Guide to
the Microfilm Edition
of the

FBI File on
Malcolm X

A Microfilm Publication by

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ISBN 0-8420-4161-3

Manufactured in the United States of America
Published 1996

Also available

FBI File on W. E. B. Du Bois (1 roll)
FBI File on the Muslim Mosque Inc. (3 rolls)
FBI File on the Organization of Afro-American Unity (1 roll)
FBI File on Elijah Muhammad (3 rolls)

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Introduction

Malcolm X was born Malcolm Little on May 19, 1925, in Omaha, Nebraska, to Earl and Louisa Little. From early childhood he observed firsthand the hatred and ignorance aimed toward people of his race. He had a combination of his mother’s fair skin (she was often mistaken for white) and his father’s very dark skin, and he was frequently teased about his appearance. Early class pictures show him as the only black child among many white classmates.

Malcolm and his family were victimized by the Ku Klux Klan. Their house was burned to the ground, and Earl Little died in an emergency room after police found him severely wounded at a trolley station. Officials reported that he had been crushed by a trolley, but Malcolm agreed with his mother, who believed that Earl had been murdered by white men. Malcolm held on to that belief and later became convinced that the hate group Black Legion was responsible. Louisa suffered a breakdown after her husband’s death and was institutionalized.

The remainder of Malcolm’s childhood was spent in detention homes until he finally joined his sister in Boston. In 1946 he was sent to prison for burglary. It was here that he was converted to the Nation of Islam (NOI). Upon his release in 1952, he moved to Chicago, home of the NOI’s headquarters, where he met its leader Muhammad and changed his last name to “X.” Dropping the last name was a tradition with NOI followers, who felt that their family names descended from white slaveholders. In 1958, Malcolm married Betty Sanders, another NOI member, and together they had four children.

The NOI often sent Malcolm on speaking tours, a move that helped to increase membership within the movement. His talents expanded beyond speaking when in 1961 he founded an official publication for the movement, Muhammad Speaks.

As Malcolm’s popularity increased, he developed a following and was appointed minister of Harlem’s popular Mosque number seven. His teachings at that time discouraged integration and encouraged violence to maintain separatism; he opposed those civil rights leaders who advocated nonviolence. Due to his rising popularity, however, other Black Muslim leaders within the NOI became increasingly jealous. He was finally suspended from the movement and in March 1964 left the NOI altogether to form his
own movement, Muslim Mosque Inc. This group followed the orthodox Islamic religion to which Malcolm reaffirmed his conversion in October of that same year. Even his former views changed as he came to envision a brotherhood between blacks and whites. However, his new group was not successful in attracting members, especially since he did not try to recruit any of his earlier followers. He made a second attempt by forming another group, the Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU), an attempt that did not yield any better success with a weak membership and organizational elements.

By January 1965 violence against Malcolm and his followers began to escalate. Many previous NOI members were brutally beaten, some killed. Malcolm spent much time abroad but on February 5 announced that there would be an OAAU rally held on February 21, at which he would describe a new militant action program. He never got that chance. Violence between his followers and Black Muslims escalated until Malcolm was shot at the rally in Harlem on February 21, 1965, by three Black Muslims who were later convicted.

The documents reproduced here were drawn from the Washington files of the FBI and have been released under the Freedom of Information Act; certain documents or portions of documents have been deleted by the FBI pursuant to provisions of that legislation. The material has been filmed in the exact order and condition in which it was released, although every effort has been made to publish the most legible copies available.

