60.
 Los Angeles teletype to Bureau and San Francisco dated 5/24/60.
 San Francisco teletype to Bureau and Los Angeles dated 5/24/60.
 Washington Field airtel to Bureau dated 5/23/60.
 San Francisco teletype to Bureau and Los Angeles dated 5/25/60.
 New York airtel to Bureau dated 5/24/60.
 San Francisco teletype to Bureau and Los Angeles dated 5/27/60.
 Washington Field airtel to Bureau dated 6/3/60.
 Washington Field airtel to Bureau dated 6/7/60.

CLASS. BY D/G/S/10/60
 DATE OF REVIEW 9/7/60

62-61132-1-2011-29
 RECORDED COPY FILED IN

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE - C -	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE:		
5 - Bureau (62-61132) (REGISTERED)	62-95737	RECORDED
1 - INS, Los Angeles (REGISTERED)	b7C	
1 - New York (62-8199) (Info) (REGISTERED)	NOT RECORDED	
1 - San Francisco (Info) (REGISTERED)	182 AUG 18 1960	
2 - Washington Field (100-37723) (REGISTERED)		
3 - Los Angeles (105-5862)		

SECRET

57 AUG 12 1960

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62-95834-NR 7-20-60

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229

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

LA 105-5862

MISCELLANEOUS

Information copies of this report have been designated for the New York, San Francisco, and Washington Field Office, since they have conducted investigations in this case and for the completion of their respective files.

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

- C* -
COVER PAGE

230

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

Copy to: INS, LOS ANGELES [REDACTED] (REGISTERED)

Report of: [REDACTED] *b7C* Office: LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
Date: JUL 20 1960

Field Office File #: Los Angeles 105-5862 Bureau File #: 62-61132

Title: [REDACTED]
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

Character: MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Synopsis:

[REDACTED]

b7C

Previous publications indicated BAKER was to arrive in US from Paris on 4/22/60. Subsequent publications indicated BAKER and PAPICH were arrested by Quebec, Canada, provincial officers on a warrant by TAUB charging them with bringing allegedly stolen clothing and music from U. S. to Canada. Both were acquitted at Montreal when TAUB failed to appear in court. Previous information regarding BAKER set forth.

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/RSK

DATE OF REVIEW DADR 9/7/82

23

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

6 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.

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For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62-95834- NR 7-20-60 pgs. 2-7

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

232

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

LA 105-5862

On May 24, 1960, [redacted] Investigator, District Office, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Los Angeles, telephonically advised SA [redacted] that [redacted] bearing French Passport number 161409, who was born on July 22, 1898, arrived in Los Angeles early in the morning of May 24, 1960, and departed that same day via United Air Lines for San Francisco where he could be reached at 322 Geary Street.

b7C

According to [redacted] his investigation regarding JOSEPHINE BAKER, aka Josephine Baker Bouillon, has established that she recently entered the United States as an H-1 visitor pursuant to a petition that was filed at New York, New York. From about April 27, 1960, until Sunday evening, May 22, 1960, BAKER resided at the Chateau Marmount, 8221 Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles. On May 22, 1960, she left Los Angeles for San Francisco where she was to appear at the Alcazar Theater. Miss BAKER opened on April 29, 1960, at the Huntington-Hartford Theater, 1615 North Vine Street, Los Angeles, and closed with her final performance on May 14, 1960. In this production there were four other acts besides Miss BAKER's appearance. The producer was [redacted] and the stage manager was [redacted]

b7C

[redacted]

b7C

Unclassifiable per 105's 9/21/84 letter. AUC/PSL 12/13/84.

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62-95834-NR 7-20-60 pp. 9-11

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234

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

LA 105-5862

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

On May 25, 1960, JOSEPHINE BAKER, in an interview which she requested.

[REDACTED]

b7C

- 12 -

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

235

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

LA 105-5862

[REDACTED] b7C

BAKER volunteered that she had never been a Communist and was pleased by the treatment she had received in the United States except for TAUB. According to BAKER, her publicity man, ERNEST F. QUIROT was in San Francisco and Los Angeles to publicize her chateau in France for the tourist trade to France. She had planned to send money with him to France for her chateau and for her family but she had no documents to send.

