Memorandum

TO:  DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM:  SAC, DENVER (157-NEW)

SUBJECT:  DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL
RACIAL MATTER
00 - DENVER

DATE:  8/3/65

On July 27, 1965, Colorado, furnished a legal-sized letter, together with a return address, bearing the letterhead of the Denver Citizens' Council, Organization Committee, P.O. Box 2206, Denver, Colorado. Xerox copy of this letter is being furnished the Bureau and the receiving offices.

It is to be noted that the letter reports that WILLIAM K. SHEARER, well known California Editor and publisher of "California Statesman" will be in Denver on August 5, 1965, to "present the facts in the current attempt to betray the Republic and our White population."

San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego are requested to furnish Denver any information regarding SHEARER.

Established source Office, Denver, advised July 28, 1965, that Denver, is listed to telephone Colorado Driver's License, The Denver City Directory, examined by SA on July 28, 1965, reflects that STEELE is a guard at the Gates Rubber Company.

Indices of the Denver Office reflect no information regarding LYMAN E. STEELE.

Bureau (Enc. 2) (AM) (RM)
2 - San Francisco (Enc. 1) (AM) (RM)
2 - Los Angeles (Enc. 1) (AM) (RM)
2 - San Diego (Enc. 1) (AM) (RM)
2 - Denver
JCL:jt

5/7 AUG 17 1965
Detective Intelligence Bureau, Denver Police Department, advised that the records of the Denver Police Department reflect no information regarding STEELE.

The Denver Office contemplates covering this meeting of August 5, 1965, through the use of panel source

There is enclosed for the Bureau's information a news clipping appearing in the July 29, 1965, issue of the "Denver Post" regarding this letter.

The Bureau will be kept advised regarding the possible organization of this council.
Racist Council Planned Here

By TOM GAVIN
Denver Post Staff Writer

An attempt to form a Denver branch of the Citizen’s Council of America—a racial segregationist organization headquartered in the Deep South and originally called the White Citizens Council—will be made at an Aug. 5 meeting in north Denver.

Temporary chairman and apparent organizer of the fledgling Denver chapter is Lyman E. Steele of 343 Corona St., a guard at the Gates Rubber Co. plant. Steele could not be reached for elaboration Thursday, but he has mailed invitations to the organizational session and told managers of the building he has rented — the Colorado Grange Hall at 2475 W. 26th Ave. — that he expects 300 to 400 persons to attend.

LIKE TO CANCEL

Claude Grimes, secretary of the Grange Building Co., said Thursday he was not aware of the organization’s nature when the July 10 p.m. Aug. 5 auditorium rental was negotiated — and said he’d “sure like to” cancel the rental.

“We’re not at all in favor of that,” Grimes said after learning of the council’s segregationist viewpoint.

A similar attempt to organize a California chapter of the council last year met a temporary setback when officials of the Ambassador Hotel, after learning the group’s identity, canceled a meeting rental.

Steele’s letters inviting attendance at the 8 p.m. Aug. 5 meeting said the Denver branch is being formed because of individual freedom by the increasing erosion of state’s rights and the adoption of civil rights laws.”

LAW ASSAILED

The letters attack Colorado’s Fair Housing Law as “an outrageous and unconstitutional interference with personal freedom.”

It also praised the national Citizens Council organizations as “the most effective method yet developed” for combating collectivism and “thwarting schemes for minority groups.

1 The Denver Post
Denver, Colorado

Date: 7-29-65
Edition: Home
Author: Tom Gavin
Editor: Palmer Hoyt
Title:

Character: 

Classification: 

Submitting Officer: Denver  

□ Being Investigated
DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL
ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
DENVER, COLORADO

A group of civic leaders in our area is concerned about the destruction of individual freedom by the increasing erosion of States' Rights and the adoption of civil rights laws. These forced integration measures will bring government coercion into every local community and will destroy property rights and freedom of choice.

Early this year the Colorado legislature passed a Bill, sponsored by both political parties, which dictated to the property owner to whom he could sell or rent his property. This bill is an outrageous and unconstitutional interference with personal freedom.