The files are in approximate chronological order, and the FBI did not index documents. The Roll Notes is not a complete inventory of the files; it is, however, an indication of the types of material or specific documents that may be particularly worthwhile for research.
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**Nov. 1963–Sep. 1963**

Roll 8, 0190–0252

Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Malcolm X Activities in Michigan and Illinois
Malcolm X to debate James Baldwin
Newspaper articles:
*NY Amsterdam News* (Nov. 1963): Powell and Mr. X Black-jack Bunche
*Chicago Tribune* (Oct. 1963): Black Muslim Leader’s Stand Hit by Negro

**SECTION 54**
**Nov. 1963–Oct. 1963**

Roll 8, 0253–0318

Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Transcript of Malcolm X speech as printed in Michigan State student publication, article entitled: Muslim Demands Separation

Excerpts from Malcolm X speech given in San Francisco (Oct. 1963)

Excerpts from Malcolm X speech given at Univ. of California, Berkeley (Oct. 1963)

**FBI File: 105-8999**

**SECTION 55**

**Jan. 1964-Nov. 1963**

**Roll 8, 0319-0420**

Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)

News article:


Elijah Muhammad suspension of Malcolm X

Newspaper articles include:


*Chicago Defender* (Dec. 1963): Muslim Head Drops Malcolm X in Rift


*Chicago Courier* (Nov. 1963): Cult’s Fiery No. 2 Man “Out” in DC

Excerpts from Muhammad Speaks (Dec. 20, 1963)

**SECTION 56**

**Feb. 1964-Jan. 1964**

**Roll 8, 0421-0508**

Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)

Split between Malcolm X and Elijah Muhammad

Association of Malcolm X with Cassius Clay

Newspaper articles include:

*NY Times* (Jan. 1964): Black Muslims Asked to Help Treat Addicts


**SECTION 57**

**Mar. 1964-Feb. 1964**

**Roll 8, 0509-0671**

Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Formation of Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Malcolm X Breaks with Muslims
Association of Malcolm X with Cassius Clay

Newspaper articles include:

*NY Amsterdam News* (Mar. 1964): His Resignation Stuns Muhammad

*NY Journal American* (Mar. 1964): Mr. X’s Blood Path Not for Cassius


*NY Herald Tribune* (Mar. 1964): Malcolm X Breaks with Muhammad

**SECTION 58**

*Mar. 1964*

Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Malcolm X Split with Elijah Muhammad
Malcolm X fights being ousted from his house

Excerpt from *Life Magazine* (Mar. 1964): Malcolm X Exits from Muslims

Malcolm X death threats
Numerous newspaper articles

**SECTION 59**

*Apr. 1964–Mar. 1964*

Internal Security: Muslim Mosque Inc. (MMI)
Transcript from “Kup’s Show” (Mar. 28, 29, 1964) Chicago television program hosted by Irving Kupcinet, featuring Malcolm X

Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Transcript from “The World at Ten” (Mar. 9, 1964) NY television, Joe Durso interviews Malcolm X

Elijah Muhammad speaks against Malcolm X
U.S. Senate votes on Civil Rights Legislation
Numerous newspaper articles

**SECTION 60**

*May 1964–Apr. 1964*

Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Malcolm X and his journey to Mecca
Muslim’s Seek to Evict Malcolm X from his home in Queens NY
Formation of Muslim Mosque, Inc.
Racial Riots in Cleveland, OH
Numerous newspaper articles

FBI File 105-8999
SECTION 61
May 1964
Roll 8, 1030–1173
Internal Security Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Excerpts from Malcolm X-Dr. Louis Lomax debate (Chicago, May 23, 1964)
The return of Malcolm X from Mecca
Formation of Muslim Mosque, Inc., with philosophy of Black Nationalism
Transcript from radio program “Contact,” from Cleveland, OH, with host Harve Morgan (Apr. 7, 1964) and guest Malcolm X

SECTION 62
Jun. 1964
Roll 8, 1174–1266
Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Rift between Muslims
Eviction of Malcolm X from his home
Excerpts from Paul Benzaquin’s radio program “Conversation Place,” (Boston, Jun. 1964) featuring Malcolm X
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Death threats against Malcolm X
Malcolm X speech Jun. 14, 1964, outlines sexual indiscretions of Elijah Muhammad
Newspaper articles include:
NY Journal American (Jun. 7): Malcolm vs. Elijah Muslim Showdown
NY Journal American (Jun. 3): Black Muslims Seek Eviction of Malcolm X