[REDACTED] b7C

The March 15, 1960 issue of the "Daily Variety," a show world publication of Hollywood, California, contained an article captioned, "JOSEPHINE BAKER Revue May Play Huntington," indicating that producer WILLIAM L. TAUB, in association with RCA, is producing the revue, and that TAUB "is in town negotiating for a suitable site." Also, according to this article, Miss BAKER arrives in the U. S. from Paris April 22."

The May 2, 1960 issue of the North Hollywood, California, "Valley Times" carried an article entitled, "Interesting Reception on Return" indicating Deputy Sheriff's weye looking for international star, JOSEPHINE BAKER, to serve her with an order to appear in Superior Court on May 9, for a hearing in connection with a judgement in the amount of \$5,512.00 obtained against BAKER by attorney SIDNEY BARTON. The lawyer claimed BAKER owed him the amount for legal services rendered in a 1952 tax problem. The judgement was awarded to BARTON in San Francisco in 1955.

- 13 -

~~SECRET~~
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LA 105-5862

The June 15, 1960, issue of the Los Angeles Evening "Herald-Express" newspaper carried an article datelined "Montreal, June 15, (UPI)", indicating international entertainer JOSEPHINE BAKER and her manager, STEPHEN PAPICH, were arrested by four Quebec provincial officers the previous night at the Faisan Blue Night Club in suburban St. Martin on a warrant taken out by New York impresario WILLIAM TAUB, signed by Judge RENE THIBERGE, charging BAKER and PAPICH with bringing allegedly stolen clothing and music from the United States into Canada. Both were released on \$1,000.00 cash bail each and both were represented before Judge THIBERGE by Attorney REGINALD TORMAY.

The June 17, 1960 issue of the Los Angeles Evening "Herald-Express" newspaper carried an article datelined "Montreal, June 17 (UPI)" indicating entertainer JOSEPHINE BAKER and her director, STEPHEN PAPICH, were acquitted by Judge M. A. BLAIS, who threw out a charge brought by New York impresario WILLIAM L. TAUB charging them with bringing into Canada from the United States about \$10,000.00 worth of allegedly stolen clothing and music. TAUB failed to appear in court. BAKER and PAPICH, according to the article, were represented by Attorney PHIL CUTLER.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7D [REDACTED] b7C [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

237

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

LA 105-5862

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RE: JOSEPHINE BAKER, aka Jo Baker,
Josephine Baker Bouillon

There were no references regarding this individual
with [REDACTED]

b7D

The records of the Los Angeles Office, FBI, contain
the following previous information regarding JOSEPHINE BAKER:

[REDACTED]

b1

(S)

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

LA 105-5862

[REDACTED] (S)

b1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

[REDACTED] (S)

The following information appeared in the Daily People's World:

The May 14, 1951 issue carried an article entitled, "A Great Artist Stopped the Show to Tell the Story of McGEE." According to this article, JOSEPHINE BAKER put aside her regular performance at the Fox Theater, Los Angeles, last Wednesday, and for ten minutes told her audience the story of WELLIE McGEE, Mississippi frame-up victim.

- 16 -
~~SECRET~~
SECRET

31

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

LA 105-5862

The July 13, 1951 issue carried an article entitled, "JOSEPHINE BAKER Tells Musicians I'll Be There." According to this article BAKER would attend Sunday's meeting at Humanistos Hall, Los Angeles, to help unite Negro and white musicians into one local union, climaxing the campaign to amalgamate Locals 767 and 47, A.F. of L, and ending the segregation that has existed for years.

The February 4, 1952 issue carried an article entitled, "MOORE, PATTERSON, BAKER Proposed for Medal." According to this article, unless the 1951 Spingarn Medal is going to the late HARRY T. MOORE, or to WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Executive Secretary, CRC, it rightfully belongs to the incomparable JOSEPHINE BAKER.

