

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 5/16/74

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

(P)

SUBJECT: H. BRUCE FRANKLIN aka  
SM - VO  
OO: SAN FRANCISCO

Re San Francisco letter to Bureau dated 10/25/73.

The November 18, 1973, issue of the "Stanford Daily", a daily newspaper printed by the students of Stanford University, contained an article headlined, "Franklin Still Exploring Alternatives." The article pointed out that more than a year and a half after FRANKLIN had been fired he could find no university which would hire him. Further, the article stated that FRANKLIN receives \$341.00 per month as a beneficiary of the GI Bill inasmuch as he is a student at the College of San Mateo studying horticulture. The job resume that FRANKLIN circulates lists ten books and 22 articles which he has authored and line after line of public presentations including appearances on the JOE DYNE television program in Los Angeles and the morning television show in San Francisco. It concluded by stating that FRANKLIN was working on a "political autobiography" entitled, "Back Where You Came From" which he expects to be published by Harper's Magazine press.

The December 10, 1973, issue of the "Palo Alto Times", a daily newspaper published in Palo Alto, California, contained an article captioned, "Area's Radicals Quieter But Still Want Revolution." The article consisted of sketches of eight local radicals and their current activities. The article pointed out FRANKLIN's study of horticulture and concluded with a credit to FRANKLIN in response to the question of where he might be in ten years. He stated, "It is very difficult to make such a projection in a decaying empire. I don't know how fast it's going to fall apart."

San Mateo, California,  
verified the Subject's attendance at the College of San Mateo. He was taking six horticulture classes and two Spanish classes.

On 2/13/74, "The Missoulian", a local newspaper in Missoula, Montana, reported that the Subject was being considered for a position as Professor of English at the University of Montana. As of 2/15/74, the Subject had not been hired by the University of Montana, and there was no indication that he would be so employed.

The February 13, 1974, issue of the "Stanford Daily" contained an article captioned, "Franklin Takes Post at Eastern College." The article stated that FRANKLIN planned to accept an offer from Wesleyan University to be a visiting fellow at its Center for the Humanities for the autumn 1974 term. Wesleyan is located at Middletown, Connecticut. HAYDEN WHITE, Director of the Wesleyan Center, according to the article, stated that the program is the center for the advanced study of problems that might be of interest to people involved in humanistic studies. The topic for the autumn session is scheduled to be "Art and Criminality." In the article WHITE acknowledged that officials at Wesleyan were aware of FRANKLIN's disciplinary record at Stanford, but that fact did not figure prominently in their consideration of his nomination for the position.

The February 14, 1974, issue of the "San Francisco Chronicle", a daily newspaper published at San Francisco, California, contained an article quoting FRANKLIN as stating that he will spend four months on a visiting fellowship at the Center of Humanities at Wesleyan University.

The April 3, 1974, issue of the "Redwood City Tribune", a daily newspaper published at Redwood City, California, contained an article indicating that FRANKLIN had made application for a position in the English Department at the University of Colorado in Boulder. His appointment had been approved by the English Department and was subject to confirmation by the Board of Regents.

Security The April 22, 1974, issue of the "Stanford Daily" contained an article quoting FRANKLIN to the effect that he was confident of receiving an appointment at the University of Colorado, but he noted that some day he hopes to return to Stanford since he is of the opinion that he is needed there to increase the students' political awareness.

The April 26, 1974, issue of the "Stanford Daily" contained an article entitled, "The University of Colorado Turns Down Franklin." According to the article, the Board of Regents voted 9 to 0 in refusing to give him an appointment. FRANKLIN's comment was that "There is no academic freedom in the United States." The article went on to speculate that the English Department had supported FRANKLIN in order to put the University President, FREDERICK T. THIEME, in an embarrassing situation. The same day THIEME was relieved of his position by the Board of Regents.

The April 26, 1974, issue of the "San Francisco Examiner", a daily newspaper published in San Francisco, contained an article concerning FRANKLIN and the University of Colorado which stated that the Board of Regents there had fired University President THIEME because he had recommended FRANKLIN.

The February 14, 1974, issue of the "Palo Alto Times" contained an article captioned, "Franklin Denies Link to Symbionese". In the article FRANKLIN called the kidnaping of PATRICIA HEARST on February 4, 1974, "criminal behavior" which plays into the hands of those who wish to portray revolutionaries as irrational. Quoting, the article states, "There is nothing revolutionary about it. I wouldn't be surprised if there were Agents of the Federal Government and the State of California in that group (the SLA) suggesting these actions."

In the April 28, 1974, issue of the "San Francisco Examiner" in an article captioned, "How Venceremos Founder Views SLA", FRANKLIN caustically characterized the group as "insects preying on the life of the revolution." The article contained opinions of FRANKLIN as follows:

1. SLA Field Marshal CINQUE (identified by the FBI as \_\_\_\_\_ escaped convict) may be an agent provocateur of an unnamed police agency.