INFORMATION CONCERNING

WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, also known as
Jay David Whittaker Chambers,
Vivian Chambers, John Kelly

September 5, 1948

Kisseloff-26112
ENCLOSURE
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September 5, 1948

WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, also known as
Jay David Whittaker Chambers,
Vivian Chambers, John Kelly;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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REASON - FCIM 11, 1-2. 4. 2 1, 2, 3
DATE OF REVIEW 4-2-91
PWK/es 4/2/81

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Ha[illegible]
Mr. [illegible]ton
Mr. [illegible]

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September 5, 1948

WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, also known as
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Vivian Chambers, John Kelly;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING ALGER HISS

When Whittaker Chambers was interviewed by Bureau Agents on May 13, 1942, he described a Communist underground movement in Washington, D. C., of which he had been a member for approximately four years, ending in the Spring of 1937. Chambers declared that this group was headed by Harold Ware and that a number of its members were Government employees. He said that one of the members of this group, which was a part of the underground organization of the Communist Party, was Alger Hiss.

In the copy of the notes obtained from Adolf A. Berle, Jr., then Assistant Secretary of State, in June, 1943, and which had been set down by Mr. Berle during an interview in 1939 with Chambers concerning this same Communist underground Government group, Alger Hiss was described as follows:

"Alger Hiss

Ass't. to Sayre - CP - 1937
Members of the underground Comm. - Active
Baltimore boys -
Wife - Priscilla Hiss - Socialist -
Early days of the New Deal"

When Chambers was again interviewed by Bureau Agents in May, 1945, he again stated that Hiss was a member of a Communist underground group headed by Harold Ware. He specifically stated that Hiss, while he was in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, had met on several occasions with Harold Ware's group and that he had usually been in attendance when meetings of this group were held at Henry Collins' home. He said that when Hiss went with the Senate (Nye) Committee investigating the munitions industry, he was segregated from the group and had no more official contacts with them but would meet socially with a number of them and was particularly close to Marian Bachrack, the sister of John J. Abt who, according to Chambers, was also a member of the same Communist group and was elected its leader upon the death of Harold Ware.

Asked whether or not he believed Hiss might have broken with the Communist Party, Chambers stated that he had no reason to believe that he had "dropped out." As a reason for this belief, Chambers explained that after he, Chambers, had broken away from the Communist Party, he had made a special trip to Hiss' home in the Georgetown section of Washington for the purpose of talking Hiss into breaking away from the Party also. Chambers said that when he arrived there, Hiss' wife, Priscilla, was the only one presentand that while Chambers momentarily excused himself to go to the bathroom, he observed Mrs. Hiss immediately go to the telephone, obviously to get in touch with Party members. Chambers said he immediately returned to the room and awaited the arrival of Alger Hiss. When Hiss came, they had dinner together at Hiss' home. Chambers said that he then talked with Hiss all night in an effort to persuade him to leave the Party. He said that Hiss with tears streaming down his face had refused to break with the Communists and that he had given as his reason for not breaking away his loyalty to his friends and principles.

Chambers further declared that he had endeavored to persuade Hiss to leave the Communist Party because he personally had great regard for Hiss and considered him an intelligent and decent young man whose better judgment should have led him to break with the Communist Party. Chambers pointed out that in his opinion one of the strongest reasons for Hiss' maintaining contact with the Communist Party was the fanatic loyalty to the Party on the part of his wife.

(100-25824-22, 27, 36)

Chambers was again interviewed specifically concerning Hiss on March 28, 1946, at which time he declared that he was unable to elaborate on the information concerning Hiss' connection with the Communist Party which he had furnished in 1942 and 1945. He stated that he had absolutely no information that would conclusively prove that Hiss held a membership card in the Communist Party or that he was an actual dues paying member of the Communist Party even while he was active prior to 1937. He volunteered that he knew that in 1937 Hiss was favorably impressed with the Communist movement and was of the present opinion that Hiss still had the same beliefs.

(100-25824-38)

ALGER HISS INTERVIEWED IN SILVERMASTER CASE ON JUNE 2, 1947

In November, 1945, Elizabeth Terrill Bentley indicated that Alger Hiss had been connected with a Soviet espionage group in Washington. As a result, Hiss was interviewed by Bureau agents on June 2, 1947. On that occasion, he denied having any connection with the Communist Party or that he had engaged in any kind of espionage activity. He further stated that he was not acquainted with an individual by the name of Whittaker Chambers.

He added that at least he could recall no one by that name as being one of his acquaintances. He further stated that as far as he could recall no individual by that name had ever visited his home on any occasion. He did acknowledge in a signed statement that, among others, he knew Charles Kramer, Leon Pressman, Henry Collins, John J. Abt since the early 1930's, mentioning that he could not recall Perlo too well. It is noted that all of these individuals were stated by Chambers to have been members of the Communist underground government group in Washington of which Hiss was alleged by Chambers to have been a member.

(65-56402-118; 100-25824-36)

NO INDICATION FOUND IN BUREAU FILES
THAT HISS KNEW CHAMBERS

A search of the Bureau files has disclosed no indication that Alger Hiss knew J. D. Whittaker Chambers at any time prior to his admission to the House Committee on Un-American Activities on August 25, 1948, upon being confronted with Chambers that he had known Chambers but only as George Crosley, a free lance writer, whom he had known in 1935 in Washington.

OTHERS WHO MAY BE ABLE TO STATE THAT HISS KNEW CHAMBERS IN COMMUNIST UNDERGROUND GOVERNMENT GROUP AT WASHINGTON IN 1930's

When J. D. Whittaker Chambers was interviewed by Bureau Agents on May 10, 1945, Chambers explained that after he was assigned to work with Harold Ware, who was the head of a Communist underground government group, he came to learn the identities of its members inasmuch as he met them on numerous occasions. Among those he could readily recall as having attended group meetings were: John J. Abt, Leon Pressman, Henry H. Collins Jr., Victor Perlo (Chambers first referred to him as Nathan Perlow but subsequently identified him as Victor Perlo), Nathan Witt,_____Post (Chambers described him as editor in 1939 of the State Department's Foreign Service Journal. Consequently this is believed to be Richard Howell Post who is known to have served in that capacity)., Charles Kramer, Donald Hiss, Alger Hiss.

Chambers said he recalled that Alger Hiss while employed by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration had, on several occasions, met with Harold Ware's group and that he had usually attended the group meetings when they were held at Henry Collins' house.

Chambers furthermentioned that the members of the group would also meet, although not as a group, at the violin studio in Washington belonging to Helen Ware, which was generally regarded by them to be the headquarters of the group leader Harold Ware.

Chambers also said that Peter (subsequently identified as Alexander Stevens) frequently came to Washington to attend meetings of the underground group whenever he felt the group needed a pep talk or required special instructions.

Consequently, it would appear from the above information that Abt, Pressman, Collins, Perlo, Kramer, Post, Witt, Donald Hiss and possibly Helen Ware may be able to state from personal knowledge that Alger Hiss knew Whittaker Chambers as a member of the Communist underground group at sometime during the period from 1933 to 1937 when Chambers has admitted he had worked for the Communist Party in Washington. (100-25824-36)

CHAMBERS EMPLOYED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN 1937-38

Chambers was interviewed in 1942 and again in 1945 concerning the operations of a Communist underground organization in Washington among government employees. There is no reference in the Bureau's files that he mentioned on either of these occasions that he had been employed by the Federal Government while still a member of the Communist underground group.

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However, in testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on August 30, 1948, Chambers stated that he had worked on a "boondoggling" job in the Research Department of the Railroad Retirement Board at six thousand dollars per year (this was later corrected to two thousand dollars per year).

Inquiry by the Washington Field and Chicago Offices on September 1, 1948, disclosed that Jay V. David Chambers, who at the time gave his address as 3310 Auchentoraly Terrace, Baltimore, Maryland, had worked on a WPA research project for the Railroad Retirement Board at Washington from October 18, 1937 until January 31, 1938. Since the record of this Chambers shows he was born in Philadelphia in 1901 and studied at the University of Brussels, Belgium, and had been in Germany, it is probable that he is identical with the man who, up until now, has been known as Whittaker Chambers inasmuch as this information corresponds with data previously known to the Bureau concerning the latter.

BUREAU'S FILES SEARCHED FOR REFERENCES TO JAY V. DAVID CHAMBERS

No previous references to Chambers have been found in the Bureau's files under the name of Jay V. David Chambers nor as Jay David Whittaker Chambers.

ACTION TAKEN BY FBI CONCERNING CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The information which follows is intended to show what allegations were made by Chambers when interviewed by Bureau agents on May 13, 1942, and May 10, 1945, concerning various individuals mentioned by him as being members of a Communist underground government group in Washington or connected with the Communist Party in other ways as will be shown below.

Set forth below under the names of the individuals listed are the allegations of Chambers as outlined in the notes set down by Adolph A. Berle, Jr., former Assistant Secretary of State, when he interviewed Chambers in 1939 on substantially the same material later furnished by Chambers to the FBI. A copy of these notes were obtained from Mr. Berle in June 1943.

When Chambers was interviewed in 1942 he advised that he had been a member of the Communist Party from 1924 until 1937 at which time he severed his connections with the Party. During approximately four years before his exit from the Party he was a member, he said, of an underground movement of the Communist Party in Washington, D. C. Chambers declared that his particular interest at the time was the organization of the Communist Party in the United States Government at a time when the "New Deal" was flourishing. Chambers stated that there was an OGPU organization during the period when he was associated with the Communist Party but said that he was not directly connected with it but that on the contrary his real position was with the underground movement of the Communist Party. He said that occasionally the underground movement would check

the activities and personal behavior of an individual in whom the OGPU was interested. However, he said that thereafter if the individual became a member of the OGPU he was segregated from the Party proper. Chambers advised that he served as an assistant to Harold Ware, the leader of the underground group, members of which will be individually referred to below. Chambers' duties, he stated, were those of a morale officer inasmuch as recruits had to be guided in the Party's policies at all times and that such was his responsibility.

When interviewed in 1945, Chambers further explained that the underground organiza ion which he said had existed in Washington had been set up for the purpose of enabling Communist Party members to conceal their Party activities in cases where the nature of their occupations required it. Chambers related that for several years until about 1935 he had also acted as a courier at $30 a week between one Arthur_____and J. Peters who was later identified as Alexander Stevens. His duties in this connection consisted of carrying messages, envelopes, or packages between them in New York City, meeting one or the other at pre-arranged places. He said this was done to "throw off" any one who might be following. Chambers said that to avoid being distrusted, he never inquired as the contents of what he carried between Arthur and Peters. He said that he did not at any time suspect that he was participating in the activities of a Russian espionage ring. He declared that he had no reason to believe that his activities in connection with the underground movement where concerned with other then the regular promotion of the Communist movement. He pointed out furthermore, that he did not at any time consider himself a Comintern agent or an agent of the OGPU. (100-25284-22,36)

SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS MADE BY CHAMBERS CONCERNING INDIVIDUALS NAMED BY HIM AND PRIOR AND SUBSEQUENT FBI INVESTIGATION

There follow the specific allegations made by Chambers concerning the individuals mentioned by him as having been connected with Communist activity. Also set forth are summaries of what investigations were conducted by the FBI before and after these individuals' names were brought to its attention by Chambers.

JOHN JACOB ABT
Also known as "Sidney"

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No active investigation was being conducted by the Bureau concerning John Jacob Abt prior to the first allegations made by Chambers on May 13, 1942.

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Under date of May 14, 1942, the New York Office submitted a letter setting forth the results of an interview conducted with Whittaker Chambers the previous day. This letter revealed that Chambers made no allegations at that time concerning John Jacob Abt. (100-25824-22)

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

There was no investigation instituted concerning Abt after the allegations made by Chambers on May 13, 1942, inasmuch as Chambers did not make any mention of Abt. However, Abt came to the attention of the Bureau on July 25, 1942, when Alexander Stevens, who was then being investigated by the Bureau, contacted Abt at his home in Jackson Heights, Long Island, New York. (100-236194-1, page 4)

At about the same time that Stevens contacted Abt, it was ascertained that Abt and his wife, Jessica Smith Abt, were in contact with various known Communists in New York City. It was ascertained that Abt frequently associated with Roy Hudson and Robert Minor, prominent Communists in New York City, and it was indicated at that time that Abt had been in contact with Eugene Dennis. It was also ascertained that on January 26, 1943, Abt was in contact with John Williamson, a functionary in the Communist Party in New York City. During this period of time, John Abt was General Counsel for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, CIO, in New York City. This information was furnished on February 4, 1947, to Mr. Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney General, in the report of Special Agent W. Carl Jennings dated at New York May 9, 1944. (100-236194-3)

III (A). CHARGES MADE BY [illegible] IN JUNE, 1943

In June of 1943, Mr. A. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State, made available to the Bureau original notes which he had made at the time Whittaker Chambers furnished him information in 1939 concerning the underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. On page one of Mr. Berle's notes, there is set out the following comment:

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

WHG:hp

Kisseloff-26126

John Abt - following suit in that group -
Tax Div'n - Dep't of Justice - now
in CIO (E. Hare's widow - Jessica Smith
Ed. Soviet Russia).

* * * * * *

Meeting place: John Abt's house - 15th St.
(100-25824-27)

III (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As noted above, an active investigation was being conducted concerning Abt due to his frequent contact with prominent active Communists in New York City, and the information obtained from Perle's notes served as a substantiation of Abt's connections with individuals who had previously been reported by Chambers in his allegations on May 13, 1942. (100-23619A-5)

This investigation reflected that between the time the Perle notes were obtained and the second allegations made by Chambers on May 19, 1945, Abt remained in contact with Roy Hudson, John Williamson, Lee Pressman, Mother Bloor, Alexander Stevens, and Ann Silver, the wife of Alexander Stevens, all active Communists in New York City. This information was furnished to Mr. Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney General, on February 4, 1947.

It was also determined that Abt had not been connected in any way with the Federal Government since November 30, 1938. Abt originally became connected with the Government when he served with the Department of Agriculture from 1933 to 1935, with the Federal Emergency Reconstruction Administration during 1935, with the Works Progress Administration from December, 1935, to 1937, and with the Justice Department from 1937 to 1938. On July 16, 1938, Abt was transferred to the New York Office of the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division, where he served until his resignation on November 30, 1938. (100-23619A-6)

Abt, during 1944, continued to be in contact with key figures of the Communist Party in New York City, including Matthew and Phyllis Silverman, Alexander Stevens, Carl Brove, a son of "Mother" Bloor, Alexander Trachtenberg, and Roy Hudson. (100-23619A-12)

This information was submitted to the Division of Records on October 13, 1944, in a report of Special Agent C. Carl Jennings dated at New York, New York on August 2, 1944.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

Kisseloff-26127

It was also ascertained at this time that Abt had married Jessica Smith, who was the widow of Harold Ware, who Chambers had named as head of the underground organization in Washington, D. C. This marriage took place on March 14, 1937.

In November of 1944 it was ascertained that Abt was in contact with Roy Hudson, Eugene Dennis, and Bella V. Dodd, known Communists in New York City. This information was furnished by report dated November 16, 1944, to Mr. Theron L. Caudle on February 4, 1947.

Early in 1945, Abt maintained contact with Eugene Dennis, Alexander Stevens, Alexander Trachtenberg, and Eugene Kisselev, USSR Consul General in New York City. This contact with Kisselev was made on November 29, 1944, at the home of Abt, and prior to Abt's departure for London, England, where he attended a labor conference. Immediately upon his return, Abt was again in contact with Kisselev. This information was furnished to Mr. Theron L. Caudle on February 4, 1947, by report dated January 13, 1945. (100-236194-56)

Investigation further reflected that Abt made a second trip to London for the World Trade Union Conference as a representative of the CIO, leaving the United States on February 5, 1945, and returning on March 3, 1945. Abt was in contact with Kisselev prior to and subsequent to his trip to London. This information was furnished to Mr. Theron L. Caudle on February 4, 1947, by report dated March 10, 1945.

During early 1945 Abt maintained contact with Roy Hudson and Eugene Dennis and was very active in the World Trade Union Conference and the United Nations Conference in San Francisco. It was also determined that Abt was in contact with Pavel Mikhailov of the USSR Consul General's Office in New York City on April 10, 1945. This information was furnished to Mr. Theron L. Caudle on February 4, 1947, in a report dated May 17, 1945.

IV (F). CHAMBERS INTERVIEWED ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers was interviewed by Bureau Agents of the New York Office. At that time Chambers advised that one of the organizations in Washington, D. C., was headed by Harold Ware, with whom he had been assigned to work; that John Abt was a member of this organization headed by Ware; that Abt was formerly in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration; Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice; Counsel with the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee; and presently Counsel for the CIO Political Action Committee and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union.

The New York Office advised at this time that they were conducting an extensive investigation concerning John Abt, who is the husband of Jessica Smith, Editor of "Soviet Russia Today."

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bowman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Kisseloff-26128

Chambers also advised that John Abt's house on 15th Street was one of the places used by this group for meetings. Chambers stated that as a courier for this group he transmitted funds between the individual known as Peter and Harold Ware, Nathan Witt, and John Abt, who were successively the leaders of this group. He advised that after Harold Ware's death, he recalled that a meeting had taken place, at which time he had been present, and at this meeting a vote had been taken in which John Abt had been elected leader of the group. He advised that there were about six men present at that meeting, and that to the best of his recollection they were Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlo, and Peter. He advised that this meeting took place at the home of Henry Collins, which was then right off Connecticut Avenue, in St. Matthew's Court, over a garage.

IV (A). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Inasmuch as the Bureau was conducting an active investigation of Abt and this investigation reflected that Abt was in contact with several of the individuals mentioned by Whittaker Chambers, the allegations made by Chambers were used to further the investigation concerning Abt. This investigation reflected that after the allegations were made by Chambers on May 10, 1945, Abt continued contacts with Alexander Stevens, Lee Pressman, Eugene Dennis, Marion Bachrach, his sister, Lem Harris, Michael Quill, Nathan Witt, and various other lesser functionaries of the Communist Party in New York City.

Investigation further reflected that Abt was born on May 1, 1904, in Chicago, Illinois. He obtained a law degree from the University of Chicago. He married Jessica Smith, the former wife of Harold Ware, in 1937, at which time Jessica Smith was reportedly a secretarial employee of the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C. As of September, 1945, Jessica Smith was the President of Soviet Russia Today publications and Editor of the magazine "Soviet Russia Today." It is noted that Harold Ware was the son of Ella Reeve Bloor.

In October, 1945, it was ascertained that Abt was a member of an eleven-man CIO delegation from the United States who were on a tour of Moscow for a week's visit, and the eleven-man delegation had been in attendance at the World Trade Union Conference at Paris. This information was furnished to the Division of Records on January 24, 1946, in the report of Special Agent G. Carl Jennings dated October 31, 1945. (100-238194-10b)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

The activities of Abt and his continued association with known Communist Party members in New York from October, 1945, until October 22, 1946, were furnished to the Division of Records on March 16, 1946, in the report of Special Agent G. Carl Jennings dated January 25, 1946; on February 25, 1946, in the report of Special Agent G. Carl Jennings dated December 12, 1945; on January 16, 1947, in the report of Special Agent

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Bennett Willis, Jr., dated December 13, 1946; and on January 17, 1947, in the report of Special Agent Bennett Willis, Jr., dated October 22, 1946. (100-230194-112, 116, 121, 135)

It should be noted that the Bureau has been conducting an active investigation of John Abt since July 23, 1942, not only to substantiate the information which was furnished by Whittaker Chambers in the Berle notes obtained in June, 1943, and in Chambers' allegations on May 10, 1945, but for the purpose of determining any espionage activities on the part of John Abt.

This investigation was reported in a separate file maintained on Abt; however, his activities were reported in the Silvermaster case after November, 1945. Copies of such summary reports in the Silvermaster case have been furnished to the White House, the Department of Justice, and other Government agencies. On February 4, 1947, Mr. Theron L. Caudle was furnished a copy of the report of Special Agent G. Carl Jennings dated May 17, 1945, at New York, New York, which contained the allegations made by Chambers against Abt on being interviewed on May 10, 1945.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nich
Mr. Ro
Mr.
Mr.

Kisseloff-26130

Re: SCHLOMER ADLER, was.,
Solomon Adler, Sol Adler,
Schlobel Adler

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

A review of the Bureau's indices has failed to reflect that there was a main file on the above-captioned individual prior to the time that the allegations concerning him made by Whittaker Chambers were received.

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Under date of May 14, 1942, the New York Office submitted a letter setting forth the results of an interview conducted with Whittaker Chambers the previous day. This letter revealed that Chambers made no allegations at that time concerning captioned individual.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

In June of 1943, Mr. A. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State made available to the Bureau original notes which he had made at the time Whittaker Chambers furnished him information in 1939 concerning the underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. Page three of Mr. Berle's notes set forth the following comment: "Schlomer Adler (Sol Adler?), Counsels Office, sends immediately reports to C.P. (Gen. Counsel's Office)." 100-25824-27

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It has been determined that at the time that Mr. Berle made available his notes pertaining to the information furnished by Whittaker Chambers, Adler was in China where he served as the American representative to the Chinese Currency Stabilization Board. Therefore, no investigation was undertaken at that time in a effort to determine Adler's activities and contacts.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

Kisseloff-26131

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the Bureau with the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers conducted by agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945. This letter from the New York Office contained the following statement on page 21:

> "It will be recalled that Chambers mentioned this name (Schlomer Adler, Sol Adler) to Assistant Secretary of State Berle in his conversations with him in 1939. He explained that Adler is definitely a Communist and was employed at that time in the Treasury Department. He added that he knows him to have been in close contact with Peter and to have made reports of a financial nature to Peter. He stated he suspected the Communist Party was playing the stock market, and that they utilized his financial information in this connection."

You will recall that the individual named above as "Peter" was Whittaker Chambers' contact in New York City. Chambers advised that he gained the impression that Peter was the leader of the entire underground for the Eastern part of the country and he suspected for the whole country. 100-25624-36 page 21

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

At the time that Chambers made the above allegation concerning Adler on May 10, 1945, Adler was in China where he was assigned to the American Embassy as the United States Treasury Attache. There is an indication in the file that Adler was in the United States between the time that the Berle notes were received and the time that Chambers made his statements with respect to Adler on May 10, 1945. There is no indication that Adler was investigated actively during that period he was probably in the United States.

The investigation concerning Adler originally was undertaken in the Gregory case in view of the fact that Elizabeth T. Bentley, the informant, made certain allegations concerning Adler. These allegations of the informant were to the effect that during the latter part of 1942 and through the early part of 1943, mention was made by individuals connected with the Gregory case of Sol Adler. The informant in the Gregory case also related that she had seen in the Nathan G. Silvermaster home certain official letters written by Sol Adler from Chungking, China

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to the United States Treasury Department in Washington, D. C. Gregory stated that presumably these official documents had found their way to the Silvermaster home through Harry Dexter White, an official in the Treasury Department and a prominent figure in the Gregory case. The informant reported that Silvermaster had characterized Sol Adler as an opportunist, but further indicated that he would like to place him in some strategic location in the United States Government. The informant also stated that Sol Adler was a member of the Communist Party and that his dues were collected by Silvermaster and turned over to the informant.

From the time of the receipt of the allegation by Chambers on May 10, 1945 and until July 14, 1946, Adler was continuously in China serving as United States Treasury Attache to the United States Embassy. From July 14 to August 6, 1946, Adler was in Washington, D. C., except for short trips he made to New York City and Boston, Massachusetts. During the time that he was in Washington, his activities were extensively investigated. Physical surveillance was maintained on Adler and the services of highly confidential informants were utilized.

As a result of this investigation it was learned that Adler obtained a position with the National Research Project, WPA through the efforts of Irving Kaplan, a Gregory case subject. This investigation concerning Adler also revealed that he had worked on or been associated with the following individuals, all of whom were subjects of the Gregory case: William Ludwig Ullmann, Virginius Frank Coe, Harry Dexter White, William Henry Taylor, Harold Glasser, Jr. Lauchlin Currie and Abraham George Silverman.

Complete background information was developed during the investigation of Sol Adler. Such information indicated he was born August 6, 1909 at Leeds, England, that he immigrated to the United States from England on February 20, 1935 and that he was naturalized as a citizen of the United States on September 3, 1940 in the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia. It may be noted that in securing his naturalization Adler used the name of Lauchlin Currie, one of the Gregory case subjects as a reference.

The investigation further revealed that Adler first became connected with the United States Government as an employee on February 26, 1936. He continued this connection until September 30, 1942. He resigned from his position with the Treasury Department on the latter date but was carried on annual leave until February 19, 1943. Upon his resignation Adler became the American representative to the Chinese Currency Stabilization Board. This latter position terminated February 29, 1944. Adler thereupon immediately re-entered the Government service

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in the United States Treasury Department and has continued this employment to the present date. 65-56402-2450

By letter dated March 4, 1946 a summary dated February 21, 1946 entitled, "Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the U. S. Government" wherein the information furnished by Whittaker Chambers about Adler was made available to the Secretary of the Treasury.

In view of the fact that Adler was one of the subjects of the Gregory case, his background, activities and contacts were thoroughly developed during the investigation of this case. You will recall that the results attained in the Gregory case were summarized and disseminated to the White House, the Department of Justice and other interested governmental agencies. Such results included the information developed pertaining to Adler.

It may be of further interest to note that a loyalty of Government employees investigation has been conducted concerning Adler. Copies of the reports prepared in this investigation were made available to the Civil Service Commission. 121-4089

AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Amtorg Trading Corporation was incorporated in the State of New York on May 27, 1924, and functions generally as an importer and exporter on the North American Continent dealing with official trusts of the USSR. (61-5381-3016, page 2)

An investigation concerning instant organization was initiated in 1939 to ascertain if Amtorg was being utilized by the Soviet Government for any purposes other than legitimate trade activities. The investigation was particularly directed towards discovering NKVD operations within Amtorg. (61-5381-3016, page 35)

In this connection it is to be noted that Mikhail Nikolaevich Gorin, known espionage agent, first entered the United States in 1936 and was destined to Amtorg at that time. Gorin was arrested on December 12, 1938, for violation of the Espionage Statute and was sentenced to serve six years imprisonment and a $10,000 fine. The investigation reflected that Gorin had been obtaining information from the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence from Hafis Salich. (61-7574-743)

Gaik Badalovich Ovakimian, known espionage agent, first entered the United States on August 15, 1932, and was also destined to Amtorg. Ovakimian was arrested by Agents of the FBI on May 5, 1941, and was charged with violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act. Under an agreement with the Soviet Government and the United States State Department, Ovakimian was permitted to leave the United States for the Soviet Union. Investigation reflected that Ovakimian was an active Soviet agent. Continued Bureau surveillance revealed that he was constantly getting information from individual contacts on the streets.

The State Department and the Attorney General were cognizant of the facts in the Corin and Ovakimian cases and were advised of the connection of these Soviet espionage agents and the Amtorg Trading Corporation. (61-7574-743)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers advised on May 13, 1942, that there was an OGPU organization during the period of time when he was associated with the Communist Party and that he presumed that there was also such an organization at the time of the interview. He advised he did not know the identity of the head of such an organization but suspects that the organization is connected with the

Amtorg Trading Corporation and the Tass newspaper. He further advised that there was a group of Russians here studying and teaching at the Ford Plant in Detroit sometime during the 1930's and that unquestionably one or more of these individuals were members of the OGPU. (100-25824-22, page 2)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Inasmuch as previous allegations had been received concerning the possible connection of the OGPU and the Amtorg Trading Corporation, this investigation continued to ascertain the identities of Soviet agents within Amtorg. Inasmuch as Chambers only suspected that Amtorg was being used by the OGPU and since the State Department and the Attorney General had previously been advised of the actual connection between Amtorg and the Soviet Intelligence System in such investigations as GORIN and OVAKIMIAN, this information was not furnished to the State Department and the Department of Justice. (61-5381-1541)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

None.

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

This investigation concerning Amtorg continued in order to ascertain the identity of known Soviet Agents.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

None.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Instant investigation is presently in a pending status.

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[illegible] _____

I. [illegible]

[illegible] in [illegible] in the [illegible] files, [illegible] could not be identified at this time.

II. (A) [illegible] MAY 13, 1942

None

II. (B) [illegible]

None

III (A) [illegible] JUNE 1943

None

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None

IV (A) [illegible] MAY 13, 1945

Chambers related that around 1935, [illegible] told him there was a "[illegible]" [illegible] (the beginning of Chambers' underground activities) [illegible] about it. At the second meeting with Bedacht, according to Chambers, they met [illegible] at the 14th Street subway station in New York City, [illegible] as "Arthur," from whom Chambers was told to take orders. Arthur made an appointment with Chambers for the following evening, when Arthur introduced Chambers to J. Peters, later identified as Alexander Stevens, who outlined the courier activities in which Chambers was to engage. Chambers stated that he was Arthur's [illegible] about 1936, when his courier activities between Arthur and Peters ceased, and that he has not seen Arthur since. Chambers advised that he never learned Arthur's full name or identity. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In July 1945, the New York Office was requested to exhibit to Chambers photographs of Arthur Adams, Arthur Bachrach, [illegible], Lew

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

AMK:mvm

Kisseloff-26137

Harris, and other logical [illegible]. Chambers has never been able to identify "Arthur" from any photographs shown to him.

AZIMOV
(phonetic)

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

There was no investigation of the above-captioned individual prior to Chambers' allegations on May 13, 1942.

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS MAY 13, 1942

In an interview with Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers advised that there was a man named Azimov (phonetic) who was a metallurgist, who had been specializing in steel at the University of California. He stated that this individual was born in Russia and came to the United States when very young, and that he had made a discovery in the chemical side of his studies, (Chambers was told) which he turned over to the Russian Consul. Chambers stated that although he did not check on this information, Azimov reportedly became the head of research in U.S. Steel in Chicago, and that he knows for sure that Azimov was definitely tied in with the Russian apparatus. Chambers stated that he met Azimov once.

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The New York Office was unable to identify Azimov, and by letter dated August 22, 1945, the New York Office forwarded a letter to the San Francisco Office, furnishing the information obtained from Whittaker Chambers and requesting the San Francisco Office to attempt to identify Azimov through records at the University of California. However, no identification of Azimov has ever made. (100-25024-37)

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN PERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

There were no allegations concerning Azimov in the Perle notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, at the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office, he again stated that he had met Azimov (phonetic) in the company of Peter. He advised that Azimov was a young metallurgist who had been working in the laboratories of the University of California at Berkeley, California, and who had later been employed in the Research Department of U.S. Steel. Chambers advised that Azimov had been a specialist in mathematics of some kind and that on one occasion he had been told by Peter that Azimov had developed some discovery on the chemical side of his studies, which discovery he had offered to Peter to be transmitted to Russia. He stated that Peter advised Azimov to go to the Russian Consul in California and that the Consul had immediately accepted the discovery for transmission to Russia. Chambers advised that he had seen Azimov only once and furnished

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

WHG:hp

Kisseloff-26139

the following description:

Age	20-25
Height	5'6" or 5'7"
Build	Slightly stooped
Hair	Dark
Marital Status	Married, two children
Citizenship	Believed to be American
Languages	Spoke perfect English and good Russian; had been raised in the United States

IV (B). [illegible] CASE TED

The files reflect that in view of the information previously furnished by Chambers concerning this subject and because no identification was made of Azimov previously, no further investigation was conducted in an effort to identify him.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lan
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Trac
Mr. Egan
Mr. Garnes
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Remington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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Kisseloff-26140

RE: MARION BACHRACH, was
Marion Bacharach,
Marian Bachrach

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Bureau's files concerning Marion Bachrach, which date from October, 1940, initially indicated that in a "document" published in the July 12, 1940 issue of "D" newspaper, she was characterized as a member of the Communist Party. She was further reflected as Washington correspondent in the "News For Living" department of the "D" newspaper. She was also reflected as one of the sponsors of the "conference on Constitutional Liberties in America" in Washington, D. C. June 7 - 9, 1940. (100-3255-1)

Subsequent investigation revealed that Marion Bachrach was Executive Secretary of the Council for Pan-American Democracy and served as Secretary to Vincente Lombardo Toledano, Mexican Labor Leader, who visited the United States.

In April, 1943 it was determined that Marion Bachrach was the sister of John Abt, the husband of Jessica Smith of "Soviet Russia Today," which information was made available to the Department of State, G-I, G-2 and the Department. (100-3255-13)

Subject has been separated from her husband, Arthur Bachrach since approximately 1941. As of 1942 Arthur Bachrach was employed as an Administrator for the Farm Security Administration. (100-3255-9)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No allegations concerning Marion Bachrach were made by Whittaker Chambers on May 13, 1942.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN THE BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

In June, 1943, Mr. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State made available to the Bureau original notes which he had made at the time

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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 Sands

D.M.F:EHJ

Whittaker Chambers furnished him information in 1939 concerning the underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. Page 1 of Mr. Berle's notes reflects the following:

"Mr. Abt - Sister: Marion Bacharach - Secretary Communist from Minnesota."

(100-25824-27 p. 2)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As a result of the information furnished by Mr. Berle, no investigation based specifically thereon was conducted inasmuch as the investigation concerning Marion Bachrach was continuing and the fact of her relationship to Abt had already been determined.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945, on page 11 of which Whittaker Chambers alleged that Alger Hiss was particularly close to John Abt's sister, Marion Bachrach.

(100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Since the investigation concerning Marion Bachrach has been continued to date, no additional investigation was instituted as a result of the allegation made by Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945. The allegation made by Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945 was incorporated in the report of Special Agent Chester A. Reilly dated September 15, 1947 at New York entitled "Marion Bachrach, Internal Security - C," a copy of which report was furnished to the Division of Records on September 25, 1947.

Since January, 1948 to the present, investigation concerning Marion Bachrach has included a technical surveillance of her activities. She was recently appointed Public Relations Director of the Communist Party, USA and is also a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Communist Party, USA. She is believed to be the liaison between the Communist Party, USA and the Communist Party in Latin America.

(100-3255-67)

Investigation has further disclosed that she has been a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, the United Spanish Relief Committee of American Peoples Mobilization, and has also been a teacher at the Jefferson School of Social Science in New York City.

(100-3255-42)

Kisseloff-26142

MRS. BARNES

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

In the interview with Whittaker Chambers on May 13, 1942, Chambers advised at that time that a house on Central Park West, owned by one of the female Field's, was supposed to have been the center of this particular underground movement.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In the copies of the Berle notes made available to the Bureau in June, 1943, no reference is made to Mrs. Barnes.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1943

Under date of June 26, 1943, the New York Office furnished the Bureau with the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers conducted by Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1943. This letter from the New York Office reflected that Whittaker Chambers advised that Peters had on one occasion told him that Frederick Vanderbilt Field's mother or Joseph Fels Barnes' mother had turned over her apartment on Central Park West to be used as a headquarters of the underground group.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Bureau files fail to reflect that any inquiries have been made concerning Mrs. Barnes as a result of Chambers' allegations.

WHG:mpd

Joseph Fels Barnes

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Barnes has been the subject of an internal security investigation by the Bureau since August of 1941 at which time a complaint was received by the New York Office that Barnes, who was then Foreign News Editor of the New York Herald Tribune in New York City, was formerly a Tribune correspondent in Moscow and was strongly suspected of being a member of the Communist Party and in close cooperation with the Communist Party in the United States. As a result of this complaint an internal security investigation was immediately instituted.

On December 11, 1941, a request for an investigation of Barnes was received from the Office of Coordinator of Information which request was based upon an application that Barnes had made with that agency for a position with that agency. It was later discovered that he had been employed by the Office of Coordinator since September, 1941.

Upon the receipt of the request for investigation by the Office of Coordinator of Information, this investigation was conducted in conjunction with the internal security investigation and in February of 1942, based on derogatory information previously obtained, investigation was also conducted under the provision of Public Law 135, 77th Congress. (Hatch Act investigation)

This investigation failed to link Barnes with the Communist Party; however, considerable information concerning Barnes' activities through Communist channels was developed.

During this investigation it was ascertained that Barnes was born in Montclair, New Jersey, on July 21, 1907. He received an A.B. degree from Harvard University in 1927 and was also a student at the University of Grenoble and the University of London, both in England. He married Elizabeth G. Brown in 1930 and divorced her in 1935, and in 1936 he married the former wife of Frederick Vanderbilt Field..

It was determined that in 1927 and 1928 he traveled in England and Russia. He was employed with the Equitable Trust Company in New York City from 1929 to 1931. In an interview with Barnes' first wife, Elizabeth Brown, she advised that she and Barnes sailed for Russia in January, 1931. She and Barnes traveled through Russia studying and in the Fall of that year Barnes attended a conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations in Shanghai and returned to the United States around Thanksgiving in 1931. He then did research work for the American Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations until the Fall of 1933 when he was elected Secretary of the American Council.

WHG

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Mrs. Elizabeth Barnes further advised that in 1934 she and Barnes made a second trip to Russia on business of the Institute of Pacific Relations. She advised that this was a two-months' trip and they returned to the United States in July, 1934.

Mrs. Barnes further stated that after Barnes' return from Russia he then resigned from the Institute of Pacific Relations and then began working on a project for Henry Luce of Time and Fortune Magazines. She advised that he worked on this project for several months and in the Spring of 1935 he joined the New York Herald Tribune as a reporter and in the early part of 1937 he was sent to Moscow by the Herald Tribune as a foreign correspondent. She advised that he remained in Moscow until 1939 when he returned for a visit home. He was then transferred to Berlin where he remained a short time and then returned to New York in late 1939 to work in the home office of the New York Herald Tribune.

It is noted that Barnes then became Foreign Editor of the Herald Tribune and remained in that capacity until becoming employed with the Office of Coordinator of Information around September of 1941, when he became Deputy Director of the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information where he remained until 1944. He accompanied Wendell Wilkie on his trip to Russia and China in 1942. His home address at the present time is at 430 West 22nd Street, New York, New York, and his office is located at 230 West 41st Street, New York City.

The investigation that was conducted by the Bureau from August, 1941, up until February 9, 1942, resulted in obtaining information from various individuals who classified Barnes as being pro-Communist; however, there were others who classified him as being in sympathy with Russia but not un-American and some of his associates classified him as being strictly American with no pro-Russian tendencies. It was ascertained that he had heavily supported the Communist faction in the Newspaper Guild, had been a Director of the Open Road, Incorporated, and to have written articles for "New Masses." One confidential informant described Barnes as an individual who would like to see the United States Government evolve into a government more along socialistic and Communistic lines and of a less capitalistic nature than our present form of government; however, this informant advised that Barnes did not advocate a government in conformity with Marxist principles nor a change in government by revolutionary means.

In an interview with Mrs. Ogden Reid, then the publisher of the New York Herald Tribune, in January of 1942, Mrs. Reid advised that Barnes was not a Communist, that he had never been associated with Communists or Communist-controlled organizations, that Barnes is an individual who thinks that this country in the future will continue a trend to the left.

At the time that Barnes was interviewed by a representative of the Civil Service Commission, he advised that he had married Elizabeth Field, who was the former wife of Frederick Vanderbilt Field, on November 1, 1936. He advised

that Frederick Vanderbilt Field was an officer of the American Peace Mobilization and was interested in the Friends of Soviet Russia. Barnes told the Civil Service Commission that he had never been a member of the Communist Party but that he was convinced of the need for cooperation between the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States, and that he had been sympathetic with the Spanish Loyalist cause, that he did not believe that the Loyalist Government in Spain was Communistic.

Another confidential informant advised that Barnes always defended Communism and was never known to oppose any of the Communistic policies or beliefs in his dispatches from Moscow and he apologized for and defended the Soviet Government. The same informant advised that Barnes was so sympathetic with the Communists that he always followed the Communist Party line and this informant advised that Barnes would be loyal to the United States only so far as the United States Government's policies were continued in the interest of the Soviet Government. Another informant advised that Barnes was definitely a Communist sympathizer.

On June 1, 1942, copies of two Hatch Act reports together with five reports written as the results of our investigation and containing all of the information in the Bureau files concerning Barnes were forwarded to William J. Donovan, Coordinator of Information, Washington, D. C.

On September 11, 1942, Mr. Donovan advised that Barnes had transferred to the Office of War Information and as a result, copies of these seven reports were forwarded to Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the Office of War Information.

On December 18, 1942, Mr. Davis wrote the Bureau that he had received the copies of these reports of the investigation of Barnes and after having studied these reports it appeared to him that the overwhelming weight of evidence completely exonerated Mr. Barnes of the charges against him, that the Office of War Information had no reason whatsoever to doubt Mr. Barnes' loyalty to the United States, and that the identity of the informants giving unfavorable reports is in almost all cases confidential, and that he is unable to evaluate their evidence adequately but that he knew from his own knowledge that some of the statements that have been made are false and he has considerable reason to doubt some of the others.

The Bureau's files reflect that Barnes became Deputy Director of the Office of War Information and served with that agency until 1944. (76-13677-41X3, 41, 42, 43, 47, 49)

In the Spring of 1948, it was announced that Barnes together with Bartley C. Crum had taken over the New York City newspaper "P.M." (now known as the New York Sun) with the support of Marshall Field, III.

II.(A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Under date of May 14, 1942, the New York Office submitted a letter setting forth the results of an interview conducted with Whittaker Chambers the previous date. This letter reflects that Whittaker Chambers advised, "Although this was only hearsay, Fred Field, then a Captain in the Naval Intelligence, was the center of another underground apparatus." According to Whittaker Chambers, Field, his wife, his mother and Joseph Barnes, were the chief members of this apparatus. Chambers stated that he was told that a house on Central Park West, owned by one of the female Field's, was supposed to have been the center for this particular underground movement. Whittaker Chambers said that Peters, head of the Communist underground movement, had told him this. (100-25824-22)

II.(B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

There was no separate investigation instituted in connection with the allegations made by Chambers on May 13, 1942, inasmuch as the Bureau was conducting an investigation of Barnes as the result of the complaint received in August of 1941.

However, on March 27, 1943, a summary of the information appearing in the reports previously furnished Colonel William J. Donovan, Coordinator of Information, and the information obtained from Chambers on May 13, 1942, was prepared and on March 28, 1943, a copy was forwarded to Mr. Fred Lyon, State Department, and on August 23, 1943, a copy was sent to the Military Intelligence Service and on April 14, 1947, a copy was sent to the Central Intelligence Group.

On May 13, 1943, a memorandum was sent to the Interdepartmental Committee on Employee Investigations containing the information furnished by Chambers on May 13, 1942, and enclosing seven reports previously mentioned. (77-13677-43, 46)

III.(A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

A review of the Berle notes fails to reflect that Chambers furnished any information to Berle concerning Joseph Barnes.

IV.(A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the Bureau with the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers conducted by Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945. This letter from the New York Office reflects that Whittaker Chambers stated that there was a marriage tie between Frederick Vanderbilt Field and Joseph Fels Barnes, and that Barnes had associated to some extent with Communist Party members but he was unable to state definitely that Barnes was or had ever been a member of the Communist Party.

IV.(B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Inasmuch as the allegations made by Chambers on May 10, 1945, were in accord with information previously developed by the Bureau, no active investigation

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was conducted in connection with these allegations; however, the Bureau, since the internal security investigation was instituted in August of 1941, continued to obtain information concerning Barnes.

During February of 1944, the San Francisco Office advised that Professor J. Robert Oppenheimer, atomic energy scientist, named Haakon M. Chevalier as the individual who had contacted three employees of the Radiation Laboratory at the University of California for restricted information on behalf of George Charles Eltenton, who in turn was to deliver this information to an official of the San Francisco Consulate of the USSR. Chevalier contacted Joseph Barnes in New York during February of 1944, apparently in connection with his efforts to secure employment in some Government agency. (100-203581-1647)

Paul Massing, a former Communist espionage agent and husband of Heidi Massing, also a Soviet agent from 1931 to 1937, advised that he knew Barnes when Barnes was Moscow correspondent of the New York Herald Tribune. Barnes seemed to have outstanding contacts in Moscow and to enjoy privileges usually denied the average correspondent. Massing stated that he saw Barnes in Moscow playing tennis on the NKVD courts where Massing himself played with Vassili Zubilin. (65-9940-30)

It is noted that at the time Joseph Barnes applied for a job with the Foreign Economic Administration he listed as a character reference Herman Habicht. It is noted that Habicht was a contact of Vassili Zubilin, who was at one time secretary of the Russian Embassy in Washington and reportedly the head of personnel of the NKVD. (100-203581-3702, page 341)

In the report of Special Agent William A. Branigan in the case entitled "Comintern Apparatus - Internal Security - R" dated August 14, 1945, the name and address of Joseph Barnes are set out which appeared in the address book of George Henri Anton Ivens along with the name of Harry Freeman, who is a brother of Joe Freeman, a contact of Vassili Zubilin. Ivens is described in the report as a revolutionary Communist. It was also stated that during the months prior to August of 1945, Joseph Barnes had been in touch with Max Yergen, Louise Bransten, Joseph North and Steve Fisher, all known Communists and of interest in the Comrap investigation. (100-203581-4723, page 138)

The name and address of Joseph Barnes was found in the effects of Ursula Wasserman, a subject in the Gregory case. (65-56402-758)

Re: MAX BEDACHT, with aliases
MAX BEDYCK, MAX BECHT,
JOHN MARSHALL, CHARLES MARSHALL,
JOHN BRAUN, JOHN M. BRAUN,
H. M. HABATH

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

A review of the Bureau file concerning Max Bedacht reflects that investigation of his activities was first instituted in the year 1919 and has been continuous to date. During the period 1927 to 1941, the file indicates very little investigative activity. Max Bedacht was born in Germany on October 13, 1883, came to the United States in 1906, and was naturalized in Superior Court of San Francisco, California, in April, 1915. In testifying before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities on October 16, 1939, he stated that he had been a member of the Communist Party in the United States since the Party's inception; that he was a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party; and that he has been the executive secretary of the International Workers Order (IWO) since 1933.
(100-13830-25)

Bedacht has been very active in Communist Party work in the United States, and was reported by a confidential informant as having acted as an intermediary for the C. P. U. This information was distributed to ONI and G-2 under date of November 4, 1943.
(100-13830-19)

Bedacht has been active in or associated with numerous Communist Party organizations, has contributed many articles to the "Daily Worker", and is considered a Communist Party key figure.
(100-13830-27)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers made no allegations concerning Max Bedacht.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes of Mr. A. A. Berle made available in June, 1943, which contained information furnished by Whittaker Chambers to Mr. Berle reflected no allegations concerning Max Bedacht.

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

Kisseloff-26149

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945, on page 2 of which the following information was reflected:

> Whittaker Chambers related that in about 1931 he became editor of the "New Masses", and about a year later he was called into the offices of Max Bedacht, the Communist Party headquarters in New York City. He stated that Bedacht told him he had a "must" assignment which would require a great deal of discretion and gave him overnight to think it over. On the next day, Whittaker Chambers agreed to carry out this assignment. Whittaker Chambers pointed out that at no time did Bedacht explain to him the nature of the work he was to be given, but impressed upon him its serious and confidential nature. On the second meeting with Bedacht, Whittaker Chambers was introduced to a man known only to him (Whittaker Chambers) by the name of Arthur, which introduction occurred in a 14th Street subway station in New York City. Bedacht admonished Whittaker Chambers to do whatever Arthur told him. It was Arthur who subsequently introduced Whittaker Chambers to a man by the name of Peter who was recognized by Whittaker Chambers as a former treasurer of the Hungarian Communist newspaper "Uj Elore" (phonetic), and who had also published numerous articles on Communism under the name of J. Peters
> (100-25824-36, Pages 2 and 3)

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In view of the continuing nature of the investigation concerning Max Bedacht, the information furnished by Whittaker Chambers concerning activity which took place in about the year 1932 provoked no additional investigative effort. Investigations subsequent to May 10, 1945, reflect that according to the records of the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, in the case entitled "U. S. vs. Earl Browder - World Tourists, Inc.",

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

Kisseloff-26150

Max Bedacht testified that he had known Browder since 1920 or 1921 and had seen him on the streets of Moscow in 1931 and 1933 while he (Bedacht) was in Moscow.
(100-18830-28)

According to a confidential informant, Bedacht was removed from his position of general secretary of the I. W. O. during 1947 as a result of a dispute over the National Group Policy of the organization.
(100-18830-35)

A confidential informant has advised under date of August 9, 1948, that Max Bedacht was unseated as a delegate to the state convention of the New Jersey Communist Party for the reason that he allegedly falsified his position in the Mercer County, New Jersey, convention in order to be elected a state convention delegate.
(100-18830-40)

All pertinent reports concerning Max Bedacht have been forwarded to the Division of Records.
(100-18830-31)

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

ALEXANDER BITTELMAN, with aliases
Ralph V. Barnes, Uscher Bittelmacher,
Alex Bittelman, Alexander Bittelmann,
Alex Bittleman, Alexander Bittleman,
Alexander Bittlemann, Nathan William
Kweit, Isadore Spilberg, "A.B.",
"Ralph", "Raphael", "R", Alexander
Raphael

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Bureau's main file concerning Alexander Bittelman, reflects that active investigation of his activities was begun in 1941 and has continued to date.