SECTION 63
Jun. 1964
Roll 8, 1267–1364
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Transcript of “Kup’s Show” (May 23, 1964) a Chicago TV program featuring host Irving Kupcinet and his guest Malcolm X and Dr. Louis Lomax
Transcript of “Dateline Chicago” (May 31, 1964) a TV program which focused on the Black Muslims

Death threat against Malcolm X
Surveillance of Ella Collins, sister of Malcolm X

SECTION 64
Jul. 1964-Jun. 1964 Roll 8, 1365–END
Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Foundation: Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Factionalism in Muhammad’s Temple of Islam
Missing civil rights workers
Newspaper articles include:

NY Times (Jun. 1964): Malcolm Says Muhammad Fails Cause

NY Times (Jun. 1964): Malcolm X Repeats Call for Negro Unity

NY Times (Jun. 1964): Malcolm X Calls for Muslim Peace

SECTION 65
Jul. 1964 Roll 9, 0002–0147
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Illegitimate children of Elijah Muhammad
Formation: Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Communist Influence in Racial Matters

SECTION 66
Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Transcript of speech (Mar. 16, 1964) by Clifton De Berry,
Socialist Workers Party Candidate for President, applauding Malcolm X

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SECTION 67
Aug. 1964 Roll 9, 0251–0372
Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Newspaper articles include:

NY Times (Aug. 1964): Malcolm X Seeks UN Negro Debate
“From Everywhere” (Aug. 6, 1964) The Sentinel, Chicago
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Malcolm X Evicted from his Muslim home

SECTION 69
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Press releases from Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Newspaper articles include:
The New Crusader (Sep. 1964): Malcolm X Eyed as Congress Candidate
NY Post (Sep. 1964): The Confession of Malcolm X
Muhammad Speaks (Sep. 1964): Biography of a Hypocrite
Newark Evening News (Sep. 1964): Turner Raps
Malcolm X

SECTION 70
Oct. 1964 Roll 9, 0580–0672
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Transcript of an interview with Malcolm X by Robert Lucas which appeared in “El Tiempo” (Sep. 12, 1964), a NY Spanish-language newspaper
Organization of Afro-American Unity
Malcolm X as member of Orthodox Islamic religion

SECTION 71
Nov. 1964–Oct. 1964 Roll 9, 0673–0757
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Newspaper articles include:
NY Times (Nov. 1964): Malcolm’s Plans Irk Muslims Here
The New Crusader (Aug. 1964): Malcolm X Warns Police, Negroes are Armed
NY Journal American (Jul. 1964): Malcolm X Issues Call for Action

SECTION 72
Dec. 1964–Nov. 1964
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Malcolm X in London
Newspaper articles include:
   NY Times (Dec. 1964): Malcolm Favors Mau Mau in U.S.
The Militant (Dec. 1964): Malcolm X to Address U.S.
   Forum
Muhammad Speaks (Jan. 1965): Malcolm Exposed by His Brother
   Congo Policy
The New Crusader (Nov. 1964): Muslims Forecast Malcolm’s Failure

SECTION 73
Roll 9, 0918–1108
Organization of Afro-American Unity
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Transcript from Les Crane TV show (Dec. 28, 1964) with Malcolm X
Newspaper articles include:
   NY Courier (Jan. 1965): Malcolm Insane, Says Brother and Elijah
NY Courier (Jan. 1965): Foiled Plot to Murder Malcolm X in Philly
NY Courier (Dec. 1964): Muhammad’s Son Favors Malcolm X

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SECTION 74
Roll 9, 1109–1189
Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Progressive Labor Movement (PLM)
Newspaper articles:
NY Amsterdam News (Jan. 1965): Muslim Minister Blasts Malcolm X

SECTION 75  
Feb. 1965  
Roll 9, 1190–1279

Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc.
Nation of Islam (NOI)
Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Newspaper articles include:
The Record (Feb. 15): Bombed Home Doesn’t Scare Negro Leader
NY Times (Feb. 14): Aid to Malcolm X by BBC Assailed
NY Courier (Feb. 13): Were Secret Muslim-KKK Talks Held in Atlanta?
NY Amsterdam News (Feb. 13): Malcolm X to Reveal New Plans
NY Times (Feb. 10): Malcolm X Barred by French Security

