

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **74-94**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 4-6-49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-28 to 3-25-49	REPORT MADE BY JAMES FREW HM:
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS, ET AL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R ESPIONAGE - R PERJURY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: RE: FRANKLIN V. RENO
FRANKLIN RENO'S 201 file reviewed and forms and affidavits obtained, none of recent vintage. IDA file reviewed again but no pertinent forms found. WILLY ARNHEIM located and admitted participation in union activities in Washington, D.C. in the 1930's and rooming with SIDNEY SPONSTON in about 1936. ARNHEIM fainted before interview was completed and has not been reinterviewed. ROBERT F. RAY determined to have been a Communist Party organizer in D.C. in mid 30's but present whereabouts unknown. Information re ARTHUR STEIN set out.

REFERENCE: Bureau File #74-1333 (JAHAM)
 Report of Special Agent FREDERICK A. JOHNS dated February 11, 1949 at El Paso, Texas.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

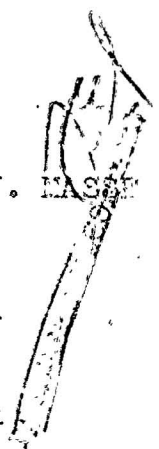
RE: FRANKLIN V. RENO

This is a joint report of Special Agent JOHN J. MASSE and the reporting Agent.

201 FILE

The 201 file of FRANKLIN VICTOR RENO covering his employment at the Aberdeen Proving Ground was reviewed for any forms which may have been executed by RENO and which might contain a statement that he was not a member of the Communist Party.

B. ASB
J. J. [unclear]
cc AAG Campbell
4-8-49
FLJ [unclear]



APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED <i>169</i> DEC 16 1964	74-1333-3057
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5) - Bureau 1 - Thomas J. Donegan, Spec. Asst. to Dir. 3 - New York (Encls.) 2 - Baltimore 2 - Philadelphia 1 - Denver (info.)	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> INDEXED - 118 RECORDED - 118 EX-133 </div>

J. J. [unclear] 4/16/49

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Party when he, according to his own admission was a Communist Party member from about 1934 to 1938. The following forms were found:

- (1) An Affidavit as to Marital Status and Members of Family of Applicants for Appointments in the Government Service of the United States, or the District of Columbia.

The above affidavit was signed by Franklin V. Reno on June 28, 1937.

- (2) Declaration of Appointee Form #124b signed by FRANKLIN V. RENO on July 26, 1937.
- (3) Oath of Office Form #8, signed by FRANKLIN V. RENO on July 26, 1937 at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

This statement is quoted in part as follows:

"I, FRANKLIN V. RENO solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. SO HELP ME GOD."

- (4) Personnel Affidavit signed by FRANKLIN V. RENO on June 30, 1941 at the Aberdeen Proving Ground, which is quoted in part as follows:

"I, FRANKLIN V. RENO, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I have read and understand the foregoing; that I do not advocate the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence; that I am not a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence; and that during such time as I am an employee of the Federal Government, I will not advocate nor become a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force or violence."

- (5) Affidavit, Striking Against the Federal Government, signed by FRANKLIN V. RENO on July 15, 1946 at Aberdeen Proving Ground.

WFO File #100-20379

Two photostatic copies of each of the above forms were obtained with the exception of No. 4, of which only one copy was obtained. All of the photostats of the above forms are being forwarded to the New York Office for the completion of their file.

It is to be noted that none of the pertinent forms were signed after 1941 with the exception of the Affidavit regarding Striking Against the Federal Government, which was signed in 1946.

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

The files of the Civil Service Commission were reviewed and contained no forms or affidavits pertinent to this inquiry.

INTELLIGENCE DIVISION OF THE ARMY

The file of FRANKLIN VICTOR RENO at the Intelligence Division of the Army was again reviewed, and it contained no forms pertinent to this inquiry.

WILLY ARNHEIM

By Bureau letter dated January 3, 1949, the Washington Field Office was requested to locate and interview SIDNEY SHOSTECK and RAY WARNER, who according to FRANKLIN V. RENO, had directed RENO'S Communist Party activities in Washington, D.C. from 1935 until 1937.

