

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE #65-2440

ERG

REPORT MADE AT <b>PHILADELPHIA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>MAR 1 2 10 49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/28; 3/4, 8-11, 14, 15/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JAMES L. KIRKLAND</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was, ET AL</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS have never had credit account with Gulf Oil Company. Check at Sun Oil Company continuing. LAURENCE R. BROWN knew ALGER HISS for short period during 1935 and 1936, but had no social contacts and can furnish no information. MARY CATHERINE WOODWORTH was not a close friend of PRISCILLA HISS and never met ALGER HISS. D. F. BLANKERTZ states ABRAHAM G. SILVERMAN favored cooperation with Russia during his employment with Analysis and Reports Branch of the Army Air Force. MERIE REED, former member of Railroad Retirement Board, considers SILVERMAN mentally warped and un-American, but can give no specific instances of underground activities. HENRY RHINE refuses to be interviewed by FBI. FETER MICHAELANGELO MAGRINI, Phila., believed not identical with person of same name now residing New York.

*Letters to Phila  
+ NYC 5-9-49  
JLJ*

*P  
ASB  
C. M. ...  
J. ...*

- P -

~~DEFERRED~~

Reference: Bureau file #74-1333.

Report of SA JAMES L. KIRKLAND, Philadelphia, 3/8/49.

Details: This report reflects joint investigation by Special Agents WILLIAM H. NAYLOR, JOSEPH E. FLAHERTY and the writer.

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA  
 ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS  
 Kisseloff-8988

Referenced report set out that typewritten correspondence

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>L. J. Boardman</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED	74-1333-3030	RECORDED - 116	
848 DEC 16 1958	5 ASB	INDEXED - 116	
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1 - Special Asst. to the Atty. Gen. T. J. DONEGAN (N.Y.)			
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 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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 DATE 7/13/87 BY sprma/dld

*J. ...*

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from ALGER HISS to the Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia had been submitted to the Laboratory for examination. This correspondence concerned one ROBERT J. WEISS.

By Laboratory report dated March 1, 1949, it was advised that this specimen, designated as K 652, had not been typed by the machine used to type specimens Q 5 or Q6 through Q 69.

By letter dated March 10, 1949, the Washington Field Office requested that inquiry be made at the Gulf Oil Company and the Sun Oil Company relative to the possibility that ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS had a gasoline charge account in 1937 or any time thereafter and that if such account were located, an examination be made to determine if HISS purchased gasoline in Connecticut or New Hampshire during August, 1937.

Through G. J. AUGUSTINE, Gulf Oil Company, 1515 Locust Street, it was determined that neither ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS had ever maintained a gasoline charge account with that Company.

Through Mr. H. R. WAKEFIELD, Sun Oil Company, 1608 Walnut Street, it was determined that in order to establish whether or not a charge account had been maintained by ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS, it would be necessary for him to make inquiry of the Washington and New York District Offices of Sun Oil, as well as to check the records of the Philadelphia District Office. Mr. WAKEFIELD advised that he would cause these inquiries to be made immediately, but stated likewise it was a policy of the Company to destroy any records reflecting individual gasoline purchases after a lapse of six years.

By letter dated March 2, 1949, the Washington Field Office requested that LAURENCE R. BROWN be interviewed in connection with any information he might have regarding ALGER HISS.

LAURENCE R. BROWN, 222 Church Road, Ardmore, Pennsylvania, was interviewed at his office in Philadelphia, 1429 Walnut Street, at which time Mr. BROWN advised that he had first become acquainted with ALGER HISS in the early part of 1935, when he had become connected with the Senate Munitions Committee. He said at this time HISS was employed by the Committee in a legal capacity, whereas he, BROWN, had been employed in a financial capacity.

He related that during the early months of his employment with this Committee, he had been stationed in New York City and while he was aware of HISS' employment with the Committee, he had not had personal contact

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with him, other than to be introduced, until he went to Washington in October of 1935.

BROWN stated that his entire acquaintance with HISS was limited to his official duties with the Committee and he never had been close to HISS at any time. He said that he probably had lunch with HISS several times but that nothing had ever come to his attention which would indicate un-American activities on the part of HISS. He added that he had never visited HISS at his home nor was he aware of the identity of any individuals with whom HISS associated outside of his employment. He said that subsequent to the termination of his employment with the Committee, in the very early part of 1936, he had seen HISS on two or three occasions at cocktail parties, attended by a large number of people, but that he had never engaged him in any conversation on these occasions.

Photographs of WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and his wife were displayed to BROWN without any identification being effected. BROWN added that he had never corresponded with HISS at any time.

By letter dated March 8, 1949, the Washington Field Office requested that MARY CATHERINE WOODWARD be interviewed relative to the activities of ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS.

AT BRYN MAWR, PENNSYLVANIA

MARY CATHERINE WOODWORTH (not WOODWARD), an instructor at Bryn Mawr College, was interviewed at her residence on the campus, at which time she advised that she had never been close to PRISCILLA HISS during their undergraduate days at Bryn Mawr. She said that she had never met ALGER HISS and that the last time she had seen PRISCILLA HISS was in 1936, during a reunion held at the College.

She added that she had never been in the close group of friends maintained by PRISCILLA HISS at the College; that she had never visited her at her home subsequent to her marriage, and that she had never had correspondence with her. She furnished the names of the following individuals as those who were in her opinion in the close group of intimate friends maintained by PRISCILLA HISS in undergraduate days:

Mrs. JUSTINE WISE POLIER, who is now a Judge in the Children's Court in New York City and who resides at 175 East 64th Street

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New York; New York.

Mrs. RICHARD ~~HARRISON~~, the former ELIZABETH ~~BRIGGS~~, who now resides at 438 East 56th Street, New York, New York.

Miss KATHERINE ~~NEILSON~~, presently employed at the Albright Art Galleries, Buffalo, New York.

Miss WOODWORTH stated that in her opinion ALGER HISS was not guilty of the charges made against him and that when the publicity concerning the current investigation first appeared in the newspapers, it had been a matter of general discussion at the College and the general feeling was that ALGER HISS was not guilty and the discussion tended toward an attempt to remember incidents which might prove helpful to the HISSes.

She stated that the above-listed individuals were unquestionably friendly toward PRISCILLA HISS and it is doubtful if they would be willing to furnish any information of a derogatory nature, even should such information have come to their attention.

Photographs of WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and his wife were exhibited to Miss WOODWORTH, who was unable to effect any identification whatsoever. She stated that she had no information concerning any typewriters owned by PRISCILLA HISS and could give no information concerning associates of the HISSes or any information which would indicate that ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS were engaged in subversive activities.

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN

By letter dated February 23, 1949, the Washington Field Office requested that an interview be had with Mr. DONALD F. BLANKERTZ, who was associated with SILVERMAN during his employment with the Analysis and Reports Branch of the Army Air Force, during the period 1942 to 1945.

BLANKERTZ, an instructor at the University of Pennsylvania, was interviewed concerning his acquaintance with SILVERMAN, at which time he advised that he had first become acquainted with SILVERMAN in the Fall of 1944 when he, BLANKERTZ, went to work for the Analysis and Reports Branch of the Army Air Force. He said that he had known SILVERMAN officially for a period of slightly more than a year, at which time SILVERMAN had left the employ of the Air Force (May or June, 1946).

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BLANKERTZ stated that during the early part of his employment with the Air Force, practically everyone in the office of the Analysis and Reports Branch had been strongly in favor of cooperation with Russia at that time. He added that at the conclusion of the war and around the time when the veto question had arisen in the United Nations he personally had begun to change his own attitude toward Russia and he is now anti-Russia. He said that this change in attitude brought criticism from OSCAR ALTMAN and SILVERMAN at a luncheon which he had with these two individuals during the time the veto question was being debated. He stated that on this occasion he had an engagement with OSCAR ALTMAN for lunch and when he contacted ALTMAN, ALTMAN in turn had invited SILVERMAN to go to lunch with them.

BLANKERTZ advised that he considers SILVERMAN to be an intellectual. He said that if anyone in the office of the Analysis and Reports Branch were capable of activities in favor of Russia against the United States that SILVERMAN would be such an individual, but that in his opinion he doubts strongly if SILVERMAN ever did anything against the United States in Russia's favor.

He stated that he personally knows nothing which SILVERMAN might have done which could be construed as the activity of a Russian Agent. He added that he considers SILVERMAN as an able administrative officer and pointed out that he was the type of person who was friendly with everyone in the office.

BLANKERTZ listed the following individuals who were employed at the Analysis and Reports Branch at the time as being the closest associates of SILVERMAN:

OSCAR L. ~~ALTMAN~~ (now in Washington, D. C.)

VICTOR ~~LONGSTREET~~ (now employed by the State Department)

JOSEPH ~~SENTURIA~~ (now employed Textron Corporation)

LUDWIG ~~ULLMAN~~

According to BLANKERTZ, the first three named individuals were subordinates of SILVERMAN, but had higher authority than he, BLANKERTZ. He pointed out that SILVERMAN, also seemed friendly with CHARLES DYSON, his superior, and with another individual whose name he cannot recall and whose

identity he can place only by saying that this individual went to Europe shortly after VJ Day with HELGA WOLSKY, also employed in the same office and who is now married to JACK DUDMAN. He said that the individual whose name he cannot recall and HELGA WOLSKY worked for General CLAY in Europe.

With regard to ULLMAN, BLANKERTZ stated that ULLMAN had worked in the office next to BLANKERTZ and that he was a very quiet individual with whom he, BLANKERTZ, did not have much contact. BLANKERTZ claimed that he did not have any outside social contact with SILVERMAN other than the previously mentioned luncheon and that he cannot furnish any information which would indicate any activity on the part of SILVERMAN in the Communist underground in Washington.

By letter dated February 23, 1949, the Chicago Office indicated that one of the members of the Railroad Retirement Board during the employment of SILVERMAN by the Board was MERLE R. REED. By letter dated March 3, 1949, the Washington Field Office requested that REED be interviewed regarding the activities of SILVERMAN.

MERLE R. REED, Assistant Chief of Motive Power, Pennsylvania Railroad, Broad Street Station Building, advised that in his opinion SILVERMAN's activities while employed by the Railroad Retirement Board reflected that he was definitely un-American. He said that his actions did not conform with his ideas of an honest, business executive and that he was one of a group of employees of the Board who were extreme leftists and who were completely saturated by "ultra social theories" to the point that they had become intellectually dishonest. He said that this group included MURRAY LATTIMER, then Chief Executive of the Railroad Retirement Board, and that LATTIMER had backed SILVERMAN strongly in any of his activities. He said that this group had the theory that everything should be given away "to the other fellow" without regard for justification and that the group resolved itself to advocating liberal legislation, which tended toward State socialism. He continued that these ideas "all grew out of the same rotten roots".

Mr. REED said that he considered SILVERMAN as brilliant but mentally warped, and that he had difficulty with SILVERMAN from an administrative standpoint during SILVERMAN's entire employment with the Railroad Retirement Board. He further stated that he considered SILVERMAN to be a disloyal citizen because his ideology was such that could only be "compatible with Communism".

Mr. REED was questioned thoroughly concerning any knowledge he might have of actual underground activities on the part of SILVERMAN and

stated that he was unable to furnish any individual instances which would indicate this activity, but his opinion of SILVERMAN stemmed entirely from the observations he had made of SILVERMAN's ideologies. He said that SILVERMAN seldom actually performed the duties which he was charged; that he was aware that much of his time was spent gathering information for such organizations as the American Statistical Society, and that frequently, on occasions when he would enter SILVERMAN's office, all material on SILVERMAN's desk would immediately be removed from the top of the desk in order that REED could not observe them.

REED was questioned as to the identity of other individuals who were employed by the Board who would be considered close associates of SILVERMAN and he stated that these individuals were as follows:

SOLOMAN KUZNETZ.  
LESTER P. SCHOENE  
One KRAMER  
MURRAY LATTIMER

He said that these individuals were definitely of the same "stripe" as SILVERMAN, but as far as SCHOENE and KRAMER were concerned, he did not believe that they were actually un-American.

He added that there was always an undercurrent of mutual dislike between himself and SILVERMAN, which never broke into open rebellion on SILVERMAN's part. He stated that in addition to knowing that SILVERMAN was gathering information for the American Statistical Society, he was likewise aware that SILVERMAN was preparing writings and publications for outside agencies which were socialistic in nature. The only one of these agencies, however, which he could identify was the American Statistical Society.

HENRY RHINE

By teletype dated March 8, 1949, the New York Office requested that HENRY RHINE be interviewed, particularly concerning the instant case, and also relative to his knowledge of underground activities in the Communist underground in Washington, D. C. It was further requested that the current address of RHINE's wife, JESSICA BUCK RHINE, from whom he had separated, be obtained.

Confidential Informant T 1, on March 9, 1949, advised that the address of JESSICA BUCK RHINE was 825 Eugene Street, Indianapolis, Indiana,

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as of December 25, 1948. This information was furnished to the New York Office by teletype the same day.

HENRY RHINE was telephonically contacted at his residence, 3218 Chestnut Street, on March 11, 1949, and declined to be interviewed at that time, on the basis of a slight illness. RHINE agreed to contact the Reporting Agent on March 14, 1949.

On the same date, Confidential Informant T 2 advised that RHINE had subsequently contacted SAUL WALDBAUM, an attorney who has handled numerous matters for the Communist Party, District #3, Philadelphia, and that in fact RHINE visited WALDBAUM at his office shortly before 5:00 p.m. on March 11, 1949.

On March 14, 1949, HENRY RHINE telephonically contacted the Philadelphia Office and declined to be interviewed, stating at the time he did not feel that there was anything worth discussing.

PETER MICHAELANGELO MAGRINI

By teletype dated February 21, 1949, the Los Angeles Office advised that one WILLIAM E. CRANE had identified a photograph of PETER MICHAELANGELO MAGRINI, was, as the "Italian" mentioned as "PETE" and "GUIDO" in previous Los Angeles teletypes dated February 8 and 19, 1949. This teletype indicated that MAGRINI had visited Los Angeles February 16, 1949, relative to disposing an interest in a boat and that the possibility existed that MAGRINI had assumed the identity of a person by the same name who was the subject of a separate investigation on the part of the Philadelphia Division.

By teletype dated February 23, 1949, the New York Office advised that investigation was being conducted at New York to ascertain the present address of YOLANDA MAGRINI, believed to be PETER MAGRINI's former wife. This teletype likewise pointed out that CHAMBERS had denied any knowledge of the activities on the part of either PETER MAGRINI or YOLANDA MAGRINI, but that he did recall that CRANE had introduced him to a tall Italian, but that he, CHAMBERS, did not recall meeting the Italian's wife. CHAMBERS likewise disclaimed any knowledge of instructions given him by CRANE that CRANE would give MAGRINI's wife photography lessons. CHAMBERS likewise stated that he could not recall receiving a camera from CRANE or giving a camera to MAGRINI's former wife.

It was further indicated in this teletype that MAGRINI contemplated leaving the United States shortly.

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PH #65-2440

By teletype dated February 25, 1949, the New York Office advised that a newspaper article in the Staten Island Advance for the issue March 6, 1937, reflected an article on one YOLE MAGRINI, indicating that she had taken up photography two years previously and had used a miniature camera; that she did her own printing of photographs at home, and that she resided at 104 St. Marks Place, Staten Island. This teletype likewise reflected that a check by the Washington Field Office in 1946 of the passport records reflected that PETER MICHAELANGELO MAGRINI in February, 1939, had given the address 104 St. Marks Place as his residence.

By teletype dated February 25, 1949, the Philadelphia Office advised that a photograph of PETER MICHAELANGELO MAGRINI (Bureau file #100-340699) had been shown to former neighbors of ALFREDO MAGRINI, deceased, and that these neighbors had stated that the photograph was not identical with PETER MAGRINI, wa, Peter Magrine, son of ALFREDO MAGRINI. This teletype likewise indicated that investigation indicated that the latter MAGRINI works for the Pennsylvania Railroad at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

By teletype dated March 1, 1949, the New York Office advised that it appeared logical that PETER MAGRINI, then residing New York, was not identical with PETER MAGRINI, son of ALFRED MAGRINI.

By letter dated March 7, 1949, the Los Angeles Office indicated that the probability exists that PETER MICHAELANGELO MAGRINI had assumed the identity of PETER MAGRINE in Philadelphia in furtherance of his underground activities. This letter likewise indicated that the Philadelphia Office had been requested to submit handwriting specimens of PETER MAGRINE residing in Philadelphia.

By letter dated March 11, 1949, two film packs of exposed undeveloped films were submitted to the Bureau Laboratory, which contained photographs of five documents from the personnel file of PETER M. MAGRINE, which were believed to have been signed personally by MAGRINE.

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P E N D I N G

PH #65-2440

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE PHILADELPHIA DIVISION

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Will report the final check by Sun Oil Company relative to the possibility that ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS had a credit account with that Company in 1937 or later.

Re Philadelphia teletype dated March 16, 1949. No leads were set out for the New York and Buffalo Offices to interview persons named by Miss CATHERINE WOODWORTH as close associates of PRISCILLA HISS during undergraduate days at Bryn Mawr College. Miss WOODWORTH indicated that these persons would undoubtedly be sympathetic toward PRISCILLA HISS in this matter.

*7/1  
A.S.P.  
OK.*

Likewise, no leads have been set out to interview persons named by D. F. BLANKERTZ as closest to ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN since this office has no information as to which of these persons may have already been interviewed.

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PH #65-2440

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

T 1 -



T 2 -



b2  
b7D

Kisseloff-8999

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 65-2440

ERG

REPORT MADE AT PHILADELPHIA	DATE WHEN MADE MAR 18 1949	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 28; 3/4, 8-11, 14, 15/49	REPORT MADE BY JAMES L. KIRKLAND
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was, ET AL		CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS have never had credit account with Gulf Oil Company. Check at Sun Oil Company continuing. LAURENCE R. BROWN knew ALGER HISS for short period during 1935 and 1936, but had no social contacts and can furnish no information. MARY CATHERINE WOODWORTH was not a close friend of PRISCILLA HISS and never met ALGER HISS. D. F. BLANKERTZ states ABRAHAM G. SILVERMAN favored cooperation with Russia during his employment with Analysis and Reports Branch of the Army Air Force. MERLE REED, former member of Railroad Retirement Board; considers SILVERMAN mentally warped and un-American, but can give no specific instances of underground activities. HENRY RHINE refuses to be interviewed by FBI. PETER MICHAELANGELO MAGRINI, Phila., believed not identical with person of same name now residing New York.			
- P -			
Reference:	Bureau file #74-1333. Report of SA JAMES L. KIRKLAND, Philadelphia, 3/8/49.		
Details:	This report reflects joint investigation by Special Agents WILLIAM H. NAYLOR, JOSEPH E. FLAHERTY and the writer.		
	<u>AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA</u>		
	Kisseloff-9000		
	<u>ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS</u>		
	Referenced report set out that typewritten correspondence		
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		266586 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/13/87 BY sp7mac/ddl	
5 - Bureau 1 - Special Asst. to the Atty. Gen. T. J. DONEGAN (N.Y.) 3 - New York 2 - Washington 2 - Baltimore 2 - Philadelphia			

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **74-94**

REPORT MADE AT <b>WASHINGTON, D. C.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-14-49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/3-11/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>GAIL N. DE TEMPLE GND:bh</b>
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TITLE <b>JAHAM 266,586</b>	CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>
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**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-21-87 BY SP7 mac/rjs**

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

FLORENCE TOMPKINS, colored maid of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN, September 1935 to May, 1945, recalls delivery of three large oriental rugs from New York to SILVERMAN during fall or winter 1936. TOMPKINS aided SILVERMAN in selection of rug for own use. Recalls one rug given to HARRY DEXTER WHITE, later observed by her in WHITE home. Also overheard SILVERMAN mention ALGER HISS as recipient of other rug. She does not recall how rugs delivered or transferred to WHITE or HISS. TOMPKINS described the following people as friends of SILVERMAN: the SILVERMASTERS, HARRY D. WHITE, FRANK COE, CURRIE, BRIGGELLA HISS, WILLIAM, DOROTHY and IRVING KAPLAN and HAROLD GLASSER. She recalled names of ALGER HISS, BERTHA ELAIR and JERRY CHIRACH being mentioned, but could not recognize photographs of ALGER HISS or Mr. and Mrs. CHAMBERS. TOMPKINS stated SILVERMAN often left apartment in evening to go to SILVERMASTERS', taking with him a large envelope, presumed to contain papers brought home from work. Records of Federal Storage Co. examined and reflected storage of 7' 3" x 12' from June 7, 1940, to October 31, 1942. Railway Express records provided no information relative to rug delivery. GLADIE CATLETT, maid of ALGER HISS, describes rug in possession of HISS, which may be identical with third rug described by TOMPKINS. VIOLEA TOMPKINS ARAMS, SILVERMAN's maid from August, 1934 to late 1935, sister of FLORENCE TOMPKINS, recalls WHITE and CURRIE as friends of SILVERMAN and also overheard Mrs. SILVERMAN speak of SILVERMASTER.

*Callahan  
4-1-49  
A.B.C.W.*

*cc A.F.G. Crumwell  
4-1-49  
A.B.C.W.*

- P -

REFERENCES: Bureau file 74-1333  
Bulet to Washington Field dated February 3, 1949  
Kisseloff-9001

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Mary Hatcher</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED <i>12/1-1964</i>		<b>3031</b>
848 DEC 16 1964 OF THIS REPORT: 5 - Bureau 3 - New York (encl. 1-SAAG T. J. DONAGAN (registered mail)) 2 - Washington Field		<b>RECORDED - 116</b>
<b>5/1/53</b>		<b>INDEXED - 116</b>

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents HARRY K. CLAYTON and PHILIP H. WILSON.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS, colored maid, also known as Mrs. FLORENCE BANKS, identified herself to the above-mentioned Special Agents on March 2, 1949, as the former maid of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN and family for more than ten years, dating from 1935. She is currently residing at 1812 - 18th Street, Northwest, and is now employed by several families in the apartment building at 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest. She stated that she has been separated from her husband for eighteen years and that she no longer uses the name of BANKS. FLORENCE TOMPKINS said that her employment with the SILVERMANS was terminated a few months before they moved from 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, to New York City.

With reference to the above statements, it should be noted that according to Mr. G. M. MEDFORD, Maintenance Manager, B. F. SAUL Company, Washington, D.C., the ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMANs first paid rent on Apartment 311 at 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, for the month ending November 1, 1937. The apartment house records reflected that the SILVERMANs moved from the building on June 26, 1947.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that the following persons were friends of the SILVERMANs and visited them at the SILVERMAN home: HARRY DEXTER WHITE, FRANK GOE, NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, "LUD" (probably IUDITH JILLMAN), LAUGHLIN CURRIE, and PRISCILLA HISS.

A photograph of HENRY HILL COLLINS, JR. was shown to FLORENCE TOMPKINS. She was unable to identify this photograph but believed the person in the photograph seemed familiar. She did not recognize photographs of WHITTAKER CHAMBERS or DAVID ZILMERMAN. Photographs of ALGER HISS and Mrs. WHITTAKER CHAMBERS were not available at this interview.

Although she was unable to recall the year, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that she definitely recalled three Persian rugs being delivered to the SILVERMAN apartment on California Street during the "cold weather season," a number of years ago. To the best of her recollection, two of the rugs were disposed of and the other was kept rolled up by the SILVERMANS and not used until they moved to 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest. She further stated that from over-hearing conversations of the SILVERMANs, they were to have their choice of the rugs and one of the remaining was to go to HARRY DEXTER WHITE. She stated that she did not know who was to receive the other.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that her sister, ETHEL, now deceased, was a maid of the HARRY D. WHITES; that she, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, also worked on occasions for the WHITES. At a later date, she believed that she recognized one of the three rugs containing some orange color in the WHITE household.

She said that she did not know whether or not ALGER HISS received the other rug and that she was unable to state whether or not he had been at the SILVERMAN home unless she could see a photograph of him. She did not recall anyone who might corroborate her statements, with the possible exception of the former janitor of the building on California Street, THOMAS SMITH, whose present whereabouts she did not know. She believed that he has returned to a farm somewhere in nearby Maryland.

With further reference to THOMAS SMITH, also known as "Big TOM," it was ascertained on March 8, 1949, from NORMAN CARTER, a friend of THOMAS SMITH, who is currently employed as a Messenger by General Electric Company, Shoreham Building, Washington, D.C., that SMITH and his wife, ROSA, are presently residing at Trappe, Talbot County, Maryland. In this connection, a letter has been directed to the Director, with copies to Baltimore and New York City, requesting interview of THOMAS SMITH.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that as far as she knows, SILVERMAN kept no photographic equipment in his apartment, but she recalls that "LUD", who resided with the SILVERMASTERS was a photographer and that he mentioned having photographic equipment set up in the SILVERMASTER home.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS exhibited a willingness to be re-interviewed and arrangements were made to bring her to the Washington Field Office for re-interview on Thursday morning, March 3, 1949.

With regard to FLORENCE TOMPKINS, the criminal records of the Metropolitan Police Department were examined. These records reflected that there were several arrest records for colored females by the name of FLORENCE BANKS and FLORENCE TOMPKINS on minor charges. The only record which appears to be identical with FLORENCE TOMPKINS of instant matter was an arrest of one FLORENCE BANKS on May 18, 1929, colored, domestic, age 27, for fornication, forfeited ten dollars.

On March 3, 1949, FLORENCE TOMPKINS was re-interviewed at the Washington Field Office by Special Agent GLAYTON and WILSON. At that time, FLORENCE TOMPKINS repeated the statements set out above and elaborated on them as follows:

With reference to her period of employment by the SILVERMANS, after reflection, she believes it to be about September, 1935, until May, 1945, a period during which the SILVERMANS resided in Apartment 409 at 2138 California Street, Northwest, and Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest. She recalls that they moved to the latter address during the spring or early summer in 1937.

With reference to SILVERMAN receiving three Persian rugs from New York City in December, 1936 or January, 1937, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that during the fall or winter of the year following her initial employment with the SILVERMANS, she recalls that three large "Oriental" rugs, approximately 9x12, were brought to the SILVERMAN apartment at 2138 California Street, North-



west, and placed in the hallway. She said that, to the best of her recollection, this was in the fall or winter of 1936. She recalls that she remembered the SILVERMANS discussing these rugs and that GEORGE SILVERMAN indicated that one of the rugs was for him and he was to have his selection of the three. She also said that the rugs came from New York City, but she did not know who sent them or how they were delivered to the SILVERMAN home. FLORENCE TOMPKINS said that during conversations between GEORGE and SARA SILVERMAN, she learned that one of the rugs was to be delivered to HARRY D. WHITE, a close friend of GEORGE SILVERMAN, and the third rug was to be delivered to a person, whose name she heard at the time but could not recall.

With reference to selecting a rug for themselves, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that she distinctly remembered that she assisted the SILVERMANS in selecting one of the rugs to remain in the SILVERMAN home and that the rug picked out by GEORGE and SARA SILVERMAN and herself was a beautiful rug with considerable red coloring and having a heavy fringe of a lighter shade of approximately four or five inches in length. She said that, to the best of her recollection, the other two rugs were the same quality and size.

With reference to the two remaining rugs, she said that she recalled that one was sent to the home of HARRY D. WHITE, although she was not aware as to who selected that rug or how it was delivered to WHITE. These two rugs were of a pattern generally similar and contained some orange coloring. The rug selected by GEORGE SILVERMAN was somewhat different in pattern and design and contained a great deal of red.

With reference to the rugs, FLORENCE TOMPKINS recalled overhearing a conversation somewhat later between SARA and GEORGE SILVERMAN, during which GEORGE SILVERMAN said that he was sorry that he had ever gotten mixed up in the deal (concerning the rugs).

She stated that for a number of years her sister, ETHEL TOMPKINS, now deceased, was employed by ANNE WHITE, wife of HARRY D. WHITE. Some years later, possibly 1940 or 1941, she FLORENCE TOMPKINS, worked on occasions for the WHITES at 6810 Fairfax Road, Bethesda, Maryland, and during this period, she observed one of the Oriental rugs, described above, on the living room floor of the WHITE residence, which room is located on the left as you enter the front door at this address.

With reference to SILVERMAN's activities, after they moved to 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that in contrast to California Street, they often entertained guests at supper parties.

In her previous statement, she mentioned HARRY D. WHITE, FRANK COE, NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, LAUGHLIN CURRIE, PRISCILLA HISS and an individual known as "LUD." Upon re-interview, from photographs exhibited to her, she identified the above-mentioned persons and also HELEN SILVERMASTER. She identified WILLIAM LUDWIG ULLMAN as the person she knew as "LUD" and she also recalled that ULLMAN was residing with the SILVERMASTERS. She identified photographs of RICHARD SILVERMAN, ANATOLE SILVERMASTER, DOROTHY and IRVING KAPLAN and mentioned that HAROLD GLASSER was a guest at the apartment. She was unable to identify photographs of Mr. or Mrs. WHITTAKER CHAMBERS or ALGER HISS. She recalls the SILVERMANS mentioning the name of ALGER HISS, BERTHA BLAIR and JERRY ORBACH.

