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17 SEP 1968

SUBJECT: Tebbeth BROOKS aka MAILMAN
American with the French Delegation to the Ninth
World Youth Festival

1. Tebbeth BROOKS aka MAILMAN attended the Ninth World Youth Festival (28 July - 6 August 1968) in Sofia, Bulgaria, as part of the French delegation, and spent most of her time with that delegation.
2. BROOKS, currently living in Paris, has been absent from the United States for over a year. Her American passport has expired and she feels that she will have some difficulty in reentering the U.S. She was cautious in any statements she made to Americans but did indicate that she has been working covertly for the underground in Paris and is associated with the Resistance in The Army (RITA) group there. She may leave Paris for a few weeks with the underground in Frankfurt-am-Main. This activity is primarily concerned with military deserter groups formed under ACT ("Act Now"). ACT is a RITA publication. BROOKS was not in the Students for a Democratic Society office in Frankfurt on 13 August.
3. BROOKS is a member of the Du Bois Clubs and paid Jarvis TYNER, president, five dollars for her annual membership card. The card was made out in the name of TEBBETH MAILMAN but she signed her check as Tebbie BROOKS. She was on friendly terms with TYNER and spent an evening in conversation with him during the Festival.
4. She is between 25 and 30 years old, 5'3" or 5'4" tall, has black hair, brown eyes, weighs 95 pounds, is very slim, and gives the appearance of a very small person. She is married. She seems to have quite a bit of money and reportedly spent a \$200 donation to some organization in the United States. She speaks excellent French.

PLEASE TRANSMIT REPLY VIA LIAISON, MR. S. J. PAPICH

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E.O. 13526, Section 3.5

Per OAC Review 3/11/2009

By MLP NARA, Date 4/19/2012

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The Ninth World Youth Festival
(28 July - 6 August 1968)

1. The American contingent to the Ninth World Youth Festival (28 July - 6 August 1968) in Sofia, Bulgaria, comprised 85 delegates. A group of 10 delegates left New York on 23 July aboard a Soviet Aeroflot plane, arriving in Sofia via Moscow. Twenty-one delegates left New York on 25 July aboard a Scandinavian Air Lines plane, changing in Copenhagen to a Bulgarian Air Lines flight, and reaching Sofia on 27 July. This charter flight was sponsored by the Du Bois Clubs of America and was arranged by Eugene TOURNOUR, aka Gene TOURNOR, of New York City. The 45 other American delegates, primarily members of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) and those opposing the war in Vietnam, arrived separately, either with student groups traveling in Europe or individually. Six American military deserters living in Sweden attended as guests of the Festival Committee and the Bulgarian Government, with all expenses paid by the Bulgarian Government. They were not considered part of the American delegation.

2. The group of 21 was met at the Sofia airport by Jarvis TYNER, president of the Du Bois Clubs of America, and his assistant, Caroline BLACK, both of whom had gone to Sofia earlier to participate in Festival preparations. Student delegates from Uruguay were aboard the same plane.

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had not been paid. The meeting was chaired by Caroline BLACK, because TYNER was occupied with other Festival business. BLACK claimed that some reactionaries were present and expressed her fear that CIA people might also be present; for this reason, she would decide who would live in the housing area with the delegation. SDS delegates, most of whom had arrived separately, challenged her from the floor, accusing her of being partial to Du Bois Club delegates. BLACK then labeled the SDS delegates racists who opposed both her and TYNER because they were black.

5. No American delegates were accused openly of being CIA spies, although Du Bois Club literature from the University of Wisconsin and the Festival press organ emphasized that CIA was out to destroy the Festival. There was such a paranoid fear of CIA actions that late American arrivals were suspected of being with the CIA and were therefore not allowed to join the American delegation. One of these was a Quaker pacifist who requested housing with the delegation and was turned down by BLACK, who accused him of being from the CIA.

6. Some bearded American hippies were prevented from entering Bulgaria and were forced to camp outside the country until they washed and shaved. American hippies and other similar types were reportedly being kept out of Bulgaria as an excuse for preventing unkempt Czech students from entering the country because it was feared that the Czech students would cause trouble at the Festival. The Bulgarian News Service released an English language item picturing the Czech students.

7. The press representative of Liberation News Service, Alan YOUNG, gave American delegates pins inscribed, "I am an AMERICONG." Festival activities were also covered by Sally PEW, who represented American Documentary Films, a leftist front group in California.