Bittelman was born January 19, 1890, at Berdicher, Kiev, Russia, and entered the United States at the Port of New York on January 2, 1912, aboard the SS Vaderland. He filed a Declaration of Intention to become a United States citizen in 1935, but he has taken no further action in this regard up to the present time. In 1943, he advised his Selective Service Board that he was not a citizen of any country and that he possessed Alien Registration No. 5289346. He has been employed as the General Secretary of the Morning Freiheit Association, 50 East 13th Street, New York City, and has served as a member of the Editorial Board of "Jewish Life" and "Political Affairs". He has been active in the Communist Party since 1921, according to the "New York Times", and, according to William Z. Foster, National Chairman of the Communist Party, USA, Bittelman has been active in the Communist Party since 1922. He is known as one of the theoreticians and dialecticians of the Communist Party, has contributed frequently to many Communist Party publications, has been the author of numerous pamphlets and books setting forth the political theory of Communism, and is a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, USA. (100-57691-12 and 72)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On interview on May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers made no allegations concerning Alexander Bittelman.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In June, 1943, Mr. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State, made available to the Bureau original notes which he had made at the time Whittaker Chambers furnished him information in 1939 concerning the underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. These notes contained no allegations concerning Alexander Bittelman.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

D.W.Fults:mj
DWF:MJ

35

Kisseloff-26152

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945, on page two of which the following is reflected:

Chambers related that in 1926 he was made Editor of the "Daily Worker", which position he held until 1929 when he broke with the Party. He gave as his reason for breaking with the Party that he was disgusted with the strong-arm tactics of the Stalinist group which came into power as a result of the split with Jay Lovestone. He pointed out that "Browder, Bittelman, and Foster in their fight to consolidate and control the Party instituted one of the worst minor reigns of terror . . . ." As a result of this he (Whittaker Chambers) had resigned his Editorship and quit the Party. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In view of the fact that as of 1945 the Bureau's investigation concerning Alexander Bittelman was then extensive, the information furnished by Whittaker Chambers did not constitute any contribution of information that had not already been obtained. It is also noted that the information furnished by Chambers pertaining to Bittelman related to events which occurred in 1929 and did not in any way connect Bittelman with any Communist group operating within the Government during the time that he (Chambers) was a member of the underground, and in view of the fact that the information furnished by Chambers was already in the possession of the Bureau, no active investigation was conducted concerning this allegation.

In the report of Special Agent James J. McCarthy dated December 4, 1947, at New York, New York, in the case entitled, "Alexander Bittelman, was; Internal Security - C", the information concerning the split in the Communist Party in 1929 as appeared in the "New York Times" issue of July 5, 1929, and which is the same information furnished by Chambers, was set out. A copy of this report was forwarded to the Division of Records on January 6, 1948, and a copy was sent to the Immigration and Naturalization Service on January 6, 1948.
(100-57691-87)

The subject is presently free on bond as a result of deportation proceedings instituted by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Since his arrest by the Immigration and Naturalization Service for deportation proceedings on January 1[illegible], 1948, considerable activities have taken place within the Communist Party to bar his deportation.

Considerable information has been obtained by the Bureau concerning the steps being taken by members of the Communist Party to prevent deportation of the subject, and this information has been furnished by the Bureau to the Immigration and Naturalization Service and to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice. (100-57691-124 and 125)

RALPH BOWMAN, was
Rudolph Blum; Ruddy Blum;
Rudy Baker

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The first information appearing in the Bureau's files concerning this individual is a reference to Rudolph Blum. This is in letter dated April 6, 1918, which furnished to the U. S. Attorney in Pittsburgh a summary of Blum's activity in the IWW. Blum at that time was in jail as a draft dodger for refusing to enter the Army. Later a search of Blum's home in January, 1920, reflected a membership card in the Communist Party of America. Active investigation of Bowman was again instituted in 1943, following the receipt of information that one "Al" was the head of the East Coast section of an underground Communist Espionage Organization. Al was subsequently identified as Ralph Bowman who had used the name of Rudy Baker and whose true name was Rudolph Blum. The investigation of Bowman thereafter reflected that he had been trained in the Lenin School from 1928 to 1930 and had thereafter served as a Comintern Representative in the Far East possibly in Korea. During the 1930's Bowman using the name of Rudy Baker was an important figure in the Communist Party, USA, attending National Committee meetings up until about 1939 at which time he apparently went underground. 100-258542-125

Bowman's whereabouts at the present time are unknown inasmuch as in July of 1948 he disappeared from New York City. His wife left the United States from New York City on the Yugoslav Ship, SS Radnik, on August 18, 1948. She was going to Hungary at that time and it is surmised that she will join her husband in the Balkans. 100-258542-140, 149, 150

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers stated that Rudolph Baker was a Communist Party organizer in Michigan at one time and was once either a Comintern Agent or an OGPU Agent in Korea. According to Chambers, Baker was still active in Party circles in 1942. Chambers revealed that an investigation of Baker would probably lead to "better things".

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No active investigation of Baker was conducted based on the May 13, 1942 interview with Chambers.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

There is no information concerning this matter in Berle notes.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers' advised that he had no knowledge of Baker's activities as an organizer in the New York area and that all that he knew concerning Baker was that

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articles in liberal newspapers and magazines referred to him as a Communist Party organizer in Detroit in the late twenties. He recalled that Peters told him Baker had been a Comintern Agent in Korea and made the remard "Rudy Baker is in the business of exporting dried cuttle fish in Korea". He stated that he does not recall ever having seen Baker but knows Peters referred to him as a "little guy" and from this he assumed him to be small in stature. Chambers was unable to identify a photograph of Ralph Bowman who is known to be identical with Baker when it was shown to him.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

While the information from Chambers was of interest concerning Bowman and was accurate insofar as was known from the investigation, we did not conduct additional investigation based on Chambers' information and we already were conducting an extremely active investigation of Bowman which included all of the ramifications of Bowman's Communist and Espionage activity.

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EARL RUSSELL BROWDER, WAS. GEORGE MORRIS,
NICHOLAS DOZENBERG, ALBERT HARRY RICHARDS

I - INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

Browder has been a member of the Communist Party since 1919, the date of the formation of the Communist Party in the USA. Extensive investigation has been conducted by the Bureau with regard to Browder's activities in the Communist Party since 1921. Browder was sentenced on January 22, 1940, to four years in the Federal Penitentiary and fined $2000 for unlawful use of a passport obtained by false statements. On May 16, 1942, the sentence was commuted by President Roosevelt. At the time of his incarceration and again after his release, Browder was Executive Secretary of the Communist Party of the USA. He has, on occasions, been granted personal interviews by Joseph Stalin. In 1945, Browder was banned from the Communist Party but recent information indicates that he may be on his return to power in the Communist Party, USA. (40-3798-243, 525)

II (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated that the OGPU operated in the United States under the supervision of one Charles Dirba rather than under the supervision of Earl Browder. (100-25824-22)

II (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No specific investigation concerning Browder was made as a result of the above allegation. The active investigation of Browder continued. (40-3798)

III (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

There is no reference to Browder in the Berle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943.

IV (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, at which time he pointed out that Browder, Bittleman, and

Foster, in their fight to consolidate the Party, instituted one of the worst minor reigns of terror that he had ever known and that as a result of the above, Chambers indicated that he had resigned his editorship of the Daily Worker and quit the Communist Party.

He advised that Browder was sent to the Far East and that Browder carried with him numerous large denomination bills. Chambers indicated that either in Canton or Nanking, China, Browder gathered together several well known Communist leaders for a convention. Chambers advised that the Chinese Police surrounded the meeting place and arrested all of those present. (100-25221-36)

IV (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No specific investigation was conducted with regard to the above allegations. The active investigation concerning Browder was continued and full information pertaining to his activities in the Communist Party were obtained. Copies of pertinent reports in this investigation have been furnished to the Department of State, Office of Naval Intelligence, Intelligence Department of the Army, and to the Division of Records. (100-3796)

Information regarding Browder's activities in the Far East already appeared in the Bureau's files in more detailed form than Chambers was able to furnish.

MRS. EARL BROWDER, AKA. RAISSA BROWDER,
RAISSA SPIRIDON BROWDER, RAISSA BERDAN,
GLADYS BROWDER, MRS. EARL RAISSA I. BROWDER

I - INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO ALLEGATIONS.

There has been no separate investigation conducted with regard to Mrs. Earl Browder. During the course of the investigation of her husband, Earl Russell Browder, considerable information has come to the attention of the Bureau from confidential and reliable sources indicating that Mrs. Browder was a high functionary of the Communist Party. She was observed in attendance at the Lenin School at Moscow, Russia in the early 1930's. (40-58735-5)

She is said to have been a practising attorney in Russia and to have held a commission in the Red Army. (39-878-8) She is alleged to have been a judge in Russia prior to her departure and to have been an active official of the Soviet Union and a member of the Communist Party in Russia. (39-878-1 USIS) Mrs. Browder has worked on "The Communist" at the Daily Worker Building and in connection with her duties there, maintained regular office hours daily. She is alleged to have held numerous meetings in her office at the Daily Worker, at which time various instructions were issued which all present obeyed. It is said that Mrs. Browder does more effective work than her husband, Earl Browder. (100-16255) Mrs. Browder is known to have attended closed meetings of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, USA at 35 East 12th Street, New York City. She has been introduced at various Communist Party meetings as "Comrade Irene Browder". It was also alleged that the Daily Worker staff regarded Mrs. Browder as a higher authority than her husband. It was also stated that Mrs. Browder was a personal friend of Joseph Stalin and was actually a GPU representative. In 1938, Mrs. Browder had her office on the ninth floor of the Communist Party Headquarters, 35 East 12th Street, New York City, located at the same place as the offices of the other Central Committee members of the Communist Party. (39-878-29) Mrs. Browder was a speaker at the New York State Communist Party Convention on May 22, 1938. In March of 1939, a confidential informant furnished copies of reports which he had prepared relating to the Tenth Annual Convention of the Communist Party of USA. It was stated in the report that the Central Committee of the Communist Party made selections of Committee Officers. Mrs. Browder was listed therein as Secretary. (40-58735-1)

b7D

II (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated that Earl Browder did not handle operations of the OGPU in the USA, and that it was his understanding that Earl's wife was a member of the OGPU and kept Earl straight on Party policies. (100-23821-22)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lad
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Trac
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ERC:rcv

Kisseloff-26159

II (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No specific investigation was made to prove or disprove the above allegations. Information available to the Bureau at that time indicated that Mrs. Browder was at one time a member of the OGPU and a member of the Communist Party. The active and extensive investigation conducted with regard to Mrs. Browder's husband, Earl, revealed considerable information pertaining to Mrs. Browder and her activities in the Communist Party. (40-58735; 39-878; 100-2278)

III (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

There is no reference to Mrs. Browder in the Berle notes, copies of which were made available to the Bureau in June, 1943.

IV (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Whittaker Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, and during this interview he furnished no information relative to Mrs. Browder. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation was conducted with regard to Mrs. Browder, however, considerable information is being obtained from time to time in connection with the active investigation of her husband. Information regarding Mrs. Browder was disseminated to the Department of State by summary memorandum dated May 27, 1944, and to the Immigration and Naturalization Service by summary memorandum dated September 11, 1946. (40-58735-1; 40-58735)

MARGARET BROWDER
Also known as
Mrs. Harrison George

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The files of the Bureau reflect that information indicating that Margaret Browder was one of W. G. Krivitsky's assistants in Soviet intelligence work was obtained prior to the initial interview with Whittaker Chambers although no individual investigation was initiated concerning her. (65-2839-1X2)

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

During the interview with Chambers on May 13, 1942, by Agents of the New York Office, Chambers stated that Harrison George, Browder's brother-in-law, might be of interest. George married Margaret Browder, who was one of Krivitsky's assistants in Paris. (100-25824-22)

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files fail to reflect that any investigation was initiated as a result of Chambers' allegations, since no data showed she was here.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Margaret Browder was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Margaret Browder was not mentioned during the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945.

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Investigation was initiated on March 13, 1944, on one Jean Montgomery, who appeared as a suspect in the Alto Case. Inasmuch as it was known that Jean Montgomery was an alias formerly utilized by Margaret Browder, an investigation was instituted to ascertain if the Jean Montgomery in the Alto Case was identical with Margaret Browder. It was determined that the two were not identical, but investigation was conducted to attempt to locate Margaret Browder in the United States, inasmuch as information had been received indicating that she had returned to this country. She was finally located in New York in September, 1946, at which time she was utilizing the name Ann Meadows. The investigation is still in a pending status and copies of pertinent reports were furnished to the Division of Records on May 7, 1948. (100-297645)

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

ETT:hp:vw

Kisseloff-26161

BORRIS BYKOV, [illegible], BORIS BYKOV,
BORRIS KERTZ, COLONEL BORRIS BYKOV, BORIS BYKOFF

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

Walter G. Krivitsky, the Former Chief of Soviet Military Intelligence for Western Europe, indicated to the Dies Committee in 1939 that an individual by the name of Borris Bykov was in charge of Soviet Military Intelligence in the United States from 1936 to 1939. Investigation was conducted by the Bureau in an attempt to identify this individual, but the investigation was negative. Extensive investigation was conducted with regard to this individual until November, 1946, but no identification was effected. (100-287685)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS MADE ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he stated that Boris Bykov was alleged to be a member of the OGPU by General Walter G. Krivitsky. Krivitsky indicated that Bykov was his assistant during the time he was stationed in Italy. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Extensive investigation was conducted by the Bureau to identify this individual with negative results.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

There is no reference to Bykov in the Berle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATION ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, at which time he advised that another person whom he had met while in the company of Peter (last name unknown) was one Boris Bykov. He advised that General Walter G. Krivitsky later identified Bykov to him as Colonel Boris Bykoff who was sent to the United States to head the OGPU activities. Chambers described Boris Bykoff as a short, red-headed Russian. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

Extensive investigation was conducted in an attempt to identify this individual but same has met with negative results. Copies of pertinent investigative reports relating to this investigation were furnished to the Intelligence Department of the Army. (100-287685-7,8,15,17,19,20,26,27)

SAMUEL CARP, was.
Sam Carp, Isay Karponsky

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An investigation of Samuel Carp was instituted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on July 29, 1940, on the basis of a report that Carp was endeavoring to send $5,000 to Russia, and that Carp had a sister who was married to Vyachesloff Molotov, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Carp was born at Yakaturra, Russia, on March 30, 1888. He arrived in the United States at Baltimore, Maryland, on February 16, 1911, and was naturalized as a United States citizen at Bridgeport, Connecticut, on February 7, 1917. He started business as a house painter and subsequently engaged in the junk business. Thereafter, he became successful in promoting various activities in Bridgeport, Connecticut, dealing particularly in gasoline, fuel oil, and real estate. He reportedly, in 1936, organized the Carp Export and Import Company of New York to arrange for exports to Russia from this country. He allegedly received instructions from the Russian Government to purchase battleships in the United States. He was reported to have spent $100,000 in an effort to secure contracts in this regard. Carp testified on one occasion that he had paid Scott Ferris, a former Congressman and Democratic National Committee member from Oklahoma, $32,000 in Soviet funds in order to get assistance in making purchases for the Russian Government in the United States. Carp's attempts in this regard were fruitless. Carp testified before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in 1939, and before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1945, with considerable resulting publicity based upon his relationship to Molotov, and his attempts to purchase battleships in the United States. The results of investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reflected in investigative reports, were referred to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, on September 24, 1946, with a request for instructions as to what further investigation was warranted. The Criminal Division replied on October 17, 1946, to the effect that they had no specific request for any particular action, but that they desired to be kept advised of any new information concerning Carp. (100-5193-1, 42, 43, 44)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No information was received from Chambers on this occasion.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The copy of the original notes taken by Mr. A. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State, received by the Bureau in June of 1943, contained the following notation:

Mr. Tolson
Mr. L. A. Tamm
Mr. Clark
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Land
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Ben Hunton
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Neale
Miss Gandy

[illegible] secured in 1937-
[illegible] of [illegible] working
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] contact."

III (P) [illegible]

[illegible] conducted by the [illegible] Bureau of Investigation, [illegible] Harlow's notes.

IV (2) [illegible]

[illegible] this individual during this [illegible].

Kisseloff-26164

ROBERT COE, WA.
BOB COE

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

None.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS MADE ON MAY 13, 1942.

During interview with Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, Chambers made no mention of Robert Coe. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

The Berle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943, refer to Bob Coe, brother of Frank Coe as being in "Communist Party's Foreign Bureau."

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

None, insufficient data furnished.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers advised Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, that Robert Coe was certainly a Communist Party member and that he had seen Robert in association with members of the underground group. Chambers advised that it was his understanding that Robert belonged to one of the small units of the Washington Underground. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation has been conducted with regard to this individual. A review of the files of the Bureau fails to reveal that Virginius Frank Coe has a brother by the name of Robert Coe. This file review has failed to identify the above referenced Robert Coe. Files of the Bureau reveal that one Charles Joseph Coe, with aliases Charles J. Coe, Bob Coe, was investigated by the Bureau in November, 1944, at which time it was ascertained that he was the editor of "Facts For Farmers", a pamphlet published by Farm Research, Incorporated, New York City. Information obtained during this investigation indicated that the publication "Facts For Farmers" followed the Communist Party line and the Farm Research, Incorporated was alleged to be a Communist front organization. (100-333343-3)

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The files also reveal that as of December 2, 1942, one Robert Coe was Second Secretary of the American Embassy stationed in London, England. It is not known whether either of the above two individuals is identical with Robert Coe mentioned by Chambers. (62-64427-449)

VIRGINIUS FRANK COE, also known as
FRANK COE

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

In October, 1940, the Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense referred a list of names of their employees to this Bureau for investigation. No allegations were made concerning the various employees. Included on this list was the name Virginius Frank Coe. The Washington Field Office ascertained prior to investigation that Coe had resigned his position with the Commission and returned to his former position with the U. S. Treasury Department. No investigation was undertaken. (62-60175-2)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATION MADE ON MAY 13, 1942

At the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, no mention was made of Virginius Frank Coe.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943, refer to Frank Coe as a brother of Bob Coe who was in the "CP's Foreign Bureau'." Frank Coe alleged to be attending McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. (100-25824-27)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None. Frank Coe alleged to be in Canada.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers advised Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, that Frank Coe and his brother, Robert Coe, had been mentioned by him to the Assistant Secretary of the Department of State. Chambers stated that Robert was certainly a Communist Party member and that he had seen Robert associate with members of the underground group. Chambers said he had been advised that Robert belonged to one of the small units of the Washington Underground. (100-25824-36)

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IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted as a result of the above allegations made by Chambers. Investigation was conducted, however, in connection with the Gregory case, and the following is a brief summary of the information available concerning Coe. He has admitted being friendly with Lauchlin Currie. (65-56402-1655) During a physical surveillance conducted on Currie, it was ascertained that Coe had dinner with Currie on January 8, 1946. Currie was allegedly a member of the Silvermaster group. (65-56402-466) Investigation also disclosed that Coe was closely associated with Irving Kaplan, the Silvermasters, Harry Dexter White, George Silverman, Harry Magdoff, Allen Rosenberg, and William Ludwig Ullman. When interviewed by Agents of the Bureau on May 29, 1947, he advised that he was not closely associated with the Silvermasters but only met them occasionaly while traveling in "Economic Circles". (65-56402-2530) When Coe testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on August 13, 1948, he denied being a part of the "Silvermaster Ring". By letter dated February 25, 1946, a summary memorandum entitled "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the United States Government" dated February 21, 1946, wherein information was contained with regard to Coe, was made available to Brigadier General Harry H. Vaughn, Military Aide to the President. (65-56402-573) By memorandum dated February 23, 1946, entitled "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the United States Government" dated February 21, 1946, the same information concerning Coe was furnished to the Attorney General. (65-56402-490) By memorandum dated February 25, 1946, the same summary of information was furnished to the Secretary of the Department of the Treasury. (65-56402-529)

Re: HENRY HALL COLLINS, Jr.

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CONGRESS' ALLEGATIONS

During the winter of 1941 - 1942, the Washington Field Office conducted an investigation of Collins under the title "Henry H. Collins, Jr., Senior Exemptions Examiner, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, Internal Security, Hatch Act", the results of which are briefly set forth as follows:

> The name of Henry H. Collins, Jr., was alleged to have been on the active indices of the American Peace Mobilization, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. Confidential informants disclosed that Collins had been very active in the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, serving as a member of the Executive Committee and as chairman of various other committees; that he advised and urged other members of the Department of Labor where he was employed to join this organization and that he solicited and accepted contributions from them.
>
> An informant stated that Collins kept much Communist literature about his house as well as printed matter from the American Peace Mobilization, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. He was said to associate with known Communists and to have signed a letter petitioning Governor Olson of California to free Samuel Adams Darcy, Secretary of the Communist Party of Pennsylvania.
>
> Collins' wife, Susan B. Anthony, II, was reported to have been prominently associated with the American Peace Mobilization, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, and the American League for Peace and Democracy, and was named by a Dies Committee investigator as being a radical.
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> In a Hatch Act interview with agents of the Washington Field Office, Henry Collins admitted that he was a

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member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, that he attended meetings, that he served as the Chairman of the Committee of the Co-operatives, and that he may have solicited employees of the Department of Labor for membership in that organization. He denied that he was ever a member of the American Peace Mobilization, of the Communist Party, or of any organization which advocated the overthrow of the Federal Government. He stated that he may have attended meetings of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, but that he was uncertain as to whether or not he had been a member of this organization. After this Hatch Act investigation had been completed and reports submitted to the Department of Labor, it was learned that that Department took no administrative action against Collins.
(65-56402-1473)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No information was submitted by Whittaker Chambers pertaining to Henry Hill Collins, Jr., during the interview conducted on May 13, 1942, by agents of our New York Office.
(100-25824-22)

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

No reference appeared in the notes furnished this Bureau in June, 1943, by Mr. A. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State, covering his interview with Whittaker Chambers in 1939.
(100-25824-27)

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, agents of our New York Office interviewed Whittaker Chambers. During this interview, Chambers advised that he was a courier in what he believed to be the Communist movement, and that around 1935 he operated between Alexander Stevens (who was known to him as Peter) in New York City, and Harold Ware, leader of a group of men composed of Government employees in high salaried positions who were Communist Party members.

Chambers explained that there were approximately eight individual members in the organization headed by Ware, and that almost every one of these members was himself a leader of another underground unit operating in Washington, D. C., which consisted of some six to eight members; that the members of each of these underground units were not aware of the identity or composition of any of the other units.

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Chambers said that Henry Collins, at that time in the Forestry Department of the Department of Agriculture, was one of the persons who attended meetings of the Ware group. Others who attended these meetings were John Abt, Lee Pressman, Nathan Perlow, Charles Krivitsky with alias Charles Kramer, Alger Hiss, Donald Hiss, - - - - Post, Nathan Witt, and an unknown man who was the husband of Alice Pendham. Chambers advised that the Ware group met in various places in Washington, D. C., but that the principal meeting place was the apartment of Henry Collins on St. Matthews Court over a garage. Collins, according to Chambers, was the treasurer of the group and apparently collected a percentage of the salary of each member which was then transmitted to Peter in New York City. He added that Collins had some regular way of sending money to New York which was unknown to Chambers, but on several occasions when this system had broken down, he, Chambers, was instructed by Collins to deliver a package which he was told contained money to Peter. He explained in this connection that he never at any time knew what was actually in any of the packages or envelopes which he transmitted and that he never tried to inquire as to their contents on the assumption that such inquiry would arouse the distrust of his correspondents.

Chambers related that after Harold Ware's death, a meeting was held in Collins' apartment at which the latter was present for the purpose of electing a new leader for the group. John Abt was elected as the new leader at this meeting.
(65-56402-1473)

IV(B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

At the time that Whittaker Chambers furnished the above information, Henry Collins was in the Army. He had entered active service November 30, 1943, as a Captain. He was separated from service on May 6, 1946, at which time he held the rank of Major. During a portion of the time he was enlisted in the Army, he served overseas in the European Theater of Operations.
(65-56402-1473)

Following his separation from service, Collins took a position with the Department of State. In November, 1946, he was released from his position with the Department of State actually for security purposes, but ostensibly because of reduction in force. An investigation was undertaken of Collins immediately upon his release from service. This investigation reflected that he was a close friend of Alger Hiss and his wife, and of Bela and Sonia Gold, both of whom are subjects in the Silvermaster Case.
(65-56402, Serial 1473)

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The investigation developed that Collins held Government positions almost continuously from 1933 until November, 1946, with the exception of the period during which he was an officer in the United States Army.

At the present time a separate case file has been opened on Collins whereas the results of the investigation of his activities previous to March, 1948, were set forth in the Silvermaster Case file. This investigation is in a pending status. The information furnished by Whittaker Chambers concerning Henry Collins was set forth in the Silvermaster Case. Summaries prepared in this case have been furnished to the White House, the Department of Justice, and other Governmental agencies. Under date of March 9, 1948, the Washington Field Office submitted a report setting forth a summary of all information revealed in the Field Office files relating to Collins and showing that the investigation is continuing. A copy of this report was forwarded to Colonel Forney, Intelligence Division, Department of the Army, on May 21, 1948. A copy was also furnished to the Division of Records on June 14, 1948.
(101-1335-18)

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LAUCHLIN BERNARD CURRIE
was., Laughlin Currie

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was conducted concerning the captioned individual prior to the receipt of information concerning him from Whittaker Chambers.

II CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

The name of Currie was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes of Mr. Berle of the State Department concerning his original interview with Chambers in September, 1939, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943, reflect the following: Laughlin Currie was a "Fellow Traveler" - helped various Communists - never went the whole way. (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau failed to reflect that any investigation was conducted on the basis of the reference to Currie in the Berle notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Currie's name was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by New York Agents on May 10, 1945.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Bureau files fail to reflect that any investigation was initiated concerning Currie on the basis of the reference to him in the Berle notes. There is also no indication in the files that the information contained in the Berle notes concerning Currie was distributed outside of the Bureau prior to the interview with Elizabeth Bentley in the Gregory Case in the fall of 1945. As a result of the information which she furnished, a letter was sent to Brigadier General Harry H. Vaughan, Military Aide to the President on November 8, 1945 advising him that a highly confidential source had furnished information indicating a number of persons employed in the government had been furnishing data and information to persons outside of the federal government, who were in turn transmitting this information to agents of the

Soviet government. A list of individuals who participated in this operation or were utilized by the principals in the ring was set out. This list included Laughlin Currie, former administrative advisor to the late President Roosevelt. (61-3499-192)

Subsequently on February 25, 1946 a memorandum dated February 21, 1946 and captioned, "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in agencies of the United States Government" was furnished to General Vaughan, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General. This memorandum in addition to information received from Elizabeth Bentley, contained information in the Bureau files concerning Currie, including the information submitted by Whittaker Chambers as contained in the Berle notes. (65-56402-573)

No investigation of Currie has been conducted except that conducted in connection with the Gregory Case with which you are familiar.

CHARLES DIRBA, AKA. CHARLES LAPIN

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Charles Dirba first came to the attention of the Bureau in August, 1919, at which time he was Secretary of the State Socialist Party of the State of Minnesota. From that time until the present, Dirba has received active investigation by Agents of this Bureau. Dirba signed the charter of the Communist Party of America on December 30, 1919, at Chicago, Illinois, as Executive Secretary. Dirba became a member of the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party, USA in 1927. He went on missions to the Soviet Union in 1928, 1930, 1934, 1935, and 1936. Maurice Malkin indicated to the Dies Committee in 1939 that Dirba was an OGPU representative in the United States and a member of the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party, USA. Jan Valtin, author of "Out Of The Night," in 1941 informed that Dirba was considered an Agent of the GPU in the United States at the time he, Valtin, left the Communist Party in 1937. Ben Gitlow testified before the Dies Committee that it was his understanding that Dirba was an OGPU Agent. At the present time Dirba is active in the ordinary affairs of the Communist Party, having transferred his membership from New York City to Los Angeles in 1947, but there is no indication that he is a functionary in the Party. (61-1651-1, 91)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated that Charles Dirba, head of the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party for years, was understood by Chambers to be connected with the OGPU. Chambers also indicated that it was his understanding that the OGPU operated through Dirba rather than through Browder. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Extensive investigation conducted with regard to Charles Dirba failed to definitely establish his connection with the OGPU. Various informants from time to time have indicated his connection with the OGPU. (61-1651-91)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

No reference to Dirba was found in the copy of the Berle notes furnished the Bureau in June, 1943.

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IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, at which time no mention was made of Charles Dirba.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation indicated. The active investigation with regard to Charles Dirba has continued up to the present time, although his case file is carried in a closed status as of January 27, 1948. All pertinent information obtained by the Los Angeles Field Office is currently being furnished to the Bureau. Information relative to Charles Dirba has been furnished from time to time in the form of investigative reports to the Division of Records. (61-1651)

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As Return to Mr. F.L. Jones

LAURENCE DUGGAN, also known as:
Laurence Duggin, Laurence H. Duggan

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was conducted with regard to Duggan. However, the Bureau files reveal the following information concerning him. His name appeared on the mailing list of the United American Spanish Aid Committee in 1941. His name and address were found on the person of Joris Ivens, an active Communist Party member from Berlin and Moscow. Ivens was a suspected member of the Soviet Secret Intelligence Service (NKVD). (100-251233-25)

On May 6, 1942, Duggan wrote a letter to Richard Sommers, the subject of an extensive Espionage - G investigation by the Bureau, on the letterhead of Advisor of Public Relations, Department of State, in which he indicated that he had known Sommers for a number of years. On June 29, 1942, Sommers wrote a letter to Duggan which indicated that they were close friends, and thanked Duggan for making it possible for his wife, Olga Sommers, to come to the United States. Duggan was later interviewed by representatives of the Military Intelligence Division of the Department of the Army, relative to this matter, at which time he advised these representatives that he had never heard of Richard Sommers. (100-251233-25)

The name Laurence H. Duggan appeared on the letterhead of the "Open Road, Inc." as a member of the Board of Directors of that organization. Frederick V. Field, reported to be a Communist Party member and sponsor of many Communist front organizations, was listed as President of this organization. (100-31230-2)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers advised Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, that Laurence Duggin, who was then Chief of the Latin-American Section of the Department of State, was not a Party member and was not connected with the Communist underground group, but was presumably with the OGPU, because of his contacts with Hedda Gomperts, whom he knew to be a Communist Party member. (100-25824-12)

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation conducted with regard to Duggan. However, an active investigation was conducted in order to ascertain the activities of Hedda Gomperts (Hedi Massing).

E.R. Clayton/de
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III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES FURNISHED IN JUNE, 1943

Copies of the Berle notes which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943, indicate that Berle was advised by Chambers that there was considerable doubt in his mind as to whether or not Duggan was a member of the Communist Party. Chambers indicated that Duggan might be a member of the Communist Shop Group of the Department of State. (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted with regard to Duggan. However, the active investigation of Hedi Gomperts was continued during this period. It was ascertained that Duggan resigned from the State Department in the latter part of July, 1944. (65-9940-94)

A summary memorandum of available information concerning Duggan's activities was furnished to the Department of State on September 29, 1944. (100-251233-25)

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers advised Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, that Duggan associated with Hedda Gomperts, whom he knew to be a Communist and that he suspected Duggan of at least being a fellow traveler. Chambers had no information indicating Communist Party membership on the part of Duggan. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted. However, at the conclusion of the Hedi Gassing investigation, she was interviewed, at which time she stated that to the best of her knowledge, Duggan was not a member of the Communist Party nor an agent of the OGPU. She stated that she had attempted to recruit Duggan into the Soviet Intelligence Service but had been unsuccessful. The following is a brief summary of other available information contained in the files of the Bureau concerning Duggan:

It was reported that Duggan was friendly with Enrique de Lozada, a South American Communist. (100-251233-25)

Duggan participated in a conference on "U.S. Policy Toward Argentina," sponsored by the Council for the Pan-American Democracy on March 25, 1944. (100-13361-23)

Duggan is reported to be on friendly terms with Frederick V. Field, a reported Communist, and to have had considerable correspondence with him. (64-200-224-8)

During another investigation it was ascertained that Duggan was friendly with Joseph Starobin, Foreign Editor of the Daily Worker. (65-52109-514, Page 41)

The name Laurence Duggan appeared on the letterhead of the Americans United for World Organization, Inc. as a member of the Board of Trustees in July of 1945. (100-90431-19)

Sir Bernard Pares completed a speaking tour of the Middle East in October of 1947, during which time he maintained that the objectives of the Soviet Union are peaceful, and he indicated further that there was little likelihood of war. Among other things, Sir Bernard also stated that the Russians "have a right to the Dardanelles" and, also: "They should have a chance at the Mediterranean." His speaking tour was sponsored by the Institute of International Education, New York City, and was arranged by Laurence Duggan, Director of the Institute.

(100-33[illegible]-42)

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[illegible] U.S.S.R.
was., Edwards, Hans Berger
Samuel Liptzen

I [illegible]

An investigation of Gerhart Eisler was instituted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation upon Eisler's arrival in the United States on July 13, 1941. This investigation, which is still continuing, resulted in the conviction of Gerhart Eisler on August 15, 1947 in the District Court, District of Columbia for fraud in obtaining an exit visa (Title 22, Section 223). Evidence was produced at the trial based upon the investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation proving Eisler had operated as a Comintern Agent in the United States under the names of Edwards and Hans Berger. It was also proved that he had obtained a false United States passport in 1934 under the name of Samuel Liptzen. Eisler was sentenced to one year on a contempt of Congress charge on March 24, 1943 and sentenced to a term of one to three years on exit visa fraud on June 27, 1947. Eisler at the present time is on bond pending appeals in both cases. ([illegible]-625)

II [illegible] MAY 13, 1942

Chambers did not mention Eisler during this interview.

III CHAMBERS' [illegible] IN EARLY NOVEMBER 1942 AND IN JUNE, 1943

Eisler is not mentioned in the Early Notes.

1. (A) [illegible] MAY 10, 1945

Chambers furnished information on May 10, 1945 to the effect that he knew that the name Edwards was an alias of Gerhart Eisler. He pointed out that J. Peters, his Soviet superior, was a very close friend of Eisler and at one time shared a summer cottage with him at an unknown location. Chambers stated that the many conversations he had with J. Peters, he heard Eisler spoken of only as Edwards and he had learned Eisler's true identity from Willi Schlamm, Editor of Fortune magazine and a former Communist in Austria. According to Chambers, J. Peters, in discussing Edwards, always considered him very highly and stated that Edwards had fallen into disrepute at one time over the question of internal policies in Germany, as punishment for which he was sent to China as a Comintern representative in the early 1930's. Chambers also learned from J. Peters that Edwards later came to the

United States as a Comintern representative. Chambers stated that Eisler counsels the leaders of the Communist Party, U. S. A. in order to maintain the Party line for Moscow. Chambers stated that he also understood that Eisler wrote for the Daily Worker under the alias of Hans Berger.

Chambers recalled that sometime in 1936 Agnes Smedley, who had been an important pro-Soviet propagandist in China, returned to the United States and he told Peters he would like to meet her. Later Peters arranged the meeting and upon seeing Chambers she stated, "I thought I was going to meet Edwards." Chambers also recalled that William Weiner, an important Party functionary, was a close contact of Edwards.

(100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On the basis of the information from Chambers no specific additional investigation was conducted as there was already an extremely active investigation of Eisler; however, Chambers' information did substantiate information from other sources and proved to be accurate in so far as it could be verified.

Kisseloff-26181

SCOTT FERRIS

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Information available in the files of the Bureau indicate that Sam Carp, Russian-born naturalized American citizen and brother-in-law of Molotov, testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on September 18, 1939, at which time he advised the Committee that he had engaged the services of Scott Ferris, a former Congressman and then Democratic National Committeeman from Oklahoma, to represent him in their negotiations to purchase two U. S. battleships for the USSR. He indicated to the Committee that he had paid Scott Ferris $32,000 for his services. (100-5193-A and 40)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

At the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, no mention was made of Scott Ferris.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None indicated.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Chambers indicated to Mr. A. A. Berle, the then Assistant Secretary of the Department of State, at the time Mr. Berle interviewed Chambers, that one "Karp", brother-in-law of Molotov, was said to be working with Scott Ferris to obtain plans for two super battleships in 1937. (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In view of the above known information concerning former Congressman Ferris, no investigation was deemed necessary.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

At the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, no mention was made of Scott Ferris.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

"The Current Biography" for July, 1945, indicated that Scott Ferris was born November 3, 1877 and died June 9, 1945. It was also indicated that he was a former United States Congressman from Oklahoma and served as Democratic National Committeeman from Oklahoma for sixteen years. (94-3-4-1115-47)

FREDERICK VANDERBILT FIELD, AKA. FREDERICK SPENCER

I - INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

Field has been the subject of an intensive investigation by the Bureau since February, 1941. Considerable information has been developed relative to his association with various Communist front and Communist organizations. Former confidential informant [redacted] former member of the Communist Party, discontinued) furnished information indicating that Field was a member of the Communist Party and extremely active in numerous Communist front groups. Investigation has revealed that he is Managing Editor of New Masses, a writer for the Daily Worker and Political Affairs, a Director on the Board of Trustees of the Jefferson School of Social Science, and is affiliated with numerous organizations including the Committee for Democratic Far Eastern Policy, of which he is a Director. Field is known to make regular contributions to many Communist front organizations, the more prominent being American Youth for Democracy, Spanish Refugee Appeal, Committee for Democratic Far Eastern Policy, Soviet Russia Today, National Council of American Soviet Friendship, and American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born. Field attended Communist Party National Convention and Communist Political Association Rally, both in New York City in 1944. Investigation in this case indicates that Field is presently active in his Communist front associations and activities. (100-2278-73, 35, 42, 46)

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II (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated Frederick Vanderbilt Field, a former official of the Institute for Pacific Relations, was believed by him to be the center of a Communist underground apparatus. Chambers indicated that Field, his wife Edith, his mother Lila, and one Joseph Barnes were the chief members of this apparatus. Chambers advised that one Peter, last name unknown to him, had related the above information to him. Chambers indicated that either Field's wife or his mother had furnished a home on Central Park West, New York City, for the use of this underground movement. Chambers also indicated that it was his belief that Peter had recruited Field into the Communist Party. (100-2582-22)

II (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

As a result of Chambers' information, the investigation in this case was intensified in the early part of 1943. Information relative to Field's connection with the Communist Party was obtained as a result of the intensive investigation. There was no information obtained indicating that Field's wife or mother were connected with the Communist Party. There was no information

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developed indicating that Field had organized a Communist underground apparatus. There was no separate investigation conducted with regard to Field's wife or mother. The investigation did reveal, however, that Field's mother, Mrs. Lila Vanderbilt Field, died in Lenox, Massachusetts, in 1925. (100-2278-35)

III (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN WHITE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1945.

At the time Mr. A. A. Berle, the then Assistant Secretary of the Department of State, interviewed Chambers, no reference was made to Frederick Vanderbilt Field. (100-35824)

III (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation indicated.

IV (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS OF MAY 10, 1945.

Whittaker Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, at which time he furnished virtually the same information as set forth above. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

The active investigation of Frederick Vanderbilt Field continued but no information developed indicating his membership in a Communist underground group. Field is presently carried as a key figure by the New York Field Office and all information of a pertinent nature is promptly furnished to the Bureau. Copies of all reports of a pertinent nature have been forwarded to the Division of Records. Information relative to Field has also been disseminated to the Office of Naval Intelligence, Intelligence Department of the Army, and to the Department of State. (100-2278-16, 23, 28, 32, 35, 37, 39, 40)

Kisseloff-26184

MRS. FREDERICK VANDERBILT FIELD,
AKA MRS. EDITH CHAMBERLIN FIELD

I - INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WITNESS' ALLEGATIONS.

The Bureau has not conducted a separate investigation with regard to Mrs. Field. Through the intensive investigation conducted on her husband, Frederick Vanderbilt Field, very little information has been developed indicating Communist activity on the part of Mrs. Field. On January 5, 1944, Frederick Vanderbilt Field, Max Yergan and Edith Chamberlin Field took title to the premises located at 23 West 26th Street, New York City. This building has, since its acquisition by Field, Yergan and Field, been occupied by various organizations including the Council on African Affairs, Council for Pan-American Democracy, American Committee for Protection of the Foreign Born, Institute for International Democracy, Hungarian American Committee for Democracy, Indonesian Committee, and the Voice of Fighting Spain. There has been no information developed indicating that Mrs. Field took part in the activities of these organizations. It is known, however, that Mrs. Field's home, 16 East 12th Street, New York City, has been used as a meeting place for prominent Communists for special meetings. It is also known that her husband leased an apartment located at 1110 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., on September 9, 1943, for the use of the American Peace Mobilization. (100-22[illegible]-55, 73)

II (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated that Frederick Vanderbilt Field, his wife and his mother, were the chief members of a Communist underground apparatus. Chambers also indicated that either Field's wife or his mother furnished a home on Central Park West, New York City, for use as a headquarters for this underground apparatus. (100-25[illegible]-22)

II (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation was conducted with respect to Chambers' allegations regarding the activities of Mrs. Edith Chamberlin Field. As pointed out above, however, considerable information was developed concerning Mrs. Field during the investigation of her husband. To date no information has been received indicating that Mrs. Field was a member of a Communist underground movement. During the investigation of Field, it was determined that his home had been made available for prominent Communists in New York City. (100-2270-39)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

ERC:rcv

Kisseloff-26185

III (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BUFILE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

At the time Mr. A. A. Berle, the then Assistant Secretary of the Department of State, interviewed Chambers, no reference was made to Mrs. Edith Chamberlin Field. (100-2582-27)

III (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation indicated.

IV (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Whittaker Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, at which time he did not furnish any information relative to Mrs. Edith Chamberlin Field. (100-2582-36)

IV (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation indicated.

Kisseloff-26186

PJC:vab

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Kohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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Kisseloff-26187

NOEL HAVILAND FIELD

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Field's activities were first called to the Bureau's attention in 1926 by the Industrial Defense Association, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts, which furnished information reflecting that he was a member of the "Disloyal Fellowship of Youth for Peace." It was also indicated that his mother and wife were members of the Red Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. These data were furnished the State Department on November 23, 1926. (105-2175-X, X1)

In 1928 Field was employed by the Department of State and continued this employment until approximately 1940 or 1941. (105-2175-15)

J. B. Matthews testified before the Dies Committee on November 7, 1938, at which time he related that, according to his personal knowledge, Noel Field, who was at that time employed by the Department of State, was a member of the Communist Party. (105-2175-15)

Addition information was furnished to the Department of State by letter dated October 29, 1940. By letter dated March 27, 1941, the Department of State was further advised that Field was reliably reported as a member of the Communist Party.

Information received July 28, 1941, indicated that the name Noel H. Field, 419 Fourth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., appeared on the mailing list of Friends of the Soviet Union. (100-7045-95 x2)

In 1941 or 1942, while in Europe, Field became a representative of the Unitarian Service Committee. (100-2175-4)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

At the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, no mention was made of Noel Haviland Field.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation indicated.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

At the time Mr. A. A. Berle, the then Assistant Secretary of the Department of State, interviewed Chambers, he was advised by Chambers that an

individual named Field (FNU) was believed to be a member of the Communist Party. It was indicated that Field was employed in the Western European Section of the Department of State at that time. No further identification was made of this individual at that time. However, he has since been identified by Dr. Paul Wilhelm Massing and his wife, Hedi, as Noel Haviland Field.

(100-25824-27
105-2175-X,X1,X2,15)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation conducted.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Field's name was not mentioned during the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted with regard to this individual at that time, as he was out of the United States. In November, 1947 an active investigation was undertaken on the basis of other data to the effect he was an espionage agent.

On March 3, 1948, a 15-page summary memorandum containing information available in the Bureau's files concerning Field was furnished to the Central Intelligence Agency. This memorandum reflects that Field, who has for some years been employed in Europe by the Unitarian Service Committee in the direction of their relief program, was employed by the Department of State from 1928 until about 1940 or 1941. Field's pro-Communist activities were reflected in this memorandum. Considerable information was also furnished concerning him as obtained from Hedi Massing, who indicated that after leaving the Department of State, Field had worked with the League of Nations and that he had been used as a Soviet agent. (105-2175-X,X1,X2, 15)

CHARLES SIDNEY FLATO

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

A Special Inquiry investigation was initiated on December 31, 1941, concerning Flato at the request of the Office for Emergency Management. Copies of reports reflecting the results of the investigation were furnished to the OEM during the first four months of 1942, the last report being furnished on April 14, 1942. The investigation reflected that one informant stated that Flato joined the Communist Party in Boston in 1934, but had since changed his views and was regarded as a Socialist. However, he was not known to have renounced his affiliation with the Communist Party. The investigation also reflected employment in a Communist Party book store in Boston in 1934. On April 24, 1943, a three-page summary of the results of the Special Inquiry investigation was furnished to Captain W. D. Puleston, Secretary, Office of the Board of Economic Warfare, pursuant to the request of that organization on April 6, 194[illegible].

A Hatch Act investigation was initiated on October 25, 1944, when it was ascertained that Flato was employed by the Office of Economic Warfare. This investigation was closed on February 14, 1945. This investigation disclosed the same information as had previously been obtained in the Special Inquiry. The file does not reflect that any distribution of the results of this investigation was made until April 12, 1948, at which time a copy of the report was submitted to the Division of Records. It is noted that a summary of the information in the Bureau files had previously been furnished to the Board of Economic Warfare on April 24, 1943.

During the investigation of the Gregory Case, it was reflected that Flato was in contact with numerous subjects of the Gregory Case. An Internal Security case was initiated concerning him in December, 1947. This investigation reflects that Flato is no longer connected with the Government. (77-14177)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers did not refer to Flato or to an individual of the same description as Flato during the interview of May 13, 1942, by Agents of the New York Office.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN [illegible] OCTOBER [illegible], 1943

Flato was not mentioned in Mr. Berle notes.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clo[illegible]
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lan[illegible]
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Egan
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Harbo
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ETT:hp hp

Kisseloff-26190

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers by New York Agents on May 10, 1945, Chambers, while discussing an individual by the name of Post, whom he identified as Editor of the Foreign Service Journal in 1934, indicated that he had gone to Post's home in Alexandria, Virginia, at which time he was accompanied by a little hunchback who was then employed on a WPA Writer's Project in Washington, which was headed by Henry Alsberg. Chambers' purpose in going to Post's home was to address a small unit meeting of the Communist underground, of which Post was the leader. (100-25-24-36)

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Files of the Bureau fail to reflect that any specific investigation has been conducted concerning Chambers' allegation. It is noted, however, that his description of the person who accompanied him to this meeting fits the description of Charles Sidney Flato very closely, and it is believed the individuals are identical. As noted above, Flato was the subject of an investigation prior to Chambers' allegations.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
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Mr. Hamilton
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ISAAC FOLKOFF, with aliases
Sam Falcoff, Sam Falconvitch,
Isaac Falclonoff, "Volkov," "Walkoff,"
"Dad," "Old Man"

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Active investigation of Isaac Folkoff, with aliases, was initiated at San Francisco, California, following receipt of a complaint on November 13, 1940, indicating that Folkoff was one of the leading Communists in San Francisco and was believed to be closely connected with financial affairs of the Communist Party. (100-19248-1)

This investigation indicated that Folkoff, of Russian origin, a naturalized United States citizen, was the proprietor of an embroidery and pleating company in San Francisco; was active in Communist Party affairs; and was constantly supplying amounts of money to Party members and officials. Inquiry showed him to be in close association with William Schneiderman, California State Secretary of the Communist Party. (100-19248-1)

On October 16, 1941, a dossier was forwarded to the Special Defense Unit of the Department of Justice outlining available information concerning Folkoff. (100-19248-6)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers, when interviewed on the above date by Bureau Agents, advised that an individual by the name of "Volkov" (phonetic) was said to have been in charge of the Underground on the West Coast with Headquarters in San Francisco, and that this individual's daughter was supposed to have been a courier between Moscow and the United States. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

By letter dated July 6, 1942, the Bureau advised the San Francisco Office of the information furnished by Chambers and indicated that the individual referred to by Chambers would appear to be identical with Isaac Folkoff, the subject of the then pending investigation by the San Francisco Office. The San Francisco Office was instructed to conduct a vigorous and continuous investigation concerning this matter in view of the allegations received from Chambers. (100-19248-17)

By report dated January 4, 1943, San Francisco submitted information concerning Folkoff indicating that he was running a successful

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Mr. L. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Sandy

R.C. Godfrey:mer

business in San Francisco and that he was then a member of the Executive Committee of a local section of the Communist Party. Available sources reported that Folkoff was a financial agent for the Party and was believed to have received regularly funds dispatched from the Soviet Union by special couriers. Sources reported that Folkoff continued to be closely affiliated with financial affairs of the Party in both collecting and supplying money in the conduct of Communist affairs. Folkoff was reported by another source to have made a trip to the Soviet Union in 1935. (This report was furnished to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice and is noted to have contained the substance of Chambers' allegations.) (100-19248-49)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The following reference was contained in the Berle notes obtained on the above-indicated date:

West Coast - Head: "The Old Man" - Volkov is his real name - daughter a Comintern courier. He knows the West Coast underground - Residence: San Francisco or Oakland - (100-25824-27)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear from the Bureau files that the information contained in the Berle notes was forwarded to the Field at this time. It is to be noted, however, that this information is practically identical with that previously furnished to the San Francisco Office.