We believe that the majority community needs a responsible voice, and that the solution lies in the formation of a strong, permanent, locally-autonomous organization built on non-partisan lines and devoted to securing action by Denver residents.

By adopting a plan that has proven its worth throughout the nation we can take the offensive! By abandoning the defensive posture of the past, and by pooling our talents, and our understanding of the collectivist danger, we can take our local and state governments once again instruments for the protection - rather than the destruction of our Constitutional rights.

On Thursday evening, August 5, 1965, at 8:00 p.m. an organization meeting will be held in the Grange Building, 2475 West 26th, Avenue, in Denver. Because of the importance of this meeting, a special invitation will be sent you in a few days and this must be presented at the door before you will be admitted.

At this meeting, a DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL will be organized. Only those who believe in the fundamental principles of individual freedom, States' Rights and constitutional government, and who wish to help perpetuate these ideals, should attend.

Our Council, like many others fromed in cities and states across the country will be affiliated with the Citizens' Councils of America, the nation's largest conservative action membership organization.

Keynote speaker at our organization meeting will be the Honorable William K. Shearer, well-known California editor, civic leader and publisher of the "California Statesman". He will present the facts in the current attempt to betray the Republic and our White population. Also on hand will be Louis W. Hollis, Executive Director of the Citizens' Councils of America, to show us "What Lies Ahead Without Organization?".

An acknowledged 11-year record of accomplishment stands behind the Citizens' Councils of America program. This movement is the most effective method yet developed for combating the growth of collectivism, upholding law and order, thwarting schemes for minority-group domination of political affairs and maintaining harmonious race relations.

Please take a moment NOW to indicate on the bottom of this letter whether you plan to attend this interesting organization meeting in Denver. By all means, attend the meeting if you possibly can - and you are authorized to bring other members of your family or friends who feel as you do. Please detach your reply and return it today. We look forward to seeing you August 5, 1965, at the Grange Building, 2475 26th Avenue, in Denver.

Sincerely,

Lyman E. Steele, Temporary Chairman
DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL

Detach and mail to: P. O. Box 2206
Denver, Colorado

☐ I will attend the Organization Meeting on August 5, 1965, at the Grange Building in Denver, at 8:00 p.m.

☐ I will be unable to attend, but am interested in being a part of this organization.

(Please NAME __________ PHONE __________)
Print) __________ CITY & __________ STATE __________
ADDRESS __________

ALL THAT IS NECESSARY FOR THE TRIUMPH OF EVIL IS THAT GOOD MEN DO NOTHING!
Memorandum

TO: Director, FBI

FROM: SAC, Denver (157-117)

SUBJECT: DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL RACIAL MATTERS (Denver 00)

DATE: Aug. 13, 1965

Re Denver letter to Bureau dated 8/3/65.

There are enclosed eight copies of a letterhead memorandum regarding the organizational meeting of the Denver Citizens' Council and the picketing thereof by the Socialist Workers Party and Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee.

The sources mentioned in the LHM are identified as follows:

(1) 
(2) 
(3) 
(4) 

The LHM is classified "Confidential" since data reported from sources 2, 3 and 4 could reasonably result in identification of confidential informants of continuing value and compromise the effectiveness thereof which could adversely affect the national defense.

Information regarding this organization is being furnished on a current basis to the intelligence agencies in Denver and a copy of this LHM is also being furnished to these agencies.

JCL: mf  
(5) Icc & cc LHM  
808 RB

ENCL. 8
DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL
RACIAL MATTERS

A confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that several individuals received literature mailed in Denver on July 26, 1965, bearing a return address of P.O. Box 2206, Denver, Colorado, which contained a leaflet signed by Lyman B. Steele, Temporary Chairman, Denver Citizens' Council. This literature contained the following information:

Standing is Lyman B. Steele

DOB April 5, 1912

A group of civic leaders in our area is concerned about the destruction of individual freedom by the increasing erosion of States' Rights and the adoption of civil rights laws. These forced integration measures will bring government coercion into every local community and will destroy property rights and freedom of choice.