8. American delegates expressed their dissatisfaction on several occasions over the failure of TYNER and BLACK to provide adequate leadership. One of these occasions was an interdelegation meeting on 29 July, when the Americans were generally upset over the endless delays, over-all disorganization, and long meaningless speeches, each of which had to be translated. TYNER's ineffectiveness as a speaker increased their irritation at this time. Another occasion was on the afternoon of 4 August during a meeting with the seven Bulgarian interpreters assigned to the delegation and a Bulgarian Youth representative to discuss post-Festival activities. No formal tour of Bulgaria had been arranged, although such a trip had been implied in the \$82.50 package deal for Americans attending the Festival. Each delegate had to make his own arrangements for the week between the closing of the Festival and the departure of the charter flight from Sofia on 14 August, and had to finance himself during this period. TYNER and BLACK maintained that there had been no promise of a week's tour of Bulgaria for the Du Bois Club members at no extra cost. The American delegates asserted that a great deal of time had been lost at the Festival due to the failure of TYNER and BLACK to make appropriate plans and arrangements in advance.

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Most of the American delegates found the Festival generally successful because it had accomplished the aims for which it was created - "peace, solidarity, and friendship" - but claimed that this had been possible only through the individual efforts of the delegates and not because of demonstrated ability on the part of the leaders. Some delegates, however, said that they did not feel that the Festival was worth the \$500 it had cost them.

9. The Festival opened officially on 28 July and there was a parade of all delegations through Sofia that afternoon. It was dark when the parading elements entered the Nevski Stadium, which was packed with 75,000 people and fully equipped with modern lighting. Ceremonies, including dances and other spectacles by 17,000 Bulgarian students, lasted until midnight. Only the Soviet, Bulgarian, North Vietnamese, and American delegations received the "red card" treatment from the crowd. The American delegates had no flag, were poorly dressed, did not march in step, carried a small sign reading "USA-CAW," and, in general, made a poor showing, but were greeted enthusiastically when they entered the stadium. There were cheers of "Kennedy, Kennedy." Bulgarians explained that this was because Kennedy was the only American political figure that the Bulgarian press had presented to the people in a sympathetic light.

10. On 1 August 15 American delegates met with the U.S. military deserters living in Sweden who were attending the Festival. The deserters were Bill JONES, who has been acting as spokesman,

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Steve GERSHADER, Charles ONAN, John PICCIANO, Walter WOODS, and Mark SHAPIRO. David GOTTLIEB, press representative of the deserters, stated that no secrets would be revealed by the deserters and that they would only provide information normally given out at any press conference. Each deserter made a statement explaining his situation and beliefs. This was followed by a short question and answer session. The deserters seemed to have their own individual psychological and behavioral problems. They appeared generally agreed that they had never felt so clear in their thinking; that they found it impossible to kill; were pacifists; believed that war in general was immoral and that American participation in the war in Vietnam was illegal; and that they had no immediate plans or goals but all wanted to return to the United States eventually, either under an amnesty or after a revolution. They maintained that they were mixed up in their minds at the time of induction into service but that this had ended with desertion and that they finally were able to see issues clearly for the first time. They were quite friendly and one of them spent the night with the American delegation. During the meeting, Marianne BALDWIN, one of the American delegates, seemed quite hostile and asked numerous questions of Walter WOODS. The deserters gave their address (American Deserters Committee, c/o Unga Filosofer, Drottning Gatan 13, Stockholm) and said that they needed money and letters from American sympathizers.

11. Two trips were taken by the American delegation, one of which was a tour of the Vinzaved, a wine-bottling plant outside

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of Sofia, where the workers were most enthusiastic in explaining the plant and in hosting a banquet lavish with food and wine. Additional bottles of wine were presented to the Americans when they boarded the bus for the return to Sofia. These workers had contributed the money used to defray housing expenses for the American delegation. The other trip was a mountain-climbing expedition, with bag lunches eaten atop the mountain in the cold and a two-hour descent to the bus in a driving rain.

12. Two members of the American delegation, Lonnie SCHLEIN and Laurie OLSON, who visited the Chinese Embassy in Sofia, were followed when they left by Bulgarian secret police who confiscated material picked up at the Embassy, including the complete works of Mao Tse-tung. No reason was given for the confiscation.

13. None of the following were noted at the Festival: Joan BAEZ, Avery BRUNDAGE, Cassius CLAY, Stokely CARMICHAEL, the ROLLING STONES, CORE representatives, Louis VALDES' theater group, or outstanding black American athletes boycotting the Olympic Games.

14. There were rumors of deep-seated dissension at the international level. Some said that there was trouble because revolutionaries could not talk and argue as they wished and that the moderates were in control. Castro and Mao radicals found the Soviet brand of Communism too conservative and insufficiently revolutionary. They also classified the USSR as too capitalistic. The Yugoslav delegation left early. The Cuban delegation did not

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arrive. There were two Canadian delegations, one of which was from the Province of Quebec. There were rumors of fighting within the West German delegation between members of Students for a Democratic Society and other students. Some of the Soviet 800-member delegation appeared fairly well along in years to be classified as students; these delegates were uniformly dressed and spoke English.

