

# **Saving the World FOR Socialism: How Soviet Dupe and Communist Fellow Traveler Curtis MacDougall Trained Today's "Progressive" Journalists**

By Cliff Kincaid  
President, America's Survival, Inc.

With the advent of what Rush Limbaugh calls the "state-run media," a reference to journalists acting as shells for the Obama White House, many people are asking how and why journalism turned out this way. This is how they were trained.

Reed Irvine recognized the problem in 1969, founding Accuracy in Media to focus critical public attention on a left-wing media bias, especially the effort to force a U.S. military withdrawal from Vietnam and create the conditions for a Communist takeover. "Indochina Without Americans: For Most, A Better Life," was the headline over a *New York Times* article. But the results were Communist re-education camps, Vietnamese boat people and the Cambodian genocide.



I began working for Reed in 1978, after graduating with a major in journalism and communications at the University of Toledo, Ohio, and realizing that journalism had radically changed into what my college journalism textbook, *Interpretative Reporting*,<sup>1</sup> openly called "The New Journalism." This trend was evident in the 1980s, when the major U.S. media favorably reported on Communist efforts to take over Central America. I reported on *Washington Post* reporter Karen De Young telling a left-wing Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) seminar that the Communist guerrilla groups in Central America were considered "the good guys." This trend had been seen previously in the coverage of Fidel Castro's Communist revolution in Cuba.

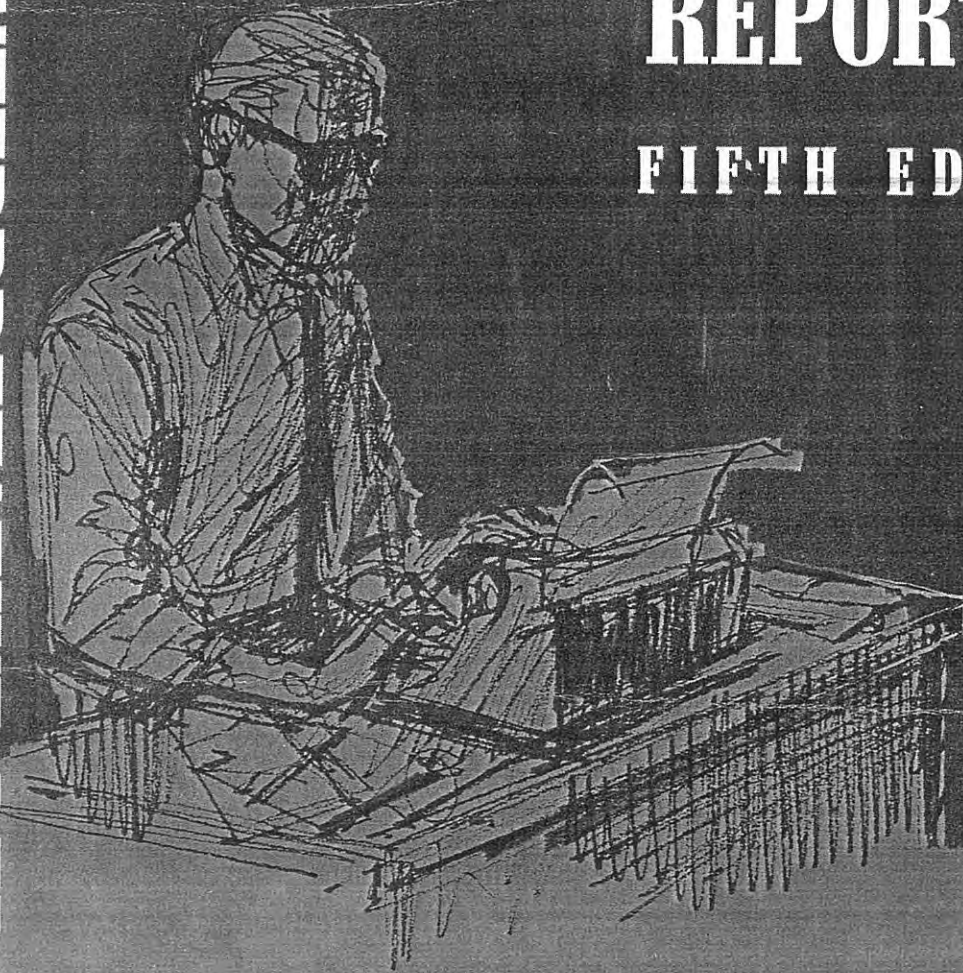
Curtis MacDougall (1903-1985), the author of *Interpretative Reporting*, has been labeled one of the "makers of the media mind" in a book by William David Sloan.<sup>2</sup> *Interpretative Reporting* was a standard text in journalism schools for more than 50 years,<sup>3</sup> "used at one time or another by almost every journalism program in the country," Sloan noted.

**Now we know that this journalism "educator" was investigated by the FBI because of his role as a fellow traveler of the Communist Party with ties to Soviet agents. He succeeded in poisoning the minds of many young journalists. And we are still trying to overcome his disastrous legacy.**

Many textbooks are published.  
A few become classics.  
This newly revised book is a classic.  
It has led its field for more than three decades.

# INTERPRETATIVE REPORTING

FIFTH EDITION



**Curtis D. MacDougall**

THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

INTERPRETATIVE REPORTING

MacDougall's influence was felt not only on generations of journalists, but his own son, A. Kent McDougall, who was acknowledged in the 1972 edition of *Interpretative Reporting* as then being with the New York office of the *Wall Street Journal* and lending "valuable assistance" in its preparation. Kent came out openly as a Marxist after working at the *Journal*, where he said he inserted positive stories about Marxist economists and "the left-wing journalist I.F. Stone,"<sup>4</sup> and the *Los Angeles Times*. He then became a Professor of Journalism at the University of California at Berkeley. He wrote about his experiences in the media in an article for *Monthly Review*, a socialist magazine, which carried the headline, "Boring From Within." He called Karl Marx his favorite journalist and declared:

"Reconciling radicalism and reporting for the mass media came naturally to me. I simply followed my father's lead."<sup>5</sup>

In the first chapter of this edition of *Interpretative Reporting*, MacDougall explained that this brand of journalism was attractive to those with a liberal bent:

"[Journalism] is the place for the starry-eyed youngster who wants to help 'save the world.' There is no better way for one who wants to help make democracy work more effectively to devote his talents."