Investigation disclosed that SHOSTECK was active in Communist Party activities in Washington, D.C. in the early and middle 1930's until he went to Spain with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. He was killed in Spain in 1937 and became a Communist Party hero on his death. He was active in the Communist Party under the names SIDNEY PHILLIPS and BILL PHILLIPS. The names RAY WARNER and ROY WARNER were checked through the indices of the Washington Field Office with negative results. The files of the Washington Field Office reflect that on October 15, 1946, Washington T-1, a former member of the Communist Party who has furnished reliable information to the FBI and who assisted in forming numerous front organizations for the Communist Party and who is acquainted with national and local Communist figures, advised Special Agents COURTLAND J. JONES and KENNERLY R. CORBETT of the Washington Field Office that one WILLY ARNESTEIN, Communist Party name WILLIE ARNOLD, was a member of the Communist Party and used to work at the old Bookshop.

On February 3, 1949, Washington T-1 advised Special Agent JOHN E. HOWARD of the Washington Field Office that WILLIE ARNOLD was a Communist Party name of WILLY ARNOLD, true name ARNSTEIN or ARNHEIM. Informant advised ARNOLD had lived with SIDNEY SHOSTECK in 1936 and 1937 until SHOSTECK went to Spain with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and was killed in Spain and became a Communist Party hero on his death. Prior to going to Spain, he was extremely important in the Communist Party in Washington, D.C. The informant continued that WILLIE ARNOLD was City Secretary of the Communist Party in Washington, D.C. from about June until September 1936. The informant stated he held this position prior to MARTIN CHANCEY, who took over in September 1936. The informant stated ARNOLD at one time was Business Agent for the Building Laborers Union. The informant further stated that ARNOLD also at one time created quite a disturbance in his effort to organize employees of the Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. Informant stated ARNOLD was a close associate of CHARLES GIFT. The Informant stated that in 1935, ARNOLD was expelled from the Central Labor Union. The Informant did not know the details concerning this expulsion or how the Central Labor Union became aware of his Communist Party connections but believed this was the real reason for his expulsion.

In connection with a loyalty investigation of CHARLES GIFT conducted in 1948, Washington T-1, advised Special Agent KENNERLY R. CORBETT of the Washington Field Office that CHARLES GIFT, Machinist, U. S. Naval Gun Factory, Washington, D.C. had been recruited into the Communist Party in 1937-38 through the efforts of SOPHIA RICH with the assistance of DOROTHY BAILEY and WILLY ARNHEIM.

The current telephone directory reflects that ARNHEIM resides at 1702 N. Troy Street, Arlington, Virginia. It was ascertained that ARNHEIM is presently employed as a Stone Mason by the Ross Stone Setting Company, 510 Rhode Island Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C.

It was decided to interview ARNHEIM to determine if he might be identical with RAY WARNER or if he might have information regarding the Communist Party activities of FRANKLIN RENO in Washington, D.C. in the middle 1930's.

On March 10, 1949 at 11 A.M., Special Agents JOHN J. MASSE and the reporting Agent located ARNHEIM at the Tyler School, 10th and G Streets, S.E., Washington, D.C., where an addition to the school is being built. The Agents identified themselves to ARNHEIM, and he stated he had no objection to being interviewed at that time. The preliminary interview

took place near the door of the school on 10th Street. At the start of the interview no workers were closer than 150 feet. After about ten minutes, two Negroes arrived with a small truck load of stone and proceeded to unload the truck about 20 feet from the Agents. ARNHEIM was quite cooperative and told Agents about having been involved in labor union matters during the 1930's. He stated he had been active in the Central Labor Union in Locals 74 and 456 of Building Laborers Union AF of L. He stated in about 1944, he had furnished information to the government in the embezzlement case against LARRY KELLY, the President of Local #74 (JOSEPH SPEED, Et Al, Embezzlement in the District of Columbia; Conspiracy).