The February 19, 1952 issue carried an article entitled, "College Paper Scores Pollution of Bigotry." According to this article, which is a reprint of an editorial appearing in the February 14, 1952 issue of "College Times," the campus newspaper of the Los Angeles State College, JOSEPHINE BAKER, among others, is named as a talented fighter for Negro freedom.

The "Daily People's World," now known as "People's World," is a West Coast Communist newspaper.

id

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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241

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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62-95834-NR 7-20-60

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~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

FD-323 (3-28-60)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 105-5862

Title [REDACTED] *b7C*

b7C Character MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION
CONCERNING

SA [REDACTED]

Reference Los Angeles report of
dated and captioned as above.

All sources (except any listed below) used in
referenced communication have furnished reliable
information in the past.

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

-22-

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

243

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

22

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-95834)

DATE: 7/20/60

FROM : SAC, WFO (105-36060)

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
IS - FRANCE

*0-1(4) WFO
9-19-60
2nd Rec'd by letter
letterhead memo
dated 9/14/60*

ReBulet 6/3/60.

Results of a check of the records of the Security and Visa Offices, Department of State, have not as yet been made available.

The Bureau will be promptly advised when the results of this request are furnished.

2 Bureau
1- WFO

[redacted]: erm
(3)

b7c

S

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/7/82 BY SP1 GSK/PSK

EX- 105

REC-39

62-95834-85

17 JUL 21 1960

NAT. INT. SEC.

17
64 JUL 27 1960

24

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

LA
1st Paris
INS
RAB

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-95834) ~~SECRET~~ DATE: 9/14/60

FROM : SAC, WFO (105-36060)

CLASS BY SP-1 CSK/pok

SUBJECT: CHANGED
JOSEPHINE BAKER, aka
Josephine Baker Bouillion
IS-FRANCE

DATE OF REVIEW 9/14/60

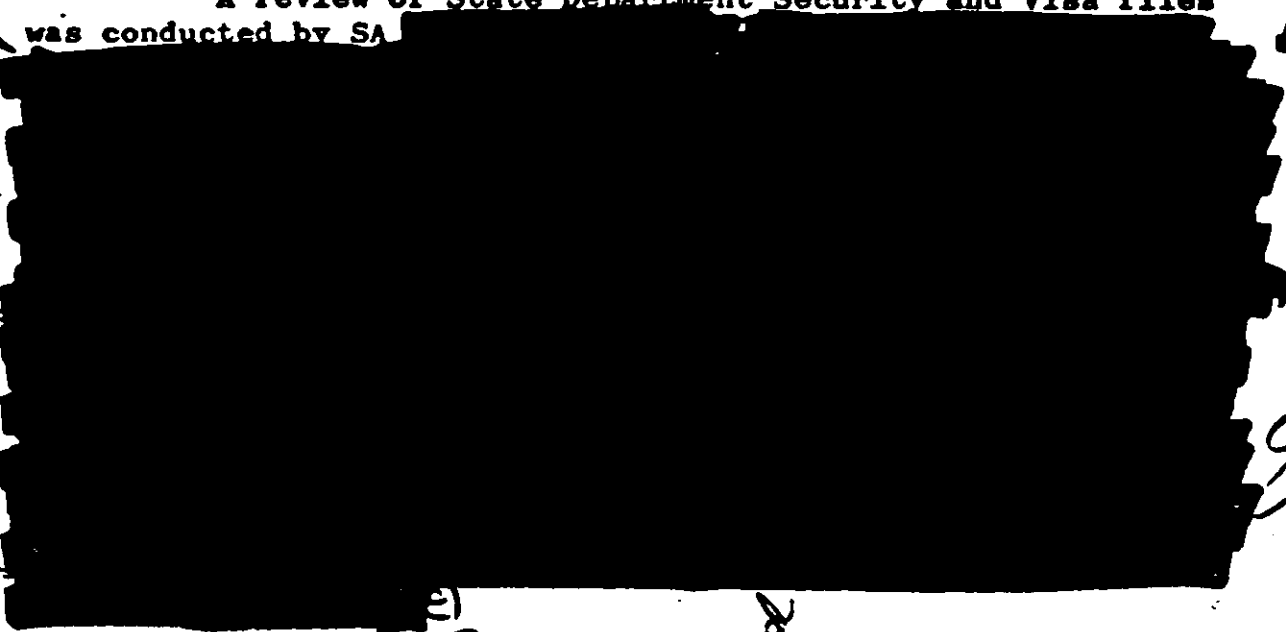
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