This sounds great, except for the fact that democracy hasn't been served at all, here or abroad, by MacDougall and his ilk. In fact, a 1962 report of the House Committee on Un-American Activities made it clear that those promoting the communist cause in the U.S. were undermining the U.S. democratic system for the purpose of imposing a Soviet-style dictatorship. The Soviet-funded Communist Party USA (CPUSA) was adept at using front organizations and non-communists as "fellow travelers" or dupes and useful idiots. This report, *The Communist Party's Cold War Against Congressional Investigation of Subversion*, identified some of those working closely with Curtis MacDougall to destroy the committee, such as Frank Wilkinson, as CPUSA members. They feared exposure.



Obama's mentor, Frank Marshall Davis, was executive editor of the Communist-controlled *Chicago Star*. MacDougall was also associated with the paper.

While his textbook was carefully written and covered such matters as how to write a basic news story, MacDougall's far-left ideological views were apparent on critical issues. For example, he used his textbook to praise Walter Duranty of the *New York Times* as being "among the best" of "journalistic scholars" covering world events.<sup>6</sup> In fact, Duranty (1884-1957) was one of the biggest liars in the history of journalism. He is regarded as a Soviet agent or apologist because he covered-up Soviet dictator's Stalin's crimes in the Soviet Union in 1932-33 when 7-10 million were deliberately starved to death in the forced Ukrainian famine.

MacDougall said that Duranty was one of those “trained experts not only qualified to report but also to explain and interpret factual occurrences.”

Eugene Lyons was a far better judge of Duranty than MacDougall, having written in his 1941 book, *The Red Decade*, that Duranty’s dispatches “were written from the true-blue Stalinist angle” but nevertheless “won a capitalistic Pulitzer Prize for foreign correspondence.”<sup>7</sup> It was that Pulitzer Prize which became a major source of controversy over the years as Accuracy in Media and other organizations, including those representing Ukrainian-Americans, worked to get the prize revoked.

Lyons called Duranty’s reporting “strange,” adding that, “The mischief of it was that Duranty’s dispatches, in all these years of the building of the great Russian myth, had a resonance and authority which they would have lacked in the [Communist] Daily Worker. The liberals had in his true-blue reports clinching corroboration of their self-deceptions.”

**So why would Curtis MacDougall praise Duranty in the 1972 edition of his book, when Duranty’s record of being a Soviet apologist had already been well-established? His FBI file may have the explanation. The evidence of his participation in Communist front organizations and associations with members of the CPUSA and identified Soviet agents is overwhelming and shocking. This was someone truly dedicated to the Communist cause who wanted to recruit future journalists to that cause.**

ASI examined not only MacDougall’s FBI file but material about MacDougall on file in the archives of Northwestern University and the Evanston History Center in Evanston, Illinois. Some of the most interesting material involves the relationship that MacDougall had with Senator and 1972 Democratic Presidential candidate George McGovern, who had worked on MacDougall’s 1948 Senate campaign on the Progressive Party ticket. They exchanged a series of friendly letters. “I was one of the first to urge him to run for the Presidency,” MacDougall said. He had predicted a landslide win for McGovern.

In a transcript of a May 4, 1947 “On the Air” radio program, produced by Northwestern University, MacDougall expressed pronounced pro-Soviet views and attacked President Truman for taking actions to contain the Soviet Union. He faulted Truman for introducing British Prime Minister Winston Churchill’s famous “Iron Curtain” speech in Fulton, Missouri, which recognized hostile Soviet actions and intent.

**“From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the Continent,” said Churchill.<sup>8</sup>**

However, MacDougall declared that the U.S. had the responsibility to address Soviet “fears and suspicions” because of “our early attitude toward the atomic bomb; the

# McCarthyism:

WHAT WAS IT &  
IS IT COMING  
BACK?

FEATURING:

*Esther Hurst*

- reknowned Washington Lobbyist
- rep. from National Coalition Against Repressive Legislation

W/HISTORICAL BRIEFING by:

*Curtis MacDougal*

- former NU Professor
- expert on McCarthyism

WED MAY 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30<sup>PM</sup> COON FORUM

FREE ADMISSION

President of the United States introducing Winston Churchill at Fulton, Missouri to give the speech that he did; our announcement of the Truman doctrine regarding Turkey and Greece on the verge of the Moscow conference; haven't been actions which would tend to allay the suspicions of the Russians."

The Truman Doctrine was designed to assist governments resisting communism.

Another guest on the radio program, Albert Parry, a Visiting Associate Professor of Political Science at Northwestern University, countered:

"...I believe you mistake the effect for the cause. Actually it was the Soviet government that caused Churchill's speech. I can tell you of many things that are wrong with either Churchill or Truman, but the Fulton speech was not, and is not, one of them. Actually, many of us believe now what Churchill believed and spoke then. Churchill called a spade a spade. He spoke of the Iron Curtain rung down by the Soviet government over much of Europe; he spoke of the Soviet aggression. Why shouldn't he have spoken of these facts so well known to us? Why shouldn't he have Truman by his side? He didn't call for a war against the Soviet Union: he called for a defensive alliance against the Soviet aggression."

Our examination of the MacDougall information at Northwestern and the Evanston History Center also found:

- A flier advertising a MacDougall appearance at a 1981 forum on "McCarthyism: What Was It & Is it Coming Back?" He was described as an "expert on McCarthyism."
- Literature from one of MacDougall's opponents in an election campaign in 1944 said he was "the candidate of the radical Union for Democratic Action and the CIO Political Action Committee" and had the "active and militant support of the Communists (working through the Abraham Lincoln School and certain communist dominated unions)..."
- A 1973 article by MacDougall in the *Chicago Sun-Times* attacked the Catholic Church for "trying to impose its views on abortion and about 50 other matters, frightening non-Catholics into a realization of what a Catholic America would be like."
- MacDougall was also involved in the "Freedom from Religion Foundation," having been a speaker at its 1984 convention.