ARNHEIM stated that as a result of the above case, he was followed around Washington, D.C. for several days in 1944 by two gangsters, whom he stated had been hired by KELLY or JACK MORESCHI, another union official to kill ARNHEIM. ARNHEIM stated that he had been very upset about the above matter and hated to think about it. He stated he had dropped out of union affairs and had no desire to become involved in union matters again. In response to a question, he stated as a result of his union activities he had become acquainted in the 1930's with some persons he believed to be Communists. He was asked if he knew SIDNEY SHOSTECK. He stated he had known SHOSTECK and had become acquainted with SHOSTECK because SHOSTECK had been active in the Teamsters Union, and they had met now and then at union meetings. ARNHEIM was asked if he was very well acquainted with SHOSTECK. He answered he had known SHOSTECK only casually.

He was then asked if he roomed with SHOSTECK at 1121 Orren Street, N.E.; just before SHOSTECK went to Spain. At this time, ARNHEIM evidenced some nervousness but admitted he roomed with SHOSTECK at the above address in about 1936 or 1937.

He was then asked if he knew SOPHIA MINKIN. He stated he did know SOPHIA MINKIN but had not seen her for several years. He stated he believed she had been a girl friend of SHOSTECK'S and had gone to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in about 1938. ARNHEIM stated it was his understanding that she had married the editor of the "Pilot", which he believed to be the official publication of the National Maritime Union (JOE CURRAN'S outfit).

At this point, with no warning, ARNHEIM suddenly fainted. The Agents obtained some water and revived him. About two minutes later he fainted again and was revived. He expressed surprise at having fainted and stated he had never done so before to his knowledge. He stated he did not have heart trouble although he had been going to a doctor for treatment for an

upset stomach.

No persons were attracted to the scene except the two Negroes working on the truck, who were helpers of ARNHEIM. They stated they saw ARNHEIM faint. They were identified as PHILIP THOMPSON, 1201 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ Place, N.W. and JOHN J. BROWN, 1241 Wylie Street, N.W. Both stated they had been employed by the Ross Stone Setting Company for about ten years.

After receiving assurances from ARNHEIM that he felt fine, the Agents left the scene. ARNHEIM was not interviewed after he fainted.

The Agents contacted JOHN ROSS, owner of the Ross Stone Setting Company, who advised he had never known ARNHEIM to be in ill health or to be subject to fainting spells. ROSS stated that ARNHEIM had served his apprenticeship under him as a Stone Setter from 1929 until 1934, when he left to join the Laborers Union.

ROSS stated that ARNHEIM had been rehired in about 1947 after he returned from service with the armed forces of the United States in Korea. ROSS stated that until a few weeks ago, ARNHEIM had been working on the new seventeen-story telephone building in Baltimore, Maryland, where he was required to work on a swing scaffold. He stated had he known ARNHEIM to be ill or subject to fainting spells, he certainly would not have permitted ARNHEIM to work on the scaffold. He stated ARNHEIM was paid about \$200.00 per week. ROSS stated he understood ARNHEIM had been mixed up with some Communist Party matters in the District of Columbia after he was employed with the Ross Company in the mid 1930's, but it was his belief that ARNHEIM had severed all connections with the Communist Party. ROSS stated he believed ARNHEIM would be cooperative and would furnish information to Agents of the FBI.

The files of the Washington Field Office reflect that ARNHEIM was subject of the case entitled "ANDERS WILLY FRIDLUF ARNHEIM, Was, Anders Franklin Willy Arnheim, Willie Arnheim, Willie Arnstein, Willie Arnstein, Willy Arnold, Willie Arnold; Security Matter-C," which investigation was conducted in 1943 and 1944.

The following is a summary of the information appearing in the files of the Washington Field Office regarding WILLIE ARNHEIM:

In 1941, Washington T-2, a reliable informant, who was acquainted with the activities of the Communist Party in the

Mrs. W.
District of Columbia, advised that ~~ARNHEIM~~ had been an active member of the Communist Party in the District of Columbia from 1933 to 1938. ARNHEIM was born November 16, 1911 at Gramla, Sweden, entered the United States March 28, 1928 and was naturalized January 3, 1939, under Certificate #4610217. He married JENNIE OLIVE WAHL at Baltimore, Maryland on June 24, 1931 and was divorced from her, April 29, 1940. It appears that JENNIE OLIVE was also known as Mrs. JANE O. ~~ARNHEIM~~. He married FLORENCE ~~ADES~~ at Fort Lauderdale, Florida on November 9, 1940 and appears to be still married to her.