The investigation of Isaac Folkoff was continuing in the Field and reflected that Folkoff in 1943 occupied the position of Communist Party auditor for the 13th District at San Francisco. Information was developed concerning the possible identity of a Russian agent who reportedly brought money to Folkoff from the Soviet Union in 1932. (100-19248-80) A check of State Department records in Washington, D. C., verified the fact that Folkoff had made a trip in 1935 to Europe, allegedly to Latvia. These records also indicated that Folkoff was born January 10, 1881, in Latvia (then Russia); arrived in the United States in January, 1904; and was naturalized at Brooklyn, New York, on April 9, 1912. (100-19248-82) At San Francisco it was determined that Folkoff, in addition to his previously described activities, had become an instructor in social theory at the Communist Party sponsored Tom Mooney Labor School. His close association with top functionaries continued. (100-19248-88)

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Information developed at San Francisco in February, 1944, indicated that in addition to prominent Communist contacts, Folkoff was maintaining connections with Soviet representatives at the San Francisco Soviet Consulate, including Gregori Kheifets. (100-19248-102) The reported contact with Kheifets continued during June of 1944. (100-19248-111)

During the latter part of 1944 and early 1945, information was received that Folkoff was a charter member of the Communist Party in the United States and had been active in Communist affairs since 1919. There was no indication of further contacts with Soviet Consular officials following the departure of Kheifets in July, 1944. However, Folkoff continued regular contacts with an individual associated with the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission and was known to have had confidential conversations with Stirling Hayden of the U. S. Marine Corps then assigned to OSS. The informant reported that Folkoff had been the individual instrumental in interesting Hayden in Communism. (100-19248-130)

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

When interviewed by Bureau Agents on the above date Chambers stated that he had also met a man by the name of Volkov (phonetic) who was referred to by Peter (Alexander Stevens) as the "Old Man." He added that Peter had mentioned him many times as the leader of the Underground on the West Coast and pointed out that he had been located somewhere near San Francisco. Chambers added that Walkoff (as indicated in the text of New York letter of June 26, 1945, reflecting the results of the interview) gave the impression of being a very efficient businessman and he believed that he had conducted some kind of a successful business in the neighborhood of San Francisco. A story which he had been told by someone whose identity he could not recall was to the effect that Walkoff had sold all of his possessions and interests in the United States at one time and had gone to Russia for the purpose of living there but that he had been so disgusted with Russian living conditions that he had returned to the United States as soon as he could. Chambers described Walkoff as follows:

Age	Upper 50's in the 1930's
Height	5' 6"
Build	Slim
Characteristics	Good natured, joking, very smooth in conversation. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Following the 1945 interview as reflected above the Bureau by letter dated July 10, 1945, instructed the New York Office to recontact

Chambers regarding "Volkov" or "Walkoff" (phonetic), indicating that this individual was believed to be identical with Isaac Folkoff, the subject of a pending San Francisco investigation. New York was advised to exhibit a photograph of Folkoff to Chambers for positive identification purposes. (100-25824-36)

The New York Office by letter dated August 21, 1945, furnished a copy of the results of the Chambers interview of May 10, 1945, to the San Francisco Office for their information in connection with the Folkoff investigation and requested photographs of Folkoff from San Francisco for purposes of exhibition to Chambers, preferably photographs available of Folkoff taken during the early or middle 1930's. It does not appear from the Bureau files that such photographs were ever identified by Chambers. (100-25824-37)

Investigation of Folkoff was continuing and it was determined on June 12, 1945, that Folkoff met with Stepan Apresian, Soviet Vice Consul in San Francisco, which meeting took place on the street under suspicious circumstances. (100-19248) Through highly confidential sources the Communist registration of Folkoff was determined and in 1945 he was known to hold the positions of Secretary and Educational Director of the local Communist Political Association District. In addition he was known to be a member of the State Finance Committee of the Communist Political Association in California. Sources reported that Folkoff continued occasional contacts with the Soviet Consulate. However, this information was not further confirmed. (100-19248-149) (C)

As late as February, 1948, Folkoff continued to be very active in Communist Party affairs in the San Francisco area, particularly in the financial affairs of the Party. (100-19248-201)

Inasmuch as later reports of the investigation concerning Folkoff included references to then pending highly confidential Soviet espionage investigations, including the Comrap Case, these reports were apparently not distributed to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice. Accordingly, on May 27, 1948, a letter was directed to the San Francisco Office instructing that Office to prepare a summary type report carefully protecting all sources of information and confidential informants in order that the full results of the Folkoff investigation might be distributed to the Division of Records. (100-19248-204)

Information concerning Folkoff as a person in contact with Gregori Markovich Kheifets, former Vice Consul of the USSR at San Francisco, as well as other connections of Folkoff, were contained in the summary entitled "Soviet Espionage in the U.S.", dated December 12, 1945. This summary was distributed to the White House, Attorney General, State Department, War Department, and the Treasury Department. (C)

Information concerning Folkoff's position as financial advisor of the Communist Party in California was included in a summary entitled "Comintern Apparatus", dated March 5, 1946, copies of which were distributed to the White House, Attorney General, State Department, and Navy Department.

Kisseloff 26195

WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Foster, who has for many years been one of the leading figures of the Communist movement in this country, was the subject of a periodic investigation from 1921 to 1942. An active investigation was instituted in April, 1942, and has continued to the present time. Copies of reports since that date have been furnished to the Division of Records as received. (61-330)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Foster was not mentioned in the interview held on May 13, 1942 with Chambers by New York Agents.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1945

Foster's name was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During Chambers' interview by New York Agents on May 10, 1945, while discussing his reasons for breaking with the Communist Party, Chambers pointed out that Browder, Bittelman, and Foster, to control the Party, instituted one of the worst minor reigns of terror he had ever known and that as a result of this he had resigned his editorship of the "Daily Worker" and had quit the Party. (100-25824-36)

IV (A). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In view of the nature of Chambers' reference to Foster, no specific investigation concerning Chambers' reference was made.

ETT:hp

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Traer
Mr. Egan
Mr. Carnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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BENJAMIN FRIEDMAN
([illegible])

I. [illegible]

Active investigation was initiated of an individual known as Benjamin Fields in June, 1941, on the basis of information contained in the Bureau files reflecting that Fields, who had numerous aliases, including: Isadore Friedman, Issac Friedman, Issadore Friedman Osachuk, Isadore Fredman, and Benny Isadore, was an active member of the Communist Party and was considered the chief Communist leader on the Atlantic Coast. The information indicated that he resided in Baltimore and was listed in the Daily Worker of September 15, 1937 as a District Organizer of the Communist Party. The files also reflected that he had been arrested on several occasions and had contributed to Communist publications, including the anthology entitled "Proletarian Literature in the United States," published by the International Publishers Company in 1935.

The investigation was continued until October, 1946, at which time it was closed. It reflected that the true name of Fields was [illegible] Bragin, who was born in Russia in 1901. He received citizenship by virtue of his father's naturalization in 1917. He is alleged to have joined the Communist Party in 1923 and visited Russia in 1934, at which time he visited collective farms and attended a Writers' Congress held in Moscow. He was designated District Organizer for the Communist Party in the Baltimore and Washington District from 1937 to 1940. He has contributed to Communist publications, and his first novel "The Outside Leaf," had been completed as of October, 1943. Available sources indicate that the Communist Party considers him a good writer and he has had several of his short stories published in the Daily Worker. In 1946 he published a book entitled, "Piper Tompkins." He has resided in the New York and Connecticut areas since 1941. (100-24601)

II. [illegible] MAY 13, 1942

This individual was not referred to by Chambers during an interview with him conducted by New York Agents on May 13, 1942.

III ([illegible]) [illegible], 1943

The notes of Mr. Berle, copies of which were made available to the Bureau, in June, 1943, included a reference to the above-captioned individual as follows:

"Yeno Connected with Baltimore Party Organizer - Benjamin (Dundey) Friedman, Alias Field - then California - then Russia - now organizer for Baltimore and [illegible] of [illegible] - [illegible] connection.

ETT/de
9/3/48

(100-25824-27)

Kisseloff-26197

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau do not reflect that any specific investigation was conducted as a result of Chambers' allegations.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers by New York Agents on May 10, 1945, Chambers explained that Benjamin Friedman, who was nicknamed "Bundly," was a little fellow who had been hit on the head in a strike and had been sent to Russia for a rest cure. After his return to the United States he had been made cashier of the Communist Party cafeteria which had been run by the Party on Union Square in New York City. He related that one Peter had told him that Friedman had become District Organizer for Maryland and that in Baltimore he had taken the name of Field. He also recalled tht Field had originally come from California. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files do not reflect that any specific investigation was conducted as a result of Chambers' allegations in May, 1945. The Friedman referred to by Chambers is undoubtedly identical with Moses Bragin, and it should be noted that, as indicated above, an active investigation was instituted prior to the first interview with Chambers and the information furnished by him was already substantially available to the Bureau. A report dated January 7, 1944, setting out a summary of information available to the Bureau concerning Bragin was furnished to the Division of Records on January 29, 1944. Subsequent reports were furnished to the Division of Records as received from the field.

SENDER GARLIN

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Investigation of Garlin was initiated in July, 1941, on the basis of information in the Bureau files reflecting that Garlin was an elector of the Communist Party in the 1940 Presidential election, and that he was connected with the "Daily Worker." This investigation continued until May 12, 1947, at which time it was closed. The investigation reflected that Garlin was employed by the "Daily Worker" in 1932 and in 1946 was Feature Editor of that publication. He was the "Daily Worker" representative to Moscow in 1936, and was the Public Relations Director of the New York State Communist Political Association in 1944. He was Co-Chairman of the Education Committee of a New York City Club of the Communist Party in 1945 and has been a frequent speaker at various Communist Party functions. Copies of the reports submitted in this case were furnished to the Division of Records as received from the Field. (100-49101)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Garlin was not mentioned by Chambers during the May 13, 1942, interview.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Garlin was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945, by New York Agents, he advised that in the early part of 1924 he asked several acquaintances where he could get in touch with American Communists. He finally contacted a Jewish friend, Sender Garlin, who was then connected with Russian Relief. Garlin introduced him to a man by the name of Charles Krieger (phonetic), who took him to a small Communist Party meeting in the Hudson River District, where he registered as a member of the Communist Party. (100-25824-36)

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As indicated above, Garlin has been the subject of an investigation since 1941, and no specific inquiries have been made as a result of Chambers' allegations in view of the nature of such allegations.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lamb
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Trac
Mr. Egan
Mr. Garnet
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ETT:hp

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Kisseloff-26199

HAROLD GLASSER

I. LOYALTY INFORMATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An active investigation concerning George was instituted on December 26, 1941, as a result of information contained in the Bureau files reflecting that George was an active member of the Communist Party. This investigation is still carried in a pending status. The investigation has reflected that he was a charter member of the Communist Party - USA, and is a brother-in-law of Earl Browder. He has been a member of the Central Committee, State Board, and State Committee of the Party in California. He was formerly Editor-in-Chief of the "Daily Peoples World" newspaper, but was relieved of this position in 1946 after criticism by Party leadership in California. He was tried by the Party on charges of factionalism, but William Z. Foster intervened and encouraged him to publicly announce his support of Party leadership. He complied and was not expelled from the Party. However, he was expelled from the Party on September 20, 1947, and has subsequently been in contact with other expelled members. (100-16155)

Copies of the reports of investigation of George were furnished to the Division of Records as received from the Field.

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN MAY 13, 1942

When interviewed on May 13, 1942, by New York Agents, Chambers stated that Harrison George, Browder's brother-in-law, might be of interest. George married Margaret Browder, who was later one of Krivitsky's assistants in Paris. George was active in the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat and Chambers was told that George was in charge of all kinds of underground work in the Far East and Japan, and that he had headquarters in San Francisco and Los Angeles. (100-25024-22) It is noted that this information was already available to the Bureau.

II (B). INVESTIGATION SINCE 1942

As noted above, George was already the subject of an investigation on the basis of Chambers' allegations. The investigation has failed to reflect that George is engaged in underground or espionage activities.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN WORLD NOTES DURING JUNE, 1943

George was not mentioned in the World notes.

IV. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

George was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by New York Agents on May 10, 1945.

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
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Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
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Miss Gandy

ETT:hp

Kisseloff-26200

[illegible] (referred to by
Chambers as Dr. Greenberg)

I. [illegible]

The captioned individual first came to the attention of the Bureau in connection with the case of Nicholas Dozenberg, who was arrested in Oregon in December, 1939 in connection with a passport fraud case. You will recall that Dozenberg later testified for the Government in the passport fraud case against Earl Browder. In subsequent interviews with Bureau Agents he admitted acting as an agent for Soviet military intelligence in the United States. He furnished considerable information concerning Dr. Philip Rosenbliett, a dentist in New York City, whose office was used by Soviet agents for making contacts with their couriers. Rosenbliett departed from the United States in the early 1930's, presumably for Russia. Investigation in 1940 reflected that he had resided at 143 West 87th Street before his departure from this country and that this address as of 1940 was occupied by Dr. [illegible] Greenberg as a residence and office. Greenberg was identified as Dr. Morris Greenberg; (wife: Clara) who graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University in 1917 and was a licensed pediatrician. He intened the Bellevue Hospital and received his diploma in June, 1919.
(61-6671-24,26,29)

Further inquiry concerning Rosenbliett reflected that Alla Rosenbliett acquired title to property at 89 West 119th Street, New York City in 1925 from her husband, Philip, and Morris and Clara Greenberg. The only encumbrance existing on the property was a power of attorney dated April 24, 1935 (subsequent to departure of Rosenbliett and his wife from the United States), appointing Morris Greenberg, 143 West 87th Street, as attorney to manage the property at 89 West 119th Street. Selective Service records in New York reflect that Greenberg was born June 6, 1890 in Romania. In 1942 he was employed by the New York City Department of Health as Epidemiologist, in charge of the Division of Epidemiology in the Bureau of Preventable Diseases. His duties consisted of supervising the investigation of all outbreaks of epidemics in New York City. Further inquiry reflected that he was naturalized February 1, 1912 in New York City and had been first employed by the City of New York in 1920. (6[illegible]-3[illegible]-37)

Another associate of Dozenberg in the Soviet Military Intelligence Service was Joseph Tourin, who was interviewed on April 13, 1940 by Agents of the Los Angeles Office. Tourin admitted contacts with Dozenberg, Rosenbliett and others, and acquaintance [illegible] with Lydia Stahl, who was also involved in Soviet Intelligence activities. He denied having acted as an agent for the Soviet Intelligence services or knowing that the other persons were acting as

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[illegible] agents. He did state that Rosenbliett is his brother-in-law, having married his wife's sister, Alla Greenberg. He stated that the Rosenblietts had a daughter who died of cancer about 1930 at the age of twelve and shortly thereafter they went to Russia, where they presumably still reside. (100-[illegible]6737-13)

II CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Greenberg was not mentioned during the interview with Chambers on May 13, 1942.

III (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes of Dr. Berle, copies of which were made available to the Bureau, contained the following reference to Greenberg:

"London
(1) Dr. Philip Rosenbliett - Formerly of (41st St. and B'way, N.Y.)
Dr. Greenberg, [illegible] (West 70th, New York
Brother-in-law
American leader of British Underground .
Head in America Back Morin (alias Philipovich
- allegedly Yugoslav)
real name - ?

([illegible])

III (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The Bureau files fail to reflect that any investigation was initiated as a result of Chambers' allegations as contained in Dr. Berle's notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers by New York Agents on May 10, 1945, while discussing Dr. Philip Rosenbliett, he recalled that Rosenbliett had occasionally talked about his brother-in-law, Dr. Greenberg, N.Y., who resided on West 70th Street in New York City. He never met Greenberg, but assumed that perhaps Greenberg was engaged in Communist underground activities. ([illegible])

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation has been conducted as a result of Chambers' allegations on May 10, 1945. The above information would indicate that Dr. Morris Greenberg is unambiguously identical with the Greenberg referred to by Chambers. It is noted

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that the Bureau conducted inquiries concerning Greenglass prior to the receipt of information from Chambers. These inquiries were for the purpose of identifying him and ascertaining his connection with Mr. Philip Rosenbleit. The inquiries failed to reflect that he was acting as a Soviet agent.

Kisseloff-26203

May6, 1942, reopened 3/3/43 & con-

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lack
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hartso
Mr. Kohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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A summary report dated June 2, 1943 was furnished to Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special War Policies Unit of the Department of Justice on July 20, 1943. Subsequent reports in this investigation were furnished to Mr. Smith and/or the Division of Records as received from the Field.
(65-5966)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

When interviewed by New York Agents on May 13, 1942, Chambers advised that the brother of Gertrude Haessler had been head of the "Federated Press" in Washington and was a very active Party (Communist Party) man. He indicated that the "Federated Press" was an organ filled with Communists and stated that Gertrude Haessler's brother as of 1942 was in the CIO. (100-25024-2)

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation has been conducted on the basis of the allegations of Chambers. It is to be noted, however, that as reflected above, the Bureau was cognizant of Haessler in 1923 and initiated an active investigation of him in 1939, prior to receipt of information from Chambers. The information furnished by Chambers was already available to the Bureau as of that time.

III CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN PERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

There is no reference to Haessler in the Perle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943.

IV ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Haessler was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by New York Agents on May 10, 1945.

[redacted] HARRIS

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Investigation of the captioned individual was initiated on March 10, 1941, on the basis of information received indicating that Harris was an active Communist and engaged in Communist activity. The investigation has continued to the present time and is still carried in a pending status. Investigation has disclosed that Harris has been an important member of the Communist Party for years and in June, 1946, was elected as permanent Secretary of the National Farm Commission of the Party. Confidential sources have advised that Harris was the treasurer of the secret funds of the Party, which can be used for undercover operations. He has been in contact with numerous national functionaries of the Party and with numerous known and suspected Soviet agents. From October, 1943, through January, 1944, pertinent reports were furnished to the Division of Records as they were submitted. The reports for the period of January, 1944, to July, 1947, were sent to the Division of Records on July 1, 1947, and subsequent reports were furnished as received. (100-15251)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS OF MAY 13, 1942

Chambers did not refer to Harris in the May 13, 1942, interview.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Harris was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS OF MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers by Agents in the New York Office on May 10, 1945, he failed to identify the photograph of Harris, but when the name was mentioned to him, he readily recalled that Harold Ware had talked to him about Harris, indicating that Harris was a close friend of Ware. Chambers was unable to recall further details.

IV (B). [redacted] GOOD

No specific efforts have been made to verify the alleged friendship between Harold Ware and Harris.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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
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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

ETT:hp

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ALGER HISS

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Alger Hiss was investigated in the latter part of 1941 and the early part of 1942 in accordance with the provisions of Public Law Number 135 (Hatch Act). At that time Hiss had been reported to be a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, according to the House Committee on Un-American activities. It was determined, however, that the name of Alger Hiss did not, in fact appear in the active indices of that organization, but that the name of his wife did. Since Hiss was then Assistant to the Advisor on Political Relations in the Department of State, a copy of the report on this investigation was furnished to the Secretary of State by letter dated March 24, 1942. This report set forth information furnished by a former fellow employee of Hiss' in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration that Hiss and his associates in the AAA if not Communists were fellow travelers. No other unfavorable information was developed, and Hiss himself denied in a sworn statement that he had ever been a member of the Communist Party, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action or any other organization advocating the overthrow of the government.

The State Department on March 26, 1942, advised that the report furnished to them afforded no basis for administrative action against Hiss. (101-2668-5 &6, 65-56402-695)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942, Chambers told Bureau agents that Alger Hiss and his brother Donald Hiss were members of the Communist Party underground organization in Washington which was headed by Harold Ware. Chambers described Alger Hiss as a former employee of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration who later served in the government's investigation of the munitions industry and subsequently became Assistant Solicitor General of the United States. After that position he became assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The Bureau's files do not disclose that any investigation was conducted in 1942 following Chambers allegations about Hiss.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The portion of the Berle notes which pertains to Alger Hiss reads as follows:

"Alger Hiss
Ass't to Sayre - CP - 1937
Member of the Underground Com. - Active

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Baltimore Boys
Wife - Priscilla Hiss - Socialist -
Early days of New Deal"

There is no record of any additional information furnished by Mr. Berle when those notes were obtained from him in June, 1943.

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No indication has been found in the Bureau's files to show that inquiry was made concerning Hiss in the light of Chambers' information concerning him as furnished by Mr. Berle. However, on March 27, 1945, a summary memorandum covering Alger Hiss' background and activities and the allegations of Chambers concerning him were submitted to Frederick B. Lyon of the State Department. The substance of this memorandum had been furnished by Mr. E. A. Tamm on March 24, 1945, to Robert Lynch, Special Assistant to the Secretary of State. (101-2065-9 and 10 and 12)

IV. (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

When interviewed on May 10, 1945, Chambers said that Hiss, who in the meantime had become General Secretary of the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, had met on several occasions with Harold Ware's group and that he had usually attended meetings of the group when they were held at Henry Collins' house. He said that when Hiss went with the Senate (Nye) Committee investigating the munitions industry, he was segregated from the group and had no more official contacts with them. He said, however, that Hiss did meet socially with many of them and was particularly close to John Abt's sister, Marian Bachrach. Chambers further stated that he had no reason to believe that Hiss had broken away from the Communist Party. As a reason for this belief he explained that after he, Chambers, had broken with the Party he had made a special trip to Hiss' home in Georgetown Section, Washington, for the purpose of persuading Hiss to leave the Party. Chambers explained that when he arrived Hiss' wife Priscilla was the only one there, and that while Chambers momentarily excused himself to go to the bathroom he observed Hiss' wife going to the telephone "obviously to get in touch with Party members." Chambers immediately returned to the room and awaited the arrival of Alger Hiss. When Hiss arrived they had dinner together at his home following which Chambers says he talked with him all night in an endeavor to persuade him to leave the Party. Chambers said that with tears streaming down his face Hiss had refused to break with the Communists and had given as his reason for not breaking his loyalty to his friends and principles. Chambers pointed out that in his opinion one of the strongest reasons for Hiss' maintaining contact with the Communist Party was the fanatical loyalty to the Communist Party on the part of his wife.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carn
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
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Miss Gandy

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Although no action was immediately taken concerning Chambers' additional information with respect to Hiss, it is to be noted that Hiss was also named by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley on November 7, 1945, as having been involved in a Soviet espionage ring.

Hiss, as a result, became the subject of intensive investigation in the development of the Silvermaster Case. In a memorandum dated November 30, 1945, the Attorney General was furnished information concerning Alger Hiss' alleged connection with a Communist underground group in Washington as furnished by Whittaker Chambers. (65-56402-94)

Since at that time Hiss was still employed in the Department of State information concerning him was again furnished on December 4, 1945, to the Secretary of State in a summary entitled Soviet Espionage in the United States, dated November 27, 1945. (61-3499-198,200)

Since that time numerous memoranda dealing with Soviet espionage activities in the United States furnishing the results of investigation of such activities and in which reference is made to Alger Hiss have been furnished to the White House, the Attorney General and to the interested agencies as will be noted in a memorandum briefing the Bureau's investigation of the Silvermaster Case.

It may be noted that Alger Hiss was interviewed at his request by a Bureau official (Mr. D. M. Ladd) on March 25, 1946. At that time Hiss explained that he wished to clear up any questions that might have arisen concerning his loyalty to the Government, since it had been brought to his attention by the then Secretary of State James F. Byrnes that his name had been mentioned in connection with subversive organizations. Hiss, on this occasion, denied that either he or his wife were ever members of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action. He mentioned the possibility that his wife could have been a member of the League of Women Shoppers because he thought that some of her friends had been members of that organization. Hiss further emphatically stated that at no time had he been a member of the Communist Party or had any association with it. He further declared that he knew of no friends of his who were members of the Party. Asked whether he had any association with any person or persons who might be members of any subversive organizations which might have caused the belief to exist that he likewise was a member of such organizations, he stated that he knew of no association on his part with any persons which would lead to this conclusion. The results of this interview were made available to both the Attorney General and the Secretary of State on March 25, 1946. (65-56402-1128X)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

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It should also be noted that J D. Whittaker Chambers was interviewed on March 28, 1946, at New York City, with specific reference to Alger Hiss. On this occasion he said he was unable to elaborate on any of the information concerning Hiss' connection with the Communist Party which he had furnished at the time he was interviewed in 1942 and again in 1945 by Bureau Agents. He recalled that after 1937, being no longer actively associated with the Communist Party, he had lost all contact with Alger Hiss. He stated that, as a matter of fact, he had absolutely no information that would conclusively prove Hiss held a membership card in the Communist Party or that he was an actual dues-paying member of the Party even while he was active prior to 1937. He declared that he knew in 1937 Hiss was favorably impressed with the Communist movement and was of the belief that Hiss was then (1946) still of the same beliefs. He indicated he did not have any documentary or substantial proof on which to base this belief and based it solely on comments made by various Washington and New York newspaper writers at the time.

(100-25824-38)

Kisseloff-26210

DONALD HISS

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

A Hatch Act investigation was instituted concerning Hiss on February 17, 1942, at which time Hiss was an employee of the Department of State. The investigation was initiated inasmuch as the Dies Committee had listed Hiss as a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action. During the investigation, an informant advised that the name of Hiss did not, in fact, appear in the active indices of that organization; however, his wife was listed. The investigation disclosed no affiliation with the Communist Party or Communist front groups, and Hiss, in a sworn statement on February 16, 1942, denied that he was a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action and that he advocated overthrow of the Federal Government. The report of the investigation was furnished to the Secretary of State on March 4, 1942, and on March 9, G. Howland Shaw, Assistant Secretary, advised by letter, "Mr. Hiss is a valued employee of the Department and is well and favorably known by various of the higher officers of the Department. There is nothing in the report of investigation which warrants any administrative action and it is believed you will wish so to report to the Congress, exonerating Mr. Hiss from the charge preferred." (101-4300-2 and 3)

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers advised that Alger Hiss and Donald Hiss were also members of the underground organization as secured by Ware. He said these men also left the AAA but remained in the Government service. Donald Hiss was in the Labor Department and Miss Perkins thought a great deal of him. Chambers stated that the Party planned to have Donald Hiss handle the Bridges case in California in view of the influence which he might have. Hiss subsequently went to the Philippine Division of the Department of State. (100-25824-22, page 6)

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau fail to reflect that any investigation was conducted on the basis of this allegation.

III (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes, copies of which were obtained, are set out as follows:

Donald Hiss

(Philippine Adviser)

Member of Communist Party with Pressman and Witt -
Labor Department - Asst. to Frances Perkins -
Party wanted him there - to send him
as arbitrator - Bridges trial -
brought along by brother -

(100-25524-27)

III (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau fail to reflect that any specific investigation was conducted on the basis of the allegation.

In response to a request by Mr. Fred Lyon of the State Department, a memorandum containing information in the Bureau files was furnished to him on March 31, 1945. This memorandum set forth Chambers' allegations concerning Hiss. (100-4300-4)

IV (A). DATE INTERVIEWED MAY 10, 1945 AND MARCH 28, 1946

During the May 10, 1945, interview with Chambers by New York Agents, Donald Hiss was mentioned as the brother of Alger Hiss, but otherwise was not identified. (100-25524-36) **No additional information was furnished in the March 28, 1946, interview.** (100-25524-38)

IV (A). DATE INTERVIEWED

Bureau files fail to reflect that any investigation was conducted on the basis of Chambers' allegations. However, inquiries concerning Donald Hiss were made in connection with the Gregory investigation. A memorandum dated November 27, 1945, entitled "Soviet Espionage in the United States" was furnished to Brigadier General Harry H. Vaughan, Military Aide to the President, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General on December 4, 1945. This memorandum included the information that Chambers had stated that Donald Hiss, brother of Alger Hiss, was in the Labor Department. Chambers listed a group of persons known to him as being in the underground apparatus of the Communist Party, inasmuch as he had attended meetings where these persons were present. One of these persons named by Chambers was Donald Hiss, and he indicated that the Party wanted Hiss to stay in the Labor Department. (61-7419-1B, 19) (100-7128-39)

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

Memorandum captioned "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the United States Government" dated February 21, 1946, was furnished to General Vaughan, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General on February 25, 1946. This memorandum contained all the information concerning Donald Hiss which had been furnished to the Bureau by Whittaker Chambers. (65-56402-573)

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PRISCILLA HISS
(Mrs. Alger Hiss)

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was conducted concerning the captioned individual prior to the receipt of information from Whittaker Chambers.

II CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN MAY 13, 1942

Priscilla Hiss was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS AS SET FORTH IN NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes which were made available to the Bureau in June, 1943 reflected the following:

"Alger Hiss
Assistant to Sayre-Oct-1937
Member of the underground Com.-active Baltimore boys-
wife-Priscilla Hiss-socialist-
early days of New Deal."
(100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION WAS NOTED

The files of the Bureau failed to reflect that any investigation was conducted concerning Priscilla Hiss on the basis of the reference to her in the Berle notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers during the interview with him by New York Agents on May 10, 1945 discussed his efforts to persuade Alger Hiss to break away from the Communist Party. He stated that after he, Chambers, had broken with the Party he visited the home of Alger Hiss to attempt to persuade Hiss to also break away. Hiss' wife, Priscilla, was the only one there when he arrived and while he momentarily excused himself to go to the bathroom he observed Mrs. Hiss immediately go to the telephone obviously to get in touch with Party members. He immediately returned to the room and awaited the arrival of Alger. Chambers expressed the opinion that one of the strongest reasons for Hiss maintaining contact with the Communist Party was the fanatic loyalty to the Communist Party on the part of his wife. (100-25824-36)

Kisseloff-26213

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau failed to reflect that any investigation was conducted on the basis of Chambers' allegations and there is no indication that the information furnished by Chambers was distributed to any outside agency prior to the interview with Elizabeth Bentley in the fall of 1945 in connection with the Gregory Case. It is noted that Mr. Berle of the State Department interviewed Chambers in 1939 and the State Department therefore was in possession of the information concerning Priscilla Hiss, the wife of Alger Hiss, a State Department employee.

A memorandum dated November 27, 1945 captioned, "Soviet Espionage in the United States" was furnished to Brigadier General Harry H. Vaughan, Military Aide to the President, to the Secretary of State and to the Attorney General on December 4, 1945. This memorandum included information furnished the Bureau by Chambers relating to Priscilla Hiss to the effect that in his opinion the strongest reason for Alger Hiss maintaining his status with the Party was the fanatic loyalty for the Communist Party on the part of his wife. This memorandum also included information obtained as a result of the Bureau's interview with Elizabeth Bentley in the Gregory Case. (61-3479-178-179; 100-7626-39)

A memorandum dated February 21, 1946 entitled, "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (USE) in Agencies of the United States Government" was furnished to General Vaughan, Military Aide to the President, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General on February 25, 1946. This memorandum included, in addition to the information furnished by Elizabeth Bentley, all of the information concerning Priscilla Hiss which has been furnished to the Bureau by Whittaker Chambers. (61-7612-57)

No active investigation has been conducted of Priscilla Hiss besides the investigation conducted of Alger Hiss in connection with the Gregory investigation which, of course, included inquiries relative to his wife.

Kisseloff-26214

GRACE HUTCHINS

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An investigation concerning Hutchins was initiated in September, 1941, on the basis of information contained in the Bureau files reflecting that she was a Communist Party candidate for Lieutenant Governor of New York in 1938, had written several Communist Party pamphlets, had served as treasurer for the Communist Party National Campaign Fund, and had engaged in other Communist Party activities. The investigation was continued until January, 1943, at which time it was closed, but was reopened in August, 1943, and was thereafter continued until May, 1946, when it was again closed. However, a report setting forth additional information was submitted on March 12, 1947. The investigation reflected that Hutchins had an income from the Hutchins estate and that she was an active Communist Party member and had frequent contacts with Alexander Trachtenberg and other officials of the Party. Copies of the reports of the investigation were furnished to the Division of Records as received. (100-51757)

II (A). CHAMBERS' INTERVIEW ON MAY 13, 1942

During the interview with Chambers by New York Agents on May 13, 1942, Chambers discussed the securing of money by CPUSA agents. He stated that in his opinion they would usually be traveling with a great amount of money on their person, but that there were those in the Party who acted as financial agents and who supplied such members with money. One of these persons mentioned as Grace Hutchins. He stated that she was an old Party member and that she was in the inner group of Communists, and that she, along with her colleague Anna Rochester, was a fanatical Communist and trusted members of the Party. Chambers advised that he was told that Grace Hutchins was the chief financial transactor for the Party. (100-25824-22)

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As noted above, Hutchins was the subject of investigation at the time of Chambers' allegations and the investigation has failed to reflect that she was the "chief financial transactor for the Party," although it did reflect that she served as treasurer for the Communist Party National Campaign Fund.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS [illegible] JUNE, 1942

Hutchins was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV. [illegible] MAY 10, 1945

Hutchins was not mentioned during the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945.

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Kisseloff-26215

J[illegible] was
J[illegible] and J[illegible]

I [illegible]

The first information appearing in the Bureau's file regarding Johnstone is a letter from the State Department dated January 27, 1927, reporting that Johnstone and Earl Browder would be active in a paper called Labor Unity. Another letter dated September 1[illegible], 1928, from the State Department requesting investigation to determine if John Wilson Johnstone was identical with Jack Johnstone of the Labor Unity paper. The Federal Bureau of Investigation then instituted an investigation which substantiated that the two men were identical and that Johnstone had been arrested in India on December 18, 192[illegible], where he was attending a Trade Union Congress. It was also revealed that Johnstone as a representative of the Red International of Labor Unions had pledged 25,000 chervontse for organizational work in India. 61-6590-1,2,3,7

Johnstone, according to additional investigation, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on November 21, 1881, and naturalized as a United States citizen on April 14, 1922. He was a District Organizer for the Communist Party in Pittsburgh in 1933. He ran for office as a Communist candidate for mayor in Chicago in 1938 and the Communist candidate for Illinois State Senator in 1940. Johnstone died in New York City on April 18, 1942. 61-6590-25

II (A) C[illegible] May 13, 1942

Chambers stated that Jack Johnston was a former Party Organizer in Pittsburgh and was arrested in 1938 or 1929 by the British in India as a Russian Agent.

II (B) [illegible]

No investigation was instituted on the basis of the above information, it being noted in the letter transmitting this information that Johnstone was known to be dead.

III (A) [illegible] June, 1943

No information regarding Johnston is set forth in Berle notes.

IV (A) C[illegible] May 10, 1945

Chambers did not mention Johnstone during this interview.

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

Kisseloff-26216

LEON JOSEPHSON

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

By letters dated February 23, March 11, and March 23, 1935, the Danish State Police requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to conduct an investigation of Leon Josephson, George Mink, and Nicholas Sherman, who were then in custody in Denmark charged with espionage. An investigation was instituted concerning Josephson on the basis of the afore-mentioned letters. This investigation reflected Josephson was born June 17, 1898, at Libau, Latvia. Josephson entered the United States at New York City on July 14, 1900, and was naturalized as a United States citizen on April 25, 1921. Josephson was known to have been active in the American Communist movement as early as 1929 when he acted as an attorney for the International Labor Defense in behalf of the Gastonia Textile Strikers who were charged with violence during that strike.

In 1933 Josephson reportedly was in Mansau, France, where he assisted a Soviet agent who was travelling on an American passport. In June, 1934, Josephson was in the United States and assisted Gerhart Eisler in obtaining a false United States passport under the name of Samuel Liptzen. Josephson at a later date admitted obtaining false passports for numerous other individuals during the 1930's. Jay Lovestone in testifying before the House Committee on Un-American Affairs in 1939 stated that in July, 1938, Leon Josephson had been an OGPU Agent who had been behind the stealing of documents from Lovestone's home. In addition to the foregoing, Josephson is known to have remained active in Communist affairs up until his conviction for contempt of Congress on October 15, 1947, in the Southern District of New York. Josephson ispresently serving a one year sentence at the United States Penitentiary at Milan, Michigan. (100-[illegible]754-1,11,105,123)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No information was received from Chambers regarding Josephson at this interview.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

No information concerning Josephson was reflected in Berle's notes which were obtained in June, 1943.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
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Mr. Quinn Tamm
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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Chambers furnished information concerning George Mink who had been arrested for espionage in Denmark according to Chambers in the early 1930's. Chambers also advised that he knew from responsible accounts that Leon Josephson, owner of Cafe Society, had been involved with Mink in the affair in Denmark. Chambers said that he did not have any knowledge of Josephson's Communist activities.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No active investigation was conducted based upon Chambers' allegations inasmuch as this information was already well known to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Kisseloff-26217

KRAMER

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

None.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

The information about Kramer was furnished by Chambers during the interview with him on May 10, 1945 by New York agents. At that time Chambers related that in approximately 1931 he accepted the position of Editor of the New Masses. He explained he obtained that position mainly because of the Party's desire to "take out Kramer who had been the Editor and had not been going along smoothly with the Party". (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

A review of the Bureau files reflects that during 1930 and 1931 Walt Carmon (not Kramer) was Managing Editor of New Masses. In 1932 Walt Carmon was employed in Russia as Editor of "International Literature". Walt Carmon returned to the United States in 1936. An Internal Security investigation of Walt Carmon was first instituted by the Bureau in February 1943 and continued until January 1947. (100-189899-22,p.3;28)

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

CHARLES [illegible], AKA ALIASES:
Charlie Kramer, Charles Krivitsky
Charles Previskey

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO OWN BUREAU ALLEGATIONS

In connection with the investigation of Alexander Stevens, who was later identified as "J. Peters," a collateral inquiry to identify Charles Kramer was conducted in March and April, 1943, based upon the known association of Kramer with Stevens.

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This inquiry disclosed that Confidential Informant [redacted] in February, 1937 identified Charles Kramer as an investigator for the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee. (61-7559-1044)

The files of the Civil Service Commission reflected that Charles Kramer was born on December 14, 1906, and his legal residence was given as New York City, New York. An investigation conducted by the New York Field Division disclosed that from the period of November 1, 1941 to September 30, 1942, Charles and Mildred Kramer occupied Apartment 53, 61 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn, New York. At that time Kramer was employed by the National Labor Relations Board, 120 Wall Street, New York City, and as of September 30, 1942, when Kramer vacated his apartment in Brooklyn he indicated that he was being transferred from New York City to the Office of Price Administration, Sixth and Independence Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C. (100-[illegible])

The Civil Service Commission files previously referred to disclosed that Kramer had been transferred on February 25, 1943, from the New York Office of the National Labor Relations Board to the Office of Price Administration in the capacity of a Principal Economist at a salary of $5600 per annum. On February 26, 1943, one day later, Kramer's status with the OPA was changed to that of Head Economist at $6500 per annum. As of April 16, 1943, Kramer was residing at Long View, Accokeek, Maryland, and daily commuted to Washington, D. C. (100-1[illegible]4255-90)

II (A) CHARGES' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III (A) CHARGES' ALLEGATIONS AS SET FORTH IN NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes made by Berle at the time of his interview with Charbers in

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September, 1939 were obtained from Perle in June, 1943, and disclosed that Chambers named Charles Krivitsky, whose alias he said was Charles Fraser, as a member of the Ware Underground Group. (100-25[illegible]4-27)

The Perle notes indicated that Fraser was connected with the CIO and that he worked for the LaFollette Committee.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None. Information continued to be received concerning Fraser during the course of the investigation of other Communists.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945 by New York Agents, he named Charles Krivitsky, alias Charles Fraser, John Abt, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlo (later identified by Chambers as Victor Perlo), Alger Hiss, Donald Hiss, _____ Post, Nathan Witt, and an unnamed man described as the husband of Alice Wendham, as members of the Ware Underground Group. Chambers stated that the members of the Ware Group were high-salaried Government employees who were Communist Party members, but that their activities with the Party had ceased when they were transferred to the Communist Party underground. (100-25[illegible]4-36)

During this same interview with Chambers he related that after Harold Ware's death, he attended a meeting at which John Abt was elected leader of the group. Chambers stated that there were about six men present at that meeting and that to the best of his recollection, they were: Charles Fraser, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlo (later identified as Victor Perlo) and Peters (V. J. Peters, alias of Alexander Stevens).

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files at the Defense Homes Corporation, Federal Public Housing Administration, show that Fraser was employed by the Office of Price Administration as Head Economist in the Administrator's Office, and that he had been loaned by the Office of Price Administration to the Sub-Committee of the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

Thomas Scott, a former Bureau Agent who was employed at the Capitol in 1945, advised that the name of Charles Fraser was carried on a list maintained by Senator Kilgore of people borrowed from other Agencies for work on the Kilgore Committee. Fraser's name was on the list for May and June, 1945. During November, 1945, according to Scott, Fraser was serving on Senator Claude Pepper's

Wartime Health and Education Sub-Committee. (Rpt of SA Floyd L. Jones, 11-29-45, at Wash., D.C., in the case Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, was, et al, Esp-E)

An anonymous letter in April, 1944, named Charles Kramer and his wife as members of the Communist underground in Washington. The writer of the letter was later identified as the ex-wife of Victor Perlo, under treatment for insanity, and in a subsequent interview she confirmed the information in the letter about Kramer, and she named Victor Perlo, John Abt, George Silverman, Harry White and Lauchlin Currie, all of whom have figured prominently in the statements of Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, as Communists. She stated that the underground group named by her was originally organized by Hal Ware in 1933. (100-3-68-339)

In addition, information furnished by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley in the Gregory case confirmed the information furnished by Chambers. Bentley recalled that during November, 1943, Jacob Golos stated that through Earl Browder he had recently been placed in contact with a group in Washington, D. C. Early in 1944, Browder arranged a meeting for Bentley with representatives of this group at the apartment of John Abt in New York City. According to Bentley, four individuals who were introduced as Victor Perlo, Charles Kramer, Harry Magdoff and Edward Fitzgerald, as well as John Abt, were in attendance. She stated there was a general discussion as to the type of information which these people, with the exception of John Abt, would be able to furnish. It was apparent to her that these individuals, including John Abt, had been associated together for some time and engaged in furnishing information to Earl Browder. Subsequent meetings were held by representatives of this group in the apartment of Mary Price in New York City and Charles Kramer attended approximately three of these meetings. (65-56402-220)

Investigation, including physical surveillances and technical sources, in the Gregory case disclosed that Kramer was acquainted with the various individuals alleged by Chambers to be members of the Ware underground group. (65-56402-220)

In the early part of 1946, Charles Kramer was in contact with Leon Josephson. Josephson is closely associated with numerous individuals engaged in Communist activity and associated with Communist organizations. In 1935 Josephson was arrested in Copenhagen, Denmark, and charged with espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union. (Technical Surveillance on Charles Kramer) (65-56402-1019)

On May 1, 1946, just before his departure for California to assist Representative Ellis O. Patterson in his primary election campaign there, Charles Kramer was observed to surreptitiously deposit in a refuse can in South Arlington, Virginia, a number of magazines and pamphlets, among which

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were noted the following: Copies of "New Masses"; Copies of the "Communist"; Issues of "Political Affairs" for May, 1945 and March, 1946 edited by Earl Browder; Copies of "Soviet Russia Today"; Pamphlets entitled, "Moscow, Cairo, Teheran" by Earl Browder; "The 16 Soviet Republics", being Molotov's report to the Soviet; "Talk About the Communist Party" by Earl Browder; "Stages in the History of the Communist Party," published by the Workers Library Publishers; "Policy for Victory" by Earl Browder; "Production for Victory" by Earl Browder; "A New Italy Arises" by Giusseppe Berti; "The Crisis in India" by James S. Allen; "Turning Point for the World" by R. Palme Dutt; "Wage Policy in War Production" by Earl Browder; and "Production Front" by Maurice Dobb, M. A.
(65-56402-1187)

A reliable source reported that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kramer received an invitation from the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C., in November, 1946, to attend a reception held annually on November 7th in celebration of the November, 1917 Revolution. (Mail cover on Kramer 65-56402-1918)

Charles Kramer was interviewed by Agents of the FBI on August 27, 1947, in Washington, D. C. When advised of the purpose of the interview he stated that he would rather not discuss it, and he remained extremely uncooperative. (65-56402-2777)

In connection with the Gregory investigation, information about Kramer was furnished at various times to the Attorney General, the White House and other interested Government agencies.

Kisseloff-26222

CHARLES KRIEGER

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

During the early 1920's, starting in March, 1920, a Charles Krieger was investigated by the Bureau as an I.W.W. leader. However, inasmuch as Chambers did not identify Charles Krieger, it is not known if the Charles Krieger mentioned by Chambers is identical with the Charles Krieger who was an I.W.W. leader. (OO-317834)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN [illegible] THIS CHARGED IN JUNE, 1943

None.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945 by New York Agents, he related how he had joined the Communist Party - that in the early part of 1924 he contacted a Jewish friend, Gender Garlin, who was then connected with the Russian-American Relief. Garlin introduced Chambers to a man by the name of Charles Krieger (phonetic), who took Chambers to a small Communist Party meeting in the Hudson River District, where Chambers registered as a member of the Communist Party. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

An old 1923 report entitled "Radical Activities - Philadelphia District," states that Charles Krieger, the well-known I.W.W. agitator, spoke at Philadelphia on December 9, 1923. In view of the activities of this Charles Krieger around the time that Chambers knew Charles Krieger in 1924, it is likely that they are identical. However, inasmuch as Chambers merely mentioned a Charles Krieger (phonetic) as the individual who originally took him to a Communist Party meeting in 1924, without furnishing any identifying data about him, and because Chambers did not indicate he had further contact with Charles Krieger, particularly during Chambers' underground activities, no specific investigation of Charles Krieger was instituted as a result of the allegations by Chambers. (61-71-119, P.1)

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Mr. Quinn Tamm
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Miss Gandy

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Kisseloff-26223

HARRY KWEIT

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No active investigation of Harry Kweit was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation prior to the information received from Chambers.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 13, 1942

In speaking of water front activities Chambers said he had little information but that first known member of the party connected with the waterfront was Harry Kweit whom Chambers believed was an OGPU or Comintern Agent. The first group organized by Kweit was known as the Seamen's Club.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On the basis of the information from Chambers an active investigation of Harry Kweit was instituted on July 7, 1942. The instructions for this investigation also set forth that Harry Kweit had witnessed a fraudulent passport investigation on November 21, 1929, for Alexander Bittleman, a prominent Communist. It was also noted that Kweit had been sentenced to one year and one day on April 21, 1936 for passport fraud. 100-132479-1

The investigation of Kweit which included a reinterview of Chambers reflected that Kweit was born April 8, 1897, in New York. He entered the United States Navy on April 17, 1918, and received an honorable discharge September 30, 1929. Former Communists have stated that Kweit served on special missions to the comintern in Russia and was active in Communist Party activities among seaman during 1920's. Kweit was ordered to leave India in 1930 by the authorities allegedly because of Communist activity. Kweit had traveled to India on a fraudulent passport obtained in 1929. Kweit had been separated from Amy Schechter, a well known New York Communist, since 1930. Kweit was a licensed radio operator and on November 10, 1942, went to sea as a radio operator on a merchant ship. He was reported lost at sea in the North Atlantic in May, 1943, after the ship he was on was bombed and sunk. 100-132479-10, 14

It might be noted that Gerhart Eisler testified before an Alien Hearing Board in March, 1947, that "Harry" was his contact in the United States who arranged for his fraudulent United States passport in 1934. Leon Josephson in later testimony stated that the Harry referred to by Eisler was Harry Kweit who was dead. 100-132479-22

Kisseloff-26224

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

No information was set forth in these notes concerning Kweit.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers advised that Kweit organized a Seaman's Club on the Waterfront in the twenties and that it was a very small affair and never got very far. He added following this that Kweit disappeared and nobody knew where he was or anything about his activities. He added, one day after his break with the Party when he was coming out of the Carnegie Movie House, Kweit came out at the same time. He stated that Kweit looked somewhat like Gerhart Eisler and that he had married a woman who was a Communist Party organizer in the South under the name of Amy Schechter.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted as a result of the above information inasmuch as when obtained Kweit was dead.

Kisseloff-26225

LOVELL

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Inasmuch as no first name or identifying data was furnished by Berle concerning this individual, he could not be identified in 1943 with anyone who was mentioned in the Bureau's files, and for the same reason he cannot be identified at this time.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

On page 2 of the Berle notes, in connection with a State Department group, there is the following notation:

"?
(Wadleigh) Wadley - Trade Agreement Section
Lovell - " " "
Communist Shop Group
Elinor Nelson - Laurence Duggan - Julien Wadleigh -"
(100-25824-27 page 2 enclosure)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None. See Number I above.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

None.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
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Miss Gandy

Kisseloff-26226

I [redacted]

No investigation was conducted.

II (C) [redacted] June 12, 1942

He furnished no information at this interview.

III (A) [redacted] June, 1943

There was no information concerning this matter in Berle notes.

IV (A) [redacted] May 10, 1945

In connection with his activities as a courier Chambers was asked if he ever contacted other individuals besides those that he had previously mentioned. In connection with Peters, Chambers recalled that on one occasion he was instructed by Peters to proceed to Buffalo, New York, and to take a room in the Statler Hotel and he was told that he would be contacted by a man from Canada who would have him a package which he was to deliver to Peters in New York. He explained that he did go to Buffalo as instructed and that he was contacted in the Statler Hotel by a man that he recalls very vaguely as about 5' 5" in height, in his thirties, with a ruddy complexion. Chambers added that this person did not impress him very favorably and appeared to be very nervous and over cautious. Chambers did not know what the envelope contained which was delivered to him.

IV (B) [redacted]

No investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to identify the above described person.

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Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. True
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Mr. Isidore Miller
alias Mr. Isador Miller

I [illegible]

None.

II (A) [illegible] MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942 Whittaker Chambers stated that Isidore Miller was a chemist and connected with the Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey. Chambers stated that Miller was certainly in Russian circles and that Miller was a friend of Mr. Philip Rosenbliett. (100-25824-22, Page 5)

II (B) [illegible]

No record has been found in the Bureau files of anyone who could be identified with Miller.

III (A) [illegible] JUNE, 1943

It was reflected in the Berle Notes which were obtained in June, 1943 that Mr. Philip Rosenbliett was connected with Mr. Isador Miller who was described as "Chemist's Club, 41st Street" and was further described as "Chemist, Explosive Arsenal, Picatinny, New Jersey." (100-25824-27, Page 1)

III (B) [illegible]

None.

IV (A) [illegible] MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945 Whittaker Chambers advised that Mr. Philip Rosenbliett had mentioned on one or two occasions his connection with a Mr. Isidore Miller, whom he described as a chemist employed by or connected with the Explosive Arsenal at Picatinny, New Jersey. Miller was always referred to by Rosenbliett as Mr. and it appeared to Chambers that Miller and Rosenbliett met often at the Chemist's Club on 41st Street. Chambers stated that he assumed that Miller might be engaged in Communist underground activities. (100-25824-36, Page 5)

IV (B) [illegible]

None.

Kisseloff-26228

RE: PAUL WILHELM MASSING, was
Karl Billinger;
HEDI TUNE MASSING, wa
Hedi Gumperz

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No active investigation was conducted.

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers stated that in Washington there was a man by the name of Laurence Duggin (Duggan) who was not connected with the Communist underground but who, he believed, was connected with the OGPU. Chambers stated that Hedda Gumpertz (phonetic), whom he was told was an Austrian, was a direct contact of Duggin. He stated that Hedda Gumpertz was married to Paul Massing, who had written the book "Fatherland." He stated that Mr. and Mrs. Massing were said to have broken with the Party and were said to be living near Quakertown, Pennsylvania. Chambers stated that he thought these two individuals were connected with the Russian terror apparatus of the OGPU and that in his opinion they did not really break with the party.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On the basis of Chambers' information, an active investigation of Paul and Hedi Massing was instituted on July 6, 1942. This investigation reflected that Hedi Tune Massing was formerly married to Gerhart Eisler, but divorced him in 1926 to become the wife of Julian Gumperz.