### **The MacDougall FBI File**

America's Survival, Inc. (ASI) has obtained and posted <sup>9</sup> the complete 319-page file on MacDougall and can reveal, for the first time, its explosive contents. (Excerpts are on the final six pages of this report). While MacDougall was openly involved in the communist-controlled Progressive Party and ran for office on the Progressive Party

ticket, the FBI documents an extreme pro-Soviet bent on the part of MacDougall and even lists him on the “security index” of potential threats.

**Under the headline of “Security Subjects Connected With Educational Institutions,” the FBI identifies MacDougall as being “in a position to spread Communist propaganda and wield influence over students.”**

The FBI file discloses that, as early as 1950, an informant identified as a professor at MacDougall’s Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University had “expressed concern over the pro-Communist teaching of the subject.” It added:

“Professor [deleted] stated that he has heard MacDougall speak on several occasions and believes he faithfully follows the CP [Communist Party] line.”

While MacDougall was publicly a journalism educator, a member and president of the American Association of Teachers of Journalism,<sup>10</sup> the FBI file demonstrates that he had a close association with the *Chicago Star*, a newspaper controlled by the Communist Party. MacDougall was scheduled to speak at a July 4, 1948, *Chicago Star* picnic.

**This relationship is significant for the additional reason that a 1949 report of the California Legislature Senate Fact-finding Committee on Un-American Activities identified one of the members of the board of directors of the Chicago Star Publishing Company as Frank Marshall Davis, who would later become President Barack Obama’s childhood mentor in Hawaii. Davis, a member of the Communist Party, was executive editor of the paper.**

The FBI information also identifies MacDougall as one of the owners of the *Illinois Standard*, the successor to the *Chicago Star*. An informant told the FBI that “the editorial policy of the ‘Illinois Standard’ was dictated by the Communist Party and the publication followed the Communist Party line throughout its period of existence.”

The associations with the *Chicago Star* and *Illinois Standard* do not show up on any official biographies of MacDougall, which strongly suggests that he tried to conceal this aspect of his life and career from his professional colleagues.

But there’s much more.

Davis was an associate of Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshoreman's and Warehouseman's Union (ILWU) and a secret member of the CPUSA, and so was MacDougall. One of the FBI reports reveals that MacDougall was scheduled to take part in -- and was a sponsor of -- a Midwest Bill of Rights Conference that would also include Bridges.

Ex. Rev.

N. U. ARCHIVES

# MacDougall repays debt —seeks McGovern votes

By MEG MORITZ

For George McGovern, politics began in 1948 when he was working for Curtis MacDougall's Senate campaign on the Progressive Party ticket.

Now, 24 years later, the tables are turned and it is MacDougall, retired journalism professor from Northwestern University, who is doing the supporting.

The two men's association began when MacDougall started getting bills from Chandler's Book Store in Evanston. "I wondered who in thunder was charging on my account," he says.

His campaign manager told him the charges were coming from a graduate student named George McGovern who was running the MacDougall campaign on Northwestern's campus.

"I finally met him one day when he dropped by my house to use the mimeograph machine. I can remember George being very apologetic about the bills," MacDougall recalls.

The campaign proved unsuccessful, and in 1951 McGovern graduated from Northwestern with a doctor's degree in history and began a career that has brought him the Democratic Presidential nomination.

"Over the years, I really didn't see much of George," MacDougall says. "But he was an early dove, and I'd write to him on

occasion supporting his speeches.

"In December, 1969, I went to Washington to see him. I was one of the first to urge him to run for the Presidency.



Curtis  
MacDougall

I drop him notes now and then, but I am no power behind the throne, I can assure you," MacDougall says.

MacDougall, who predicts McGovern will win November's election by a landslide, says he'll be working the Evanston territory for his one-time campaign aid, doing "whatever I can."

"I predict McGovern not only will win, it won't even be close. It's about time Northwestern had a crack at the White House. We've tried all these other punk schools and they haven't done a bit of good."



RGE MCGOVERN  
SOUTH DAKOTA

United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 15, 1969

Dear Curtis:

I'm delighted to hear that you plan to follow-up on my speech suggestion. I've enclosed one of my most recent speeches on Vietnam, in the hope that it might provide a point of departure.

I'm intrigued with your idea for a council on the future. Perhaps you should try to put it down in somewhat more detail on paper. We could then try the concept out on various people.

We have added you to our mailing list.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,



George McGovern

Curtis D. MacDougall  
537 Judson Avenue  
Evanston, Illinois 60202

Davis was also an associate of actor and singer Paul Robeson, another secret member of the CPUSA, and so it appears was MacDougall. One FBI report reveals that MacDougall had asked to be a sponsor of a meeting with Robeson.

### McCarthyism

While many of the reports from the FBI are dated long after Senator Joseph McCarthy conducted his investigation of communism, MacDougall's sympathy for the actual communists targeted by McCarthy helps explain why his journalism textbook, *Interpretative Reporting*, was so critical of McCarthy. MacDougall wrote:

"The internecine debate over Objectivity vs Interpretation ended with the recognition that the late Sen. Joseph R. McCarthy of Wisconsin was misusing the objective press to the injury of many."<sup>11</sup>

**Hence, one rationale for the switch from old-fashioned objective news reporting to "interpretative reporting" was the desire to subject anti-communists like McCarthy to additional press scrutiny. In this case, MacDougall wanted the media to criticize and thwart McCarthy's efforts to identify communists in government.**

While it can be argued that McCarthy could have been more accurate in presenting some of his charges, M. Stanton Evans, who has studied McCarthy's record, argues that his charges about communist infiltration of the U.S. Government were "understated."<sup>12</sup> He explains, "There were hundreds of Soviet agents or Communists or fellow travelers in our government at one time."<sup>13</sup>

Dr. Kenneth Campbell, an expert on Communist propaganda activities, was alluding to the influence of academia when he declared that, "They've turned out two generations of college graduates who are convinced that McCarthy is a monster." Campbell wrote, *Moscow's Words, Western Voices*, which analyzed the work of Duranty and other Soviet agents of influence in the press. In addition to going after McCarthy, Campbell said that liberal forces in academia and elsewhere also pursued Richard Nixon because he had exposed State Department official Alger Hiss as a Soviet agent.<sup>14</sup>