Washington T-3, of established reliability, who is acquainted with Communist Party activities in the District of Columbia, advised in 1943 that ARNHEIM had been in frequent contact with MARTIN CHANCEY, former City Secretary of the Communist Party in the District of Columbia, HENRY THOMAS, SADIE ~~SOKOLOVE~~, JACK ~~ZUCKER~~ and other individuals prominent in Communist Party activities in Washington, D.C.

It is to be noted that Washington T-1 advised that WILLIE ARNOED, Was, was City Secretary of the Communist Party in the District of Columbia from about June until September 1936. He held this position prior to MARTIN CHANCEY.

Washington T-3 further advised that on April 15, 1943, he overheard a conversation between ZUCKER and CHANCEY concerning the Industrial Union Council Jefferson Memorial celebration, and on that occasion, CHANCEY said he was including ARNHEIM among the list of members among the Executive Board and progressive delegates to the celebration. The informant further advised he overheard CHANCEY contact ARNHEIM on various occasions concerning Communist Party meetings and also in relation to the infiltration of labor groups of the Communist Party.

Washington T-3 also advised in 1943 that on May 22, 1943, it came to his attention that CHANCEY and several other members of the Communist Party had a meeting and that CHANCEY talked about the infiltration of the Communist Party into various groups in the District of Columbia and that CHANCEY made a statement to the effect that there are two non-members around whom they (Communist Party leaders) hope to build a stronger party. CHANCEY stated that one was ARNHEIM, who had dropped membership in the Communist Party because of his ambition to get ahead in the AF of L and that ARNHEIM was O.K. politically and a regular reader of the "Daily Worker." In connection with the Building Laborers Union #74, it is noted that HENRY THOMAS, a Communist Party member, has been very active in attempting to

take advantage of a situation brought to light in 1943 in the public press.

The Washington Daily News on Friday, April 9, 1943, contained an article to the effect that LARRY KELLY, President of Local 74, allegedly spent several thousand dollars of the union's money to purchase liquor, which was seized by Internal Revenue Agents for non-payment of floor tax. The liquor was seized at the Club El Patio, of which KELLY was a co-owner.

The article in the April 9 issue of the News reflects an interview with HENRY THOMAS, whom it was indicated was the rank and file candidate for Financial Secretary and Treasurer of Local 74.

Washington T-3 further advised that he had overheard MARTIN CHANCEY and WILLIE ARNHEIM discuss on several occasions the most effective manner by which THOMAS and known Communists might attain an office in the union.

Washington T-4, a reliable informant, who is acquainted with the activities of the Communist Party in Richmond, Virginia, advised that on August 17, 1942, ALICE BURKE, Secretary of the Communist Party for the State of Virginia, kept an appointment with WILLIE ARNHEIM in room 1044 of the John Marshall Hotel in Richmond, Virginia.

On March 4, 1943, Special Agents ROBERT W. HELD and OSCAR J. KREP of the Washington Field Office observed MARTIN CHANCEY, a man believed to be ALBERT BLUMBERG, Executive Secretary of District #34 of the Communist Party and an unidentified Negro riding in a car bearing Virginia license plates #433-260. It was ascertained that the above license plates had been issued to WILLY ARNHEIM.

The files of the Washington Field Office reflect that FLORENCE ADES, present wife of WILLY ARNHEIM, formerly was employed at the Department of Agriculture. Her father's name is reflected as HARRY ADES.

The following is the description of ARNHEIM, as set out in 1943:

Height	5'11½"
Weight	230
Race	White
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Dark

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From personal observation, it was noted that at the time of the above interview in March 1949, ARNHEIM was about six feet tall and weighed about 220 pounds.

It was ascertained that ARNHEIM'S doctor is Dr. SAMUEL MORRISON, who has his office on the same street as the Belvedere Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland.