ReBulet 6/3/60, and WFOlet 7/20/60.

The title is being marked "Changed" to reflect the name of subject as JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLION which name is contained in the Department of State records as well as INS records.

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of a letter-head memo, dated as above, and captioned "JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLION; Internal Security-France."

A review of State Department Security and Visa files was conducted by SA [redacted]



RUC
② - Bureau (Enc.)
1 - WFO

MCT-30

62-95834-96

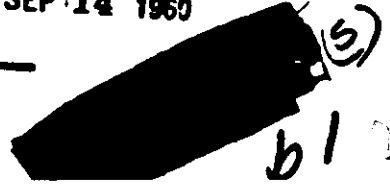
51 SEP 23 1960

REC-18

~~SECRET~~

SEP 14 1960

EX 109



10-7-66 258/1960
1 Xerox copy to Dept, Bureau - Paris (info)
Along with cc of let 9-19-60 from Dept, Wash.

ENCLOSURE

cc INS (1-4)
RAB (1-2)
1st Paris
1st Angeles
9-20-60 by [signature]

b1

b1 245

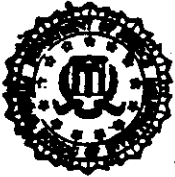
WFO-105-36060

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

Records of INS were checked by SE [REDACTED] *b7C*

The attached letterhead memorandum is being classified "Confidential" to conform with the classifications of the State Department information which is set out therein.

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
September 14, 1960

51

JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLION
INTERNAL SECURITY-FRANCE

b1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS. BY SP-1 BSX/OS

DATE OF REVIEW RDR

62-95834-86

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE

24

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLION

On August 24, 1960, the records of Central Office, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Washington, D. C., were checked which reflected that Josephine Bouillion, born June 3, 1906, at St. Louis, Missouri, had been admitted to the United States at New York City on February 10, 1960, valid until March 10, 1960. She traveled on French passport number 5. These records reflect that Bouillion departed from the United States at Idlewild Airport, New York City, on March 4, 1960, en route to Paris.

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

240

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/7/82 BY SP-1 GSK/PAK

Memphis, Tennessee
August 25, 1963

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

Dear Mr. Hoover,

Recently the Attorney-General of the United States, Robert Kennedy, issued a statement to the effect that you had told him there were no Communists involved in the various Negro organizations such as, NAACP, SCLC, CORE, SNCC, National Urban League, etc. I took this to mean none of the current Negro leaders were considered to be Communists. I do not remember Mr. Kennedy's exact words concerning this.

However, just the other day, I heard a different version of this story. In our city we have a radio program called "Party Line". Citizens of Memphis call and discuss varied and sundry subjects with the moderator of this program, and it attracts a listening audience of many thousands. On a recent program, during the course of a discussion concerning "possible Communist activity in the current Negro movement", one of the people heard quite often on the program stated she had received a letter from you in which you said you had not given Mr. Kennedy the information his statement claimed you did. Was the statement he gave the press factual, Mr. Hoover, or was it a falsehood? To what extent, if any, are Communists involved in the present social dis-orders? Does the Bureau consider that the Highlander Folk School was Communistic? If so, of what possible significance, if any, is Martin Luther King's connection with them?