*Washington Post* reporter Carl Bernstein, who was part of the *Post* investigative team that brought down President Richard Nixon in the Watergate scandal, wrote a book, *Loyalties*, about his parents Al and Sylvia Bernstein being members of the Communist Party USA. He revealed that Democratic liberal Senator Edward Kennedy helped him obtain government documents about his father's case in particular. His father was

questioned about a possible relationship with a member of a Soviet espionage network named Louise Bransten.<sup>15</sup>

**This attitude, in turn, helps explain the media failure, with few exceptions, to report the evidence that President Obama, during his growing-up years in Hawaii, was mentored by Communist Party member Frank Marshall Davis, who functioned as Obama's father figure. To most reporters, bringing up such a matter would have constituted "McCarthyism."**

In this context, Professor Paul Kengor of Grove City College has commented:

"This ongoing anti-anti-communism is immediately evident in a quick conversation with your typical liberal in the press or academia. When I lecture at universities around the country, rattling off facts about the literally unparalleled communist destruction in the 20<sup>th</sup> century -- easily over 100 million people died under communism from about 1917-79 -- the young people are riveted, clearly having never heard any of this in the classroom, whereas their professors roll their eyes, as if the ghost of Joe McCarthy had flown into the room and leapt inside of my body."<sup>16</sup>

Perhaps the most notorious Communist Party front that MacDougall joined was the National Committee to Abolish the House Committee on Un-American Activities. A national conference of this organization was held in Chicago on April 8 and 9, 1967, and included MacDougall. Its 1969 conference was held in Washington, D.C., and included Frank Wilkinson, a CPUSA member who served a term in federal prison for contempt of the House Committee on Un-American Activities; communist Mike Klonsky of the Students for a Democratic Society, a friend of Weather Underground terrorist Bill Ayers; and Dr. Quentin Young, who, like Ayers, would later emerge as a friend and ally of Barack Obama.

MacDougall's views did not change over the years. In 1970, running for the Democratic nomination for Representative in Congress from the 13<sup>th</sup> District in Illinois, MacDougall issued a campaign brochure declaring support for:

- Immediately withdrawing U.S. military forces from Vietnam.
- Channeling U.S. foreign aid through the United Nations.
- Cancelling the ABM (anti-ballistic missile) system.
- Drastically reducing military expenditures.
- Abolishing the House Internal Security Committee.
- Extending medical care "to the entire population" and forbidding "exorbitant charges by doctors and hospitals."
- Treating drug addiction as a medical rather than criminal problem.

In 1976, in his position as Professor Emeritus of Journalism at Northwestern University, MacDougall wrote a column for the *Chicago Sun-Times* declaring that:

“The Red Scare worked for decades after the 1917 Russian revolution, which established a rival economic system that the capitalist world has done its best ever since to destroy.”

**MacDougall went on to declare anti-communism a “failure” and urge that half of the Pentagon budget be directed into “welfare agencies.”**

In a 1976 letter published in the *Chicago Sun-Times*, MacDougall discussed how, in the late 1940s, he had served as the chairman of a meeting to raise money for three members of the notorious “Hollywood Ten” – Dalton Trumbo, Ring Lardner and Herbert Biberman – who refused to testify about Communist Party influence in Hollywood and were convicted of contempt of Congress. MacDougall called them “persecuted men.”

**The FBI reports from the MacDougall file may strike those who are unfamiliar with the rise of the Communist Party in the U.S. as utterly fantastic and beyond belief. But the truth is that the Communist Party had attracted a large following in the U.S.**

Veteran investigator and researcher Herbert Romerstein, who has written several reports on communism for ASI, points out that Earl Browder, who headed the Communist Party in the 1930s until 1945, boasted in 1960 about the success of the communists under his leadership. Browder had said:

“Entering the 1930’s as a small ultra-left sect of some 7,000 members, remnant of the fratricidal factional struggle of the 1920’s that had wiped out the old ‘left wing’ of American socialism, the CP rose to become a national political influence far beyond its numbers (at its height it never exceeded 100,000 members), on a scale never before reached by a socialist movement claiming the Marxist tradition. It became a practical power in organized labour, its influence became strong in some state organizations of the Democratic Party (even dominant in a few for some years), and even some Republicans solicited its support. It guided the anti-Hitler movement of the American League for Peace and Democracy that united a cross-section of some five million organized Americans (a list of its sponsors and speakers would include almost a majority of Roosevelt’s Cabinet, the most prominent intellectuals, judges of all grades up to State Supreme Courts, church leaders, labour leaders, etc.). Right-wing intellectuals complained that it exercised an effective veto in almost all publishing houses against their books, and it is at least certain that those right-wingers had extreme difficulty getting published.”<sup>17</sup>

In 1948, the communists ran Henry Wallace as the Progressive Party candidate for President in the presidential election. Wallace wasn’t a communist, but a 1948 Communist Party election manifesto declared that “...in 1948 we Communists join with millions of other Americans to support the Progressive ticket to help win the peace. The

Communist Party will enter its own candidates only in those districts where the people are offered no progressive alternatives to the twin parties of Wall Street.”

Romerstein explains:

“In reality, many Communist Party operatives were in control of the Progressive Party. Before it was even formed the Communist Party merged two of its front organizations, the National Citizens Political Action Committee (NC-PAC) and the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts and Sciences, to form the Progressive Citizens of America (PCA), which became the organizing tool for the Wallace campaign.”

The official biography of MacDougall from Northwestern University, where he spent 35 years, claims the FBI investigation stemmed from an editorial he had written criticizing the FBI. In fact, an examination of the complete file demonstrates that the law enforcement agency had very good reason to investigate and monitor MacDougall because he had “extensive activities” in Communist Party front organizations and met with the approval of CPUSA officials. In 1970, MacDougall emerged as “the approved candidate of the CPUSA [Communist Party USA] for a congressional nomination.”