During the second interview, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that SILVERMAN often left the apartment on 15th Street, Northwest, at night, saying that he was going to the SILVERMASTER's and that when he left, he would take with him a large envelope which she presumed contained papers he had brought home from work. She stated that on no occasion had she examined the contents of these envelopes and that she is not in a position to say what they contained.

She again stated that she is unable to furnish the names of other individuals who would be in a position to give additional information concerning SILVERMAN or to verify the information she has furnished.

The following signed statement was obtained at this interview:

Washington, D.C.  
March 3, 1949

"I, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, freely make the following statement to Special Agents PHILIP H. WILSON and HARRY K. GLAYTON who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made in order to obtain this statement from me; I have been advised of my right to counsel and that I do not have to make this statement and that if I do make it, it may be used in a court of law.

"I, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, am 47 years old, having been born June 6, 1901, in Amherst County, Virginia. I now reside at 1812 - 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and am employed as a domestic by several families in the apartment building located at 2325 - 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

"I was employed by the ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN family as a maid from about September 1935 to about May 1945. At the time I was first employed by the SILVERMANS they were residing in Apartment 409, 2138 California Street, N.W. About the spring of 1937 they moved to Apartment 311, 2325 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., at which address they remained until they left Washington to go to New York City in 1947.

"During the fall or winter of the year following my employment by the SILVERMANS, I recall that three large oriental rugs approximately 9 x 12 were brought to the SILVERMAN apartment at 2138 California Street and placed in the hallway. To the best of my recollection, this would be in the fall or winter of 1936. I remember the SILVERMANS discussing these rugs and that GEORGE SILVERMAN indicated that one of them was for him and he was to have a selection from one of the three rugs, also that the rugs came from New York, although I do not know who sent the rugs or how they were delivered to the SILVERMAN home.

"During conversations between GEORGE and SARAH SILVERMAN, I learned that one of these rugs was to be delivered to HARRY D. WHITE, a close friend of GEORGE SILVERMAN, and the third rug was to be delivered to a man whose name I heard at the time, but cannot now recall.

"With reference to selecting a rug for themselves, I distinctly remember that I assisted the SILVERMANS in selecting one of the rugs to remain in the SILVERMAN home and that the rug picked out by GEORGE and SARAH SILVERMAN and myself was a beautiful rug with considerable red coloring and having a heavy fringe of a lighter shade of approximately four or five inches in length. My best recollection is that the other two rugs were of the same quality and size.

"With reference to the two remaining rugs, I recall that one of these rugs was sent to the home of HARRY D. WHITE, although I am not aware as to who selected the rug or how it was delivered to WHITE. These two rugs were of a pattern generally similar and contained some orange coloring. The rug selected by GEORGE SILVERMAN was somewhat different in pattern and design and contained a great deal of red.

"For a number of years my sister, ETHEL TOMPKINS, now deceased, was employed by ANNE WHITE, wife of HARRY D. WHITE. Some years later, possibly 1940 or 1941, I worked on some occasions for the WHITES at 6810 Fairfax Road, Bethesda, Maryland, and during this period and later, I observed one of the oriental rugs described above on the living room floor of the WHITE residence at 6810 Fairfax Road, which room is located on the left as you enter the front door at this address.

"I have had this typewritten statement, consisting of two pages, read to me, it is all true. I have signed both pages.

"Signed FLORENCE TOMPKINS

"Witnessed:  
PHILIP H. WILSON  
Special Agent, FBI  
Washington Field Office

HARRY K. GLAYTON  
Special Agent, F.B.I.  
Washington Field Office."

On March 7, 1949, FLORENCE TOMPKINS was again interviewed at 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, at which time she advised that when the rugs were delivered from New York to the apartment on California Street, Northwest, she recalls that SILVERMAN mentioned that ALGER HISS and HARRY D. WHITE were to receive the other two rugs. She stated that she had not previously mentioned HISS as one of the persons receiving a rug since SILVERMAN's conversation was her only basis for believing this. She pointed out that she does not know whether HISS actually received one of the rugs as she has not been in his home. As she has been in the WHITE residence, she actually observed one of the rugs at this residence.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS advised that the SILVERMANS had stored their rug in the summer at the Federal Storage Company on Florida Avenue, Northwest, and that she had signed for the rug on both occasions when it was released to the company and when it was returned by them.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS expressed a willingness to testify in this matter as a witness for the United States Government.

With reference to the statements of FLORENCE TOMPKINS made on March 7, 1949, to the effect that the SILVERMANs had stored the Oriental rug, which they had received from New York, at the Federal Storage Company and that she had signed the papers releasing it to the company and had also signed for it upon its return. Special Agents PHILIP H. WILSON and HARRY K. GLAYTON interviewed Mr. H. RANDOLPH BARBEE, Assistant Secretary, Federal Storage Company, 1701 Florida Avenue, Northwest, on March 7, 1949. BARBEE advised that the records of his company are of a confidential nature and that he would have to take the matter up with the company's counsel before permitting his records to be examined.

On March 9, 1949, RICHARD MARSH, 701 Hibbs Building, Acting Counsel for the Federal Storage Company, was contacted by the above-mentioned Special Agents, at which time he stated that in order to protect the company from possible legal action, he desired the Federal Bureau of Investigation to give him a written statement to the effect that the contents of the records would not be revealed except after having been produced upon subpoena. He was advised by the Agents that they had no such authority but that the information would be treated in a confidential manner, consistent with Bureau policy and in the event such records are later required, they would be requested in the usual legal manner. MARSH thereupon consented to the Agents examining pertinent company records.

On March 9, 1949, Special Agents WILSON and GLAYTON reviewed the following records of the Federal Storage Company made available by BARBEE.

- (a). one original copy of a Federal Storage Company delivery order, Number 18659 I dated June 27, 1940, from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest. A notation contained on the above delivery order stated "wants: rug (no cleaning, 7' 6" by 11' 3")." Mr. BARBEE advised that this transaction was telephoned in to the company and that the indicated rug size was furnished by the person telephoning the order and it is not the exact size of the rug, as was determined by subsequent measurement. This order reflects that the rug was released to the company's pick-up man by FLORENCE TOMPKINS.
- (b). one duplicate driver's receipt, Number 9375, dated June 27, 1940, showing one rug and rug pad were received from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest.
- (c). one vault storage department of the declaration of value and identification record dated June 27, 1940, which reflected receipt from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, one rug and clothing. The order is signed - "A. G. SILVERMAN  
FLORENCE TOMPKINS."

- (d). one Federal Storage Company rug cleaning department form bearing identification "Dray Number 18659, Lot Number 6545, dated June 27, 1940," which described the rug received from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN as "Oriental, edges worn, 7' 3" x 12'." BARBEE stated that measurement is the actual size of the rug determined by the company upon storing it.
- (e). one duplicate warehouse receipt, vault storage lot Number 6545, dated June 27, 1940, which reflects six dollars storage charge paid for one year to June 27, 1941, on one oriental rug and pad. There is noted in handwriting thereon that the pad was taken out of storage on January 3, 1942, and that the rug on October 31, 1942, the latter was signed for by "FLORENCE TOMPKINS."
- (f). one original Federal Storage Company delivery order dated October 29, 1942, Number 42120 from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, which reflects that all goods of lot Number 6545 be delivered to Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, on November 10, 1942. This order shows the rug was delivered to FLORENCE TOMPKINS, who signed for it in the owner's name.
- (g). one release form dated November 4, 1942, which is signed "SARAH S. SILVERMAN (Mrs. A. G.)."

JOHN JOSEPH ALLEN, 1438 V Street, Northwest, who is presently employed by Vet Vans of Virginia, was interviewed at his place of employment, 2600 block Seminary Road South, Arlington, Virginia, by the above Special Agents on March 10, 1949, at which time he advised the Interviewing Agents that he has no recollection of having delivered an oriental rug to Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, in 1942. ALLEN advised that in order to facilitate pick-up and delivery of such articles, it is company policy that they be handled in a rolled condition. In view of this situation, ALLEN stated it would be very unlikely that he or the individual picking up such rug would have had an opportunity to observe same.

On previous interview, Mr. BARBEE advised that BERNARD F. DECK, whose address is unknown, was the driver who picked up the SILVERMAN rug on June 27, 1940. He explained that DECK is no longer employed by this company. Efforts to locate and interview DECK by this Office have been fruitless at the date of this writing.

Reference is made to teletype from New York dated February 3, 1949, requesting the Washington Field Office to ascertain from Railway Express pertinent details in connection with the delivery of the four rugs purchased by CHAMBERS, to GEORGE SILVERMAN.

On February 8, 1949, the Superintendent of the Railway Express, F. S. ENGLE, Second and Ninth Streets, Northeast, advised Special Agent DONALD A. CONNORS that he had no knowledge of this delivery and that his records extended back only three years. It will be recalled that this delivery was presumably

made early in January, 1937 or late in December, 1936 to SILVERMAN's address 2138 California Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. ENGLE advised that the route man who would have delivered the rug was one J. W. BOPP. BOPP, still employed at Railway Express, advised while he probably would have made the delivery inasmuch as SILVERMAN's address was on his route, stated he had no recollection whatsoever of this incident.

J. I. WARWICK, Assistant Superintendent, who served in that same capacity in 1936 and 1937, advised he had no recollection of these rugs. Mr. A. E. FRALING and Mr. G. M. TRUCELEFIELD, Chief Clerk and Assistant Chief Clerk, respectively, stated that their records extended back for three years only and that it was the custom of the American Railway Express to destroy all records of deliveries at the beginning of each year, keeping records only for the past three years. FRALING advised that there was, or could be no record of this delivery still in the Washington office of the Railway Express and stated that, to his knowledge, no record would be located elsewhere in the American Railway Express unless the New York Office, from which this shipment originated had neglected to destroy their records. He advised, however, that any record in existence would be in existence only because of an error, and that to retain these records for such a long period of time would be directly in violation of Railway Express rules.

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent JOHN E. HOWARD dated March 1, 1949, at Washington, D.C., with regard to instant matter. It is to be noted that CLAUDIE CATLETT, former maid of ALGER HISS, furnished the following information in a signed statement executed on March 10, 1949. "... I recall seeing a rug with a fringe on it in the HISSes' home on 30th. This rug was in a closet next to the kitchen in the front part of the basement. The rug was rolled up and tied. It was a regular room size rug....."

In this connection, it may be pointed out that the color descriptions of the questioned rugs offered by CLAUDIE CATLETT and FLORENCE TOMPKINS are not necessarily inconsistent. This color variance could be a difference in shades of red, which to an individual comparing two rugs, one of a deep red, prevalent in oriental rugs, with a rug containing a lighter shade of red, the latter rug might appear as being more orange in color. While on examination of the latter rug by an individual who had no opportunity to view the rugs together might readily describe it as red.

Mrs. VIOLA TOMPKINS ABRAMS, 3550 Warder Street, Northwest, who is a sister of FLORENCE TOMPKINS, was interviewed by Special Agents CHESTER G. CRAWFORD and ROBERT E. LENIHAN in her office in Room 363, 401 - 14th Street, Northwest, March 8, 1949. Mrs. ABRAMS advised she had been a maid to the ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN family from approximately August, 1934 to late 1935 or early 1936, when they lived at 2138 California Street, Northwest, Apartment 409, and furnished the following signed statement concerning her association with the family.

Washington, D.C.  
March 8, 1949

"I, VIOLA TOMPKINS ABRAMS, freely make the following statement to Special Agents ROBERT E. LEWIS and CHESTER G. CRAWFORD, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made in order to obtain this statement from me; I have been advised of my right to counsel and that I do not have to make this statement, and that if I do make it, it may be used in a court of law.

"I, VIOLA TOMPKINS ABRAMS, am 36 years old, having been born January 2, 1913 at Craigsville, Virginia. I now reside at 3550 Warder Street, N.W. and am employed as a Miscellaneous Office Machine Operator in the Sorting Section, Accounting Division, Department of Treasury.

"I came to Washington, D.C. in May, 1934. At that time, I was married to CHARLES EDWARD BROOKS whom I later divorced. When I came to Washington, D.C. in May 1934 my sister, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, was working as a maid for Mr. and Mrs. KAUFFMAN, who were friends of Mr. and Mrs. ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN. My sister, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, told Mrs. KAUFFMAN that she had a sister who needed a job. Mrs. KAUFFMAN suggested seeing Mrs. SILVERMAN which I did, and as a result I was employed as a maid by the ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN family from about August, 1934 to about late 1935 or early 1936. At the time I was first employed by the SILVERMANS, they were residing in Apartment 409, 2138 California Street, N.W. During my period of employment with the SILVERMANS, they separated for approximately three or four months, during the summer of 1935, because of domestic difficulties, and Mrs. SILVERMAN and her son, RICHARD, moved to Boston, Massachusetts. I did not work for the SILVERMANS during this period of separation. Mrs. SILVERMAN and her son, RICHARD, returned to Washington, D.C. approximately September 1935 and stayed at the Lee Hotel located at 15th and L Streets, N.W. for approximately three months at the end of which time she moved back to their apartment at 2138 California Street, N.W. I worked for Mrs. SILVERMAN at the Lee Hotel and later for the SILVERMANS until early 1936 at which time I quit in order to get a better position.

"Mr. SILVERMAN was a very nervous, high-strung person, and the SILVERMANS entertained very little during my period of employment, and had little or no contact with other tenants in the building. I believe Mr. SILVERMAN was employed by the Government during my association with the family, and on one occasion Mrs. SILVERMAN told me that Mr. SILVERMAN was discontented in his job as he felt others in his office were using him in order to better themselves - in other words, Mr. SILVERMAN was doing the work and others were receiving the pay.

"I also recall that on several occasions Mr. SILVERMAN would bring home work from the office in a brief case. On several such occasions, Mrs. SILVERMAN who also was employed would telephone me and suggest I take RICHARD out to play so he would not disturb Mr. SILVERMAN.

"In 1935, my sister, ETHEL TOMPKINS, came to visit me in the SILVERMAN apartment. During one of these visits Mrs. SILVERMAN suggested that ETHEL might get a job to Mrs. ANN WHITE, wife of HARRY DEXTER WHITE. As a result, ETHEL saw Mrs. WHITE and was hired as their maid. Mr. and Mrs. SILVERMAN often spoke of the WHITES as friends, but I cannot recall seeing either Mr. and Mrs. WHITE call at the SILVERMAN apartment. However, my sister ETHEL told me that the SILVERMANS did visit at the WHITES' home.

"In late 1934 or early 1935 a Mr. 'Loch' Currie came to visit Mr. SILVERMAN. He was accompanied by another gentleman whom I do not know. Mr. SILVERMAN was not at home when Mr. CURRIE and this other gentleman first arrived, but they said they would return in a short time. I recall RICHARD SILVERMAN, who then was approximately seven years of age, recognized Mr. CURRIE as an old acquaintance and later told his father that 'Loch' CURRIE had called. Later, that same evening Mr. CURRIE and the other gentleman returned and Mr. SILVERMAN appeared very pleased to see both men.

"Mrs. SILVERMAN and RICHARD SILVERMAN often spoke of a gentleman named SILVERMASTER but I cannot recall in what connection. I often heard RICHARD say his father had had visitors the previous evening and had played poker with them, but I cannot recall ever seeing any of them.

"I, VIOLA TOMPKINS ABRAMS, have read the above statement and state that it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I freely signed my name below.

"VIOLA TOMPKINS ABRAMS

"Witnesses:

ROBERT E. LENIHAN

Special Agent

Federal Bureau of Investigation

CHESTER C. CRAWFORD

Special Agent

Federal Bureau of Investigation.\*

ENCLOSURES FOR NEW YORK: Original signed statement of FLORENCE TOMPKINS executed March 3, 1949, at Washington, D.C.  
Original signed statement of VIOLA TOMPKINS ABRAMS executed March 8, 1949, at Washington, D.C.

- PENDING -

Kisseloff-9011



WFO 74-94

LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will continue investigation in accordance with instructions contained in referenced Bureau letter.

Kisseloff-9012

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FILE NO.

74-91

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-14-42</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/3-31/42</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>PAUL H. ...</b>
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TITLE	CHARACTER OF CASE
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-21-87 BY SP7mac/mjs

REJURY  
DEFINABLE - R  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

... colored maid of ... IL ... September 1935 to May, 1945, recalls delivery of three large oriental rugs from New York to ... during fall or winter 1941. ... aided IL ... in selection of rug for own use. Recalls one rug given to ... later observed by her in ... home. Also overheard ... mention ... as recipient of other rug. She does not recall how rugs delivered or transferred to ... or ... . ... described the following people as friends of ... : the ... MARY ... , ... , ... , ... and ... and ... . She recalled names of ... and ... being mentioned, but could not recognize photographs of ... and Mrs. ... . ... stated ... often left apartment in evening to go to ... , taking with him a large envelope, presumed to contain papers brought home from work. Records of Federal Storage Co. examined and reflected storage of 7' 3" x 12' from June 7, 1942, to October 31, 1942. Railway Express records provided no information relative to rug delivery. ... , maid of ... , describes rug in possession of ... , which may be identical with third rug described by ... . ... said from August, 1944 to late 1935, sister of ... , recalls ... and ... as friends of ... and also overheard Mrs. ... speak of ... .

- P -

Bureau file 74-1333  
 Pulet to Washington Field dated February 3, 1942

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
		Kisseloff-9013
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		
5 - Bureau 3 - New York (incl. 1 - SA T. J. ... (registered mail) 2 - Washington Field		

WFO 74-94

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents HARRY K. CLAYTON and PHILIP H. WILSON.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS, colored maid, also known as Mrs. FLORENCE BANKS, identified herself to the above-mentioned Special Agents on March 2, 1949, as the former maid of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN and family for more than ten years, dating from 1935. She is currently residing at 1812 - 18th Street, Northwest, and is now employed by several families in the apartment building at 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest. She stated that she has been separated from her husband for eighteen years and that she no longer uses the name of BANKS. FLORENCE TOMPKINS said that her employment with the SILVERMANS was terminated a few months before they moved from 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, to New York City.

With reference to the above statements, it should be noted that according to Mr. G. M. SEEFORD, Maintenance Manager, F. F. CASEL Company, Washington, D.C., the ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMANS first paid rent on Apartment 311 at 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, for the month ending November 1, 1937. The apartment house records reflected that the SILVERMANS moved from the building on June 26, 1947.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that the following persons were friends of the SILVERMANS and visited them at the SILVERMAN home: HARRY DOXTER WHITE, FRANK COB, NATHAN GEORGE SILVERMASTER, "LAD" (probably EDWIN GILMAN), LAUREN GORRIE, and PRISCILLA HISS.

A photograph of HENRY HILL COLLINS, JR. was shown to FLORENCE TOMPKINS. She was unable to identify this photograph but believed the person in the photograph seemed familiar. She did not recognize photographs of WHITTAKER CHAMBERS or DAVID SILVERMAN. Photographs of ALGER HISS and Mrs. WHITTAKER CHAMBERS were not available at this interview.

Although she was unable to recall the year, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that she definitely recalled three Persian rugs being delivered to the SILVERMAN apartment on California Street during the "cold weather season," a number of years ago. To the best of her recollection, two of the rugs were disposed of and the other was kept rolled up by the SILVERMANS and not used until they moved to 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest. She further stated that from overhearing conversations of the SILVERMANS, they were to have their choice of the rugs and one of the remaining was to go to HARRY DOXTER WHITE. She stated that she did not know who was to receive the other.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that her sister, ETHEL, now deceased, was a maid of the HARRY D. WHITES; that she, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, also worked on occasions for the WHITES. At a later date, she believed that she recognized one of the three rugs containing some orange color in the WHITE household.

She said that she did not know whether or not ALGER HISS received the other rug and that she was unable to state whether or not he had been at the SILVERMAN home unless she could see a photograph of him. She did not recall anyone who might corroborate her statements, with the possible exception of the former janitor of the building on California Street, THOMAS SMITH, whose present whereabouts she did not know. She believed that he has returned to a farm somewhere in nearby Maryland.

With further reference to THOMAS SMITH, also known as "Big TOM," it was ascertained on March 8, 1949, from NORMAN CARTER, a friend of THOMAS SMITH, who is currently employed as a Messenger by General Electric Company, Shoreham Building, Washington, D.C., that SMITH and his wife, ROSSA, are presently residing at Trappe, Talbot County, Maryland. In this connection, a letter has been directed to the Director, with copies to Baltimore and New York City, requesting interview of THOMAS SMITH.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that as far as she knows, SILVERMAN kept no photographic equipment in his apartment, but she recalls that "JUD", who resided with the SILVERMASTERS was a photographer and that he mentioned having photographic equipment set up in the SILVERMASTER home.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS exhibited a willingness to be re-interviewed and arrangements were made to bring her to the Washington Field Office for re-interview on Thursday morning, March 3, 1949.

With regard to FLORENCE TOMPKINS, the criminal records of the Metropolitan Police Department were examined. These records reflected that there were several arrest records for colored females by the name of FLORENCE BANKS and FLORENCE TOMPKINS on minor charges. The only record which appears to be identical with FLORENCE TOMPKINS of instant matter was an arrest of one FLORENCE BANKS on May 18, 1929, colored, domestic, age 27, for fornication, forfeited ten dollars.

On March 3, 1949, FLORENCE TOMPKINS was re-interviewed at the Washington Field Office by Special Agent CLAYTON and WILSON. At that time, FLORENCE TOMPKINS repeated the statements set out above and elaborated on them as follows:

With reference to her period of employment by the SILVERMANS, after reflection, she believes it to be about September, 1935, until May, 1945, a period during which the SILVERMANS resided in Apartment 409 at 2133 California Street, Northwest, and Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest. She recalls that they moved to the latter address during the spring or early summer in 1937.

With reference to SILVERMAN receiving three Persian rugs from New York City in December, 1936 or January, 1937, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that during the fall or winter of the year following her initial employment with the SILVERMANS, she recalls that three large "Oriental" rugs, approximately 9x12, were brought to the SILVERMAN apartment at 2133 California Street, North-

west, and placed in the hallway. She said that, to the best of her recollection, this was in the fall or winter of 1936. She recalls that she remembered the SILVERMANs discussing these rugs and that GEORGE SILVERMAN indicated that one of the rugs was for him and he was to have his selection of the three. She also said that the rugs came from New York City, but she did not know who sent them or how they were delivered to the SILVERMAN home. FLORENCE TOMPKINS said that during conversations between GEORGE and SARA SILVERMAN, she learned that one of the rugs was to be delivered to HARRY D. WHITE, a close friend of GEORGE SILVERMAN, and the third rug was to be delivered to a person, whose name she heard at the time but could not recall.

With reference to selecting a rug for themselves, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that she distinctly remembered that she assisted the SILVERMANs in selecting one of the rugs to remain in the SILVERMAN home and that the rug picked out by GEORGE and SARA SILVERMAN and herself was a beautiful rug with considerable red coloring and having a heavy fringe of a lighter shade of approximately four or five inches in length. She said that, to the best of her recollection, the other two rugs were the same quality and size.

With reference to the two remaining rugs, she said that she recalled that one was sent to the home of HARRY D. WHITE, although she was not aware as to who selected that rug or how it was delivered to WHITE. These two rugs were of a pattern generally similar and contained some orange coloring. The rug selected by GEORGE SILVERMAN was somewhat different in pattern and design and contained a great deal of red.

With reference to the rugs, FLORENCE TOMPKINS recalled overhearing a conversation somewhat later between SARA and GEORGE SILVERMAN, during which GEORGE SILVERMAN said that he was sorry that he had ever gotten mixed up in the deal (concerning the rugs).

She stated that for a number of years her sister, ETHEL TOMPKINS, now deceased, was employed by ANNE WHITE, wife of HARRY D. WHITE. Some years later, possibly 1940 or 1941, she FLORENCE TOMPKINS, worked on occasions for the WHITES at 6810 Fairfax Road, Bethesda, Maryland, and during this period, she observed one of the Oriental rugs, described above, on the living room floor of the WHITE residence, which room is located on the left as you enter the front door at this address.

With reference to SILVERMAN's activities, after they moved to 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that in contrast to California Street, they often entertained guests at supper parties. Kisseloff-9016

In her previous statement, she mentioned HARRY D. WHITE, FRANK COE, NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, LAUGHLIN CURRIE, PRISCILLA HESS and an individual known as "LUD." Upon re-interview, from photographs exhibited to her, she identified the above-mentioned persons and also HELEN SILVERMASTER. She identified WILLIAM LUDWIG ULLMAN as the person she knew as "LUD" and she also recalled that ULLMAN was residing with the SILVERMASTERS. She identified photographs of RICHARD SILVERMAN, ANATOLE SILVERMASTER, TOROTHY and IRVING KAPLAN and mentioned that HAROLD GLASSER was a guest at the apartment. She was unable to identify photographs of Mr. or Mrs. WHITTAKER CHAMBERS or ALGER HESS. She recalls the SILVERMANs mentioning the name of ALGER HESS, BERTHA ELAIR and JERRY ONEACH.

During the second interview, FLORENCE TOMPKINS stated that SILVERMAN often left the apartment on 15th Street, Northwest, at night, saying that he was going to the SILVERMASTER's and that when he left, he would take with him a large envelope which she presumed contained papers he had brought home from work. She stated that on no occasion had she examined the contents of these envelopes and that she is not in a position to say what they contained.

She again stated that she is unable to furnish the names of other individuals who would be in a position to give additional information concerning SILVERMAN or to verify the information she has furnished.

The following signed statement was obtained at this interview:

Washington, D.C.  
March 3, 1949

"I, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, freely make the following statement to Special Agents PHILIP H. WILSON and HARRY K. CLAYTON who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made in order to obtain this statement from me; I have been advised of my right to counsel and that I do not have to make this statement and that if I do make it, it may be used in a court of law.

"I, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, am 47 years old, having been born June 6, 1901, in Amherst County, Virginia. I now reside at 1812 - 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., and am employed as a domestic by several families in the apartment building located at 2325 - 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

"I was employed by the ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN family as a maid from about September 1935 to about May 1945. At the time I was first employed by the SILVERMANS they were residing in Apartment 409, 2138 California Street, N.W. About the spring of 1937 they moved to Apartment 311, 2325 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., at which address they remained until they left Washington to go to New York City in 1947.

"During the fall or winter of the year following my employment by the SILVERMANS, I recall that three large oriental rugs approximately 9 x 12 were brought to the SILVERMAN apartment at 2138 California Street and placed in the hallway. To the best of my recollection, this would be in the fall or winter of 1936. I remember the SILVERMANS discussing these rugs and that GEORGE SILVERMAN indicated that one of them was for him and he was to have a selection from one of the three rugs, also that the rugs came from New York, although I do not know who sent the rugs or how they were delivered to the SILVERMAN home.

"During conversations between GEORGE and SARAH SILVERMAN, I learned that one of these rugs was to be delivered to HARRY D. WHITE, a close friend of GEORGE SILVERMAN, and the third rug was to be delivered to a man whose name I heard at the time, but cannot now recall.

"With reference to selecting a rug for themselves, I distinctly remember that I assisted the SILVERMANS in selecting one of the rugs to remain in the SILVERMAN home and that the rug picked out by GEORGE and SARAH SILVERMAN and myself was a beautiful rug with considerable red coloring and having a heavy fringe of a lighter shade of approximately four or five inches in length. My best recollection is that the other two rugs were of the same quality and size.

"With reference to the two remaining rugs, I recall that one of these rugs was sent to the home of HARRY D. WHITE, although I am not aware as to who selected the rug or how it was delivered to WHITE. These two rugs were of a pattern generally similar and contained some orange coloring. The rug selected by GEORGE SILVERMAN was somewhat different in pattern and design and contained a great deal of red.

"For a number of years my sister, ETHEL TOMPKINS, now deceased, was employed by AINE WHITE, wife of HARRY D. WHITE. Some years later, possibly 1940 or 1941, I worked on some occasions for the WHITES at 6810 Fairfax Road, Bethesda, Maryland, and during this period and later, I observed one of the oriental rugs described above on the living room floor of the WHITE residence at 6810 Fairfax Road, which room is located on the left as you enter the front door at this address.

"I have had this typewritten statement, consisting of two pages, read to me, it is all true. I have signed both pages.

"Signed FLORENCE TOMPKINS

"Witnessed:  
PHILIP H. WILSON  
Special Agent, FBI  
Washington Field Office

HARRY K. CLAYTON  
Special Agent, F.B.I.  
Washington Field Office."

On March 7, 1949, FLORENCE TOMPKINS was again interviewed at 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, at which time she advised that when the rugs were delivered from New York to the apartment on California Street, Northwest, she recalls that SILVERMAN mentioned that ALGER HISS and HARRY D. WHITE were to receive the other two rugs. She stated that she had not previously mentioned HISS as one of the persons receiving a rug since SILVERMAN's conversation was her only basis for believing this. She pointed out that she does not know whether HISS actually received one of the rugs as she has not been in his home. As she has been in the WHITE residence, she actually observed one of the rugs at this residence.