Lyman B. Steele

Res 343 Council Denver Colo

"Early this year the Colorado legislature passed a Bill, sponsored by both political parties, which dictated to the property owner to whom he could sell or rent his property. This bill is an outrageous and unconstitutional interference with personal freedom.

"We believe that the majority community needs a responsible voice, and that the solution lies in the formation of a strong, permanent, locally-autonomous organization built on non-partisan lines and devoted to securing action by Denver residents.

"By adopting a plan that has proven its worth throughout the nation we can take the offensive! By abandoning the defensive posture of the past, and by pooling our talents, and our understanding of the
collectivist danger, we can make our local and state governments once again instruments for the protection - rather than the destruction of our Constitutional rights.

"On Thursday evening, August 5, 1965, at 8:00 p.m. an organization meeting will be held in the Grange Building, 2475 West 26th Avenue, in Denver. Because of the importance of this meeting, a special invitation will be sent you in a few days and this must be presented at the door before you will be admitted.

"At this meeting, a DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL will be organized. Only those who believe in the fundamental principles of individual freedom, States' Rights and Constitutional government, and who wish to help perpetuate these ideals, should attend.

"Our Council, like many others formed in cities and states across the country will be affiliated with the Citizens' Councils of America, the nation's largest conservative action membership organization.

"Keynote speaker at our organization meeting will be the Honorable William K. Shearer, well-known California editor, civic leader and publisher of the 'California Statesman'. He will present the facts in the current attempt to betray the Republic and our White population. Also on hand will be Louis W. Hollis, Executive Director of the Citizens' Councils of America, to show us 'What Lies Ahead Without Organization?'.

"An acknowledged 11-year record of accomplishment stands behind the Citizens' Councils of America program. This movement is the most effective method yet developed for combating the growth of collectivism, upholding law and order, thwarting schemes for minority-group domination of political affairs and maintaining harmonious race relations.
DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL

"Please take a moment NOW to indicate on the bottom of this letter whether you plan to attend this interesting organization meeting in Denver. By all means, attend the meeting if you possibly can - and you are authorized to bring other members of your family or friends who feel as you do. Please detach your reply and return it today. We look forward to seeing you August 5, 1965, at the Grange Building, 2475 26th Avenue, in Denver."

A second confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on August 5, 1965, that additional information from this group was mailed in Denver on July 31, 1965. This material contains information about the organization committee of the Denver Citizens' Council. This literature contains questions and answers with the title, "Why Must Denver Organize?" The following portion is quoted from this literature:

"Q-What is the present racial situation in Denver"

"A-For the past several years, there has been a growing awareness among local people that, in terms of discussion of racial problems, the majority community has been almost totally without a voice or representation. Well intentioned efforts to appease racial agitators have served only to whet the agitators' appetites for power. Today, civil rights fanatics will settle for nothing less than total compulsory integration of every residential area, every social gathering, and every privately-owned business enterprise. Law enforcement, property values, our schools and neighborhoods are all threatened by the civil rights drive for preferential treatment for the Negro minority."

On July 28, 1965, Montague C. Whitman, Motor Vehicle Division, Denver, made available the operator's license of Lyman Elmo Steele. The records reflect that Steele has a chauffeur's license issued in Denver on January 21, 1964. The license shows the following description of Steele:

- 3 -
DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL

Race: White
Sex: Male
Date of birth: April 5, 1912
Height: 5'11"
Hair: Brown
Eyes: Blue

Denver Police Department, advised on August 5, 1965, that the records of that agency contain no information regarding Steele.

Denver, reported on August 5, 1965, that the records of that agency reflect Lyman E. Steele, 343 Corona Street, Denver, has been employed as a guard at the Gates Rubber Company, Denver, since February, 1956. Steele has been on record with this agency since September, 1950. Steele was employed as a guard at the Gates Rubber Company, Denver, on January 4, 1963, and (last name unknown) on January 18, 1963. The records reflect that Steele's former Denver addresses are listed as 244 South Humboldt, 510 Lafayette, 22 South Clarkson and 525 Clarkson.