In view of ARNHEIM'S physical and emotional reaction during the above interview, it was decided to have the Baltimore Office contact Dr. MORRISON and obtain information regarding ARNHEIM'S physical condition and in particular, whether ARNHEIM has any physical impairment, which would preclude his being interviewed about his past activities.

By letter dated March 18, 1949, the above information regarding WILLIE ARNHEIM was furnished to the Baltimore Office with the request that Dr. MORRISON be interviewed regarding ARNHEIM'S physical condition.

ROBERT E. RAY

In connection with the effort to locate SIDNEY SHOSTECK and RAY WARNER, named by RENO as the persons who supervised his Communist Party activities in the District of Columbia in 1935 to 1937, RENO was interviewed by Agents of the El Paso Office. He stated that the open party organizer in the District of Columbia was RAY WARNER, whose Communist Party name was ROBERT E. RAY. RENO further stated that the name of ROBERT E. RAY was the name used in party work and the name signed to various official Communist Party bulletins, letters, announcements, etc. RENO described this man as being a native of the United States, white, about 5' 10" tall and a flashy dresser. RENO stated to the best of his knowledge, this man is still living.

Washington T-5, T-6 and T-7, reliable informants, who are acquainted with Communist Party activities in the District of Columbia, were contacted but could furnish no information regarding ROBERT E. RAY.

The records of the Special Investigations Squad, Metropolitan Police Department, contained many references to a ROBERT E. RAY, who was named as a Communist Party organizer, and who was active in Washington in 1935 and 1936. The Metropolitan Police Department files contain several flyers announcing various meetings to be held in connection with the Communist Party activities and several of the flyers reflect the name ROBERT E. RAY. The police department reports on these meetings mentioned RAY as a white man and also

named SIDNEY PHILLIPS (the Communist Party name of SIDNEY SHOSTECK) as being present as well as SOPHIA MINKIN, who has been named as the former girl friend of SHOSTECK. SHOSTECK was killed in Spain during the Spanish Civil War. Washington T-1 stated that ROBERT E. RAY was unknown to the informant and further stated that RAY WARNER might be the Communist Party name of one WARNEKE. The informant does not know WARNEKE'S present whereabouts but states he was active during the period when the Communists were active in supporting the cause of the Spanish Loyalists. He was from a family well known in Communist Party circles in Washington.

The informant stated MARTIN CHANCEY became City Secretary of the Communist Party in September 1936; that ARNOLD was Secretary from June through September 1936 and WARNEKE may well have been City Secretary prior to that time.

When WILLIE ARNHEIM was interviewed, he stated he remembered ROBERT RAY, who was an open Communist Party organizer in the District of Columbia in the mid-1930's. ARNHEIM stated it was his recollection that RAY went to Philadelphia in about 1938, and he has not seen or heard of him since that time. He stated he had never heard any other name used in connection with RAY and does not know whether it was only a Communist Party name.

Washington T-1 further stated that RAY WARNER, with alias WARNEKE, may be the brother of RUTH WARNEKE. The informant stated that RUTH WARNEKE was a member of a well-known Communist Party family in Washington, D.C. The informant stated that although most of the WARNEKE family appeared to be Communist Party sympathizers, she was only certain of the Communist Party membership of RUTH.

The files of the Washington Field Office fail to reflect any information on RUTH WARNEKE.

It is noted, however, that in connection with the investigation of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN, as part of the JAHAM case, the Chicago Office, by letter dated February 23, 1949, furnished the names of persons who were employed with SILVERMAN at the Railroad Retirement Board, Washington, D.C. Among those listed was RUTH WARNEKE, an Economist, who was employed by the Railroad Retirement on August 22, 1938. She served in the Research and Information Service, headed by SILVERMAN.

According to the above letter, WARNEKE transferred from the Railroad Retirement Board to OPA on May 6, 1942. The files of the Washington Field Office reflect that in July 1942, RUTH WARNEKE married JULES HANOVER, with alias JULIUS HANOFF and JULIUS HANOVER, who was active from March

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1941 to February 1943 in Washington, D.C. as proprietor of the Washington Bookshop. Mr. and Mrs. YANOVER were last known to reside at 1302 N. Linwood Avenue, Baltimore, Maryland.