Paul Wilhelm Massing is a German alien who was born on August 30, 1902 at Grumbach, Germany. Paul Massing became a member of the Communist Party in 1928. In that year Hedi Massing left Julian Gumperz and is now the wife of Paul Massing. Hedi Massing was first active in Soviet espionage in Europe as early as 1930, later coming to the United States where she was active until 1936. Paul Massing, after coming out of a German concentration camp came to the U. S. in 1933. In November of 1935 he went to Europe to work in the Soviet intelligence under the former Soviet Agent Ignatz Reiss. After Reiss was murdered in 1937 by Soviet Agents, Paul and Hedi Massing were called to Moscow and were interviewed for seven months by the NKVD concerning their work in the Reiss apparatus. They then returned to the United States, having reportedly broken with Soviet intelligence.

Paul and Hedi Massing were extensively interviewed in March of 1947 by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, at which time

they gave a great deal of valuable information concerning Soviet espionage. They have both continued to be cooperative and valuable in identifying persons engaged in Soviet espionage in the 1930's, up to the present time.
(65-9940-97,100)

Copies of reports concerning the Massings have been sent to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice and dissemination of information received from the Massings has been made available to the other Government agencies.

III (A) CHARGES' ALLEGATIONS IN [illegible] OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Mr. Berle's notes reflect the following:

"West European Div'n - Field - still in -
(Levine says he is out went into I.L.O.
Then in Committee for Repatriation
His leader was Hedda Gompertz."

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted based upon Mr. Berle's notes.

IV (A) CHARGES' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers stated that Duggin had been a close associate of Hedda Gomperts who is presently married to Paul Massing, author of the book "Fatherland." Chambers stated that Duggin's association with Hedda Gomperts, whom he knew to be a Communist, indicated that Duggin might possibly have been a fellow traveler.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted based upon this information. Hedi Massing when interviewed in the Spring of 1947 stated that Duggin had never worked in Soviet Intelligence to her knowledge and was not a Communist insofar as she knew. (65-9940-94)

Kisseloff-26230

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO THE [illegible] REPORT

By letters dated February 23, March 11, and March 23, 1935, the Danish State Police requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to conduct an investigation of George Mink, Leon Josephson and Nicholas Sherman, who were then in custody in Denmark charged with Soviet espionage. The Danish authorities stated that Mink had in his possession three American passports which were later found to be United States passports fraudulently obtained. Mink allegedly had been born on April 2[illegible], 1899 at Scranton, Pennsylvania, although no such birth record has ever been located. It is believed that he was actually born in Russia. The investigation of Mink reflected he was well known in waterfront and Communist circles, having been to Moscow and having acted as a representative of the Red International of Labor Unions (Profintern). Mink was also reported to have been active during the Civil War in Spain as a Soviet Agent. (61-8648-20)

Mink's whereabouts since 1940 are not known although he has been variously reported as in many cities in the United States, in Russia and most often in Mexico City. (61-8648-65)

II (a) [illegible] MAY 13, 1942

Chambers stated that Mink had been very active in a Seaman's Club which had been organized by the Communist Party and which had been under the leadership of Harry Hewitt. Chambers said that Mink later took over this organization which thereupon became more active. Chambers believes that Mink was a member of the [illegible] terrorist group. He stated that Mink was in this country in 1936 and 1937 and that he believed he was on a mission to assassinate Trotsky. He stated that there was evidence that Mink was active in the [illegible] in Spain and had a hand in some murder. He said that Mink was a close friend of Earl Browder and is a nephew of Alexander Losofsky, who was the organizer of the Profintern. He stated that Mink was always a Stalinist which would certainly qualify him for the [illegible]. He said that Mink had been one of the Soviet Agents arrested in Denmark in 1935 and that the arrest had been caused by Mink's attempted rape of a chambermaid. He stated that as far as he knew Mink then dropped out of the picture until he reappeared in the United States in connection with the Trotsky assignment.

II (b) [illegible]

No additional investigation was conducted on the basis of Chambers' information inasmuch as extensive investigation was already being conducted regarding Mink.

Kisseloff-26231

III [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] IN JUNE, 1943

No information is contained in the Berle notes regarding Wink.

IV (a) [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO THE INSTANT ALLEGATION

None.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS MADE AND INVESTIGATION OBTAINED IN JULY, 1943

None.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945 Whittaker Chambers advised that Mr. Philip Rosenbliett had mentioned a very intimate friend of his by the name of Jones. Chambers stated that he believed that Jones had been living in France but was not certain about this. (Lau-25824-3b, Page 5)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No record has been found in the Bureau files of anyone who could be identified with the individual described as Jones.

Kisseloff-26233

MARK MOREN, was.
Mark Moran; Philipovitch;
Mack Moren; Mack Moran

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None.

I. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In the Berle Notes obtained in June, 1943, there appeared the following notations:

"Rosenbliett - in U.S.

"was 'front' behind Mack Moren - existed in Miller's employ - knew Pressman - his alias was 'Cole Phillips' -- Introduced him to Mack Moren, buying arms for Spanish (Loyalist) Government -- Pressman -- as counsel -- helped Moren -- made a flight to Mexico with him; forced down at Brownsville, Texas, in late 1936 or early 1937 -- probably fall of 1936." (100-25824-27, p. 1)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No record has been found in the Bureau files of anyone who could be identified with this individual.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers stated that Mark Moren or Moran was somewhat of a mythical underground character who was heard about in Communist circles during the Spanish Civil War. Chambers stated that he did not know Moren and did not know of any information that would identify him. Chambers stated that on many occasions J. Peters told him about the activities of Moren and had explained to him that he was purchasing arms

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and ammunition to be shipped to the Loyalists in Spain. Peters had further advised that Lee Pressman had been accompanied by Moren to Mexico late in 1936 and that a small Texas newspaper had reported both of their names in connection with an airplane accident near Brownsville, Texas. Chambers could not furnish any additional information concerning Moren and stated that he did not believe that Moren had an alias of Philipovitch as had been set forth in the notes of the conversation between Berle and Chambers. (100-25824-36, Page 8)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

Kisseloff-26235

ELINOR NELSON, was.
ELEANOR NELSON
ELEANOR NELSON PORTER
ELEANOR NELSON SOYRING

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Eleanor Nelson, who is believed to be identical with Elinor Nelson, Eleanor Nelson Porter, and Eleanor Nelson Soyring, has been the subject of Bureau investigation since December, 1940, in connection with an Internal Security - C investigation. In March, 1941, the Attorney General authorized an investigation of Eleanor Nelson at the request of the Secretary of Labor. It was ascertained from the personnel files of the Department of Labor that Eleanor Nelson Porter had been employed by the Department of Labor from August, 1929, until June 30, 1937, when she had resigned as an assistant economic analyst. It was ascertained through discreet inquiry in October, 1941, at the offices of the United Federal Workers of America in Washington, D. C., that Eleanor Nelson was national secretary-treasurer of the UFWA at that time. As a result of this information, the Hatch Act investigation was discontinued. In 1941, Mr. Paul Porter, the husband of Eleanor Nelson from 1933 to 1934, described his former wife as being a Communist.
(101-352-x3,x2,x4,2,17,18)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation concerning the Communist activities of Eleanor Nelson was continued during this period.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In the Berle notes furnished to the Bureau in June, 1943, there appeared the name of Elinor Nelson, and she was described as the treasurer of the Federal Employees Union (Federal Workers Union, CIO - headed by Jake Baker). (100-25824-27 page 2)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation continued concerning the Communist activities of Eleanor Nelson, but the data furnished in the Berle notes pertaining to Elinor Nelson was not included in the investigative reports pertaining to Eleanor Nelson.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

None.

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IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Investigation concerning the Communist activities of Nelson is presently in a pending status and copies of pertinent investigative reports concerning this inquiry have been furnished to the Division of Records in the Department.

Kisseloff-26237

NATHAN PERLO
(VICTOR PERLO)

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

None

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers advised that Nathan Perlow was a member of the Harold Ware group of the Communist Party underground in approximately 1935. He described Perlow as being associated at that time with the Brookings Institute in Washington, D. C. Chambers also stated that after the death of Harold Ware a meeting was held and at this meeting John Abt was elected the new leader of the group. Chambers stated that he was present at this meeting which took place in the residence of Henry Collins and that to the best of his recollection the following persons were present at this meeting: Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlow, and J. Peters. Chambers further stated that Nathan Perlow had been the other candidate for leader and that he received only one vote. 100-25824-36 p. 11 and 14

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

A search of the Bureau files fails to reflect an individual with the name of Nathan Perlow answering the description set forth by Chambers. In November

Kisseloff-26238

1945 an intensive investigation was initiated concerning the activities of Victor Perlo as a result of information furnished by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley alleging that Perlo was a member of a Soviet espionage ring. 65-56402-220

This investigation reflected that on November 7, 1945, Victor Perlo was employed by the Research Coordinators Staff, Bureau of Progress and Statistics in the Office of the Director of the Civil Production Administration. On December 14, 1945, he transferred to the Division of Monetary Research in the Treasury Department. He resigned from the Treasury Department on or about March 31, 1947. 65-56402-219, 2477

As a result of the information which Elizabeth Bentley furnished in the fall of 1945, a memorandum dated February 21, 1946, captioned "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the United States Government" was furnished to General Harry H. Vaughan, Military Aide to the President, to the Secretary of State and the Attorney General. This memorandum was distributed on February 25, 1946, and contained a summary on Victor Perlo. The summary on Perlo included the information on Nathan Perlow as furnished by Whittaker Chambers. It was pointed out in this memorandum that Nathan Perlow may be identical with Victor Perlo. Chambers advised that Nathan Perlow was an economist and formerly associated with the Brookings Institute in Washington, D. C. The credit records in Washington, D. C., reflect that Victor Perlo was employed at Brookings Institute as a mathematician and reviewer. 65-56402-573

In 1947 Whittaker Chambers was shown the photograph of Victor Perlo and at the time identified Nathan Perlow as being identical with Victor Perlo. 65-56402-2260, page 73

Distribution of information developed through the case entitled "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster" has been furnished to the Attorney General, The White House and other government agencies. The complete listing of this distribution has been set forth previously in connection with the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster investigation. 65-56402-621

Kisseloff-26239

POST
RICHARD HOWELL POST

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers advised that there was a man by the name of Post, who was obtained to work in connection with the underground movement of the Communist Party. Chambers described Post as an anthropologist connected with skull measurements in the WPA and later became co-editor of the State Department's house organ (State Department's publication). (100-25824-22 page 3)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In the notes furnished to the Bureau in June, 1943, by Mr. Berle, there appeared the name of Post under the heading "State". Post was described as having the editorship of the Foreign Service Journal and was in the Alexandria Unit of the Communist Party, and was in the "underground apparatus." (100-25824-27 page 2)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers identified Post as the editor in 1939 of the Foreign Service Journal of the State Department. He stated that he first met Post in his home in Alexandria, Virginia, when Chambers addressed a small unit meeting of the Communist underground, of which Post was the leader. He said that this group was one of the newer groups which had been created, and that it was considered very weak on doctrine, and that he had been assigned to give them an "indoctrination pep talk." Chambers stated that to the best of his recollection Post had been employed by the WPA on a project of measuring babies' heads. At the time of Chambers' visit to Post's home, he stated that he was very much surprised to find that Post, a leader of a Communist underground unit, was living in such a sumptuous home. He explained that Post's wife spoke a very rarified form of English, and that they had two negro maids as servants.
(100-2582-36 page 12)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

Kisseloff-26240

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As a result of a State Department inquiry concerning Richard H. Post, that Department was orally furnished information concerning the allegations made by Whittaker Chambers concerning one Post on September 26, 1947. (121-63-1)

On December 29, 1947, a loyalty investigation was initiated on Richard Howell Post, foreign service official in the State Department. The request for report of loyalty data form signed by Richard Howell Post reflected that he was born January 17, 1904, in New York, New York. From May, 1937, to October, 1937, he was employed in the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. From October, 1937, to January, 1940, he stated that he was unemployed, but had a part-time job with the Foreign Service Journal. From January, 1940, to the date of the request (September 3, 1947) it was indicated that Post was employed in the Foreign Service Branch of the State Department. This form indicated that from May, 1937, to May, 1939, Richard Howell Post resided at 212 South Pitt Street, Alexandria, Virginia. (121-63-4)

In connection with the loyalty investigation, Whittaker Chambers was reinterviewed on February 7, 1948, when he again advised that he first met a Mr. Post in the latter's home in Alexandria, Virgina. He stated that this was in approximately 1936, and that he was introduced to Mr. Post at that time by J. Peters. During this interview, Whittaker Chambers was shown a photograph of Richard Howell Post and was asked to identify the photograph in connection with the Post he had previously described. Chambers then advised, "I am not able to recognize or deny that this photograph is a picture of the Post whom I knew to be associated with the State Department, and at whose home in Alexandria, Virginia, I addressed a Communist Party cell. It has been such a long period since I have seen Post that I don't feel able to state that this photograph is a picture of Post." (121-63-27, page 3; 121-63-33)

On May 1, 1948, four copies each of the investigative reports reflecting the results of the loyalty investigation were forwarded to the Civil Service Commission. (121-63-34)

Photostatic copies of these reports are presently being prepared for submission to the Department of Justice.

Kisseloff-26241

WEBSTER POWELL, WITH ALIAS:
WEB POWELL

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

In July, 1940 the Los Angeles Office advised that it had received a report from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office which disclosed that a Mrs. Webster Powel, nee Alice Mendham, and her husband, Webster Powel, were then employed by the Government on the Labor Relations Board. The report stated further that, according to Mrs. Carrie Greene, 820 South Cochran Avenue, Los Angeles, Alice Mendham became interested in Communism at Columbia University, New York City, and that upon completing her course there she inherited a small fortune and went to Moscow, Russia for instructions and training. According to Mrs. Greene, Alice Mendham, while en route to Russia met her husband, Webster Powel, who was en route to Russia for the same purpose. Mrs. Powel reportedly resided at Trotsky's home in Russia for more than a year. Mrs. Greene stated that Mr. and Mrs. Powel had recently passed through Los Angeles en route to San Diego, California, and that due to the Trotsky connection in Russia, she believed the purpose of their trip at that time was to enable Mrs. Powel to contact Trotsky at some nearby place. (61-10404-1) U

Photostatic material obtained in 1942 from Walter Steele, of the National Republic Magazine, includes a letterhead of the National Committee to Aid Striking Miners Fighting Starvation, 799 Broadway, New York City, containing a form letter dated in November, 1931. The letterhead set forth the names of a number of individuals, apparently sponsors of the Committee, and one of the names was that of Webster Powell. (100-153571-1 Enc.) U

In August, 1940, the San Diego Office advised that Alice Coe Mendham was listed as a Philadelphia member of the Philadelphia Committee of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners in 1934. (61-10404-2) U

On November 4, 1941, a technical source disclosed that Miss Alice Mendham asked the Soviet Embassy in Washington for the name of the Washington agent who handled Soviet bonds. According to the source, the inquiry was on behalf of a friend who had such bonds. (65-30092-512) S

A membership list of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action in 1941 contained the name, Miss Alice Coe Mendham, Green Acres School, Silver Spring, Maryland, SHephard-5138. (100-4590-9 Page 162) U

In 1941 a highly confidential source furnished a list of persons connected with the Capital City Forum, an allegedly radical lecture group in U

Kisseloff-26242

the District of Columbia, which included the name Webster Powell, Macafolly Farm, Silver Spring, Maryland, which indicated that his name was obtained from the contact list of the League of Industrial Democracy. (100-26255-1 P.82)

Copies of correspondence and other material of the United Spanish Aid Committee disclosed in June, 1942 the names of Mr. and Mrs. Webster Powell as persons who were believed to be in the Committee's active indices. (100-7061-124 P.21)

During an interview with Charles E. Persons, Trial Examiner, National Labor Relations Board, Washington, D. C., and Henry J. Kent, also of the NLRB, on January 9, 1943, by an Agent of the Washington Field Office, they referred to a Communist faction in the NLRB and named Webster Powell as one of the NLRB employees in that faction. (62-41918-96)

In January, 1947 a highly confidential source furnished the names in the address book of Henry Hill Collins, Jr. Under a heading of "Foreign" were included two names as follows:

"Web Powell
Alice Powell, Australia" (101-1335-18 P.19)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BUREAU NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

None.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945 by New York Agents Chambers stated that Harold Ware, now deceased, was the leader in 1935 of a group of high-salaried Government employees who were Communist Party members,

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but that their activities with the Party had ceased when they were transferred to the Communist Party underground. Chambers recalled the following individuals as members of the Ware Underground Group:

John Abt
Lee Pressman
Henry Collins
Nathan Perlo (later identified by Chambers as Victor Perlo)
Charles Kramer, also known as Charles Krivitsky
Alger Hiss
Donald Hiss
Post
Nathan Witt
and an unnamed man who was described as the husband of Alice Wendham.

Concerning the latter individual, Chambers stated that he could not recall the name of this man, but remembered him to be a short fellow who was the husband of Alice Wendham, who ran a school on the Virginia side of Washington. He was unable to recall this man well enough to give any physical description of him. (100-25824-36)

IV (R) KNOWLEDGE OF ESPIONAGE

During an interview with Alger Hiss on June 2, 1947 by Bureau Agents, he stated that he had known Alice Wentham since about 1933 or 1934 when she was running a children's school. He stated that her husband's last name was Powell, but that he could not recall his first name. (65-56402-2530, p.6)

Kisseloff-26244

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible], JULIET [illegible],
[illegible], [illegible]

I. INVESTIGATION [illegible]

Juliet Stuart Poyntz was born November [illegible], 1[illegible] at [illegible], [illegible], and married [illegible] Frank [illegible] on October [illegible], 1912. (1[illegible]-[illegible]-7 [illegible])

From 1[illegible] to 1934 Juliet Poyntz was active in Communist Party circles in the vicinity of New York and in 1[illegible] was the Communist candidate for Attorney General of New York. On June 3, 1937, Juliet Poyntz mysteriously disappeared from her quarters at the American Women's Association Club, 353 West 57th Street, New York City. According to accounts appearing in New York papers at that time various reasons were assigned as explanation of why she might have disappeared. The first of these reasons was that she had broken with the Communist Party and [illegible] writing a book of memoirs in which she exposed Communism and the interworking of the Russian Military Intelligence Service. Another reason why she may have disappeared, according to the New York World Telegram, was the fact that she was litigating the estate of her husband, Dr. Frederick Glaser, an economist connected with the German Consulate in New York City. The Daily Worker admitted that Juliet Poyntz had been a member of the Communist Party until 1934 but the Party disavowed any entanglement in her disappearance. (100-[illegible]-3 p. 2)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers advised on May 13, 1942, that he was convinced that Krivitsky was forced to kill himself and that Julia Poyntz was kidnapped and killed by the [illegible]. (1[illegible]-[illegible]-[illegible])

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

An investigation was instituted by the Bureau concerning the disappearance of Juliet Poyntz in 1944 to ascertain whether Juliet Poyntz's disappearance was a real disappearance or one manufactured by the NKVD with the purpose of enabling Juliet Poyntz to function more effectively in the ranks of the [illegible]. (100-[illegible]-3 p. 2)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS [illegible] JUNE 1942

None

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The above mentioned investigation concerning the disappearance of Juliet Poyntz was initiated in 1944. (1[illegible]-[illegible]-3 p. 1)

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

JAG:mvn

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IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS OF MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers' attention was invited to the allegation that he had previously made concerning the disappearance of Juliet Poyntz. Whittaker Chambers stated, at that time, that he did not recall ever making any statement concerning the disappearance of Poyntz and advised that he had never had any information on which to base such a remark. He pointed out that in conversations with many different individuals he had discussed Poyntz's disappearance but that he had never run across any information which he would consider factual or which would constitute a logical lead as to her whereabouts. (100-25824-36 p. 16)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation concerning the disappearance of Juliet Poyntz continued until December 1945 after Elizabeth Terrill Bentley advised that she had never heard of Juliet Poyntz subsequent to her mysterious disappearance and that Jacob Golos had advised her that Juliet Poyntz had been "liquidated." (100-206603-15 p. 1)

The Bureau's files do not reflect that reports on its investigation of Juliet Poyntz were distributed outside the Bureau.

Kisseloff-26246

[redacted]

V. [redacted]

An investigation of Lee Pressman, whose correct name is Leon Pressman, was initiated in 1941 upon a review of information in the files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., indicating that Pressman was possibly a member of the Communist Party. 100-11820-1 p. 1

VI. (A) CHARGES OF ALLEGATIONS MADE MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers advised that prior to 1937 he and Harold Ware began to organize the men in the New Deal and to make such individuals a part of the underground organization of the Communist Party. He stated that one of the converts at that time was Lee Pressman of the AAA who had since gone to the CIO on the direct advice of the Party itself. Chambers advised that it was important that Pressman should be Lewis' right hand man. 100-25824-22 p. 2

VI. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The allegations made by Whittaker Chambers on May 13, 1942, were set forth in the report of Special Agent Russell A. White, New York, New York, dated 3-20-43, entitled "Leon Pressman, aka." A copy of this report was furnished to the Division of Records in the Department of Justice on April 12, 1943. 100-11820-1 p. 2

Investigation conducted as a result of the information furnished by Chambers reflects that the personnel file of Lee Pressman was examined at the Department of Agriculture. This file reflected that on July 13, 1933 Pressman was appointed as Chief Attorney in the AAA at six thousand dollars per annum in Washington, D. C. He resigned this position on February 2, 1935. From July 1, 1935 until June 30, 1937 he held various administrative positions in the Resettlement Administration and the Farm Security Administration. 100-11820-19 p. 3

Subsequent to his Government employment he was appointed General Counsel for the National CIO. 100-11820-31

VI. (A) [redacted] JUNE 1943

The notes obtained from Mr. Berle in June 1943 contained the following:

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

Kisseloff-26247

notations:

> "Rosenbliett - in U.S. was 'front' behind Mack Moren - existed in Miller's employ - knew Pressman - his alias was 'Cole Phillips' - Introduced him to Mack Moren, buying arms for Spanish (Loyalist) Government -- Pressman - as counsel - helped Moren -- made a flight to Mexico with him; forced down at Brownsville, Texas, in late 1936 or early 1937 -- probably fall of 1936."

The notes also reflected that Pressman was in the underground organized by the late Harold Ware. The notes further read as follows: "Pressman was in his group (1932-3?) Pressman then in the AAA," and also reflected that Donald Hiss was a member of the Communist Party with Pressman and Witt. 100-25824-27, p.1&4

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation concerning Pressman continued but the information set forth in the Berle notes was not included in the investigative reports covering the activities of Pressman.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers advised that Mark Moren was somewhat of a mythical underground character who was heard about in Communist circles during the Spanish Civil War. J. Peters had informed Chambers that Lee Pressman had accompanied Moren to Mexico late in 1936 and that a small Texas newspaper had reported both of their names in connection with an airplane accident near Brownsville, Texas. Chambers stated that Lee Pressman was a member of the Harold Ware underground group of the Communist Party and described Pressman as later becoming General Counsel of the National CIO. Chambers advised that after Harold Ware's death a meeting took place in the home of Henry Collins and that John Abt was elected leader of this group. Chambers stated that he was present at this meeting and to the best of his recollection the following persons were present at that time: Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlow, and J. Peters. 100-25824-36, p. 14

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On March 25, 1946, the Washington Field Office furnished the Bureau and New York a summary of the activities of Lee Pressman and this memorandum contained the allegations made by Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945. This summary was not furnished to any outside agencies and the allegations made by Chambers on May 10, 1945, have not been included in an investigative report concerning the activities of Pressman. 100-11820-62

The investigation concerning the activities of Lee Pressman is presently in a pending status. According to an article appearing in the February 9, 1948, issue of the CIO News, Pressman resigned as General Counsel of the CIO on February 6, 1948. 100-11820-419, p. 2

Kisseloff-26248

Re: FRANCIS VICTOR RENO, was
Victor Reno, Vincent Reno,
Lance Clark, "Ves"

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Francis Victor Reno was brought to the attention of the Bureau on December 20, 1939 when data was provided by the Intelligence Officer of the Third Corps Area, United States Army, reflecting that this individual was a civilian employee at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland and was reported to have been an active Communist while in college. The Army Intelligence Officer advised that an investigation was then being conducted of Reno, based upon a request by the War Department.

The substance of this information indicated that Reno, while a student at the University of Virginia, had been active in a group known as the National Students League, which was allegedly a Communist organization. The Army had checked with representatives at the University and had been informed that Reno during his student days had been considered an active radical. The Army stated that their investigation had failed to indicate that Reno was engaged at that time in subversive activities and that a report of the investigation had been returned to the War Department without any recommendation.

It was noted that Reno had been employed as a civilian by the Army originally on July 26, 1937 as a mathematician and worked in the computing section of the Ballistic Research Laboratory. The Army file indicated that Reno was born at Salt Lake City on May 14, 1911 and attended the University of Virginia from 1932 to 1935, graduating with a Masters Degree. The information further indicated that the employee had previously worked for the WPA in Washington as an Assistant Statistical Clerk from September 1935 to March 1937. (Victor Reno, according to Army records, had a brother named Philip Reno who was employed by the Social Security Board.) The Army Intelligence officer requested that no investigation be made of Reno by the FBI. No investigation was made of Reno by the Bureau based upon this information.

II CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN MAY 13, 1942

This individual was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview on the above date.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

RCG:EHW

Kisseloff-26249

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes, based upon an interview of Chambers in 1939, contain the following reference to one Vincent Reno, who is apparently identical with Francis Victor Reno:

"Vincent Reno - now at Aberdeen Proving Grounds -
Computer - Math. Assist. to Col. Zornig
(Aerial bomb sight Detectors)
Formerly CP organizer under alias 'Lance Clark'."
(100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear from the Bureau files that investigation was conducted of this individual based upon the reference in the Berle notes.

However, in the report of the Intelligence Division, Third Service Command, Baltimore, Maryland dated December 15, 1943, a copy of which was furnished the Bureau, the Army set forth the results of its investigation of Francis Victor Reno which in substance disclosed that while taking his Masters Degree at the University of Virginia from 1932 to 1935, Reno was involved in the National Students' League, created considerable agitation on the campus and evidenced general Communistic tendencies. The Army report reflected, however, that during his employment at the Aberdeen Proving Ground from 1935 to the date of the report, there had been no indication of any such tendencies on his part. A recommendation was made in the report to place Reno under further observation and to develop fully his background from 1935 to 1937.

It is to be noted that the Army was provided with a copy of the report prepared by the Baltimore office of the FBI dated November 1, 1943 reflecting an investigation of Philip Reno, brother of Francis Victor Reno, and indicating that Philip Reno had reportedly been brought to Baltimore, Maryland by Dr. Blumberg to work for the Communist Party. This report also reflected that Philip Reno was associating with known Communists in his position as editor of the official organ of a local labor organization, which had been reported by informants to be Communist dominated. This report also contained information concerning Francis Victor Reno.

(61-7726-2)

Kisseloff-26250

IV . (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

This invididual was not mentioned in the Chambers interview on the above date.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Information was provided by the Baltimore Office on March 1, 1948 concerning Francis Victor Reno in connection with the investigation of loyalty of Government employees. This information indicated that data was available concerning this individual to the Baltimore Office indicating that he was at one time employed by the Aberdeen Proving Ground and making reference to information previously furnished by Army Intelligence. The Baltimore Office also indicated that information had been received on July 21, 1947 indicating that one Lance Clark, whose real name was Reno, had in August, 1936 recruited a confidential informant of the Baltimore Office into the Farmers Labor Party at Cumberland, Maryland. The source stated that a meeting of this party had taken place in the month of September, 1936 at which time the informant learned for the first time that he had in fact joined the Communist Party. Lance Clark upon being questioned concerning this by the informant reportedly stated that the Communists were the spark plugs of the Farmers Labor Party and "what is the difference in a name if the program and aims are identical?"

(121-1765-1

The Baltimore Office was instructed on March 12, 1948 by the Bureau to ascertain immediately whether or not Francis Victor Reno was still an employee of the Government at the Aberdeen Proving Ground.

(121-1765-1)

The Baltimore Office advised on March 20, 1948 that it had determined from Army authorities that on July 16, 1947 Reno had become ill and had subsequently been moved to a hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. The last report had indicated that his condition was extremely critical and his recovery was questionable.

(121-1765-2)

On March 31, 1948, the Bureau advised the Baltimore Office that in view of these circumstances, no further investigation should be conducted but that arrangements should be made with the Army Intelligence authorities at the Aberdeen Proving Ground to advise immediately in the event Reno returned to active service with the Government.

(121-1765-2)

Re: PHILIP RENO, alias Phil Reno

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

On August 13, 1941 the Washington Field Office advised the Bureau in connection with the Hatch Act that Philip Reno, an employee of the Social Security Board, had reportedly appeared on the mailing or membership lists of the American Peace Mobilization, Washington, D. C.

(101-1634-1)

On August 27, 1941 a memorandum was forwarded to Mr. Matthew F. McGuire, Assistant to the Attorney General, setting forth available information concerning Reno in accordance with the existing Congressional instructions and requesting whether investigation should be conducted. It is noted that the information provided in addition to the data concerning possible affiliation with the American Peace Mobilization that in August, 1936, information was submitted to the effect that Philip Reno, Social Security Board Lodge No. 245, was reportedly a Communist or a sympathizer of that movement. In addition, it was reported that one Philip Reno, according to a confidential source, employed by the Social Security Board, Washington, D. C., was a close associate in the Communist activities of one Sam Lean, who was described as being a Communist. Also included was a report by a confidential source received during December, 1940, that Philip Reno, employed by the Social Security Board, Washington, D. C., was allegedly the Communist Party organizer for the Federal employees in Washington, D. C. This same source stated that Reno addressed a Communist meeting at the Rubber Workers Hall, Cumberland, Maryland during the summer of 1939 and that the meeting was allegedly for members and perspective members of the Communist Party. The informant advised that Reno's presence at such a meeting would definitely indicate his membership in the Party although he had not definitely stated he was a Communist.

(101-1634-1)

On November 12, 1941, available information was likewise forwarded to Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special Defense Unit, Department of Justice.

(101-1634-2)

Investigation in connection with the Hatch Act as reported by the Washington Field Office on February 9, 1942, indicated that Philip Reno was employed by the Social Security Board of the Federal Security

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
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Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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Agency from April 27, 1936 to that date. His name appeared on the Dies Committee list as a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action. It was also confidentially reported that the name of his wife, Ruth Reno, appeared on the active indices of this organization and that the names of both Reno and his wife appeared on the active indices of the American Peace Mobilization, later known as the American Peoples Mobilization. The auto registered to Reno was observed in the vicinity of an anti-conscription meeting of the American Peace Mobilization on September 4, 1940. Informants further revealed that the intimates of Reno are also identified with either one or both of the aforenamed organizations and among these are two individuals reported to be known Communists. Ruth Reno, wife of Philip Reno, was reportedly employed until May, 1941 as the private secretary of Sidney A. Katz, who was allegedly one of the leaders of the Communist movement in the District of Columbia.

(101-1634-9)

Further investigation by the Denver, Colorado Office indicated that Reno had been transferred to the Social Security Board, Denver Regional Office on February 3, 1941. Available informants advised that it was not definitely known whether Reno was a member of the Communist Party but was reported at least sympathetic with its views.

In accordance with the established procedure for conducting Hatch Act investigations, Reno was interviewed by a Bureau agent at Denver, Colorado on March 16, 1942. Under oath he denied past or present membership in the Communist Party, but declined to answer questions on whether he was a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, American Youth Congress, American Peoples Mobilization or the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

(101-1634-11)

Reno also denied having addressed a Communist Party meeting at Cumberland, Maryland or a Communist meeting anywhere at any time and further denied attending an anti-conscription meeting of the American Peace Mobilization.

(101-1634-11)

On April 24, 1942, the results of the investigation conducted concerning Philip Reno were forwarded to the Honorable Paul V. McNutt, Administrator, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C., requesting advice as to the ultimate disposition of this case.

(101-1634-12)

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By letter dated July 7, 1942, the Bureau was informed by the Federal Security Agency that the employee, Philip Reno, had been exonerated and no further action was being taken.

(101-163444)

On September 1, 1942, copies of reports in connection with the Hatch Act investigation were forwarded to Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special War Policies Unit of the Department of Justice.

(101-1634-16)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

This individual was not mentioned in the Chambers interview on the above date.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

These notes contain the following references to Philip Reno:

"Philip Reno - in Social Security (??) -
was head of Underground Trade Union Group
Political leader.

"Reno connected with Baltimore Party
organizer - Benjamin (Bundey) Friedman
alias Field - then California - then Russia
- now organizer for Baltimore & Washington
of Above-Ground Party - Underground connections."

"S.E.C. -
"Philip Reno - used to be."

(It would appear that the information set forth above concerning Reno's connection with the Baltimore Party organizer, Friedman and the ensuing information concerning California, Russia, etc., refers to the activities of Friedman rather than Reno. See another section of this memorandum relative to Benjamin Friedman).

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Although it appears that no specific investigation was made

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based upon references in the Berle notes concerning Philip Reno, active investigation was re-instituted concerning this individual in May, 1943 when Reno was reported to have left the Government service in Denver, Colorado and obtained employment with a labor organization in Baltimore, Maryland. Investigation by the Baltimore office indicated that Reno was closely associated with a number of prominent Communist figures in the Baltimore area and Reno himself was reported by informants to be believed to be a Communist due to his adherence to the Communist line and association with known members of the Party.

(61-1634-22)

A report in November, 1943 indicated that information had been received reflecting that Reno had been brought to Baltimore by Albert Blumberg, National Legislative Representative of the Communist Party and was continuing his association with known Communists in the Baltimore area.

(101-1634-28)

Reno returned to Denver, Colorado from Baltimore in October, 1943. In Denver, Reno obtained employment with the Denver CIO Council and was reported to be in frequent contact with officials at the Communist Political Association Headquarters in Denver.

(101-1634-29, 34, 35)

While in Denver he was known to have been contacted by two prominent National Communist figures, John Williamson and Lem Harris.

(101-1634-39)

During 1945 and early 1946 Reno held a number of non-governmental positions, primarily with labor organizations and continued his close contact with Communist Party officials in Denver, Colorado.

(101-1634-52)

It was reported that Reno attended the Communist Party State Convention on May 18, 1946 and the Communist Party State Board meeting on July 5, 1946 at Denver, Colorado. He continued, according to information received, to meet with Communist Party functionaries.

(101-1634-53)

A summary of evidence concerning the Communist activities of Reno was submitted on February 6, 1947 indicating that information had been received reflecting that Reno was then a member of the State Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Colorado and outlined further his

Communist Party associations and affiliations, including information which was developed showing that Reno had endeavored to recruit an individual to join the Communist Party in December, 1942.

(101-1634-56)

Reno attended the Rocky Mountain Conference of the Communist Party on October 11, 1947 at Denver, Colorado. He was reported to have left Denver for New Mexico. Information was developed indicating that Reno was being criticized by Communist Party officials in Denver for possible factionalism.

(101-1634-61)

Investigation verified Reno's residence in Santa Fe, New Mexico and Albuquerque, New Mexico and return to Denver, Colorado in April, 1948. Informants reported that Reno had been expelled from the Communist Party at Denver, Colorado on June 28, 1948 for factional activities.

(101-1634-66)

In this connection it has been reported that possibly Reno has joined a nation-wide group of former members of the Communist Party who were expelled from the Party for so-called factionalism and who are believed to have been planning the ouster of present leadership of the Communist Party. These individuals included such former prominent Communist members as Lyle Dowling, Vern Smith and Harrison George.

(101-1634-63)

Pertinent reports reflecting the results of the investigation of Philip Reno have been currently made available to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice.

IV CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Philip Reno was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview conducted on the above date.

[illegible]

I. [illegible]

[illegible] concerning [illegible], [illegible] Bedford Street, New York City, [illegible] considered [illegible]. This [illegible] Daily Worker [illegible], 1947, [illegible], reflected that [illegible] member of the Communist Party. (100-12805-4 p. [illegible])

II. (A) [illegible] ON MAY 13, 1947

Whittaker Chambers advised on May 13, 1947, that in his opinion [illegible] agents would definitely be traveling with a great amount of money on their person but that there were those in the Party who acted as financial agents and who supplied such members with money. He mentioned one of these members as Grace Hutchins. He described her as being an old Party member [illegible] in the inner group of Communists. He stated that Grace Hutchins along with her colleague Anna Rochester were fanatical Communists and trusted members of the Party. Chambers advised that he was told that Grace Hutchins was the chief financial transactor for the Party. (100-[illegible] p. 6)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONTINUED

On August 4, 1947, the Bureau instructed the New York Office to reopen the investigation concerning Anna Rochester and it was specifically pointed out in this letter that Anna Rochester was referred to by Whittaker Chambers as a fanatical Communist and trusted member of the Party. It was subsequently ascertained by New York that Anna Rochester was born March [illegible], 1880, in New York City, according to the New York Board of Health. From 1912 to 1915 Anna Rochester was publications secretary of the National Child Labor Committee and from 1915 to 1919, she was a publications worker for the U.S. Children's Bureau. In 1927 she was a joint author with Grace Hutchins of "Jesus Christ and the World Today." Subsequent to 1928 she was a research worker and writer with the Labor Research Association. Her Party membership was designated as "Communist." Anna Rochester has not been employed by the U.S. Government since 1919. (100-12805-10 p. 2) (100-12805-8)

[redacted] Department of Anna Rochester advised that she resided with Grace Hutchins and that Rochester and Hutchins maintained a very extensive library with books of interest to the Communist Party. The Whittaker Chambers allegations [illegible] included in the investigative reports concerning Anna Rochester. (100-12805-10 p. 14)

b7D

III. (A) [illegible]

None

JAS:mvm

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
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III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONTINUED

Instant Investigation was continued to ascertain the Communist Party activities of Anna Rochester. ([illegible] p. 1)

IV. (A) [illegible] MAY 13, 1947

None

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONTINUED

The investigation concerning the activities of Anna Rochester was continued until May 1, 1947, when this case was placed in a closed status. Copies of the pertinent reports in instant investigation have been furnished to the Department. ([illegible])

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Re: DR. PHILIP ROSENBLIETT

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Initial inquiry concerning Dr. Philip Rosenbliett was made by the Bureau in connection with the investigation of Moische (Maurice) Stern, was, etal, Espionage. It was reported in connection with this investigation that on August 3, 1935, Lydia Stahl, a Soviet Espionage Agent who was convicted in Paris, France, had sent Ingrid Bostrom to see a Dr. Philip Rosenbliett, a dentist whose office was then on the sixteenth floor at 1440 Broadway, New York City, residence, 143 West 87th Street, New York City, for the purpose of informing him that Lydia Stahl wanted to leave the United States.

Investigation in the same case indicated that on the afternoon of September 8, 1931, on the day which subject, Stern obtensibly obtained secret plans from an informant in the case was observed while under surveillance to go to an office on the sixteenth floor at 1440 Broadway, New York City.
(61-6670-19, page 21)

Later, in connection with the investigation of Nicholas Dozenberg, an admitted Soviet Espionage Agent, Dozenberg was interviewed on February 26, 1940, and stated that in 1929 or 1930 there was a doctor's office in New York City where money was brought in from Russia by German seaman couriers. This money was to be used by Soviet Espionage Agents in the United States. According to Dozenberg, this office of the dentist was also a place where people coming to the United States could be met and where they received assignments. Dozenberg was first taken to this office by Alfred Allton who Dozenberg understood was then in charge of operations in the United States.

During an interview with Dozenberg at the Lewisburg Penitentiary in June, 1940, by a Bureau agent it was learned from Dozenberg that the dentist referred to was named Rosenbliett. (61-6670-19)

Dozenberg further alleged that Rosenbliett was a financial agent for Expionage Agents in the United States. Investigation of Rosenbliett determined that his full name was Dr. Philip Rosenbliett and that he had been practicing dentistry in New York City since October 1, 1917, and that his license had been renewed annually until 1936. Inquiry further reflected that Rosenbliett was born in Russia, November 3, 1895, and had received his degree in dentistry from the New York College of Dental and Oral Surgery in 1917.
(61-6670-24)

A check of the building at 1440 Broadway indicated that Rosenbliett had maintained an office in room 1657 from May 1, 1930 to April 19, 1935, at which time he informed the rental agent that he was returning to Russia to

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attend to business. He left no forwarding address. It was further determined that Rosenbliett is still the owner of a rooming house at 89 West 118th Street, Harlem, New York, and his affairs in the United States were being managed by Harold Klein, 342 Madison Avenue, an attorney, and his brother-in-law, Dr. Morris Greenberg. (61-6670-26)

Further information developed that Rosenbliett had immigrated to the United States in September, 1905, and was naturalized at New York City on May 3, 1910. On June 18, 1936, Rosenbliett obtained an American passport to include his wife for the professed purpose of visiting England, France, and Austria. The exact whereabouts of Rosenbliett were not determined. (61-6670-30)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On the above date Chambers advised Bureau agents in discussing Isidore Miller who was a chemist and connected with the Picatiny Arsenal in New Jersey that Miller was evidently in Russian circles because a common friend, Dr. Philip Rosenbliett, who was formerly a dentist on Broadway, was an old member of the Party and judging from the things he told Chambers was in the OGPU for many years. Chambers advised that Dr. Rosenbliett went back to Moscow and he has heard nothing about him since. (100-25824-26)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation was conducted in connection with Rosenbliett based upon the above statement by Chambers inasmuch as information of a more specific character had originally been received by the Bureau in connection with the Rosenberg and Stern cases, concerning which inquiry had indicated that Rosenbliett had departed from the United States.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN June, 1943

The following is an exact copy of information set forth concerning Rosenbliett in the Berle notes based upon the interview with Chambers in 1939.

London — Underground Espionage Agent

(1) Dr. Philip Rosenbliett - Formerly of (41st St. & B'way, NE)
Dr. Greenberg - MD (West 70th NY
Brother-in-law
American leader of British Underground C.
Head in America Mack Moren (alias Philipovitch
- allegedly Yugoslav) -
real name - ?

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Rosenbliett - U.S.
connected with Dr. Isador Miller - Chemist's Club - 41st St.
Chemist, Explosive Arsenal, Picatinny, N.J.
was "front" behind Mack Moren existed - in
Miller's employ
Knew Pressman - his alias was "Cole Philips" -
Introduced him to Mack Moren, buying arms
for Spanish (Loyalist) Gov't. -
Pressman - as counsel - helped Moren - made
a flight to Mexico with him; forced down
at Brownsville, Tex. in late '36 or early
'37 - probably fall of '36.

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Investigation was set made of Rosenbliett based upon the information of Berle notes by reason of previous investigation as cited above. However, the investigation of his connections with Soviet Intelligence in the United States were again instituted and were being handled at the time of the receipt of the Berle notes based upon information received in March, 1941, from [redacted] in connection with the case of Ernst Czuczka, was, etal, Espionage - R. This case developed when one Rubin Glucksmann was interned by the [redacted] authorities in England in May, 1940, and an examination was made of his books and records based upon operations of a firm known as the Far Eastern Fur Trading Co., of London. This examination reflected that this firm had close connections with a firm in Germany, Ostwag, Berlin, which was known to be a cover organization utilized by Soviet Intelligence. The London company also had connections with a known Soviet Espionage cover firm in France. Among the papers of the firm were found references to the name of Ernst Czuczka. The [redacted] advised that Czuczka and his brother had departed for the United States in the fall of 1940. (65-35048-2)

Investigation in connection with this case reflected that Czuczka's brother advised that the former had himself been formerly associated with Ostwag, Berlin. Glucksmann who was further interviewed by the [redacted] admitted that he had been in contact with Dr. Philip Rosenbliett in Paris in 1937 and that Rosenbliett was one of the directors of Ostwag, Berlin. (65-35048-23)

Investigation at New York looking toward the possible location and connections of Rosenbliett in this country was again negative, it being determined that he had reportedly departed from the United States in 1936 and left his business affairs in the hands of his brother-in-law, Dr. Morris Greenberg, 143 West 87th Street, New York City. (65-35048-35)

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 10, 1945

Chambers when interviewed by Bureau agents on the above date recalled that on an occasion when he needed dental work in the middle thirties he

received a recommendation from "Peter" (Alexander Stevens) to Dr. Philip Rosenbliett who maintained offices at Broadway and 41st Street, New York City. Chambers added that he gained the impression that Rosenbliett was the regular Communist Party dentist in New York and from conversation with "Peters" understood him to be an old reliable party man who might be connected with the underground apparatus and also with Russian Intelligence. He added that he did not believe that Rosenbliett was actually a participant in Espionage activity but that he did furnish his office as a meeting place for individuals who desired to converse secretly. In fact, he told Chambers on several occasions that the Russians referred to his office as "Rafka", meaning a roof of shelter for clandestine meetings. Chambers said he visited Rosenbliett's office on numerous occasions and became very friendly with him. In connection with their conversation Rosenbliett talked about his brother-in-law, Dr. Greenberg, and also mentioned connections with Dr. Isidore Miller. Chambers further recalled that Rosenbliett had occasionally mentioned some very intimate friends of his who at that time were teaching in a college at Tientsin, China. He recalled from the manner in which Rosenbliett talked about them that it was his impression that they also might be engaged in Communist underground activities. In this connection he stated that he had learned from various sources which he could not recall that Rosenbliett left the United States to return to Russia sometime in 1936 or 1937 and that he had never heard from him or about him since and supposed that he had been liquidated.

Chambers described Rosenbliett as follows: age, 50 in middle 30's; height, 5'9", build, slim; weight, 160 pounds; hair - was unable to recall; characteristics, very vain, talkative, indiscreet.

(100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation was conducted of Rosenbliett based upon the information given by Chambers in the above interview. More specific data had previously been received concerning Rosenbliett and investigation of his activities in connection with other pending Soviet Espionage investigation was then being conducted. It will be noted in this connection that the Bureau investigation showed more conclusively that Rosenbliett was in fact deeply implicated in espionage activities in this country.

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AMY SCHECHTER

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

Active investigation of Amy Schechter, whose complete name is Amy Esther Schechter Gafford, was initiated by the New York Office in November, 1942. The subject, commonly known as Amy Schechter, was determined to have been the former wife of Harry Kweit, a known Communist agent, (now deceased) and the investigation of Schechter grew out of the Kweit inquiry. (100-134371-1x)

Investigation determined that Schechter was born at Cambridge, England on August 4, 1898, of Rumanian-German parentage and entered the United States at New York City in 1902, and claimed citizenship by reason of the naturalization of her father. She was educated in the public schools, at Barnard College in New York City, married Harry Kweit in 1924, and was separated from him in 1930. Schechter visited the Soviet Union from June, 1930 to June, 1932, reportedly as a writer and teacher of English but allegedly at the same time attended the Lenin School in Moscow. (100-134371)

Continued investigation reflected that Schechter had been active in the Communist Party movement since the early 1920's and received notoriety as an active member of the National Textile Workers Union at Gastonia, North Carolina. She was indicted for inspiring a strike during the spring and summer of 1929, which resulted in the fatal shooting of the Chief of Police of Gastonia on June 7, 1929. This indictment against Schechter was subsequently dismissed. Schechter was then associated with Fred Erwin Beal, leader of the Gastonia strike, who was convicted of second degree murder in connection with the foregoing incident and who escaped to the Soviet Union. Beal has subsequently testified, after breaking with the Communist Party and returning to the United States, of the Communist inspiration and conspiracy in connection with this incident. (100-134371-22)

Schechter is presently a member of the Communist Party at San Francisco, California. Investigation indicates that she is still closely associated with a number of prominent figures in the Communist Party movement in the United States. (100-134371-28)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Amy Schechter was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview on the above date.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

Schechter's name was not included in the Berle notes.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers, when interviewed on the above date in discussing the activities of Harry Kweit (see section on Kweit in another part of this memorandum)

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stated that Kweit married a woman who was a Communist Party organizer in the South under the name of Amy Schechter. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation was conducted on the basis of the Chambers allegations concerning Amy Schechter inasmuch as there was already an intensive investigation being conducted by the Bureau of this individual and this information had already been developed.

The case on Amy Schechter was closed in a report by the San Francisco Office on March 14, 1946, inasmuch as the subject's Communist Party activity was not believed sufficient to warrant a continued investigation. (100-134371-28)

Reports in the Schechter case have been distributed to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice.

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[illegible] CHILBACH, was
Gertrude Schilbach, Gertrude
Neugebauer, Gertrude Neugebauer

[illegible]

I [illegible]

No active investigation of Gertrude Schilbach was conducted prior to Chambers' allegations.

II (1) [illegible] May 13, 1942

Chambers in speaking of what he termed an OGPU Terrorist Group stated that an agent by the name of Rice who broke with the Party and was denounced by them was murdered in Lausanne. According to Chambers this murder was carried out by means of a girl who had been a member of the Rice family for years and had thereafter become a member of the Terrorist Group when she brought him into ambush. Chambers advised that he does not know the name of this woman but that she was in the United States in 1939 ostensibly on her way to China.

b7D

II (3) [illegible]

No active investigation was conducted based upon Chambers' allegations. He is referring in speaking of Rice to Ignace Reiss, a former Chief of the Soviet Intelligence Service, who was machine gunned to death on a highway near Lausanne, Switzerland, on September 4, 1937. The Soviet Agents found to be responsible for the actual murder by the French and Swiss Police were Gertrude Schilbach and Roland Abbiate. Gertrude Schilbach is apparently the girl of the Rice family of whom Chambers speaks. According to [redacted] Gertrude Schilbach was born June 23, 1894, in Strasbourg, Germany. She was the former mistress of Reiss. No information has been received verifying that she was ever in the United States in 1939 ostensibly on her way to China. 100-[illegible]-38; 100-35015-14

III (1) [illegible] JUNE, 1943

No information concerning this matter was set forth in the [illegible] notes obtained in June, 1943.

