

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: OCT 14 1971

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-51732) (P)

SUBJECT: SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS  
FOR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL  
ACTION (SESPA)  
IS - NEW LEFT

OO: Boston

Re Philadelphia letters to the Bureau dated 7/19/71, and 9/16/71

Enclosed for the Bureau are ten (10) copies, and for Boston three (3) copies, of a letterhead memorandum (LHM) dated and captioned as above.

The LHM has been classified ~~confidential~~ since it contains information from sources whose identification could adversely effect the security of the United States.

Sources utilized in the LHM are as follows:

- The first source is [redacted]
- The second source is [redacted]
- The third source is [redacted]

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b6  
b7C  
b7D

Boston is being designated office of origin in this matter since SESPA Headquarters are located

- 2 - Bureau (Encls. 10) (RM)
- 3 - Boston (Encls. 3) (RM)
  - (1 - 100- [redacted])
- 4 - Chicago
  - (1 - 105-27431 )
  - (1 - 100-45090 )
  - (1 - 100-51699 )

ENCLOSURE

REC-39 100-459865-19

PLT/vcl  
(9)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3-4-76 BY SP8 JAB/MS

AGENCY OST ACST ONI RAO (ISD) #354028

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DATE FOR  
BY R.S. JBN TCC 924D

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Handwritten notes and signatures: FO-217, reu, sd, [initials]

Vertical handwritten notes on the left margin: Enc, [scribbles]

CG 100-51732

in that division.

Chicago will contact New Left sources and attempt to ascertain if SESPA has an active chapter in Chicago at the present time.

LEAD

BOSTON

AT ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, MASSACHUSETTS. Will conduct appropriate investigation regarding SESPA.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
Chicago, Illinois

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

CG 100-51732

OCT 14 1971

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SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS  
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The January 10, 1971 issue of the "NUC Newsletter," an official publication of the New University Conference, contained an article entitled "AAA\$ 1970" by Len Radinsky and Mel Rothenberg, which read as follows:

"Under the banner of 'Science for the People,' radical scientific workers opened up several sessions of the American Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in Chicago over Christmas, to destroy once and for all the myth that American science serves the people. Operating out of a headquarters room on the fifth floor of the Conrad Hilton, they distributed movement literature, leafletted and sold Science for the People buttons and magazines to the 5,000 scientists in attendance, held radical workshops, showed Newsreel movies, and confronted various pig symposia with a series of tactics ranging from leaflets to visual and verbal heckling to outright takeovers. Two main political points were made. First, even 'pure' science cannot be isolated from the social-political context in which it is done. Only the ruling class in the U.S. today has the resources to utilize the results of science, which consequently services to promote corporate-military interest rather than those of the great majority of the people. Second, that there exists a growing group of scientific workers interested in integrating their training and skills with people engaged in

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SLIP(S) OF Declassification  
DATE 9/24/79

100-459865-19

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MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

struggles for liberation. This requires analysis within each field of how scientists committed to struggle can contribute to a true science for the people.

MASS.

~~MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION~~

"An example of one of the many successful actions was the opening up of a symposium on individual and community violence. Herb Fox of Boston SESPA (Scientists and Engineers for Social and Political Action) took over the microphone minutes before the session was due to start and announced new ground rules: the panelists could speak only for five minutes each and could be interrupted with questions or comments at any time by any one in the audience, after which the mike would be open for free discussion. Attempts on the part of the chairman to regain control of the session were easily dealt with. Four out of the five scheduled panelists spoke and their liberal bullshit was exposed by radicals in the audience, who insisted that they address themselves to questions of institutional violence. For example, when a spokesman from the National Institutes of Mental Health said that the government was instituting a series of clinics to deal with the mental problems of poor people, radicals pointed out that those problems were rooted in the racism, sexism and general oppression of capitalist society, and the panelist agreed. Male chauvinist remarks from both the panel and audience were confronted by a group of women scientific workers associated with the Chicago Women's Liberation Union. The discussion was concluded by a rap and appeal for funds by a spokesman from Panther Defense Committee. Finally, most of the audience stayed for a movement movie.

"Guerrilla actions included a WITCH hex at the Phi Beta Kappa dinner hitting the elitism of big science, presentation of the annual Dr. Strangelove award to Edward Teller for his outstanding service as a Cold War, anti-

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*Ill.*  
communist, hard radiation crusader, and the taking over of a session at which Glenn Seaborg, AEC chairman and incoming president of the AAA\$ was due to speak, to indict him for his crimes of Science Against the People.

"Reactions of the audiences we confronted generally exhibited the bankruptcy of contemporary liberalism. Beginning with the seizure of the mike at the opening address of the convention, when BILL Zimmerman, from the New University Conference People's Science Collective, *Ill.* gave a militant anti-capitalist rap on people's science, through the several workshops we offered and sessions we took over, the predominantly liberal audience was unable to seriously challenge our critique of U.S. science as servant of corporate capitalism. Our attractiveness to the liberals carried with it disadvantages, as for example when 100 people came to a workshop on teaching radical ecology and it was not possible to have a good discussion rise above liberal confusion.