Kisseloff-9018

FLORENCE TOMPKINS advised that the SILVERMANS had stored their rug in the summer at the Federal Storage Company on Florida Avenue, Northwest, and that she had signed for the rug on both occasions when it was released to the company and when it was returned by them.

FLORENCE TOMPKINS expressed a willingness to testify in this matter as a witness for the United States Government.

With reference to the statements of FLORENCE TOMPKINS made on March 7, 1949, to the effect that the SILVERMANS had stored the Oriental rug, which they had received from New York, at the Federal Storage Company and that she had signed the papers releasing it to the company and had also signed for it upon its return. Special Agents PHILIP H. WILSON and HARRY K. CLAYTON interviewed Mr. H. RANDOLPH FARSEE, Assistant Secretary, Federal Storage Company, 1701 Florida Avenue, Northwest, on March 7, 1949. FARSEE advised that the records of his company are of a confidential nature and that he would have to take the matter up with the company's counsel before permitting his records to be examined.

On March 9, 1949, RICHARD MARCH, 701 Hibbs Building, Acting Counsel for the Federal Storage Company, was contacted by the above-mentioned Special Agents, at which time he stated that in order to protect the company from possible legal action, he desired the Federal Bureau of Investigation to give him a written statement to the effect that the contents of the records would not be revealed except after having been produced upon subpoena. He was advised by the Agents that they had no such authority but that the information would be treated in a confidential manner, consistent with Bureau policy and in the event such records are later required, they would be requested in the usual legal manner. MARCH thereupon consented to the Agents examining pertinent company records.

On March 9, 1949, Special Agents WILSON and CLAYTON reviewed the following records of the Federal Storage Company made available by FARSEE.

- (a). one original copy of a Federal Storage Company delivery order, Number 18659 I dated June 27, 1940, from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest. A notation contained on the above delivery order stated "wants: rug (no cleaning, 7' 6" by 11' 3")." Mr. FARSEE advised that this transaction was telephoned in to the company and that the indicated rug size was furnished by the person telephoning the order and it is not the exact size of the rug, as was determined by subsequent measurement. This order reflects that the rug was released to the company's pick-up man by FLORENCE TOMPKINS.
- (b). one duplicate driver's receipt, Number 9375, dated June 27, 1940, showing one rug and rug pad were received from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest.
- (c). one vault storage department of the declaration of value and identification record dated June 27, 1940, which reflected receipt from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, one rug and clothing. The order is signed - "A. G. SILVERMAN  
FLORENCE TOMPKINS."



- (d). one Federal Storage Company rug cleaning department form bearing identification "Dray Number 18659, Lot Number 6545, dated June 27, 1940," which described the rug received from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN as "Oriental, edges worn, 7' 3" x 12'." FARBER stated that measurement is the actual size of the rug determined by the company upon storing it.
- (e). one duplicate warehouse receipt, vault storage lot Number 6545, dated June 27, 1940, which reflects six dollars storage charge paid for one year to June 27, 1941, on one oriental rug and pad. There is noted in handwriting thereon that the pad was taken out of storage on January 3, 1942, and that the rug on October 31, 1942, the latter was signed for by "FLORENCE TOMPKINS."
- (f). one original Federal Storage Company delivery order dated October 29, 1942, Number 42120 from Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, which reflects that all goods of lot Number 6545 be delivered to Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, on November 10, 1942. This order shows the rug was delivered to FLORENCE TOMPKINS, who signed for it in the owner's name.
- (g). one release form dated November 4, 1942, which is signed "SAMAH S. SILVERMAN (Mrs. A. G.)."

JOHN JOSEPH ALLEN, 1438 V Street, Northwest, who is presently employed by Vet Vans of Virginia, was interviewed at his place of employment, 2600 block Seminary Road South, Arlington, Virginia, by the above Special Agents on March 10, 1949, at which time he advised the Interviewing Agents that he has no recollection of having delivered an oriental rug to Mrs. A. G. SILVERMAN, Apartment 311, 2325 - 15th Street, Northwest, in 1942. ALLEN advised that in order to facilitate pick-up and delivery of such articles, it is company policy that they be handled in a rolled condition. In view of this situation, ALLEN stated it would be very unlikely that he or the individual picking up such rug would have had an opportunity to observe same.

On previous interview, Mr. FARBER advised that EDWARD W. DECK, whose address is unknown, was the driver who picked up the SILVERMAN rug on June 27, 1940. He explained that DECK is no longer employed by this company. Efforts to locate and interview DECK by this Office have been fruitless at the date of this writing.

Reference is made to teletype from New York dated February 3, 1949, requesting the Washington Field Office to ascertain from Railway Express pertinent details in connection with the delivery of the four rugs purchased by CHAMBERS, to GEORGE SILVERMAN.

On February 8, 1949, the Superintendent of the Railway Express, F. S. ENGLE, Second and Ninth Streets, Northeast, advised Special Agent DONALD A. CONNORS that he had no knowledge of this delivery and that his records extended back only three years. It will be recalled that this delivery was presumably

Kisseloff-9020

made early in January, 1937 or late in December, 1936 to SILVERMAN's address 2133 California Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. ENGLE advised that the route man who would have delivered the rug was one J. W. BOPP. BOPP, still employed at Railway Express, advised while he probably would have made the delivery inasmuch as SILVERMAN's address was on his route, stated he had no recollection whatsoever of this incident.

J. L. FAHICK, Assistant Superintendent, who served in that same capacity in 1936 and 1937, advised he had no recollection of these rugs. Mr. A. E. FRALING and Mr. G. N. T. WHELFIELD, Chief Clerk and Assistant Chief Clerk, respectively, stated that their records extended back for three years only and that it was the custom of the American Railway Express to destroy all records of deliveries at the beginning of each year, keeping records only for the past three years. FRALING advised that there was, or could be no record of this delivery still in the Washington office of the Railway Express and stated that, to his knowledge, no record would be located elsewhere in the American Railway Express unless the New York Office, from which this shipment originated had neglected to destroy their records. He advised, however, that any record in existence would be in existence only because of an error, and that to retain these records for such a long period of time would be directly in violation of Railway Express rules.

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent JOHN E. HOWARD dated March 1, 1949, at Washington, D.C., with regard to instant matter. It is to be noted that CLAUDIE CATLETT, former maid of ALGER HISS, furnished the following information in a signed statement executed on March 10, 1949. "... I recall seeing a rug with a fringe on it in the HISSes' home on 30th. This rug was in a closet next to the kitchen in the front part of the basement. The rug was rolled up and tied. It was a regular room size rug....."

In this connection, it may be pointed out that the color descriptions of the questioned rugs offered by CLAUDIE CATLETT and FLORENCE TOMPKINS are not necessarily inconsistent. This color variance could be a difference in shades of red, which to an individual comparing two rugs, one of a deep red, prevalent in oriental rugs, with a rug containing a lighter shade of red, the latter rug might appear as being more orange in color. While on examination of the latter rug by an individual who had no opportunity to view the rugs together might readily describe it as red.

Mrs. VIOLA TOMPKINS ADAMS, 3550 Warder Street, Northwest, who is a sister of FLORENCE TOMPKINS, was interviewed by Special Agents CHESTER C. CRAWFORD and ROBERT E. LEMLAN in her office in Room 363, 401 - 14th Street, Northwest, March 8, 1949. Mrs. ADAMS advised she had been a maid to the ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN family from approximately August, 1934 to late 1935 or early 1936, when they lived at 2133 California Street, Northwest, Apartment 409, and furnished the following signed statement concerning her association with the family.

Washington, D.C.  
March 8, 1949

"I, VIOLA TOMPKINS ABBAM, freely make the following statement to Special Agents ROBERT E. LEMIHAN and JAMES C. DEAN, who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made in order to obtain this statement from me; I have been advised of my right to counsel and that I do not have to make this statement, and that if I do make it, it may be used in a court of law.

"I, VIOLA TOMPKINS ABBAM, am 36 years old, having been born January 2, 1913 at Craigsville, Virginia. I now reside at 3550 Warder Street, N.W. and am employed as a Miscellaneous Office Machine Operator in the Corting Section, Accounting Division, Department of Treasury.

"I came to Washington, D.C. in May, 1934. At that time, I was married to CHARLES EDWARD BROCK, whom I later divorced. When I came to Washington, D.C. in May 1934 my sister, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, was working as a maid for Mr. and Mrs. KAUFMAN, who were friends of Mr. and Mrs. ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN. My sister, FLORENCE TOMPKINS, told Mrs. KAUFMAN that she had a sister who needed a job. Mrs. KAUFMAN suggested seeing Mrs. SILVERMAN which I did, and as a result I was employed as a maid by the ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN family from about August 1934 to about late 1935 or early 1936. At the time I was first employed by the SILVERMANS, they were residing in Apartment 409, 2133 California Street, N.W. During my period of employment with the SILVERMANS, they separated for approximately three or four months, during the summer of 1935, because of domestic difficulties, and Mrs. SILVERMAN and her son, RICHARD, moved to Boston, Massachusetts. I did not work for the SILVERMANS during this period of separation. Mrs. SILVERMAN and her son, RICHARD, returned to Washington, D.C. approximately September 1935 and stayed at the Lee Hotel located at 15th and L Streets, N.W. for approximately three months at the end of which time she moved back to their apartment at 2133 California Street, N.W. I worked for Mrs. SILVERMAN at the Lee Hotel and later for the SILVERMANS until early 1936 at which time I quit in order to get a better position.

"Mr. SILVERMAN was a very nervous, high-strung person, and the SILVERMANS entertained very little during my period of employment, and had little or no contact with other tenants in the building. I believe Mr. SILVERMAN was employed by the Government during my association with the family, and on one occasion Mrs. SILVERMAN told me that Mr. SILVERMAN was discontented in his job as he felt others in his office were using him in order to better themselves - in other words, Mr. SILVERMAN was doing the work and others were receiving the pay.

"I also recall that on several occasions Mr. SILVERMAN would bring home work from the office in a brief case. On several such occasions, Mrs. SILVERMAN who also was employed would telephone me and suggest I take RICHARD out to play so he would not disturb Mr. SILVERMAN.

"In 1935, my sister, ETHEL TOMPKINS, came to visit me in the SILVERMAN apartment. During one of these visits Mrs. SILVERMAN suggested that ETHEL might get a job to Mrs. ANN WHITE, wife of HARRY DEXTER WHITE. As a result, ETHEL saw Mrs. WHITE and was hired as their maid. Mr. and Mrs. SILVERMAN often spoke of the WHITES as friends, but I cannot recall seeing either Mr. and Mrs. WHITE call at the SILVERMAN apartment. However, my sister ETHEL told me that the SILVERMANS did visit at the WHITES' home.

"In late 1934 or early 1935 a Mr. 'Loch' Currie came to visit Mr. SILVERMAN. He was accompanied by another gentleman whom I do not know. Mr. SILVERMAN was not at home when Mr. CURRIE and this other gentleman first arrived, but they said they would return in a short time. I recall RICHARD SILVERMAN, who then was approximately seven years of age, recognized Mr. CURRIE as an old acquaintance and later told his father that 'Loch' CURRIE had called. Later, that same evening Mr. CURRIE and the other gentleman returned and Mr. SILVERMAN appeared very pleased to see both men.

"Mrs. SILVERMAN and RICHARD SILVERMAN often spoke of a gentleman named SILVERMASTER but I cannot recall in what connection. I often heard RICHARD say his father had had visitors the previous evening and had played poker with them, but I cannot recall ever seeing any of them.

"I, VIOLA TOMPKINS ABRAMS, have read the above statement and state that it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I freely signed my name below.

"VIOLA TOMPKINS ABRAMS

"Witnesses:  
ROBERT E. LEVITAN  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

CHESTER G. STANFORD  
Special Agent  
Federal Bureau of Investigation."

ENCLOSURES FOR NEW YORK: Original signed statement of FLORENCE TOMPKINS executed March 3, 1949, at Washington, D.C.  
Original signed statement of VIOLA TOMPKINS ABRAMS executed March 3, 1949, at Washington, D.C.

- PENDING -

Kisseloff-9023

76-94

LEADS

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE;

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will continue investigation in accordance with instructions contained in referenced Bureau letter.

Kisseloff-9024

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
AIR POUCH

42866

Date: May 5, 1949  
To: Legal Attache  
Mexico City, Mexico  
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Subject: JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS. ET AL  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Re: JOHN THEODORE HERRMANN, WAS.  
JOHN HERRMANN, JOHN HERRMAN

You are requested to interview John Theodore Herrmann in accordance with the instructions set forth at the end of this letter. Herrmann and his wife, Florence Ruth Herrmann, are American citizens. They are residing, at the present time, in Mexico City. The only address the Bureau possesses for them is in care of Wells Fargo Express Company, Mexico City. In order that your interview may be thorough and exhaustive, I am furnishing you with extensive information concerning John Theodore Herrmann as reflected from a review of the Bureau files.

On January 13, 1949, the New York Office interviewed Jay David Whittaker Chambers. He advised that Harold Ware operated a Communist underground apparatus in Washington, D. C. This apparatus included Donald Hiss, Charles Kramer, Victor Perlo, Henry Hill Collins, Jr., Leo Pressman and Nathan Witt. Each of these individuals had his own separate cell consisting of 10 to 20 persons who were employed in the various Government agencies in Washington, D. C. According to Chambers, these individuals were not abstracting any documents from the various Government agencies but were placed there so that their services might be used in the event an opportunity arose. Chambers alleged that John Herrmann was one of the individuals in Harold Ware's cell. Herrmann was a member of the John Reed Club in New York City at the time that Chambers was also a member of the Club. Chambers reported that Herrmann was married to Josephine Herbst who had been the author of 2 or 3 fairly well accepted novels and was considered a leading light in the literary world. He alleged that in approximately 1935 and 1936, Herrmann and his wife lived in an apartment on the west side of New Hampshire Avenue, between Massachusetts Avenue and DuPont Circle in Washington, D. C.

Continuing, Chambers stated that in approximately 1936, he held a conversation with Herrmann. During this conversation, Herrmann said that a family by the name of Silverman resided on 23th Street in Washington, D. C., next door to the residence of Alger and Priscilla Hiss. The Silverman family

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

SPECIAL DELIVERY  
Enclosures  
cc-foreign Service Desk

RECORDED 57  
INDEXED 57  
124-1333 ASB 3037  
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Kisseloff-9025  
EX-126

ASB/mp

consisted of the wife, husband and child. Herrmann alleged further to Chambers, in this conversation, that J. Peters had instructed Harold Ware and John Herrmann late one evening, to go to the Silverman household and arrange to take Silverman out of his house and get him away from Washington, D. C. Herrmann and Ware accomplished this but Chambers does not recall where they took Silverman.

On January 23, 1949, Chambers stated that when he first received documents from Alger Hiss, he photographed these documents himself, either at his home or at the home of Herrmann. He stated that Herrmann had been brought to Washington to be an assistant to Harold Ware in the apparatus. Chambers said that Robert Coe received documents from Harry Dexter White and gave them to him and he took them to Herrmann's apartment in Washington, D. C. where he photographed them.

(74-1333 - Report of SA Robert F. X. O'Keefe dated 3-23-49 at NY)

It may be noted that Jay David Whittaker Chambers has used the following aliases: George Crosley, Carl Carlson, Vivian Chambers, Lloyd Cantwell, John Kelly, "Carl", "Karl", and "Bob".

Your attention is directed to Chambers' allegation mentioned above that Herrmann was a member of the John Reed Club in New York City. Chambers has advised that in early 1932, he (Chambers) joined the John Reed Club which, under the appearance of general leftist or liberal organizations, was actually dominated by the Communist Party, particularly in the person of Alexander Trachtenberg. Chambers explained that the John Reed Club was an organization of artists, writers, sculptors and newspaper men. It was the cultural group of the Communist Party and on the extreme left. In effect, it was a "grab bag" of Bohemians. It was one of the so-called "bridge" organizations which are commonly referred to at the present time as Communist front organizations.

(74-1333 The New York Prosecutive Summary Report

Mrs. Josephine Frey Herbst, 273 South Joseph M. Kelly Avenue, Mount Clair, New Jersey, was recently interviewed. She advised that she was formerly married to John Herrmann but that they were separated in the spring of 1935. She related that Herrmann originally contacted Harold Ware in the fall of 1933 for information on a play he was planning on farm subjects. Mrs. Herbst further reported that she had met Ware previously on one occasion through his wife, Jessica Smith, a writer who edited and may still edit a magazine on the Soviet Union under her own name.

Mrs. Herbst advised that her husband went to Washington, D. C., in the spring of 1934 during which time she remained at her home in Erwinna, Pennsylvania. She joined Herrmann in Washington in July of 1934 and lived with him in an apartment until September, 1934. She was unable to recall the address of the apartment but was of the opinion that the apartment described above by Whittaker Chambers was undoubtedly the correct one.

In 1934, she made a trip throughout the Middle West to write articles for Scribners and American Mercury magazines on the drought. She returned to

Washington about October, 1934, for a period of 2 weeks. Thereafter, she went to New York City and shortly after Christmas of 1934, traveled to Cuba. She alleged that except for this period, she did not return to Washington until approximately 1942, when she held a position for a period of approximately 3 months with the Office of War Information from which she was summarily fired.

Mrs. Herbst reported that she was visited by Herrmann in New York prior to her departure for Cuba aforementioned, and upon her return from Cuba on April 1, 1935, Herrmann was in the state of Nebraska. She recalled this specifically because it was at this time that she heard from him in connection with their separation. In June, 1935, she went to Germany and Herrmann came to see her off. This is the last time she saw him.

Mrs. Herbst recalled meeting an individual identified to her by her husband as Carl who she later learned, through photographs in Time magazine, to be Whittaker Chambers.

The photograph of Chambers taken in 1931 was definitely identified by Mrs. Herbst as being Carl with whom her husband was familiar and whom she believed Herrmann met through Harold Ware.

In connection with her husband's contact with Chambers, she related that Chambers visited their apartment on 2 or 3 occasions while she was in Washington and from the portions of conversation she overheard, she concluded that Chambers was collecting information for the Communist Party in New York City. At that time, Herrmann was engaged in securing information of a political nature for background of a play he was writing.

With reference to Chambers, Mrs. Herbst recalled reading an article written by him in about 1932, which struck her as having been written by an author with excellent potentialities. She was so impressed with this article that on one occasion she inquired of Maxim Leiber, a literary agent, as to whatever happened to Chambers. She was informed that Leiber did not know.

Mrs. Herbst advised that while in Washington, she met Lee Presman in connection with the organization of the CIO. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was introduced to her by Maxim Leiber, her literary agent at that time, when she desired to secure information on foreign relations for use in articles she was writing. At that time, Silvermaster was with the Farm Reclamation Program. Leiber, according to Mrs. Herbst, is still a literary agent in New York.

Mrs. Herbst denied ever knowing Donald Hiss, Charles Kramer, Victor Perlo, Henry Hill Collins, Jr., Nathan Witt, Alger Hiss, Priscilla Hiss, J. Peters or \_\_\_\_\_ Silverman. It may be noted that the investigation to identify Silverman aforementioned has been unsuccessful to date.

Mrs. Herbst denied ever having seen Chambers make any photographs in their home and stated that she knew nothing of the connection between her husband, Chambers and Ware.

(74-13332347)

Kisseloff-9027



The New York Office interviewed Mrs. Florence Tate, 305 Eighth Avenue, Apartment C VI, Brooklyn, New York on February 23, 1949. She advised that John T. Herrmann married her daughter Ruth Tate about 9 years ago. She stated that John has been a writer for many years and has an income coming to him regularly from the estate of his deceased father. His father had been connected with the Reo automobile concern in Lansing, Michigan, for a long time. Mrs. Tate indicated that Herrmann was not regularly employed and for a long period of time, had been living by himself on his boat the "Ruth Tate" which he had anchored on the Maryland shore somewhere on the Chesapeake Bay. He moved into the Brooklyn apartment with his wife approximately 4 months prior to February 28, 1949, and they lived together there until about the first of February, 1949, when he and his wife left the United States and went to Mexico on a vacation trip. Mrs. Tate thought it was possible that they would return to the United States sometime this summer. She informed that they had no fixed residence in Mexico but were moving around and could only be reached through Wells Fargo Express Company.

On April 13, 1949, Mrs. Tate advised that Herrmann and his wife are still in Mexico City and can be reached in care of Wells Fargo Express Company. They are studying Spanish and intend to enter the university there. She related that they plan to live there indefinitely due to cheaper living conditions in that country. She advised that Mrs. Herrmann, in a letter to her, has indicated that she knows the Bureau desires to interview her husband and has suggested that if the interview is to be conducted in the near future, it will have to be in Mexico since they do not intend to return to the United States in the near future. (74-1333)

(Report of SA Robert F. X. O'Keefe, dated 4-25-49, at NY page 29)  
Mrs. Josephine Herbst has advised that John Herrmann is the son of Henry Herrmann, formerly general manager of the Reo automobile company of Lansing, Michigan. Henry Herrmann died in approximately 1942 or 1943.

The files of the United States Coast Guard, Washington, D. C. reflect that John Theodore Herrmann, serial #625-504, was born on November 9, 1901, in Lansing, Michigan. He married his present wife, Florence Ruth Herrmann, on September 1, 1940. He enlisted at New Orleans on May 1, 1942 and served until his discharge on October 3, 1945, at which time he held the rank of Lieutenant (j.g.). On October 7, 1948, he was promoted to a full Lieutenant in the Reserves. The last address in his file appears as 305 8th Avenue, Brooklyn, New York.

The Coast Guard file also reflects the following employment for Herrmann:

September, 1921 - April, 1942	Transport Union, 544 Comp Street, New Orleans, Louisiana
1938 - 1939	Simon-Schuster Company, Rockefeller Center, New York, New York
September, 1940 - May, 1941	Stevens, Davis Company, 1234 Jackson Place, Chicago, Illinois

42870

The Veterans Administration file on John T. Herrmann, their number 13525403, reveals that he was born on November 9, 1900 at Lansing, Michigan. He enlisted in the Coast Guard on May 6, 1942, at New Orleans. He was honorably discharged at Seattle, Washington on October 23, 1945, as a Lieutenant j.g. As of June 17, 1947, his address was Taylor's Island, Maryland. It may be noted that Herrmann enlisted as a Boatswain Mate, first class.

The Veterans Administration file further reflects that Herrmann was self-employed as a writer and sales promoter. He had been doing this work for 24 months prior to his entry into the service and had been earning about \$600 per month. He had 4 years of college and had taken 2 years of special studies in literature and arts at a school in Michigan. He claimed to be a writer by vocation and his entire income amounted to \$100 from the "Servicemen's Self-Help" and \$150 per month as income from his father's estate. The total value of John Theodore Herrmann's estate was listed at \$8,100. The file further reflects that Herrmann married Josephine Herbst in August, 1925, at New York City, and divorced her in October, 1940 at Texarkana, Arkansas. He married his present wife, Ruth Florence Tate, in October, 1940, at Texarkana. She was formerly married to Howard Leverett of Sayville, Long Island, from 1924 to 1938. (74-1333 Rep. SA O'Keefe dated 3-22-49 at NY)

It has been reported that John Herrmann married Josephine Frey Herbst on October 21, 1925, and resided with her prior to their marriage for 3 years in Paris, France. (77-23062-14)

Following their marriage, they resided at Erwinna, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, where they both engaged in writing. During this period, both did extensive traveling in Europe and South America.

#### COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES:

John Herrmann resided with Josephine Herbst in Paris for 3 years before she married him. His family was opposed to his marriage. He was described as being a Communist and it was alleged that Miss Herbst had absorbed a great many of his ideas. (77-23062-14)

Following their return from Russia, John Herrmann and Josephine Herbst exhibited a very marked interest in Communism during 1928-1930. Both individuals were in accord with the theories of Communism and freely discussed alleged advantages. It was, at this time, that the Herrmanns joined the Communist Party of the United States and Josephine Herbst wrote an article, "I went down with a bunch of farmers in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, not far from where Washington crossed the Delaware, and voted a straight Communist ticket". (77-23062-19 page 2)

John Herrmann obtained a position as auditor in the offices of the Transport Workers Union at New Orleans. He secured this position allegedly because of his membership in Unit 12 of the Communist Party, New Orleans, Louisiana. He was reported

Kisseloff-9029

to have been closely associated with the following members of the Communist Party in New Orleans, Louisiana: Warren G. Nowie, Eugene Morse, Raymond Tillman and Raymond Pearce.

(100-64329-4)

John Herrmann was in almost daily attendance at the New Orleans office of the Communist Party from July, 1941 to May, 1942 and during this period, he regularly participated in Communist Party meetings and conducted some of the meetings at his residence.

(100-54375-2 and 5)

On July 15, 1941, John and Ruth Herrmann were members of the White Professional Unit of the Communist Party in New Orleans, Louisiana, with Dennis Burke, Sonia Heinan and Donald M. McCormack.

(100-14992-9)

On January 1, 1942, a social party was given at New Orleans by the Andrew Jackson Association and members of the Communist Party present included Gene Morse, Secretary of the Communist Party, Elizabeth Field, Organizer, John Herrmann, Director, and others.

(100-83783-13)

At a Communist Party district meeting at New Orleans on October 3, 1941, it was suggested with respect to the Mayorality Campaign in New Orleans, that John Herrmann, a member of the Party, compose a letter to a New Orleans newspaper inquiring why there was no one in New Orleans to lead the people the way LaGuardia had done in New York. It was decided that John Herrmann would write the letter but it would be signed by Tom O'Callagan because his Irish name would be more appropriate. O'Callagan was a reported strong arm member of the Communist Party and on their payroll. He was considered by the Communist Party as their candidate for Mayor of New Orleans.

(100-9386-13)

John Herrmann's name appeared on a list of the more important members of the Communist Party in the New Orleans territory. He was listed as a journalist and an auditor for the Transport Workers Union.

(100-3-47329)

In connection with a fund raising campaign in progress in early 1942, in New Orleans, by the Communist Party, the Transport Workers Union, Unit #2, officers conducted a meeting at the Transport Workers Union headquarters at which time the Communist Party Unit of the Transport Workers Union accepted the Union's fund raising drive quota for \$100. John Herrmann was present at this meeting.

(100-75694)

John Herrmann and others met on January 23, 1942, at the request of Eugene Morse, Secretary of the Communist Party of Louisiana, and were given leaflets to distribute to motormen, conductors and bus drivers in the New Orleans Public Service Company.

(100-39950-24)

On February 15, 1942, Mike Quill and Austin Hogan, National Executives of the Transport Workers Union were honored at a party at the apartment of Elizabeth Field, Organizational Director of the Communist Party. John and Ruth Herrmann were identified at this party which was only attended by known Communists. Efforts were made at the party to get Quill to donate \$500. for a series of Communist Party radio broadcasts.

(100-37319-197)

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Warren G. Horie, International Organizer of Transport Workers Union, New Orleans, was called to the Communist Party Headquarters in New York City to discuss the plan of attack against the proposed Smith anti-labor legislation in the southern states. Horie returned to New Orleans on March 14, 1942, and immediately discussed the proposed legislation with members of the Communist Party State Committee. Horie gave an address over a local radio station in response to an article in "New Orleans States" newspaper favoring the legislation. This address was prepared jointly by Herrmann and Horie.

(100-3-47-72)

The records of the House Committee on Un-American Activities reflects that in connection with the activities of the John Reed Club, a list of some 130 names appeared in connection with a signed statement in the "New York Times", on May 19, 1930, in protest of what they called "Red Scare". This list included the names of Josephine Herbst and John Herrmann. The records further revealed that the John Reed Club is a revolutionary organization composed of artists and writers in the United States and that it was organized by the Communists in memory of John Reed, an American Bolshevik. This club was affiliated with the International Union of Revolutionary Theorists and was a section of the International Union of Revolutionary Writers.

(100-138754-188 page 30)

It was reported that the League of American Writers was the American branch of the International Union of Revolutionary Writers which had been set up in Khar'kov, Russia at an International Congress held in November, 1930, and that soon after this Congress, there appeared in the United States, groups of writers who organized themselves under the direction of the Communist Party into John Reed Clubs.

(61-7582-1 page 557)

The publication, "The Red Network" by Elizabeth Dilling, reflected that the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners was formed in 1931 as an outgrowth of the Communist Emergency Committee for the Defense of Southern Political Prisoners. The term political prisoners was defined as a radical term for those arrested for seditious revolutionary activities. The committee was composed of Communists, Internationalists and sympathizers. The names of Josephine Herbst and John Herrmann were listed as members.

(100-7685-18)

The Attorney General has cited the "National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners" as within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

A publication issued by the National Committee for People's Rights, 156 5th Avenue, New York City, listed the names of Josephine Herbst and John Herrmann as members. The masthead of this pamphlet noted that this Committee was formerly known as the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners. The following quote was noted in the pamphlet "We defend militant labor of the victims of racial depression".