IV (2) [illegible] May 10, 1945

No information concerning this woman was received from Chambers on May 10, 1945.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clo[illegible]
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Lad[illegible]
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Trac[illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Garnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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[illegible]

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RE: WILLY SCHLAMM

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

[redacted] Information was furnished to the Bureau by Confidential Informant of the New York Office concerning Willy Schlamm in a report dated February 6, 1943. This report indicated that Schlamm had written a book entitled "Die Diktatur Der Luege" (Dictatorship of the Lie), which was a 158 page volume published in Germany at Zurich, Switzerland in 1937. Informant stated he had reviewed the book and found it to be a passionate anti-Soviet polemic reflecting Schlamm's violent reaction to the first Moscow Purge trial of 1936. The informant pointed out that Schlamm defended himself against being called a Trotzkyite but did not mention his former Communist connections. The informant observed that previous reports on Schlamm's former promotions of the Communist line were based upon the contents of magazines he edited in Europe during the 1920's and 1930's. The present book, reviewed by the informant, indicated a close familiarity with Communist activities which the informant observed, while not being conclusive proof of former Communist affiliation, indicates a question as to where he acquired his intimate, inside knowledge. b7D

The informant suggested the possibility that Schlamm would make a good source on Communist activities by reason of his knowledge of the situation. (100-88151-2)

The New York Office, by letter dated February 12, 1943, with reference to Willy Schlamm, observed, with respect to the information provided by Confidential Informant [redacted], that the New York Office had been aware of Schlamm's possibility as a source of information since January 31, 1941, at which time he was contacted by Special Agent George J. Starr at the residence of Benjamin Gitlow. [redacted] (100-88151-2) b7D

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Willy Schlamm was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview by Bureau agents on the above date.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

Willy Schlamm was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
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Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
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IV (a) [redacted] MAY 10, 1945.

In discussing Gerhard Eisler who was known to Chambers as "Edwards" Chambers stated in the interview by Bureau agents on May 10, 1945, that he did not know Eisler's true identity until approximately a year before that date. He stated that while talking to Billy Schlamm, an editor of Fortune Magazine who had formerly been a Communist Party leader in Austria and who had known Eisler very well in Europe, Schlamm remarked to Chambers that he had met Eisler about a year before in Grand Central Station. He told Chambers about this meeting with Eisler and informed him that Eisler's Communist Party name was "Edwards". (100-25824-36)

IV (b) INVESTIGATION REQUESTED

No investigation was made of Billy Schlamm by reason of the reference to him in the Chambers interview of May 10, 1945. It will be noted that Chambers merely cited Schlamm as a source of information in identifying Eisler as "Edwards". [redacted] b7D

[redacted] no investigation was believed justified.

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

Kisseloff-26267

Re: AGNES SMEDLEY, was.,
Agnes Brunoin, Marie Rogers,
M. A. Rogers, Alice Bird, Mrs. Petroikos

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Bureau's files reflect that Agnes Smedley, an American citizen, has for many years been well known by reason of her championship of the Communist cause in the Far East. Smedley has written a number of books which have received wide circulation supporting the Chinese Red Army, and the building of the Chinese Soviet territories in North China. Bureau files indicate that information has been received from various sources dating back to 1918 when Smedley and others were indicted in New York City for a violation of the espionage statutes in connection with her activities in supporting British Indian insurrectionist groups. These indictments were subsequently dismissed.

(61-6580-9)

Active investigation of Smedley was instituted by the Bureau by instructions to the field on October 25, 1944, based upon information received from censorship intercepts, indicating that Smedley, then residing at Saratoga, New York, was in communication with a number of known German Communists associated with the Free Germany Movement in Mexico City.

(61-6580-2)

The investigation of Smedley since 1944 has continued until the present time.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No mention was made of Agnes Smedley in connection with the interview of Chambers on the above date.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

The name of Agnes Smedley was not contained in the Berle notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

When interviewed on the above date by Bureau agents, Chambers in

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Acer
Mr. Burnes
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

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discussing his knowledge of Gerhart Eisler, who was known to Chambers at the time as "Edwards," stated that he recalled that some time during 1936 he had learned that Agnes Smedley, well-known writer and author of the "Battle Hymn of China" and other works, was in New York City. Chambers stated that he had advised "Peter" (Alexander Stevens, was.,) that he would like to meet her. Chambers stated that "Peter" had advised him that he could arrange a meeting for him with Smedley and told him to go to an automat somewhere in the East 70's. Chambers advised that Agnes Smedley had arrived at the automat before him and was sitting at a table and that when he introduced himself to her she refused to speak to him. Chambers explained that he identified himself to her as a Communist and she then consented to talk with him but first made the remark: "I thought I was going to meet Edwards."

Chambers was asked whether or not he had any knowledge of Communist Party affiliation on the part of Smedley and he pointed out that he did not have any actual evidence, but everybody knows she is a Communist. He stated, "There is absolutely no question about it."

He recalled that "Peter" had close contact with her and that she was always "hanging around" the ninth floor of Communist Party Headquarters. He added that she may never have held a Communist Party membership book, but that if she did not, it would merely be because the officials of the Communist Party had believed her to be of more value to them if her party affiliations were not definitely established.

With regard to Smedley, Chambers recalled that at the time that Browder was sent out to the Far East, there was a story current in Communist Party circles in New York City to the effect that Browder had carried numerous large denomination bills and that when he arrived in Manila he had been forced to cash a $1,000 bill and that the officials at the bank had tipped off the proper people who had placed Browder under surveillance after he left Manila for China. He stated that the rumor indicated was to the effect that in Canton or Nanking Browder gathered together a group of high Communist Party officials at a most secret meeting and that one of the participants at this meeting was Agnes Smedley's Chinese husband. He added that the Nanking police surrounded the house and raided it and arrested the whole group. Chambers could not recall the source of his story.

(100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear from a review of the files that any specific investigation was conducted concerning the activities of Smedley, based

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upon the allegations received in the aforeoutlined interview of Whittaker Chambers. It will be noted, however, that an analysis of the information furnished by Chambers indicating the general acceptance of Smedley as a Communist Party tool was well known by reason of information available to the Bureau prior to the receipt of these data.

The continuing investigation of Agnes Smedley indicated her to be active in propaganda work in the United States, for the most part in lecturing and publishing books and articles supporting the Chinese Communist movement. Investigation also indicated that Smedley was contacted by Dr. Tung Ti-Pi, Chinese Communist Delegate to the San Francisco Conference of the United Nations, at Saratoga Springs.
(61-6580-16)

In October, 1947, information was received from Military Intelligence Division indicating that Agnes Smedley was closely implicated in the so-called Sorge Red Army espionage network in Japan and China during the period of 1933 to 1941. Dr. Richard Sorge, together with other principals in the network were executed or given long prison sentences by the Japanese courts. It was noted that Smedley, who was during this period an American Journalist and correspondent in China and Japan, was believed to have been active in the network and is reported to have recruited one of Sorge's principal Japanese agents. This information would indicate that Smedley was active in Red Army Intelligence from approximately 1930 to at least 1934.
(61-6580-32)

[redacted] who has broken with the Soviets and is now a confidential informant of the Bureau, has indicated that she met Smedley in Moscow in 1931 and suspected that Smedley was then being prepared for an assignment in China for the Comintern. Although the informant had no specific information as to whether in fact Smedley knew she was being used by the Comintern, she was certain that Comintern representatives and/or Soviet intelligence used her for her contacts and knowledge of the Far East. [redacted] likewise stated that to her personal knowledge, Dr. Richard Sorge, Red Army Intelligence agent in China and Japan, was acquainted with Smedley. b7D
(61-6580-35)

Further information concerning Smedley's implication in the Sorge espionage ring have been requested of the Intelligence Division of the Army.

Reports reflecting Bureau investigation of Smedley have been distributed to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice.

Kisseloff-26270

Re: JESSICA SMITH, wa.,
Mrs. John Abt

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Active investigation of Jessica Smith, who is the wife of John Abt, was instituted, based upon a complaint received on June 27, 1941 from [redacted] alleging that the subject was a Communist. b7D

(65-44184-X)

Since that date, active investigation has been made of Jessica Smith which has continued to the present time. The New York Office is the office of origin in this investigation.

This investigation has reflected that she is the former wife of Harold M. Ware, and is presently President of SRT Publications and Editor of the magazine "Soviet Russia Today," which has consistently followed Communist policies and has been a principal pro-Soviet propaganda medium. Investigation further indicates that the subject maintains close contact with prominent Communist Party officials, as well as representatives of official Soviet diplomatic missions in the United States. It is to be noted that Smith has made several trips to the Soviet Union since the early 1920's, returning on the last occasion to the United States in January, 1946.

(65-44184)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers did not mention Jessica Smith in connection with his interview by Bureau agents on this date.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

An examination of a copy of the notes made by Adolf Berle, based upon his interview with Chambers in 1939, indicates a notation of the name of Jessica Smith in two places, both of which appear to be collateral references to notations concerning John Abt. The notations are referring to the underground organized by Harold Ware in Washington, D. C. The notations referred to are set out as follows:

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

LCG:HW

Kisseloff-26271

"John Abt - followed Witt in that group -
Tax Div'n - Dep't. of Justice & now - CIO
(H. Hare's widow - Jessica Smith Ed. Soviet Russia).

"Mr. Abt - Sister: Marion Bacharach - Secretary -
Communist from Minnesota. (Jessica Smith: with
Hauters in 1926 - friend of Louis Fischer."
(100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

While no specific investigation was made of Jessica Smith, based upon the notations concerning her in the Berle notes, the information contained therein was subsequently forwarded to the New York Office on January 29, 1945. It was known at the time of the receipt of the information in the Berle notes that Jessica Smith was the wife of John Abt. In the continuing investigation which was being made of the activities of Jessica Smith, the Berle notes were set forth in a report of the New York Office dated July 17, 1945.

In supporting the implications of Jessica Smith's possible connections with the Communist underground in Washington, D. C. in the early 1930's, information was developed by the New York Office confirming the fact that she had been married to Harold Hare, the alleged organizer of this underground movement and subsequently married John Abt, who was likewise allegedly a member of the group. Investigation reflects that at the time Jessica Smith was associated with the Russian Information Bureau in Washington and following the recognition of the Soviet Union, became a member of the Press Staff of the Soviet Embassy in Washington. Information was also developed indicating Jessica Smith's connections with other members allegedly belonging to the underground group.
(65-44184-23, 31)

The investigation made by the Bureau in connection with Alexander Stevens, who has been identified as J. Peters, who according to Whittaker Chambers was the underground leader, likewise reflects that Jessica Smith and her husband, John Abt, have been in close contact with Stevens.
(100-184255-180)

The investigative reports concerning Jessica Smith, as well as those concerning Stevens showing the connection between these individuals have been furnished to the Division of Records of the Department of

Kisseloff-26272

Justice. The investigation of this subject is continuing by the Bureau.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

The name of Jessica Smith was not mentioned by Chambers in connection with his interview by Bureau agents on this date.

Kisseloff-26273

RE: VERN SMITH

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

There is information contained in the Bureau files dating back to the early 1920's concerning the activities of Vern Smith as being active in the IWW as editor of the organization's newspaper "Solidarity." Other information reflects connections of Smith and collaborations with such known Communists during the 1920's as James Cannon, William Z. Foster, Robert Minor and others. (61-2241-45, p.4)

Other information reflects that Smith, who was then active in the IWW, joined the Communist Party around 1922. (39-915-1109, p. 7)

Active investigation of Vern Smith was initiated by the San Francisco Office in February, 1941, by reason of his activities in San Francisco with the Communist Party movement and by reason of the fact that he was then Labor Editor of the "Daily People's World." The investigation at that time indicated that Vern Smith had been former Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker" at New York City in 1932. (100-17082-1)

Further inquiries reflected that Smith had been formerly a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party as well as correspondent of the "Daily Worker" in the Soviet Union from the summer of 1933 to about August, 1935. Records (available to the State Department) of World Tourists, Incorporated, reflected that Smith's transportation to the Soviet Union had been charged in part to the Communist Party and in part to the "Daily Worker." (100-17082-13)

II. (a) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

In the interview conducted by Bureau agents on the above date, Whittaker Chambers stated that Verne Smith, who was former editor of the IWW "Solidarity", was one of the oldest party members and knows the business inside and out. It is noted that in connection with this part of the interview that Chambers had been asked concerning his knowledge of various Communists whom he had known to be important persons in the Party at the time of his association with the movement. (100-25824-22)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. Clayton
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Mr. [illegible]
Miss Gandy

Kisseloff-26274

II. (b) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation was conducted on the basis of the Chambers allegations inasmuch as an active investigation had already been instituted of Vern Smith who was undoubtedly identical with the individual named by Chambers.

The investigation, which continued, reflected that Smith remained very active in Communist Party activities in San Francisco and became the foreign editor of the "Daily People's World." (100-17082-32)

In a report dated November 21, 1946, the San Francisco Office advised that Smith was then still residing in San Francisco with Sue Paxton as man and wife, the latter likewise a member of the Communist Party. Smith was associate editor of the "Daily People's World" until August 15, 1946, at which time he was expelled from the Communist Party for basic disagreement with the Communist Party line and for sympathizing and supporting so-called factional groups. Sources reported that prior to being publicly expelled from the Party, William C. Foster had given Smith his first membership card and that they were old friends. (100-17082-36)

Investigation has continued, notwithstanding the expulsion of Smith from the Party, inasmuch as it is known from investigation that Smith and a number of other persons who were similarly expelled are continuing their activities apparently aimed at dislodging the leadership of the Communist Party through direct intervention and connections with contacts in the Soviet Union. It has likewise been suggested that it is not at all impossible that this may be a tactic for placing Smith and others in an underground position and divorcing themselves from the above ground Communist Party. (100-17082-41)

A news item published in the New York Journal American on April 27, 1948, datelined at Oakland, California, indicated that Vern Smith, expelled Communist and ex-foreign editor of the "Communists People's World," was convicted in a Justice Court on April 26, 1948, at Oakland, California, for contempt of the California State Un-American Activities Committee. The news item indicated that Smith had been immediately sentenced to pay a fine of $3,000. (100-17082-A-Journal American 42748)

Copies of investigative reports in this investigation have been distributed to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice. In addition, a dossier showing information then available in the files of the Bureau regarding Vern Smith was furnished to Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special Defense Unit, Department of Justice, on December 1, 1941. (100-17082-11)

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A prosecutive summary report, prepared by the San Francisco Office dated December 13, 1946, was forwarded to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice on February 14, 1947. (100-17082-38)

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

Vern Smith was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Vern Smith was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview conducted by Bureau agents on the above date.

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State Department Employee
[illegible]

I [illegible]

No Investigation was conducted.

II (A) [illegible]

In [illegible] by the United States Government [illegible] in underground communist organization, Chambers advised that there [illegible] individual [illegible] not recall who [illegible] connected [illegible] Government. [illegible] Individual [illegible] the Trade [illegible] section of the State Department and [illegible] to [illegible] trade agreement. This individual was further described [illegible] to [illegible] of the Department of Agriculture.

II (B) [illegible]

The [illegible] of the Federal Bureau of Investigation failed to reflect that any investigation was conducted as a result of the above.

III (A) [illegible]

There is no information in Bowle notes concerning this matter.

IV (A) [illegible]

There is no information [illegible] results of the interview with Chambers on May 17, 1945.

(See individual writeups on "Julien Wadleigh ([illegible])" and "_____ Lo all.")

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

Kisseloff-26277

ALEXANDER STEVENS, with aliases
Alexander Goldberger, J Peters,
Peter, J. V. Peters, Steven Lapin,
Pete Stevens, Steve Miller, Isador
Boorstein, Silver or Silvers

1. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

For purposes of clarification it is pointed out that Alexander Stevens has been determined to be identical with all of the above names. In this connection, prior to the Chambers' allegations in 1942, separate investigations had already been instituted by the Bureau on Stevens under the names of J. Peters, J V. Peters, Alexander Stevens and Alexander Goldberger. The name J. Peters was known to the Bureau in connection with Communist Party activities in the United States based upon the publication of "The Communist Party, A Manual of Organization," which was authored by one J. Peters in 1935. The investigation of the subject as Alexander Stevens arose in early 1942, when he was in contact in Los Angeles with prominent Communist Party members in that city. Information available in our files concerning J. Peters was furnished to the Department of Justice on April 1, 1941.

Alexander Stevens was born on August 11, 1894, at Kop, Czechoslovakia, and used the name Alexander Goldberger. He was the son of Moritz Goldberger and Rosalie Deutch. He served in the Hungarian army from 1914 until 1918. He first entered the United States on February 10, 1924, as Alexander Goldberger. He again entered the United States on September 5, 1928, under this name. He has endeavored to become a citizen on two occasions, the first time being in February, 1924, but allowed his application to lapse, and again filed for citizenship on July 20, 1939. He registered under the name of Alexander Stevens as an alien on December 5, 1940. Stevens received a divorce from Franciska Goldberger at Reno, Nevada, April 29, 1942, and has for some time been residing as man and wife with one Anne Silver. The latter is a naturalized U. S. citizen who has been reportedly engaged in setting up Communist underground activities in this country. She is likewise the subject of a Bureau investigation. b7D
(100-184255-138 & 122)

Stevens has been identified with his various aliases through exhibiting photographs to a number of confidential informants, including [redacted] of the Communist Party of the United States; [redacted] (100-184255-138); Confidential

RCG:mpd

Kisseloff-26278

Informant [redacted] former member of the Communist Party (100-184259-198); Confidential Informant [redacted] a former member of the Communist Party who saw Stevens in Moscow in 1931 (100-184255-198); and many others who were acquainted with the Communist movement at the time subject was known under his various aliases. b7D

II. (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Upon being interviewed on the above date, Chambers advised Bureau Agents that a man named "Peter", whose last name he never knew, was the head of the Communist underground movement and stated he had seen Peter only from time to time; that although his connection with this man was more that of a personal friendship than of a formal Party relationship, he never learned much about Peter. He stated he did know that Peter lived once at Woodside, Long Island, at which time he went under the name of Silver or Silvers. Chambers gathered from Peter that he had previously been treasurer of the Hungarian paper "Uj Elore" and that Peter was likely in the United States without a passport or on a false passport. He said that Peter had connections with the OGPU because he had met members of the OGPU in Peter's presence. Although he did not know these men by name, he had later checked with Krivitsky and had ascertained such individuals were OGPU men. It is to be noted in this conversation that Peter was the source of much of the information furnished by Chambers (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It is to be noted that the Bureau was already conducting investigation in two cases concerning individuals who were later determined to be identical with the "Peter" mentioned in the Chambers' interview. However, on the basis of the Chambers' allegations, the New York office was requested by letter, on June 11, 1942, to immediately conduct necessary investigation to determine the identity, location and activities of the individual known to Chambers as "Peter," alias Silver or Silvers. (100-25824-22)

Investigation was made by the New York office, based upon the information furnished by Chambers; however, the identity of "Peter," with alias Silver or Silvers, was not established at that time. It was pointed out, however, that it appeared that this individual was identical with the subject of a separate investigation in New York of J. Peters, with alias Steve Tapin

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by reason of the information developed and these two investigations were consolidated. (100-25824-25)

Further investigation in the J. Peters inquiry, as well as the concurrent investigation which was made separately of Alexander Stevens, alias Alexander Goldberger, resulted in a consolidation of these investigations, based upon an identification of the photograph of Stevens as J. Peters by Benjamin Gitlow and James F. Glaser. This was reported by the New York Office in a letter dated March 6, 1943. (100-184255-74)

Subsequently, the photograph of Alexander Stevens was further identified as J Peters by William Odell Rowell, a confidential informant who said he was acquainted with the subject in Moscow, Russia, in 1932. (100-184255-59)

On March 5, 1943, a photograph of Alexander Stevens was identified by Whittaker Chambers as being the individual known to him as Peters, head of the Communist underground movement in the United States. (100-184255-67)

The investigation continued of subject's activities following the consolidation of the previous investigations under the various aliases of the subject.

III (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes contained references to the individual identified as Stevens under the name "Peters" and were as follows:

"Known from Peters - formerly in Bela Kun
Govt. Agricultural Commissariat - called Gandouz (?)
Then to Russia - then here, in Business Office of
Communist paper 'Uj Elori' - then, after 1929 -
head of CP Underground, lived in Hamilton Ap'ts.
Woodside, L.I. - under alias 'Silver' - &
lectured in Communist camps -
Friend: 'Fleke' of 'Freiheit' - Real name -
Weiner - American: Polish Jew -
Peters was responsible for Washington Sector
Went to Moscow - where is he now? -

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"Wife - a Comintern courier -
West Coast - Head: 'The Old Man' - Volkov is
his real name - daughter a Comintern
courier. He knows the West Coast
underground - Residence: San Francisco
or Oakland - " (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It is noted that no specific further investigation was conducted based upon Berle's notes inasmuch as Peters had then been identified and an active investigation was being made of him by the Bureau. The investigation which was continuing indicated close associations by Stevens with individuals prominent in the Communist Party. (100-184255-101)

IV (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers, when interviewed on the above date, gave further details concerning his association with the individual then known to him as J. Peters. (It is noted in this interview that Chambers apparently referred to Stevens as both J. Peters and Peter.) He stated that while in the position of editor of "New Masses," in approximately 1932, he, Chambers, was called into the offices of Max Bedacht in Communist Party headquarters in New York and advised he was to be given a special assignment. At a second meeting with Bedacht he was introduced on the street to an individual known to him as "Arthur." "Arthur", in turn, made an appointment for the following evening on a street corner and introduced him, at another place, to an individual known to him as "Peter." Chambers said he recognized this man as the former treasurer of the Hungarian Communist newspaper "Uj Elore" (phonetic) who had also published numerous articles on Communism under the name of J. Peters. He was told by Peters that he would act as a courier between him and "Arthur" until he received further instructions. For the next two or three years, until approximately 1935, he was a paid courier and this was his sole occupation. He engaged in carrying envelopes and messages between Arthur and Peter in New York City. He related that he never learned much about the identities of these men and never knew their residences other than that Peter lived somewhere in Woodside, Long Island, under the name of Silver. Chambers stated in this interview that most of his knowledge of the underground and Russian courier activities was derived from

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conversations with Arthur and Peter who became very friendly with him and often talked about their activities rather freely. In the interview he mentioned the OGPU connections of Peter. In 1935, his courier activities ceased and he was told by Peter that he would act as a connecting link between Harold Ware in Washington and himself in New York City and, in addition to his courier activities, he would also serve as a sort of morale officer, giving pep talks and indoctrination talks to the Communist group headed by Ware in Washington. Based upon this assignment from Peter, Chambers became acquainted with the Communist underground in Washington. He mentioned that Peter himself attended some of the underground meetings in Washington when he felt the group needed a pep talk or required special instructions regarding some particular problem. (100-25824-36)

Inasmuch as the major portion of the information contained in this interview relates to data furnished to Chambers by Alexander Stevens, known to him as Peter, detailed references are not being set out in this section but are contained in the individual write-ups of the various individuals mentioned as hereinafter set forth in this memorandum.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation of Alexander Stevens, based upon the Chambers interview above, continued, it being noted that Peters was already identified as Stevens.

During the course of this subsequent investigation, Stevens was further identified with an individual who, during the latter part of 1945 and 1946, and early 1947, was employed at Communist Party headquarters as Steve Miller.

During the course of the investigation, it was determined that State Department files contained information indicating that an individual by the name of Isador Boorstein had been issued a U. S. passport for travel to Germany, France and England on October 8, 1931. This forgery was not discovered until a Bureau Agent viewed the subject's photograph in the State Department files on June 6, 1946, and recognized Boorstein as being identical with Alexander Stevens. In view of the lapse of time, any violation of passport regulations would be barred by the Statute of Limitations. (100-184255-222)

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On February 14, 1947, in a memorandum to the Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle all reports concerning Alexander Stevens, including those reflecting investigation of the subject under his various aliases, were forwarded to the Criminal Division. (100-184255-199 and 200)

Further reports relating to the Alexander Stevens investigation were forwarded to Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle on March 21, 1947, pursuant to his request, including reports on related investigations. (100-184255-202)

A prosecutive summary report dated February 17, 1947, was forwarded to the Division of Records of the Department on March 24, 1947. (100-184255-198)

On September 18, 1947, a summary memorandum was furnished to the Immigration and Naturalization Service and a copy of the prosecutive summary report of the New York Office dated February 17, 1947, was included. (100-184255-223)

In a memorandum dated September 26, 1947, which was forwarded on September 27, 1947, a summary on this subject was transmitted to the Attorney General reflecting Stevens' activities, including references to the passport fraud of 1941 and his alien status. (100-184255-222)

On September 30, 1947, the Attorney General telephoned the Director and expressed his appreciation for this memorandum on Stevens and stated he thought subject could be deported, although the Statute of Limitations barred action on the passport fraud. (100-184255-221)

It is to be noted that the memorandum to the Attorney General contained a summary of the allegations received from Whittaker Chambers concerning Stevens' connections with the Government underground. It is further to be noted that the summary report of February 17, 1947, which was forwarded to the Division of Records and to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, contained information furnished by Whittaker Chambers, set out under a confidential informant symbol, indicating Stevens, under the name of Peters, as being the head of the Communist underground movement in the United States prior to 1937.

Alexander Stevens was arrested by the Immigration and Naturalization Service on a deportation warrant at Peekskill, New York, on October 8, 1947. He was later released on $5000 bail. (100-184255-230)

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As you are aware, the House Committee on Un-American Activities has been in contact with INS in the interim, endeavoring to obtain information as to Stevens' whereabouts in order that they could serve a subpoena for his appearance before the Committee. This matter was referred by INS to the Criminal Division of the Department.

The Washington "Times-Herald" for August 25, 1948, reflected that Stevens would be served with a subpoena by the House Un-American Activities Committee, if present at the scheduled deportation hearing which was held on August 30, 1948.

The Washington "Times-Herald" for August 31, 1948, revealed that Stevens appeared at the INS hearing on August 30, 1948, and was served with a subpoena to appear before a hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities to be held in New York on August 30, 1948. According to the article, Stevens appeared but declined to answer questions on the grounds that to do so might incriminate him. Members of the House Committee announced that Stevens might be charged with contempt of Congress for refusing to answer questions.

In addition to the distribution made of the Chambers information re Alexander Stevens, with aliases, specifically in connection with his case, the following distribution of summaries containing information concerning Alexander Stevens, with alias J. Peters, either as a separate section of the report or incidental to the write-ups on certain named individuals, was made. This information, in all cases, included the data concerning Stevens which was received from Whittaker Chambers and in certain cases was specifically attributed to Chambers by name:

(1) Summary entitled "Soviet Espionage in the United States" dated November 27, 1945;

(2) Summary entitled "Soviet Espionage in the United States" dated December 12, 1945;

(3) Summary entitled "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the U. S. Government" dated February 21, 1946;

(4) Summary entitled "The Comintern Apparatus" dated March 5, 1946;

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(5) Summary entitled "Soviet Activities in the United States" dated July 25, 1946;

(6) Summary entitled "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the U. S. Government" dated October 21, 1946.

Copies of summaries 1 through 6 were furnished to the White House and the Attorney General.

Copies of Summaries 1 through 4 and 6 were furnished to the State Department.

Copies of summaries 1 through 4 were furnished to the Navy Department.

Copies of summaries 2 and 3 were furnished to the War Department.

Copies of summaries 2, 3 and 6 were furnished to the Treasury Department.

A copy of summary 3 was furnished to the Central Intelligence Group.

Kisseloff-26285

TASS NEWS AGENCY

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Tass News Agency is the official news agency of the Soviet Government and was registered on January 6, 1938, with the Attorney General under the Foreign Agents Registration Act. The New York Bureau of Tass was created in 1925 succeeding the New York Bureau of Rosta which had been established about January 1923. (100-183386-217 p. 1)

An investigation to ascertain if Tass employees were acting outside the scope of their authority was initiated on April 25, 1941. (100-183886-X)

However, prior to 1941 investigations were conducted on individuals employed by the Tass News Agency and in this connection an investigation was conducted concerning the activities of Kenneth Durant, Manager of Tass until 1944. (65-2299-11)

In this connection it is to be noted that in 1939 it was alleged by Mr. Frank H. Bartholomew, Vice-President of the United Press, San Francisco, California, that Durant was an espionage agent on behalf of the Soviet Government. (65-2299-5)

The investigation of Tass revealed that the majority of American employees had Communist Party backgrounds and some of the employees had been in contact with suspected Soviet agents. (65-2299)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers advised on May 13, 1942, that there was an OGPU organization during the period of time when he was associated with the Communist Party and that he presumed that there was also such an organization at the time of the interview. He advised that he did not know the identity of the head of such an organization but suspected that it was connected with the Amtorg Trading Corporation and the Tass newspaper. (100-25824-22 p. 2)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Instant file fails to reflect specific investigation of Tass as a result of the Chambers' interview. It is noted that Chambers only speculated that Tass was being used as a cover for Espionage. Similar allegations had been previously received and instant investigation was instituted in 1941 to determine if Tass employees were acting outside the scope of their authority. Chambers' speculative allegations did not add to the Bureau's knowledge of the Tass News Agency. (65-2299)

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
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

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III. (C) [illegible] 1943

None

IV. (P) [illegible]

Instant investigation was continued to identify any Soviet agents within Mass.

V. (A) [illegible] MAY 10, 1945

None

VI. (C) [illegible]

Instant investigation is presently in a pending status and pertinent copies of the investigative reports have been furnished to the Department. (100-183386)

JAS:JG

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

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ALEXANDER LEO TRACHTENBERG

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

As is well known, Alexander Trachtenberg is one of the foremost figures in the Communist Party movement in the United States. Information concerning his Communist activities, as reported in connection with the investigation of the movement, is contained in the Bureau files dating back as early as 1920.

In view of the voluminous information available to the Bureau as reported in investigations of this individual, for purposes of brevity the following short summary concerning Trachtenberg is being set forth.

Trachtenberg was born November 23, 1885, at Odessa, Russia; entered the United States, August, 1906; attended Trinity College and Yale University; was naturalized at New Haven, February 28, 1914; and for the most part has resided in or around New York, New York. He is presently General Manager of the International Publishers Company, Inc., New York City, which for many years has published the majority of the Marxist literature in the United States. He has occupied numerous high positions in the Communist Party in the United States and reportedly was a member of the National Control Commission of the Party since its early days. Trachtenberg himself has admitted trips to Europe and Russia on numerous occasions since the early 1920's, allegedly for the promotion of his publishing business. He was until recently a National Committeeman of the Communist Party. Benjamin Gitlow, former General Secretary of the Communist Party in the United States, who broke with the Party, testified in 1939 before the House Committee on Un-American Activities that the publishing firm of Trachtenberg was taken over by the Communist International. He further stated that Trachtenberg was among the persons cooperating with Russian OGPU agents in the United States.

Also in October, 1939, Maurice L. Malkin, a member of the Communist Party from 1919 to 1936, testified in hearings before the House Committee on Un-American Activities that Trachtenberg was a member of the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party in the United States; that in Russia the Central Control Commission members are part of the OGPU; that in every country members of such Commission send its agents to gather information which they forward to the Soviet Union; and that Anna Louise Strong, a member of the Russian Communist Party and a member of the OGPU for years, usually reported to Trachtenberg. Trachtenberg still figures prominently in the affairs of the Communist Party in the United States and is still the subject of continuing investigation by the Bureau. (Summary prosecutive report 61-2115-341)

L. V. Godfrey:mer

Kisseloff-26288

Of further interest concerning Trachtenberg are the results of investigation by the Bureau in connection with the Red Army Intelligence Ring exposed in Canada by the statements of Igor Gouzenko, which investigation reflected close association between Trachtenberg and Sam Carr prior to the breaking of this case both in the United States and at the Third National Assembly of the Communist Party of Cuba which was held from January 24 to 28, 1946. (Summary memorandum dated September 3, 1946, entitled "Soviet Activities in the United States.")

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers when interviewed by Bureau Agents on the above date, in discussing activities of the OGPU in the United States, indicated that some of the OGPU parallels have for their purposes the guidance of the Party so that it follows the Moscow line. He stated that these agents are in close touch with the Central Control Commission of the Party. He stated that Charles Dirba, the head of the Central Control Commission for years, and Alexander Trachtenberg, also a member for many years, operated under the National Minorities which are duplicated in Russia and he, Chambers, had always heard that Dirba was connected with the OGPU. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear that this information as such was acted upon with reference to Trachtenberg, it being noted, however, that these data had already been received in more specific form and were the subject of investigation based upon previous allegations. It will further be noted that these allegations concerning Trachtenberg were made at the hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1939 as set forth in the summary above.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN [illegible] NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes obtained on the above date contained the following reference to Alexander Trachtenberg:

Alexander Trachtenberg - Politburo -
Member of the Exec. Committee
Head of GPU in U. S.
Works with Peters -

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear that any specific investigation was conducted based upon the reference to Trachtenberg in the Berle notes. However the same

observation as previously set forth applies to this information and was known to the New York Office where Trachtenberg was the subject of a continuing and vigorous investigation.

IV. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

No reference was made to Trachtenberg by Chambers in the interview conducted on the above date.

It is to be noted that reports concerning Trachtenberg, including a prosecutive summary dated March 22, 1947, (61-2115-341) have been furnished to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice.

Kisseloff-26290

JULIEN WADLEIGH (WADLEY)

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was made of Wadleigh prior to 1942.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Wadleigh was not mentioned by name by Chambers in the interview conducted by Bureau Agents on the above date.

(However, in reviewing the results of the 1942 interview, together with the Berle notes received by the Bureau in 1943 (see below), it will be noted that in the 1942 interview Chambers advised that there was another individual, whose name he did not recall, connected with the underground movement who was in the Trade Agreement Section of the State Department and was sent to Turkey to negotiate a trade agreement. This individual was a protege of Ed Minster of the Department of Agriculture.)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau fail to reflect that any investigation was conducted based upon information furnished concerning this unknown individual.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS CONTAINED IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Contained in the Berle notes, which were received in June, 1943, and which were based upon information furnished by Chambers in 1939, there is a notation of an individual by the name of Wadley or Wadleigh:

"State
Post - Editorship, Foreign Service Journal
Was in Alexandria Unit of CP - in
'Underground Apparatus' -
Duggan - Laurence - (Member CP??)

"?
(Wadleigh) Wadley - Trade Agreement Section
Lovell - " " "
Communist Shop Group
Elinor Nelson - Laurence Duggan - Julien Wadleigh -
West European Div'n - Field - still in -
(Levine says he is out went into I.E.O.
Then in Committee for Repatriation
His leader was Hedda Gompertz."

RCd:elw:mcr

Kisseloff-26291

While it is not entirely clear from the notes as to the exact allegation made by Chambers concerning Wadleigh or Wadley, it would appear that he was an alleged member of the Communist group in the State Department.

(100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear that any investigation was conducted of Wadleigh based upon the Berle notes at the time of their receipt. However, in connection with the Cogog investigation (Communist Political Association Government Group), a letter was sent to the Washington Field Office on May 4, 1945 directing that a separate investigation of the reported secret Communist Government Group be opened. At this time the Washington Field Office was informed of the allegations made in the Chambers' interview of 1942 concerning the existence of a Communist underground in the Government and at the same time furnished a copy of the Berle notes.

(100-3-65-1)

A review of the Bureau files indicates that one Julian Wadleigh and his wife Mariam at 4019 - 18th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and later 124 Quincy Street, Chevy Chase, Maryland, were subscribers to Socialist party publications.

(61-626-1981, p. 24
100-26255-1)

Bureau files also indicate that on May 27, 1943 a highly confidential source advised that Julian Wadley (phonetic) of the State Department apparently was associated in a "car pool" with (Hoyt) Haddock of the CIO Maritime Committee in Washington, D. C.

(100-203-268-7543)

By letter dated March 11, 1945, the Washington Field Office advised that pursuant to the instructions of the Bureau of December 2, 1947, to review the files of the Cogog case to determine the most prominent members of the Communist underground group, a review had been made and 131 names were submitted to the Civil Service Commission to ascertain if they were ever employed or are still employed by the Government. As a result of this check of Civil Service records, there was forwarded to the Bureau on the previously mentioned date a list of persons

Kisseloff-26292

previously reported in connection with the Cogog investigation who were reportedly still employed in the Government. Included in this list was the name of Julias Wadleigh, a transferee from F.E.A. to the State Department. (100-3-65-941)

The foregoing named individuals may be identical with the person named in the Berle notes.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

In the interview of Chambers conducted by Bureau Agents on the above date, Chambers did not specifically refer to an individual by the name of Wadleigh or Wadley.

Kisseloff-26293

Re: HAROLD M. WARE

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The first investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of Harold Ware was an investigation conducted in 1921 which reflected that on December 27, 1921 the National Convention of the Workers Party of America held in New York City, elected Harold Ware as an alternate member of the Executive Committee of that organization. At the same convention on January 12, 1922, Ware was appointed as agrarian organizer of the Workers Party of America. On February 5, 1922, he was appointed as business manager of the "Worker."

(61-23-66, 89
61-228-38)

Ware sailed for Russia on the SS "Latvia" on May 10, 1922. He was accompanied by his wife, Chris, and Ware was taking tractors to Russia and reportedly was to represent the Communist Party of America in Russia on the agrarian question.

(61-443-98)

In November of 1922 the Friends of Soviet Russia received a communication from Lenin lauding the work of the United States tractor group in the Ukraine headed by Harold Ware. Lenin stated that he was suggesting that the group farm be used as a model for all Russia.

(61-181-216)

On June 22, 1923, Harold Ware sailed for Russia on the SS "Westphalia" giving as his address 1223 United Trust Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He had United States passport No. 160968. He reportedly was to be the delegate of the United Farmers Educational League of North Dakota to the All-Russian Agricultural Exposition in Moscow. It was reported that on August 28, 1923, officials of the Communist Party were contemplating sending a message to Ware on board the SS "Westphalia" informing him that his wife was dead.

(61-231243
61-3537-2
61-167-1930)

According to an informant, on November 24, 1923 information had been received by the Communist Party from Harold M. Ware to the effect that the subject Government had granted a concession of 27,000 acres of agricultural land on the Donetz River, Ukrain. Ware had agreed to

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RJL:HW

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develop this land with American agricultural equipment which was to go to Russia before February 15, 1924.

(61-23-269 p. 19)

On July 17, 1924, Ware sailed for Russia representing the Ukrainian Farm and Machinery Corporation which had been formed in the United States to develop agricultural land for the Soviet Government. Ware as managing director of this corporation was to sign the final contract with the Soviet Government.

(61-223-296

In 1925 Ware reportedly made another trip to Moscow, accompanied by his second wife, Jessica Smith, who later married John Abt. He organized a Russian-American State Farm in the Caucasus and was later one of the organizers and Assistant Director of "Verblud."

(Biographical Sketch of Jessica Smith in files of Soviet Russia Today)
(61-5381-2071)

The investigation also reflected that Harold Ware was the son of Ella Reeve Bloor by her first husband, Lucien Ware. Ella Reeve Bloor is a famous figure in the Communist Party, USA, reportedly living with Earl Browder in the early days of the movement. It was also reported that Harold Ware was a graduate from an agricultural college and had been active during War World I in large scale farming activity. According to information received in 1941, Harold Ware with the aid of Jay Lovestone in 1930 and later with the support of Foster and Browder was in charge of an agricultural Communist Research Bureau in Washington, D. C. that had for its purpose the preparing of Communist Party material for dissemination among farmers. b7D

[redacted]
101-142-57)

The hearing of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 77th Congress, First Session, reports the testimony of Mr. J. B. Matthews to the effect that Hal Ware was employed by the Department of Agriculture until 1935 when he was killed by a street car in Washington. It might be noted at this point that a report from another informant reflects that he was killed in an automobile crash near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1935. According to the files of the Public Relations Division of the Metropolitan Police, Hal Ware was at one time Assistant Research Director for Farm Research, Incorporated, Washington, D. C.

(101-142-6, 16)

Kisseloff-26295

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers stated that when he became associated with the underground movement of the Communist Party, they sent him to Washington to assist Harold Ware, who was associated with the son of Mother Bloor (Carl Reeve) to develop the very fertile field which was Washington, D. C. in the early and middle days of the New Deal. Chambers stated that Ware had been a courier prior to this time who had carried American currency from Russia to the United States for investment here. Chambers stated that the underground work in Washington was ostensibly in the farm field and that they established underground quarters in the violin studios of Ware's sister, located above a florist shop on Connecticut Avenue and Dupont Circle.

He stated that they began to organize the men in the New Deal and to make such individuals a part of the underground organization of the Communist Party.

Further identifying his position in this movement, Whittaker Chambers advised that he was the assistant to Ware who was the organizer and that he, Chambers, was kind of a morale officer inasmuch as the recruits had to be guided in the Party's policies at all times.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No active investigation of Harold Ware was instituted at this time inasmuch as he was known to be dead. An investigation at the violin studio of Helen Ware was instituted on February 5, 1943, which reflected that she had maintained a studio in 1932 at 1501 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. (100-12997-28; 100-197163-2130)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Mr. Berle's notes reflected the following notation:

"Underground organized by the late Harold Ware;
Pressman was in his group - (1932-37?) Pressman
then in the A.A.A."

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation of Ware was conducted on the basis of Mr. Berle's notes.

Kisseloff-26296

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers stated that after he was recruited for underground activities in Washington, D. C., he was told by J. Peters that he would act as a connecting link between Harold Ware and Peters in New York and that he would also serve as sort of a morale officer, giving pep talks and indoctrination talks to the Communist group headed by Harold Ware in Washington. Peters explained that Ware was the leader of a group of men composed of Government employees in high-salaried positions who were Communist Party members, but whose activities with the Party as such had ceased when they were transferred to the underground of the Communist Party. Chambers pointed out that Ware's group was composed of approximately eight individual members and that almost everyone of these members was himself a leader of another underground unit operating in Washington which consisted of from six to eight members; that the members of each of these underground units were not aware of the identity or composition of any of the other units.

Chambers stated that one of the meeting places was the violin studio belonging to Helen Ware, Harold Ware's sister above a florist shop on Connecticut Avenue and Dupont Circle. He explained that this was more or less Ware's headquarters and that the members did not meet there as a group. Chambers recalled that after Harold Ware died a meeting took place at which John Abt was elected as the new leader of the group.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation of Harold Ware was conducted as a result of the above allegations.

The Chambers allegations concerning Harold Ware were included in a summary of Communist activities in the United States Government given distribution to the White House, State Department, the Attorney General and other agencies in February, 1946. (65-56402-573)

Kisseloff-26297

Re: HELEN WARE CAPPEL, aka HELEN WARE

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An investigation of Harold Ware was conducted in 1921 and 1922 which reflected that Helen Ware was the daughter of Ella Reeve Bloor, famous Communist propagandist. In 1921, Helen Ware was reportedly married but was using her maiden name. One informant reported that she was employed on the "Toiler". Other information reflects this report may have been erroneous as it was stated her only Communist activity was to attend meetings where her mother spoke and on occasion play her violin at these meetings.

(61-71-18; 61-167-171; 61-440-40)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers stated that after he became associated with the underground movement, the Communist Party sent him down to assist Harold Ware, who was ostensibly working in Washington in the farm field. Chambers said they established underground quarters in the violin studio of Ware's sister, located above a florist shop on Connecticut Avenue and Dupont Circle.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On February 5, 1943, an investigation was instituted to locate the violin studio of Helen Ware at Dupont Circle, Washington, D. C. It was learned that in 1932 Helen Ware rented a studio at 1501 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. It was reported that she occupied this studio until about 1937. It was noted that a flower shop of the J. H. Small and Sons had been located at that address under the studio since prior to 1932. In further verification, a search of Boyd's District of Columbia Directory for 1932 gave the address of Helen Ware, a music instructor at 1501 Connecticut Avenue, N. W. Helen Ware's residence address in the Directories was given as 3264 S Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

An investigation at 3264 S Street in 1943 reflected that the entire house was occupied by the family of C. C. Cappel and that Helen Ware was the wife of C. C. Cappel. It was determined that Mr. Cappel was a well-known orchestra leader in the Washington area but had moved

Kisseloff-26298

to Baltimore. An investigation in Baltimore reflected that the Cappel's were residing at 1614 Park Avenue, Baltimore and that Mr. Cappel was the Business Manager of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

(100-12997-28
100-197163-2130)

According to an informant interviewed in 1944, Helen Hare had been married to an Austrian before marrying Cappel. According to this informant she was reported to be anti-Communist.

[redacted] b7D

100-316282-1)

The Chambers allegations concerning Helen Hare insofar as they included the location of the violin studio, were included in a summary of Communist activities in the United States Government, which was given distribution to the White House, State Department, the Attorney General and other agencies in February, 1946.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BALL NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

There is no mention of Helen Hare in these notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN MAY 10, 1945

Whittaker Chambers in 1945 advised that the violin studio which was used as a meeting place belonged to Helen Hare, Harold Hare's sister. This studio was located above a florist shop on Connecticut Avenue and Dupont Circle. Chambers explained that this was more or less Hare's headquarters and that the members did not meet there as a group.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted on the basis of this information.

Kisseloff-26299

[illegible]
Robert Hillis Silvers
[illegible]
[illegible]

I [illegible]

[illegible] was [illegible], subject [illegible] Hillis Silvers, was instituted on June 1, 1941, although considerable information concerning [illegible] was developed [illegible] by the [illegible] of the original [illegible] investigation. [illegible] Silvers [illegible] was [illegible] Date of Birth [illegible] October 30, 1918, in [illegible]. He joined the Communist Party in 1937, [illegible] Communist Party in 1937 and 1938, was [illegible] Secretary of the Communist Party, area 1939 to 1940, [illegible] Communist Political Committee of the Communist Party in 1938, and [illegible] member of the International Workers Order [illegible]. (100-14773-57)

Silvers was born [illegible] in Berlin on October 5, 1893. He entered the United States at Philadelphia on March 7, 1914. Silvers went abroad in 1932 and in 1937 [illegible] under the name of Robert Hillis Silver fraudulently representing himself to be a United States citizen. Silvers was found guilty of [illegible] and sentenced to serve a sentence of two years in a United States Penitentiary by the [illegible] District of New York on January 23, 1940. His sentence was commuted [illegible] to Silvers's deportation. In connection with this deportation it is to be noted that Silvers was active during the 1937's in, the [illegible] of Political Prisoners, Incorporated, which was engaged [illegible] travel of [illegible] Communists to Europe. One of the persons [illegible] was Robert Hillis Silvers who traveled on a false passport under the name of Samuel Linstein. (100-14773-4)

II (J) [illegible] JULY 18, 1947

Mr. [illegible] advised [illegible] received during the course of this interview.

III (J) [illegible] JULY 18, 1947

In the Bible notes regarding J. [illegible], notations were made by Mr. Berle relative to names: "Silvers" or "Friedrich" - real name - Silver - various initials [illegible].

III (J) [illegible]

No factual investigation was conducted by the [illegible] relations [illegible] with the information concerning [illegible] already all known to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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IV (J) [illegible] JULY 10, 1945

In regarding [illegible] of Cedbert Silver, Canadian [illegible] known [illegible]

Kisseloff-26300

Warszower (better known as William Weiner) had been a close contact of Edwards (Gerhart Eisler) in the middle thirties in the United States. He stated that he had known Weiner under the name of Blake when he was an editor of the "Freiheit". He could not recall the source of his information as to this contact between Eisler and Warszower.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted based upon Chambers' allegations listed above. Documentary evidence was later established in the Eisler Investigation reflecting that Eisler's passage to Europe in 1935 and 1936 was paid for by Blake of Communist Party Headquarters who has been identified as Weiner.

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Kisseloff-26301

NATHAN WITT, WITH ALIASES:
Nat Witt, Nathan Witkowsky, Nathan Witkowski

I. IN. MITIATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Nathan Witt has been under investigation by the Bureau since January, 1941. (100-16886-2)

He resigned his position as Secretary of the National Labor Relations Board on November 19, 1940. (100-16886-3, P.4) Since that time he has been practicing law in New York City, representing many large Communist-infiltrated unions in New York City. (100-16886-3-27)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The Bureau continued the investigation started in January, 1941.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes made by Berle at the time of his interview with Chambers in September, 1939 were obtained from Berle in June, 1943. With regard to Witt, Berle's notes are as follows:

"Nathan Witt - Secretary of the NLRB - Head of the underground group after Harold Ware."

On the last page of the Berle notes it is stated that Donald Hiss was a "member of C.P. with Pressman & Witt." (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As indicated under Item I, an investigation of Witt was commenced in January, 1941. Also, as indicated under Item III (A), Chambers' allegations were not obtained by the Bureau until June, 1943, which was approximately one and one-half years after Witt had resigned as Secretary of the National Labor Relations Board and had gone to New York City. Chambers' allegations against Witt were investigated in connection with the continuing investigation of Witt, previously started, and in connection with the Gregory investigation.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945 by New York Agents, he named Harold Ware, Nathan Witt and John Abt as the leaders of the Ware Underground

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Group with whom he, Chambers, had dealt directly. Chambers stated that the members of the Ware Group were high-salaried Government employees who were Communist Party members, but that their activities with the Party had ceased when they were transferred to the Communist Party underground. Chambers recalled the following individuals as members of the Ware Group: John Abt, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perle (later identified by Chambers as Victor Perlo), Charles Kramer, also known as Charles Krivitsky, Alger Hiss, Donald Hiss, ____ Post, Nathan Witt and an unnamed man who was described as the husband of Alice Wendham. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation of Witt, which was started in January, 1941, was continued into 1947. The closing report from the New York Office is dated October 1, 1947. (100-16886-23)

In addition to continuing the individual investigation on Witt, the information about him in the Berle notes, together with the information from Chambers, was furnished to the Washington Field Office in May, 1945, in connection with the COGOG investigation. (100-3-65-1)

The investigation of Witt confirmed his acquaintance with Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, John Abt, Victor Perlo, Alger Hiss and Alexander Stevens (J. V. Peters), all of whom were named by Chambers as members of the Ware Underground Group; and showed that Witt has been in contact with several of the most outstanding national figures in the Communist Party - USA. (100-16886-11,21,23; 65-56402-2586)

During October, 1947, Witt's conversations with Communist contacts disclosed that he had a definite knowledge of and interest in developments in the Gregory case, and that he admittedly was a "coordinator" - at least of information and developments on behalf of other subjects in the Gregory case. (65-56402-2966)

Investigation did not disclose that Witt is a card-carrying member of the Communist Party. As an underground member, he would not, of course, be a card-carrying member. (100-16886-12) b7D

However, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised the Washington Field Office on February 3, 1948, that during the late summer of 1940 she, the informant, was present at a small gathering in the apartment of Marian Bachrach (sister of John Abt), Washington, D. C. when Nathan Witt disclosed his affiliation with the Communist Party. (100-16886-24)

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Copies of investigative reports have been furnished to the Army and Navy Intelligence agencies and to the Division of Records in the Department.