I also wish to inquire about Josephine Baker. I read in today's newspaper that she was planning to come from Paris, in order to participate in the Washington march. The last I heard of this

1-1

EX-111 REC. 32 AUG 27 1963

*in. above 4/9/63
DTP:met
mm*

62 - 95834 - 87

REC-121

AUG 27 1963

REC-121

CORRECTION 249

woman was when she and Paul Robeson were denied passports, so they could not leave the country. To the best of my recollection, she managed to leave illegally and make her way to South America. The information at that time, as I recall, was that Miss Baker and Mr. Robeson were Communists, and their activities abroad were such as to be detrimental to our country. It seemed they were both extremely active in the Communist cause and vehement in their denunciation of the United States. Is she now welcome to return to this country ?

I would appreciate hearing from you, as I am most anxious to have the questions raised in this letter answered.

Thanking you in advance, I am

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7c

62-95834-87

August 29, 1963

REC-121

Memphis, Tennessee

b7C
S
P
H

Dear [redacted]

Mr. Hoover received your letter of August 25th and asked me to explain that information contained in the files of the FBI must be maintained as confidential in accordance with regulations of the Department of Justice and is available for official use only. He regrets that he is unable to be of help in this instance and trusts you will understand the necessary reasons for this policy.

Sincerely yours,

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. The organizations to which she referred are prominent in the civil rights controversy. Josephine Baker, subject of Bufile 62-95834, is a night club singer who surrendered her U.S. citizenship in 1937 and became a French citizen. She has returned to the United States to appear in entertainment programs. Paul Robeson is a well-known Negro American singer.

REC'D-READING ROOM
F B I
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED I B F
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/7/82 BY 8801/08/SPK

AUG 29 5 14 PM '63

MAILED 3
AUG 29 1963
COMM-FBI

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- DeLoach _____
- Evans _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

57 SEP 9 1963 mek (3)
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

251

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

3

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 2/17/66

FROM :

MJF

[REDACTED]

(S) b1

SUBJECT:

JOSEPHINE BAKER

[REDACTED] (S) b1

ew 1 - 2 -

[REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] (S)

Above is being furnished to the Bureau for information in view of the subject's background.

[REDACTED] b7c

3 - Bureau (1 - Liaison Section)

[REDACTED] (S) b1

REC 70

MCT-46

62-95934-88

T-104

FEB 21 1966

FEB 28 10 01 AM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



9 MAR 7 1966 Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

100X

[REDACTED] b7c

b7c 52

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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For your information: _____

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252

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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254

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~
~~SECRET~~

TO : Director, FBI (62-95834)

DATE: 11/30/66

FROM : Legat, Buenos Aires (105-394) (RUC)

AGENCIES
SERVICES
BEING

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLON
(S)

amended
DATE 11/18/66

ReWFOlet to Director, 9/14/66, Legat, Mexico let to Director, 9/19/66 and BU R/S 10/4/66.

Attached hereto is a newspaper article which appeared in the Spanish language daily "La Razon" (Reason) published at Buenos Aires, edition of 8/18/66 relative to the arrival of the Subject and her adopted family at Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Inasmuch as this article would appear to contain pertinent background information regarding Subject, her husband and adopted family, it is recommended that the Bureau consider translating the material in the article, furnishing copies thereof to WFO and Legat, Mexico for their information and possible use.

Inasmuch as no further specific leads are outstanding in this matter in the Buenos Aires territory, this case is being RUC'd.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASS. BY SO-1 GSK/BSK

DATE OF REVIEW QADR

9/7/82

- 3 - Bureau (1 - Liaison) (Encl 1)
 - 1 - Legat, Mexico City (For info)
 - 1 - WFO (For info)
 - 1 - Buenos Aires
- evs

b7c

ENCLOSURE

let to Buenos Aires
12/20/66

b7c

T-74257
12-9-66

(740 returned file)

NOT RECORDED
DEC 9 1966

COPY A

FOR ACTION AND REPORT info

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds

~~SECRET~~

INT. SEC.
LATIN-AMERICANS



SECRET

XXX Legat, Buenos Aires (105-394)

December 20, 1966

Director, FBI (62-95834)

**JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLON
IS - CUBA**

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.**

CLASS. BY *SP1 GSK/pep*
DATE *11/19/82*

**XXXXXXXXXX XXX
REGISTERED MAIL**

b7C

Attached is the translation which you requested by letter dated **11/30/66**.