(61-7582-1298 Section 4, pages 1179, 1180)

In September, 1932, a group of over 50 American writers, printers, teachers and other professional workers declared their support of William Z. Foster and James Ford, Communist Party candidates in the 1932 National Elections. This group was known as the League of Professional Groups for Foster and Ford. They

appointed an Editorial Committee to publish an election pamphlet under the title of "Culture and the Crisis". The above information appeared in the inside cover of this pamphlet and listed John Herrmann as a member of this committee. This pamphlet was published at 35 East 12th Street, New York City. (Cl-7553-2)

In November, 1933, in New York City, a meeting was held for revolutionary writer John Strachey, well known English author. At this meeting, a resolution was adopted pledging support to the Communist Party ticket. Among the signers of this resolution were John Herrmann, novelist, and Josephine Herbst, novelist. (Cl-7502-1303 page 242)

John Herrmann of New York City and a noted short story prize winner in 1931, spoke at a meeting of Communist inspired hunger marchers at Washington, D. C. on December 5, 1932. He pledged support and advised them to fight for their rights. At intervals during this speech a band played Red Anthems of Soviet Russia. John Herrmann was reported to be one of the members of the Main Committee of Intellectuals who worked outside of the police lines of the hunger marchers at Washington. While the marchers were in Washington, a petition was filed for an injunction to restrain the police from interfering with the marchers in Washington. John Herrmann was a signer of this petition. (Cl-6699-379, 380 and 386)

The pamphlet "International Literature" issued in 1933-34, on page 155, devotes considerable space to an investigative trip of a group of American writers to Pennsylvania relative to the treatment of political prisoners. Among the 5 writers praised in this article were Josephine Herbst and John Herrmann.

The "Partisan Review", "a bi-monthly of revolutionary literature published by the John Reed Club of New York" made its first appearance with a February-March 1934 issue. The name Josephine Herbst was listed as a contributing writer to the "Partisan Review". (Cl-7502-1293 Section 4 page 1390)

According to the testimony of Mr. Walter Steele before the House Committee on American Activities, a Congress of American revolutionary writers was held on 26, 1935, at Mecca Temple, New York City. The call for this Congress was signed by outstanding Communists including Earl Browder, National Secretary of the Communist Party. The names of Josephine Herbst and John Herrmann also appeared as signers of this call. Further, all the signers were alleged to be members of the John Reed Club. This call further stated that the League of American Writers was to be affiliated with the International Union of Revolutionary Writers as was the John Reed Club. The League of American Writers was born at this time. The name Josephine Herbst appeared on a list of names as nominees for the Executive Committee of the League of American Writers. (Cl-7502-1 page 501 & 62)

The Attorney General has cited the League of American Writers as witness in the matter of Executive Order 9835.

In a publication entitled "Writers Take Sides", published by the League of American Writers, 331 4th Avenue, New York City, May, 1933, Donald...

42874

This publication was published by the State Publishing House, Moscow, USSR, and printed in the USSR by the International Union of Revolutionary Writers. It is issued every 2 months in the English, French, German and Russian languages. The following appears on the inside back cover:

"The only international publication devoted to the proletarian and revolutionary literature of all countries. An organ of revolutionary militant thought. The magazine will provide a comprehensive Marxist analysis of cultural life of all countries, including the Soviet Union, the land of proletarian dictatorship."

An alleged Soviet Intelligence Agent, Otto Katz, entered the United States on September 10, 1935 accompanied by his wife Ilse. He arrived from Paris, France and was permitted to enter the United States for a 3 months period. He intended to visit with a friend, a Mrs. John Herrmann, residing at 10 5th Avenue, New York City.

Considerable investigation was conducted by the Bureau on Otto Katz as a writer and propagandist. He was known to reside in Mexico City from November, 1934 to July, 1945, from where he corresponded with many well known Communists in the United States such as Gerhart Eisler. (65-9266-1)

Two photographs of John Theodore Herrmann are enclosed herewith for your assistance. The following description of him was obtained from Mrs. Josephine Frey Herbst:

Age:	48
Birthdate:	November 9, 1901
Height:	6' 2"
Weight:	183 pounds
Eyes:	Brown (no glasses)
Hair:	Light Brown
Appearance:	Very good looking

It has been ascertained that he has the following relatives residing in the United States:

Mrs. Donald Teel, sister; 1714 Lundberg Drive, Lansing, Michigan

Robert C. Herrmann, a twin brother; 923 Bay Circle, Coronada, California

Richard Herrmann, brother; 218 North Washington, Lansing, Michigan

Chambers has stated that Herrmann was active in the Communist apparatus in Washington, D. C. You are requested to interview Herrmann concerning his knowledge of the activities of this Communist apparatus. You should interrogate him concerning his knowledge of Chambers and the latter's activities. The

enclosed photographs of Chambers should be exhibited to Herrmann for identification. Likewise, you should exhibit the enclosed photographs of Alger and Priscilla Hiss and determine if Herrmann is acquainted with them. If he is, you should thoroughly interview him for any information he may possess, particularly any information indicating that Alger or Priscilla Hiss were active in Communist activities in Washington, D. C. or elsewhere, and whether the Hissos were associated with Whittaker Chambers. You should exhibit the enclosed photographs of Harold Dexter White, Victor Perlo, John Abt, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Donald Hiss and Henry Hill Collins, Jr. for identification, and any information he may possess indicating that these men were engaged in an underground Communist movement in Washington, D. C. If, during the course of the interview, Herrmann appears to be cooperative and you deem it advisable, you should interview him in detail concerning his past Communist activities, his associates and any pertinent information he may furnish.

You are further requested to consider the following matter in the course of your interview with Herrmann:

Chambers produced certain typewritten documents at the pre-trial deposition in Baltimore, Maryland, on November 17, 1948. These documents had been retained in a brown manila envelope at the home of one of Chambers' relatives in Brooklyn, New York. Chambers has recently advised that there was included in this brown envelope with the typewritten material, a small slip of typewritten paper which reads: "Karl - If you have given up playing around with my girlfriend, she wishes you would take your stuff out of her closet, so she can use it for her clothes instead of yours. H." This paper was dated March 4, 1933.

You should ascertain whether Herrmann wrote this note to Chambers.

You are instructed to give this matter immediate attention.

Kisseloff-9034

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

5011

DATE: April 14, 1949

OK TO FROM SUBJECT:

DIRECTOR, FBI  
GUY HOTEL, SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD  
JAHAM - PERJURY  
ESPIONAGE - R  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

42876

Re New York letter dated April 6, 1949, concerning CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS and recommending that the WFO prepare memoranda on all the information in the WFO files concerning BUSS and forward these memoranda to the Bureau.

Re Bureau file 100-235795. A review of the WFO security file on CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS, WFO 100-14367, indicates that the Bureau is already in possession of all facts contained therein.

Rerep SA THOMAS A. SIMPSON dated December 10, 1948, at Washington, D.C., entitled "CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS, Expert - Appointee, Department of the Army, San Francisco, California, LGE," which contains information bearing upon the loyalty of BUSS. A review of the WFO LGE file also indicates that the Bureau is in possession of all facts concerning BUSS known to the WFO. Consequently, no further action in this matter is being taken.

cc: SAC, New York  
DDG:bh  
74-94

*Gregg*  
*L. J. [unclear]*  
RECORDED BY  
SUPER DESK

G. I. R. 7  
RECORDED - 62  
174-1333-3033  
F B I  
12 APR 29 1949

EX-11

Kisseloff-9035

10/11/49  
MAY 20 1949

File of



SAC, NEW YORK

May 3, 1949

DIRECTOR, FBI

CLAUDE ALBERT BUSH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
Bureau file 100-235795

3034

75950

RECORDED - 110

Reference is made to your memorandum of April 6, 1949, captioned, "Jay David Whittaker Chambers, wa., Alger Hiss, et al, Perjury; Espionage-R, Internal Security - R".

EX-126

Communications similar to that of reference, which have no direct bearing on the Chambers - Hiss investigation, should be captioned in the individual case file.

cc San Francisco

Washington Field

EMG/lc

*lc*

*Belm*

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED 15  
 MAY 3 1949 PM  
 ☆

Kisseloff-9036

*Handwritten notes and stamps on the right margin.*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 6, 1949 *2-1*  
*14-1*

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, wa.  
ALGER HISS et al  
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

Reference is made to the report of SA LUDWIG W. R. OBERNDORF, February 2, 1949 at Washington, D. C., in instant case which, beginning on page 49, deals with CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS, and the manner in which he was appointed as Executive Assistant to the High Commissioner of the Philippines, FRANCIS B. SAYRE, upon the recommendation of ALGER HISS. In this report, the Washington Field Office files reflect that THURMAN SCRUGGS WILKINS, who in 1940 was recruited for Soviet espionage in the Orient by IGNACI SAMUEL WITZAK, advised in July, 1947 that WITZAK had spoken of a "doctor boss" who was instructor in international relations. WILKINS stated that "boss" might have been approached by WITZAK to perform a Soviet espionage mission. "Doctor boss" was believed to be identical with CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS, whom WITZAK allegedly visited when BUSS was director of OWI in San Francisco in July, 1945.

Further reference is made to the report of SA ROBERT F. X. O'KEEFE, dated March 10, 1945 at New York, which on pages 65 and 66, set out the result of an interview had with Mr. FRANCIS B. SAYRE, in which his comments were elicited concerning CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS.

Still further reference is made to the report of SA DAVID EDWIN TODD, dated March 9, 1949 at San Francisco, in which on page 7, is set out the result of an interview had by that office with CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS, on February 28, 1949.

On March 28, 1949, Mr. FRANCIS B. SAYRE called SA JOHN F. SULLIVAN of the New York Office, who had been conducting his interviews, to advise that CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS had visited him on Saturday, March 26, 1949, at his office in the United Nations Building, 2 Park Avenue, New York City, advising him that he had come to New York for a conference of professors on Far Eastern affairs. He had dropped in on SAYRE to pay him a social visit.

During the course of the conversation, SAYRE made a point to determine how BUSS had been recommended to him as an Executive Assistant while he, SAYRE, was High Commissioner of the Philippines. BUSS related to him

2 cc: San Francisco  
2 cc: Washington Field Office

RECORDED - 118

*Handwritten file numbers*  
74-1333-3034

31 MAY 13 1949

JFS:GMD  
65-14920

*No immediate action necessary see p. 2. JFS*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/31/81 BY P. Wilkes 10320

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*Handwritten notes and signatures*  
5-72

Letter to Director  
NY 65-14920

substantially the information which has been set out in the above-referred to report of SA DAVID EDWIN TODD, to the effect that he happened to be in STANLEY HORNBECH'S office when the question of SAYRE'S Executive Assistant's position had come up and ALGER HISS had offered it to him when he had displayed an interest in it.

Mr. SAYRE advised Agent SULLIVAN that BUSS had mentioned to him that the State Department had suggested him, CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS, to the United Nations as an assistant on the staff of former Admiral NIMITZ, who had recently been appointed to the United Nations Trusteeship Staff to handle Far Eastern problems.

It is suggested that the San Francisco Office and the Washington Field Office prepare memoranda on all the information in their files on CLAUDE ALBERT BUSS and forward same to the Bureau, in order that the Bureau may be in a position, if it so desires, to make a recommendation to the State Department in the event that the information so forwarded indicates BUSS could be considered as having been engaged in espionage activities on behalf of Russia.

Kisseloff-9038



BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

42877

ORIGIN NEW YORK	FILE NO. 65-3290	
MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE 4/18/49	PERIOD 2/21-23; 3/4-9; 14-18, 21-23, 28, 29, 31; 4/4-6/49
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS, ETAL		REPORT MADE BY WESLEY A. ANDERSON WAA:DO
TITLE		CHARACTER
		PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS: ROBERT WALES, who followed ALGER HISS as secretary to former Chief Justice OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES; WALTER SASSAMAN, fellow employee of HISS at Senate Munitions Committee in 1935; and JACK I. LEVY and ARTHUR RACHRACH, former fellow employees of HISS at the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Department of Agriculture; all furnished favorable information concerning HISS and no information indicating CP connections. These persons do not have any typewritten material emanating from HISS. ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN employed by Railroad Retirement Board as Chief Economist from March 16, 1936 to August 16, 1939 and as Director of Research from latter date until March 26, 1942 when he transferred to the Army Air Forces, War Department. Identities of SILVERMAN's fellow employees at RRB set out. Interviews with persons at RRB who knew SILVERMAN failed to produce any information indicating affiliation with CP or activity in Soviet espionage. RRB records do not indicate who sponsored SILVERMAN for position but several persons state he was hired by MURRAY W. MATIMER, former RRB Chairman. Photo of ALBERT E. BLUMBERG not identified by Mrs. MARION DAUGHERTY, former wife of JULIAN WADLEIGH. Mr. and Mrs. RALPH H. MOORE, friends of WILLIAM WARD PIGMAN, advised he is a liberal but not known by them to be a member of CP.

*Tolson*  
*W.A. Anderson*  
*J. Edgar Hoover*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/5/84 BY SP-7 MAC/cj

- P -

APPROVED *J. P. McSwain* SAC

74-1353-3635

- COPIES
- 5 - Bureau (74-1333)
  - 4 - New York (65-14920)  
(1-THOMAS J. DONEGAN, AUSAG)
  - 2 - Baltimore (65-1642)
  - 2 - San Francisco (100-25417)
  - 2 - Miami
  - 2 - Richmond
  - 2 - Washington Field (74-94)
  - 3 - Chicago

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DEC 16 1954

MAY 13 1943

COPY IN FILE

EX-19

Kisseloff-9039

INDEXED - 28 #266,586  
SP-7 mac/08  
7/26/87

*John J. ...*

75889

Chicago File 65-3290

REFERENCE:

Bureau File 74-1333  
Washington Field teletypes to Chicago and Bureau dated  
February 17, and March 24, 1949  
Boston teletype to Bureau, New York and Chicago dated  
February 21, 1949  
Bureau letter to Washington Field dated February 25, 1949  
Bureau letter to Chicago dated February 28, 1949  
Detroit teletype to Bureau and Chicago dated March 3, 1949  
Report of Special Agent JOHN E. HOWARD dated March 1, 1949  
at Washington, D. C.  
Washington Field letters to Bureau dated March 3, and 9, 1949  
Washington Field letter to Chicago dated March 7, 1949  
Report of Special Agent (A) J. BERNARD COOK dated March 14, 1949  
at Washington, D. C.  
Washington Field letters to Director dated March 14, and 15, 1949  
Report of Special Agent EDWARD F. HUMMER dated March 25, 1949  
at Washington, D. C.  
Bureau teletype to Chicago dated April 5, 1949  
New York letter to Chicago dated April 11, 1949.

DETAILS:

INTERVIEWS WITH FRIENDS AND  
FORMER ASSOCIATES OF ALGER HISS  
(OTHER SUBJECTS MENTIONED)

ROBERT WALES, 1 North LaSalle Street,  
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. WALES advised that he knew HISS while both attended Harvard University Law School from which HISS graduated in 1929 and WALES in 1930. While there both worked on the "Harvard Law Review" and became quite well acquainted. After graduation HISS went to Washington as secretary to former Chief Justice OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, serving for one year during 1929 and 1930. WALES succeeded HISS as Chief Justice HOLMES' secretary, serving for one year during 1930 and 1931, and at the time WALES came to Washington he conferred with HISS for several days regarding his work with HOLMES.

While at Harvard WALES recalled that he visited only once in HISS's home and met his wife, Mrs. PRISCILLA HISS. This was his only meeting with Mrs. HISS with the result that they were only casually acquainted. During the time WALES worked for Chief Justice HOLMES he saw ALGER HISS on several occasions.

75890

Chicago File 65-3290

but did not visit in the latter's home. After 1931 he saw HISS only occasionally and for brief periods. WALES' last meeting with him was on the occasion that HISS addressed the Law School at Northwestern University, Chicago, during the fall of 1946. During his association with HISS, WALES stated that he never noticed anything about him which would indicate that HISS was a Communist or in anyway associated with the Communist Party.

WALES did not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and did not know whether HISS was acquainted with CHAMBERS. At no time did he ever suspect HISS of being engaged in furnishing information from government files to unauthorized persons. WALES did not recall ever receiving any letters or other typewritten material from HISS and does not have any such material in his possession. He emphasized that he has the highest regard for ALGER HISS personally.

JACK I. LEVY, 77 West Washington  
Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

Mr. LEVY stated that he was an assistant attorney in the office of the General Counsel, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., from September, 1934 to May, 1935. He assumed this position immediately after graduating from the University of Michigan Law School and he stated that his job was a routine legal one which did not bring him into close contact with the leading attorneys in the Department, including ALGER HISS.

LEVY recalled that HISS was in charge of one of the sections in the Department and, although he recalls seeing him, he does not recall having any personal contact with him with the result that he did not know whether HISS was in any way affiliated with or sympathetic with the Communist Party. Mr. LEVY never has received any typewritten correspondence or other material from HISS. Mr. LEVY was also aware that LEE ARRESSMAN and JOHN ABT were both employed by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration during 1934 and 1935 and in charge of sections in the Department, but LEVY had no personal contact with them.

ABRAM L. HARRIS, 6019 Ingleside  
Avenue, Chicago, Illinois  
Associate Professor, Department  
of Economics, University of Chicago

The referenced report dated March 25, 1949 at Washington, D. C. reflected that Dr. HARRIS participated in conferences during 1934 which included JEROME FRANK, Chief Counsel of the AAA, Department of Agriculture, and ALGER HISS concerning an investigation of the plight of the sharecropper in the southern states.

Kisseloff-9041

75891

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The allegation was made that HISS, FRANK, and others referred to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company as a big company and, therefore, an evil one, with the result that they desired to see this company bankrupt.

Mr. HARRIS stated that he was a faculty member at Howard University, Washington, DC during 1934 and to the best of his recollection was invited by JEROME FRANK to participate in conferences concerning the problem of the share-croppers in the South. HARRIS recalled that the share-cropper allegedly was not receiving a share of payments made by the government to owners of land for not producing crops, and FRANK desired HARRIS and Dr. EDWARD E. LEWIS, another professor at Howard University, to conduct an investigation concerning this problem. HARRIS believed that a group, including FRANK and several persons from the AAA, HARRIS and LEWIS, met twice, one of the occasions being at FRANK's home. After these meetings, the matter was dropped and HARRIS never participated further. HARRIS stated that he does not recall that HISS was present at these meetings and he does not know HISS.

HARRIS does not remember anything unusual about the attitudes of persons present at the meetings which would indicate Communist sympathies and does not recall any comment being made concerning the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. It should be noted that HARRIS is a teacher of Political Theories, including Marxism, at the University of Chicago.

HARRIS stated that he does not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS but did meet ELEANOR NELSON in Washington, D. C. He described her as the former wife of PAUL PORTER, who latter became OPA Director and believed that he either met her in the home of LEON SHERESHEFSKY, a professor of Chemistry at Howard University whose wife knew ELEANOR NELSON, or during a Social Science conference at Howard University. HARRIS believed that ELEANOR NELSON was married to PAUL PORTER at the time he first met her, but stated that he saw PORTER only once in about 1929. HARRIS had very little association with ELEANOR NELSON and believed that she worked for the government at the time he met her. Later he recalled she became affiliated with a federal government employees' union and he last saw her in about 1938, although he heard she was on the Howard University campus after that time.

Through his association with ELEANOR NELSON, HARRIS never had any direct information that she was a Communist but later he heard from various persons, whose identity he could not now recall, that she reportedly was a member of the Communist Party. He has received no correspondence from her and stated that he never had any indication that she might have been engaged in espionage activity.

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ARTHUR BACHRACH, 231 South LaSalle  
Street, Room 1057, Chicago, Illinois

Mr. BACHRACH stated that he entered the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Department of Agriculture, as an attorney in October, 1933 and left in June, 1935 to go to the Resettlement Administration, which later became a part of the Department of Agriculture. BACHRACH formerly was associated with the law firm of JEROME FRANK in Chicago and upon arriving in Washington he found that ALGER HISS was one of three assistants to JEROME FRANK and in charge of a department in the AAA legal section. Mr. BACHRACH was an advisor in connection with litigations, with the result that both he and HISS attended top level conferences of the staff.

BACHRACH believed that on one occasion the staff, including ALGER HISS, met in BACHRACH's home. BACHRACH met HISS's wife casually but does not recall ever being at the HISS home. He never received any correspondence from HISS and does not have any typewritten material emanating from HISS in his possession. BACHRACH stated that his association with HISS was principally during official business and emphasized that during this period attorneys in the AAA were working long hours which limited their social activity. He never noticed anything about HISS which would indicate affiliation or sympathy with the Communist Party and has never had any occasion to suspect HISS of being engaged in espionage activity, with the result that he regarded HISS highly. He has not had any contact with him since about 1935 or 1936.

BACHRACH knew LEE PRESSMAN well during the time both were with the AAA and believes that he was at PRESSMAN's home on several occasions for dinner during the period from 1933 until about 1941. He has had no contact with PRESSMAN during the past six or seven years. BACHRACH never heard PRESSMAN make any statements or engage in any activities indicating affiliation with the Communist Party.

While at the AAA, BACHRACH was also casually acquainted with NATHAN WITT, an attorney, and this contact was limited to official business. He never suspected WITT of Communist activity.

During the period that BACHRACH was an employee of the AAA, JOHN ABT was also an attorney with this Department and in charge of one of the legal sections. BACHRACH stated that his wife, MARION ABT BACHRACH, is a sister of JOHN ABT, but they have been separated since 1940. Mr. BACHRACH does not contemplate a divorce, although he stated that for all practical purposes they are divorced. Although he was reluctant to discuss this matter and requested that what he



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said be retained in strict confidence, he stated that their separation was caused by her activities in various organizations reputed to be Communist controlled. This activity kept her away from home a great deal and caused the split because of this fact and because of BACHRACH's feeling against Communism. He stated, however, that he did not know she was actually a member of the Communist Party from anything she said until 1947 when she wrote him a letter stating that she was taking a position with the Communist Party, with the result that he knows she is a Communist. He believed that she is now in New York City working for the Communist Party.

According to Mr. BACHRACH, JOHN ABT was about thirteen years of age when he became engaged to MARION BACHRACH. Later, JOHN ABT attended law school and in about 1925 became a clerk in the law firm of which JEROME FRANK was a member and with which BACHRACH was already affiliated as an attorney. In 1929 BACHRACH and ABT formed their own law firm but because of poor business ABT left after which BACHRACH practiced alone until leaving for Washington in 1933. In Washington ABT lived alone in an apartment on Florida Avenue and BACHRACH emphasized that his association with ABT during this period was not regular. *Bachrach,*

After ABT left the AAA to go with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers as an attorney, BACHRACH's association with him was very limited, with the result that he could furnish no information concerning ABT's associations. He also stated he did not know ABT to be a member of the Communist Party either from what ABT told him or because of ABT's statements or actions. He described ABT as a liberal person who was strongly in favor of the New Deal but, according to BACHRACH, ABT appeared to be no more liberal than many government officials in Washington during the 1930's. BACHRACH did not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and did not know of any association between HISS, ABT, and CHAMBERS, although HISS and ABT were acquainted at the AAA.

WALTER RICHARD SASSAMAN,  
6420 Dorchester Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois

Referenced Washington Field Office letter to Chicago dated March 7, 1949 reflected that SASSAMAN entered on duty with the Farm Security Administration, Department of Agriculture, June 28, 1941, and that he had listed ALGER HISS as a reference in his application for this position. While with this Department he worked under the immediate supervision of NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, who has been an alleged Soviet espionage agent. This letter, and a Bureau letter to Chicago dated March 11, 1949 furnished considerable information

indicating SASSAMAN's affiliations with the Communist Party and Communist Party front groups, including allegations that he has been a Communist Party member. SASSAMAN was interviewed on March 28, 1949 by the writer and Special Agent STIG A. LARSON.

SASSAMAN stated that he met Mrs. ALGER HISS during 1924 while he was at Haversford College near Philadelphia and she was a student at Bryn Mawr. At that time she was PRISCILLA FANSLER and the meeting took place because students from Bryn Mawr occasionally came to Haversford on Sunday afternoons to participate in discussion groups. He had no recontact with her after that time until he met ALGER HISS while both were employed by the Senate Munitions Committee during 1935. SASSAMAN stated that he was with this Committee from January to June, 1935 during which time he was an investigator and HISS a member of the legal staff.

SASSAMAN was assigned the job of making inquiries concerning BERNARD BARUCH and HISS had the assignment of handling the legal end of the inquiry concerning BARUCH, including questioning the latter when he appeared before the Committee. SASSAMAN and HISS were closely associated during this period and he recalls being in HISS's home on several occasions. During these visits he did not notice whether the HISSes had a typewriter.

In 1935, after leaving the Senate Munitions Committee, SASSAMAN went to Minnesota as State Director of the WPA in that state and after that time he saw HISS probably during 1936, 1937 and 1938 when SASSAMAN returned to Washington on government business. He last saw HISS in 1938 when he met him on the street in Washington and on which occasion they talked briefly on the question of Munich. SASSAMAN recalled that HISS was definitely against appeasement at Munich and resultingly a member of the group at the State Department which did not favor appeasement. SASSAMAN never noticed anything about HISS either from his remarks or activities which would indicate to SASSAMAN that he was a member of or in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party. Also, nothing came to his attention that HISS may have been engaged in Soviet espionage. SASSAMAN did not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS or know of any association of CHAMBERS with HISS.

With respect to NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, SASSAMAN stated that he did not know SILVERMASTER prior to his employment with the Farm Security Administration, Department of Agriculture, and recalled that he obtained this position through a normal application. SASSAMAN did not even recall using ALGER HISS as a reference on his application. He emphasized that he had difficulty getting along with SILVERMASTER and disliked him as a supervisor, with the result that

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~~KEENEY~~

they had no contact outside of the office, except on one or two occasions when they had dinner in the home of PHILLIP and MARY JANE KEENEY, mutual friends of SASSAMAN, his wife LUCY SASSAMAN, and the SILVERMASTERS.

Referenced Washington Field Office letter dated March 7, 1949 reflected that Mrs. VICTOR PERLO addressed an anonymous letter to the President of the United States, postmarked from Fort Worth April 14, 1944, setting forth a partial list of an underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. While the letter was anonymous in that it was unsigned, it was obvious that the author was Mrs. PERLO, as she made this explanation following the name VICTOR PERLO: "Ex-husband, divorced over my staying out of the Party and hampering his political advancement." Mrs. PERLO was subsequently interviewed for elaboration concerning the list of names alleged to be members of the underground Communist group, including WALTER SASSAMAN.

Mrs. PERLO stated that she was certain that he was a member of the Communist Party but could furnish no facts substantiating this allegation. When questioned concerning the persons listed in Mrs. PERLO's letter and concerning his membership in the Communist Party or activities in a Communist underground in Washington, D. C. or elsewhere, SASSAMAN denied that he was or is a Communist Party member and stated that he has no knowledge concerning Communist Party activities other than what he has read in the newspapers or other publications.

Of the persons listed by Mrs. PERLO, he does not know the following:

- ~~NATHAN KELL TITT~~
- ~~CHARLES KRAMER~~
- ~~IRMA RINGE~~
- ~~LENORE STRAUS~~
- ~~GERALD GRAZE~~
- ~~RUTH GORDON GRAZE~~
- ~~HELEN FULLER~~ (SASSAMAN has heard of this name as being that of a person who is a newspaper correspondent)

- ~~JOHN APT~~
- ~~ROSE CLINTON~~
- ~~HARRY DEXTER WHITE~~
- ~~BILL SHERWOOD~~
- ~~BARBARA SHERWOOD~~
- ~~Dr. BENJAMIN WEININGER~~
- ~~PEGGY BENNETT~~
- ~~MARY BELL SORMAN and~~
- ~~HAROLD POSNER~~

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Concerning other persons listed in Mrs. PERLO's letter as being members of the Communist Party underground group in Washington, D. C., SASSAMAN made comments as appearing after the following names:

VICTOR PERLO

SASSAMAN recalled PERLO as being with the Consumers Board of the NRA in Washington during 1934 and 1935. He stated that he did not know PERLO well, although he saw him occasionally as both were members of and active in a federal government employees union. He did not know whether PERLO was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party.

HENRY HILL COLLINS, JR.

SASSAMAN first met COLLINS during 1930 when SASSAMAN was teaching at Bryn Mawr College near Philadelphia and COLLINS was living in the same town where Haversford College is located nearby. During the summer SASSAMAN rented a cottage from the COLLINS family and they became quite well acquainted. During 1934 COLLINS also became employed by the NRA in Washington, with the result that they were in contact daily while both were employed with this agency.

SASSAMAN had regular contact with COLLINS both socially and on official business until SASSAMAN left Washington in 1935 to go to Minnesota as an employee of the WPA and on quite regular trips back to Washington he always saw COLLINS. During 1940 and 1941, while SASSAMAN was a correspondent for the magazine "Friday", he saw COLLINS regularly and in 1941 COLLINS was a witness at SASSAMAN's marriage. During this period SASSAMAN recalled COLLINS to be an employee of the Senate Small Business Committee and the Toland Senate Committee. His last contact with COLLINS until recently when COLLINS visited the SASSAMANS in Chicago was in 1942 in Washington. SASSAMAN described COLLINS as a liberal but stated he had no knowledge indicating that he was a member of or affiliated with the Communist Party or engaged in Communist espionage. He did not know whether COLLINS knew CHAMBERS or ALGER HISS.

ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN

SASSAMAN stated that he did not know SILVERMAN personally but recalled that he was affiliated with a federal government employees union in Washington, probably during about 1934 at which time SASSAMAN was also active in this union.

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CHARLES COE

SASSAMAN stated that he did not know COE well but believed that he worked for a farm publication called "Facts for Farmers" during the time SASSAMAN was in Minnesota and that they had some contact then on an official basis. He did not know ROSE COE, believed to be CHARLES COE's wife, and did not have any information indicating that COE was a member of the Communist Party.

HENRY RHINE

SASSAMAN recalled RHINE as an employee of the NRA Consumers Board in 1934. He did not know JESSICA BUCK RHINE, wife of HENRY, and stated that his association with RHINE was limited to his acquaintance with him at the NRA and his association with him in a federal government employees union. He did not know whether RHINE was connected with the Communist Party.

LEN DE CAUX

SASSAMAN met DE CAUX for the first time in about the fall of 1940 when DE CAUX was editor of the "CIO News" in Washington. This meeting was in connection with SASSAMAN's work as a correspondent for the magazine "Friday", and they had no meetings socially. He did not know whether DE CAUX was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party.

SASSAMAN was questioned in regard to his friendship with LEE PRESSMAN whose name did not appear in Mrs. PERLO's letter. He admitted knowing PRESSMAN but stated that the friendship was not intimate. He was vague in his statement as to how he had met PRESSMAN, recalling only that he knew PRESSMAN to be active in a federal government employees union in the early 1930's. He also saw him occasionally after 1940 but stated that he did not recall that PRESSMAN had recommended him for the WPA job in Minnesota. SASSAMAN did not notice anything about PRESSMAN or hear him make any statements indicating that he was engaged in Communist Party activities.

When questioned concerning the subjects of the instant case, SASSAMAN claimed that he did not know the following persons, and that he had no knowledge of any association between them or with ALGER HISS, other than what he had read in newspapers and other publications recently:

- JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS
- WILLIAM WARD PIGMAN
- HENRY JULIAN WADLEIGH
- DAVID VERNON ZIMMERMAN, with alias DAVID CARPENTER

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HAROLD WILSON  
STEVE POTTER  
ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN (except as indicated previously)

FRANKLIN VICTOR RENO  
ALEXANDER STEVENS, with alias ALEXANDER GOLDBERGER  
J. PETERS  
J. PETER  
STEVE LAPIN  
PETE STEVENS  
STEVE MILLER  
ISADORE BOORSTEIN  
BORIS BYKOV, with alias BORIS HERTZ  
FELIX AUGUST INSLERMAN  
MORRIS ASIMOV

With regards to ELEANOR NELSON SOYRING, with aliases ELEANOR NELSON, ELEANOR NELSON POTTER, SASSAMAN stated that he knew an ELEANOR NELSON who was active in the federal employees union in Washington in the early 1930's but did not know her to be in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party.

The Bureau in a letter dated March 11, 1949 advised that while residing in Washington, D. C., WALTER and LUCY SASSAMAN were associated with several persons who were reported to be Russian espionage suspects, Communists, or Communist sympathizers. SASSAMAN's comments concerning them appear after each of the following names:

EDWARD GROFF CONKLIN and  
his wife, LUCY CONKLIN

These persons resided in the same apartment building as the SASSAMANS at 516 Second Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. and the SASSAMANS knew them quite well as neighbors prior to 1935.

JANE FOSTER BLATOVSKI

The SASSAMANS knew her for the first time when she moved into the apartment occupied by the SASSAMANS at 516 Second Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. after the SASSAMANS left. He stated that she still owes them \$10 on the purchase of curtains.

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~~X~~ TODD  
LAWRENCE and DOROTHY TODD

SASSAMAN met the TODDs at the Press Club in Washington and stated that he also met both of them at a dinner party in the home of PHILIP and MARY JANE KEENEY, friends of the SASSAMANS. He denied that he knew the TODDs well and stated that he had no personal information that they were active in the Communist Party, other than he assumed they were Communists because TODD was employed as a correspondent by the Russian Tass Agency.

~~X~~ JOSEPH MOSES GILMAN

SASSAMAN first became acquainted with GILMAN while teaching at the Walden School in New York City in 1934, at which time two of GILMAN's children were in his classes. He met GILMAN at that time and later saw him on several occasions in Washington after 1941, although he does not know where GILMAN is at the present time.

With respect to each of the above persons, SASSAMAN advised that he did not know whether they were Communists, except as indicated regarding the TODDs. As indicated previously, SASSAMAN denied that he himself was ever active in the Communist Party.

FORMER EMPLOYMENT OF  
ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN  
AND INTERVIEWS CONCERNING HIM

Referenced Washington Field Office teletype dated February 17, 1949 requested photostatic copies of all material in the personnel file of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN, formerly employed at the Railroad Retirement Board, and information regarding the appointment, references, addresses, identity of fellow employees, and identity of supervisors of SILVERMAN. The referenced Washington Field Office letter to the Bureau dated March 3, 1949, among other leads, requested that information be developed concerning SILVERMAN's employment with the Division of Monetary Research, United States Treasury Department, from July, 1941 to March, 1942 on a non-reimbursable loan from the RRB.

On February 21, 1949 EUGENE MARTIN, Assistant Personnel Officer, RRB, Chicago, made available photostatic copies of all documents in the personnel file of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN who was employed by the Board as Chief Economist from March 16, 1936 to August 16, 1939 and as Director of Research from the latter date until March 26, 1942, when he was transferred to the Army Air Forces, War Department.

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By letter dated February 23, 1949 the photostats were furnished to the Washington Field Office. MARTIN searched the files of his Department and could locate no record of SILVERMAN's loan to the Treasury Department, but he stated that attendance records revealed that SILVERMAN was at the Railroad Retirement Board during the period from July, 1941 to March, 1942. MARTIN explained that it would be necessary to show SILVERMAN as being on duty at the RRB during the period that he may have been on non-reimbursable loan, inasmuch as the RRB would be paying him during this period. MARTIN stated that it appeared that SILVERMAN worked directly under the supervision of the three members of the Railroad Retirement Board who at the time of his employment were MURRAY W. LATIMER, Chairman; L. M. EDDY and MERLE R. REED. Available records at the Board indicated the current addresses of these persons to be as follows:

MURRAY W. LATIMER, 2911 Albenarle Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.;  
L. M. EDDY, 870 32nd Avenue, N. W., St. Petersburg, Florida;  
MERLE R. REED, Assistant Chief of Motive Power, Pennsylvania  
Railroad, Room 1607, Broad Street Station Building, 1617  
Pennsylvania Boulevard, Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania.

A review of the payroll records also revealed that JAMES A. BAILEY was a Board member of the Railroad Retirement Board at the time SILVERMAN was hired and continued until August 28, 1938. BAILEY represented the railroads and was known to be employed previously by the New York Central Railroad. His last address was listed as 3016 Tilden Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., but his legal residence was Ossining, New York, where he is believed to be now residing.

HARRY SASSAMAN, Acting Secretary, Railroad Retirement Board, checked the files in the Executive Office of the Board members and was unable to locate any information concerning how Mr. SILVERMAN made his application with the Board or whether his employment was promoted by any particular person. He located the Minutes of the Board Meeting for February 4, 1936, at which time SILVERMAN's appointment was approved, but no other pertinent information appeared.

Mr. SASSAMAN knew SILVERMAN while the latter was employed by the Railroad Retirement Board but had no social meetings with him and only limited acquaintance at the RRB, with the result that he had no information as to whether SILVERMAN was a Communist.



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With regards to EDWIN M. FITCH, who will be listed later in this report as an employee of the Board, SASSAMAN advised that during 1937 or 1938, while he was in Washington and an employee of the RRB, he was invited by FITCH, who worked in a different department, to the latter's home for the purpose of listening to short-wave radio broadcasts from foreign countries. SASSAMAN, along with a group of persons, went to FITCH's home one evening at which time FITCH unsuccessfully attempted to tune in a broadcast from Spain. SASSAMAN pointed out that this was during the period of the Spanish Civil War. During the evening FITCH brought up this war and attempted to have persons present organize parties and other events for the purpose of raising funds for the Loyalists. SASSAMAN felt that FITCH had tricked him and other persons present and informed FITCH that he was not interested.

MARY B. LINKINS, Secretary to the Board, Railroad Retirement Board, who was absent at the time of the interview with Mr. SASSAMAN after checking the records of her office and making inquiries in several departments of the RRB, advised that she was unable to ascertain whether SILVERMAN was sponsored by any particular person in obtaining his employment with the RRB. She was also unable to locate any information indicating that SILVERMAN was on non-reimbursable loan to the Treasury Department.

Miss LINKINS explained that SILVERMAN worked under the supervision of MURRAY W. LATIMER, who probably brought him into the Board, but she felt that no record as to who actually sponsored him would be available inasmuch as during 1936 in Washington recommendations of sponsors were usually oral and not recorded.

Through EUGENE MARTIN, Personnel Department, Railroad Retirement Board, and a review of old payroll records by the writer it was ascertained that the following persons were employed with SILVERMAN at the RRB in the Research Department from 1936 to 1939 and also in this Department after 1939, at which time the Actuarial Department was made a part of the Research Department under the supervision of SILVERMAN:

CAROLINE ABRAMS, 2920 Ontario Avenue, Washington, D. C., Temporary Associate Economist; employed April 1, 1936 to November 3, 1936. As of March 7, 1944 she was employed as CAROLINE DE GAUX nee ABRAMS by the Women's Bureau, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

Miss THURLEY L. ANDREWS, 1527 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington, D. C., Assistant Clerk-Steno; appointed

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September 6, 1938; transferred to OEM April 23, 1942.  
As of September 20, 1943, Miss ANDREWS was employed by the Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency, Washington, D. C. It is believed that while with the RRB she was assigned to the Office of A. G. SILVERMAN.

HERMAN H. BARTMER, Actuary, 1465 Gerard Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed April 4, 1936, transferred to War Department May 3, 1942.

MAX A. BERSHAD, Actuary, 933 Randolph Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., appointed September 25, 1937; transferred to War Production Board, June 7, 1942.

BERTHA BLAIR, Economist, 1625 16th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed April 24, 1936; transferred to National Labor Board, September 13, 1943.

SAMUEL A. BLOCK, 645 Buckingham Place, Chicago, Illinois. BLOCK was employed March 16, 1936 as an Economic Statistician and continues in the employ of RRB in the Department of Research with a rating of P-6. Investigation concerning Mrs. SAMUEL A. BLOCK under the Hatch Act was conducted in the Washington Field.

JEANNETTE BOGOTY (husband HERMAN BOGOTY) Economic Statistician, 2411 14th Street, N. E., Washington, D. C.; appointed June 10, 1939; transferred to OEM, November 15, 1942.

CHARLES BRACMAN, 1401 Edgewood Street, Arlington, Virginia, Temporary Economic Statistician; appointed June 16, 1936; transferred to OPA June 30, 1942.

WALTER J. COUPER, 1 St. Andrews Lane, Silver Spring, Maryland; Assistant Chief Economist; appointed January 15, 1938; resigned October 31, 1940 to accept another position.

JACK M. ELKIN, 541 Roscoe Street, Chicago, Illinois; appointed a Junior Actuarial Mathematician, October 20, 1936 and currently is employed by the RRB in Chicago as Assistant Director of Research. Investigation concerning him was conducted under the LGE Program.

J. EDWARD ELY, Economist, 4025 25th Street, N. W., Arlington, Virginia; appointed January 18, 1938; transferred to Department of Commerce, June 22, 1941.

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GAIL N. ~~FERRIS~~, 4015 Sheets Avenue, Brentwood, Maryland; Assistant Statistical Clerk; appointed August 23, 1937; transferred to Department of Commerce March 23, 1941.

EDWIN MEDBURY ~~FITCH~~, Chief Statistician, 3401 Washington Avenue, Washington, D. C.; appointed June 17, 1936; transferred to Office for Emergency Management, January 23, 1942.

JOSEPH M. ~~GILLMAN~~, Economic Statistician, 1630 R Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. GILLMAN was born in Russia, appointed April 20, 1936, transferred to OPA November 2, 1942.

JOSEPH B. ~~GLENN~~, Actuary, 5214 First Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. (as late as February 18, 1948), appointed March 16, 1936, discharged with prejudice for non-cooperation and insubordination, February 17, 1942.

CHARLES G. ~~GOOR~~, Assistant Economist, 3919 North Fourth Street, Arlington, Virginia; appointed March 16, 1936; transferred to Social Security Board, December 1, 1940.

MARGARET ~~GREENFIELD~~, Chief of Reports and Information Service, 1010 25th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed April 11, 1936; transferred to OPA May 24, 1942.

GEORGE ~~GROSSMAN~~, Assistant Economic Statistician, 4211 Second Street, North Arlington, Virginia; appointed May 7, 1936; transferred to Veterans Administration, June 8, 1946, after serving in the Armed Forces.

WILLIAM WHEELER ~~HINCKLEY~~, 5000 Moorland Lane, Bethesda, Maryland; Economic Statistician; appointed November 6, 1941; resigned February 1, 1942 to go to the Treasury Department.

RAYMOND W. ~~JEWELL~~, Junior Economist; appointed April 15, 1936; transferred to the Civil Service Commission July 17, 1940. JEWELL's address was listed as 2428 Eunice Street, Berkeley, California. In May 1948 an inquiry was received by the RRB from HARRY F. ~~KRANZ~~, Regional Director, Civil Service Commission, San Francisco, inasmuch as JEWELL was an applicant for a position as an administrative officer.

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~~MARVEL KELLER~~, 2909 Olive Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Assistant Economist; appointed December 2, 1938; transferred to Department of Commerce January 22, 1940.

~~SOLOMON SMITH KUZNETS~~, Chief Economist; appointed February 26, 1938; resigned February 7, 1944. KUZNETS died February 7, 1945.

~~CELIA J. LISENSKY~~, 512 Randolph Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed April 15, 1936; transferred to OEM February 1, 1942. Miss LISENSKY was in the office of the Chief Economist from November 16, 1937 to August 1, 1939.

~~CHARLES E. MALOY~~, 5231 5th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Temporary Assistant Supervisor; appointed June 17, 1936; resigned November 1, 1936. MALOY later applied for a position with the Interstate Commerce Commission.

~~IRVING MARSHAK~~, 4916 South Drexel Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. MARSHAK entered the RRB under CAF-3 September 14, 1938, and currently is employed as a Statistician earning \$6,235, per annum.

~~A. CHARLOTTE McPAUL~~ (husband H. ALGIRE McPAUL), Economic Statistician, 110 Barron Street, Takoma Park, Maryland; appointed March 8, 1937; resigned June 19, 1942, to care for her child.

~~JOSEPH MUSER~~, Belmont Plaza Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. MUSER was appointed in classification CAF-4 March 23, 1936 and presently is employed by the RRB with a rating of P-7.

~~GLADYS R. NICHOLS~~, Box 345, Vienna, Virginia; Secretary; appointed August 5, 1936; transferred to OEM March 23, 1942. From August 1, 1939 to the time of resignation. Miss NICHOLS was employed in the Information Service of the RRB, which was under the general supervision of SILVERMAN.

~~JAMES W. O'BRIEN~~, 4631 Chesapeake Street, Washington, D. C.; Temporary Junior Economist; appointed June 17, 1936; resigned October 22, 1936.

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~~ALDO RAFFA~~, 802 Garfield Street, Bethesda, Maryland; appointed August 15, 1938; transferred February 15, 1942 to OEM.

~~HELEN F. ROBISON~~, nee ~~WEINSD~~ (husband ~~JOSEPH B. ROBISON~~) Economic Statistician, 9702 Lawson Place, Silver Springs, Maryland; appointed April 13, 1936; transferred to Office for Emergency Management, March 18, 1942.

~~TED FORD SCHOONOVER~~, 4012 47th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Temporary Senior Economist; appointed June 17, 1936; employed in Research Department until October 16, 1936; continued with the RRB in another department until January 1, 1940, at which time he transferred to the National Mediation Board.

~~JOSEPH J. SENTURIA~~, Economist, 5410 Macomb Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed November 16, 1937; transferred to Air Forces, War Department, May 25, 1942. SENTURIA was previously employed by the Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

~~MABEL A. SMITH~~, Statistician, 1717 Lamont Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed December 27, 1938; transferred to Treasury Department, March 15, 1942.

~~ESTHER F. SNYDER~~, nee ~~MERRILL SILVERMAN~~'s Secretary, 1731 28th Street, S. E., Washington, D. C.; appointed March 30, 1936; transferred to Air Forces, War Department, May 31, 1942.

~~MILDRED STEIN~~, nee ~~FISHMAN~~ (husband ~~HERBERT STEIN~~ of FDIC), 244 Willow Avenue, Taboma Park, Maryland; Junior Economist; appointed November 17, 1938; resigned March 11, 1942 to remain at home.

~~S. HERBERT UNTERBERGER~~, Economist, 1334 Fort Stevens Drive, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed November 1, 1938; transferred to the Office for Emergency Management, February 22, 1942.

~~ALVIN WARDEN~~, 2114 N Street, N. W., Apartment 43, Washington, D. C.; Senior Statistical Draftsman; appointed September 6, 1938; transferred to Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency, August 8, 1940.

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~~RUTH E. VARNKE~~, Economist, 1105 Kenyon Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed December 16, 1938; transferred to OPA May 6, 1942.

~~DONALD V. HEAVER~~, 1332 Vermont Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Assistant Chief Economist; appointed April 1, 1936; transferred to Commodity Exchange Corporation, Department of Agriculture, June 6, 1939.

~~EDITH W. WHITEIS~~, nee ~~EASTERWOOD~~, 317 Otway Avenue, Capitol Heights, Maryland; Stenographer; appointed September 9, 1936; transferred to War Department, August 17, 1942.

~~CLEMENT WINSTON~~, (originally ~~WEINSTEIN~~), Economist, 1720 Tuckerman Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed August 26, 1938; transferred to OPA June 30, 1942. WINSTON was born in either Germany or Russia.

~~HAROLD WOOD~~, Economic Statistician, 4348 North Henderson Road, Arlington, Virginia; appointed August 22, 1938; transferred to Labor Department, March 19, 1942.

The payroll records reviewed also indicated that the following persons were employed by the RRB and may have pertinent information concerning SILVERMAN's employment:

~~HELEN C. ANDERSON~~, 3726 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Secretary to ~~MURRAY TATIMER~~, RRB Chairman; appointed October 5, 1936; resigned October 9, 1940 for personal reasons.

~~R. B. BRONSON~~, 2701 23rd Road North, Arlington, Virginia; Secretary to the RRB; appointed February 16, 1936; resigned June 30, 1938. A letter concerning BRONSON was received by the RRB in 1941 from the Civilian Personnel Division, War Department.

~~JOHN C. DAVIDSON~~, 1761 North Troy Street, Arlington, Virginia; appointed December 1, 1938; transferred to the Civil Service Commission April 12, 1942. DAVIDSON was secretary to the RRB from 1939 until the time he left the Board.

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ALICE MARGARET DEMERJIAN, 2 Normandy Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland; appointed April 1, 1936; transferred to the Board of Economic Warfare, January 6, 1943. She was Private Secretary and later Chief Administrative Assistant to the Chairman of the Board, MURRAY W. LATIMER.

CHARLES B. HODGE, 5261 Old Dominion Drive, Arlington, Virginia; appointed March 1, 1937; transferred to the State Department, October 21, 1945. From April 25, 1938 to March 1, 1939 HODGE was secretary to the RRB.

V. PAUL CARNEY, Chief Personnel Officer, RRB, from 1937 until 1948, and an employee in the Legal Department of the RRB since the latter year, advised that although SILVERMAN became an employee of the Board in 1936 he believed that SILVERMAN was hired at the instigation of MURRAY W. LATIMER, Chairman. Mr. CARNEY stated that this was an opinion and not based on any facts. CARNEY also stated that he believed SILVERMAN, to the best of his recollection, was particularly anxious to obtain the services of CLEMENT WINSTON as an employee of the Board at the time the latter was hired but CARNEY could not recall the exact circumstances. He could not recall which other persons were brought into the RRB at the instigation of SILVERMAN. However, he suggested the following persons as being most likely to be able to furnish pertinent information concerning SILVERMAN:

- ESTHER F. SNYDER
- JOSEPH J. SENTURIA
- CLEMENT WINSTON
- EDWIN M. FITCH
- JOSEPH M. GILMAN
- CHARLES G. GOOR
- JOSEPH B. GLENN

Mr. CARNEY also suggested that ALDO RAFFA, who was Assistant to the Board Chairman until about 1942, might be able to furnish pertinent information. RAFFA's personnel file reflected he resided at 802 Garfield, Bethesda, Maryland, and was employed by the RRB from August 15, 1938 until February 15, 1942, at which time he transferred to the Office for Emergency Management.

It should be noted that GLENN was discharged with prejudice. On February 18, 1948 he addressed a letter to the RRB requesting that his case be reconsidered to the extent that the record be changed concerning the reason for his discharge because he believed additional facts were now available to the Board.

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The Board, in a letter to him, declined to reconsider his case.

Mr. CARNEY commented that GLENN was discharged by SILVERMAN.

Mr. CARNEY had no recollection that SILVERMAN was loaned to the Treasury Department from July, 1941 to March, 1942.

~~WALTER MATSCHECK~~, Research Director, Railroad Retirement Board, Chicago, who assumed this position immediately after SILVERMAN left on March 26, 1942, advised that after checking the records of his office he could locate no information to the effect that SILVERMAN had been loaned to the Treasury Department. Prior to 1942 Mr. MATSCHECK was employed in another executive capacity by the RRB and in this position had occasion to attend staff meetings with SILVERMAN quite regularly. He explained that his association with SILVERMAN was limited to these meetings during which time he did not notice anything indicating SILVERMAN was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party or engaged in any espionage activity.

~~FRANCIS BURKE~~, Personnel Training Officer, RRB, Chicago, who has been employed by the RRB since 1938, advised that in his opinion ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN was brought into the RRB by MURRAY W. LATIMER, Chairman of the RRB, from its inception in about 1935 until 1946. BURKE described LATIMER as a person with left wing tendencies and gave as his reason the fact that LATIMER favored suspected Communists in the RRB and was cited on several occasions by the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

BURKE continued that LATIMER, as Chief Executive Officer of the RRB, exercised particular control over the Legal Department and the Research Department. BURKE described both of these departments as having been dominated for many years by suspected Communists and persons with left wing tendencies.

In this respect he cited SILVERMAN and also stated that for a number of years the Law Department was under the direction of LESTER ~~SCHOENE~~, a person regarded by BURKE as having left wing tendencies who later formed a law firm in Washington, D. C. with MILTON ~~KRAMER~~ and CHARLES ~~FANELLI~~, both former RRB lawyers, whom BURKE described as a part of the left wing group in the Legal Department.

When questioned as to what he meant by left wing, BURKE stated that he used this term to describe persons of suspected Communist tendencies. He emphasized that in most instances, except as indicated hereafter, he had no definite information concerning persons listed herein except rumors which were common



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at the Railroad Retirement Board, and information which had been made public by the HCUA. Also, many of the persons whom BURKE considered to be left wing were active in the United Federal Workers of America - CIO.

With respect to the list of persons in the Research Department included above, BURKE commented that BRAGMAN, COUPER, HINCKLEY, JEWELL and KELLER were known to him and believed to be part of the left wing group.

He also included in this group one JESSICA RHINE, nee EUCK, (husband - HENRY RHINE), whom he stated was cited on numerous occasions by the HCUA and who worked for the RRB as a stenographer and clerk from March 25, 1936 until January 15, 1942, when she resigned to enter private employment. During the above period she resided at 4629 43rd Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

BURKE also described ALICE DEMERJIAN and HELEN C. ANDERSON as persons he regarded as being in the left wing group and believed that both had been cited by the HCUA. He knew that DEMERJIAN was very active in the UFWA-CIO.

BURKE recommended CHARLES L. HODGE, who presently is employed in the State Department at Washington, D. C., as a person whom BURKE believed to be reliable and one who would be in a position to know about SILVERMAN's position with the RRB.

With respect to persons listed above as employed by the RRB, BURKE cited the following as persons in the left wing group of the department:

SOLOMON SMITH KUZNETS  
JOSEPH J. SENTURIA  
BERTHA BLAIR  
S. HERBERT UNTERBERGER  
RUTH E. WARNE  
JOSEPH M. GILLMAN  
HAROLD WOOL  
J. EDWARD ELY  
JACK M. FELKIN  
GEORGE GISSMAN  
HELEN F. ROBISON, nee FEINSOD  
MARGARET GREENFIELD

BURKE also believed that CLEMENT WINSTON, EDWIN MEDBURY FITCH, CHARLES G. COOR, and HELEN H. BARTNER may have exhibited left wing tendencies but was not sure of their positions.

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With respect to WALTER J. COUPER, BURKE stated that he was formerly an Associate Professor of Economics at Yale, where he reportedly was discharged for Communist activities. BURKE believed COUPER was brought into the RRB by LATIMER, after which they closely associated at the Board, and he described SILVERMAN and MARGARET GREENFIELD as close associates of LATIMER at the RRB.

Shortly after BURKE came to the RRB in 1938 he was invited by MARVEL KELLER to attend a mass meeting in downtown Washington, D. C. Upon arriving at this meeting BURKE learned to his surprise that it was sponsored by the Communist Party and that Mother BLOOR, while a well-known Communist Party leader, was the principal speaker. BURKE recalled that CHARLES BRAGMAN, MARVEL KELLER, JESSICA RHINE and another RRB employee, BEN PERELSTEIG, were in attendance. He thought possibly that HAROLD WOOL and HERBERT UNTERBERGER, who were listed in the February 23, 1949 Chicago letter, may have been present but could not recall definitely that they attended.

On another occasion during the STALIN-HITLER pact, BURKE heard WOOL, PERELSTEIG and another RRB employee, MORTIMER GOLDSTEIN, defend Russia's position in conformance with what BURKE knew to be the Communist Party line at that time.

JACK ELKIN, Assistant Research Director, Railroad Retirement Board, advised that he became an employee in the Actuarial Department of the Board in October, 1936, but at this time the Actuarial Department was not under SILVERMAN's supervision, with the result that he had no contact with him. However, he recalled rumors, the source of which he could not recall, that SILVERMAN was well known to and an advisor of President ROOSEVELT, and that SILVERMAN was an associate of LAUCHLIN CURRIE, one of the Presidential Assistants in the White House.

In 1939 the Actuarial Department was transferred to the Research Department and ELKIN had occasional contact with SILVERMAN on official business and not socially, including a conference at the time ELKIN prepared a portion of the annual report. ELKIN did not know SILVERMAN prior to the time he, ELKIN, became employed by the RRB. He did not know whether SILVERMAN was on non-reimbursable loan to the Treasury Department, but believed that he was not inasmuch as in about March, 1942, prior to the time the RRB moved its offices to Chicago, SILVERMAN appointed ELKIN to a Housing Committee which came to Chicago to locate houses for RRB employees.

ELKIN believed SILVERMAN's closest associates in the Research Department were ALDO RAFFA, who formerly was the Board Secretary and later Chief of the Information Service under SILVERMAN; MARGARET GREENFIELD; JOSEPH GILLMAN

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and ~~JOSEPH~~ ~~SENTURIA~~. ELKIN claimed to know nothing about SILVERMAN's personal affairs or whether he was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party or engaged in espionage. He did not know whether SILVERMAN at any time transported rugs in his car or was in anyway associated with WHITTAKER CHAMBERS or ALGER HISS, both of whom ELKIN does not know.

JOSEPH MUSER, Chief Actuary, RRB, advised that he entered this Department in 1936 in a low classification and did not come under SILVERMAN's supervision until 1939 after which he had only one official contact and no social contacts with SILVERMAN. MUSER stated that he knew nothing of his affairs and did not know SILVERMAN before being employed by the RRB.

IRA MARSHAK, Chief of the Employment and Compensation Analysis Section, RRB, advised that he was employed by the Board in 1938 and after that time had no association with SILVERMAN, although he knew he was with the Board. He had no information concerning SILVERMAN's activities or whether he was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party.

SAMUEL A. BLOCK, Chief of the Retirement and Survivor Analysis Section, RRB, advised that he was employed by the Board in 1936 and until 1939 worked in the Actuarial Department, which was not under SILVERMAN's supervision until after 1939. BLOCK stated that he knew SILVERMAN, although, because of BLOCK's low classification, their work did not bring them together. Their only association was in the RRB Bowling League and, although he never visited SILVERMAN in his home, he recalled one occasion after bowling when SILVERMAN engaged in quite a long private conversation with BLOCK at which time SILVERMAN outlined his plans and aims for the Research Department.

BLOCK did not know anything about SILVERMAN's associations; did not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, ALGER HISS or whether SILVERMAN associated with them and had no knowledge of the identity of SILVERMAN's associates away from the RRB. He did not know whether SILVERMAN was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party or engaged in Soviet espionage.