SECTION 76  
Feb. 1965  
Roll 9, 1280–1339

Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Malcolm X Arrest Record
Newspaper photographs
Newspaper articles include:
NY Herald Tribune (Feb. 19): Malcolm Quits House
The Record (Feb. 15): Bombed Home Doesn’t Scare Negro Leader
Article (Feb. 1965): Malcolm Enjoyed Privileges at U.N.
NY Post (Feb. 16): Malcolm Links Klan, Muslims

SECTION 77  
Feb. 1965  
Roll 9, 1340–1426

Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Murder of Malcolm X
Newspaper articles include:
NY Post (Feb. 26): 14,000 Visit Malcolm Bier
Utica Daily Press (Feb. 25): Racist Awaited Death
Chicago Tribune (Feb. 25): Heavy Guard Readied for Muslim Chief
Chicago Tribune (Feb. 25): Malcolm’s Role in Elijah Paternity Suit
Chicago’s American (Feb. 25): Muhammad’s Son Pleads to Rejoin Muslims
Chicago Daily News (Feb. 24): Muslim Bomb Scares Here

SECTION 78
Internal Security: Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Eviction of Malcolm X from Home
Firebombing of Malcolm X Home
Murder of Malcolm X
Newspaper articles include:
  NY Post (Feb. 1965): Who Bombed Malcolm’s Home?
  NY Amsterdam News (Feb. 1965): Malcolm X Speaks
  NY Courier (Feb. 1965): Muhammad “Fingered” by Son
  NY World Telegram (Feb. 1965): Malcolm’s Death Solves Nothing

SECTION 79
Feb. 1965  Roll 9, 1534–END
Murder of Malcolm X and its aftermath
Attendance at funeral of Malcolm X
Numerous newspaper articles and photographs

FBI File 105-8999
SECTION 80
Feb.–Mar. 1965  Roll 10, 0002–0158
Murder of Malcolm X and its aftermath
Newspaper articles include:
  NY Times (Mar. 1965): Widow of Malcolm X Speaks
  NY Times (Feb. 1965): Harlem is Quiet as Crowds Watch Malcolm X Rites
NY Times (Feb. 1965): Malcolm Buried as True Moslem
NY WorldTelegram (Feb. 1965): 2,000 At Malcolm Rites
Numerous newspaper articles and photographs

Section 81
Mar. 1965
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Analyses of the assassination of Malcolm X
Young Socialist Alliance (YSA)
Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Newspaper articles include:
Charges Muslim Plot
Chicago’s American (Mar. 1965): Malcolm X’s New
Insight
Chicago’s American (Mar. 1965): Hint Muslim Rehearsal to
Kill Malcolm
Slaying
Excerpts from Malcolm X autobiography, prepared by Alex
Haley

Section 82
Mar. 1965
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Assassination of Malcolm X
Progressive Labor Movement (PLM)
Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Newspaper articles include:
NY Amsterdam News (Mar. 1965): Tribute to a Black Man
NY Post (Mar. 1965): Two Malcolm Aides Seized with
Shotgun
NY WorldTelegram (Feb. 1965): Probe Red Dope Tie to
Malcolm Murder
Excerpts from Malcolm X autobiography, prepared by Alex
Haley

Section 83
Apr.–Mar. 1965
Internal Security: Socialist Workers Party (SWP)
Internal Security: Revolutionary Action Movement (RAM)
Security Matter: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Summary of Malcolm X speech (Feb. 1965) at Corn Hill
  Methodist Church
NEC Minutes (Feb. 24, 1965) Young Socialist Alliance (YSA)
  Meeting
Report to Mar. 11, 1965 NEC on the Vietnam March
Newspaper articles include:
  * NY Times* (Mar. 1965): 4 Indicted In Malcolm Case
  * NY Post* (Mar. 1965): Malcolm Aides Seek Funds to Defend
    Guard
  * NY Amsterdam News* (Mar. 1965): Benefit Shows Set for
    Malcolm's Family
  * The New Crusader* (Mar. 1965): 3rd Suspect Arrested in
    Malcolm X Slaying

