



The following three documents were contained in the hundreds of pages from Richard Aoki's FBI file that was released to author Seth Rosenfeld as part of the research for his book, *Subversives: The FBI's War on Student Radicals, and Reagan's Rise to Power*.

The FBI at first denied that it had any responsive files on the late radical activist Richard Masato Aoki, who had supplied the Black Panthers with some of their first weapons and firearms training.

However, the FBI eventually released parts of Aoki's informant file in response to a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit brought by Rosenfeld.

The released file shows Aoki was an FBI informant from 1961 to 1977, a period during which he was involved in a succession of radical groups in the San Francisco Area.

MAR 13 1961

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 07-18-2012 BY 65179 DMH/STU

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 3/6/61

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO [redacted]

SUBJECT: RICHARD MASATO AOKI, aka  
Richard Ford

CONF. INFT. [redacted] PSI

*Handwritten initials*

The above captioned individual is currently being considered for development as a [redacted] informant by the San Francisco Office. He first came to the attention of the San Francisco Office in 1957, at which time CIC advised that AOKI, while serving as a Private, Company C, Reserve Forces Act Regiment, Fort Ord, California, gave a statement to the Army officials to the effect that he attended some [redacted] sponsored socials while attending Berkeley High School, Berkeley, California in 1956, and was acquainted with several fellow students whom he considered to be [redacted].

AOKI was contacted and expressed a willingness to cooperate with the Bureau in any way possible, but stated that he has had no contact with the [redacted] since leaving Berkeley High, however, stated that if he should contact them in the future, he would notify the San Francisco Office.

*Handwritten note: See Study*

On February 15, 1961, AOKI met [redacted] at a publicly announced [redacted] function in Berkeley, who in turn invited AOKI to a [redacted] [redacted] AOKI has attended this [redacted] and submitted a report. In light of this development, AOKI has been designated [redacted] - PSI and the [redacted] of RICHARD FORD, which he will use in signing reports.

The following information concerning AOKI is being submitted as a basis for a request for Bureau authority to contact him as a PSI.

- ② - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - St. Louis (RM) (Info)
- 1 - San Francisco
- BT (#8):lms
- (4)

EX 109  
REC-64  
MCT-19

134-10010-1

MAR 8 1961

*Let to SF  
3-21-61  
JH: Lab*

AOKI-52

[redacted]

b7D

b7D

b6  
b7C  
b7D

b7D

[Redacted]

BT: lms

b7D

AOKI, an oriental of Korean decent, resides at 1519 Stuart Street, Berkeley, California and is currently employed as a mail clerk at California State Department of Health, 2151 Berkeley Way, Berkeley, California.

*ch. info*

AOKI advised that he was born November 20, 1938, San Leandro, California and is the son of TOSHIKO NAKAZAWA AOKI and SHOZO AOKI. AOKI'S father, SHOZO, deserted the family in 1956, and they have had no contact with him since that time. He also has a [Redacted] Berkeley.

b6  
b7C

He was employed by the National Dollar Store, Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley while attending high school, and at Alta Bates Hospital, Berkeley intermittently, 1957-60. He attended Oakland City College, Oakland, California, September 1958 through October 1959, and has been employed by the Department of Public Health since July 1960. He served in the United States Army at Fort Ord, California, January through August 1957, at the present time is in the Army Standby Reserve.

AOKI is described as follows:

Race:	Oriental
Sex:	Male
Height:	5'6"
Weight:	135 lbs.
Hair:	Dark black, straight
Eyes:	Dark brown
Complexion:	Medium
Characteristics:	Wears tinted glasses, very neat appearance

*P.O.-7*

The St. Louis Office is requested to review AOKI'S Army service record and furnish this office with all pertinent data. He was a Private during 1957, Company C, Reserve Forces Act Regiment, Fort Ord, California, serial number ER 19 572 630.

AOKI-53



[redacted]  
BT:lms

b7D

[redacted] and  
[redacted] advised they know of no [redacted] and/or  
related activities on the part of AOKI.

b7D

AOKI has impressed the interviewing Agent as being sincere and genuinely interested in cooperating with the government; and it is felt that consideration should be given to him for development as a PSI.