On August 4, 1965, a third confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that members of the Denver Branch, Socialist Workers Party (SWP), were going to assist members of the Denver Friends of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee in plans to picket the organization meeting of the Denver Citizens' Council on August 5, 1965.

A characterization of the Denver Branch, SWP, appears as an appendix hereto and the sources mentioned therein have furnished reliable information in the past.

On August 6, 1965, the third source advised that approximately 100 individuals participated in the picketing of the
DENVER CITIZENS' COUNCIL

organization of the Denver Citizens' Council in front of the Grange Building, 2475 West 26th Avenue, Denver, on August 5, 1965. This source reported that one of the leaders of the picketing group was Allen Taplin, the Branch Organizer of the SWP.

A fourth confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, reported on August 6, 1965, that between 80 and 100 individuals attended an organizational meeting of the Denver Citizens' Council held between 8:00 and 9:55 P.M. on August 5, 1965, in the Grange Building, 2475 West 26th Avenue, Denver. Lyman Steele acted as master of ceremonies and William M. Shearer and Louis W. Hollis were the principal speakers.

This source stated that application cards were distributed and all those in attendance were urged to join the new Denver Citizens' Council. Source advised that Eugene Parsons, a self-admitted member of "Minutemen," was present at this meeting. Source also advised that one of the individuals who participated in taking up tickets at the meeting was Dorothy Coff, who is connected with the Soldiers of the Cross school, Evergreen, Colorado.

Source stated that most of the individuals left the meeting hall from the side entrance and did not pass by the individuals who were picketing this meeting outside the hall. The source further advised that there was no violence in connection with this meeting. Source stated that although it was a public meeting, the only individuals who were allowed to enter the meeting had to have a ticket which was furnished through the mails by Lyman E. Steele. Source was unable to state how many individuals made application to join the organization.

Detective Intelligence Bureau, Denver Police Department, advised that this meeting was covered by members of the Denver Police Department and that there was no violence in connection with the picketing of this meeting.

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.
SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY - DENVER BRANCH

A source advised in June, 1960, that as of May 24, 1960, the National Office, Socialist Workers Party (SWP), notified SWP members in Denver, Colorado, that they had fulfilled the constitutional requirements for the establishment of a branch and would thereafter be designated as such.

A second source advised on May 17, 1965, that the Denver Branch, SWP, collects dues from members, sends a portion thereof to the National Office, SWP, and follows instructions set forth by national officials of the SWP.

The SWP has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.
Memorandum

To: Director, FBI

From: SAC, Denver (157-117)

Subject: DENVER CITIZEN'S COUNCIL
RACIAL MATTERS
(Denver CO)

DATE: Aug. 30, 1965


Enclosed are eight copies of LHM regarding the above-captioned organization as requested in referenced routing slip.

The source mentioned in the LHM is

Denver, Colorado.

2 - Bureau (Encls. 8)
1 - Denver
LDN: mf
(3)

AGENCY: ACSI, ONI, OSI, SEC. SUR.
DEPT: ISD, CRD, 557
DATE FOR: 9/16/65
HOW FOR: PKS
BY: BR: C, 33

cc & cc LHM
808 RB

REC 49

9Aug 31 1965

ENVELOPE

70 Sep 9 1965 384

This letter states that William K. Shearer, well-known California editor and publisher of the "California Statesman," will be in Denver on August 5, 1965, to "Present the facts in the current attempt to betray the republic and our white population."

A source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on July 28, 1965, that Denver, is held by one Denver.

The Denver City Directory reflects that Steele is a guard at the Gates Rubber Company.

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.
Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, DENVER (157-145) (C)

SUBJECT: COLORADO SPRINGS CITIZENS COUNCIL RACIAL MATTER

OO - DENVER

Enclosed for the Bureau are 8 copies of a letterhead memorandum pertaining to captioned organization.

One copy of the letterhead memorandum is furnished to Jackson because of its interest in National Citizens Councils.