MacDougall was identified as a public supporter of the case, *Communist Party of United States v. Subversive Activities Control Board*, designed to challenge a legal requirement that Communist organizations register with the Attorney General. The Supreme Court upheld the registration requirement and ruled:

“Congress has found that there exists a world Communist movement, foreign-controlled, whose purpose it is by whatever means necessary to establish Communist totalitarian dictatorship in the countries throughout the world . . . Congress has found that in furthering this purpose, the foreign government controlling the world Communist movement establishes in various countries action organizations which, dominated from abroad, endeavor to bring about the overthrow of existing governments . . . And Congress has found . . . that a Communist network exists in the United States . . . The purpose of the Subversive Activities Control Act is said to be to prevent the world-wide Communist conspiracy from accomplishing its purpose in this country . . . It is not for the courts to re-examine the validity of these legislative findings and reject them.”<sup>18</sup>

**MacDougall was so far-left that he regarded both major political parties, the Democrats and Republicans, as too anti-communist. The information in the FBI file demonstrates that MacDougall was a vociferous opponent of Democratic President Harry Truman’s “arms program” and the anti-communist alliance known as the Atlantic Pact, the forerunner to NATO. MacDougall’s opposition to the Atlantic Pact was described by the FBI as an effort to further the cause of pro-Moscow communists. MacDougall also signed a letter to Truman calling for recognition of Communist China.**

One account describes a political debate involving MacDougall, Progressive Party candidate for the U.S. Senate from Illinois, and how he opposed the Marshall Plan for foreign aid to Europe to resist Soviet aggression. MacDougall said that the foreign aid should go instead through the United Nations and that the Marshall Plan was “unilateral.” The account in the FBI file goes on to say:

“MacDougall continued to attack the United States foreign policy while he praised the activities of the U.S.S.R.”

Perhaps because of such views, one report from FBI director J. Edgar Hoover to the U.S. Secret Service identifies the journalism professor as being in one of the following categories -- potentially dangerous, a “member or participant” in the communist movement, or someone under “active investigation” as a member of a group “inimical to U.S.”

**Even without his involvement in various Communist Party fronts, MacDougall’s involvement in the Progressive Party would be enough to cast doubt on his ability to be a professional educator.**

But there is also the very disturbing matter of his contacts with identified Soviet agents.

### **The Soviet KGB**

MacDougall’s *Gideon’s Army*, a history of the Progressive Party, was published by Italian-born American Communist Carl Marzani, who served a prison term for perjury in falsely denying, while employed by the State Department, that he was a Communist Party member. His publishing house, Marzani and Munsell, was subsidized by the Soviet KGB. In his book, *The First Directorate*, Oleg Kalugin, a retired Soviet KGB officer, wrote:

“A fellow traveler and open admirer of the Communist system, Marzani published Socialist and leftist literature in the United States. He had close ties to the Soviet government and the KGB, which secretly gave him money to keep his publishing house afloat.”<sup>19</sup>

Interestingly, the FBI file includes a July 24, 1964, report from the FBI office in Chicago to the FBI office in Dallas, where President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated eight months earlier, from someone who had taken a course from MacDougall at Northwestern University entitled “Public Opinion.” This person said that MacDougall was peddling the idea that Lee Harvey Oswald, a communist fellow traveler who had traveled to the Soviet Union and had been accused of Kennedy’s murder,<sup>20</sup> had been a “fall guy” and that the real culprits were “rightists.” MacDougall said that he had been in New York City at a publisher’s party for the announcement of a book with the “true facts which will not be reported in Warren report,” resulting from the official investigation into the murder. This person added that:

“MacDougall also [was] critical of FBI and its activity in field of communism, and expressed personal opinion that extent of danger attributable to communism was greatly overrated.”

A separate FBI report identified the book as titled *Oswald, Assassin or Fall Guy*. The author is Joachim Joesten and it was published by Marzani and Munsell, the Soviet front company.

The book, *The Sword and the Shield*, based on Soviet intelligence files, includes more details on Soviet funding of Marzani, “who was extensively used by the KGB for active measures,” a form of propaganda activity, and affirms that the Joesten book “supported Moscow’s line in pinning the blame for the assassination on a conspiracy by right-wing racists...” It reports that the KGB supported increased funding of Marzani, who was codenamed NORD. A KGB message said:

“NORD is an extremely energetic person and is quite devoted to his task. Despite his financial difficulties, he is struggling to keep SEVER [Liberty Book Club’s publishing company] afloat. SEVER, together with its commercial bookselling network, the Prometheus Book Club, has been in existence for fourteen years. During this time it has published and distributed more than 200 titles of a progressive nature, by both American and foreign authors. The catalogue of the SEVER publishing firm lists around fifty titles, and the Prometheus Book Club has 7,000 members. Books are also sent to 8,000 addresses on an individual basis.”<sup>21</sup>

The Prometheus Book Club was founded by Marzani and Angus Cameron, identified as a member of the Communist Party before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee.

A review of the Joesten book by “Victor Perlo, American Journalist,” and published by *New Times* in September 1964, is available on the Internet.<sup>22</sup> It says the book rebuts the “myth” that Oswald was a communist. Perlo, who was in fact a Communist Party member and Soviet agent,<sup>23</sup> reported:

“The manuscript was turned down by several publishers in the United States before it came to Marzani and Munsell. This firm deserves credit for publishing and promoting the book, so that thousands of copies were sold in a short time, despite a blackout by commercial reviewers. Publisher-editor Carl Marzani edited the manuscript brilliantly. The author skillfully obtained and assembled persuasive evidence.”

Blaming the murder of Kennedy on the “ultra-right,” Perlo added:

“A final chapter deals with the violent anti-Kennedy sentiments among the ultra-Right Texas oil tycoons, CIA opposition to Kennedy’s exploration of a possible settlement with Cuba, and other items of the political background.

Undoubtedly there are forces in America who would stop at nothing to achieve their aims of fascistizing the country and initiating nuclear aggression overseas.”

**In 1948, according to the FBI file, MacDougall was listed as a sponsor of the Chicago Committee of Welcome for the Dean of Canterbury, Reverend Hewlett Johnson, known as “the Red Dean of Canterbury,” whose sponsoring organization, the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, was determined to be a Communist organization. The British Intelligence Agency MI5 confirms that Johnson was “a leading Marxist cleric and obvious figure for Security Service attention.”**

MI5 described Johnson as a supporter of the Soviet revolution and added:

“In common with many British Communists, his anti-war attitude to the Second World War changed to one of supporting the war effort after the June 1941 German invasion of the Soviet Union.”<sup>24</sup>

A careful reading of his textbook reveals that MacDougall wanted to see journalism become a vehicle for attacking the capitalist system. His disdain for U.S. businessmen, even those running newspapers, was evident in “The Ethics of Journalism” section of *Interpretative Reporting* when he said that “any young person with an adequate social conscience” would want “clarification of the accusations he has heard that the media are owned by conservative or reactionary businessmen whose interest is profit making rather than public service...” The term “reactionary” is a leftist and derogatory term that is meant to indicate people opposed to progress.