The Washington Field Office files further reflect that Miss RUTH ELIZABETH WARNKE was active in various Communist organizations and the Washington Bookshop. It is possible that RUTH WARNKE YANOVER is identical with RUTH WARNEKE, mentioned by Washington T-1 as the sister of _____ WARNEKE, Communist Party name, RAY WARNER.

By letter dated March 3, 1949, the Baltimore Office was requested to interview Mrs. YANOVER in connection with the investigation of ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN. The Washington Field Office files fail to reflect the results of the above interview. If Mrs. YANOVER appears receptive to the interview, it is suggested that the Baltimore Office give consideration to interviewing her in an attempt to identify various members of her family, in particular, any who may have used the party name, RAY WARNER.

ARTHUR STEIN

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent JESSE F. FARR, dated January 28, 1949 at Baltimore, Maryland in the JAHAM case.

Page 8 of the above report reflects that Baltimore Confidential Informant 103 advised that among the correspondence FRANKLIN VICTOR RENO maintained at the Wind Tunnel Building at Aberdeen Proving Ground, there were miscellaneous Christmas cards, invitations and announcements from several persons including "ANNETTE and ARTHUR STEIN."

Page 29 of the above report reflects that Dr. ELVIN S. MARTIN, of the Aberdeen Proving Ground, stated that among the associates of RENO at the Baltimore Research Laboratory was ARTHUR STEIN who had worked under RENO and whom RENO favored and recommended for promotion.

Page 41 of the above report reflects the following regarding ARTHUR STEIN:

Baltimore confidential informant [] reported that ARTHUR STEIN, a civilian employee at the Ballistics Research Laboratory, was suspected by him to be a Communist but informant was unable to furnish any substantial information to corroborate his suspicions. It is to be noted that FRANKLIN VICTOR RENO'S relationship to ARTHUR STEIN is set

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forth above under the interview with ELVIN S. MARTIN (in the Baltimore report).

There is no information in the files of the Washington Field Office to indicate that the "ANNETTE and ARTHUR STEIN" mentioned in the above report have been identified or interviewed.

The Washington Field Office files reflect that the ARTHUR STEIN mentioned by Washington T-2 as being an intimate friend of PHILIP RENO is presently a member of the National Anti-Discrimination Committee of the United Public Workers of America-CIO.

Washington T-1 stated that ARTHUR STEIN and ANNIE STEIN, was, Mrs. ARTHUR STEIN, ANNIE STECKLER, SYLVIA STECKLER, nee KOTASINSKY, are self-admitted members of the Communist party and that STEIN himself is on a very high level in the Communist Party. The STEIN'S are considered by the informant to be fanatic, to live for the Communist Party and in the informant's opinion, would never change their ideas. Both have been identified by reliable informants as being in close and frequent association with Communists and persons alleged to be involved in a Soviet espionage conspiracy.

The Washington Field Office files further reflect that ARTHUR STEIN was with the National Industrial Recovery Administration in Washington, D.C., from September, 1934 until September 10, 1935 when he was appointed an assistant statistician with the Work projects Administration. On March 4, 1941, he transferred to the Federal Works Agency. He appears to have been employed with the FWA until 1943, when he became an official of the United Federal Workers of America-CIO.

It is to be noted that FRANKLIN VICTOR RENO, brother of PHILIP, was employed as a statistician September 10, 1935 until June 30, 1937 with the WPA. On July 26, 1937, FRANKLIN RENO entered on duty at the Aberdeen Proving Ground.

It is not known if the ARTHUR STEIN (WFO) is identical with the ARTHUR STEIN (Baltimore). However, it is possible that the ARTHUR STEIN (WFO) while employed with the WPA from 1935 until 1941 could have been assigned to the Aberdeen Proving Ground.

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It is requested that the Baltimore Office conduct the necessary investigation to determine if the ARTHUR STEIN (WFO) is identical with the ARTHUR STEIN (Baltimore).