(100-16886)

Kisseloff-26303

In connection with the Gregory investigation, information about Witt was furnished at various times to the Attorney General, the White House and other interested Government agencies.

Kisseloff-26304

original

INFORMATION CONCERNING

WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, also known as
Jay David Whittaker Chambers,
Vivian Chambers, John Kelly

September 5, 1948

Kisseloff-26305

94-1333-12X1

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
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September 5, 1948

WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, also known as
Jay David Whittaker Chambers,
Vivian Chambers, John Kelly;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

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September 5, 1948

WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, also known as
Jay David Whittaker Chambers,
Vivian Chambers, John Kelly;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING ALGER HISS

When Whittaker Chambers was interviewed by Bureau Agents on May 13, 1942, he described a Communist underground movement in Washington, D. C., of which he had been a member for approximately four years, ending in the Spring of 1937. Chambers declared that this group was headed by Harold Ware and that a number of its members were Government employees. He said that one of the members of this group, which was a part of the underground organization of the Communist Party, was Alger Hiss.

In the copy of the notes obtained from Adolf A. Berle, Jr., then Assistant Secretary of State, in June, 1943, and which had been set down by Mr. Berle during an interview in 1939 with Chambers concerning this same Communist underground Government group, Alger Hiss was described as follows:

"Alger Hiss

Ass't. to Sayre - CP - 1937
Members of the underground Com. - Active
Baltimore boys -
Wife - Priscilla Hiss - Socialist -
Early days of the New Deal"

When Chambers was again interviewed by Bureau Agents in May, 1945, he again stated that Hiss was a member of a Communist underground group headed by Harold Ware. He specifically stated that Hiss, while he was in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, had met on several occasions with Harold Ware's group and that he had usually been in attendance when meetings of this group were held at Henry Collins' home. He said that when Hiss went with the Senate (Nye) Committee investigating the munitions industry, he was segregated from the group and had no more official contacts with them but would meet socially with a number of them and was particularly close to Marian Bachrack, the sister of John J. Abt who, according to Chambers, was also a member of the same Communist group and was elected its leader upon the death of Harold Ware.

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Asked whether or not he believed Hiss might have broken with the Communist Party, Chambers stated that he had no reason to believe that he had "dropped out." As a reason for this belief, Chambers explained that after he, Chambers, had broken away from the Communist Party, he had made a special trip to Hiss' home in the Georgetown section of Washington for the purpose of talking Hiss into breaking away from the Party also. Chambers said that when he arrived there, Hiss' wife, Priscilla, was the only one present and that while Chambers momentarily excused himself to go to the bathroom, he observed Mrs. Hiss immediately go to the telephone, obviously to get in touch with Party members. Chambers said he immediately returned to the room and awaited the arrival of Alger Hiss. When Hiss came, they had dinner together at Hiss' home. Chambers said that he then talked with Hiss all night in an effort to persuade him to leave the Party. He said that Hiss with tears streaming down his face had refused to break with the Communists and that he had given as his reason for not breaking away his loyalty to his friends and principles.

Chambers further declared that he had endeavored to persuade Hiss to leave the Communist Party because he personally had great regard for Hiss and considered him an intelligent and decent young man whose better judgment should have led him to break with the Communist Party. Chambers pointed out that in his opinion one of the strongest reasons for Hiss' maintaining contact with the Communist Party was the fanatic loyalty to the Party on the part of his wife.

Chambers was again interviewed specifically concerning Hiss on March 28, 1946, at which time he declared that he was unable to elaborate on the information concerning Hiss' connection with the Communist Party which he had furnished in 1942 and 1945. He stated that he had absolutely no information that would conclusively prove that Hiss held a membership card in the Communist Party or that he was an actual dues paying member of the Communist Party even while he was active prior to 1937. He volunteered that he knew that in 1937 Hiss was favorably impressed with the Communist movement and was of the present opinion that Hiss still had the same beliefs.

ALGER HISS INTERVIEWED IN SILVERMASTER CASE ON JUNE 2, 1947

In November, 1945, Elizabeth Terrill Bentley indicated that Alger Hiss had been connected with a Soviet espionage group in Washington. As a result, Hiss was interviewed by Bureau agents on June 2, 1947. On that occasion, he denied having any connection with the Communist Party or that he had engaged in any kind of espionage activity. He further stated that he was not acquainted with an individual by the name of Whittaker Chambers.

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He added that at least he could recall no one by that name as being one of his acquaintances. He further stated that as far as he could recall no individual by that name had ever visited his home on any occasion. He did acknowledge in a signed statement that, among others, he knew Charles Kramer, Leon Pressman, Henry Collins, John J. Abt since the early 1930's, mentioning that he could not recall Perlo too well. It is noted that all of these individuals were stated by Chambers to have been members of the Communist underground government group in Washington of which Hiss was alleged by Chambers to have been a member.

NO INDICATION FOUND IN BUREAU FILES
THAT HISS KNEW CHAMBERS

A search of the Bureau files has disclosed no indication that Alger Hiss knew J. D. Whittaker Chambers at any time prior to his admission to the House Committee on Un-American Activities on August 25, 1948, upon being confronted with Chambers that he had known Chambers but only as George Crosley, a free lance writer, whom he had known in 1935 in Washington.

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OTHERS WHO MAY BE ABLE TO STATE THAT HISS KNEW CHAMBERS IN COMMUNIST UNDERGROUND GOVERNMENT GROUP AT WASHINGTON IN 1930's

When J. D. Whittaker Chambers was interviewed by Bureau Agents on May 10, 1945, Chambers explained that after he was assigned to work with Harold Ware, who was the head of a Communist underground government group, he came to learn the identities of its members inasmuch as he met them on numerous occasions. Among those he could readily recall as having attended group meetings were: John J. Abt, Leon Pressman, Henry H. Collins Jr., Victor Perlo (Chambers virst referred to him as Nathan Perlow but subsequently identified him as Victor Perlo), Nathan Witt, ----- Post (Chambers described him as editor in 1939 of the State Department's Foreign Service Journal. Consequently this is believed to be Richard Howell Post who is known to have served in that capacity)., Charles Kramer, Donald Hiss, Alger Hiss.

Chambers said he recalled that Alger Hiss while employed by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration had, on several occasions, met with Harold Ware's group and that he had usually attended the group meetings when they were held at Henry Collins' house.

Chambers further mentioned that the members of the group would also meet, although not as a group, at the violin studio in Washington belonging to Helen Ware, which was generally regarded by them to be the headquarters of the group leader Harold Ware.

Chambers also said that Peter (subsequently identified as Alexander Stevens) frequently came to Washington to attend meetings of the underground group whenever he felt the group needed a pep talk or required special instructions.

Consequently, it would appear from the above information that Abt, Pressman, Collins, Perlo, Kramer, Post, Witt, Donald Hiss and possibly Helen Ware may be able to state from personal knowledge that Alger Hiss knew Whittaker Chambers as a member of the Communist underground group at sometime during the period from 1933 to 1937 when Chambers has admitted he had worked for the Communist Party in Washington. (100-25824-36)

CHAMBERS EMPLOYED BY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN 1937-38

Chambers was interviewed in 1942 and again in 1945 concerning the operations of a Communist underground organization in Washington among government employees. There is no reference in the Bureau's files that he mentioned on either of these occasions that he had been employed by the Federal Government while still a member of the Communist underground group.

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However, in testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on August 30, 1948, Chambers stated that he had worked on a "boondoggling" job in the Research Department of the Railroad Retirement Board at six thousand dollars per year (this was later corrected to two thousand dollars per year).

Inquiry by the Washington Field and Chicago Offices on September 1, 1948, disclosed that Jay V. David Chambers, who at the time gave his address as 3310 Auchentoraly Terrace, Baltimore, Maryland, had worked on a WPA research project for the Railroad Retirement Board at Washington from October 18, 1937 until January 31, 1938. Since the record of this Chambers shows he was born in Philadelphia in 1901 and studied at the University of Brussels, Belgium, and had been in Germany, it is probable that he is identical with the man who, up until now, has been known as Whittaker Chambers inasmuch as this information corresponds with data previously known to the Bureau concerning the latter.

BUREAU'S FILES SEARCHED FOR REFERENCES TO JAY V. DAVID CHAMBERS

No previous references to Chambers have been found in the Bureau's files under the name of Jay V. David Chambers nor as Jay David Whittaker Chambers.

ACTION TAKEN BY FBI CONCERNING CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The information which follows is intended to show what allegations were made by Chambers when interviewed by Bureau agents on May 13, 1942, and May 10, 1945, concerning various individuals mentioned by him as being members of a Communist underground government group in Washington or connected with the Communist Party in other ways as will be shown below.

Set forth below under the names of the individuals listed are the allegations of Chambers as outlined in the notes set down by Adolph A. Berle, Jr., former Assistant Secretary of State, when he interviewed Chambers in 1939 on substantially the same material later furnished by Chambers to the FBI. A copy of these notes were obtained from Mr. Berle in June 1943.

When Chambers was interviewed in 1942 he advised that he had been a member of the Communist Party from 1924 until 1937 at which time he severed his connections with the Party. During approximately four years before his exit from the Party he was a member, he said, of an underground movement of the Communist Party in Washington, D. C. Chambers declared that his particular interest at the time was the organization of the Communist Party in the United States Government at a time when the "New Deal" was flourishing. Chambers stated that there was an OGPU organization during the period when he was associated with the Communist Party but said that he was not directly connected with it but that on the contrary his real position was with the underground movement of the Communist Party. He said that occasionally the underground movement would check

the activities and personal behavior of an individual in whom the OGPU was interested. However, he said that thereafter if the individual became a member of the OGPU he was segregated from the Party proper. Chambers advised that he served as an assistant to Harold Ware, the leader of the underground group, members of which will be individually referred to below. Chambers' duties, he stated, were those of a morale officer inasmuch as recruits had to be guided in the Party's policies at all times and that such was his responsibility.

When interviewed in 1945, Chambers further explained that the underground organization which he said had existed in Washington had been set up for the purpose of enabling Communist Party members to conceal their Party activities in cases where the nature of their occupations required it. Chambers related that for several years until about 1935 he had also acted as a courier at $30 a week between one Arthur _____ and J. Peters who was later identified as Alexander Stevens. His duties in this connection consisted of carrying messages, envelopes, or packages between them in New York City, meeting one or the other at pre-arranged places. He said this was done to "throw off" any one who might be following. Chambers said that to avoid being distrusted, he never inquired as the contents of what he carried between Arther and Peters. He said that he did not at any time suspect that he was participating in the activities of a Russian espionage ring. He declared that he had no reason to believe that his activities in connection with the underground movement were concerned with other then the regular promotion of the Communist movement. He pointed out furthermore, that he did not at any time consider himself a Comintern agent or an agent of the OGPU. (100-25284-22, 36)

SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS MADE BY CHAMBERS CONCERNING INDIVIDUALS NAMED BY HIM AND PRIOR AND SUBSEQUENT FBI INVESTIGATION

There follow the specific allegations made by Chambers concerning the individuals mentioned by him as having been connected with Communist activity. Also set forth are summaries of what investigations were conducted by the FBI before and after these individuals' names were brought to its attention by Chambers.

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JOHN JACOB ABT
Also known as "Sidney"

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I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No active investigation was being conducted by the Bureau concerning John Jacob Abt prior to the first allegations made by Chambers on May 13, 1942.

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Under date of May 14, 1942, the New York Office submitted a letter setting forth the results of an interview conducted with Whittaker Chambers the previous day. This letter revealed that Chambers made no allegations at that time concerning John Jacob Abt. (100-25824-22)

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

There was no investigation instituted concerning Abt after the allegations made by Chambers on May 13, 1942, inasmuch as Chambers did not make any mention of Abt. However, Abt came to the attention of the Bureau on July 23, 1942, when Alexander Stevens, who was then being investigated by the Bureau, contacted Abt at his home in Jackson Heights, Long Island, New York. (100-236194-1, page 4)

At about the same time that Stevens contacted Abt, it was ascertained that Abt and his wife, Jessica Smith Abt, were in contact with various known Communists in New York City. It was ascertained that Abt frequently associated with Roy Hudson and Robert Minor, prominent Communists in New York City, and it was indicated at that time that Abt had been in contact with Eugene Dennis. It was also ascertained that on January 28, 1943, Abt was in contact with John Williamson, a functionary in the Communist Party in New York City. During this period of time, John Abt was General Counsel for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, CIO, in New York City. This information was furnished on February 4, 1947, to Mr. Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney General, in the report of Special Agent G. Earl Jennings dated at New York May 9, 1944. (100-236194-6)

III (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In June of 1943, Mr. A. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State, made available to the Bureau original notes which he had made at the time Whittaker Chambers furnished him information in 1939 concerning the underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. On page one of Mr. Berle's notes, there is set out the following comment:

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John Abt - following Witt in that group -
Tax Div'n - Dep't of Justice & now
in CIO (M. Ware's widow - Jessica Smith
Ed. Soviet Russia).

* * * * * *

Meeting place: John Abt's house - 15th St.
(100-25824-27)

III (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As noted above, an active investigation was being conducted concerning Abt due to his frequent contact with prominent active Communists in New York City, and the information obtained from Berle's notes served as a substantiation of Abt's connections with individuals who had previously been reported by Chambers in his allegations on May 13, 1942. (100-236194-5)

This investigation reflected that between the time the Berle notes were obtained and the second allegations made by Chambers on May 10, 1945, Abt remained in contact with Roy Hudson, John Williamson, Lee Pressman, "Mother" Bloor, Alexander Stevens, and Ann Silver, the wife of Alexander Stevens, all active Communists in New York City. This information was furnished to Mr. Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney General, on February 4, 1947.

It was also determined that Abt had not been connected in any way with the Federal Government since November 30, 1938. Abt originally became connected with the Government when he served with the Department of Agriculture from 1933 to 1935, with the Federal Emergency Reconstruction Administration during 1935, with the Works Progress Administration from December, 1935, to 1937, and with the Justice Department from 1937 to 1938. On July 16, 1938, Abt was transferred to the New York Office of the Department of Justice's Antitrust Division, where he served until his resignation on November 30, 1938. (100-236194-6)

Abt, during 1944, continued to be in contact with key figures of the Communist Party in New York City, including Matthew and Phyllis Silverman, Alexander Stevens, Carl Reeve, a son of "Mother" Bloor, Alexander Trachtenberg, and Roy Hudson. (100-236194-22)

This information was submitted to the Division of Records on October 10, 1944, in a report of Special Agent G. Earl Jennings dated at New York, New York on August 2, 1944.

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It was also ascertained at this time that Abt had married Jessica Smith, who was the widow of Harold Ware, who Chambers had named as head of the underground organization in Washington, D. C. This marriage took place on March 14, 1937.

In November of 1944 it was ascertained that Abt was in contact with Roy Hudson, Eugene Dennis, and Bella V. Dodd, known Communists in New York City. This information was furnished by report dated November 16, 1944, to Mr. Theron L. Caudle on February 4, 1947.

Early in 1945, Abt maintained contact with Eugene Dennis, Alexander Stevens, Alexander Trachtenberg, and Eugene Kisselev, USSR Consul General in New York City. This contact with Kisselev was made on November 29, 1944, at the home of Abt, and prior to Abt's departure for London, England, where he attended a labor conference. Immediately upon his return, Abt was again in contact with Kisselev. This information was furnished to Mr. Theron L. Caudle on February 4, 1947, by report dated January 13, 1945. (100-236194-56)

Investigation further reflected that Abt made a second trip to London for the World Trade Union Conference as a representative of the CIO, leaving the United States on February 5, 1945, and returning on March 3, 1945. Abt was in contact with Kisselev prior to and subsequent to his trip to London. This information was furnished to Mr. Theron L. Caudle on February 4, 1947, by report dated March 10, 1945.

During early 1945 Abt maintained contact with Roy Hudson and Eugene Dennis and was very active in the World Trade Union Conference in the United Nations Conference in San Francisco. It was also determined that Abt was in contact with Pavel Mikhailov of the USSR Consul General's Office in New York City on April 10, 1945. This information was furnished to Mr. Theron L. Caudle on February 4, 1947, in a report dated May 17, 1945.

IV (A). CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers was interviewed by Bureau Agents of the New York Office. At that time Chambers advised that one of the organizations in Washington, D. C., was headed by Harold Ware, with whom he had been assigned to work; that John Abt was a member of this organization headed by Ware; that Abt was formerly in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration; Assistant Attorney General, Antitrust Division, Department of Justice; Counsel with the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee; and presently Counsel for the CIO Political Action Committee and the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union.

The New York Office advised at this time that they were conducting an extensive investigation converning John Abt, who is the husband of Jessica Smith, Editor of "Soviet Russia Today."

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Chambers also advised that John Abt's house on 15th Street was one of the places used by this group for meetings. Chambers stated that as a courier for this group he transmitted funds between the individual known as Peter and Harold Ware, Nathan Witt, and John Abt, who were successively the leaders of this group. He advised that after Harold Ware's death, he recalled that a meeting had taken place, at which time he had been present, and at this meeting a vote had been taken in which John Abt had been elected leader of the group. He advised that there were about six men present at that meeting and that to the best of his recollection they were Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlo, and Peter. He advised that this meeting took place at the home of Henry Collins, which was then right off Connecticut Avenue, in St. Matthew's Court, over a garage.

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Inasmuch as the Bureau was conducting an active investigation of Abt and this investigation reflected that Abt was in contact with several of the individuals mentioned by Whittaker Chambers, the allegations made by Chambers were used to further the investigation concerning Abt. This investigation reflected that after the allegations were made by Chambers on May 10, 1945, Abt continued contacts with Alexander Stevens, Lee Pressman, Eugene Dennis, Marion Bachrach, his sister, Lem Harris, Michael Quill, Nathan Witt, and various other lesser functionaries of the Communist Party in New York City.

Investigation further reflected that Abt was born on May 1, 1904, in Chicago, Illinois. He obtained a law degree from the University of Chicago. He married Jessica Smith, the former wife of Harold Ware, in 1937, at which time Jessica Smith was reportedly a secretarial employee of the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C. As of September, 1945, Jessica Smith was the President of Soviet Russia Today publications and Editor of the magazine "Soviet Russia Today." It is noted that Harold Ware was the son of Ella Reeve Bloor.

In October, 1945, it was ascertained that Abt was a member of an eleven-man CIO delegation from the United States who were on a tour of Moscow for a week's visit, and the eleven-man delegation had been in attendance at the World Trade Union Conference at Paris. This information was furnished to the Division of Records on January 24, 1946, in the report of Special Agent G. Earl Jennings dated October 31, 1945. (100-236194-106)

The activities of Abt and his continued association with known Communist Party members in New York from October, 1945, until October 22, 1946, were furnished to the Division of Records on March 18, 1946, in the report of Special Agent G. Earl Jennings dated January 28, 1946; on February 25, 1946, in the report of Special Agent G. Earl Jennings dated December 12, 1945; on January 16, 1947, in the report of Special Agent

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Bennett Willis, Jr., dated September 18, 1946; and on January 17, 1947, in the report of Special Agent Bennett Willis, Jr., dated October 22, 1946. (100-236194-112,118, 129,135)

It should be noted that the Bureau has been conducting an active investigation of John Abt since July 23, 1942, not only to substantiate the information which was furnished by Whittaker Chambers in the Berle notes obtained in June, 1943, and in Chambers' allegations on May 10, 1945, but for the purpose of determining any espionage activities on the part of John Abt.

This investigation was reported in a separate file maintained on Abt; however, his activities were reported in the Silvermaster case after November, 1945. Copies of such summary reports in the Silvermaster case have been furnished to the White House, the Department of Justice, and other Government agencies. On February 4, 1947, Mr. Theron L. Caudle was furnished a copy of the report of Special Agent G. Earl Jennings dated May 17, 1945, at New York, New York, which contained the allegations made by Chambers against Abt on being interviewed on May 10, 1945.

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Re: SCHLOMER ADLER, was.,
Solomon Adler, Sol Adler,
Schlobel Adler

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

A review of the Bureau's indices has failed to reflect that there was a main file on the above-captioned individual prior to the time that the allegations concerning him made by Whittaker Chambers were received.

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Under date of May 14, 1942, the New York Office submitted a letter setting forth the results of an interview conducted with Whittaker Chambers the previous day. This letter revealed that Chambers made no allegations at that time concerning captioned individual.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

In June of 1943, Mr. A. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State made available to the Bureau original notes which he had made at the time Whittaker Chambers furnished him information in 1939 concerning the underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. Page three of Mr. Berle's notes set forth the following comment: "Schlomer Adler (Sol Adler?), Counsels Office, sends immediately reports to C.P. (Gen. Counsel's Office)." 100-25824-27

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It has been determined that at the time that Mr. Berle made available his notes pertaining to the information furnished by Whittaker Chambers, Adler was in China where he served as the American representative to the Chinese Currency Stabilization Board. Therefore, no investigation was undertaken at that time in a effort to determine Adler's activities and contacts.

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IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the Bureau with the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers conducted by agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945. This letter from the New York Office contained the following statement on page 21:

> "It will be recalled that Chambers mentioned this name (Schlomer Adler, Sol Adler) to Assistant Secretary of State Berle in his conversations with him in 1939. He explained that Adler is definitely a Communist and was employed at that time in the Treasury Department. He added that he knows him to have been in close contact with Peter and to have made reports of a financial nature to Peter. He stated he suspected the Communist Party was playing the stock market, and that they utilized his financial information in this connection."

You will recall that the individual named above as "Peter" was Whittaker Chambers' contact in New York City. Chambers advised that he gained the impression that Peter was the leader of the entire underground for the Eastern part of the country and he suspected for the whole country. 100-25824-36 page 21

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

At the time that Chambers made the above allegation concerning Adler on May 10, 1945, Adler was in China where he was assigned to the American Embassy as the United States Treasury Attache. There is an indication in the file that Adler was in the United States between the time that the Berle notes were received and the time that Chambers made his statements with respect to Adler on May 10, 1945. There is no indication that Adler was investigated actively during that period he was probably in the United States.

The investigation concerning Adler originally was undertaken in the Gregory case in view of the fact that Elizabeth T. Bentley, the informant, made certain allegations concerning Adler. These allegations of the informant were to the effect that during the latter part of 1942 and through the early part of 1943, mention was made by individuals connected with the Gregory case of Sol Adler. The informant in the Gregory case also related that she had seen in the Nathan G. Silvermaster home certain official letters written by Sol Adler from Chungking, China

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to the United States Treasury Department in Washington, D. C. Gregory stated that presumably these official documents had found their way to the Silvermaster home through Harry Dexter White, an official in the Treasury Department and a prominent figure in the Gregory case. The informant reported that Silvermaster had characterized Sol Adler as an opportunist, but further indicated that he would like to place him in some strategic location in the United States Government. The informant also stated that Sol Adler was a member of the Communist Party and that his dues were collected by Silvermaster and turned over to the informant.

From the time of the receipt of the allegation by Chambers on May 10, 1945 and until July 14, 1946, Adler was continuously in China serving as United States Treasury Attache to the United States Embassy. From July 14 to August 6, 1946, Adler was in Washington, D. C., except for short trips he made to New York City and Boston, Massachusetts. During the time that he was in Washington, his activities were extensively investigated. Physical surveillance was maintained on Adler and the services of highly confidential informants were utilized.

As a result of this investigation it was learned that Adler obtained a position with the National Research Project, WPA through the efforts of Irving Kaplan, a Gregory case subject. This investigation concerning Adler also revealed that he had worked on or been associated with the following individuals, all of whom were subjects of the Gregory case: William Ludwig Ullmann, Virginius Frank Coe, Harry Dexter White, William Henry Taylor, Harold Glasser, Dr. Lauchlin Currie and Abraham George Silverman.

Complete background information was developed during the investigation of Sol Adler. Such information indicated he was born August 6, 1909 at Leeds, England, that he immigrated to the United States from England on February 20, 1935 and that he was naturalized as a citizen of the United States on September 3, 1940 in the District Court of the United States for the District of Columbia. It may be noted that in securing his naturalization Adler used the name of Lauchlin Currie, one of the Gregory case subjects as a reference.

The investigation further revealed that Adler first became connected with the United States Government as an employee on February 26, 1936. He continued this connection until September 30, 1942. He resigned from his position with the Treasury Department on the latter date but was carried on annual leave until February 19, 1943. Upon his resignation Adler became the American representative to the Chinese Currency Stabilization Board. This latter position terminated February 29, 1944. Adler thereupon immediately re-entered the Government service

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in the United States Treasury Department and has continued this employment to the present date. 65-56402-2450

By letter dated March 4, 1946 a summary dated February 21, 1946 entitled, "Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the U. S. Government" wherein the information furnished by Whittaker Chambers about Adler was made available to the Secretary of the Treasury.

In view of the fact that Adler was one of the subjects of the Gregory case, his background, activities and contacts were thoroughly developed during the investigation of this case. You will recall that the results attained in the Gregory case were summarized and disseminated to the White House, the Department of Justice and other interested governmental agencies. Such results included the information developed pertaining to Adler.

It may be of further interest to note that a loyalty of Government employees investigation has been conducted concerning Adler. Copies of the reports prepared in this investigation were made available to the Civil Service Commission. 121-4089

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AMTORG TRADING CORPORATION

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Amtorg Trading Corporation was incorporated in the State of New York on May 27, 1924, and functions generally as an importer and exporter on the North American Continent dealing with official trusts of the USSR. (61-5381-3016, page 2)

An investigation concerning instant organization was initiated in 1939 to ascertain if Amtorg was being utilized by the Soviet Government for any purposes other than legitimate trade activities. The investigation was particularly directed towards discovering NKVD operations within Amtorg. (61-5381-3016, page 35)

In this connection it is to be noted that Mikhail Nikolaevich Gorin, known espionage agent, first entered the United States in 1936 and was destined to Amtorg at that time. Gorin was arrested on December 12, 1938, for violation of the Espionage Statute and was sentenced to serve six years imprisonment and a $10,000 fine. The investigation reflected that Gorin had been obtaining information from the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence from Hafis Salich. (61-7574-743)

Gaik Badalovich Ovakimian, known espionage agent, first entered the United States on August 15, 1932, and was also destined to Amtorg. Ovakimian was arrested by Agents of the FBI on May 5, 1941, and was charged with violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act. Under an agreement with the Soviet Government and the United States State Department, Ovakimian was permitted to leave the United States for the Soviet Union. Investigation reflected that Ovakimian was an active Soviet agent. Continued Bureau surveillance revealed that he was constantly getting information from individual contacts on the streets.

The State Department and the Attorney General were cognizant of the facts in the Gorin and Ovakimian cases and were advised of the connection of these Soviet espionage agents and the Amtorg Trading Corporation. (61-7574-743)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers advised on May 13, 1942, that there was an OGPU organization during the period of time when he was associated with the Communist Party and that he presumed that there was also such an organization at the time of the interview. He advised he did not know the identity of the head of such an organization but suspects that the organization is connected with the

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Amtorg Trading Corporation and the Tass newspaper. He further advised that there was a group of Russians here studying and teaching at the Ford Plant in Detroit sometime during the 1930's and that unquestionably one or more of these individuals were members of the OGPU. (100-25824-22, page 2)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Inasmuch as previous allegations had been received concerning the possible connection of the OGPU and the Amtorg Trading Corporation, this investigation continued to ascertain the identities of Soviet agents within Amtorg. Inasmuch as Chambers only suspected that Amtorg was being used by the OGPU and since the State Department and the Attorney General had previously been advised of the actual connection between Amtorg and the Soviet Intelligence System in such investigations as GORIN and OVAKIMIAN, this information was not furnished to the State Department and the Department of Justice. (61-5381-1541)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

None.

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

This investigation concerning Amtorg continued in order to ascertain the identity of known Soviet Agents.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

None.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Instant investigation is presently in a pending status.

ARTHUR _____

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

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Inasmuch as no surname or identifying data other than a physical discription was furnished by Chambers concerning this individual, he could not be identified in 1945 with anyone mentioned in the Bureau files, and for the same reason he could not be identified at this time.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

None

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers related that around 1932, Max Bedacht told him there was a "must" assignment (the beginning of Chambers' underground activities) and gave him over-night to think about it. At the second meeting with Bedacht, according to Chambers, they met a man at the 14th Street subway station in New York City, who was introduced simply as "Arthur," from whom Chambers was told to take orders. Arthur made an appointment with Chambers for the following evening, when Arthur introduced Chambers to J. Peters, later identified as Alexander Stevens, who outlined the courrier activities in which Chambers was to engage. Chambers stated that he saw Arthur a number of times up to about 1935, when his courrier activities between Arthur and Peters ceased, and that he has not seen Arthur since. Chambers advised that he never learned Arthur's full name or identity. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In July 1945, the New York Office was requested to exhibit to Chambers photographs of Arthur Adams, Arthur Backrach, Ralph Bowman, Lem

Harris, and other logical suspects. Chambers has never been able to identify "Arthur" from any photographs shown to him.

CONFIDENTIAL

Kisseloff-26328

AZIMOV
(phonetic)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

There was no investigation of the above-captioned individual prior to Chambers' allegations on May 13, 1942.

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

In an interview with Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers advised that there was a man named Azimov (phonetic) who was a metallurgist, who had been specializing in steel at the University of California. He stated that this individual was born in Russia and came to the United States when very young, and that he had made a discovery in the chemical side of his studies, (Chambers was told) which he turned over to the Russian Consul. Chambers stated that although he did not check on this information, Azimov reportedly became the head of research in U.S. Steel in Chicago, and that he knows for sure that Azimov was definitely tied in with the Russian apparatus. Chambers stated that he met Azimov once.

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The New York Office was unable to identify Azimov, and by letter dated August 22, 1945, the New York Office forwarded a letter to the San Francisco Office, furnishing the information obtained from Whittaker Chambers and requesting the San Francisco Office to attempt to identify Azimov through records at the University of California. However, no identification of Azimov was ever made. (100-25824-37)

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

There were no allegations concerning Azimov in the Berle notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, at the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office, he again stated that he had met Azimov (phonetic) in the company of Peter. He advised that Azimov was a young metallurgist who had been working in the laboratories of the University of California at Berkeley, California, and who had later been employed in the Research Department of U.S. Steel. Chambers advised that Azimov had been a specialist in mathematics of some kind and that on one occasion he had been told by Peter that Azimov had developed some discovery on the chemical side of his studies, which discovery he had offered to Peter to be transmitted to Russia. He stated that Peter advised Azimov to go to the Russian Consul in California and that the Consul had immediately accepted the discovery for transmission to Russia. Chambers advised that he had seen Azimov only once and furnished

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

the following description:

Age	20-25
Height	5'8" or 5'9"
Build	Slightly stooped
Hair	Dark
Marital Status	Married, two children
Citizenship	Believed to be American
Languages	Spoke perfect English and good Russian; had been raised in the United States

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IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files reflect that in view of the information previously furnished by Chambers concerning this subject and because no identification was made of Azimov previously, no further investigation was conducted in an effort to identify him.

CONFIDENTIAL

Kisseloff-26330

RE: MARION BACHRACH, was
Marion Bacharach,
Marian Bachrach

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Bureau's files concerning Marion Bachrach, which date from October, 1940, initially indicated that in a "document" published in the July 12, 1940 issue of "PM" newspaper, she was characterized as a member of the Communist Party. She was further reflected as Washington correspondent in the "News For Living" department of the "PM" newspaper. She was also reflected as one of the sponsors of the "conference on Constitutional Liberties in America" in Washington, D. C. June 7 - 9, 1940. (100-3255-1)

Subsequent investigation revealed that Marion Bachrach was Executive Secretary of the Council for Pan-American Democracy and served as Secretary to Vincente Lombardo Toledano, Mexican Labor Leader, who visited the United States.

In April, 1943 it was determined that Marion Bachrach was the sister of John Abt, the husband of Jessica Smith of "Soviet Russia Today," which information was made available to the Department of State, ONI, G-2 and the Department. (100-3255-13)

Subject has been separated from her husband, Arthur Bachrach since approximately 1941. As of 1942 Arthur Bachrach was employed as an Administrator for the Farm Security Administration. (100-3255-9)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No allegations concerning Marion Bachrach were made by Whittaker Chambers on May 13, 1942.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN THE BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

In June, 1943, Mr. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State made available to the Bureau original notes which he had made at the time

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Whittaker Chambers furnished him information in 1939 concerning the underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. Page 1 of Mr. Berle's notes reflects the following:

"Mr. Abt - Sister: Marion Bacharach - Secretary Communist from Minnesota."

(100-25824-27 p. 2)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As a result of the information furnished by Mr. Berle, no investigation based specifically thereon was conducted inasmuch as the investigation concerning Marion Bachrach was continuing and the fact of her relationship to Abt had already been determined.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945, on page 11 of which Whittaker Chambers alleged that Alger Hiss was particularly close to John Abt's sister, Marion Bachrach.

(100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Since the investigation concerning Marion Bachrach has been continued to date, no additional investigation was instituted as a result of the allegation made by Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945. The allegation made by Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945 was incorporated in the report of Special Agent Chester A. Reilly dated September 15, 1947 at New York entitled "Marion Bachrach, Internal Security - C," a copy of which report was furnished to the Division of Records on September 25, 1947.

Since January, 1948 to the present, investigation concerning Marion Bachrach has included a technical surveillance of her activities. She was recently appointed Public Relations Director of the Communist Party, USA and is also a member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Communist Party, USA. She is believed to be the liaison between the Communist Party, USA and the Communist Party in Latin America.

(100-3255-67)

Investigation has further disclosed that she has been a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, the United Spanish Relief Committee of American Peoples Mobilization, and has also been a teacher at the Jefferson School of Social Science in New York City.

(100-3255-42)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MRS. BARNES

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

In the interview with Whittaker Chambers on May 13, 1942, Chambers advised at that time that a house on Central Park West, owned by one of the female Field's, was supposed to have been the center of this particular underground movement.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In the copies of the Berle notes made available to the Bureau in June, 1943, no reference is made to Mrs. Barnes.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the Bureau with the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers conducted by Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945. This letter from the New York Office reflected that Whittaker Chambers advised that Peters had on one occasion told him that Frederick Vanderbilt Field's mother or Joseph Fels Barnes' mother had turned over her apartment on Central Park West to be used as a headquarters of the underground group.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Bureau files fail to reflect that any inquiries have been made concerning Mrs. Barnes as a result of Chambers' allegations.

Kisseloff-26333

Joseph Fels Barnes

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Barnes has been the subject of an internal security investigation by the Bureau since August of 1941 at which time a complaint was received by the New York Office that Barnes, who was then Foreign News Editor of the New York Herald Tribune in New York City, was formerly a Tribune correspondent in Moscow and was strongly suspected of being a member of the Communist Party and in close cooperation with the Communist Party in the United States. As a result of this complaint an internal security investigation was immediately instituted.

On December 11, 1941, a request for an investigation of Barnes was received from the Office of Coordinator of Information which request was based upon an application that Barnes had made with that agency for a position with that agency. It was later discovered that he had been employed by the Office of Coordinator since September, 1941.

Upon the receipt of the request for investigation by the Office of Coordinator of Information, this investigation was conducted in conjunction with the internal security investigation and in February of 1942, based on derogatory information previously obtained, investigation was also conducted under the provision of Public Law 135, 77th Congress. (Hatch Act investigation)

This investigation failed to link Barnes with the Communist Party; however, considerable information concerning Barnes' activities through Communist channels was developed.

During this investigation it was ascertained that Barnes was born in Montclair, New Jersey, on July 21, 1907. He received an A.B. degree from Harvard University in 1927 and was also a student at the University of Grenoble and the University of London, both in England. He married Elizabeth G. Brown in 1930 and divorced her in 1935, and in 1936 he married the former wife of Frederick Vanderbilt Field.

It was determined that in 1927 and 1928 he traveled in England and Russia. He was employed with the Equitable Trust Company in New York City from 1929 to 1931. In an interview with Barnes' first wife, Elizabeth Brown, she advised that she and Barnes sailed for Russia in January, 1931. She and Barnes traveled through Russia studying and in the Fall of that year Barnes attended a conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations in Shanghai and returned to the United States around Thanksgiving in 1931. He then did research work for the American Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations until the Fall of 1933 when he was elected Secretary of the American Council.

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Kisseloff-26334

Mrs. Elizabeth Barnes further advised that in 1934 she and Barnes made a second trip to Russia on business of the Institute of Pacific Relations. She advised that this was a two-months' trip and they returned to the United States in July, 1934.

Mrs. Barnes further stated that after Barnes' return from Russia he then resigned from the Institute of Pacific Relations and then began working on a project for Henry Luce of Time and Fortune Magazines. She advised that he worked on this project for several months and in the Spring of 1935 he joined the New York Herald Tribune as a reporter and in the early part of 1937 he was sent to Moscow by the Herald Tribune as a foreign correspondent. She advised that he remained in Moscow until 1939 when he returned for a visit home. He was then transferred to Berlin where he remained a short time and then returned to New York in late 1939 to work in the home office of the New York Herald Tribune.

It is noted that Barnes then became Foreign Editor of the Herald Tribune and remained in that capacity until becoming employed with the Office of Coordinator of Information around September of 1941, when he became Deputy Director of the Overseas Branch of the Office of War Information where he remained until 1944. He accompanied Wendell Wilkie on his trip to Russia and China in 1942. His home address at the present time is at 430 West 22nd Street, New York, New York, and his office is located at 230 West 41st Street, New York City.

The investigation that was conducted by the Bureau from August, 1941, up until February 9, 1942, resulted in obtaining information from various individuals who classified Barnes as being pro-Communist; however, there were others who classified him as being in sympathy with Russia but not un-American and some of his associates classified him as being strictly American with no pro-Russian tendencies. It was ascertained that he had heavily supported the Communist faction in the Newspaper Guild, had been a Director of the Open Road, Incorporated, and to have written articles for "New Masses." One confidential informant described Barnes as an individual who would like to see the United States Government evolve into a government more along socialistic and Communistic lines and of a less capitalistic nature than our present form of government; however, this informant advised that Barnes did not advocate a government in conformity with Marxist principles nor a change in government by revolutionary means.

In an interview with Mrs. Ogden Reid, then the publisher of the New York Herald Tribune, in January of 1942, Mrs. Reid advised that Barnes was not a Communist, that he had never been associated with Communists or Communist-controlled organizations, that Barnes is an individual who thinks that this country in the future will continue a trend to the left.

At the time that Barnes was interviewed by a representative of the Civil Service Commission, he advised that he had married Elizabeth Field, who was the former wife of Frederick Vanderbilt Field, on November 1, 1936. He advised

that Frederick Vanderbilt Field was an officer of the American Peace Mobilization and was interested in the Friends of Soviet Russia. Barnes told the Civil Service Commission that he had never been a member of the Communist Party but that he was convinced of the need for cooperation between the Soviet Union, Great Britain and the United States, and that he had been sympathetic with the Spanish Loyalist cause, that he did not believe that the Loyalist Government in Spain was Communistic.

Another confidential informant advised that Barnes always defended Communism and was never known to oppose any of the Communistic policies or beliefs in his dispatches from Moscow and he apologized for and defended the Soviet Government. The same informant advised that Barnes was so sympathetic with the Communists that he always followed the Communist Party line and this informant advised that Barnes would be loyal to the United States only so far as the United States Government's policies were continued in the interest of the Soviet Government. Another informant advised that Barnes was definitely a Communist sympathizer.

On June 1, 1942, copies of two Hatch Act reports together with five reports written as the results of our investigation and containing all of the information in the Bureau files concerning Barnes were forwarded to William J. Donovan, Coordinator of Information, Washington, D. C.

On September 11, 1942, Mr. Donovan advised that Barnes had transferred to the Office of War Information and as a result, copies of these seven reports were forwarded to Mr. Elmer Davis, Director of the Office of War Information.

On December 18, 1942, Mr. Davis wrote the Bureau that he had received the copies of these reports of the investigation of Barnes and after having studied these reports it appeared to him that the overwhelming weight of evidence completely exonerated Mr. Barnes of the charges against him, that the Office of War Information had no reason whatsoever to doubt Mr. Barnes' loyalty to the United States, and that the identity of the informants giving unfavorable reports is in almost all cases confidential, and that he is unable to evaluate their evidence adequately but that he knew from his own knowledge that some of the statements that have been made are false and he has considerable reason to doubt some of the others.

The Bureau's files reflect that Barnes became Deputy Director of the Office of War Information and served with that agency until 1944. (76-13677-41X3, 41, 42, 43, 47, 49)

In the Spring of 1948, it was announced that Barnes together with Bartley C. Crum had taken over the New York City newspaper "P.M." (now known as the New York Sun) with the support of Marshall Field, III.

Kisseloff-26336 CONFIDENTIAL

II.(A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Under date of May 14, 1942, the New York Office submitted a letter setting forth the results of an interview conducted with Whittaker Chambers the previous date. This letter reflects that Whittaker Chambers advised, "Although this was only hearsay, Fred Field, then a Captain in the Naval Intelligence, was the center of another underground apparatus." According to Whittaker Chambers, Field, his wife, his mother and Joseph Barnes, were the chief members of this apparatus. Chambers stated that he was told that a house on Central Park West, owned by one of the female Field's, was supposed to have been the center for this particular underground movement. Whittaker Chambers said that Peters, head of the Communist underground movement, had told him this. (100-25824-22)

II.(B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

There was no separate investigation instituted in connection with the allegations made by Chambers on May 13, 1942, inasmuch as the Bureau was conducting an investigation of Barnes as the result of the complaint received in August of 1941.

However, on March 27, 1943, a summary of the information appearing in the reports previously furnished Colonel William J. Donovan, Coordinator of Information, and the information obtained from Chambers on May 13, 1942, was prepared and on March 28, 1943, a copy was forwarded to Mr. Fred Lyon, State Department, and on August 23, 1943, a copy was sent to the Military Intelligence Service and on April 14, 1947, a copy was sent to the Central Intelligence Group.

On May 13, 1943, a memorandum was sent to the Interdepartmental Committee on Employee Investigations containing the information furnished by Chambers on May 13, 1942, and enclosing seven reports previously mentioned. (77-13677-43, 46)

III.(A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

A review of the Berle notes fails to reflect that Chambers furnished any information to Berle concerning Joseph Barnes.

IV.(A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the Bureau with the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers conducted by Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945. This letter from the New York Office reflects that Whittaker Chambers stated that there was a marriage tie between Frederick Vanderbilt Field and Joseph Fels Barnes, and that Barnes had associated to some extent with Communist Party members but he was unable to state definitely that Barnes was or had ever been a member of the Communist Party.

IV.(B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Kisseloff-26337

Inasmuch as the allegations made by Chambers on May 10, 1945, were in accord with information previously developed by the Bureau, no active investigation

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was conducted in connection with these allegations; however, the Bureau, since the internal security investigation was instituted in August of 1941, continued to obtain information concerning Barnes.

During February of 1944, the San Francisco Office advised that Professor J. Robert Oppenheimer, atomic energy scientist, named Haakon M. Chevalier as the individual who had contacted three employees of the Radiation Laboratory at the University of California for restricted information on behalf of George Charles Eltenton, who in turn was to deliver this information to an official of the San Francisco Consulate of the USSR. Chevalier contacted Joseph Barnes in New York during February of 1944, apparently in connection with his efforts to secure employment in some Government agency. (100-203581-1647)

Paul Massing, a former Communist espionage agent and husband of Heidi Massing, also a Soviet agent from 1931 to 1937, advised that he knew Barnes when Barnes was Moscow correspondent of the New York Herald Tribune. Barnes seemed to have outstanding contacts in Moscow and to enjoy privileges usually denied the average correspondent. Massing stated that he saw Barnes in Moscow playing tennis on the NKVD courts where Massing himself played with Vassili Zubilin. (65-9940-30)

It is noted that at the time Joseph Barnes applied for a job with the Foreign Economic Administration he listed as a character reference Herman Habicht. It is noted that Habicht was a contact of Vassili Zubilin, who was at one time secretary of the Russian Embassy in Washington and reportedly the head of personnel of the NKVD. (100-203581-3702, page 341)

In the report of Special Agent William A. Branigan in the case entitled "Comintern Apparatus - Internal Security - R" dated August 14, 1945, the name and address of Joseph Barnes are set out which appeared in the address book of George Henri Anton Ivens along with the name of Harry Freeman, who is a brother of Joe Freeman, a contact of Vassili Zubilin. Ivens is described in the report as a revolutionary Communist. It was also stated that during the months prior to August of 1945, Joseph Barnes had been in touch with Max Yergen, Louise Bransten, Joseph North and Steve Fisher, all known Communists and of interest in the Comrap investigation. (100-203581-4723, page 138)

The name and address of Joseph Barnes was found in the effects of Ursula Wasserman, a subject in the Gregory case. (65-56402-758)

Re: MAX BEDACHT, with aliases
MAX BEDOCK, MAX BECHT,
JOHN MARSHALL, CHARLES MARSHALL,
JOHN BRAUM, JOHN M. BRAUM,
H. M. SABATH

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

A review of the Bureau file concerning Max Bedacht reflects that investigation of his activities was first instituted in the year 1919 and has been continuous to date. During the period 1927 to 1941, the file indicates very little investigative activity. Max Bedacht was born in Germany on October 13, 1883, came to the United States in 1908, and was naturalized in Superior Court of San Francisco, California, in April, 1915. In testifying before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities on October 16, 1939, he stated that he had been a member of the Communist Party in the United States since the Party's inception; that he was a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party; and that he has been the executive secretary of the International Workers Order (IWO) since 1933.
(100-18830-25)

Bedacht has been very active in Communist Party work in the United States, and was reported by a confidential informant as having acted as an intermediary for the G. P. U. This information was distributed to ONI and G-2 under date of November 4, 1943.
(100-18830-19)

Bedacht has been active in or associated with numerous Communist Party organizations, has contributed many articles to the "Daily Worker", and is considered a Communist Party key figure.
(100-18830-27)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers made no allegations concerning Max Bedacht.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes of Mr. A. A. Berle made available in June, 1943, which contained information furnished by Whittaker Chambers to Mr. Berle reflected no allegations concerning Max Bedacht.

Kisseloff-26339 CONFIDENTIAL

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945, on page 2 of which the following information was reflected:

> Whittaker Chambers related that in about 1931 he became editor of the "New Masses", and about a year later he was called into the offices of Max Bedacht, the Communist Party headquarters in New York City. He stated that Bedacht told him he had a "must" assignment which would require a great deal of discretion and gave him overnight to think it over. On the next day, Whittaker Chambers agreed to carry out this assignment. Whittaker Chambers pointed out that at no time did Bedacht explain to him the nature of the work he was to be given, but impressed upon him its serious and confidential nature. On the second meeting with Bedacht, Whittaker Chambers was introduced to a man known only to him (Whittaker Chambers) by the name of Arthur, which introduction occurred in a 14th Street subway station in New York City. Bedacht admonished Whittaker Chambers to do whatever Arthur told him. It was Arthur who subsequently introduced Whittaker Chambers to a man by the name of Peter who was recognized by Whittaker Chambers as a former treasurer of the Hungarian Communist newspaper "Uj Elore" (phonetic), and who had also published numerous articles on Communism under the name of J. Peters
> (100-25824-36, Pages 2 and 3)

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In view of the continuing nature of the investigation concerning Max Bedacht, the information furnished by Whittaker Chambers concerning activity which took place in about the year 1932 provoked no additional investigative effort. Investigations subsequent to May 10, 1945, reflect that according to the records of the United States District Court, Southern District of New York, in the case entitled "U. S. vs. Earl Browder - World Tourists, Inc.",

Max Bedacht testified that he had known Browder since 1920 or 1921 and had seen him on the streets of Moscow in 1931 and 1933 while he (Bedacht) was in Moscow.
(100-18830-28)

According to a confidential informant, Bedacht was removed from his position of general secretary of the I. W. O. during 1947 as a result of a dispute over the National Group Policy of the organization.
(100-18830-35)

A confidential informant has advised under date of August 9, 1948, that Max Bedacht was unseated as a delegate to the state convention of the New Jersey Communist Party for the reason that he allegedly falsified his position in the Mercer County, New Jersey, convention in order to be elected a state convention delegate.
(100-18830-40)

All pertinent reports concerning Max Bedacht have been forwarded to the Division of Records.
(100-18830-31)

CONFIDENTIAL
Kisseloff-26341

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALEXANDER BITTELMAN, with aliases
Ralph V. Barnes, Uscher Bittelmacher,
Alex Bittelman, Alexander Bittelmann,
Alex Bittleman, Alexander Bittleman,
Alexander Bittlemann, Nathan William
Kweit, Isadore Spilberg, "A.B.",
"Ralph", "Raphael", "R", Alexander
Raphael

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Bureau's main file concerning Alexander Bittelman, reflects that active investigation of his activities was begun in 1941 and has continued to date.