**SECTION 84**
*May-Mar. 1965*
Internal Security: Socialist Workers Party (SWP)
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
NEC Minutes (Feb. 24, 1965) Young Socialist Alliance (YSA)
  Meeting
Report to Mar. 11, 1965 NEC on the Vietnam March
Progressive Labor Movement (PLM)

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**SECTION 85**
*Sep.–May 1965*
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc.
Internal Security: Socialist Workers Party (SWP)
Internal Security: Nation of Islam (NOI)
Newspaper articles include:
    with Malcolm
    for Trial

**SECTION 86 & 87**
*Jun. 1966–Aug. 1965*
Internal Security: Miscellaneous
Internal Security: Socialist Workers Party (SWP)
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Memorial Tribute to Malcolm X (May 1966)
Commemoration Day Solemn March (Feb. 1966)
Transcript of Radio program (Jan. 28, 1965) Harry Ring interviews Malcolm X
Newspaper articles:
    * NY Courier (Mar. 1966): Chance of Hung Jury in Malcolm Trial
    * Muhammad Speaks (Aug. 1965): How the Late Malcolm X Misrepresented Himself

SECTION 88
Roll 10, 0739–0836
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc.
Black Muslims Lose Murder Appeal (April 1969)
Black Peoples Convention Position Paper (Sep. 1967)
Organization of Afro-American Unity (OAAU)
Malcolm X Grassroots Memorial (Feb. 1967)

FBI File 105-8999-A, B, C
Roll 10, 0837–1049
Newspaper clippings (1965–1966)

FBI File 105-8999-Bulky Enclosures
Roll 10, 1050–1225
Internal Security: Muslim Mosque, Inc. (MMI)
Selective Service Records - 1940 ACT
Dialogue magazine (May 1962): Separation or Integration, a debate featuring Malcolm X and James Farmer, Core Director
Text of Telegram from Malcolm X to Elijah Muhammad (Mar. 1964)
Press Statement by Malcolm X (Mar. 1964)
Press Release (Apr. 1964) from Malcolm X: re his trip to Mecca
Speeches by Malcolm X (Apr. and May 1964)
Pamphlet: Malcolm X, the Man and his Ideas
Memorial Tribute to Malcolm X (May 1966)

FBI File 105-8999
Section 1 (1A and 1B only)
Roll 10, 1226–1228
Sub 1 (Elsur Logs)
Roll 10, 1229–1575
Log of electronic surveillance (Jun.–Oct. 1964)
FBI File 100-33593 (Chicago)
Sections 1–6
Apr. 1957–May 1971  Roll 10, 1576–1838
Internal Security: Nation of Islam
Numerous newspaper articles concern:
Malcolm X forms new group
Cassius Clay and the Muslims
Bomb Threat to Muslims
Police, Muslim Elite Guard Muhammad
Murder of Malcolm X

FBI File 100-563 (Phoenix)
Internal Security: Nation of Islam
Birthday anniversary of Malcolm X (1972)

FBI File 100-32805 (DC Field Office)
Sections 1-3, Sub D
Newspaper articles include:
NY Times (Mar. 1965): “Malcolm X-ism” Feared by Rustin
NY Times (Mar. 1965): Third Man Seized in Malcolm Case
NY Times (Feb. 1965): Malcolm Buried as True Moslem
NY Times (Feb. 1965): World Pays Little Attention to Malcolm Slaying
The Evening Star (Mar. 1964): Malcolm X Defects, Urges War on Whites
NY Times (Feb. 1965): Malcolm Knew He Was a “Marked Man”
NY Times (May 1963): Malcolm X Denounces Kennedy
Playboy magazine (May 1963): Interview with Malcolm X
The Evening Star (May 1963): Muslim Leaders Scorn King at Rally
Washington Afro-American (May 1963): Do we need Malcolm here

Washington Daily News (May 1963): Malcolm Hopes to Make his Mark