BLOCK, MARSHAK and MUSER could furnish no information as to whether SILVERMAN ever had transported rugs in his automobile.

CLIFFORD RASMUSSEN, Placement Officer, Railroad Retirement Board, advised that he worked in the Research Department as a statistical clerk from November, 1939, to September, 1940, during which time he had no association with SILVERMAN, with the result that he could furnish no pertinent information.

WILLIAM BROWN, Personnel Department, Railroad Retirement Board, advised that he has been employed by this agency since 1937 and from 1937 to 1939 was a clerk in the office of the RRB Chairman. BROWN did not know SILVERMAN personally but saw him on a number of occasions in the Chairman's office. He never heard anything derogatory concerning SILVERMAN.

A. RUSSELL BRAINERD, Appeals Referee, Division of Employment and Claims, Railroad Retirement Board, advised that he has been employed by this agency since 1938 and from June, 1939 to March, 1942 was a Special Assistant to one of the Board members, L. M. EDDY. BRAINERD's personal association with SILVERMAN was limited but in several conversations with him, including one while riding to work on a streetcar in Washington, he never heard SILVERMAN say anything indicating affiliation with the Communist Party or activity in Soviet espionage. He had no social meetings with SILVERMAN, but they did attend staff meetings together.

BRAINERD heard, prior to the time SILVERMAN left the RRB, that he was sponsored by someone in the White House but the identity of this person was not known to BRAINERD. BRAINERD also made available the February, 1941 issue of "All a-BOARD", the monthly publication of the RRB Recreational Association in Washington, D. C., which devoted its first page to a biography of SILVERMAN. This biography reflected that SILVERMAN spent his childhood and youth in Boston, has four university degrees, including S.B., M.A., and Ph.D. from Harvard and a M.A. from Leland Stanford University. The following is quoted from the article:

"While attending Harvard, he worked for the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and prepared a production index of New England. From June to September, 1924, Mr. Silverman was employed by Better Homes in America, Inc., and the Division of Building and Housing, U.S. Department of Commerce, doing special research on low-cost housing:

"From here on hold on to your hats, for it's a fast and interesting track:

"1924-1931: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Instructor in economics and statistics

"1924-1931: Babson Statistical Organization, consulting statistician and economist

- "1930-1931: Babson Institute, professor of statistics
- "1931-1932: National Bureau of Economic Research (New York City), research associate
- "1932-1933: Brown University and Rockefeller Foundation (Providence, Rhode Island), lecturer in statistics and research associate in economics on gold standard study.
- "1933-1934: National Recovery Administration (Washington, D. C.) chief statistician, Labor Advisory Board.
- "1934-1936: U.S. Tariff Commission, special expert. He was one of the negotiators of the Canadian Trade Agreement.

"He came to the Board on March 16, 1936.

"No, Mr. Silverman is not an adding machine, nor does he use ticker-tape for a blood-stream. He is an alive, approachable man, keenly interested in sports, having bowled for the RRB Men's Bowling League until this year's unusual press of business interfered. He plays baseball and handball; each Sunday morning - weather fittin' and God permittin' - finds him playing volley-ball with a group of friends at Rock Creek Park. For complete relaxation, he attends shoot-em-up wild-west movies.

"In 1921, A. G. Silverman married Sarah Slepian, one of Radcliffe's intellectuals. They now live in Washington with their fourteen-year old son, Richard."

Photostatic copies have been made and sent to the Bureau, Washington Field Office and New York by letter dated April 4, 1949. Mr. BRAINERD recommended JOHN C. DAVIDSON, former RRB secretary, as a person who probably would be in a position to furnish considerable information concerning SILVERMAN.

INFORMATION CONCERNING  
HENRY JULIAN WADLEIGH

Referenced letter of February 25, 1949 requested that Chicago exhibit a photo of ALBERT SLUMBURG to Mrs. MARION DAUGHERTY, former wife of JULIAN WADLEIGH,

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for possible identification of him as the person named BLUMBURG who was a professor of philosophy at John Hopkins University who visited the WADLEIGH apartment in the company of ELEANOR NELSON during 1934 or 1935.

Special Agents ROBERT J. WILSON and PAUL B. FRANKFURT showed this photo to Mrs. DAUGHERTY and she did not recognize him. She stated, however, that the name BLUMBURG was vaguely familiar to her in connection with this case but could not recall where she had heard the name. She does not recall the looks of the professor who visited the WADLEIGH apartment in the company of ELEANOR NELSON.

INFORMATION CONCERNING  
WILLIAM WARE PIGMAN

The referenced Bureau letter to Chicago dated February 28, 1949 advised that RALPH H. MOORE, 232 North Humphrey Street, Oak Park, Illinois, who knew Mr. and Mrs. PIGMAN after visiting in Washington in about 1936 had concluded that PIGMAN was a Communist. Mr. and Mrs. RALPH H. MOORE were interviewed on March 16, 1949 by Special Agent ROBERT J. WILSON and the writer. Mrs. MOORE stated that she first became acquainted with Mrs. PIGMAN when the latter attended Austin High School in Chicago in 1923 and was a member of the Camp Fire Girls, of which Mrs. MOORE was an advisor. Mrs. MOORE was and continues to be a teacher at Austin High School.

Both Mr. and Mrs. MOORE stated that they first met Mr. PIGMAN in about 1935 or 1936 when the MOORES visited in Washington, D. C. and went to the PIGMAN home on one occasion for dinner, which was their only meeting at that time. After 1935 or 1936 they had no contact with the PIGMANs until 1944 when Mr. and Mrs. PIGMAN came to Oak Park and resided at 522 South Kenilworth Avenue, Oak Park until about 1946 during which time Mr PIGMAN was employed as a chemist in the Corn Products Refining Company, Argo, Illinois.

Mrs. MOORE had considerable association with Mrs. PIGMAN during this period but little with Mr. PIGMAN. Mr. MOORE saw Mrs. PIGMAN occasionally and on one occasion played golf with Mr. PIGMAN. Both stated that they recalled nothing unusual about their meeting in Washington, D. C. but Mr. MOORE described Mr. PIGMAN as an extreme liberal, although he could not recall PIGMAN's statements which have led him to adopt this opinion. Mrs. MOORE also regarded the PIGMANs as liberal and when they were questioned as to what they meant both stated that Mr. PIGMAN believed in social advances and New Deal policies.

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However, neither had any reason to believe that he is or has been a member of the Communist Party or was engaged in Soviet espionage.

- P E N D I N G -

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- LEADS -

BALTIMORE DIVISION

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Should interview persons listed in the Chicago letter to Director dated March 22, 1949 and in this report (see Administrative Page) after being notified by the Washington Field Office, inasmuch as these persons reside directly adjacent to the Washington Field Office territory and probably are employed in Washington, D. C. Lead set out previously in March 22nd letter.

MIAMI DIVISION

AT MIAMI, FLORIDA

Will interview WILLIAM B. ZIFF, 3801 Bayshore Road, Sarasota, Florida (see Administrative Page). This lead previously set out by letter to the Bureau dated March 7, 1949.

NEW YORK DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will interview JAMES A. DAILEY, former RRB member at the time SILVERMAN was hired. This lead previously set out by Chicago letter to the Bureau dated March 22, 1949.

RICHMOND DIVISION

AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Should interview persons listed in the Chicago letter to Director dated March 22, 1949 and in this report (see Administrative Page) after being notified by the Washington Field Office inasmuch as these persons reside directly adjacent to the Washington Field Office territory and probably are employed in Washington, D. C. Lead set out previously in March 22nd letter.



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- LEADS -

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Will interview RAYMOND W. JEWELL, former RRB employee. This lead previously set out in the Chicago letter to the Bureau dated March 22, 1949.

CHICAGO DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will interview A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, concerning any knowledge he may have regarding the activities of ALGER or DONALD HISS, especially in the National Negro Congress of which RANDOLPH was president until April, 1940. This lead set out by referenced New York letter to Chicago dated April 11, 1949.

- P E N D I N G -

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

The referenced Washington Field Office report dated March 1, 1949 contained a lead to interview WILLIAM B. ZIFF as to his recollection of the period during which CLAUDIE COLLETT was employed by his family as a maid in Washington, D. C. Inasmuch as it was ascertained that ZIFF resides at 3801 Bayshore Road, Sarasota, Florida, the Miami Office was furnished a copy of the referenced report by letter to the Bureau dated March 7, 1949.

The referenced report dated March 14, 1949 at Washington, D. C. included a lead for Chicago to ascertain the source of a check for \$11.92, deposited in the account of ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS, at the Riggs National Bank, Washington, D. C., on August 26, 1948, and drawn on the First National Bank of Chicago.

Special Agent RUSSELL P. BALDWIN (A) has contacted J. EARL SOMMERS, Assistant Auditor, First National Bank, who advised that it would be necessary to know the date and total of the cash letter from Riggs National Bank, with which the check was enclosed in order to locate it. If the cash letter were sent to another bank in Chicago, which returned the check to the First National Bank, it would be necessary to ascertain the identity of the bank eventually sending it to the First National Bank, together with the total and date of the cash letter from the bank.

Mr. SOMMERS explained that even if this information were available, it would probably be necessary for a member of the bank's staff to spend three days to locate the check.

In a letter to the Bureau with copies for Washington Field and New York dated April 8, 1949, the Bureau was advised that in view of that fact that this check was dated in 1948, after allegations of CHAMBERS against ALGER HISS were made public, and because of the fact that a member of the bank would have to spend about three days to locate the check, Chicago contemplated no further action unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

The identities of fellow employees of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN at the RRB listed in this report have been furnished to the Washington Field Office, New York, Philadelphia, Miami, Baltimore, Richmond and San Francisco Offices by letters dated February 23, March 22, and March 23, 1949, although Baltimore and Richmond did not receive the February 23 letter. The February 23 letter did not set out any leads for interviews with fellow employees but by letter dated March 23, 1949 the Washington Field Office requested New York, Miami, Philadelphia and Chicago to interview SILVERMAN's fellow employees.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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ORIGIN NEW YORK

FILE NO. 65-3290

MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE 4/18/49	PERIOD 2/21-23; 3/4-9; 14-18, 21-23, 28, 29, 31; 4/4-6/49	REPORT MADE BY WESLEY A. ANDERSON	WAA:DO
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TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS, ETAL	CHARACTER PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R
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SYNOPSIS: ROBERT WALES, who followed ALGER HISS as secretary to former Chief Justice OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES; WALTER SASSAMAN, fellow employee of HISS at Senate Munitions Committee in 1935; and JACK I. LEVY and ARTHUR BACHRACH, former fellow employees of HISS at the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Department of Agriculture; all furnished favorable information concerning HISS and no information indicating CP connections. These persons do not have any typewritten material emanating from HISS. ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN employed by Railroad Retirement Board as Chief Economist from March 16, 1936 to August 16, 1939 and as Director of Research from latter date until March 26, 1942 when he transferred to the Army Air Forces, War Department. Identities of SILVERMAN's fellow employees at RRB set out. Interviews with persons at RRB who knew SILVERMAN failed to produce any information indicating affiliation with CP or activity in Soviet espionage. RRB records do not indicate who sponsored SILVERMAN for position but several persons state he was hired by MURRAY W. LATIMER, former RRB Chairman. Photo of ALBERT E. BLUMBURG not identified by Mrs. MARION DAUGHERTY, former wife of JULIAN WADLEIGH. Mr. and Mrs. RALPH H. MOORE, friends of WILLIAM WARD PIGMAN, advised he is a liberal but not known by them to be a member of CP.

- P -

APPROVED	SAC
<p>COPIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⑤ - Bureau (74-1333)</li> <li>4 - New York (65-14920) (1-THOMAS J. DONEGAN, AUSAG)</li> <li>2 - Baltimore (65-1642)</li> <li>2 - San Francisco (100-25417)</li> <li>2 - Miami</li> <li>2 - Richmond</li> <li>2 - Washington Field (74-94)</li> <li>3 - Chicago</li> </ul>	<p><i>Copy</i></p> <p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/5/81 BY SP1 MAC/CH</p> <p>11/20/87 ✓ 88-444 SP-7 MAC/AB #266,586</p>

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REFERENCE:

Bureau File 74-1333  
Washington Field teletypes to Chicago and Bureau dated February 17, and March 24, 1949  
Boston teletype to Bureau, New York and Chicago dated February 21, 1949  
Bureau letter to Washington Field dated February 25, 1949  
Bureau letter to Chicago dated February 28, 1949  
Detroit teletype to Bureau and Chicago dated March 3, 1949  
Report of Special Agent JOHN E. HOWARD dated March 1, 1949 at Washington, D. C.  
Washington Field letters to Bureau dated March 3, and 9, 1949  
Washington Field letter to Chicago dated March 7, 1949  
Report of Special Agent (A) J. BERNARD COOK dated March 14, 1949 at Washington, D. C.  
Washington Field letters to Director dated March 14, and 15, 1949  
Report of Special Agent EDWARD F. HUMMER dated March 25, 1949 at Washington, D. C.  
Bureau teletype to Chicago dated April 5, 1949.  
New York letter to Chicago dated April 11, 1949.

DETAILS:

INTERVIEWS WITH FRIENDS AND  
FORMER ASSOCIATES OF ALGER HISS  
(OTHER SUBJECTS MENTIONED)

ROBERT WALES, 1 North LaSalle Street,  
Chicago, Illinois

Mr. WALES advised that he knew HISS while both attended Harvard University Law School from which HISS graduated in 1929 and WALES in 1930. While there both worked on the "Harvard Law Review" and became quite well acquainted. After graduation HISS went to Washington as secretary to former Chief Justice OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES, serving for one year during 1929 and 1930. WALES succeeded HISS as Chief Justice HOLMES' secretary, serving for one year during 1930 and 1931, and at the time WALES came to Washington he conferred with HISS for several days regarding his work with HOLMES.

While at Harvard WALES recalled that he visited only once in HISS's home and met his wife, Mrs. PRISCILLA HISS. This was his only meeting with Mrs. HISS with the result that they were only casually acquainted. During the time WALES worked for Chief Justice HOLMES he saw ALGER HISS on several occasions.

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but did not visit in the latter's home. After 1931 he saw HISS only occasionally and for brief periods. WALES' last meeting with him was on the occasion that HISS addressed the Law School at Northwestern University, Chicago, during the fall of 1946. During his association with HISS, WALES stated that he never noticed anything about him which would indicate that HISS was a Communist or in anyway associated with the Communist Party.

WALES did not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and did not know whether HISS was acquainted with CHAMBERS. At no time did he ever suspect HISS of being engaged in furnishing information from government files to unauthorized persons. WALES did not recall ever receiving any letters or other typewritten material from HISS and does not have any such material in his possession. He emphasized that he has the highest regard for ALGER HISS personally.

JACK I. LEVY, 77 West Washington  
Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois

Mr. LEVY stated that he was an assistant attorney in the office of the General Counsel, Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., from September, 1934 to May, 1935. He assumed this position immediately after graduating from the University of Michigan Law School and he stated that his job was a routine legal one which did not bring him into close contact with the leading attorneys in the Department, including ALGER HISS.

LEVY recalled that HISS was in charge of one of the sections in the Department and, although he recalls seeing him, he does not recall having any personal contact with him with the result that he did not know whether HISS was in anyway affiliated with or sympathetic with the Communist Party. Mr. LEVY never has received any typewritten correspondence or other material from HISS. Mr. LEVY was also aware that LEE PRESSMAN and JOHN ABT were both employed by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration during 1934 and 1935 and in charge of sections in the Department, but LEVY had no personal contact with them.

ABRAM L. HARRIS, 6019 Ingleside  
Avenue, Chicago, Illinois  
Associate Professor, Department  
of Economics, University of Chicago

The referenced report dated March 25, 1949 at Washington, D. C. reflected that Dr. HARRIS participated in conferences during 1934 which included JEROME FRANK, Chief Counsel of the AAA, Department of Agriculture, and ALGER HISS concerning an investigation of the plight of the sharecropper in the southern states.

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The allegation was made that HISS, FRANK, and others referred to the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company as a big company and, therefore, an evil one, with the result that they desired to see this company bankrupt.

Mr. HARRIS stated that he was a faculty member at Howard University, Washington, DC during 1934 and to the best of his recollection was invited by JEROME FRANK to participate in conferences concerning the problem of the share-croppers in the South. HARRIS recalled that the share-cropper allegedly was not receiving a share of payments made by the government to owners of land for not producing crops, and FRANK desired HARRIS and Dr. EDWARD E. LEWIS, another professor at Howard University, to conduct an investigation concerning this problem. HARRIS believed that a group, including FRANK and several persons from the AAA, HARRIS and LEWIS, met twice, one of the occasions being at FRANK's home. After these meetings, the matter was dropped and HARRIS never participated further. HARRIS stated that he does not recall that HISS was present at these meetings and he does not know HISS.

HARRIS does not remember anything unusual about the attitudes of persons present at the meetings which would indicate Communist sympathies and does not recall any comment being made concerning the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. It should be noted that HARRIS is a teacher of Political Theories, including Marxism, at the University of Chicago.

HARRIS stated that he does not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS but did meet ELEANOR NELSON in Washington, D. C. He described her as the former wife of PAUL PORTER, who latter became OPA Director and believed that he either met her in the home of LEON SHERESHEFSKY, a professor of Chemistry at Howard University whose wife knew ELEANOR NELSON, or during a Social Science conference at Howard University. HARRIS believed that ELEANOR NELSON was married to PAUL PORTER at the time he first met her, but stated that he saw PORTER only once in about 1929. HARRIS had very little association with ELEANOR NELSON and believed that she worked for the government at the time he met her. Later he recalled she became affiliated with a federal government employees' union and he last saw her in about 1938, although he heard she was on the Howard University campus after that time.

Through his association with ELEANOR NELSON, HARRIS never had any direct information that she was a Communist but later he heard from various persons, whose identity he could not now recall, that she reportedly was a member of the Communist Party. He has received no correspondence from her and stated that he never had any indication that she might have been engaged in espionage activity.

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ARTHUR BACHRACH, 231 South LaSalle  
Street, Room 1057, Chicago, Illinois

Mr. BACHRACH stated that he entered the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Department of Agriculture, as an attorney in October, 1933 and left in June, 1935 to go to the Resettlement Administration, which later became a part of the Department of Agriculture. BACHRACH formerly was associated with the law firm of JEROME FRANK in Chicago and upon arriving in Washington he found that ALGER HISS was one of three assistants to JEROME FRANK and in charge of a department in the AAA legal section. Mr. BACHRACH was an advisor in connection with litigations, with the result that both he and HISS attended top level conferences of the staff.

BACHRACH believed that on one occasion the staff, including ALGER HISS, met in BACHRACH's home. BACHRACH met HISS's wife casually but does not recall ever being at the HISS home. He never received any correspondence from HISS and does not have any typewritten material emanating from HISS in his possession. BACHRACH stated that his association with HISS was principally during official business and emphasized that during this period attorneys in the AAA were working long hours which limited their social activity. He never noticed anything about HISS which would indicate affiliation or sympathy with the Communist Party and has never had any occasion to suspect HISS of being engaged in espionage activity, with the result that he regarded HISS highly. He has not had any contact with him since about 1935 or 1936.

BACHRACH knew LEE PRESSMAN well during the time both were with the AAA and believes that he was at PRESSMAN's home on several occasions for dinner during the period from 1933 until about 1941. He has had no contact with PRESSMAN during the past six or seven years. BACHRACH never heard PRESSMAN make any statements or engage in any activities indicating affiliation with the Communist Party.

While at the AAA, BACHRACH was also casually acquainted with NATHAN WITT, an attorney, and this contact was limited to official business. He never suspected WITT of Communist activity.

During the period that BACHRACH was an employee of the AAA, JOHN ABT was also an attorney with this Department and in charge of one of the legal sections. BACHRACH stated that his wife, MARION ABT BACHRACH, is a sister of JOHN ABT, but they have been separated since 1940. Mr. BACHRACH does not contemplate a divorce, although he stated that for all practical purposes they are divorced. Although he was reluctant to discuss this matter and requested that what he

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said be retained in strict confidence, he stated that their separation was caused by her activities in various organizations reputed to be Communist controlled. This activity kept her away from home a great deal and caused the split because of this fact and because of BACHRACH's feeling against Communism. He stated, however, that he did not know she was actually a member of the Communist Party from anything she said until 1947 when she wrote him a letter stating that she was taking a position with the Communist Party, with the result that he knows she is a Communist. He believed that she is now in New York City working for the Communist Party.

According to Mr. BACHRACH, JOHN ABT was about thirteen years of age when he became engaged to MARION BACHRACH. Later, JOHN ABT attended law school and in about 1925 became a clerk in the law firm of which JEROME FRANK was a member and with which BACHRACH was already affiliated as an attorney. In 1929 BACHRACH and ABT formed their own law firm but because of poor business ABT left after which BACHRACH practiced alone until leaving for Washington in 1933. In Washington ABT lived alone in an apartment on Florida Avenue and BACHRACH emphasized that his association with ABT during this period was not regular.

After ABT left the AAA to go with the Amalgamated Clothing Workers as an attorney, BACHRACH's association with him was very limited, with the result that he could furnish no information concerning ABT's associations. He also stated he did not know ABT to be a member of the Communist Party either from what ABT told him or because of ABT's statements or actions. He described ABT as a liberal person who was strongly in favor of the New Deal but, according to BACHRACH, ABT appeared to be no more liberal than many government officials in Washington during the 1930's. BACHRACH did not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and did not know of any association between HISS, ABT, and CHAMBERS, although HISS and ABT were acquainted at the AAA.

WALTER RICHARD SASSAMAN,  
6420 Dorchester Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois

Referenced Washington Field Office letter to Chicago dated March 7, 1949 reflected that SASSAMAN entered on duty with the Farm Security Administration, Department of Agriculture, June 28, 1941, and that he had listed ALGER HISS as a reference in his application for this position. While with this Department he worked under the immediate supervision of NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, who has been an alleged Soviet espionage agent. This letter and a Bureau letter to Chicago dated March 11, 1949, furnished considerable information



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indicating SASSAMAN's affiliations with the Communist Party and Communist Party front groups, including allegations that he has been a Communist Party member. SASSAMAN was interviewed on March 28, 1949 by the writer and Special Agent STIG A. LARSON.

SASSAMAN stated that he met Mrs. ALGER HISS during 1924 while he was at Haversford College near Philadelphia and she was a student at Bryn Mawr. At that time she was PRISCILLA FANSLER and the meeting took place because students from Bryn Mawr occasionally came to Haversford on Sunday afternoons to participate in discussion groups. He had no recontact with her after that time until he met ALGER HISS while both were employed by the Senate Munitions Committee during 1935. SASSAMAN stated that he was with this Committee from January to June, 1935 during which time he was an investigator and HISS a member of the legal staff.

SASSAMAN was assigned the job of making inquiries concerning BERNARD BARUCH and HISS had the assignment of handling the legal end of the inquiry concerning BARUCH, including questioning the latter when he appeared before the Committee. SASSAMAN and HISS were closely associated during this period and he recalls being in HISS's home on several occasions. During these visits he did not notice whether the HISSes had a typewriter.

In 1935, after leaving the Senate Munitions Committee, SASSAMAN went to Minnesota as State Director of the WPA in that state and after that time he saw HISS probably during 1936, 1937 and 1938 when SASSAMAN returned to Washington on government business. He last saw HISS in 1938 when he met him on the street in Washington and on which occasion they talked briefly on the question of Munich. SASSAMAN recalled that HISS was definitely against appeasement at Munich and resultingly a member of the group at the State Department which did not favor appeasement. SASSAMAN never noticed anything about HISS either from his remarks or activities which would indicate to SASSAMAN that he was a member of or in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party. Also, nothing came to his attention that HISS may have been engaged in Soviet espionage. SASSAMAN did not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS or know of any association of CHAMBERS with HISS.

With respect to NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, SASSAMAN stated that he did not know SILVERMASTER prior to his employment with the Farm Security Administration, Department of Agriculture, and recalled that he obtained this position through a normal application. SASSAMAN did not even recall using ALGER HISS as a reference on his application. He emphasized that he had difficulty getting along with SILVERMASTER and disliked him as a supervisor, with the result that

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they had no contact outside of the office, except on one or two occasions when they had dinner in the home of PHILLIP and MARY JANE KEENEY, mutual friends of SASSAMAN, his wife LUCY SASSAMAN, and the SILVERMASTERS.

Referenced Washington Field Office letter dated March 7, 1949 reflected that Mrs. VICTOR PERLO addressed an anonymous letter to the President of the United States, postmarked from Fort Worth April 14, 1944, setting forth a partial list of an underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. While the letter was anonymous in that it was unsigned, it was obvious that the author was Mrs. PERLO, as she made this explanation following the name VICTOR PERLO: "Ex-husband, divorced over my staying out of the Party and hampering his political advancement." Mrs. PERLO was subsequently interviewed for elaboration concerning the list of names alleged to be members of the underground/Communist group, including WALTER SASSAMAN.

Mrs. PERLO stated that she was certain that he was a member of the Communist Party but could furnish no facts substantiating this allegation. When questioned concerning the persons listed in Mrs. PERLO's letter and concerning his membership in the Communist Party or activities in a Communist underground in Washington, D. C. or elsewhere, SASSAMAN denied that he was or is a Communist Party member and stated that he has no knowledge concerning Communist Party activities other than what he has read in the newspapers or other publications.

Of the persons listed by Mrs. PERLO, he does not know the following:

NATHANIEL WITT  
 CHARLES KRAMER  
 IRMA RINGE  
 LENORE STRAUS  
 GERALD GRAZE  
 RUTH GORDON GRAZE  
 HELEN FULLER (SASSAMAN has heard of this name as being  
 that of a person who is a newspaper  
 correspondent)  
 JOHN ABT  
 ROSE CLINTON  
 HARRY DEXTER WHITE  
 BILL SHERWOOD  
 BARBARA SHERWOOD  
 Dr. BENJAMIN WEININGER  
 PEGGY BENNETT  
 MARY BELL CORMAN and  
 HAROLD POSNER

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Concerning other persons listed in Mrs. PERLO's letter as being members of the Communist Party underground group in Washington, D. C., SASSAMAN made comments as appearing after the following names:

VICTOR PERLO

SASSAMAN recalled PERLO as being with the Consumers Board of the NRA in Washington during 1934 and 1935. He stated that he did not know PERLO well, although he saw him occasionally as both were members of and active in a federal government employees union. He did not know whether PERLO was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party.

HENRY HILL COLLINS, JR.

SASSAMAN first met COLLINS during 1930 when SASSAMAN was teaching at Bryn Mawr College near Philadelphia and COLLINS was living in the same town where Haversford College is located nearby. During the summer SASSAMAN rented a cottage from the COLLINS family and they became quite well acquainted. During 1934 COLLINS also became employed by the NRA in Washington, with the result that they were in contact daily while both were employed with this agency.

SASSAMAN had regular contact with COLLINS both socially and on official business until SASSAMAN left Washington in 1935 to go to Minnesota as an employee of the WPA and on quite regular trips back to Washington he always saw COLLINS. During 1940 and 1941, while SASSAMAN was a correspondent for the magazine "Friday", he saw COLLINS regularly and in 1941 COLLINS was a witness at SASSAMAN's marriage. During this period SASSAMAN recalled COLLINS to be an employee of the Senate Small Business Committee and the Toland Senate Committee. His last contact with COLLINS until recently when COLLINS visited the SASSAMANS in Chicago was in 1942 in Washington. SASSAMAN described COLLINS as a liberal but stated he had no knowledge indicating that he was a member of or affiliated with the Communist Party or engaged in Communist espionage. He did not know whether COLLINS knew CHAMBERS or ALGER HISS.

ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN

SASSAMAN stated that he did not know SILVERMAN personally but recalled that he was affiliated with a federal government employees union in Washington, probably during about 1934 at which time SASSAMAN was also active in this union.

CHARLES COE

SASSAMAN stated that he did not know COE well but believed that he worked for a farm publication called "Facts for Farmers", during the time SASSAMAN was in Minnesota and that they had some contact then on an official basis. He did not know ROSE COE, believed to be CHARLES COE's wife, and did not have any information indicating that COE was a member of the Communist Party.

HENRY RHINE

SASSAMAN recalled RHINE as an employee of the NRA Consumers Board in 1934. He did not know JESSICA BUCK RHINE, wife of HENRY, and stated that his association with RHINE was limited to his acquaintance with him at the NRA and his association with him in a federal government employees union. He did not know whether RHINE was connected with the Communist Party.

LEN DE CAUX

SASSAMAN met DE CAUX for the first time in about the fall of 1940 when DE CAUX was editor of the "CIO News" in Washington. This meeting was in connection with SASSAMAN's work as a correspondent for the magazine "Friday", and they had no meetings socially. He did not know whether DE CAUX was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party.