The contents thereof, where pertinent, must be reported under appropriate captions and afforded whatever investigative attention is necessary.

Disposition of the foreign language material submitted in this connection is set forth below:

Returned herewith.

MAILED 4
DEC 21 1966
COMM-FBI

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Wick _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

- 1 - Mexico City - Enclosures (2) (1 translation and 1 relay)
- 1 - Washington Field - Enclosures (2) (1 translation and 1 relay)
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan (Attn.: Nationalities Intelligence Section) sent direct with enclosure
- 1 - Foreign Liaison Unit with enclosure, sent direct

Enc. (5)

ENCLOSURE

5 DEC 30 1966

SECRET

copy with translation sent with copy of ltr. 11/30/66 from Buenos Aires to Legat, Paris on 12-29-66. [redacted] gdw

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/19/82 BY SP1 GSK/pep**

TRANSLATION FROM SPANISH

Newspaper article concerning Josephine Baker Bouillon, appearing in the 8/18/66 issue of "La Razon," published in Buenos Aires.

"Fraternity Well Understood"

Josephine Baker arrived with her twelve adopted children and their two little friends. They were all dressed in sport clothes and they presented a spectacle of human solidarity in Ezeiza. A small Korean member of the group, age 14, explained that they did not wish to be treated like museum pieces. They show reserve toward affection. "We would like to be as other children." Noel, age 6, was found in a trash can by a rag picker moments before the trash was loaded into a truck. The "Venus de Ebano" heard about this dramatic event and requested the adoption of the child who had almost been burned to death. The children will remain in Buenos Aires until the early part of October, when they will return to classes in France. Baker is returning today to fulfill contracts with Paris theatre and television. She will return to our capitol in 20 days to be reunited with her children. In Ezeiza she was met by her husband, Jo Bouillon.

A true spectacle of human solidarity took place this afternoon at Ezeiza airport upon the arrival of Josephine Baker with her 12 adopted children and their two little friends, born in Costa de Marfil. As they descended from the airplane which had brought them from Mexico, the airport burst into a pure and sincere joy. The clearness of the day contributed toward giving the reception a brilliance which the little ones deserved. All were dressed in sport clothes. Baker wore a white pullover sweater, slacks, brown sandals, glasses, and she carried a white portfolio full of documents. Upon touching Argentine ground the ex-star was warily greeted by her husband Jo Bouillon, who has resided in our country for several years now. The little ones displayed a reserve toward the affection of the public. It was evident that they were not pleased with the feelings of sympathy extended to them by those present.

Akie, a fourteen-year old Korean girl (the oldest of the children) explained that they were made uneasy by people who treat them like museum pieces. "We would like to be like other children," she added seriously, "we would like to study, play, and live like any child." The surprising thing was that she

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TRANSLATED BY:

December 15, 1966

ENCLOSURE

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explained her reasoning in perfect Castellian. She was asked where she had learned to speak the language of Cervantes so well. However, confirming her desire to pass unnoticed, she refrained from answering. The group consists of Luisito, age 13, born in Colombia; Jeannot, age 13, from Japan; Jari, age 12, from Finland; Noize, age 12, from Israel; Jean Claude, age 12, from France; Brahim, age 10, from Algeria; Mariana, age 10, also from Algeria; Koffi, age 8, from Costa de Marfil; Mara, age 7, from Venezuela; Noel, age 6, from France; and the two little friends, Jeanine, age 10 and her brother Alain, age 6, both from Costa de Marfil. Akio, the Korean whose glasses give her the appearance of a young intellectual, is the most advanced at the school of Les Melandes. However, Noel has conquered the hearts of all her brothers and sisters. This is probably because of the dramatic way in which she arrived at Les Melandes.