"THE BIG BEAR"

In connection with the identification of the individual referred to by RENO as "The Big Bear", it is to be noted that when reinterviewed by Agents of the El Paso Office, RENO stated that to the best of his knowledge, he probably was referring to an individual who is a good friend of his and one whose name is hard to disclose for the same reason that he feels he is turning some one in who may be a member of the Communist Party and to whom undue embarrassment might come. He stated, however, that the name of the individual whom he believes to be the person referred to as the "Big Bear" is PALMER WEBER, whom he recalls as a labor leader in the ~~NSIC, PAC~~, New York City. He stated he first knew WEBER at the University of Virginia during 1935. RENO stated WEBER left after the school year of 1935, and he did not renew his acquaintanceship with him until the Fall of 1945 in New York City. RENO stated he believes he met WEBER through FRANCIS FRANKLIN, as the three of them were good friends at the University of Virginia. He recalled that WEBER was interested in the ~~National Student League~~ at the University of Virginia. He identified the National Student League at the University of Virginia as a group of liberals or radicals and recalled during that time their primary objective was opposition to war. He stated WEBER was a leader in the group during the year 1935. RENO reiterated that the only reason he was furnishing this information relative to WEBER was that he believed it would be better for the FBI to know that WEBER had no connection in espionage activities and was only a personal friend of RENO'S.

In view of the above information identifying the "Big Bear," as PALMER WEBER, no further investigation is being conducted in this matter by the Washington Field Office.

ENCLOSURES: TO NEW YORK CITY

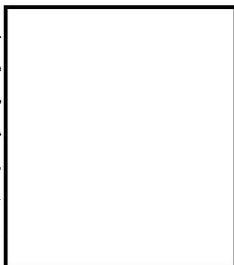
- (2) Photostatic copies of an Affidavit as to Marital Status and Members of Family of Applicants for Appointments in the Government Service of the U.S. or the D.C.
- (2) Photostatic copies of Declaration of Appointee Form #124b.
- (2) Photostatic copies of Oath of Office Form #8
- (1) Photostatic copy of Personnel Affidavit signed by FRANKLIN V. RENO on June 30, 1941.
- (2) Affidavit, Striking Against the Federal Government, signed by FRANKLIN V. RENO on July 15, 1946.

Kisseloff-4123

WFO File #100-20379

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

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LEADS

THE BALTIMORE OFFICE:

At Baltimore, Maryland, will interview Dr. SAMUEL MORRISON, whose office is on the same street as the Belvedere Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland and obtain information regarding the physical condition of WILLY ARNHEIM and, in particular, whether ARNHEIM has any physical impairment which would preclude his being interviewed about his past activities.

It is to be noted that ARNHEIM fainted while being interviewed by Agents of the Washington Field Office about his connection with Communist Party activities in the District of Columbia in the 1930's. (This lead was initially set forth in letter to Baltimore dated March 18, 1949.)

Will interview Mrs. RUTH ELIZABETH WARNKE YANOVER, wife of JULES YANOVER, for information regarding members of her family and, in particular, any one who may have used the Communist Party name of RAY WARNER.

Washington T-1 stated that RAY WARNER may be a brother of RUTH WARNEKE (WARNKE?).

At Aberdeen, Maryland,

Will conduct the necessary investigation to determine if the ARTHUR STEIN (WFO) is identical with the ARTHUR STEIN (Baltimore).

Will review any personnel files of FRANKLIN V. RENO at Aberdeen Proving Ground for any forms, affidavits, etc. which RENO may have executed in recent years.

RENO advised Agents of the El Paso Office that he believed he had executed affidavits during the last two years at Aberdeen regarding advocating overthrow of the government by force or violence or containing false statements.

It is to be noted that when his 201 file was reviewed by the Washington Field Office, no recently executed forms were found and no #57 forms were found.

THE PHILADELPHIA OFFICE:

At Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, will check office indices and contact Communist Party informants in attempt to locate for interview ROBERT E. RAY, Communist Party

WFO 100-20379

organizer who was active in Washington, D.C. until about 1938 when he was reported to have gone to Philadelphia.