"It turned out to be surprisingly easy to get our message across, probably for several reasons: the meetings were generally dull and we were the only group there with spirit - - this gave us extensive press coverage and from 150-200 people each night at our open meetings; our disruptions had serious political content and raised questions liberals are sensitive to and unable to grapple with (they picked up over 20,000 pages of our leaflets during the 5-day convention); there was no effective ideological opposition; and the AAA\$ managers decided not to use the pigs. The mere presence of scientists in street clothes engaged in political struggle on the home turf of the AAA\$ did much to shatter the professional image of the scientist. Now begins the hard work of following up on the contacts we made at the meetings and beginning to build a program of science for the people."

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*Members of the*

New University Conference (NUC)

A pamphlet distributed by NUC in December, 1970, states that it is a national organization of graduate students, faculty and staff whose members are "radicals committed to the growth of a revolutionary socialist movement in the U.S." NUC maintains a national office at 622 West Diversey, Chicago, Illinois.

[redacted]

In September, 1969, a source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that [redacted] was one of 15 NUC members who spent four weeks in Cuba, during the period July 25, to August 21, 1969, as guests of the Cuban Government, at the invitation of the University of Havana.

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b7c

[redacted]

The "NUC Newsletter" of July 4, 1971, disclosed that [redacted] was elected to membership on the NUC Executive Committee during the June, 1971 NUC Convention held at Ann Arbor, Michigan. *III.*

*AFFILIATED WITH THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY*

A second source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that [redacted] has been in contact

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with members of the Illinois Black Panther Party on several occasions in 1971, and is reported to be a member of the South Side Panther Defense Committee.

Panther Defense Committee

In 1971, a third source who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that the Panther Defense Committee is a group of white radicals active at the University of Chicago who have raised funds for the defense of Black Panther Party members.

Black Panther Party

The Black Panther Party is a black extremist organization started in Oakland, California, in December, 1966. It advocates the use of guns and guerrilla tactics to bring about the overthrow of the United States Government.

WITCH

The Chicago "Sun-Times", a daily newspaper, on October 2, 1968, published an article entitled "15 Ejected at Probe of Chicago Disorders." The article reported on hearings held by a subcommittee of the House UnAmerican Activities

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Committee concerning disorders at the Democratic National Convention held in Chicago, Illinois, in August, 1968. The article stated in part: "The hearing was marked by legal wrangling and comic disruptive antics by Yippies Rubin and Abbie Hoffman and female companions dressed as witches complete with pointed hats and brooms. The witches passed out literature declaring themselves to be members of WITCH (Women's International Terrorist Conspiracy from Hell)."

Jerry Rubin and Abbie Hoffman were convicted of violating Federal Antiriot laws and are presently appealing this conviction.

The January 20, 1971 issue of the "NUC Newsletter" contained on page 12 an announcement captioned "NUC Scientists" which read as follows:

"We apologize for omitting the address of SESPA (Scientists and Engineers for Social and Political Action) from the Radinsky/Rothenberg report on the AAA\$ meetings in the last Newsletter. It's Box 59, Arlington Heights, Mass. 02175. They put out a radical bi-monthly, Science for the People. Anyone interested in organizing a local SESPA chapter should write them."

The June, 1971 issue of the "NUC Newsletter" on page 24 carried an article entitled "Science for the People" by Len Radinsky and Bill Zimmerman. This article read as follows:

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"During the past year several of us have been organizing around the concept of 'Science for the People.' Projects have included agitation at professional society meetings (most prominently the AAAS in Chicago last Xmas), organizing technical support for North Vietnam and Cuba, writing radical syllabi for science courses, attempts to organize employed (and unemployed) industrial scientific workers, running a colloquium series that presented radical critiques of the social sciences with suggestions for how radicals in each discipline could use their skills to serve the people, organizing students into research collectives (as class projects) to gather material on tracking and education financing for OJTS, a women's high school group, a local anti-corporate action and a local health clinic struggle. Our purpose is to raise consciousness of how the sciences serve ruling class interests, to demystify science and technology, and to organize students and scientific workers to use their skills to support people's struggles.

"At present, organizationally, Science for the People consists of a small informal network of activists in several cities, many of whom are NUC members, most of whom work on local projects and cooperate nationally mainly for professional meetings. Most are in education, but some are in industry. A bimonthly magazine, Science for the People, carries news, ideas for projects, and analyses, and has been a valuable organizing tool. It has been put out by a group that is now seeking to rotate that responsibility. III.

"We have found organizing Science for the People projects a good way to involve people in Movement work, to

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help implement the OUTS program, and to bring students and faculty into contact with off-campus struggles. Such projects can provide NUC with good mass-organizing opportunities. Therefore we propose that NUC regional organizers carry with them Science for the People literature and make sure local chapters are aware of project possibilities. To implement this we propose that the EC set up a committee of NUCers who have been active in Science for the People, to serve as a liaison and see that information is exchanged between Science for the People and NUC."

Open Up the Schools (OUTS)

The October 1, 1970 issue of the "NUC Newsletter" disclosed that OUTS is an NUC program having the following objectives:

- 1) Universal access to Free Higher Education.
- 2) Financing of all public education to come from the "ruling class."
- 3) Elimination of all forms of "tracking."

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