

Guide to  
the Microfilm Edition  
of the

**FBI File on  
The Organization  
of Afro-American  
Unity**

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Also available from Scholarly Resources microfilm:

- FBI File on Malcolm X (10 rolls)
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- FBI File on Elijah Muhammed (3 rolls)
- FBI File on the NAACP (4 rolls)
- FBI File on the Reverend Jesse Jackson (1 roll)
- FBI File on W. E. B. Du Bois (1 roll)
- FBI Assassination File: Martin Luther King, Jr.  
(25 rolls)
- FBI File on the Moorish Science Temple of  
America (Noble Drew Ali) (3 rolls)

## Introduction

The Organization of Afro-American Unity was the brainchild of black activist Malcolm X. At the forefront of the civil rights struggle, as a spokesman for the Nation of Islam, he often found himself opposed to the leadership and "nonviolent" protest philosophy of the main line movement. Opposed to integration, Malcolm X was a black nationalist who favored a separate nation for the black man. To this end, he preached that it was up to the black man to become morally responsible to his family and his community. By leading a moral life and by becoming educated, the black man was prepared to change society and to serve his own people. Malcolm X developed the plan for the OAAU after a tour of Africa in 1964, which included a trip to Mecca, and visits with various African leaders.

At a public rally held in New York City in June 1964, Malcolm X announced that the OAAU was formed as an all-Negro militant, civil rights organization designed to eliminate differences between Negroes and to convince them to work for their "human rights." The first objective of this new organization was to internationalize the American racial problem by taking it to the United Nations. The OAAU condemned the nonviolent civil rights movement and urged that Negroes be taught to protect themselves when and if necessary. He claimed that the OAAU was patterned after the Organization of African Unity, formed a year earlier by the heads of state in Africa.

Malcolm X envisioned the OAAU as a vehicle to sponsor programs for the Negro in education, politics, culture, economics, and social reform, as well as to organize a voter registration drive.

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was released, and every effort has been made to publish the most legible copies available.

This file is in approximate chronological order, and the FBI did not index documents. The Roll Notes is not a complete inventory of the file; however, it gives an indication of the types of material or specific documents that may be particularly worthwhile for research.

## Roll Notes

### SECTION 1

*Jun.–Sep. 1964*

**Roll 1, 002–0180**

Afro-American Freedom Fighters  
Communist influence in racial matters  
Organization of Afro-American Unity  
Malcolm X trip to Africa (Apr.–Jul. 1964)

### SECTION 2

*Sep. 1964–Jan. 1965*

**Roll 1, 0181–0432**

Foundation of the Organization of Afro-American  
Unity (outline, scope, and purpose for this new  
organization)

### SECTION 3

*Jan.–Apr. 1965*

**Roll 1, 0433–0636**

Internal Security: Muslim Mosque Inc. (MMI)  
Malcolm X in Los Angeles re: paternity suits against  
Elijah Muhammad  
Death threats against Malcolm X  
Transcript from “Kup’s Show” (Jan. 30, 1965), a  
Chicago television program with host Irving  
Kupcinet and guest Malcolm X  
American Nazi Party  
Assassination of Malcolm X

### SECTION 4

*Mar.–Sep. 1965*

**Roll 1, 0637–0803**

Reorganization of OAAU after death of Malcolm X  
Certification of Incorporation OAAU  
Socialist Workers’ Party  
Memorial tribute to Malcolm X

### SECTION 5

*Sep. 1965–Dec. 1966*

**Roll 1, 0804–1028**

Murder of Malcolm X  
OAAU Leadership Succession  
Organization and Activities of the OAAU

SECTION 6

*Jan. 1967–Nov. 1972*

**Roll 1, 1029–END**

OAAU land purchase in upstate New York

Malcolm X memorial birthday rally

Black extremist organizations