In the 1972 edition of the book, which I studied in college, MacDougall emerges as critical of “the powerful conservative and predatory forces responsible for the threats to man’s existence on earth...” These are supposed to be the corporate interests.

MacDougall advised students to address “the gigantic problem of the effects of technological development, including the depletion of natural resources in an overpopulated world.” He also recommended that they read Rachel Carson’s 1962 book *Silent Spring*, which played an important role in starting the environmental movement by linking indiscriminate use of the pesticide DDT to the disappearance of songbirds. The claim, however, has been shown to be false, and the banning of DDT, which prevented the spread of the deadly disease malaria, has led to millions of human deaths, especially in Africa.

His Son, Kent, who followed in his footsteps, wrote articles for the *Los Angeles Times* blaming capitalism for deforestation and defending television programs attacking the nuclear energy industry.<sup>25</sup>

In 1996, Kent MacDougall wrote the article, “Humans As Cancer,” for *Wild Earth Journal*, insisting that people were destroying the Earth, or Gaia, as he also called the



planet. He called humans “a carcinogenic scourge on the world” and decried “the current orgy of fossil-fuel burning with the potential of overheating Gaia and jeopardizing the existence of all her inhabitants.”<sup>26</sup>

When Kent MacDougall came out of the Marxist closet, after writing for decades for the *Wall Street Journal* and *Los Angeles Times*, Dr. Lawrence Cranberg, who knew Curtis MacDougall, commented, “Like father, like son, both in opinions and tactics.” Cranberg told me that he had visited Curtis MacDougall a few years before his death and that MacDougall “confided to me that he considered the Soviet system far superior to our own.” As late as 1978, MacDougall wrote a column hailing Fidel Castro as “a man with a vision, program and record of achievement.” He called the Communist dictator a “world statesman.”<sup>27</sup>

### **Other Communist Connections**

Among other groups, the FBI files identifies MacDougall’s involvement in the Chicago Sobell Committee, a group dedicated to seeking clemency for Morton Sobell, convicted of atomic espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union. One informant told the FBI that MacDougall “belonged to almost every Communist fringe group in the Chicago area and that he spent entirely too little time in his office for a man in his position.”

MacDougall not only associated with identified members of the Communist Party but paid tribute to them. One FBI report notes his attendance at a “Tribute to Pearl Hart” dinner. Hart, a Chicago attorney, co-founder of the National Lawyers Guild, and lesbian, had been identified as a member of the CPUSA by Louis F. Budenz, a prominent CPUSA defector.

**The official account says that MacDougall’s FBI file was 292 pages long and that MacDougall “kept a bound copy on his coffee table.” The version that ASI received and which has been posted at [www.usasurvival.org](http://www.usasurvival.org) consists of 319 pages.**

Nevertheless, the House of Representatives of the State of Illinois passed a resolution in honor of MacDougall in 1985, claiming he was “a target of Senator Joe McCarthy” and noting with apparent pride his “three inch thick” FBI file on his coffee table.

### **Sanitizing the FBI File**

One published account of what was in the FBI file was in the January 21/22, 1978 *Chicago Daily News*. It noted that an informant had accused MacDougall of “pro-Communist teachings” but that most of the information was questionable, repetitive, or mundane. It does note, however, that MacDougall’s name did appear on the FBI’s “security index,” demonstrating a serious threat to national security. MacDougall was quoted as saying that the investigation of his life and career was a “waste of taxpayers’ money.”

The taxpayers can be the judge of that, if only the U.S. media can be counted on to reveal what is in the file.

Interestingly, one of MacDougall's books, *Hoaxes*, examined the gullibility of the press, including the use of photographs that were faked for propaganda purposes. But the greatest hoax involving MacDougall was the claim that he was somehow a "professional" journalist and educator dedicated to the truth.

## END NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Interpretative was used instead of "interpretive" reportedly because that was the preferred spelling in his dictionary at the time.

<sup>2</sup> William David Sloan, *Makers of the Media Mind*, Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, New Jersey, 1990

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.library.northwestern.edu/archives/findingaids/curtis\\_macdougall.pdf](http://www.library.northwestern.edu/archives/findingaids/curtis_macdougall.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> Stone has been identified as a member of the CPUSA and a Soviet agent of influence.

<sup>5</sup> A. Kent MacDougall, "The Bourgeois Press," *Monthly Review*, November 1988, page 16.

<sup>6</sup> Curtis MacDougall, *Interpretative Reporting*, MacMillan Publishing Co., New York, 1972, page 14.

<sup>7</sup> Eugene Lyons, *The Red Decade*, The Bobbs-Merrill Company, Indianapolis, 1941, page 123.

<sup>8</sup> <http://history1900s.about.com/library/weekly/aa082400a.htm>

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.usasurvival.org/macdougall.html>

<sup>10</sup> It eventually became known as the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

<sup>11</sup> *Interpretative Reporting*, page 181.

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=23478>

<sup>13</sup> Evans' books on McCarthy is titled "Blacklisted by History." 1

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.aim.org/media-monitor/mccarthys-critics/>

<sup>15</sup> As journalist Victor Lasky would later point out in *It Didn't Start With Watergate*, Watergate was a scandal in which Nixon or his staff stood accused of using tactics employed by previous Democratic administrations.

<sup>16</sup> [http://www.americanthinker.com/2008/06/return\\_of\\_the\\_dupes\\_and\\_the\\_an.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2008/06/return_of_the_dupes_and_the_an.html)

<sup>17</sup> Earl Browder, "Socialism in America" in *International Communism, St. Antony's Papers, Number 9*, Edited by David Footman, Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale, Ill, 1960, p 101.

<sup>18</sup> <http://law.jrank.org/pages/12539/Communist-Party-United-States-v-Subversive-Activities-Control-Board.html>

<sup>19</sup> Oleg Kalugin, *The First Directorate*, St. Martin's Press, New York, page 45.