Bittelman was born January 19, 1890, at Berdicher, Kiev, Russia, and entered the United States at the Port of New York on January 2, 1912, aboard the SS Vaderland. He filed a Declaration of Intention to become a United States citizen in 1935, but he has taken no further action in this regard up to the present time. In 1943, he advised his Selective Service Board that he was not a citizen of any country and that he possessed Alien Registration No. 5289346. He has been employed as the General Secretary of the Morning Freiheit Association, 50 East 13th Street, New York City, and has served as a member of the Editorial Board of "Jewish Life" and "Political Affairs". He has been active in the Communist Party since 1921, according to the "New York Times", and, according to William Z. Foster, National Chairman of the Communist Party, USA, Bittelman has been active in the Communist Party since 1922. He is known as one of the theoreticians and dialecticians of the Communist Party, has contributed frequently to many Communist Party publications, has been the author of numerous pamphlets and books setting forth the political theory of Communism, and is a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, USA. (100-57691-12 and 72)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On interview on May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers made no allegations concerning Alexander Bittelman.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In June, 1943, Mr. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State, made available to the Bureau original notes which he had made at the time Whittaker Chambers furnished him information in 1939 concerning the underground Communist group in Washington, D. C. These notes contained no allegations concerning Alexander Bittelman.

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IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Under date of June 26, 1945, the New York Office furnished the results of an interview with Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945, on page two of which the following is reflected:

Chambers related that in 1926 he was made Editor of the "Daily Worker", which position he held until 1929 when he broke with the Party. He gave as his reason for breaking with the Party that he was disgusted with the strong-arm tactics of the Stalinist group which came into power as a result of the split with Jay Lovestone. He pointed out that "Browder, Bittelman, and Foster in their fight to consolidate and control the Party instituted one of the worst minor reigns of terror . . . ." As a result of this he (Whittaker Chambers) had resigned his Editorship and quit the Party. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In view of the fact that as of 1945 the Bureau's investigation concerning Alexander Bittelman was then extensive, the information furnished by Whittaker Chambers did not constitute any contribution of information that had not already been obtained. It is also noted that the information furnished by Chambers pertaining to Bittelman related to events which occurred in 1929 and did not in any way connect Bittelman with any Communist group operating within the Government during the time that he (Chambers) was a member of the underground, and in view of the fact that the information furnished by Chambers was already in the possession of the Bureau, no active investigation was conducted concerning this allegation.

In the report of Special Agent James J. McCarthy dated December 4, 1947, at New York, New York, in the case entitled, "Alexander Bittelman, was; Internal Security - C", the information concerning the split in the Communist Party in 1929 as appeared in the "New York Times" issue of July 5, 1929, and which is the same information furnished by Chambers, was set out. A copy of this report was forwarded to the Division of Records on January 6, 1948, and a copy was sent to the Immigration and Naturalization Service on January 6, 1948. (100-57691-87)

The subject is presently free on bond as a result of deportation proceedings instituted by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Since his arrest by the Immigration and Naturalization Service for deportation proceedings on January 15, 1948, considerable activities have taken place within the Communist Party to bar his deportation.

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Considerable information has been obtained by the Bureau concerning the steps being taken by members of the Communist Party to prevent deportation of the subject, and this information has been furnished by the Bureau to the Immigration and Naturalization Service and to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice. (100-57691-124 and 125)

Kisseloff-26344

RALPH BOWMAN, was
Rudolph Blum; Ruddy Blum;
Rudy Baker

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The first information appearing in the Bureau's files concerning this individual is a reference to Rudolph Blum. This is in letter dated April 6, 1918, which furnished to the U. S. Attorney in Pittsburgh a summary of Blum's activity in the IWW. Blum at that time was in jail as a draft dodger for refusing to enter the Army. Later a search of Blum's home in January, 1920, reflected a membership card in the Communist Party of America. Active investigation of Bowman was again instituted in 1943, following the receipt of information that one "Al" was the head of the East Coast section of an underground Communist Espionage Organization. Al was subsequently identified as Ralph Bowman who had used the name of Rudy Baker and whose true name was Rudolph Blum. The investigation of Bowman thereafter reflected that he had been trained in the Lenin School from 1928 to 1930 and had thereafter served as a Comintern Representative in the Far East possibly in Korea. During the 1930's Bowman using the name of Rudy Baker was an important figure in the Communist Party, USA, attending National Committee meetings up until about 1939 at which time he apparently went underground. 100-258542-125

Bowman's whereabouts at the present time are unknown inasmuch as in July of 1948 he disappeared from New York City. His wife left the United States from New York City on the Yugoslav Ship, SS Radnik, on August 18, 1948. She was going to Hungary at that time and it is surmised that she will join her husband in the Balkans. 100-258542-140, 149, 150

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers stated that Rudolph Baker was a Communist Party organizer in Michigan at one time and was once either a Comintern Agent or an OGPU Agent in Korea. According to Chambers, Baker was still active in Party circles in 1942. Chambers revealed that an investigation of Baker would probably lead to "better things".

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No active investigation of Baker was conducted based on the May 13, 1942 interview with Chambers.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

There is no information concerning this matter in Berle notes.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers' advised that he had no knowledge of Baker's activities as an organizer in the New York area and that all that he knew concerning Baker was that

articles in liberal newspapers and magazines referred to him as a Communist Party organizer in Detroit in the late twenties. He recalled that Peters told him Baker had been a Comintern Agent in Korea and made the remard "Rudy Baker is in the business of exporting dried cuttle fish in Korea". He stated that he does not recall ever having seen Baker but knows Peters referred to him as a "little guy" and from this he assumed him to be small in stature. Chambers was unable to identify a photograph of Ralph Bowman who is known to be identical with Baker when it was shown to him.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

While the information from Chambers was of interest concerning Bowman and was accurate insofar as was known from the investigation, we did not conduct additional investigation based on Chambers' information and we already were conducting an extremely active investigation of Bowman which included all of the ramifications of Bowman's Communist and Espionage activity.

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EARL RUSSELL BROWDER, WAS. GEORGE MORRIS,
NICHOLAS DOZENBERG, ALBERT HARRY RICHARDS

I - INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

Browder has been a member of the Communist Party since 1919, the date of the formation of the Communist Party in the USA. Extensive investigation has been conducted by the Bureau with regard to Browder's activities in the Communist Party since 1921. Browder was sentenced on January 22, 1940, to four years in the Federal Penitentiary and fined $2000 for unlawful use of a passport obtained by false statements. On May 16, 1942, the sentence was commuted by President Roosevelt. At the time of his incarceration and again after his release, Browder was Executive Secretary of the Communist Party of the USA. He has, on occasions, been granted personal interviews by Joseph Stalin. In 1945, Browder was banned from the Communist Party but recent information indicates that he may be on his return to power in the Communist Party, USA. (40-3798-243, 525)

II (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated that the OGPU operated in the United States under the supervision of one Charles Dirba rather than under the supervision of Earl Browder. (100-25824-22)

II (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No specific investigation concerning Browder was made as a result of the above allegation. The active investigation of Browder continued. (40-3798)

III (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

There is no reference to Browder in the Berle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943.

IV (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, at which time he pointed out that Browder, Bittleman, and

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Foster, in their fight to consolidate the Party, instituted one of the worst minor reigns of terror that he had ever known and that as a result of the above, Chambers indicated that he had resigned his editorship of the Daily Worker and quit the Communist Party.

He advised that Browder was sent to the Far East and that Browder carried with him numerous large denomination bills. Chambers indicated that either in Canton or Nanking, China, Browder gathered together several well known Communist leaders for a convention. Chambers advised that the Chinese Police surrounded the meeting place and arrested all of those present. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No specific investigation was conducted with regard to the above allegations. The active investigation concerning Browder was continued and full information pertaining to his activities in the Communist Party were obtained. Copies of pertinent reports in this investigation have been furnished to the Department of State, Office of Naval Intelligence, Intelligence Department of the Army, and to the Division of Records. (40-3798)

Information regarding Browder's activities in the Far East already appeared in the Bureau's files in more detailed form than Chambers was able to furnish.

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MRS. EARL BROWDER, AKA. RAISSA BROWDER,
RAISSA BERKMAN BROWDER, RAISSA BERKMAN,
GLADYS BRODER, MRS. EARL RAISSA I. BROWDER

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I - INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

There has been no separate investigation conducted with regard to Mrs. Earl Browder. During the course of the investigation of her husband, Earl Russell Browder, considerable information has come to the attention of the Bureau from confidential and reliable sources indicating that Mrs. Browder was a high functionary of the Communist Party. She was observed in attendance at the Lenin School at Moscow, Russia in the early 1930's. (40-58735-5)

She is said to have been a practicing attorney in Russia and to have held a commission in the Red Army. (39-878-8) She is alleged to have been a judge in Russia prior to her departure and to have been an active official of the Soviet Union and a member of the Communist Party in Russia. (39-878-1 USIS) Mrs. Browder has worked on "The Communist" at the Daily Worker Building and in connection with her duties there, maintained regular office hours daily. She is alleged to have held numerous meetings in her office at the Daily Worker, at which time various instructions were issued which all present obeyed. It is said that Mrs. Browder does more effective work than her husband, Earl Browder. (100-184255) Mrs. Browder is known to have attended closed meetings of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, USA at 35 East 12th Street, New York City. She has been introduced at various Communist Party meetings as "Comrade Irene Browder". It was also alleged that the Daily Worker staff regarded Mrs. Browder as a higher authority than her husband. It was also stated that Mrs. Browder was a personal friend of Joseph Stalin and was actually a GPU representative. In 1938, Mrs. Browder had her office on the ninth floor of the Communist Party Headquarters, 35 East 12th Street, New York City, located at the same place as the offices of the other Central Committee members of the Communist Party. (39-878-29) Mrs. Browder was a speaker at the New York State Communist Party Convention on May 22, 1938. In March of 1939, a confidential informant [redacted] b7D furnished copies of reports which he had prepared relating to the Tenth Annual Convention of the Communist Party of USA. It was stated in the report that the Central Committee of the Communist Party made selections of Committee Officers. Mrs. Browder was listed therein as Secretary. (40-58735-1)

II (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated that Earl Browder did not handle operations of the OGPU in the USA, and that it was his understanding that Earl's wife was a member of the OGPU and kept Earl straight on Party policies. (100-25824-22)

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II (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No specific investigation was made to prove or disprove the above allegations. Information available to the Bureau at that time indicated that Mrs. Browder was at one time a member of the OGPU and a member of the Communist Party. The active and extensive investigation conducted with regard to Mrs. Browder's husband, Earl, revealed considerable information pertaining to Mrs. Browder and her activities in the Communist Party. (40-58735; 39-878; 100-2278)

III (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

There is no reference to Mrs. Browder in the Berle notes, copies of which were made available to the Bureau in June, 1943.

IV (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Whittaker Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, and during this interview he furnished no information relative to Mrs. Browder. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation was conducted with regard to Mrs. Browder, however, considerable information is being obtained from time to time in connection with the active investigation of her husband. Information regarding Mrs. Browder was disseminated to the Department of State by summary memorandum dated May 27, 1944, and to the Immigration and Naturalization Service by summary memorandum dated September 11, 1946. (40-58735-1; 40-58735)

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MARGARET BROWDER
Also known as
Mrs. Harrison George

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The files of the Bureau reflect that information indicating that Margaret Browder was one of W. G. Krivitsky's assistants in Soviet intelligence work was obtained prior to the initial interview with Whittaker Chambers although no individual investigation was initiated concerning her. (65-2839-1X2)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

During the interview with Chambers on May 13, 1942, by Agents of the New York Office, Chambers stated that Harrison George, Browder's brother-in-law, might be of interest. George married Margaret Browder, who was one of Krivitsky's assistants in Paris. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files fail to reflect that any investigation was initiated as a result of Chambers' allegations, since no data showed she was here.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Margaret Browder was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Margaret Browder was not mentioned during the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Investigation was initiated on March 13, 1944, on one Jean Montgomery, who appeared as a suspect in the Alto Case. Inasmuch as it was known that Jean Montgomery was an alias formerly utilized by Margaret Browder, an investigation was instituted to ascertain if the Jean Montgomery in the Alto Case was identical with Margaret Browder. It was determined that the two were not identical, but investigation was conducted to attempt to locate Margaret Browder in the United States, inasmuch as information had been received indicating that she had returned to this country. She was finally located in New York in September, 1946, at which time she was utilizing the name Ann Meadows. The investigation is still in a pending status and copies of pertinent reports were furnished to the Division of Records on May 7, 1948. (100-287645)

BORRIS BYKOV, WAS., BORIS BYKOV,
BORRIS HERTZ, COLONEL BORRIS BYKOV, BORIS BYKOFF

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

Walter G. Krivitsky, the former Chief of Soviet Military Intelligence for Western Europe, indicated to the Dies Committee in 1939 that an individual by the name of Borris Bykov was in charge of Soviet Military Intelligence in the United States from 1936 to 1939. Investigation was conducted by the Bureau in an attempt to identify this individual, but the investigation was negative. Extensive investigation was conducted with regard to this individual until November, 1946, but no identification was effected. (100-287685)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS MADE ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he stated that Boris Bykov was alleged to be a member of the OGPU by General Walter G. Krivitsky. Krivitsky indicated that Bykov was his assistant during the time he was stationed in Italy. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Extensive investigation was conducted by the Bureau to identify this individual with negative results.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

There is no reference to Bykov in the Berle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATION ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, at which time he advised that another person whom he had met while in the company of Peter (last name unknown) was one Boris Bykov. He advised that General Walter G. Krivitsky later identified Bykov to him as Colonel Boris Bykoff who was sent to the United States to head the OGPU activities. Chambers described Boris Bykoff as a short, red-headed Russian. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

Extensive investigation was conducted in an attempt to identify this individual but same has met with negative results. Copies of pertinent investigative reports relating to this investigation were furnished to the Intelligence Department of the Army. (100-287685-7,8,15,17,19,20,26,27)

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SAMUEL CARP, was.
Sam Carp, Isay Karponsky

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I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An investigation of Samuel Carp was instituted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on July 29, 1940, on the basis of a report that Carp was endeavoring to send $5,000 to Russia, and that Carp had a sister who was married to Vyachesloff Molotov, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Carp was born at Yakaturra, Russia, on March 30, 1888. He arrived in the United States at Baltimore, Maryland, on February 16, 1911, and was naturalized as a United States citizen at Bridgeport, Connecticut, on February 7, 1917. He started business as a house painter and subsequently engaged in the junk business. Thereafter, he became successful in promoting various activities in Bridgeport, Connecticut, dealing particularly in gasoline, fuel oil, and real estate. He reportedly, in 1936, organized the Carp Export and Import Company of New York to arrange for exports to Russia from this country. He allegedly received instructions from the Russian Government to purchase battleships in the United States. He was reported to have spent $100,000 in an effort to secure contracts in this regard. Carp testified on one occasion that he had paid Scott Ferris, a former Congressman and Democratic National Committee member from Oklahoma, $32,000 in Soviet funds in order to get assistance in making purchases for the Russian Government in the United States. Carp's attempts in this regard were fruitless. Carp testified before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in 1939, and before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1945, with considerable resulting publicity based upon his relationship to Molotov, and his attempts to purchase battleships in the United States. The results of investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reflected in investigative reports, were referred to the Criminal Division, Department of Justice, on September 24, 1946, with a request for instructions as to what further investigation was warranted. The Criminal Division replied on October 17, 1946, to the effect that they had no specific request for any particular action, but that they desired to be kept advised of any new information concerning Carp. (100-5193-1, 42, 43, 44)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No information was received from Chambers on this occasion.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The copy of the original notes taken by Mr. A. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State, received by the Bureau in June of 1943, contained the following notation:

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"Plans for two super-battleships-secured in 1937-
who gave- Karp-brother-in-law of Molotov-working
with Scott Ferris, got this released -

"Now: Naval Architect working on it, why??

"Field was original contact."

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as based upon Mr. Berle's notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Whittaker Chambers did not mention this individual during this interview.

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ROBERT COE, WA.
BOB COE

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

None.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS MADE ON MAY 13, 1942.

During interview with Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, Chambers made no mention of Robert Coe. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

The Berle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943, refer to Bob Coe, brother of Frank Coe as being in "Communist Party's Foreign Bureau."

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

None, insufficient data furnished.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers advised Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, that Robert Coe was certainly a Communist Party member and that he had seen Robert in association with members of the underground group. Chambers advised that it was his understanding that Robert belonged to one of the small units of the Washington Underground. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation has been conducted with regard to this individual. A review of the files of the Bureau fails to reveal that Virginius Frank Coe has a brother by the name of Robert Coe. This file review has failed to identify the above referenced Robert Coe. Files of the Bureau reveal that one Charles Joseph Coe, with aliases Charles J. Coe, Bob Coe, was investigated by the Bureau in November, 1944, at which time it was ascertained that he was the editor of "Facts For Farmers", a pamphlet published by Farm Research, Incorporated, New York City. Information obtained during this investigation indicated that the publication "Facts For Farmers" followed the Communist Party line and the Farm Research, Incorporated was alleged to be a Communist front organization. (100-333343-3)

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The files also reveal that as of December 2, 1942, one Robert Coe was Second Secretary of the American Embassy stationed in London, England. It is not known whether either of the above two individuals is identical with Robert Coe mentioned by Chambers. (62-64427-449)

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VIRGINIUS FRANK COE, also known as
FRANK COE

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

In October, 1940, the Advisory Commission to the Council of National Defense referred a list of names of their employees to this Bureau for investigation. No allegations were made concerning the various employees. Included on this list was the name Virginius Frank Coe. The Washington Field Office ascertained prior to investigation that Coe had resigned his position with the Commission and returned to his former position with the U. S. Treasury Department. No investigation was undertaken. (62-60175-2)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATION MADE ON MAY 13, 1942

At the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, no mention was made of Virginius Frank Coe.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943, refer to Frank Coe as a brother of Bob Coe who was in the "CP's 'Foreign Bureau'." Frank Coe alleged to be attending McGill University, Montreal, Quebec, Canada. (100-25824-27)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None. Frank Coe alleged to be in Canada.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers advised Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, that Frank Coe and his brother, Robert Coe, had been mentioned by him to the Assistant Secretary of the Department of State. Chambers stated that Robert was certainly a Communist Party member and that he had seen Robert associate with members of the underground group. Chambers said he had been advised that Robert belonged to one of the small units of the Washington Underground. (100-25824-36)

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IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

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No investigation was conducted as a result of the above allegations made by Chambers. Investigation was conducted, however, in connection with the Gregory case, and the following is a brief summary of the information available concerning Coe. He has admitted being friendly with Lauchlin Currie. (65-56402-1655) During a physical surveillance conducted on Currie, it was ascertained that Coe had dinner with Currie on January 8, 1946. Currie was allegedly a member of the Silvermaster group. (65-56402-466) Investigation also disclosed that Coe was closely associated with Irving Kaplan, the Silvermasters, Harry Dexter White, George Silverman, Harry Magdoff, Allen Rosenberg, and William Ludwig Ullman. When interviewed by Agents of the Bureau on May 29, 1947, he advised that he was not closely associated with the Silvermasters but only met them occasionaly while traveling in "Economic Circles". (65-56402-2530) When Coe testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on August 13, 1948, he denied being a part of the "Silvermaster Ring". By letter dated February 25, 1946, a summary memorandum entitled "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the United States Government" dated February 21, 1946, wherein information was contained with regard to Coe, was made available to Brigadier General Harry H. Vaughn, Military Aide to the President. (65-56402-573) By memorandum dated February 23, 1946, entitled "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the United States Government" dated February 21, 1946, the same information concerning Coe was furnished to the Attorney General. (65-56402-490) By memorandum dated February 25, 1946, the same summary of information was furnished to the Secretary of the Department of the Treasury. (65-56402-529)

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Re: HENRY HILL COLLINS, Jr.

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

During the winter of 1941 - 1942, the Washington Field Office conducted an investigation of Collins under the title "Henry H. Collins, Jr., Senior Exemptions Examiner, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor, Internal Security, Hatch Act", the results of which are briefly set forth as follows:

> The name of Henry H. Collins, Jr., was alleged to have been on the active indices of the American Peace Mobilization, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. Confidential informants disclosed that Collins had been very active in the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, serving as a member of the Executive Committee and as chairman of various other committees; that he advised and urged other members of the Department of Labor where he was employed to join this organization and that he solicited and accepted contributions from them.
>
> An informant stated that Collins kept much Communist literature about his house as well as printed matter from the American Peace Mobilization, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. He was said to associate with known Communists and to have signed a letter petitioning Governor Olson of California to free Samuel Adams Darcy, Secretary of the Communist Party of Pennsylvania.
>
> Collins' wife, Suzan B. Anthony, II, was reported to have been prominently associated with the American Peace Mobilization, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, and the American League for Peace and Democracy, and was named by a Dies Committee investigator as being a radical.
>
> In a Hatch Act interview with agents of the Washington Field Office, Henry Collins admitted that he was a

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member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, that he attended meetings, that he served as the Chairman of the Committee of the Co-operatives, and that he may have solicited employees of the Department of Labor for membership in that organization. He denied that he was ever a member of the American Peace Mobilization, of the Communist Party, or of any organization which advocated the overthrow of the Federal Government. He stated that he may have attended meetings of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, but that he was uncertain as to whether or not he had been a member of this organization. After this Hatch Act investigation had been completed and reports submitted to the Department of Labor, it was learned that that Department took no administrative action against Collins.
(65-56402-1473)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No information was submitted by Whittaker Chambers pertaining to Henry Hill Collins, Jr., during the interview conducted on May 13, 1942, by agents of our New York Office.
(100-25824-22)

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

No reference appeared in the notes furnished this Bureau in June, 1943, by Mr. A. A. Berle, Assistant Secretary of State, covering his interview with Whittaker Chambers in 1939.
(100-25824-27)

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, agents of our New York Office interviewed Whittaker Chambers. During this interview, Chambers advised that he was a courier in what he believed to be the Communist movement, and that around 1935 he operated between Alexander Stevens (who was known to him as Peter) in New York City, and Harold Ware, leader of a group of men composed of Government employees in high salaried positions who were Communist Party members.

Chambers explained that there were approximately eight individual members in the organization headed by Ware, and that almost every one of these members was himself a leader of another underground unit operating in Washington, D. C., which consisted of some six to eight members; that the members of each of these underground units were not aware of the identity or composition of any of the other units.

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Chambers said that Henry Collins, at that time in the Forestry Department of the Department of Agriculture, was one of the persons who attended meetings of the Ware group. Others who attended these meetings were John Abt, Lee Pressman, Nathan Perlow, Charles Krivitsky with alias Charles Kramer, Alger Hiss, Donald Hiss, - - - - Post, Nathan Witt, and an unknown man who was the husband of Alice Hendham. Chambers advised that the Ware group met in various places in Washington, D. C., but that the principal meeting place was the apartment of Henry Collins on St. Matthews Court over a garage. Collins, according to Chambers, was the treasurer of the group and apparently collected a percentage of the salary of each member which was then transmitted to Peter in New York City. He added that Collins had some regular way of sending money to New York which was unknown to Chambers, but on several occasions when this system had broken down, he, Chambers, was instructed by Collins to deliver a package which he was told contained money to Peter. He explained in this connection that he never at any time knew what was actually in any of the packages or envelopes which he transmitted and that he never tried to inquire as to their contents on the assumption that such inquiry would arouse the distrust of his correspondents.

Chambers related that after Harold Ware's death, a meeting was held in Collins' apartment at which the latter was present for the purpose of electing a new leader for the group. John Abt was elected as the new leader at this meeting.
(65-56402-1473)

IV(B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

At the time that Whittaker Chambers furnished the above information, Henry Collins was in the Army. He had entered active service November 30, 1943, as a Captain. He was separated from service on May 6, 1946, at which time he held the rank of Major. During a portion of the time he was enlisted in the Army, he served overseas in the European Theater of Operations.
(65-56402-1473)

Following his separation from service, Collins took a position with the Department of State. In November, 1946, he was released from his position with the Department of State actually for security purposes, but ostensibly because of reduction in force. An investigation was undertaken of Collins immediately upon his release from service. This investigation reflected that he was a close friend of Alger Hiss and his wife, and of Bela and Sonia Gold, both of whom are subjects in the Silvermaster Case.
(65-56402, Serial 1673)

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The investigation developed that Collins held Government positions almost continuously from 1933 until November, 1946, with the exception of the period during which he was an officer in the United States Army.

At the present time a separate case file has been opened on Collins whereas the results of the investigation of his activities previous to March, 1948, were set forth in the Silvermaster Case file. This investigation is in a pending status. The information furnished by Whittaker Chambers concerning Henry Collins was set forth in the Silvermaster Case. Summaries prepared in this case have been furnished to the White House, the Department of Justice, and other Governmental agencies. Under date of March 9, 1948, the Washington Field Office submitted a report setting forth a summary of all information revealed in the Field Office files relating to Collins and showing that the investigation is continuing. A copy of this report was forwarded to Colonel Forney, Intelligence Division, Department of the Army, on May 21, 1948. A copy was also furnished to the Division of Records on June 14, 1948.
(101-1335-18)

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LAUCHLIN BERNARD CURRIE
was., Laughlin Currie

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was conducted concerning the captioned individual prior to the receipt of information concerning him from Whittaker Chambers.

II CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

The name of Currie was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes of Mr. Berle of the State Department concerning his original interview with Chambers in September, 1939, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943, reflect the following: Laughlin Currie was a "Fellow Traveler" - helped various Communists - never went the whole way. (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau failed to reflect that any investigation was conducted on the basis of the reference to Currie in the Berle notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Currie's name was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by New York Agents on May 10, 1945.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Bureau files fail to reflect that any investigation was initiated concerning Currie on the basis of the reference to him in the Berle notes. There is also no indication in the files that the information contained in the Berle notes concerning Currie was distributed outside of the Bureau prior to the interview with Elizabeth Bentley in the Gregory Case in the fall of 1945. As a result of the information which she furnished, a letter was sent to Brigadier General Harry H. Vaughan, Military Aide to the President on November 8, 1945 advising him that a highly confidential source had furnished information indicating a number of persons employed in the government had been furnishing data and information to persons outside of the federal government, who were in turn transmitting this information to agents of the

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Soviet government. A list of individuals who participated in this operation or were utilized by the principals in the ring was set out. This list included Laughlin Currie, former administrative advisor to the late President Roosevelt. (61-3499-192)

Subsequently on February 25, 1946 a memorandum dated February 21, 1946 and captioned, "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in agencies of the United States Government" was furnished to General Vaughan, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General. This memorandum in addition to information received from Elizabeth Bentley, contained information in the Bureau files concerning Currie, including the information submitted by Whittaker Chambers as contained in the Berle notes. (65-56402-573)

No investigation of Currie has been conducted except that conducted in connection with the Gregory Case with which you are familiar.

CHARLES DIRBA, WA. CHARLES LAPIN ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Charles Dirba first came to the attention of the Bureau in August, 1919, at which time he was Secretary of the State Socialist Party of the State of Minnesota. From that time until the present, Dirba has received active investigation by Agents of this Bureau. Dirba signed the charter of the Communist Party of America on December 30, 1919, at Chicago, Illinois, as Executive Secretary. Dirba became a member of the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party, USA in 1927. He went on missions to the Soviet Union in 1928, 1930, 1934, 1935, and 1938. Maurice Malkin indicated to the Dies Committee in 1939 that Dirba was an OGPU representative in the United States and a member of the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party, USA. Jan Valtin, author of "Out Of The Night," in 1941 informed that Dirba was considered an Agent of the GPU in the United States at the time he, Valtin, left the Communist Party in 1937. Ben Gitlow testified before the Dies Committee that it was his understanding that Dirba was an OGPU Agent. At the present time Dirba is active in the ordinary affairs of the Communist Party, having transferred his membership from New York City to Los Angeles in 1947, but there is no indication that he is a functionary in the Party. (61-1651-1, 91)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated that Charles Dirba, head of the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party for years, was understood by Chambers to be connected with the OGPU. Chambers also indicated that it was his understanding that the OGPU operated through Dirba rather than through Browder. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Extensive investigation conducted with regard to Charles Dirba failed to definitely establish his connection with the OGPU. Various informants from time to time have indicated his connection with the OGPU. (61-1651-91)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

No reference to Dirba was found in the copy of the Berle notes furnished the Bureau in June, 1943.

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IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, at which time no mention was made of Charles Dirba.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation indicated. The active investigation with regard to Charles Dirba has continued up to the present time, although his case file is carried in a closed status as of January 27, 1948. All pertinent information obtained by the Los Angeles Field Office is currently being furnished to the Bureau. Information relative to Charles Dirba has been furnished from time to time in the form of investigative reports to the Division of Records. (61-1651)

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LAURENCE DUGGAN, also known as:
Laurence Duggin, Laurence H. Duggan

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was conducted with regard to Duggan. However, the Bureau files reveal the following information concerning him. His name appeared on the mailing list of the United American Spanish Aid Committee in 1941. His name and address were found on the person of Joris Ivens, an active Communist Party member from Berlin and Moscow. Ivens was a suspected member of the Soviet Secret Intelligence Service (NKVD). (100-251233-25)

On May 6, 1942, Duggan wrote a letter to Richard Sommers, the subject of an extensive Espionage - G investigation by the Bureau, on the letterhead of Advisor of Public Relations, Department of State, in which he indicated that he had known Sommers for a number of years. On June 29, 1942, Sommers wrote a letter to Duggan which indicated that they were close friends, and thanked Duggan for making it possible for his wife, Olga Sommers, to come to the United States. Duggan was later interviewed by representatives of the Military Intelligence Division of the Department of the Army, relative to this matter, at which time he advised these representatives that he had never heard of Richard Sommers. (100-251233-25)

The name Laurence H. Duggan appeared on the letterhead of the "Open Road, Inc." as a member of the Board of Directors of that organization. Frederick V. Field, reported to be a Communist Party member and sponsor of many Communist front organizations, was listed as President of this organization. (100-31230-2)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers advised Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, that Laurence Duggin, who was then Chief of the Latin-American Section of the Department of State, was not a Party member and was not connected with the Communist underground group, but was presumably with the OGPU, because of his contacts with Hedda Gomperts, whom he knew to be a Communist Party member. (100-25824-22)

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation conducted with regard to Duggan. However, an active investigation was conducted in order to ascertain the activities of Hedda Gomperts (Hedi Massing).

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III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Copies of the Berle notes which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943, indicate that Berle was advised by Chambers that there was considerable doubt in his mind as to whether or not Duggan was a member of the Communist Party. Chambers indicated that Duggan might be a member of the Communist Shop Group of the Department of State. (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted with regard to Duggan. However, the active investigation of Hedi Gomperts was continued during this period. It was ascertained that Duggan resigned from the State Department in the latter part of July, 1944. (65-9940-94)

A summary memorandum of available information concerning Duggan's activities was furnished to the Department of State on September 29, 1944. (100-251233-25)

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers advised Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, that Duggan associated with Hedda Gomperts, whom he knew to be a Communist and that he suspected Duggan of at least being a fellow traveler. Chambers had no information indicating Communist Party membership on the part of Duggan. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted. However, at the conclusion of the Hedi Massing investigation, she was interviewed, at which time she stated that to the best of her knowledge, Duggan was not a member of the Communist Party nor an agent of the OGPU. She stated that she had attempted to recruit Duggan into the Soviet Intelligence Service but had been unsuccessful. The following is a brief summary of other available information contained in the files of the Bureau concerning Duggan:

It was reported that Duggan was friendly with Enrique de Lozada, a South American Communist. (100-251233-25)

Duggan participated in a conference on "U.S. Policy Toward Argentina," sponsored by the Council for the Pan-American Democracy on March 25, 1944. (100-13361-23)

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Duggan is reported to be on friendly terms with Frederick V. Field, a reported Communist, and to have had considerable correspondence with him. (64-200-224-8)

During another investigation it was ascertained that Duggan was friendly with Joseph Starobin, Foreign Editor of the Daily Worker. (65-52109-514, Page 41)

The name Laurence Duggan appeared on the letterhead of the Americans United for World Organization, Inc. as a member of the Board of Trustees in July of 1945. (100-90431-19)

Sir Bernard Pares completed a speaking tour of the Middle West in October of 1947, during which time he maintained that the objectives of the Soviet Union are peaceful, and he indicated further that there was little likelihood of war. Among other things, Sir Bernard also stated that the Russians "have a right to the Dardanelles" and, also: "They should have a chance at the Mediterranean." His speaking tour was sponsored by the Institute of International Education, New York City, and was arranged by Laurence Duggan, Director of the Institute.

(100-339928-42)

GERHART EISLER
was., Edwards, Hans Berger
Samuel Liptzen

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I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An investigation of Gerhart Eisler was instituted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation upon Eisler's arrival in the United States on July 13, 1941. This investigation, which is still continuing, resulted in the conviction of Gerhart Eisler on August 15, 1947 in the District Court, District of Columbia for fraud in obtaining an exit visa (Title 22, Section 223). Evidence was produced at the trial based upon the investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation proving Eisler had operated as a Comintern Agent in the United States under the names of Edwards and Hans Berger. It was also proved that he had obtained a false United States passport in 1934 under the name of Samuel Liptzen. Eisler was sentenced to one year on a contempt of Congress charge on March 24, 1948 and sentenced to a term of one to three years on exit visa fraud on June 27, 1947. Eisler at the present time is on bond pending appeals in both cases. (100-32520-625)

II CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers did not mention Eisler during this interview.

III CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Eisler is not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers furnished information on May 10, 1945 to the effect that he knew that the name Edwards was an alias of Gerhart Eisler. He pointed out that J. Peters, his Soviet superior, was a very close friend of Eisler and at one time shared a summer cottage with him at an unknown location. Chambers stated that the many conversations he had with J. Peters, he heard Eisler spoken of only as Edwards and he had learned Eisler's true identity from Willi Schlamm, Editor of Fortune magazine and a former Communist in Austria. According to Chambers, J. Peters, in discussing Edwards, always considered him very highly and stated that Edwards had fallen into disrepute at one time over the question of internal policies in Germany, as punishment for which he was sent to China as a Comintern representative in the early 1930's. Chambers also learned from J. Peters that Edwards later came to the

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United States as a Comintern representative. Chambers stated that Eisler counsels the leaders of the Communist Party, U. S. A. in order to maintain the Party line for Moscow. Chambers stated that he also understood that Eisler wrote for the Daily Worker under the alias of Hans Berger.

Chambers recalled that sometime in 1936 Agnes Smedley, who had been an important pro-Soviet propagandist in China, returned to the United States and he told Peters he would like to meet her. Later Peters arranged the meeting and upon seeing Chambers she stated, "I thought I was going to meet Edwards." Chambers also recalled that William Weiner, an important Party functionary, was a close contact of Edwards.

(100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On the basis of the information from Chambers no specific additional investigation was conducted as there was already an extremely active investigation of Eisler; however, Chambers' information did substantiate information from other sources and proved to be accurate in so far as it could be verified.

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SCOTT FERRIS

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Information available in the files of the Bureau indicate that Sam Carp, Russian-born naturalized American citizen and brother-in-law of Molotov, testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on September 18, 1939, at which time he advised the Committee that he had engaged the services of Scott Ferris, a former Congressman and then Democratic National Committeeman from Oklahoma, to represent him in their negotiations to purchase two U. S. battleships for the USSR. He indicated to the Committee that he had paid Scott Ferris $32,000 for his services. (100-5193-A and 40)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

At the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, no mention was made of Scott Ferris.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None indicated.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Chambers indicated to Mr. A. A. Berle, the then Assistant Secretary of the Department of State, at the time Mr. Berle interviewed Chambers, that one "Karp", brother-in-law of Molotov, was said to be working with Scott Ferris to obtain plans for two super battleships in 1937. (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In view of the above known information concerning former Congressman Ferris, no investigation was deemed necessary.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

At the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 10, 1945, no mention was made of Scott Ferris.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

"The Current Biography" for July, 1945, indicated that Scott Ferris was born November 3, 1877 and died June 9, 1945. It was also indicated that he was a former United States Congressman from Oklahoma and served as Democratic National Committeeman from Oklahoma for sixteen years. (94-3-4-1115-47)

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FREDERICK VANDERBILT FIELD, WA. FREDERICK SPENCER

I - INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

Field has been the subject of an intensive investigation by the Bureau since February, 1941. Considerable information has been developed relative to his association with various Communist front and Communist organizations. Former confidential informant [redacted] former member of the Communist Party, discontinued) furnished information indicating that Field was a member of the Communist Party and extremely active in numerous Communist front groups. Investigation has revealed that he is Managing Editor of New Masses, a writer for the Daily Worker and Political Affairs, a Director on the Board of Trustees of the Jefferson School of Social Science, and is affiliated with numerous organizations including the Committee for Democratic Far Eastern Policy, of which he is a Director. Field is known to make regular contributions to many Communist front organizations, the more prominent being American Youth for Democracy, Spanish Refugee Appeal, Committee for Democratic Far Eastern Policy, Soviet Russia Today, National Council of American Soviet Friendship, and American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born. Field attended Communist Party National Convention and Communist Political Association Rally, both in New York City in 1944. Investigation in this case indicates that Field is presently active in his Communist front associations and activities. (100-2278-73, 35, 42, 46)

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II (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated Frederick Vanderbilt Field, a former official of the Institute for Pacific Relations, was believed by him to be the center of a Communist underground apparatus. Chambers indicated that Field, his wife Edith, his mother Lila, and one Joseph Barnes were the chief members of this apparatus. Chambers advised that one Peter, last name unknown to him, had related the above information to him. Chambers indicated that either Field's wife or his mother had furnished a home on Central Park West, New York City, for the use of this underground movement. Chambers also indicated that it was his belief that Peter had recruited Field into the Communist Party. (100-25824-22)

II (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

As a result of Chambers' information, the investigation in this case was intensified in the early part of 1943. Information relative to Field's connection with the Communist Party was obtained as a result of the intensive investigation. There was no information obtained indicating that Field's wife or mother were connected with the Communist Party. There was no information

developed indicating that Field had organized a Communist underground apparatus. There was no separate investigation conducted with regard to Field's wife or mother. The investigation did reveal, however, that Field's mother, Mrs. Lila Vanderbilt Field, died in Lenox, Massachusetts, in 1935. (100-2278-35)

III (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

At the time Mr. A. A. Berle, the then Assistant Secretary of the Department of State, interviewed Chambers, no reference was made to Frederick Vanderbilt Field. (100-35824)

III (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation indicated.

IV (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Whittaker Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, at which time he furnished virtually the same information as set forth above. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

The active investigation of Frederick Vanderbilt Field continued but no information developed indicating his membership in a Communist underground group. Field is presently carried as a key figure by the New York Field Office and all information of a pertinent nature is promptly furnished to the Bureau. Copies of all reports of a pertinent nature have been forwarded to the Division of Records. Information relative to Field has also been disseminated to the Office of Naval Intelligence, Intelligence Department of the Army, and to the Department of State. (100-2278-18, 23, 28, 32, 35, 37, 39, 40)

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MRS. FREDERICK VANDERBILT FIELD,
AKA MRS. EDITH CHAMBERLIN FIELD

I - INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

The Bureau has not conducted a separate investigation with regard to Mrs. Field. Through the intensive investigation conducted on her husband, Frederick Vanderbilt Field, very little information has been developed indicating Communist activity on the part of Mrs. Field. On January 5, 1944, Frederick Vanderbilt Field, Max Yergan and Edith Chamberlin Field took title to the premises located at 23 West 26th Street, New York City. This building has, since its acquisition by Field, Yergan and Field, been occupied by various organizations including the Council on African Affairs, Council for Pan-American Democracy, American Committee for Protection of the Foreign Born, Institute for International Democracy, Hungarian American Committee for Democracy, Indonesian Committee, and the Voice of Fighting Spain. There has been no information developed indicating that Mrs. Field took part in the activities of these organizations. It is known, however, that Mrs. Field's home, 16 West 12th Street, New York City, has been used as a meeting place for prominent Communists for special meetings. It is also known that her husband leased an apartment located at 1116 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C., on September 9, 1940, for the use of the American Peace Mobilization. (100-2278-35, 73)

II (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, at which time he indicated that Frederick Vanderbilt Field, his wife and his mother, were the chief members of a Communist underground apparatus. Chambers also indicated that either Field's wife or his mother furnished a home on Central Park West, New York City, for use as a headquarters for this underground apparatus. (100-25824-22)

II (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation was conducted with respect to Chambers' allegations regarding the activities of Mrs. Edith Chamberlin Field. As pointed out above, however, considerable information was developed concerning Mrs. Field during the investigation of her husband. To date no information has been received indicating that Mrs. Field was a member of a Communist underground movement. During the investigation of Field, it was determined that his home had been made available for prominent Communists in New York City. (100-2278-35)

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III (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

At the time Mr. A. A. Berle, the then Assistant Secretary of the Department of State, interviewed Chambers, no reference was made to Mrs. Edith Chamberlin Field. (100-25824-27)

III (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation indicated.

IV (A) - CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Whittaker Chambers was again interviewed by Agents of the New York Field Office on May 10, 1945, at which time he did not furnish any information relative to Mrs. Edith Chamberlin Field. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) - INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

No investigation indicated.

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MRS. LILA VANDERBILT FIELD

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO WHITTAKER CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

During the investigation of Frederick Vanderbilt Field, it was ascertained that, his mother, Mrs. Lila Vanderbilt Field, died in Lenox, Massachusetts, in 1935. (100-2278-35)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers on May 13, 1942 advised FBI Agents in New York City that Frederick Vanderbilt Field of the Institute for Pacific Relations was the center of another (Communist) underground apparatus. He said that Field, his wife, his mother and Joseph Barnes were the chief members of this aparatus and that he had been told that a house on Central Park West in New York City owned by one of the female Fields was supposed to have been the center for this particular underground movement.
(100-25824-22)

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In view of Mrs. Field's death prior to her mention by Chambers, it is apparent that no investigation was indicated.

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NOEL HAVILAND FIELD

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Field's activities were first called to the Bureau's attention in 1926 by the Industrial Defense Association, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts, which furnished information reflecting that he was a member of the "Disloyal Fellowship of Youth for Peace." It was also indicated that his mother and wife were members of the Red Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. These data were furnished the State Department on November 23, 1926. (105-2175-X, X1)

In 1928 Field was employed by the Department of State and continued this employment until approximately 1940 or 1941. (105-2175-15)

J. B. Matthews testified before the Dies Committee on November 7, 1938, at which time he related that, according to his personal knowledge, Noel Field, who was at that time employed by the Department of State, was a member of the Communist Party. (105-2175-15)

Addition information was furnished to the Department of State by letter dated October 29, 1940. By letter dated March 27, 1941, the Department of State was further advised that Field was reliably reported as a member of the Communist Party.

Information received July 28, 1941, indicated that the name Noel H. Field, 419 Fourth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., appeared on the mailing list of Friends of the Soviet Union. (100-7045-95 x2)

In 1941 or 1942, while in Europe, Field became a representative of the Unitarian Service Committee. (100-2175-4)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

At the time Chambers was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942, no mention was made of Noel Haviland Field.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation indicated.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

At the time Mr. A. A. Berle, the then Assistant Secretary of the Department of State, interviewed Chambers, he was advised by Chambers that an

individual named Field (FNU) was believed to be a member of the Communist Party. It was indicated that Field was employed in the Western European Section of the Department of State at that time. No further identification was made of this individual at that time. However, he has since been identified by Dr. Paul Wilhelm Massing and his wife, Hedi, as Noel Haviland Field.

(100-25824-27
105-2175-X,X1,X2,15)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation conducted.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Field's name was not mentioned during the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted with regard to this individual at that time, as he was out of the United States. In November, 1947 an active investigation was undertaken on the basis of other data to the effect he was an espionage agent.

On March 3, 1948, a 15-page summary memorandum containing information available in the Bureau's files concerning Field was furnished to the Central Intelligence Agency. This memorandum reflects that Field, who has for some years been employed in Europe by the Unitarian Service Committee in the direction of their reflief program, was employed by the Department of State from 1928 until about 1940 or 1941. Field's pro-Communist activities were reflected in this memorandum. Considerable information was also furnished concerning him as obtained from Hedi Massing, who indicated that after leaving the Department of State, Field had worked with the League of Nations and that he had been used as a Soviet agent. (105-2175-X,X1,X2, 15)

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CHARLES SIDNEY FLATO

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

A Special Inquiry investigation was initiated on December 31, 1941, concerning Flato at the request of the Office for Emergency Management. Copies of reports reflecting the results of the investigation were furnished to the OEM during the first four months of 1942, the last report being furnished on April 14, 1942. The investigation reflected that one informant stated that Flato joined the Communist Party in Boston in 1934, but had since changed his views and was regarded as a Socialist. However, he was not known to have renounced his affiliation with the Communist Party. The investigation also reflected employment in a Communist Party book store in Boston in 1934. On April 24, 1943, a three-page summary of the results of the Special Inquiry investigation was furnished to Captain W. D. Puleston, Secretary, Office of the Board of Economic Warfare, pursuant to the request of that organization on April 6, 1943.

A Hatch Act investigation was initiated on October 25, 1944, when it was ascertained that Flato was employed by the Office of Economic Warfare. This investigation was closed on February 14, 1945. This investigation disclosed the same information as had previously been obtained in the Special Inquiry. The file does not reflect that any distribution of the results of this investigation was made until April 12, 1948, at which time a copy of the report was submitted to the Division of Records. It is noted that a summary of the information in the Bureau files had previously been furnished to the Board of Economic Warfare on April 24, 1943.

During the investigation of the Gregory Case, it was reflected that Flato was in contact with numerous subjects of the Gregory Case. An Internal Security case was initiated concerning him in December, 1947. This investigation reflects that Flato is no longer connected with the Government. (77-14177)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers did not refer to Flato or to an individual of the same description as Flato during the interview of May 13, 1942, by Agents of the New York Office.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Flato was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

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IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers by New York Agents on May 10, 1945, Chambers, while discussing an individual by the name of Post, whom he identified as Editor of the Foreign Service Journal in 1939, indicated that he had gone to Post's home in Alexandria, Virginia, at which time he was accompanied by a little hunchback who was then employed on a WPA Writer's Project in Washington, which was headed by Henry Alsberg. Chambers' purpose in going to Post's home was to address a small unit meeting of the Communist underground, of which Post was the leader. (100-25824-36)

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Files of the Bureau fail to reflect that any specific investigation has been conducted concerning Chambers' allegation. It is noted, however, that his description of the person who accompanied him to this meeting fits the description of Charles Sidney Flato very closely, and it is believed the individuals are identical. As noted above, Flato was the subject of an investigation prior to Chambers' allegations.

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ISAAC FOLKOFF, with aliases
Sam Falcoff, Sam Falconvitch,
Isaac Falclonoff, "Volkov," "Walkoff,"
"Dad," "Old Man"

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I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Active investigation of Isaac Folkoff, with aliases, was initiated at San Francisco, California, following receipt of a complaint on November 13, 1940, indicating that Folkoff was one of the leading Communists in San Francisco and was believed to be closely connected with financial affairs of the Communist Party. (100-19248-1)

This investigation indicated that Folkoff, of Russian origin, a naturalized United States citizen, was the proprietor of an embroidery and pleating company in San Francisco; was active in Communist Party affairs; and was constantly supplying amounts of money to Party members and officials. Inquiry showed him to be in close association with William Schneiderman, California State Secretary of the Communist Party. (100-19248-1)

On October 16, 1941, a dossier was forwarded to the Special Defense Unit of the Department of Justice outlining available information concerning Folkoff. (100-19248-6)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers, when interviewed on the above date by Bureau Agents, advised that an individual by the name of "Volkov" (phonetic) was said to have been in charge of the Underground on the West Coast with Headquarters in San Francisco, and that this individual's daughter was supposed to have been a courier between Moscow and the United States. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

By letter dated July 6, 1942, the Bureau advised the San Francisco Office of the information furnished by Chambers and indicated that the individual referred to by Chambers would appear to be identical with Isaac Folkoff, the subject of the then pending investigation by the San Francisco Office. The San Francisco Office was instructed to conduct a vigorous and continuous investigation concerning this matter in view of the allegations received from Chambers. (100-19248-17)

By report dated January 4, 1943, San Francisco submitted information concerning Folkoff indicating that he was running a successful

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business in San Francisco and that he was then a member of the Executive Committee of a local section of the Communist Party. Available sources reported that Folkoff was a financial agent for the Party and was believed to have received regularly funds dispatched from the Soviet Union by special couriers. Sources reported that Folkoff continued to be closely affiliated with financial affairs of the Party in both collecting and supplying money in the conduct of Communist affairs. Folkoff was reported by another source to have made a trip to the Soviet Union in 1935. (This report was furnished to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice and is noted to have contained the substance of Chambers' allegations.) (100-19248-49)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The following reference was contained in the Berle notes obtained on the above-indicated date:

> West Coast - Head: "The Old Man" - Volkov is his real name - daughter a Comintern courier. He knows the West Coast underground - Residence: San Francisco or Oakland - (100-25824-27)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear from the Bureau files that the information contained in the Berle notes was forwarded to the Field at this time. It is to be noted, however, that this information is practically identical with that previously furnished to the San Francisco Office.