A Parisian rag picker was taking papers and other items from a trash can. Noticing that the trash truck was approaching, he doubled his efforts. Just as the man was about to leave he found a bundle which contained Noel. When Baker heard about this dramatic discovery she expressed her desire to the Paris authorities about adopting the child. Today the child, age 6, is our guest. After telling us this impressive tale, Baker stated that her stay in Buenos Aires would be a brief one. "Tomorrow morning," she said, "I will depart alone for Paris to meet various theatrical and television contracts. The children will remain in this city which I love so much until the first part of October when their vacations will end and they will resume classes. Within twenty days I will return to Buenos Aires to meet them."

Baker was asked the reason for her trip to Cuba. She diplomatically excused herself from replying: "Please forgive me for not discussing my trip to Havana. The truth is that I have a tremendous headache." The Legrand couple, co-proprietors, along with Jo Bouillon, of a restaurant in San Isidro, explained that the trip of the ex-U.S. star (now a French citizen) was for the purpose of obtaining contributions to sustain the costly villa of Les Melandes, inhabited by some 1,200 persons who participate in the work of Baker. These people come from the most remote areas of the world. They include Chinese cooks, Italian cabinetmakers, French teachers, etc. The travelers arrived in Ezeiza accompanied by 82 suitcases filled with clothing and personal effects. The little ones were presented with gift packages of Argentine caramels in the airport reception hall. Some

of them still held in their hands plastic eating utensils from the plane, which they were keeping as a remembrance of the long trip. If time permits, they will take a tour of the capitol tomorrow and, probably within a few days, an excursion to the Parana Delta.

Before leaving the airport we asked Baker what her conduct rules for the children were. The weary mama replied: "Fraternity and union instead of separation." It was evident that Josephine Baker, with this short phrase, wished to condemn racial discrimination from which she had suffered so much in the country of her birth. We asked her if she respected her children's nationality and religion. She replied: "No, only their religion." After this last question, Josephine and her little ones set off for San Isidro.

Routing Slip
0-7 (Rev. 9-25-67)

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- Ottawa
- Paris
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- Santo Domingo
- Tokyo

Date February 14, 1968

RE:

**JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLON
IS-FRANCE**

- For information Retention optional For appropriate action Surep, by _____
- The enclosed is for your information. If used in a future report, conceal all sources, paraphrase contents.
- Enclosed are corrected pages from report of SA _____ dated _____

Remarks:

*Beurairtel, 1/17/68, re captioned subject.
In future, use "IS-FRANCE" character.*

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FBI

Date: 1/17/68

R. J. ...

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (62-95834)
FROM: LEGAT, PARIS (105-245) (P)
SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLON
IS - CU

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Re Legat, Buenos Aires, letter to Bureau 11/30/66.



Any additional pertinent information received will be furnished.

Copy to L.A., N.Y., Mexico (0-7)

by routing slip for

J. Edgar Hoover

1/25/68

WCR/MT

- 7 - Bureau
- (1 - Liaison Section)
- (1 - Los Angeles, Info.)
- (1 - New York, Info.)
- (1 - Legat, Mexico City, Info.)

Paris
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62-95834-91

REC 18

14 JAN 22 1968

0-7 to Paris
✓ Info
WJB/llc
2/14/68

Remarks: see attached R/C

AIRTEL

Handwritten signature/initials

Approved: 57 FEB 1968 Agent in Charge

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Handwritten notes and stamps

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15

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-95834)

DATE: 3/11/68

FROM : LEGAT, PARIS (105-245)(RUC)

R.A. [Signature]

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER BOUILLON
IS - FRANCE

Remyairtel, 1/17/68.

[REDACTED]

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Re Bu R15 1/25/68

REC-40
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NAB [Signature]

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MAR 27 1968



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F5M

165

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 3/6/68

Handwritten initials

FROM : SAC CHICAGO (157-2550) (C)

SUBJECT: JOSEPHINE BAKER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Enclosed are eight copies of an LHM concerning above named person, for possible dissemination in view of her residence in France.