<sup>20</sup> Wilfried Huismann's book, *Rendezvous with Death*, blames Castro for the Kennedy murder.

<sup>21</sup> Christopher Andrew and Vasili Mitrokin, *The Sword and the Shield*, Basic Books, New York, 1999, page 226.

<sup>22</sup> [http://karws.gso.uri.edu/jfk/history/wc\\_period/New\\_Times/1964-38\\_Assassin\\_or\\_fall\\_guy.html](http://karws.gso.uri.edu/jfk/history/wc_period/New_Times/1964-38_Assassin_or_fall_guy.html)

<sup>23</sup> Herbert Romerstein's book, *The Venona Secrets*, discusses how Perlo was a member of an underground communist espionage group identified by defector Whittaker Chambers that also included State Department official Alger Hiss. Perlo had held various government posts.

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.mi5.gov.uk/output/communists-and-suspected-communists.html#johnson>

<sup>25</sup> "Confessions of a Media Mole," AIM Report, January-B, 1989.

<sup>26</sup> <http://www.religionandnature.com/bron/courses/readings/MacDougall--HumansCancer.pdf>

<sup>27</sup> Curtis D. MacDougall, "Observations," Lerner Skyline Newspapers, Week of April 6, 1978.

UNITED STATES

Memorandum

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

DATE: August 23, 1961

FROM : Mr. J. F. Bland *JFB*

SUBJECT: SECURITY SUBJECTS CONNECTED WITH EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The attached contains public source information regarding Security Index subjects who are presently employed or connected with educational institutions and could possibly be used by Assistant Director, DeLoach.

The four individuals named hereafter are all listed in the Security Index and are presently active in the Communist Party (CP) and/or CP fronts in the Chicago area. They are all in a position to spread communist propoganda and wield influence over students.

[Redacted]

Curtis Daniel McDougall - Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois (100-371610)

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended this memorandum and the attached be furnished to Mr. DeLoach for his consideration.

b6  
b7c

100-358086

Enclosure

WIF:edm  
(11)

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Mohr
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bland
- 1 - Mr. Brennan
- 1 - Mr. Gregg
- 1 - [Redacted]
- 1 - Mr. Forsyth

50 SEP 11 1961

XEROX  
SEP 5 1961

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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191 SEP 6 1961

*original retained & handled before*

*WCS*

*WCS*

*3-9-61*

SEP 1 1961

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-358086-2953

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

JUL 24 1964

TELETYPE

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	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

5FBI WASH DC 0724

FBI CHICAGO

453PM CDST URGENT 7/24/64 JLS

TO DIRECTOR 44-24016, DALLAS 44-1639 AND NEW YORK

NEW YORK VIA WASHINGTON

FROM CHICAGO 44-645 2P

JACK L. RUBY, AKA LEE HARVEY OSWALD, AKA DASH VICTIM.  
CIVIL RIGHTS. OO DALLAS.

*W.C. Sullivan*  
*B. J. ...*  
*...*

[REDACTED], ADVISED

b6  
b7C  
b7D

WHILE VISITING AN ACQUAINTANCE, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL FROM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PRESENTLY ENROLLED IN COURSE ENTITLED QUOTE PUBLIC OPINION UNQUOTE AT NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY BY DR. CURTIS D. MC DOUGALL.

[REDACTED] ACTIVE IN PTA AT [REDACTED], AND [REDACTED] IS [REDACTED]

b6  
b7C

[REDACTED] OF ILLINOIS CONGRESS OF TEACHERS.

[REDACTED] ADVISED [REDACTED] THAT SHE WAS MOST ALARMED AT

COMMENTS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED BY DR. CURTIS D. MC DOUGALL. AMONG

THESE, [REDACTED] REPORTED DR. MC DOUGALL CLAIMED LEE OSWALD WAS

NOT THE ASSASSIN OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, AND THAT AN ACQUAINTANCE OF

DR. MC DOUGALL HAS WRITTEN A BOOK ENTITLED QUOTE OSWALD, ASSASSIN OR

FALL GUY UNQUOTE WHICH IS COMING OFF THE PRESS AND IS BEING PLACED ON

MARKET.

END PAGE ONE

*Them*  
*Them*

REC-44 44-24016-1841  
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MCT-9  
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100-37610

*SIX*  
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DATE 11-23-2009 BY 60322UC/LP/STP/gjg

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79 AUG 4 1964  
79 AUG 12 1964

SEE INDEX

PAGE TWO

MC DOUGALL REPORTED TO HAVE STATED HE WAS IN NEW YORK CITY RECENTLY AT PUBLISHERS PARTY FOR ANNOUNCEMENT OF BOOK, AND THIS BOOK HAS TRUE FACTS WHICH WILL NOT BE REPORTED IN WARREN REPORT. THESE FACTS ALLEGEDLY SHOW THAT FBI AND DALLAS POLICE HAD KNOWLEDGE AND EVIDENCE SHOWING THAT TRUE ASSASSINS WERE RIGHTISTS, AND THAT BOTH FBI AND DALLAS POLICE KNEW OSWALD WAS BEING USED. MC DOUGALL ALSO CRITICAL OF FBI AND ITS ACTIVITY IN FIELD OF COMMUNISM, AND EXPRESSED PERSONAL OPINION THAT EXTENT OF DANGER ATTRIBUTABLE TO COMMUNISM WAS GREATLY OVERRATED.

DR. CURTIS D. MC DOUGALL IS SI SUBJECT OF THE CHICAGO DIVISION WHO IS ACTIVE IN AND DIRECTING MANY SUBVERSIVE FRONT ORGANIZATIONS IN UNITED STATES.

THIS INFORMATION BEING FURNISHED TO NEW YORK SO THAT COPIES OF THIS BOOK CAN BE OBTAINED, IF NOT PREVIOUSLY OBTAINED AND FURNISH SAME TO BUREAU.