In view of the foregoing, Bureau authority is requested to contact AOKI as a PSI on [redacted]  
[redacted]



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 07-18-2012 BY 65179 DMH/STW

TO : Director, FBI (134-10010)

DATE: 11/8/61

FROM : SAC, San Francisco [redacted]

CONF. INFO

SUBJECT: [redacted]

Reurlet 7/28/61, and previous correspondence concerning subject.

In view of the voluminous information, as well as important data furnished by informant, the San Francisco Office is designating him a [redacted] informant.

## I. RECOMMENDATION:

[redacted]

## II. RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

[redacted] is single and resides alone in Apartment 33, 1120 Hearst Street, Berkeley, Calif. He is employed as intermediate clerk, Mail Room, California State Department of Public Health, Berkeley, Calif.

[redacted]

Informant is currently a member of the [redacted]. He has purposely declined membership in several other front groups which he has reported on, as set out in Paragraph VI. This is due to [redacted]

[redacted]

## IV. SUMMARY OF INFORMATION FURNISHED

Informant has furnished considerable information regarding the role of the [redacted]

- 2 - Bureau (RM)
- 1 - San Francisco
- BT: jew
- (3)

EX-115 REG-9 134-10010-6

AOKI-64

NOV 13 1961

[redacted]

*Handwritten notes:*  
11/16/61  
Jew. P. 2



[Redacted]

BT:jew

b7D

[Redacted]

b7D

[Redacted]

b2

b7D

VI. TYPES OF MEETINGS ATTENDED

[Redacted]

b7D

AOKI-65



[REDACTED]  
BT:jew

[REDACTED]

VII. REPORTS SUBMITTED

Informant has submitted current, concise and complete reports, usually typewritten by him, as well as

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VIII. INFORMATION FURNISHED OF UNUSUAL VALUE

It is extremely urgent in view of the Bureau's responsibility in the security field that the

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] be given as complete coverage as possible, and in this light the informant is of unusual value. Although

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]  
BT:jew

X. STEPS BEING TAKEN TO ADVANCE INFORMANT

This informant is being closely guided and controlled in an effort to advance him in the eyes of the [REDACTED]. His move to his current address and the fact that informant recently secured an automobile, has enhanced his potential for advancement, enabling him to maintain close contact with [REDACTED]. This move has also placed the informant in more difficult financial straits in that he was formerly residing with his mother. [REDACTED]

XI. STABILITY AND RELIABILITY

Informant is a stable young man, showing traits of maturity and poise. He handles himself as an intelligent, trustworthy individual.

XII. INDOCTRINATION AGAINST DISCLOSURE

This informant is closely controlled and has constantly been reminded of his position as an informant and that this relationship must remain absolutely confidential.

XIII. ACTION TAKEN ON INFORMATION FURNISHED

All information furnished by this informant has been appropriately disseminated in San Francisco Office files.

XIV. MISCELLANEOUS

None.

AQKI-6Z



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ll Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (134-10010)

DATE: 10/13/77

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO [redacted] X

SUBJECT: *CONF. INET.*  
[redacted] X  
FCI-CH

[redacted] Captioned informant is being [redacted] by reason of informant's request.

When contacted 9/30/77, source advised that he desired to discontinue seeking information for the FBI because he believed that this was inconsistent with his present career and objectives as a student counselor and instructor at a junior college in Oakland, California.

Source advised that he is not willing to testify in open court or before administrative hearing boards if such testimony would reveal his past connection with the FBI. This would alienate him from associates and friends and would cause him great trouble in his relationships with students as a student counselor.

There are no current cases [redacted] in which informant has furnished information. He has in the past been consulted by Bureau personnel in such matters, however.

Neither the Bureau nor the Department of Justice has indicated any current interest in utilizing this informant as a witness.

EX-105 REC-21 134-10010-62

Informant does not intend to write a book or engage in any public disclosure of his relationship with the Bureau. He seeks to keep that relationship confidential for his own reasons as well as out of consideration for the best interests of the U.S. Government.

- 2 - Bureau
  - 1 - San Francisco
- PBN/pab  
(3)

6 OCT 21 1977

AOKI-276

5 NOV 10 1977  
5010-100

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



[redacted]  
PBN/pab

b7D

It is not anticipated that there will be any control problem concerning this informant. Informant remains friendly toward the Bureau and is available for recontact should that be desirable.

[redacted]  
[redacted] This case is being placed in a closed status in the San Francisco Division.