[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] b1

No further investigation is being conducted in this matter.

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CLASS. BY SP-1 GSK/BSK

DATE OF REVIEW 9/1/82

Handwritten: LAT, Power, Sec 1 (copy)

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ST 109

62-95834-93

MAR 11 1968

3 - Bureau (Enc. 8)
1 - Chicago
1 - [REDACTED]

AGENCY: ACSI, WAC, OSI, SEC. SERV.,
DEPT: ISD, GAO, RAO, FBI, U.S. MIETT DIA

HOW FORW: R/S
DATE FORW: 3-21-68
BY: [REDACTED]



U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 157-2550

Chicago, Illinois
March 6, 1968

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-1 GY/PSK
ON 9/1/82

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JOSEPHINE BAKER
INFORMATION CONCERNING

[REDACTED]

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On February 2, 1968, a meeting was held at the offices of the West Side Organization (WSO), Chicago, Illinois, for the purpose of affording Martin Luther King, Jr., an opportunity to solicit support from WSO members for the Washington Spring Project (WSP), being promoted and organized by King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). As publicly described by King, the WSP is an effort to mobilize large numbers of persons in Washington, D.C., in April, 1968, in protest of alleged United States Government failure to solve the problems of the poor of this country. King did not appear and it was announced that his wife was ill. Approximately 95 persons were present.

Among the guest speakers was Josephine Baker, described by source as a former well-known entertainer, now residing in France. She stated she had experienced a difficult time getting back into this country. She said she had marched with King in his earlier march on Washington, and, as a result, it appeared she was not wanted here. She described the importance of the tent-in on the White House lawn and urged all those present to participate. Her remarks, according to source, were received by those present with no enthusiasm and no apparent volunteers.

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JOSEPHINE BAKER

Other speakers were Reverend Ralph Abernathy, SCLC official, representing King, and Reverend James Bevel of the Urban Training Center, Chicago, a former SCLC official.

The WSO is a small civil rights type group ^{Southern Christian Leadership Conference} operating Chicago's near west side. It concerns itself principally with employment and welfare problems of Negro residents of this area.

Other Information Concerning Josephine Baker

The following articles appeared in the indicated editions of the Illinois Edition of "The Worker", an east coast communist newspaper:

April 22, 1951, page 8, column 5 - States in part that Josephine Baker insisted on singing at the Chicago Theater only before a mixed band and that she 'also disturbed the composure of those who take the view that the real gains for the Negro people can come only after a long, long time. In her blunt, outspoken manner, she burst the 'progress' bubble which is used for hiding purposes by those who refuse to fight for liberation now. 'I can see no progress,' she said upon touring Chicago after 22 years."

July 22, 1951, page 1, column 5 - Article quoted statements by Josephine Baker as disclosed by Oscar C. Brown, Negro news commentator over Station WGES. Brown quoted Miss Baker as saying, "Support dynamic actions to save the life of Willie Mc Gee, like the protest parade being sponsored by the packinghouse workers. Wires and letters to the President to save Mc Gee are good but more forceful action is needed." The article further states that Miss Baker has previously interceded for the "Martinsville Seven" and that she recently visited the "Trenton Six" in their New Jersey prison where they face possible execution.

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JOSEPHINE BAKER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

July 22, 1951, page 1, column 3 - Article states that Josephine Baker, internationally celebrated Negro singer, was among the speakers invited to address a Chicago rally of the United Packinghouse Workers on April 29, 1951, to save the life of Willie Mc Gee, the Negro victim of a Mississippi "rape" indictment who was scheduled to die in Jackson, Mississippi, on May 8.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

In its weekly edition dated February 24, 1968, the Chicago Defender, a Chicago newspaper, contained a number of photographs of Josephine Baker and others who attended a reception in her honor at the Fairfax House on Chicago's west side given by the WSO. It was stated that Miss Baker was in Chicago in an effort to get funds for a new international children's school in Paris, France.

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