END

OTHER STATION TO BE ADVISED

END WA OMS FBI WASH DC

TU CLRNS

SA [redacted] My O  
advised at 9:55 AM  
no action necessary  
since [redacted] has  
received book  
JMT

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JMS:zoo  
advised 9:45 AM  
7-25-64

Book has been reviewed at Bureau per JMS:zoo  
see Bureau 7/9/64

Sullivan memo

\* 4 [redacted] [signature]

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

NO. 1  
CASE ORIGINATED AT **CHICAGO**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ **9**

REPORT MADE AT <b>CHICAGO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/30/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/11,20-22,31; 2/11,16,17;5/10- 21;6/15,16,21/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>R</b>
TITLE <b>CHANGED</b> <b>CURTIS DANIEL MAC DOUGALL, IPR NA 1-4</b> a: Curtis Daniel Mac Dougall			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>			REVIEWING OFFICER: <b>FCG:jch</b> b6 b7c

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SUMMARY REPORT**

CURTIS DANIEL MAC DOUGALL has been affiliated with the following Communist front organizations, activities, and publications in capacities and on dates indicated: Abraham Lincoln School, Chicago, contact November 26, 1944; the Midwest Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, sponsor 1947-1953, active participant at functions April 8, 1950 and March 3 and 4, 1951, signer of statement against denaturalization August 10, 1950; American Committee for Spanish Freedom, contact January 26, 1945; American Peace Crusade, sponsor 1951 and 1953, member 1951 and 1952; American Youth for Democracy, contact 1944, speaker at functions January 14, 1945, and February 28, 1948, advisor 1946; protested against Broyles Bills March, 1949; Chicago Action Council, member, January, 1945; Chicago Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, contact October, 1953; Chicago Conference to End Mob Violence, speaker at function December 10, 1949; the Chicago Committee of Welcome for the Dean of Communist Party, sponsor November, 1948; "Chicago Star" and "Illinois Standard," speaker at function July 4, 1948, stockholder of Progressive Publishing Company (publishers of "Chicago Star" and "Illinois Standard") 1948; Civil Rights Congress, sponsor 1949; Committee for a Democratic Far Eastern Policy, answered questionnaire issued by organization in favor of recognition of Chinese Communist government,

**9-1**  
*[Handwritten notes and signatures]*

*Declassified by 4417 on 1-6-77 WCB/kab*

AGENCY REG. F. F.	CC-DAB, STATE NY
REP'T BY	AGENCY
BY	REQ. REC'D
	DATE FORW. 7-14-54
	HOW FORW. RIS
	BY WBA, [Signature]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>100-371610-9</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT <b>5 - Bureau (100-371610) (Registered)</b> <b>3 - Chicago (100-19456)</b> <b>COPY IN FILE</b>	<b>RECORDED - 68</b> <b>INDEXED 68</b> <b>JUL 6 1954</b>

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**52 JUL 14 1954**  
**76 APR 1 1963**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CG 100-19456

December, 1949; Committee for Free Political Advocacy, signer of statement favoring organization's policies, 1949; Committee for Peaceful Alternatives to the Atlantic Pact, Executive Committee member July 15, 1949, signer of statements favoring the organization's policies August, 1949, December, 1949, attended function December 16, 1950, scheduled to lead discussion at function December 19, 1951, attacked Attorney General's citation of the organization pursuant to Executive Order 9835; Independent Voters of Illinois, Inc., chairman, Strategy Committee, 1946; Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, sponsor 1945-1948 and 1950, speaker at function April 2, 1945, scheduled to speak at function, early 1946, scheduled to appear at function November 16, 1947, chairman of function, March 26, 1948, member by own admission June 18, 1948, signer of statements, 1949, 1951; Modern Book Store, contact 1943; National Committee to Defeat the Mundt Bill, active in organization's protest against Mundt Bill 1948-1951; National Committee to Repeal the Mc Carran Act, sponsor 1951 and 1953; National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Master of Ceremonies at Joint Protest Rally, November 18, 1949; National Council of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions, auto seen in vicinity of function April 6, 1945, member-at-large 1948-1950 and 1952, sponsor 1949, attended function September 30, 1950; National Non-Partisan Committee, authorized use of his name in protesting trial of twelve Communist leaders in New York City; Progressive Party of Illinois, candidate for United States Senator from Illinois 1948, state chairman from April 16, 1950 to September 30, 1951, attended numerous functions from 1948-1954; Progressive Citizens of America, Vice Chairman, Illinois Chapter 1947, attended special meeting of Board of Directors, January 12, 1948, State Chairman, 1948; the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, contact 1952, Union for Democratic Action, attended function June 12, 1943, Recording Secretary of Executive Board, September 17, 1943.

- C -

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : <sup>premlw</sup> SAC, Chicago

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 01-23-2009 BY 60322UC/LP/STP/gjg

DATE: September 5, 1950

SUBJECT: CURTIS D. MacDOUGALL  
SM-C

Reference is made to SAC Letter #128, Series 1948, dated October 5, 1948, concerning investigations at colleges, universities, and other institutions of public learning.

Authority is requested to conduct an investigation on the above-named subject.

On July 25, 1950, SA [redacted] contacted [redacted] of the Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University, at Evanston, Illinois, on a routine Applicant investigation. At that time, Professor [redacted] expressed concern over the pro-Communist teaching of the subject, who is also a Professor of Journalism at the same school. Professor [redacted] stated his personal relationship with MacDOUGALL has disintegrated to the point where [redacted] no longer speaks to MacDOUGALL, because of MacDOUGALL'S activities. [redacted] further stated that [redacted] of the Medill School of Journalism, is displeased with MacDOUGALL'S activities and on two occasions recently had called MacDOUGALL into his office and tried to influence MacDOUGALL to discontinue his activities along political lines, because he was bringing the school into a state of disrepute.

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Professor [redacted] stated he has heard MacDOUGALL speak on several occasions and believes he faithfully follows the CP line. Professor [redacted] advised it is his belief that MacDOUGALL belonged to every "Communist fringe group", and spent about eight hours a week in his office, and appeared entirely inadequate for a man in his position.

Professor [redacted] stated he himself, during World War II, was in charge of OWI, and that he started to keep clippings, etc., concerning MacDOUGALL'S activities. He stated MacDOUGALL'S activities have become a source of embarrassment to other members of the School of Journalism.

On June 30, 1948, SA [redacted] interviewed the subject in connection with the loyalty investigation of [redacted]. At this time, MacDOUGALL informed SA [redacted] that he was a member of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, which was declared subversive by the Attorney-General, but he did not feel that it was subversive. He added that, if it is subversive, then

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