SASSAMAN was questioned in regard to his friendship with LEE PRESSMAN whose name did not appear in Mrs. PERLO's letter. He admitted knowing PRESSMAN but stated that the friendship was not intimate. He was vague in his statement as to how he had met PRESSMAN, recalling only that he knew PRESSMAN to be active in a federal government employees union in the early 1930's. He also saw him occasionally after 1940 but stated that he did not recall that PRESSMAN had recommended him for the WPA job in Minnesota. SASSAMAN did not notice anything about PRESSMAN or hear him make any statements indicating that he was engaged in Communist Party activities.

When questioned concerning the subjects of the instant case, SASSAMAN claimed that he did not know the following persons, and that he had no knowledge of any association between them or with ALGER HISS, other than what he had read in newspapers and other publications recently:

JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS  
WILLIAM WARD PIGMAN  
HENRY JULIAN WADLEIGH  
DAVID VERNON ZIMMERMAN, with alias DAVID CARPENTER

HAROLD WILSON  
STEVE POTTER  
ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN (except as indicated  
previously)

FRANKLIN VICTOR RENO  
ALEXANDER STEVENS, with alias ALEXANDER GOLDBERGER  
J. PETERS  
J. PETER  
STEVE LAPIN  
PETE STEVENS  
STEVE MILLER  
ISADORE BOORSTEIN  
BORIS BYKOV, with alias BORIS HERTZ  
FELIX AUGUST INSLERMAN  
MORRIS ASHCOW.

With regards to ELEANOR NELSON SOYRING, with aliases ELEANOR NELSON, ELEANOR NELSON POTTER, SASSAMAN stated that he knew an ELEANOR NELSON who was active in the federal employees union in Washington in the early 1930's but did not know her to be in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party.

The Bureau in a letter dated March 11, 1949 advised that while residing in Washington, D. C., WALTER and LUCY SASSAMAN were associated with several persons who were reported to be Russian espionage suspects, Communists, or Communist sympathizers. SASSAMAN's comments concerning them appear after each of the following names:

EDWARD GROFF CONKLIN and  
his wife, LUCY

These persons resided in the same apartment building as the SASSAMANS at 516 Second Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. and the SASSAMANS knew them quite well as neighbors prior to 1935.

JANE FOSTER ZLATOVSKI

The SASSAMANS knew her for the first time when she moved into the apartment occupied by the SASSAMANS at 516 Second Street, N.W. Washington, D. C. after the SASSAMANS left. He stated that she still owes them \$10 on the purchase of curtains.

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- LAWRENCE and DOROTHY TODD

SASSAMAN met the TODDs at the Press Club in Washington and stated that he also met both of them at a dinner party in the home of PHILIP and MARY JANE KEENEY, friends of the SASSAMANS. He denied that he knew the TODDs well and stated that he had no personal information that they were active in the Communist Party, other than he assumed they were Communists because TODD was employed as a correspondent by the Russian Tass Agency.

JOSEPH MOSES GILMAN

SASSAMAN first became acquainted with GILMAN while teaching at the Walden School in New York City in 1934, at which time two of GILMAN's children were in his classes. He met GILMAN at that time and later saw him on several occasions in Washington after 1941, although he does not know where GILMAN is at the present time.

With respect to each of the above persons, SASSAMAN advised that he did not know whether they were Communists, except as indicated regarding the TODDs. As indicated previously, SASSAMAN denied that he himself was ever active in the Communist Party.

FORMER EMPLOYMENT OF  
ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN  
AND INTERVIEWS CONCERNING HIM

Referenced Washington Field Office teletype dated February 17, 1949 requested photostatic copies of all material in the personnel file of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN, formerly employed at the Railroad Retirement Board, and information regarding the appointment, references, addresses, identity of fellow employees, and identity of supervisors of SILVERMAN. The referenced Washington Field Office letter to the Bureau dated March 3, 1949, among other leads, requested that information be developed concerning SILVERMAN's employment with the Division of Monetary Research, United States Treasury Department, from July, 1941 to March, 1942 on a non-reimbursable loan from the RRB.

On February 21, 1949, EUGENE MARTIN, Assistant Personnel Officer, RRB, Chicago, made available photostatic copies of all documents in the personnel file of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN who was employed by the Board as Chief Economist from March 16, 1936 to August 16, 1939 and as Director of Research from the latter date until March 26, 1942, when he was transferred to the Army Air Forces, War Department.

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By letter dated February 23, 1949 the photostats were furnished to the Washington Field Office. MARTIN searched the files of his Department and could locate no record of SILVERMAN's loan to the Treasury Department, but he stated that attendance records revealed that SILVERMAN was at the Railroad Retirement Board during the period from July, 1941 to March, 1942. MARTIN explained that it would be necessary to show SILVERMAN as being on duty at the RRB during the period that he may have been on non-reimbursable loan, inasmuch as the RRB would be paying him during this period. MARTIN stated that it appeared that SILVERMAN worked directly under the supervision of the three members of the Railroad Retirement Board who at the time of his employment were MURRAY W. LATIMER, Chairman; L. M. EDDY and MERLE R. REED. Available records at the Board indicated the current addresses of these persons to be as follows:

MURRAY W. LATIMER, 2911 Albanarle Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.;  
L. M. EDDY, 870 32nd Avenue, N. W., St. Petersburg, Florida;  
MERLE R. REED, Assistant Chief of Motive Power, Pennsylvania  
Railroad, Room 1607, Broad Street Station Building, 1617  
Pennsylvania Boulevard, Philadelphia 4, Pennsylvania.

A review of the payroll records also revealed that JAMES A. DAILEY was a Board member of the Railroad Retirement Board at the time SILVERMAN was hired and continued until August 28, 1938. DAILEY represented the railroads and was known to be employed previously by the New York Central Railroad. His last address was listed as 3016 Tilden Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., but his legal residence was Ossining, New York, where he is believed to be now residing.

HARRY SASSAMAN, Acting Secretary, Railroad Retirement Board, checked the files in the Executive Office of the Board members and was unable to locate any information concerning how Mr. SILVERMAN made his application with the Board or whether his employment was promoted by any particular person. He located the Minutes of the Board Meeting for February 4, 1936, at which time SILVERMAN's appointment was approved, but no other pertinent information appeared.

Mr. SASSAMAN knew SILVERMAN while the latter was employed by the Railroad Retirement Board but had no social meetings with him and only limited acquaintance at the RRB, with the result that he had no information as to whether SILVERMAN was a Communist.

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With regards to EDWIN M. FITCH, who will be listed later in this report as an employee of the Board, SASSAMAN advised that during 1937 or 1938, while he was in Washington and an employee of the RRB, he was invited by FITCH, who worked in a different department, to the latter's home for the purpose of listening to short-wave radio broadcasts from foreign countries. SASSAMAN, along with a group of persons, went to FITCH's home one evening at which time FITCH unsuccessfully attempted to tune in a broadcast from Spain. SASSAMAN pointed out that this was during the period of the Spanish Civil War. During the evening FITCH brought up this war and attempted to have persons present organize parties and other events for the purpose of raising funds for the Loyalists. SASSAMAN felt that FITCH had tricked him and other persons present and informed FITCH that he was not interested.

MARY B. LINKINS, Secretary to the Board, Railroad Retirement Board, who was absent at the time of the interview with Mr. SASSAMAN after checking the records of her office and making inquiries in several departments of the RRB, advised that she was unable to ascertain whether SILVERMAN was sponsored by any particular person in obtaining his employment with the RRB. She was also unable to locate any information indicating that SILVERMAN was on non-reimbursable loan to the Treasury Department.

Miss LINKINS explained that SILVERMAN worked under the supervision of MURRAY W. LATIMER, who probably brought him into the Board, but she felt that no record as to who actually sponsored him would be available inasmuch as during 1936 in Washington recommendations of sponsors were usually oral and not recorded.

Through EUGENE MARTIN, Personnel Department, Railroad Retirement Board, and a review of old payroll records by the writer it was ascertained that the following persons were employed with SILVERMAN at the RRB in the Research Department from 1936 to 1939 and also in this Department after 1939, at which time the Actuarial Department was made a part of the Research Department under the supervision of SILVERMAN:

CAROLINE ABRAMS, 2920 Ontario Avenue, Washington, D. C., Temporary Associate Economist; employed April 1, 1936 to November 3, 1936. As of March 7, 1944 she was employed as CAROLINE DE CAUX nee ABRAMS by the Women's Bureau, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

Miss THURLEY L. ANDREWS, 1527 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington, D. C., Assistant Clerk-Steno; appointed



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September 6, 1938; transferred to OEM April 23, 1942. As of September 20, 1943, Miss ANDREWS was employed by the Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency, Washington, D. C. It is believed that while with the RRB she was assigned to the Office of A. G. SILVERMAN.

HERMAN H. BARTMER, Actuary, 1465 Gerard Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed April 4, 1936, transferred to War Department May 3, 1942.

MAX A. BERSHAD, Actuary, 933 Randolph Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., appointed September 25, 1937; transferred to War Production Board, June 7, 1942.

BERTHA BLAIR, Economist, 1625 16th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed April 24, 1936; transferred to National Labor Board, September 13, 1943.

SAMUEL A. BLOCK, 645 Buckingham Place, Chicago, Illinois. BLOCK was employed March 16, 1936 as an Economic Statistician and continues in the employ of RRB in the Department of Research with a rating of P-6. Investigation concerning Mrs. SAMUEL A. BLOCK under the Hatch Act was conducted in the Washington Field.

JEANNETTE BOGOTY (husband HERMAN BOGOTY) Economic Statistician, 2411 14th Street, N. E., Washington, D. C.; appointed June 10, 1939; transferred to OEM, November 15, 1942.

CHARLES BRAGMAN, 1401 Edgewood Street, Arlington, Virginia, Temporary Economic Statistician; appointed June 16, 1936; transferred to OPA June 30, 1942.

WALTER J. COUPER, 1 St. Andrews Lane, Silver Spring, Maryland; Assistant Chief Economist; appointed January 15, 1938; resigned October 31, 1940 to accept another position.

JACK M. ELKIN, 541 Roscoe Street, Chicago, Illinois; appointed a Junior Actuarial Mathematician, October 20, 1936 and currently is employed by the RRB in Chicago as Assistant Director of Research. Investigation concerning him was conducted under the LGE Program.

J. EDWARD ELY, Economist, 4025 25th Street, N. W., Arlington, Virginia; appointed January 18, 1938; transferred to Department of Commerce, June 22, 1941.

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GAIL N. FERRIS, 4015 Sheets Avenue, Brentwood, Maryland; Assistant Statistical Clerk; appointed August 23, 1937; transferred to Department of Commerce March 23, 1941.

EDWIN MEDBURY FITCH, Chief Statistician, 3401 Washington Avenue, Washington, D. C.; appointed June 17, 1936; transferred to Office for Emergency Management, January 23, 1942.

JOSEPH M. GILIMAN, Economic Statistician, 1630 R Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. GILIMAN was born in Russia, appointed April 20, 1936, transferred to OPA November 2, 1942.

JOSEPH B. GLENN, Actuary, 5214 First Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. (as late as February 18, 1948), appointed March 16, 1936, discharged with prejudice for non-cooperation and insubordination, February 17, 1942.

CHARLES G. GOOR, Assistant Economist, 3919 North Fourth Street, Arlington, Virginia; appointed March 16, 1936; transferred to Social Security Board, December 1, 1940.

MARGARET GREENFIELD, Chief of Reports and Information Service, 1010 25th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed April 11, 1936; transferred to OPA May 24, 1942.

GEORGE GUSSMAN, Assistant Economic Statistician, 4211 Second Street, North Arlington, Virginia; appointed May 7, 1936; transferred to Veterans Administration; June 8, 1946, after serving in the Armed Forces;

WILLIAM WHEELER HINCKLEY, 5000 Moorland Lane; Bethesda, Maryland; Economic Statistician; appointed November 6, 1941; resigned February 1, 1942 to go to the Treasury Department.

RAYMOND W. JEWELL, Junior Economist; appointed April 15, 1936; transferred to the Civil Service Commission July 17, 1940. JEWELL's address was listed as 2428 Eunice Street, Berkeley, California. In May 1948 an inquiry was received by the RRB from HARRY F. KRANZ, Regional Director, Civil Service Commission, San Francisco, inasmuch as JEWELL was an applicant for a position as an administrative officer.

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MARVEL KELIER, 2909 Olive Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Assistant Economist; appointed December 2, 1938; transferred to Department of Commerce January 22, 1940.

SOLOMON SMITH KUZNETS, Chief Economist; appointed February 26, 1938; resigned February 7, 1944. KUZNETS died February 7, 1945.

CELIA J. LISENSKY, 512 Randolph Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed April 15, 1936; transferred to OEM February 1, 1942. Miss LISENSKY was in the office of the Chief Economist from November 16, 1937 to August 1, 1939.

CHARLES E. MALOY, 5231 5th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Temporary Assistant Supervisor; appointed June 17, 1936; resigned November 1, 1936. MALOY later applied for a position with the Interstate Commerce Commission.

IRA MARSHAK, 4916 South Drexel Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. MARSHAK entered the RRB under CAF-3 September 14, 1938, and currently is employed as a Statistician earning \$6,235, per annum.

A. CHARLOTTE McFAUL (husband H. ALGIRE McFAUL), Economic Statistician, 110 Barron Street, Takoma Park, Maryland; appointed March 8, 1937; resigned June 19, 1942, to care for her child.

JOSEPH MUSER, Belmont Plaza Hotel, Chicago, Illinois. MUSER was appointed in classification CAF-4 March 23, 1936 and presently is employed by the RRB with a rating of P-7.

GLADYS R. NICHOLS, Box 345, Vienna, Virginia; Secretary; appointed August 5, 1936; transferred to OEM March 23, 1942. From August 1, 1939 to the time of resignation. Miss NICHOLS was employed in the Information Service of the RRB, which was under the general supervision of SILVERMAN.

JAMES W. O'BRIEN, 4631 Chesapeake Street, Washington, D. C.; Temporary Junior Economist; appointed June 17, 1936; resigned October 22, 1936.

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ALDO RAFFA, 802 Garfield Street, Bethesda, Maryland; appointed August 15, 1938; transferred February 15, 1942 to OEM.

HELEN F. ROBISON, nee FEINSOD (husband JOSEPH B. ROBISON) Economic Statistician, 9702 Lawson Place, Silver Springs, Maryland; appointed April 13, 1936; transferred to Office for Emergency Management, March 18, 1942.

TEDFORD SCHOONOVER, 4012 47th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Temporary Senior Economist; appointed June 17, 1936; employed in Research Department until October 16, 1936; continued with the RRB in another department until January 1, 1940, at which time he transferred to the National Mediation Board.

JOSEPH J. SENTURIA, Economist, 5410 Macomb Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed November 16, 1937; transferred to Air Forces, War Department, May 25, 1942. SENTURIA was previously employed by the Department of Labor, Washington, D. C.

MABEL A. SMITH, Statistician, 1717 Lamont Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed December 27, 1938; transferred to Treasury Department, March 15, 1942.

ESTHER F. SNYDER, nee, MERRILL, SILVERMAN's Secretary, 1731 28th Street, S. E., Washington, D. C.; appointed March 30, 1936; transferred to Air Forces, War Department, May 31, 1942.

MILDRED STEIN, nee FISHMAN (husband HERBERT STEIN of FDIC), 244 Willow Avenue, Tacoma Park, Maryland; Junior Economist; appointed November 17, 1938; resigned March 11, 1942 to remain at home.

S. HERBERT UNTERBERGER, Economist, 1334 Fort Stevens Drive, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed November 1, 1938; transferred to the Office for Emergency Management, February 22, 1942.

ALVIN WARDEN, 2114 N Street, N. W., Apartment 43, Washington, D. C.; Senior Statistical Draftsman; appointed September 6, 1938; transferred to Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency, August 8, 1940.

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RUTH E. WARNKE, Economist; 1105 Kenyon Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed December 16, 1938; transferred to OPA May 6, 1942.

DONALD V. WEAVER, 1332 Vermont Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Assistant Chief Economist; appointed April 1, 1936; transferred to Commodity Exchange Corporation, Department of Agriculture, June 6, 1939.

EDITH W. WHITEIS, nee EASTERWOOD, 317 Otway Avenue, Capitol Heights, Maryland; Stenographer; appointed September 9, 1936; transferred to War Department, August 17, 1942.

CLEMENT WINSTON; (originally WEINSTEIN), Economist, 1420 Tuckerman Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.; appointed August 26, 1938; transferred to OPA June 30, 1942. WINSTON was born in either Germany or Russia.

HAROLD WCOL, Economic Statistician, 4348 North Henderson Road, Arlington, Virginia; appointed August 22, 1938; transferred to Labor Department, March 19, 1942.

The payroll records reviewed also indicated that the following persons were employed by the RRB and may have pertinent information concerning SILVERMAN's employment:

HELEN C. ANDERSON, 3726 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.; Secretary to MURRAY LATIMER, RRB Chairman; appointed October 5, 1936; resigned October 9, 1940 for personal reasons.

R. B. BRONSON, 2701 23rd Road North, Arlington, Virginia; Secretary to the RRB; appointed February 16, 1936; resigned June 30, 1938. A letter concerning BRONSON was received by the RRB in 1941 from the Civilian Personnel Division, War Department.

JOHN C. DAVIDSON, 1761 North Troy Street, Arlington, Virginia; appointed December 1, 1938; transferred to the Civil Service Commission April 12, 1942. DAVIDSON was secretary to the RRB from 1939 until the time he left the Board.

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ALICE MARGARET DEMERJIAN, 2 Normandy Drive, Silver Spring, Maryland; appointed April 1, 1936; transferred to the Board of Economic Warfare, January 6, 1943. She was Private Secretary and later Chief Administrative Assistant to the Chairman of the Board, MURRAY W. LATIMER.

CHARLES L. HODGE, 5261 Old Dominion Drive, Arlington, Virginia; appointed March 1, 1937; transferred to the State Department, October 21, 1945. From April 25, 1938 to March 1, 1939 HODGE was secretary to the RRB.

V. PAUL CARNEY, Chief Personnel Officer, RRB, from 1937 until 1948, and an employee in the Legal Department of the RRB since the latter year, advised that although SILVERMAN became an employee of the Board in 1936 he believed that SILVERMAN was hired at the instigation of MURRAY W. LATIMER, Chairman. Mr. CARNEY stated that this was an opinion and not based on any facts. CARNEY also stated that he believed SILVERMAN, to the best of his recollection, was particularly anxious to obtain the services of CLEMENT WINSTON as an employee of the Board at the time the latter was hired but CARNEY could not recall the exact circumstances. He could not recall which other persons were brought into the RRB at the instigation of SILVERMAN. However, he suggested the following persons as being most likely to be able to furnish pertinent information concerning SILVERMAN:

ESTHER F. SNYDER  
 JOSEPH J. SENTURIA  
 CLEMENT WINSTON  
 EDWIN H. FITCH  
 JOSEPH M. GILLMAN  
 CHARLES G. GOOR  
 JOSEPH B. GLENN

Mr. CARNEY also suggested that ALDO RAFFA, who was Assistant to the Board Chairman until about 1942, might be able to furnish pertinent information. RAFFA's personnel file reflected he resided at 802 Garfield, Bethesda, Maryland, and was employed by the RRB from August 15, 1938 until February 15, 1942, at which time he transferred to the Office for Emergency Management.

It should be noted that GLENN was discharged with prejudice. On February 18, 1948 he addressed a letter to the RRB requesting that his case be reconsidered to the extent that the record be changed concerning the reason for his discharge because he believed additional facts were now available to the Board.

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The Board, in a letter to him, declined to reconsider his case.

Mr. CARNEY commented that GLENN was discharged by SILVERMAN.

Mr. CARNEY had no recollection that SILVERMAN was loaned to the Treasury Department from July, 1941 to March, 1942.

WALTER MATSCHECK, Research Director, Railroad Retirement Board, Chicago, who assumed this position immediately after SILVERMAN left on March 26, 1942, advised that after checking the records of his office he could locate no information to the effect that SILVERMAN had been loaned to the Treasury Department. Prior to 1942 Mr. MATSCHECK was employed in another executive capacity by the RRB and in this position had occasion to attend staff meetings with SILVERMAN quite regularly. He explained that his association with SILVERMAN was limited to these meetings during which time he did not notice anything indicating SILVERMAN was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party or engaged in any espionage activity.

FRANCIS BURKE, Personnel Training Officer, RRB, Chicago, who has been employed by the RRB since 1938, advised that in his opinion ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN was brought into the RRB by MURRAY W. LATIMER, Chairman of the RRB, from its inception in about 1935 until 1946. BURKE described LATIMER as a person with left wing tendencies and gave as his reason the fact that LATIMER favored suspected Communists in the RRB and was cited on several occasions by the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

BURKE continued that LATIMER, as Chief Executive Officer of the RRB, exercised particular control over the Legal Department and the Research Department. BURKE described both of these departments as having been dominated for many years by suspected Communists and persons with left wing tendencies.

In this respect he cited SILVERMAN and also stated that for a number of years the Law Department was under the direction of LESTER SCHOENE, a person regarded by BURKE as having left wing tendencies who later formed a law firm in Washington, D. C. with MILTON KRAMER and CHARLES FANELLI, both former RRB lawyers, whom BURKE described as a part of the left wing group in the Legal Department.

When questioned as to what he meant by left wing, BURKE stated that he used this term to describe persons of suspected Communist tendencies. He emphasized that in most instances, except as indicated hereafter, he had no definite information concerning persons listed herein except rumors which were common

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at the Railroad Retirement Board, and information which had been made public by the HCUA. Also, many of the persons whom BURKE considered to be left wing were active in the United Federal Workers of America - CIO.

With respect to the list of persons in the Research Department included above, BURKE commented that BRACMAN, COUPER, HINCKLEY, JEWELL and KELLER were known to him and believed to be part of the left wing group.

He also included in this group one JESSICA RHINE, nee BUCK (husband - HENRY RHINE), whom he stated was cited on numerous occasions by the HCUA and who worked for the RRB as a stenographer and clerk from March 25, 1936 until January 15, 1942, when she resigned to enter private employment. During the above period she resided at 4629 43rd Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

BURKE also described ALICE DEMERJIAN and HELEN C. ANDERSON as persons he regarded as being in the left wing group and believed that both had been cited by the HCUA. He knew that DEMERJIAN was very active in the UFWA-CIO.

BURKE recommended CHARLES L. HODGE, who presently is employed in the State Department at Washington, D. C., as a person whom BURKE believed to be reliable and one who would be in a position to know about SILVERMAN's position with the RRB.

With respect to persons listed above as employed by the RRB, BURKE cited the following as persons in the left wing group of the department:

SOLOMON SMITH KUZNETS  
 JOSEPH J. SENTURIA  
 BERTHA BLAIR  
 S. HERBERT UNTERBERGER  
 RUTH E. WARWKE  
 JOSEPH M. GILMAN  
 HAROLD WOOL  
 J. EDWARD ELY  
 JACK M. ELKIN  
 GEORGE GUSSMAN  
 HELEN F. ROBISON, nee FEINSOD  
 MARGARET GREENFIELD

BURKE also believed that CLEMENT WINSTON, EDWIN MEDBURY FITCH, CHARLES G. COOR, and HELEN H. BARTMER may have exhibited left wing tendencies but was not sure of their positions.



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With respect to WALTER J. COUPER, BURKE stated that he was formerly an Associate Professor of Economics at Yale, where he reportedly was discharged for Communist activities. BURKE believed COUPER was brought into the RRB by LATIMER, after which they closely associated at the Board, and he described SILVERMAN and MARGARET GREENFIELD as close associates of LATIMER at the RRB.

Shortly after BURKE came to the RRB in 1938 he was invited by MARVEL KELLER to attend a mass meeting in downtown Washington, D. C. Upon arriving at this meeting BURKE learned to his surprise that it was sponsored by the Communist Party and that Mother BLOOR, while a well-known Communist Party leader, was the principal speaker. BURKE recalled that CHARLES BRAGMAN, MARVEL KELLER, JESSICA RHINE and another RRB employee, BEN PERELSHWEIG, were in attendance. He thought possibly that HAROLD WOOL and HERBERT UNTERBERGER, who were listed in the February 23, 1949 Chicago letter, may have been present but could not recall definitely that they attended.

On another occasion during the STALIN-HITLER pact, BURKE heard WOOL, PERELSHWEIG and another RRB employee, MORTIMER GOLDSTEIN, defend Russia's position in conformance with what BURKE knew to be the Communist Party line at that time.

JACK ELKIN, Assistant Research Director, Railroad Retirement Board, advised that he became an employee in the Actuarial Department of the Board in October, 1936, but at this time the Actuarial Department was not under SILVERMAN's supervision, with the result that he had no contact with him. However, he recalled rumors, the source of which he could not recall, that SILVERMAN was well known to and an advisor of President ROOSEVELT, and that SILVERMAN was an associate of LAUCHLIN CURRIE, one of the Presidential Assistants in the White House.

In 1939 the Actuarial Department was transferred to the Research Department and ELKIN had occasional contact with SILVERMAN on official business and not socially, including a conference at the time ELKIN prepared a portion of the annual report. ELKIN did not know SILVERMAN prior to the time he, ELKIN, became employed by the RRB. He did not know whether SILVERMAN was on non-reimbursable loan to the Treasury Department, but believed that he was not inasmuch as in about March, 1942, prior to the time the RRB moved its offices to Chicago, SILVERMAN appointed ELKIN to a Housing Committee which came to Chicago to locate houses for RRB employees.

ELKIN believed SILVERMAN's closest associates in the Research Department were ALDO RAFFA, who formerly was the Board Secretary and later Chief of the Information Service under SILVERMAN; MARGARET GREENFIELD; JOSEPH GILLMAN

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and JOSEPH SENTURIA. ELKIN claimed to know nothing about SILVERMAN's personal affairs or whether he was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party or engaged in espionage. He did not know whether SILVERMAN at any time transported rugs in his car or was in anyway associated with WHITTAKER CHAMBERS or ALGER HISS, both of whom ELKIN does not know.

JOSEPH MUSER, Chief Actuary, RRB, advised that he entered this Department in 1936 in a low classification and did not come under SILVERMAN's supervision until 1939 after which he had only one official contact and no social contacts with SILVERMAN. MUSER stated that he knew nothing of his affairs and did not know SILVERMAN before being employed by the RRB.

IRA MARSHAK, Chief of the Employment and Compensation Analysis Section, RRB, advised that he was employed by the Board in 1938 and after that time had no association with SILVERMAN, although he knew he was with the Board. He had no information concerning SILVERMAN's activities or whether he was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party.

SAMUEL A. BLOCK, Chief of the Retirement and Survivor Analysis Section, RRB, advised that he was employed by the Board in 1936 and until 1939 worked in the Actuarial Department, which was not under SILVERMAN's supervision until after 1939. BLOCK stated that he knew SILVERMAN, although, because of BLOCK's low classification, their work did not bring them together. Their only association was in the RRB Bowling League and, although he never visited SILVERMAN in his home, he recalled one occasion after bowling when SILVERMAN engaged in quite a long private conversation with BLOCK at which time SILVERMAN outlined his plans and aims for the Research Department.

BLOCK did not know anything about SILVERMAN's associations, did not know WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, ALGER HISS or whether SILVERMAN associated with them and, had no knowledge of the identity of SILVERMAN's associates away from the RRB. He did not know whether SILVERMAN was in anyway affiliated with the Communist Party or engaged in Soviet espionage.

BLOCK, MARSHAK and MUSER could furnish no information as to whether SILVERMAN ever had transported rugs in his automobile.

CLIFFORD RASMUSSEN, Placement Officer, Railroad Retirement Board, advised that he worked in the Research Department as a statistical clerk from November, 1939 to September, 1940, during which time he had no association with SILVERMAN, with the result that he could furnish no pertinent information.

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WILLIAM BROWN, Personnel Department, Railroad Retirement Board, advised that he has been employed by this agency since 1937 and from 1937 to 1939 was a clerk in the office of the RRB Chairman. BROWN did not know SILVERMAN personally but saw him on a number of occasions in the Chairman's office. He never heard anything derogatory concerning SILVERMAN.

A. RUSSELL BRAINERD, Appeals Referee, Division of Employment and Claims, Railroad Retirement Board, advised that he has been employed by this agency since 1938 and from June, 1939 to March, 1942 was a Special Assistant to one of the Board members, L. M. EDDY. BRAINERD's personal association with SILVERMAN was limited but in several conversations with him, including one while riding to work on a streetcar in Washington, he never heard SILVERMAN say anything indicating affiliation with the Communist Party or activity in Soviet espionage. He had no social meetings with SILVERMAN, but they did attend staff meetings together.

BRAINERD heard, prior to the time SILVERMAN left the RRB, that he was sponsored by someone in the White House but the identity of this person was not known to BRAINERD. BRAINERD also made available the February, 1941 issue of "All a-BOARD", the monthly publication of the RRB Recreational Association in Washington, D. C., which devoted its first page to a biography of SILVERMAN. This biography reflected that SILVERMAN spent his childhood and youth in Boston, has four university degrees, including S.B., M.A., and Ph.D. from Harvard and a M.A. from Leland Stanford University. The following is quoted from the article:

"While attending Harvard, he worked for the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and prepared a production index of New England. From June to September, 1924, Mr. Silverman was employed by Better Homes in America, Inc., and the Division of Building and Housing, U.S. Department of Commerce, doing special research on low-cost housing.