DN T-l mentioned in the letterhead memorandum is classified confidential since data reported from DN T-l could reasonably result in identification of a confidential informant of continuing value and compromise the effectiveness thereof, which would adversely affect the national defense.

Copies of the letterhead memorandum are being disseminated to the United States Attorney, Secret Service, 113th INTC, OSI and NISRA, Denver, and to G2 and NISO, Chicago.

2 - Bureau (Enc. 8) (RM)
1 - Jackson (Enc. 1) (RM)
1 - Denver
JCL:jt
(4)
The Denver Post, on September 21, 1966, reported under byline of Colorado Springs, Colorado, that a group of local citizens aided by out-of-state organizers, had formed a Colorado Springs Citizens Council "to protect state and individual rights." The article continued that "Rudy Fahl, a local realtor," stated that the first meeting was planned for September 27 at the City Auditorium Little Theatre.

Fahl is quoted as saying, "There hasn't been any trouble here so far, but we're organizing the council before there is any."

Fahl is reported to have said that the council is similar to the one formed in Denver and those being formed in other cities around the country. Fahl is reported to have said that Mississippian residing in Colorado Springs have been contacted to join the organization. It was further reported that Louis W. Hollis, Executive Director of the Citizens Councils of America, and William K. Shearer, Secretary - Treasurer of the California Association of Citizens Councils would attend the September 27 meeting.

On September 23, 1966, DN T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, made available a legal size announcement which was mailed from Post Office Box 1125, Colorado Springs, Colorado, on September 20, 1966. A Xerox copy of this announcement of the Colorado Springs Citizens Council is attached hereto.

The September 28 issue of the Denver Post reported in a byline from Colorado Springs, Colorado, that the meeting of the Citizens Council was cancelled. It was reported that Louis W. Hollis of Jackson, Mississippi and Bowen A. Egger, Acting Chairman of the Colorado Springs Citizens Council, said that reporters would be barred from the closed meeting. It was reported that patrolmen and reporters were present at the Old
Pikes Peak National Bank Building, 2418 West Colorado Avenue, where the meeting was to be held; however, no one appeared.

Re: Rudolph Fahl

The Denver Post reported on May 15, 1942, that a Federal Grand Jury indicted Rudolph Fahl, former school teacher, on charges of "seditious and disloyal acts and words in time of war." It reported that the indictment charged Fahl with wilfully and feloniously attempting to cause insubordination, disloyalty and refusal of duty in the military forces by making oral statements to members of the Army Air Corps.


On July 18, 1962, furnished information that one furnished some periodicals which considered to be radical. These periodicals were entitled "The Coming Red Dictatorship" and "Common Sense." The report that was then approximately years of age and extremely antagonistic toward military organizations.

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.
White Citizens Council Invades Denver; Finds 100 New Members in City

DENVER—The White Citizens Council invaded the Mile-High City, set up organizing shop at Colorado Grange Hall and welcomed some 100 new members into the fold.

The pattern of the gathering was indicated by one woman who, arriving early, stood beside a picket line of Denver Friends of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and NAACP and shouted derogatory terms like "hello, white trash," "hurray for George Wallace, the greatest man in the world," and "nigger lovers."

Lyman E. Steele, a guard at Gates Rubber company and temporary chairman, presided at the opening session. William K. Shearer, San Diego, editor, pro-segregationist, California Statesman, gave the keynote address.

SHEARER'S SPEECH pointed up the decayed philosophy of the Council, the Ku Klux Klan and the far-rightist John Birch Society, when he said "The Negro revolution is one of extremism and violence which threatens the safety of the cities and the nation."

Members of the mass media were barred from the meeting. Phil Meuller, KIMN radio, was struck on the arm and shoulder as he was put out of the hall. Art Peterson, KBTV, was hit on the back of the ear and Stan Bron, KBTR radio, was grabbed by two men and thrown out.

Women were no exception. Donna Logan, star reporter, Denver Post, was bodily ushered out.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 05-08-2012 BY 60324 UCBAW/SAB/3BS