15. Most delegations seemed so totally preoccupied with dissension within their ranks that they avoided contact with other delegations. Contacts between Americans and other delegates at the Festival were confined generally to exchanges of greetings, exchanges of addresses, presentation of pins or souvenirs, and the like - all on a more or less formal basis. There was little interdelegation contact between American and Soviet representatives and what little there was appeared to be accidental. There appeared to be little or no socializing among delegations, even though several ate at the same restaurants.

16. Delegates from North Vietnam were very popular and were cheered at parades and spectacles, but none spoke English so interpreters were required for all contacts, which were therefore maintained on a very formal and impersonal basis. The 31 July visit of the Americans to the Vietnamese delegation involved numerous lengthy speeches by both sides, all of which had to be translated. Among those speaking were two girls, one of whom said that she had killed 18 Americans with 26 bullets and the other of whom claimed that she had been tortured by having acid applied

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to her face and throat. Young Vietnamese, reported to be orphans, were toasted for their courage in facing life without their parents, who allegedly had been killed by napalm or other means of torture. Kendra ALEXANDER, of the American delegation, said that blacks and whites must join in opposing war and racism, both of which result from the evils of capitalism as it is found in the United States. The Vietnam Solidarity Center opened on 29 July to the accompaniment of long speeches and gift donations. The British delegation presented eight motor scooters and the Americans, two Nordmende (German) shortwave radios, one for North Vietnam and the other for the National Front for the Liberation of South Vietnam. Exhibits included parts of American aircraft said to have been shot down over North Vietnam and numerous propaganda photographs some depicting what appeared to be hard-working North Vietnamese and others showing troops said to be American pictured as engaging in various types of purported atrocities. Other photographs showed pointed bamboo stakes, barbed-wire traps, and booby traps. A propaganda film on the war was entirely in the Vietnamese language and was highly repetitious. The American delegation donated blood for North Vietnam on two occasions, 18 delegates on 29 July and 15 delegates on 5 August.

17. A meeting with the West German delegation scheduled for 29 July never materialized.

18. At a meeting of the Lao and American delegations, the Pathet Lao delegates presented rings allegedly made from aircraft claimed to have been shot down over Laos. The figure "700" on

the face of each ring reportedly represented the 700 American aircraft claimed destroyed. Many Americans discarded the rings subsequently as they maintained they found it distasteful to wear a portion of aircraft that reportedly had brought death to so many in Laos and North Vietnam. During this meeting TYNER said that the black people in the United States were facing the same struggle against white imperialists as the Pathet Lao and that the blacks were fighting for the same cause and the same goals as the Pathet Lao.

19. All delegations were housed in the Garishka subdivision, a new development that will be made available to the Bulgarian working class. There were 102 apartments in each building, fully equipped except for stoves. The apartment buildings were cheaply constructed and both workmanship and materials seemed low in quality. For the Festival, there were three beds in each bedroom, four in each dining room, and one in each kitchen. Maid service was available during the Festival, as was free medical and dental care. A special post office was set up to handle mail for the delegation. Laundry was cheap and haircuts cost only \$.25. The American, Australian, and Argentine delegations ate at a restaurant called Lebed on the Lake, five miles from the housing area.

20. Currency controls were strictly enforced. There were no acts of hooliganism, there was no thievery, and there were no arrests. No peaceful protests were permitted so there was little occasion for the police to become active, but there was no evidence of heavy-handedness or brutality on the part of the police.

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21. The Festival closed on the evening of 6 August with a huge demonstration in the stadium and prizes were awarded to various delegations. Most delegates began leaving on 7 August, and only eight or nine members of the American delegation remained in Sofia after that date. In response to a Soviet request for a group of Du Bois Club members to visit the USSR, TYNER selected eight black delegates to tour the USSR for two or three weeks after the Festival. About 16 or 17 Americans flew to Prague for sightseeing before boarding the return charter flight from there on 15 August. Others went to the USSR or to various places in Europe before returning to the United States.

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SENSITIVE

Ninth Youth Festival, Sofia, Bulgaria, 28 July to 6 August 1968

The American delegation consisted of 85 persons, 11 of them members of the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS). The conference was sponsored by the World Federation of Democratic Youth and the International Union of Students. North Vietnamese and NLF representatives were present at the Festival along with American deserters. W.E.B. DuBois Club members, through a minority of the delegation, effectively controlled it. Great propaganda attention was focused on the U.S. role in Vietnam. Willaim Cathbert, Chairman of the American Deserters Committee in Stockholm, announced that the Bulgarian government had financed the attendance of the American deserters who held several press conferences and appeared jointly with the members of the NLF. After the conference, and in response to a Soviet request, the delegation leader (also president of the DuBois Clubs) selected eight Black delegates to tour the USSR.

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By GRS NARA, Date 9/8/97