"From here on hold on to your hats, for it's a fast and interesting track:

"1924-1931: Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Instructor in economics and statistics

"1924-1931: Babson Statistical Organization, consulting statistician and economist

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- "1930-1931: Babson Institute, professor of statistics
- "1931-1932: National Bureau of Economic Research (New-York City), research associate
- "1932-1933: Brown University and Rockefeller Foundation (Providence, Rhode Island), lecturer in statistics and research associate in economics on gold standard study.
- "1933-1934: National Recovery Administration (Washington, D. C.) chief statistician, Labor Advisory Board.
- "1934-1936: U.S. Tariff Commission, special expert. He was one of the negotiators of the Canadian Trade Agreement.

"He came to the Board on March 16, 1936.

"No, Mr. Silverman is not an adding machine, nor does he use ticker-tape for a blood-stream. He is an alive, approachable man, keenly interested in sports, having bowled for the RRB Men's Bowling League until this year's unusual press of business interfered. He plays baseball and handball; each Sunday morning - weather fittin' and God permittin' - finds him playing volley-ball with a group of friends at Rock Creek Park. For complete relaxation, he attends shoot-em-up wild-west movies.

"In 1921, A. G. Silverman married Sarah Slepian, one of Radcliffe's intellectuals. They now live in Washington with their fourteen-year old son, Richard."

Photostatic copies have been made and sent to the Bureau, Washington Field Office and New York by letter dated April 4, 1949. Mr. BRAINERD recommended JOHN C. DAVIDSON, former RRB secretary, as a person who probably would be in a position to furnish considerable information concerning SILVERMAN

INFORMATION CONCERNING  
HENRY JULIAN WADLEIGH

Referenced letter of February 25, 1949 requested that Chicago exhibit a photo of ALBERT BLUMBURG to Mrs. MARION DAUGHERTY, former wife of JULIAN WADLEIGH,

for possible identification of him as the person named BLUMBURG who was a professor of philosophy at John Hopkins University who visited the WADLEIGH apartment in the company of ELEANOR NELSON during 1934 or 1935.

Special Agents ROBERT J. WILSON and PAUL B. FRANKFURT showed this photo to Mrs. DAUGHERTY and she did not recognize him. She stated, however, that the name BLUMBURG was vaguely familiar to her in connection with this case but could not recall where she had heard the name. She does not recall the looks of the professor who visited the WADLEIGH apartment in the company of ELEANOR NELSON.

INFORMATION CONCERNING  
WILLIAM WARD PIGMAN

The referenced Bureau letter to Chicago dated February 28, 1949 advised that RALPH H. MOORE, 232 North Humphrey Street, Oak Park, Illinois, who knew Mr. and Mrs. PIGMAN after visiting in Washington in about 1936 had concluded that PIGMAN was a Communist. Mr. and Mrs. RALPH H. MOORE were interviewed on March 16, 1949 by Special Agent ROBERT J. WILSON and the writer. Mrs. MOORE stated that she first became acquainted with Mrs. PIGMAN when the latter attended Austin High School in Chicago in 1923 and was a member of the Camp Fire Girls, of which Mrs. MOORE was an advisor. Mrs. MOORE was and continues to be a teacher at Austin High School.

Both Mr. and Mrs. MOORE stated that they first met Mr. PIGMAN in about 1935 or 1936 when the MOORES visited in Washington, D. C. and went to the PIGMAN home on one occasion for dinner, which was their only meeting at that time. After 1935 or 1936 they had no contact with the PIGMANs until 1944 when Mr. and Mrs. PIGMAN came to Oak Park and resided at 522 South Kenilworth Avenue, Oak Park until about 1946 during which time Mr PIGMAN was employed as a chemist in the Corn Products Refining Company, Argo, Illinois.

Mrs. MOORE had considerable association with Mrs. PIGMAN during this period but little with Mr. PIGMAN. Mr. MOORE saw Mrs. PIGMAN occasionally and on one occasion played golf with Mr. PIGMAN. Both stated that they recalled nothing unusual about their meeting in Washington, D. C. but Mr. MOORE described Mr. PIGMAN as an extreme liberal, although he could not recall PIGMAN's statements which have led him to adopt this opinion. Mrs. MOORE also regarded the PIGMANs as liberal and when they were questioned as to what they meant both stated that Mr. PIGMAN believed in social advances and New Deal policies.

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However, neither had any reason to believe that he is or has been a member of the Communist Party or was engaged in Soviet espionage.

- P E N D I N G -

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- L E A D S -BALTIMORE DIVISIONAT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

Should interview persons listed in the Chicago letter to Director dated March 22, 1949 and in this report (see Administrative Page) after being notified by the Washington Field Office, inasmuch as these persons reside directly adjacent to the Washington Field Office territory and probably are employed in Washington, D. C. Lead set out previously in March 22nd letter.

MIAMI DIVISIONAT MIAMI, FLORIDA

Will interview WILLIAM B. ZIFF, 3801 Bayshore Road, Sarasota, Florida (see Administrative Page). This lead previously set out by letter to the Bureau dated March 7, 1949.

NEW YORK DIVISIONAT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will interview JAMES A. DAILEY, former RRB member at the time SILVERMAN was hired. This lead previously set out by Chicago letter to the Bureau dated March 22, 1949.

RICHMOND DIVISIONAT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Should interview persons listed in the Chicago letter to Director dated March 22, 1949 and in this report (see Administrative Page) after being notified by the Washington Field Office inasmuch as these persons reside directly adjacent to the Washington Field Office territory and probably are employed in Washington, D. C. Lead set out previously in March 22nd letter.

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- LEADS -

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Will interview RAYMOND W. JEWELL, former RRB employee. This lead previously set out in the Chicago letter to the Bureau dated March 22, 1949.

CHICAGO DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will interview A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, President of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, concerning any knowledge he may have regarding the activities of ALGER or DONALD HISS, especially in the National Negro Congress of which RANDOLPH was president until April, 1940. This lead set out by referenced New York letter to Chicago dated April 11, 1949.

- P E N D I N G -

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

The referenced Washington Field Office report dated March 1, 1949 contained a lead to interview WILLIAM B. ZIFF as to his recollection of the period during which CLAUDIE COLLETT was employed by his family as a maid in Washington, D. C. Inasmuch as it was ascertained that ZIFF resides at 3801 Bayshore Road, Sarasota, Florida, the Miami Office was furnished a copy of the referenced report by letter to the Bureau dated March 7, 1949.

The referenced report dated March 14, 1949 at Washington, D. C. included a lead for Chicago to ascertain the source of a check for \$11.92, deposited in the account of ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS, at the Riggs National Bank, Washington, D. C., on August 26, 1948, and drawn on the First National Bank of Chicago.

Special Agent RUSSELL P. BALDWIN (A) has contacted J. EARL SOMMERS, Assistant Auditor, First National Bank, who advised that it would be necessary to know the date and total of the cash letter from Riggs National Bank, with which the check was enclosed in order to locate it. If the cash letter were sent to another bank in Chicago, which returned the check to the First National Bank, it would be necessary to ascertain the identity of the bank eventually sending it to the First National Bank, together with the total and date of the cash letter from the bank.

Mr. SOMMERS explained that even if this information were available, it would probably be necessary for a member of the bank's staff to spend three days to locate the check.

In a letter to the Bureau with copies for Washington Field and New York dated April 8, 1949, the Bureau was advised that in view of that fact that this check was dated in 1948, after allegations of CHAMBERS against ALGER HISS were made public, and because of the fact that a member of the bank would have to spend about three days to locate the check, Chicago contemplated no further action unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

The identities of fellow employees of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN at the RRB listed in this report have been furnished to the Washington Field Office, New York, Philadelphia, Miami, Baltimore, Richmond and San Francisco Offices by letters dated February 23, March 22, and March 23, 1949, although Baltimore and Richmond did not receive the February 23 letter. The February 23 letter did not set out any leads for interviews with fellow employees but by letter dated March 23, 1949 the Washington Field Office requested New York, Miami, Philadelphia and Chicago to interview SILVERMAN's fellow employees.

Kisseloff-9100

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

92809

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FILE NO. 74-94

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 4-18-49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4-14-49	REPORT MADE BY MAURICE A. TAYLOR. HNW
TITLE: JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, Wa ALGER HISS, ET AL		CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

VLADIMIR ~~V. de~~ SVESHNIKOFF reinterviewed 4-14-49. Furnished further details of relationship with one ~~X~~ STEPANOFF, admitting performing services for STEPANOFF between 1925 or 1926 and about 1931 such as patent searches, examination of technical articles, and finally admitted furnishing military journals to STEPANOFF. Stated STEPANOFF had engineering company located in building near 1133 Broadway, New York City, described as several blocks below this address on same side of street. Also admitted performing services for JOHN ~~X~~ MATWIN as late as 1942 or 1943 when MATWIN was associated with a Frenchman named ROUX. de SVESHNIKOFF indicated he had done work for MATWIN in Washington such as patent searches and had represented his co. on a few occasions. He claimed he did not know MATWIN or STEPANOFF at the Russian Artillery Commission but met each through Russian acquaintances in New York City about 1925 or 1926. Very vague concerning this as in other matters. Last saw MATWIN 2 or 3 years ago, when MATWIN came through Washington enroute South. de SVESHNIKOFF aware that MATWIN'S wife is deceased and that MATWIN resides in Greensboro, N.C. Number of photographs displayed to de SVESHNIKOFF. Pictures of JOHN SHERMAN, DAVID ZIMMERMAN and WILLIAM EDWARD CRANE last shown. de SVESHNIKOFF became very nervous and indicated he had to leave immediately. Upon questioning, concerning allegations of CRANE, he became highly perturbed, stating he was very upset and abruptly put on his coat and departed in a highly emotional state.

ASB  
BRENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9/2/87 BY SP/ML/STW  
#266586  
4-21-49  
F. J. [unclear]

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 65-7811-3A

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *John Heller*  
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

- COPIES OF THIS REPORT
- Bureau (74-1333) 2 - Baltimore
  - Bureau (65-57889) 4 - Washington Field (2 74-94) (2 - 65-4999)
  - New York (65-14920) (1 - Asst. Attorney General T. J. Donegan)
  - New York (65-14783)
  - Charlotte (65-1301)
  - Los Angeles (Info)

74-1333-3036

RECORDED - 1  
INDEXED - 1

MAY 13 1949 ASB

Letter to WFO FCC  
4-26-49  
ASB

Kisseloff-9101

DEC 16 1964

92810

WFO File #74-94

-P-

REFERENCES: Report of Special Agent MAURICE A. TAYLOR, dated January 3, 1949, at Washington, D.C.  
Los Angeles teletype dated February 11, 1949  
New York teletypes dated January 20 and February 7, 1949 and April 7, 1949  
Letter from New York to Director dated March 30, 1949

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

On the afternoon of April 14, 1949, VLADIMIR V. de SVESHNIKOFF was interviewed at the Washington Field Office by Special Agents LUDWIG W. R. OBERNDORF and the writer.

The interview was begun by questioning concerning the individual STEPANOFF, whom de SVESHNIKOFF previously stated operated an ordnance research company at 1133 or 1135 Broadway, New York City, to whom he admitted furnishing material of military character in 1931, which resulted in his resignation from reserve commission in the U. S. Artillery Reserve.

de SVESHNIKOFF stated that he is still unable to recall the first name of STEPANOFF and claimed he did not know him intimately or possessed any details as to the background of STEPANOFF. He declared that he was not acquainted with STEPANOFF when the latter was employed by the Old Russian Artillery Commission but learned that STEPANOFF was a civilian employee in the Commission at a later date. de SVESHNIKOFF mentioned that he had worked out of the Flat Iron Building when he was with the Commission under Colonel CHEKALOFF but was away from the office a great deal of the time and mentioned he had spent some time in Canada. de SVESHNIKOFF described STEPANOFF as 40 to 50 years of age, short in stature and later admitted that he was bald headed and perhaps wore glasses. He stated that he understood STEPANOFF had returned to Russia around 1931 and had subsequently died in Russia. Later he thought perhaps STEPANOFF did not leave this country until about the time of the recognition of Russia or shortly thereafter. He stated his informant concerning these developments was one JOHN MATWIN, whom he described as an American of Russian extraction, whom he thought was born in this country.

de SVESHNIKOFF was questioned at length about STEPANOFF and advised that he had met STEPANOFF about two years after he left the Bureau of Standards, Washington, D.C.

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perhaps around 1925 or 1926. He said he met him on one of his periodic pleasure trips to New York through some Russian friends, of whom he had many in New York and none of whom he now recalls. He stated that STEPANOFF operated an engineering company located down the street from the building in which JOHN MATWIN had his business (1133 Broadway). He described the building as several buildings below MATWIN'S address on the same side of the street. He stated he thought he was located on the third or fourth or perhaps sixth floor and that he had his name on the door. He was unable to recall the exact name of the firm but thought it was Engineering Machinery Company or Machinery Engineering Company. He stated that he had performed a number of services for STEPANOFF on an irregular basis including patent searches in the Patent Office at Washington and the examination of technical articles and documents, and some translations, Russian-English of technical publications concerning such matters as machinery, metallurgy and oil. Under questioning, he finally admitted he had also furnished some military journals to STEPANOFF but stated these were not secret and were readily obtainable at the time. He admitted that it was his understanding that STEPANOFF was in some way associated with the Amtorg Trading Corporation but did not know the details of this association. He declared he had never heard of BASIL DELGASS, former Amtorg official, and also had never heard of MAHKINOVSKY. He stated he did not know any of the Amtorg officials, had never been there, nor had he contacted any Amtorg employees.

Of interest, de SVESHNIKOFF mentioned that STEPANOFF had become or was in the process of accepting the Communist philosophy during the time he knew him and had told him that perhaps this new government was better for the Russian people who had been oppressed under the Czars. de SVESHNIKOFF admitted that his own attitude toward the Soviet Government has been one of change, that during the period mentioned he had softened somewhat in his attitude toward the Soviet Government and felt disposed in a friendly manner. He added that in more recent times, his sentiment has veered away from them. He insisted, however, that he had never done anything illegal or improper on behalf of the Soviet or its representatives.

Concerning JOHN MATWIN, de SVESHNIKOFF was advised that he had listed the Engineering Machinery Corporation -- JOHN J. MATWIN, as his employer, 1942-43 in certain applications. de SVESHNIKOFF readily admitted he had worked for MATWIN in 1942 and 1943, at which time MATWIN operated the Engineering Machinery Corporation at 1133 Broadway, New York City and was

associated with a Frenchman by the name of ROUX. de SVESHNIKOFF stated he had made some patent searches in Washington in connection with a patented paper milk bottle invented by ROUX, which invention was unsuccessful. He also stated he had represented MATWIN in Washington on one or two occasions and mentioned going to the War Department, Navy Department, etc. on behalf of MATWIN. He intimated he had received rather shabby treatment from MATWIN and had never been paid for his work. Under questioning, de SVESHNIKOFF advised that he had not known JOHN MATWIN at the Russian Artillery Commission during World War I but had met him about the same time and in much the same manner as he met STEPANOFF, although he did not meet them together. He explained he met him through friends in the Russian Colony in New York. de SVESHNIKOFF stated he had performed services for JOHN MATWIN such as making patent searches and obtaining abstracts in Washington, D.C. He stated he had never furnished MATWIN with any military information although some of the material pertaining to machinery may have been of military value. He stated he was pretty certain that MATWIN had not taken over the office of STEPANOFF, which was suggested to him. He stated he was not aware of any association with the Amtorg on the part of MATWIN.

As indicated above, it was MATWIN who advised him of the departure of STEPANOFF and STEPANOFF'S subsequent death in Russia. He stated he had last seen MATWIN about two or three years ago when MATWIN came through Washington on his way South and he was aware of the fact that MATWIN'S wife is deceased and that MATWIN is residing in Greensboro, North Carolina.

During the interview, de SVESHNIKOFF mentioned his return to Russia in 1918, which was reported in the report of reference. He related that while in Moscow, a friend, General TUCHKOFF, had made arrangements for him, whereby he represented the Bogatyr Rubber Company, headquarters, Moscow and upon arriving back in the United States, he had conducted negotiations with the Goodrich Company and other organizations to send certain machinery to Russia. In this connection, he first mentioned he believed he had contacted the Amtorg Corporation but upon further consideration, stated he thought Amtorg was not then in existence and guessed that he had not done so.

In accordance with the request in referenced letter from New York dated March 30, 1949, the following photographs were displayed to de SVESHNIKOFF:

- (1) Two photographs of JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was
- (2) One photograph of ALGER HISS
- (3) One photograph of PRISCILLA HISS

- (4) Two photographs of DAVID VERNON ZIMMERMAN, was
- (5) One photograph of WILLIAM WARD PIGMAN
- (6) One photograph of HENRY JULIAN WADLEIGH
- (7) One photograph of MORRIS ASIMOW
- (8) One picture containing two photographs of WILLIAM EDWARD CRANE
- (9) One photograph of CHARLES KRAMER
- (10) One photograph of FELIX A. INSLERMAN
- (11) " " " MAX BEDACHT
- (12) " " " ELEANOR NELSON SOYRING, was
- (13) " " " MAXIM LIEBER
- (14) " " " PETER MACRINI and wife

MR. & MRS.

He denied knowing any of the persons listed or that he recognized any although he declared the picture of ALGER HISS seemed somewhat familiar to him although he could not associate it with any person or place.

The photographs of the individuals listed in the New York teletype of reference dated February 7, 1949, having the surname of STEPANOFF (STEPANOV) were also displayed to de SVESHNIKOFF as follows:

- (1) MIKHAIL DMITRIEVICH STEPANOV
- (2) MIKHAIL STEPANOVICH STEPANOV
- (3) NIKOLAI ALEKSANDROVICH STEPANOV
- (4) NIKOLAI PETROVICH STEPANOV
- (5) NIKOLAI IVANOVICH STEPANOV
- (6) EVGENII IVANOVICH STEPANOV
- (7) ILIA STEPANOV
- (8) VIKTOR YAKOVLEVICH STEPANOV
- (9) EVGENII IVANOVICH STEPANOV
- (10) IVAN SEMENOVICH STEPANOV

de SVESHNIKOFF was unable to identify any of these pictures. He thought the general facial characteristics of MIKHAIL DMITRIEVICH STEPANOV slightly resemble the STEPANOFF in question but qualified this by stating his STEPANOFF had a thinner, flatter face, was bald headed and added he was older. The photograph of IVAN SEMENOVICH STEPANOV, mentioned in the New York teletype of January 20, 1948, was also displayed to de SVESHNIKOFF in accordance with request. He indicated the photograph was not identical with STEPANOFF under discussion, however, he hesitated noticeably over the name IVAN SEMENOVICH and commented that the second name seemed familiar. It is noted from the teletype of the New York Office dated April 7,

1949 that NICHOLAS ~~X~~ ANTONOFF, who was with the Russian Artillery Commission, made reference to PETER STEPANOVICH STEPANOFF, who was with the Commission during World War I and some similarity in the middle names is noted.

The photograph of JOHN SHERMAN, carrying the name CHARLES CHASE, was also displayed to de SVESHNIKOFF with negative results. However, the photograph of JOHN J. MATWIN was not shown to him. In presenting the pictures mentioned above, it is noted that the photographs of DAVID ZIMMERMAN, JOHN SHERMAN and WILLIAM EDWARD CRANE were displayed last. de SVESHNIKOFF was very composed until these pictures were shown, particularly that of CRANE. After being shown these pictures and particular attention invited to the likeness of CRANE, de SVESHNIKOFF became ill at ease, glanced at his watch and said he would have to be leaving right away. He was pressed concerning CRANE and advised that CRANE was well acquainted with him and had related having meetings with de SVESHNIKOFF, including meetings at Philadelphia and had made payments to de SVESHNIKOFF. At this point, he became very perturbed, flushed and nervous and declared that he was emotionally upset and did not answer any further questions. He arose abruptly from his chair, grabbed his topcoat and almost immediately bolted from the room.

During the questioning, while the last three pictures were being shown, de SVESHNIKOFF denied that he knew BORIS ~~X~~ BYKOV or had been acquainted with anyone known to him as PETE or PETER. He also denied knowing KEITH, JOHN SHERMAN or CHARLES CHASE. He stated that if CRANE stated he had met him, it was possible he had met one or more individuals around the offices of JOHN MATWIN or STEPANOFF but had no recollection of such individuals. He likewise denied acquaintance with VLADIMIR A. ~~X~~ NEKRASSOFF, mentioned in the reports of the Baltimore Office.

Teletype from the Los Angeles Office dated March 29, 1949 indicates that CRANE advised that the passport photograph taken in 1934 resembled Russian No. 1, described earlier by CRANE and reported in Los Angeles teletype dated February 11, 1949 although he was unable to identify the current photograph of MATWIN taken in 1949 by the Charlotte Office.

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The partial identification by CRANE above plus some similarities in physical description make it appear probable that JOHN MATWIN (IVAN MATVEENKO), identified as unknown operator No. 318 by GORDON SWITZ, is also Russian No. 1 of the two former Czarist Officers described by CRANE. CRANE stated he first met these officers in 1934 and related that he first met Russian No. 1 in Central Park, New York City but apparently saw him on only one other occasion. He advised he met de SVESHNIKOFF the following year, 1935, when he returned to New York. It is not certain that JOHN MATWIN is Russian No. 1. According to Los Angeles teletype of February 11, 1949, CRANE stated both former Russian Officers resided in or near Washington, D.C. and added that both were card players and gamblers. He further stated in connection with his meeting with Russian No. 2 in 1935, identified as VLADIMIR de SVESHNIKOFF, that he had some meetings with Russian No. 2 in Philadelphia. He advised that de SVESHNIKOFF delivered approximately two dozen military journals to him, which were turned over to BORIS BYKOV or WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and that he paid \$100 per month to de SVESHNIKOFF and some times gave money to de SVESHNIKOFF for Russian No. 1.

It is not known that JOHN J. MATWIN ever lived in or near Washington, D.C. although his deceased wife, MUSE MATWIN, did live in Washington in 1918 or 1919. It is also observed that MATWIN is not known to have been a former officer in the Czar Army but is understood to have been a civilian employee who was already in New York City when World War I began and was hired on this side by the Russian Artillery Commission. The further fact that CRANE furnished money to de SVESHNIKOFF for Russian No. 1 might indicate that No. 1 occupied a position in the Soviet Parallel on no higher-level than de SVESHNIKOFF. This is not necessary significant although MATWIN was apparently an Agent of some importance at the time GORDON SWITZ was furnishing information to him.

In this connection VLADIMIR de SVESHNIKOFF terminated the interview with him before he could be questioned at length concerning former Czarist Officer associates residing in the vicinity of Washington, D.C. and elsewhere. No leads are being set out along this line as later identification of MATWIN as Russian No. 1 may obviate the necessity of such a lengthy project. The two former officers interviewed in Washington, D.C., i.e., VLADIMIR GRODSKY and A. I. KRYNITSKY are both very short and small men who in no way answer the description of Russian No. 1.

The letter from the Baltimore Office to the Director dated March 23, 1949 and report of Special Agent



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JESSE F. FARR, Baltimore, dated March 23, 1949 in the case entitled "Unknown Subjects, [redacted] Espionage - R," reflected interview with VLADIMIR ALEXIS NEKRASOFF, also known as V. NUVHASSOV. NEKRASOFF was interviewed about de SVESHNIKOFF, whom he denied knowing and as indicated above de SVESHNIKOFF denied knowing NEKRASOFF. Nevertheless, NEKRASOFF appears to be an interesting character. According to his statement, he was separated from his position with the Russian Artillery Commission after a dispute with the Military Attache GOLEEVSKY. The Baltimore letter of March 23, refers to the fact that NEKRASOFF was in correspondence with an alleged Espionage Agent, one A. ALEXICV of Bordeaux, France. He also said he had lived in unmarried state with one MARY LUPSCA, who returned to Russia subsequently and concluded by stating the British Intelligence had investigated him during World War I. b2 b7D

NEKRASOFF further informed interviewing Agents that he had known one STEPANOFF, who came to the United States in 1915, served in the Russian Artillery Commission and later returned to Russia after the commission dissolved. He stated this STEPANOFF had again come to the United States between 1926 and 1930, at which time NEKRASOFF met him. This STEPANOFF was described by NEKRASOFF as having been sympathetic with the Bolsheviks in 1917 and was obviously in good standing with the Soviet regime at the time of his second visit to the United States.

In view of the above, an undeveloped lead is being set out to the Baltimore Office to secure a detailed description, background and photograph of NEKRASOFF, if this has not already been done.

On the morning of April 18, 1949, VLADIMIR de SVESHNIKOFF telephoned to advise that he had received a subpoena to appear before the U. S. Grand Jury in New York at 10 o'clock April 19, 1949. He was concerned whether he should take his scrapbook along to assist him in answering questions. He was advised that he would have to use his own judgment as to this. At this time, de SVESHNIKOFF apologized profusely for his rudeness during the interview with him on the afternoon of April 14, 1949 and stated he had been greatly upset and was unable to sleep that night. He stated that he had met other people in connection with his contacts with STEPANOFF but declared he could not recall any of their names. He said he might be able to identify photographs of such persons if they were shown to him but still insisted that the photographs

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displayed by reporting Agents were unknown to him. He stated he had found the correct name of STEPANOFF by referring to his personal notebook and furnished this name as PETR ASIMOVICH STEPANOFF also spelled PETR ESEMOVICH STEPANOFF. He explained that the middle name reflected that he was the son of one ASIM and endeavored to explain the variation in spelling somewhat unsuccessfully.

Additional copies of this report are being furnished to the Bureau, New York and Washington Field Office for inclusion in the files in the case entitled "Unknown [redacted] Espionage-R," who has been identified in that case as [redacted].

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A copy of the report is being furnished to Los Angeles for its information and assistance in connection with further interviews with WILLIAM EDWARD CRANE and copies to Charlotte in furtherance of further investigation of MATWIN.

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- P E N D I N G -

LEADS

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THE BALTIMORE OFFICE:

At the Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, if not already obtained, will secure physical description, background data and if practicable photographs of VLADIMIR A. NEKRASOFF and furnish same to the New York Office. In the event his description approximates Russian No. 1, the above data should be furnished Los Angeles for display to WILLIAM CRANE.

THE NEW YORK OFFICE:

At New York City, will make appropriate check at the local office of I and NS, in an effort to locate PETER STEPANOVICH STEPANOFF or as he has been named by de SVESHNIKOFF as PETR ASIMOVICH STEPANOFF or PETR ESEMOVICH STEPANOFF. de SVESHNIKOFF mentioned the word PETER is spelled as PETR..

Will consider the advisability of making investigation to locate the office of PETER STEPANOVICH STEPANOFF, which was situated several buildings below 1133 Broadway in the same block as this address, according to de SVESHNIKOFF, who still claims the firm was named Engineering Machinery Company or Machinery Engineering Company or a similar name.

Will conduct investigation at the Credit Bureaus and the appropriate City or State offices for any business records pertaining to STEPANOFF and his firm which may be practicable.

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

At Washington, D.C. will make appropriate inquiries at the Immigration and Naturalization Services to locate records on PETER STEPANOVICH STEPANOFF, whose name may be PETR ASIMOVICH or PETR ESEMOVICH STEPANOFF.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 92819

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FILE NO. 74-94

REPORT MADE AT <b>WASHINGTON D. C.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4-18-49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4-14-49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>MAURICE A. TAYLOR HMW</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, Wa ALGER HISS, ET AL</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

VLADIMIR V. de SVESHNIKOFF reinterviewed 4-14-49. Furnished further details of relationship with one STEPANOFF, admitting performing services for STEPANOFF between 1925 or 1926 and about 1931 such as patent searches, examination of technical articles, and finally admitted furnishing military journals to STEPANOFF. Stated STEPANOFF had engineering company located in building near 1133 Broadway, New York City, described as several blocks below this address on same side of street. Also admitted performing services for JOHN MATWIN as late as 1942 or 1943 when MATWIN was associated with a Frenchman named ROUX. de SVESHNIKOFF indicated he had done work for MATWIN in Washington such as patent searches and had represented his co. on a few occasions. He claimed he did not know MATWIN or STEPANOFF at the Russian Artillery Commission but met each through Russian acquaintances in New York City about 1925 or 1926. Very vague concerning this as in other matters. Last saw MATWIN 2 or 3 years ago, when MATWIN came through Washington enroute South. de SVESHNIKOFF aware that MATWIN'S wife is deceased and that MATWIN resides in Greensboro, N.C. Number of photographs displayed to de SVESHNIKOFF. Pictures of JOHN SHERMAN, DAVID ZIMMERMAN and WILLIAM EDWARD CRANE last shown. de SVESHNIKOFF became very nervous and indicated he had to leave immediately. Upon questioning, concerning allegations of CRANE, he became highly perturbed, stating he was very upset and abruptly put on his coat and departed in a highly emotional state.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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 DATE 7/21/89 BY SP2/ma/bs

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