It is noted that FRANKLIN RENO stated one RAY WARNER assisted in supervising his Communist Party activities in Washington, D.C. from 1935 to 1937. RENO later advised that ROBERT E. RAY was the Communist Party name of RAY WARNER.

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

At Washington, D.C. will follow and report pertinent developments regarding FRANKLIN V. RENO in this case and the case entitled JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, Was, et al, Perjury; Espionage-R, (WFO File #74-94).

Will, upon receipt of information from the Baltimore Office regarding the physical condition of WILLY ARNHEIM, determine the advisability of interviewing him.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **74-94**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 4-6-49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-28 to 3-25-49	REPORT MADE BY JAMES FREW. HMW
TITLE: JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS, ET AL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R ESPIONAGE - R PERJURY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

RE: FRANKLIN V. RENO

FRANKLIN RENO'S 201 file reviewed and forms and affidavits obtained, none of recent vintage. IDA file reviewed again but no pertinent forms found. WILLY ARNHEIM located and admitted participation in union activities in Washington, D.C. in the 1930's and rooming with SIDNEY SHOSTECK in about 1936. ARNHEIM fainted before interview was completed and has not been reinterviewed. ROBERT R. RAY determined to have been a Communist Party organizer in D.C. in mid 30's but present whereabouts unknown. Information re ARTHUR STEIN set out.

-P-

REFERENCE: Bureau File #74-1333 (JAHAM)
Report of Special Agent FREDERICK A. JOHNS dated February 11, 1949 at El Paso, Texas.

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

RE: FRANKLIN V. RENO

This is a joint report of Special Agent JOHN J. MASSE and the reporting Agent.

201 FILE

The 201 file of FRANKLIN VICTOR RENO covering his employment at the Aberdeen Proving Ground was reviewed for any forms which may have been executed by RENO and which might contain a statement that he was not a member of the Communist

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

SA FILE NO **74-68**

REPORT MADE AT SAN ANTONIO	DATE WHEN MADE 4/2/49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/21/49	REPORT MADE BY JAMES C. KENNEDY
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was., et al		CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <p>No record of either \$2.00 checks deposited in Riggs National Bank, Washington, D.C., in 1934 and 1936 available at Austin National Bank, Austin, Texas.</p>			
- P -			
REFERENCE: Report of SA J. BERNARD COOK (A), 3/14/49, Washington, D.C.			
DETAILS: <u>At Austin, Texas</u>			
Vice-President A. L. TURNER of the Austin National Bank, advised that there was no record of either of the two checks drawn on his bank in 1934 and 1936. Mr. TURNER stated that the Recordak system had not been installed until 1938 and even if it had been installed prior to that time his bank would not have recorded these checks in the amount of \$2.00 each and deposited in the Farmers and Mechanics Branch of Riggs National Bank, Washington, D. C., on November 27, 1934 and November 20, 1936.			
- PENDING -			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>C. E. Weeks</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
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*cc AAG Campbell
4-8-49
FLJ:cm*

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Joseph

John J. Campbell

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

SA FILE NO. 74-68

REPORT MADE AT SAN ANTONIO	DATE WHEN MADE 4/2/49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/21/49	REPORT MADE BY JAMES C. KENNEDY fci
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was., et al		CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: No record of either \$2.00 checks deposited in Riggs National Bank, Washington, D.C., in 1934 and 1936 available at Austin National Bank, Austin, Texas. - P - REFERENCE: Report of SA J. BERNARD COOK (A), 3/14/49, Washington, D.C. DETAILS: <u>At Austin, Texas</u> Vice-President A. L. TURNER of the Austin National Bank, advised that there was no record of either of the two checks drawn on his bank in 1934 and 1936. Mr. TURNER stated that the Recordak system had not been installed until 1938 and even if it had been installed prior to that time his bank would not have recorded these checks in the amount of \$2.00 each and deposited in the Farmers and Mechanics Branch of Riggs National Bank, Washington, D. C., on November 27, 1934 and November 20, 1936. - PENDING -			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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