The investigation of Isaac Folkoff was continuing in the Field and reflected that Folkoff in 1943 occupied the position of Communist Party auditor for the 13th District at San Francisco. Information was developed concerning the possible identity of a Russian agent who reportedly brought money to Folkoff from the Soviet Union in 1932. (100-19248-80) A check of State Department records in Washington, D. C., verified the fact that Folkoff had made a trip in 1935 to Europe, allegedly to Latvia. These records also indicated that Folkoff was born January 10, 1881, in Latvia (then Russia); arrived in the United States in January, 1904; and was naturalized at Brooklyn, New York, on April 9, 1912. (100-19248-82) At San Francisco it was determined that Folkoff, in addition to his previously described activities, had become an instructor in social theory at the Communist Party sponsored Tom Mooney Labor School. His close association with top functionaries continued. (100-19248-88)

Information developed at San Francisco in February, 1944, indicated that in addition to prominent Communist contacts, Folkoff was maintaining connections with Soviet representatives at the San Francisco Soviet Consulate, including Gregori Kheifets. (100-19248-102) The reported contact with Kheifets continued during June of 1944. (100-19248-111)

During the latter part of 1944 and early 1945, information was received that Folkoff was a charter member of the Communist Party in the United States and had been active in Communist affairs since 1919. There was no indication of further contacts with Soviet Consular officials following the departure of Kheifets in July, 1944. However, Folkoff continued regular contacts with an individual associated with the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission and was known to have had confidential conversations with Stirling Hayden of the U. S. Marine Corps then assigned to OSS. The informant reported that Folkoff had been the individual instrumental in interesting Hayden in Communism. (100-19248-130)

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

When interviewed by Bureau Agents on the above date Chambers stated that he had also met a man by the name of Volkov (phonetic) who was referred to by Peter (Alexander Stevens) as the "Old Man." He added that Peter had mentioned him many times as the leader of the Underground on the West Coast and pointed out that he had been located somewhere near San Francisco. Chambers added that Walkoff (as indicated in the text of New York letter of June 26, 1945, reflecting the results of the interview) gave the impression of being a very efficient businessman and he believed that he had conducted some kind of a successful business in the neighborhood of San Francisco. A story which he had been told by someone whose identity he could not recall was to the effect that Walkoff had sold all of his possessions and interests in the United States at one time and had gone to Russia for the purpose of living there but that he had been so disgusted with Russian living conditions that he had returned to the United States as soon as he could. Chambers described Walkoff as follows:

Age	Upper 50's in the 1930's
Height	5' 6"
Build	Slim
Characteristics	Good natured, joking, very smooth in conversation. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Following the 1945 interview as reflected above the Bureau by letter dated July 10, 1945, instructed the New York Office to recontact

Chambers regarding "Volkov" or "Walkoff" (phonetic), indicating that this individual was believed to be identical with Isaac Folkoff, the subject of a pending San Francisco investigation. New York was advised to exhibit a photograph of Folkoff to Chambers for positive identification purposes. (100-25824-36)

The New York Office by letter dated August 21, 1945, furnished a copy of the results of the Chambers interview of May 10, 1945, to the San Francisco Office for their information in connection with the Folkoff investigation and requested photographs of Folkoff from San Francisco for purposes of exhibition to Chambers, preferably photographs available of Folkoff taken during the early or middle 1930's. It does not appear from the Bureau files that such photographs were ever identified by Chambers. (100-25824-37)

Investigation of Folkoff was continuing and it was determined on June 12, 1945, that Folkoff met with Stepan Apresian, Soviet Vice Consul in San Francisco, which meeting took place on the street under suspicious circumstances. (100-19248) Through highly confidential sources the Communist registration of Folkoff was determined and in 1945 he was known to hold the positions of Secretary and Educational Director of the local Communist Political Association District. In addition he was known to be a member of the State Finance Committee of the Communist Political Association in California. Sources reported that Folkoff continued occasional contacts with the Soviet Consulate. However, this information was not further confirmed. (100-19248-149)

As late as February, 1948, Folkoff continued to be very active in Communist Party affairs in the San Francisco area, particularly in the financial affairs of the Party. (100-19248-201)

Inasmuch as later reports of the investigation concerning Folkoff included references to then pending highly confidential Soviet espionage investigations, including the Comrap Case, these reports were apparently not distributed to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice. Accordingly, on May 27, 1948, a letter was directed to the San Francisco Office instructing that Office to prepare a summary type report carefully protecting all sources of information and confidential informants in order that the full results of the Folkoff investigation might be distributed to the Division of Records. (100-19248-204)

Information concerning Folkoff as a person in contact with Gregori Markovich Kheifets, former Vice Consul of the USSR at San Francisco, as well as other connections of Folkoff, were contained in the summary entitled "Soviet Espionage in the U.S.", dated December 12, 1945. This summary was distributed to the White House, Attorney General, State Department, War Department, and the Treasury Department.

Information concerning Folkoff's position as financial advisor of the Communist Party in California was included in a summary entitled "Comintern Apparatus", dated March 5, 1946, copies of which were distributed to the White House, Attorney General, State Department, and Navy Department.

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WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Foster, who has for many years been one of the leading figures of the Communist movement in this country, was the subject of a periodic investigation from 1921 to 1942. An active investigation was instituted in April, 1942, and has continued to the present time. Copies of reports since that date have been furnished to the Division of Records as received. (61-330)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Foster was not mentioned in the interview held on May 13, 1942, with Chambers by New York Agents.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Foster's name was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During Chambers' interview by New York Agents on May 10, 1945, while discussing his reasons for breaking with the Communist Party, Chambers pointed out that Browder, Bittelman, and Foster, to control the Party, instituted one of the worst minor reigns of terror he had ever known and that as a result of this he had resigned his editorship of the "Daily Worker" and had quit the Party. (100-25824-36)

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

In view of the nature of Chambers' reference to Foster, no specific investigation concerning Chambers' reference was made.

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BENJAMIN FRIEDMAN
(MOSES M. BRAGIN, WITH ALIASES)

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Active investigation was initiated of an individual known as Benjamin Fields in June, 1941, on the basis of information contained in the Bureau files reflecting that Fields, who had numerous aliases, including: Isadore Friedman, Issac Friedman, Issadore Friedman Osachuk, Isadore Fredman, and Benny Isadore, was an active member of the Communist Party and was considered the chief Communist leader on the Atlantic Coast. The information indicated that he resided in Baltimore and was listed in the Daily Worker of September 15, 1937 as a District Organizer of the Communist Party. The files also reflected that he had been arrested on several occasions and had contributed to Communist publications, including the anthology entitled "Proletarian Literature in the United States," published by the International Publishers Company in 1935.

The investigation was continued until October, 1946, at which time it was closed. It reflected that the true name of Fields was Moses M. Bragin, who was born in Russia in 1901. He received citizenship by virtue of his father's naturalization in 1917. He is alleged to have joined the Communist Party in 1923 and visited Russia in 1934, at which time he visited collective farms and attended a Writers' Congress held in Moscow. He was designated District Organizer for the Communist Party in the Baltimore and Washington District from 1937 to 1940. He has contributed to Communist publications, and his first novel "The Outside Leaf," had been completed as of October, 1943. Available sources indicate that the Communist Party considers him a good writer and he has had several of his short stories published in the Daily Worker. In 1946 he published a book entitled, "Piper Tompkins." He has resided in the New York and Connecticut areas since 1941. (100-24601)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

This individual was not referred to by Chambers during an interview with him conducted by New York Agents on May 13, 1942.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes of Mr. Berle, copies of which were made available to the Bureau, in June, 1943, included a reference to the above-captioned individual as follows:

"Reno Connected with Baltimore Party Organizer - Benjamin (Bundey) Friedman, alias Field - then California - then Russia - now organizer for Baltimore and Washington of Above-Ground Party - Underground connection.

(100-25824-27)

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III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau do not reflect that any specific investigation was conducted as a result of Chambers' allegations.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers by New York Agents on May 10, 1945, Chambers explained that Benjamin Friedman, who was nicknamed "Bundly," was a little fellow who had been hit on the head in a strike and had been sent to Russia for a rest cure. After his return to the United States he had been made cashier of the Communist Party cafeteria which had been run by the Party on Union Square in New York City. He related that one Peter had told him that Friedman had become District Organizer for Maryland and that in Baltimore he had taken the name of Field. He also recalled tht Field had originally come from California. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files do not reflect that any specific investigation was conducted as a result of Chambers' allegations in May, 1945. The Friedman referred to by Chambers is undoubtedly identical with Moses Bragin, and it should be noted that, as indicated above, an active investigation was instituted prior to the first interview with Chambers and the information furnished by him was already substantially available to the Bureau. A report dated January 7, 1944, setting out a summary of information available to the Bureau concerning Bragin was furnished to the Division of Records on January 29, 1944. Subsequent reports were furnished to the Division of Records as received from the field.

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SENDER GARLIN

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Investigation of Garlin was initiated in July, 1941, on the basis of information in the Bureau files reflecting that Garlin was an Elector of the Communist Party in the 1940 Presidential election, and that he was connected with the "Daily Worker." This investigation continued until May 12, 1947, at which time it was closed. The investigation reflected that Garlin was employed by the "Daily Worker" in 1932 and in 1946 was Feature Editor of that publication. He was the "Daily Worker" representative to Moscow in 1936, and was the Public Relations Director of the New York State Communist Political Association in 1944. He was Co-Chairman of the Education Committee of a New York City Club of the Communist Party in 1945 and has been a frequent speaker at various Communist Party functions. Copies of the reports submitted in this case were furnished to the Division of Records as received from the Field. (100-49101)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Garlin was not mentioned by Chambers during the May 13, 1942, interview.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Garlin was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945, by New York Agents, he advised that in the early part of 1924 he asked several acquaintances where he could get in touch with American Communists. He finally contacted a Jewish friend, Sender Garlin, who was then connected with Russian Relief. Garlin introduced him to a man by the name of Charles Krieger (phonetic), who took him to a small Communist Party meeting in the Hudson River District, where he registered as a member of the Communist Party. (100-25824-36)

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As indicated above, Garlin has been the subject of an investigation since 1941, and no specific inquiries have been made as a result of Chambers' allegations in view of the nature of such allegations.

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HARRISON GEORGE

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An active investigation concerning George was instituted on December 26, 1941, as a result of information contained in the Bureau files reflecting that George was an active member of the Communist Party. This investigation is still carried in a pending status. The investigation has reflected that he was a charter member of the Communist Party - USA, and is a brother-in-law of Earl Browder. He has been a member of the Central Committee, State Board, and State Committee of the Party in California. He was formerly Editor-in-Chief of the "Daily Peoples World" newspaper, but was relieved of this position in 1946 after criticism by Party leadership in California. He was tried by the Party on charges of factionalism, but William Z. Foster intervened and encouraged him to publicly announce his support of Party leadership. He complied and was not expelled from the Party. However, he was expelled from the Party on September 20, 1947, and has subsequently been in contact with other expelled members. (100-18155)

Copies of the reports of investigation of George were furnished to the Division of Records as received from the Field.

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

When interviewed on May 13, 1942, by New York Agents, Chambers stated that Harrison George, Browder's brother-in-law, might be of interest. George married Margaret Browder, who was later one of Krivitsky's assistants in Paris. George was active in the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat and Chambers was told that George was in charge of all kinds of underground work in the Far East and Japan, and that he had headquarters in San Francisco and Los Angeles. (100-25824-22) It is noted that this information was already available to the Bureau.

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As noted above, George was already the subject of an investigation at the time of Chambers' allegations. The investigation has failed to reflect that George is engaged in underground or espionage activities.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

George was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

George was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by New York Agents on May 10, 1945.

DR. MORRIS GREENBERG (Referred to by Chambers as Dr. Greenberg)

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I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The captioned individual first came to the attention of the Bureau in connection with the case of Nicholas Dozenberg, who was arrested in Oregon in December, 1939 in connection with a passport fraud case. You will recall that Dozenberg later testified for the Government in the passport fraud case against Earl Browder. In subsequent interviews with Bureau Agents he admitted acting as an agent for Soviet military intelligence in the United States. He furnished considerable information concerning Dr. Philip Rosenbliett, a dentist in New York City, whose office was used by Soviet agents for making contacts with their couriers. Rosenbliett departed from the United States in the early 1930's, presumably for Russia. Investigation in 1940 reflected that he had resided at 143 West 87th Street before his departure from this country and that this address as of 1940 was occupied by Dr. M. Greenberg as a residence and office. Greenberg was identified as Dr. Morris Greenberg; (wife: Clara,) who graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University in 1917 and was a licensed pediatrician. He interned at Bellevue Hospital and received his diploma in June, 1919. (61-6670-24,26,29)

Further inquiry concerning Rosenbliett reflected that Alla Rosenbliett acquired title to property at 89 West 119th Street, New York City in 1925 from her husband, Philip, and Morris and Clara Greenberg. The only encumbrance existing on the property was a power of attorney dated April 24, 1935 (subsequent to departure of Rosenbliett and his wife from the United States), appointing Morris Greenberg, 143 West 87th Street, as attorney to manage the property at 89 West 119th Street. Selective Service records in New York reflect that Greenberg was born June 6, 1890 in Romania. In 1942 he was employed by the New York City Department of Health as Epidemiologist, in charge of the Division of Epidemiology in the Bureau of Preventable Diseases. His duties consisted of supervising the investigation of all outbreaks of epidemics in New York City. Further inquiry reflected that he was naturalized February 1, 1912 in New York City and had been first employed by the City of New York in 1920. (65-35048-37)

Another associate of Dozenberg in the Soviet Military Intelligence Service was Joseph Tourin, who was interviewed on April 13, 1948 by Agents of the Los Angeles Office. Tourin admitted contacts with Dozenberg, Rosenbliett and others, and acquaintanceship with Lydia Stahl, who was also involved in Soviet intelligence activities. He denied having acted as an agent for the Soviet intelligence services or knowing that the other persons were acting as

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Soviet agents. He did state that Rosenbliett is his brother-in-law, having married his wife's sister, Alla Greenberg. He stated that the Rosenblietts had a daughter who died of cancer about 1930 at the age of twelve and shortly thereafter they went to Russia, where they presumably still reside. (100-336737-13)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Greenberg was not mentioned during the interview with Chambers on May 13, 1942.

III (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes of Mr. Berle, copies of which were made available to the Bureau, contained the following reference to Greenberg:

"London
(1) Dr. Philip Rosenbliett - Formerly of (41st St. and B'way, N.E.)
Dr. Greenberg, MD (West 70th, New York
Brother-in-law
American leader of British Underground C.
Head in America Mack Moren (alias Philipovich
- allegedly Yugoslav)
real name - ?"

(100-25824-27)

III (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The Bureau files fail to reflect that any investigation was initiated as a result of Chambers' allegations as contained in Mr. Berle's notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers by New York Agents on May 10, 1945, while discussing Dr. Philip Rosenbliett, he recalled that Rosenbliett had occasionally talked about his brother-in-law, Dr. Greenberg, M.D., who resided on West 70th Street in New York City. He never met Greenberg, but assumed that perhaps Greenberg was engaged in Communist underground activities. (100-25824-36)

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation has been conducted as a result of Chambers' allegations on May 10, 1945. The above information would indicate that Dr. Morris Greenberg is undoubtedly identical with the Greenberg referred to by Chambers. It is noted

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that the Bureau conducted inquiries concerning Greenberg prior to the receipt of information from Chambers. These inquiries were for the purpose of identifying him and ascertaining his connection with Dr. Philip Rosenbliett. The inquiries failed to reflect that he was acting as a Soviet agent.

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CARL HERMAN HAESSLER, WAS.
(Brother of Gertrude Haessler)

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The captioned individual first came to the attention of the Bureau in May, 1923 when it was ascertained that he was the principal speaker at a meeting held by the Workers Party, 3201 Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Illinois on May 17, 1923. During the speech, the title of which was "The Negro and the Press", he advised the audience to boycott the Negro Press unless it took a more decided stand against capital. He suggested that everyone become affiliated with the Workers Party and stated that the AF of L was too strong for the Workers Party to fight in the open and that the Party members should join the AF of L and destroy the organization from the inside by creating general unrest and causing AF of L members to disagree among themselves.
(61-4016-1)

An active investigation was initiated concerning Haessler in September, 1939 as a result of information in the Bureau files indicating that he was an active Communist. This investigation was closed on May 6,1942, reopened 3/3/43 and continued until January 31, 1947, at which time it was again closed. The investigation reflected that Haessler was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on August 5, 1888. Newspaper articles during 1917 and 1918 indicated that he was a Socialist connected with a Socialist paper in Wisconsin. He was a Rhodes scholar and a Phi Beta Kappa. In 1918 he was sentenced to serve twelve years at hard labor for refusing to serve in the Army. He actually served two years of this sentence. He was an assistant professor at the University of Illinois from 1914 to 1917 and taught at Commonwealth College, Mena, Arkansas and at Brookwood Labor College, Catonah, New York in 1932. He was reported to be a charter member of the "Federated Press" and employed as a correspondent-editor for this syndicate from 1922 to this date. According to "Editor and Publisher", a reference book containing information about newspaper personnel, the "Federated Press" is a syndicate for the dissemination of labor news, pictures, maps and cartoons. The central bureau of the "Federated Press" has been located at Haessler's residence in Highland Park, Michigan at least from 1943 to 1947. Haessler was said to have handled the publicity for the United Auto Workers during the 1937 Flint sit-down strike. He also was reported to have been active in connection with various union publications. He was a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party in 1943 and has been active in the Communist faction of the CIO United Automobile Workers. He has also been active in the American Newspaper Guild. In 1944 he was a member of the executive board of the Detroit Council for American Soviet Friendship and was editor of the "CIO Councilor", a bi-monthly publication of the Greater Detroit and Wayne County CIO Council.

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A summary report dated June 2, 1943 was furnished to Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special War Policies Unit of the Department of Justice on July 20, 1943. Subsequent reports in this investigation were furnished to Mr. Smith and/or the Division of Records as received from the Field. (65-5966)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

When interviewed by New York Agents on May 13, 1942, Chambers advised that the brother of Gertrude Hessler had been head of the "Federated Press" in Washington and was a very active Party (Communist Party) man. He indicated that the "Federated Press" was an organ filled with Communists and stated that Gertrude Hessler's brother as of 1942 was in the CIO. (100-25824-22)

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation has been conducted on the basis of the allegations of Chambers. It is to be noted, however, that as reflected above, the Bureau was cognizant of Haessler in 1923 and initiated an active investigation of him in 1939, prior to receipt of information from Chambers. The information furnished by Chambers was already available to the Bureau as of that time.

III CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

There is no reference to Haessler in the Berle notes, copies of which were furnished the Bureau in June, 1943.

IV ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Haessler was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by New York Agents on May 10, 1945.

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LEMENT UPHAM HARRIS

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I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Investigation of the captioned individual was initiated on March 18, 1941, on the basis of information received indicating that Harris was an active Communist and engaged in Communist activity. The investigation has continued to the present time and is still carried in a pending status. Investigation has disclosed that Harris has been an important member of the Communist Party for years and in June, 1946, was elected as permanent Secretary of the National Farm Commission of the Party. Confidential sources have advised that Harris was the treasurer of the secret funds of the Party, which can be used for undercover operations. He has been in contact with numerous national functionaries of the Party and with numerous known and suspected Soviet agents. From October, 1943, through January, 1944, pertinent reports were furnished to the Division of Records as they were submitted. The reports for the period of January, 1944, to July, 1947, were sent to the Division of Records on July 1, 1947, and subsequent reports were furnished as received. (100-15251)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers did not refer to Harris in the May 13, 1942, interview.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Harris was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers by Agents in the New York Office on May 10, 1945, he failed to identify the photograph of Harris, but when the name was mentioned to him, he readily recalled that Harold Ware had talked to him about Harris, indicating that Harris was a close friend of Ware. Chambers was unable to recall further details.

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific efforts have been made to verify the alleged friendship between Harold Ware and Harris.

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ALGER HISS

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Alger Hiss was investigated in the latter part of 1941 and the early part of 1942 in accordance with the provisions of Public Law Number 135 (Hatch Act). At that time Hiss had been reported to be a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, according to the House Committee on Un-American activities. It was determined, however, that the name of Alger Hiss did not, in fact appear in the active indices of that organization, but that the name of his wife did. Since Hiss was then Assistant to the Advisor on Political Relations in the Department of State, a copy of the report on this investigation was furnished to the Secretary of State by letter dated March 24, 1942. This report set forth information furnished by a former fellow employee of Hiss' in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration that Hiss and his associates in the AAA if not Communists were fellow travelers. No other unfavorable information was developed, and Hiss himself denied in a sworn statement that he had ever been a member of the Communist Party, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action or any other organization advocating the overthrow of the government.

The State Department on March 26, 1942, advised that the report furnished to them afforded no basis for administrative action against Hiss. (101-2668-5 &6, 65-56402-695)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942, Chambers told Bureau agents that Alger Hiss and his brother Donald Hiss were members of the Communist Party underground organization in Washington which was headed by Harold Ware. Chambers described Alger Hiss as a former employee of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration who later served in the government's investigation of the munitions industry and subsequently became Assistant Solicitor General of the United States. After that position he became assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The Bureau's files do not disclose that any investigation was conducted in 1942 following Chambers allegations about Hiss.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The portion of the Berle notes which pertains to Alger Hiss reads as follows:

"Alger Hiss
Ass't to Sayre - CP - 1937
Member of the Underground Com. - Active

Baltimore Boys
Wife - Priscilla Hiss - Socialist -
Early days of New Deal"

There is no record of any additional information furnished by Mr. Berle when these notes were obtained from him in June, 1943.

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No indication has been found in the Bureau's files to show that inquiry was made concerning Hiss in the light of Chambers' information concerning him as furnished by Mr. Berle. However, on March 27, 1945, a summary memorandum covering Alger Hiss' background and activities and the allegations of Chambers concerning him were submitted to Frederic B. Lyon of the State Department. The substance of this memorandum had been furnished by Mr. E. A. Tamm on March 24, 1945, to Robert Lynch, Special Assistant to the Secretary of State. (101-2668-9 and 10 and 12)

IV. (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

When interviewed on May 10, 1945, Chambers said that Hiss, who in the meantime had become General Secretary of the United Nations Conference at San Francisco, had met on several occasions with Harold Ware's group and that he had usually attended meetings of the group when they were held at Henry Collins' house. He said that when Hiss went with the Senate (Nye) Committee investigating the munitions industry, he was segregated from the group and had no more official contacts with them. He said, however, that Hiss did meet socially with many of them and was particularly close to John Abt's sister, Marian Bachrack. Chambers further stated that he had no reason to believe that Hiss had broken away from the Communist Party. As a reason for this belief he explained that after he, Chambers, had broken with the Party he had made a special trip to Hiss' home in Georgetown Section, Washington, for the purpose of persuading Hiss to leave the Party. Chambers explained that when he arrived Hiss' wife Priscilla was the only one there, and that while Chambers momentarily excused himself to go to the bathroom he observed Hiss' wife going to the telephone "obviously to get in touch with Party members." Chambers immediately returned to the room and awaited the arrival of Alger Hiss. When Hiss arrived they had dinner together at his home following which Chambers says he talked with him all night in an endeavor to persuade him to leave the Party. Chambers said that with tears streaming down his face Hiss had refused to break with the Communists and had given as his reason for not breaking his loyalty to his friends and principles. Chambers pointed out that in his opinion one of the strongest reasons for Hiss' maintaining contact with the Communist Party was the fanatical loyalty to the Communist Party on the part of his wife.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

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Although no action was immediately taken concerning Chambers' additional information with respect to Hiss, it is to be noted that Hiss was also named by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley on November 7, 1945, as having been involved in a Soviet espionage ring.

Hiss, as a result, became the subject of intensive investigation in the development of the Silvermaster Case. In a memorandum dated November 30, 1945, the Attorney General was furnished information concerning Alger Hiss' alleged connection with a Communist underground group in Washington as furnished by Whittaker Chambers. (65-56402-94)

Since at that time Hiss was still employed in the Department of State information concerning him was again furnished on December 4, 1945, to the Secretary of State in a summary entitled Soviet Espionage in the United States, dated November 27, 1945. (61-3499-198,200)

Since that time numerous memoranda dealing with Soviet espionage activities in the United States furnishing the results of investigation of such activities and in which reference is made to Alger Hiss have been furnished to the White House, the Attorney General and to the interested agencies as will be noted in a memorandum briefing the Bureau's investigation of the Silvermaster Case.

It may be noted that Alger Hiss was interviewed at his request by a Bureau official (Mr. D. M. Ladd) on March 25, 1946. At that time Hiss explained that he wished to clear up any questions that might have arisen concerning his loyalty to the Government, since it had been brought to his attention by the then Secretary of State James F. Byrnes that his name had been mentioned in connection with subversive organizations. Hiss, on this occasion, denied that either he or his wife were ever members of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action. He mentioned the possibility that his wife could have been a member of the League of Women's Shoppers because he thought that some of her friends had been members of that organization. Hiss further emphatically stated that at no time had he been a member of the Communist Party or had any association with it. He further declared that he knew of no friends of his who were members of the Party. Asked whether he had any association with any person or persons who might be members of any subversive organizations which might have caused the belief to exist that he likewise was a member of such organizations, he stated that he knew of no association on his part with any persons which would lead to this conclusion. The results of this interview were made available to both the Attorney General and the Secretary of State on March 25, 1946. (65-56402-1128X)

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It should also be noted that J. D. Whittaker Chambers was interviewed on March 28, 1946, at New York City, with specific reference to Alger Hiss. On this occasion he said he was unable to elaborate on any of the information concerning Hiss' connection with the Communist Party which he had furnished at the time he was interviewed in 1942 and again in 1945 by Bureau Agents. He recalled that after 1937, being no longer actively associated with the Communist Party, he had lost all contact with Alger Hiss. He stated that, as a matter of fact, he had absolutely no information that would conclusively prove Hiss held a membership card in the Communist Party or that he was an actual dues-paying member of the Party even while he was active prior to 1937. He declared that he knew in 1937 Hiss was favorably impressed with the Communist movement and was of the belief that Hiss was then (1946) still of the same beliefs. He indicated he did not have any documentary or substantial proof on which to base this belief and based it solely on comments made by various Washington and New York newspaper writers at the time.

(100-25824-38)

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DONALD HISS

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

A Hatch Act investigation was instituted concerning Hiss on February 17, 1942, at which time Hiss was an employee of the Department of State. The investigation was initiated inasmuch as the Dies Committee had listed Hiss as a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action. During the investigation, an informant advised that the name of Hiss did not, in fact, appear in the active indices of that organization; however, his wife was listed. The investigation disclosed no affiliation with the Communist Party or Communist front groups, and Hiss, in a sworn statement on February 16, 1942, denied that he was a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action and that he advocated overthrow of the Federal Government. The report of the investigation was furnished to the Secretary of State on March 4, 1942, and on March 9, G. Howland Shaw, Assistant Secretary, advised by letter, "Mr. Hiss is a valued employee of the Department and is well and favorably known by various of the higher officers of the Department. There is nothing in the report of investigation which warrants any administrative action and it is believed you will wish so to report to the Congress, exonerating Mr. Hiss from the charge preferred." (101-4300-2 and 3)

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers advised that Alger Hiss and Donald Hiss were also members of the underground organization as secured by Ware. He said these men also left the AAA but remained in the Government service. Donald Hiss was in the Labor Department and Miss Perkins thought a great deal of him. Chambers stated that the Party planned to have Donald Hiss handle the Bridges case in California in view of the influence which he might have. Hiss subsequently went to the Philippine Division of the Department of State. (100-25824-22, page 6)

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau fail to reflect that any investigation was conducted on the basis of this allegation.

III (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes, copies of which were obtained, are set out as follows:

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Donald Hiss
(Philippine Advisor)

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Member of Communist Party with Pressman and Witt -
Labor Department - Asst. to Frances Perkins -
Party wanted him there - to send him -
as arbitrator - Bridges trial -
Brought along by brother -

(100-25824-27)

III (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau fail to reflect that any specific investigation was conducted on the basis of the allegation.

In response to a request by Mr. Fred Lyon of the State Department, a memorandum containing information in the Bureau files was furnished to him on March 31, 1945. This memorandum set forth Chambers' allegations concerning Hiss. (101-4300-4)

IV (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS OF MAY 10, 1945, AND MARCH 28, 1946

During the May 10, 1945, interview with Chambers by New York Agents, Donald Hiss was mentioned as the brother of Alger Hiss, but otherwise was not identified. (100-25824-36) No additional information was furnished in the March 28, 1946, interview. (100-25824-38)

IV (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Bureau files fail to reflect that any investigation was conducted on the basis of Chambers' allegations. However, inquiries concerning Donald Hiss were made in connection with the Gregory investigation. A memorandum dated November 27, 1945, entitled "Soviet Espionage in the United States" was furnished to Brigadier General Harry H. Vaughan, Military Aide to the President, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General on December 4, 1945. This memorandum included the information that Chambers had stated that Donald Hiss, brother of Alger Hiss, was in the Labor Department. Chambers listed a group of persons known to him as being in the underground apparatus of the Communist Party, inasmuch as he had attended meetings where these persons were present. One of these persons named by Chambers was Donald Hiss, and he indicated that the Party wanted Hiss to stay in the Labor Department. (61-3499-198,199) (100-7826-39)

A memorandum captioned "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the United States Government" dated February 21, 1946, was furnished to General Vaughan, the Secretary of State, and the Attorney General on February 25, 1946. This memorandum contained all the information concerning Donald Hiss which had been furnished to the Bureau by Whittaker Chambers. (65-56402-573)

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PRISCILLA HISS
(Mrs. Alger Hiss)

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was conducted concerning the captioned individual prior to the receipt of information from Whittaker Chambers.

II CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Priscilla Hiss was not mentioned by Chambers during the interview with him by Agents of the New York Office on May 13, 1942.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes which were made available to the Bureau in June, 1943 reflected the following:

"Alger Hiss
Assistant to Sayre-CP-1937
Member of the underground Com.-active Baltimore boys-
wife-Priscilla Hiss-socialist-
early days of New Deal."
(100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau failed to reflect that any investigation was conducted concerning Priscilla Hiss on the basis of the reference to her in the Berle notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers during the interview with him by New York Agents on May 10, 1945 discussed his efforts to persuade Alger Hiss to break away from the Communist Party. He stated that after he, Chambers, had broken with the Party he visited the home of Alger Hiss to attempt to persuade Hiss to also break away. Hiss' wife, Priscilla, was the only one there when he arrived and while he momentarily excused himself to go to the bathroom he observed Mrs. Hiss immediately go to the telephone obviously to get in touch with Party members. He immediately returned to the room and awaited the arrival of Alger. Chambers expressed the opinion that one of the strongest reasons for Hiss maintaining contact with the Communist Party was the fanatic loyalty to the Communist Party on the part of his wife. (100-25824-36)

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IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau failed to reflect that any investigation was conducted on the basis of Chambers' allegations and there is no indication that the information furnished by Chambers was distributed to any outside agency prior to the interview with Elizabeth Bentley in the fall of 1945 in connection with the Gregory Case. It is noted that Mr. Berle of the State Department interviewed Chambers in 1939 and the State Department therefore was in possession of the information concerning Priscilla Hiss, the wife of Alger Hiss, a State Department employee.

A memorandum dated November 27, 1945 captioned, "Soviet Espionage in the United States" was furnished to Brigadier General Harry H. Vaughan, Military Aide to the President, to the Secretary of State and to the Attorney General on December 4, 1945. This memorandum included information furnished the Bureau by Chambers relating to Priscilla Hiss to the effect that in his opinion the strongest reason for Alger Hiss maintaining his status with the Party was the fanatic loyalty for the Communist Party on the part of his wife. This memorandum also included information obtained as a result of the Bureau's interview with Elizabeth Bentley in the Gregory Case. (61-3499-198-199; 100-7826-39)

A memorandum dated February 21, 1946 entitled, "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in agencies of the United States Government" was furnished to General Vaughan, Military Aide to the President, the Secretary of State and the Attorney General on February 25, 1946. This memorandum included, in addition to the information furnished by Elizabeth Bentley, all of the information concerning Priscilla Hiss which has been furnished to the Bureau by Whittaker Chambers. (65-56402-573)

No active investigation has been conducted of Priscilla Hiss besides the investigation conducted of Alger Hiss in connection with the Gregory investigation which, of course, included inquiries relative to his wife.

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GRACE HUTCHINS

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I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An investigation concerning Hutchins was initiated in September, 1941, on the basis of information contained in the Bureau files reflecting that she was a Communist Party candidate for Lieutenant Governor of New York in 1938, had written several Communist Party pamphlets, had served as Treasurer for the Communist Party National Campaign Fund, and had engaged in other Communist Party activities. The investigation was continued until January, 1943, at which time it was closed, but was reopened in August, 1943, and was thereafter continued until May, 1946, when it was again closed. However, a report setting forth additional information was submitted on March 12, 1947. The investigation reflected that Hutchins had an income from the Hutchins estate and that she was an active Communist Party member and had frequent contacts with Alexander Trachtenberg and other officials of the Party. Copies of the reports of the investigation were furnished to the Division of Records as received. (100-51757)

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

During the interview with Chambers by New York Agents on May 13, 1942, Chambers discussed the securing of money by OGPU agents. He stated that in his opinion they would usually be traveling with a great amount of money on their person, but that there were those in the Party who acted as financial agents and who supplied such members with money. One of these persons he mentioned as Grace Hutchins. He stated that she was an old Party member and that she was in the inner group of Communists, and that she, along with her colleague Anna Rochester, was a fanatical Communist and trusted members of the Party. Chambers advised that he was told that Grace Hutchins was the chief financial transactor for the Party. (100-25824-22)

II (B). INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As noted above, Hutchins was the subject of investigation at the time of Chambers' allegations and the investigation has failed to reflect that she was the "chief financial transactor for the Party," although it did reflect that she served as Treasurer for the Communist Party National Campaign Fund.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Hutchins was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Hutchins was not mentioned during the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945.

JOHN WILSON JOHNSTONE, was
JACK JOHNSTONE and JOHNSTON

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The first information appearing in the Bureau's files regarding Johnstone is a letter from the State Department dated January 27, 1927, reporting that Johnstone and Earl Browder would be active in a paper called Labor Unity. Another letter dated September 12, 1928, from the State Department requesting investigation to determine if John Wilson Johnstone was identical with Jack Johnstone of the Labor Unity paper. The Federal Bureau of Investigation then instituted an investigation which substantiated that the two men were identical and that Johnstone had been arrested in India on December 18, 1928, where he was attending a Trade Union Congress. It was also revealed that Johnstone as a representative of the Red International of Labor Unions had pledged 25,000 chervontze for organizational work in India. 61-6590-1,2,3,7

Johnstone, according to additional investigation, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on November 21, 1881, and naturalized as a United States citizen on April 14, 1922. He was a District Organizer for the Communist Party in Pittsburgh in 1933. He ran for office as a Communist candidate for mayor in Chicago in 1938 and the Communist candidate for Illinois State Senator in 1940. Johnstone died in New York City on April 18, 1942. 61-6590-25

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 13, 1942

Chambers stated that Jack Johnston was a former Party Organizer in Pittsburgh and was arrested in 1938 or 1929 by the British in India as a Russian Agent.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was instituted on the basis of the above information, it being noted in the letter transmitting this information that Johnstone was known to be dead.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN June, 1943

No information regarding Johnstone is set forth in Berle notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 10, 1945

Chambers did not mention Johnstone during this interview.

Kisseloff-26406

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

By letters dated February 23, March 11, and March 23, 1935, the Danish State Police requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to conduct an investigation of Leon Josephson, George Mink, and Nicholas Sherman, who were then in custody in Denmark charged with expionage. An investigation was instituted concerning Josephson on the basis of the afore-mentioned letters. This investigation reflected Josephson was born June 17, 1898, at Libau, Latvia. Josephson entered the United States at New York City on July 14, 1900, and was naturalized as a United States citizen on April 25, 1921. Josephson was known to have been active in the American Communist movement as early as 1929 when he acted as an attorney for the International Labor Defense in behalf of the Gastonia Textile Strikers who were charged with violence during that strike.

In 1933 Josephson reportedly was in Mansau, France, where he assisted a Soviet agent who was travelling on an American passport. In June, 1934, Josephson was in the United States and assisted Gerhart Eisler in obtaining a false United States passport under the name of Samuel Liptzen. Josephson at a later date admitted obtaining false passports for numerous other individuals during the 1930's. Jay Lovestone in testifying before the House Committee on Un-American Affairs in 1939 stated that in July, 1938, Leon Josephson had been an OGPU Agent who had been behind the stealing of documents from Lovestone's home. In addition to the foregoing, Josephson is known to have remained active in Communist affairs up until his conviction for contempt for Congress on October 15, 1947, in the Southern District of New York. Josephson is presently serving a one year sentence at the United States Penitentiary at Milan, Michigan. 100-48754-1,11,105,123

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 13, 1942

No information was received from Chambers regarding Josephson at this interview.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN June, 1943

No information concerning Josephson was reflected in Berle's notes which were obtained in June, 1943.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 10, 1945

Chambers furnished information concerning George Mink who had been arrested for espionage in Denmark according to Chambers in the early 1930's. Chambers also advised that he knew from responsible accounts that Leon Josephson, owner of Cafe Society, had been involved with Mink in the affair in Denmark. Chambers said that he did not have any knowledge of Josephson's Communist activities.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No active investigation was conducted based upon Chambers' allegations inasmuch as this information was already well known to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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KRAMER

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

None.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

The information about Kramer was furnished by Chambers during the interview with him on May 10, 1945 by New York agents. At that time Chambers related that in approximately 1931 he accepted the position of Editor of the New Masses. He explained he obtained that position mainly because of the Party's desire to "take out Kramer who had been the Editor and had not been going along smoothly with the Party". (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

A review of the Bureau files reflects that during 1930 and 1931 Walt Carmon (not Kramer) was Managing Editor of New Masses. In 1932 Walt Carmon was employed in Russia as Editor of "International Literature". Walt Carmon returned to the United States in 1936. An Internal Security investigation of Walt Carmon was first instituted by the Bureau in February 1943 and continued until January 1947. (100-189899-22,p.3;28)

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CHARLES KRAMER, WITH ALIASES:
Charlie Kramer, Charles Krivitsky
Charles Kreviskey

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

In connection with the investigation of Alexander Stevens, who was later identified as "J. Peters," a collateral inquiry to identify Charles Kramer was conducted in March and April, 1943, based upon the known association of Kramer with Stevens.

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This inquiry disclosed that Confidential Informant [redacted] in February, 1937 identified Charles Kramer as an investigator for the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee. (61-7559-1044)

The files of the Civil Service Commission reflected that Charles Kramer was born on December 14, 1906, and his legal residence was given as New York City, New York. An investigation conducted by the New York Field Division disclosed that from the period of November 1, 1941 to September 30, 1942, Charles and Mildred Kramer occupied Apartment 53, 61 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn, New York. At that time Kramer was employed by the National Labor Relations Board, 120 Wall Street, New York City, and as of September 30, 1942, when Kramer vacated his apartment in Brooklyn he indicated that he was being transferred from New York City to the Office of Price Administration, Sixth and Independence Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C. (100-184255-82)

The Civil Service Commission files previously referred to disclosed that Kramer had been transferred on February 25, 1943, from the New York Office of the National Labor Relations Board to the Office of Price Administration in the capacity of a Principal Economist at a salary of $5600 per annum. On February 26, 1943, one day later, Kramer's status with the OPA was changed to that of Head Economist at $6500 per annum. As of April 16, 1943, Kramer was residing at Long View, Accokeek, Maryland, and daily commuted to Washington, D. C. (100-184255-90)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes made by Berle at the time of his interview with Chambers in

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September, 1939 were obtained from Berle in June, 1943, and disclosed that Chambers named Charles Krivitsky, whose alias he said was Charles Kramer, as a member of the Ware Underground Group. (100-25824-27)

The Berle notes indicated that Kramer was connected with the CIO and that he worked for the LaFollette Committee.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None. Information continued to be received concerning Kramer during the course of the investigation of other Communists.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945 by New York Agents, he named Charles Krivitsky, alias Charles Kramer, John Abt, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlo (later identified by Chambers as Victor Perlo), Alger Hiss, Donald Hiss, _____ Post, Nathan Witt, and an unnamed man described as the husband of Alice Mendham, as members of the Ware Underground Group. Chambers stated that the members of the Ware Group were high-salaried Government employees who were Communist Party members, but that their activities with the Party had ceased when they were transferred to the Communist Party underground. (100-25824-36)

During this same interview with Chambers he related that after Harold Ware's death, he attended a meeting at which John Abt was elected leader of the group. Chambers stated that there were about six men present at that meeting and that to the best of his recollection, they were: Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlo (later identified as Victor Perlo) and Peters (V. J. Peters, alias of Alexander Stevens).

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files at the Defense Homes Corporation, Federal Public Housing Administration, show that Kramer was employed by the Office of Price Administration as Head Economist in the Administrator's Office, and that he had been loaned by the Office of Price Administration to the Sub-Committee of the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

Thomas Scott, a former Bureau Agent who was employed at the Capitol in 1945, advised that the name of Charles Kramer was carried on a list maintained by Senator Kilgore of people borrowed from other Agencies for work on the Kilgore Committee. Kramer's name was on the list for May and June, 1945. During November, 1945, according to Scott, Kramer was serving on Senator Claude Pepper's

Wartime Health and Education Sub-Committee. (Rpt of SA Floyd L. Jones, 11-29-45, at Wash., D.C., in the case "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, was, et al, Esp-R")

An anonymous letter in April, 1944, named Charles Kramer and his wife as members of the Communist underground in Washington. The writer of the letter was later identified as the ex-wife of Victor Perlo, under treatment for insanity, and in a subsequent interview she confirmed the information in the letter about Kramer, and she named Victor Perlo, John Abt, George Silverman, Harry White and Lauchlin Currie, all of whom have figured prominently in the statements of Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, as Communists. She stated that the underground group named by her was originally organized by Hal Ware in 1933. (100-3-60-339)

In addition, information furnished by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley in the Gregory case confirmed the information furnished by Chambers. Bentley recalled that during November, 1943, Jacob Golos stated that through Earl Browder he had recently been placed in contact with a group in Washington, D. C. Early in 1944, Browder arranged a meeting for Bentley with representatives of this group at the apartment of John Abt in New York City. According to Bentley, four individuals who were introduced as Victor Perlo, Charles Kramer, Harry Magdoff and Edward Fitzgerald, as well as John Abt, were in attendance. She stated there was a general discussion as to the type of information which these people, with the exception of John Abt, would be able to furnish. It was apparent to her that these individuals, including John Abt, had been associated together for some time and engaged in furnishing information to Earl Browder. Subsequent meetings were held by representatives of this group in the apartment of Mary Price in New York City and Charles Kramer attended approximately three of these meetings. (65-56402-220)

Investigation, including physical surveillances and technical sources, in the Gregory case disclosed that Kramer was acquainted with the various individuals alleged by Chambers to be members of the Ware underground group. (65-56402-220)

In the early part of 1946, Charles Kramer was in contact with Leon Josephson. Josephson is closely associated with numerous individuals engaged in Communist activity and associated with Communist organizations. In 1935 Josephson was arrested in Copenhagen, Denmark, and charged with espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union. (Technical Surveillance on Charles Kramer) (65-56402-1019)

On May 1, 1946, just before his departure for California to assist Representative Ellis D. Patterson in his primary election campaign there, Charles Kramer was observed to surreptitiously deposit in a refuse can in South Arlington, Virginia, a number of magazines and pamphlets, among which

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were noted the following: Copies of "New Masses"; Copies of the "Communist"; Issues of "Political Affairs" for May, 1945 and March, 1946 edited by Earl Browder; Copies of "Soviet Russia Today"; Pamphlets entitled, "Moscow, Cairo, Teheran" by Earl Browder; "The 16 Soviet Republics", being Molotov's report to the Soviet; "Talk About the Communist Party" by Earl Browder; "Stages in the History of the Communist Party," published by the Workers Library Publishers; "Policy for Victory" by Earl Browder; "Production for Victory" by Earl Browder; "A New Italy Arises" by Giusseppe Berti; "The Crisis in India" by James S. Allen; "Turning Point for the World" by R. Palme Dutt; "Wage Policy in War Production" by Earl Browder; and "Production Front" by Maurice Dobb, M. A.
(65-56402-1187)

A reliable source reported that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kramer received an invitation from the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C., in November, 1946, to attend a reception held annually on November 7th in celebration of the November, 1917 Revolution. (Mail cover on Kramer
65-56402-1918)

Charles Kramer was interviewed by Agents of the FBI on August 27, 1947, in Washington, D. C. When advised of the purpose of the interview he stated that he would rather not discuss it, and he remained extremely uncooperative. (65-56402-2777)

In connection with the Gregory investigation, information about Kramer was furnished at various times to the Attorney General, the White House and other interested Government agencies.

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CHARLES KRAMER, WITH ALIASES:
Charlie Kramer, Charles Krivitsky
Charles Kreviskey

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation of this individual was conducted by the Bureau prior to May, 1945, when information concerning Kramer, based upon the Berle notes, was furnished to the Washington Field Office in connection with the COGOG Case. (100-3-65-1)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes made by Berle at the time of his interview with Chambers in September, 1939 were obtained from Berle in June, 1943, and disclosed that Chambers named Charles Krivitsky, whose alias he said was Charles Kramer, as a member of the Ware Underground Group. (100-25824-27)

The Berle notes indicated that Kramer was connected with the CIO and that he worked for the LaFollette Committee.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945 by New York Agents, he named Charles Krivitsky, alias Charles Kramer, John Abt, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlo (later identified by Chambers as Victor Perlo), Alger Hiss, Donald Hiss, ____ Post, Nathan Witt, and an unnamed man described as the husband of Alice Mendham, as members of the Ware Underground Group. Chambers stated that the members of the Ware Group were high-salaried Government employees who were Communist Party members, but that their activities with the Party had ceased when they were transferred to the Communist Party underground. (100-25824-36)

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During this same interview with Chambers he related that after Harold Ware's death, he attended a meeting at which John Abt was elected leader of the group. Chambers stated that there were about six men present at that meeting and that to the best of his recollection, they were: Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlo (later identified as Victor Perlo) and Peters (V. J. Peters, alias of Alexander Stevens).

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Confidential Informant [redacted] in February, 1937 identified Charles Kramer as an investigator for the LaFollette Civil Liberties Committee. (61-7559-1044) b7D

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In addition, information furnished by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley in the Gregory case confirmed the information furnished by Chambers. Bentley recalled that during November, 1943, Jacob Golos stated that through Earl Browder he had recently been placed in contact with a group in Washington, D. C. Early in 1944, Browder arranged a meeting for Bentley with representatives of this group at the apartment of John Abt in New York City. According to Bentley, four individuals who were introduced as Victor Perlo, Charles Kramer, Harry Magdoff, and Edward Fitzgerald, as well as John Abt, were in attendance. She stated there was a general discussion as to the type of information which these people, with the exception of John Abt, would be able to furnish. It was apparent to her that these individuals, including John Abt, had been associated together for some time and engaged in furnishing information to Earl Browder. Subsequent meetings were held by representatives of this group in the apartment of Mary Price in New York City and Charles Kramer attended approximately three of these meetings. (65-56402-220)

In the early part of 1946, Charles Kramer was in contact with Leon Josephson. Josephson is closely associated with numerous individuals engaged in Communist activity and associated with Communist organizations. In 1935 Josephson was arrested in Copenhagen, Denmark, and charged with espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union. (Technical Surveillance on Charles Kramer) (65-56402-1019)

On May 1, 1946, just before his departure for California to assist Representative Ellis D. Patterson in his primary election campaign there, Charles Kramer was observed to surreptitiously deposit in a refuse can in South Arlington, Virginia, a number of magazines and pamphlets, among which

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were noted the following: Copies of "New Masses"; Copies of the "Communist"; Issues of "Political Affairs" for May, 1945 and March, 1946 edited by Earl Browder; Copies of "Soviet Russia Today"; Pamphlets entitled, "Moscow, Cairo, Teheran" by Earl Browder; "The 16 Soviet Republics", being Molotov's report to the Soviet; "Talk About the Communist Party" by Earl Browder; "Stages in the History of the Communist Party," published by the Workers Library Publishers; "Policy for Victory" by Earl Browder; "Production for Victory" by Earl Browder; "A New Italy Arises" by Giusseppe Berti; "The Crisis in India" by James S. Allen; "Turning Point for the World" by R. Palme Dutt; "Wage Policy in War Production" by Earl Browder; and "Production Front" by Maurice Dobb, M. A.
(65-56402-1187)

A reliable source reported that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kramer received an invitation from the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C., in November, 1946, to attend a reception held annually on November 7th in celebration of the November, 1917, Revolution. (Mail cover on Kramer)
(65-56402-1918)

Charles Kramer was interviewed by Agents of the FBI on August 27, 1947, in Washington, D. C. When advised of the purpose of the interview he stated that he would rather not discuss it, and he remained extremely uncooperative. (65-56402-2777)

In connection with the Gregory investigation, information about Kramer was furnished at various times to the Attorney General, the White House and other interested Government agencies.

Kisseloff-26416

CHARLES KRIEGER

CONFIDENTIAL

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

During the early 1920's, starting in March, 1920, a Charles Krieger was investigated by the Bureau as an I.W.W. leader. However, inasmuch as Chambers did not identify Charles Krieger, it is not known if the Charles Krieger mentioned by Chambers is identical with the Charles Krieger who was an I.W.W. leader. (OG-317834)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED.

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

None.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945 by New York Agents, he related how he had joined the Communist Party - that in the early part of 1924 he contacted a Jewish friend, Sender Garlin, who was then connected with the Russian-American Relief. Garlin introduced Chambers to a man by the name of Charles Krieger (phonetic), who took Chambers to a small Communist Party meeting in the Hudson River District, where Chambers registered as a member of the Communist Party. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

An old 1923 report entitled "Radical Activities - Philadelphia District," states that Charles Krieger, the well-known I.W.W. agitator, spoke at Philadelphia on December 9, 1923. In view of the activities of this Charles Krieger around the time that Chambers knew Charles Krieger in 1924, it is likely that they are identical. However, inasmuch as Chambers merely mentioned a Charles Krieger (phonetic) as the individual who originally took him to a Communist Party meeting in 1924, without furnishing any identifying data about him, and because Chambers did not indicate he had further contact with Charles Krieger, particularly during Chambers' underground activities, no specific investigation of Charles Krieger was instituted as a result of the allegations by Chambers. (61-71-119, P.1)

Kisseloff-26417

HARRY KWEIT

CONFIDENTIAL

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No active investigation of Harry Kweit was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation prior to the information received from Chambers.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 13, 1942

In speaking of water front activities Chambers said he had little information but that first known member of the party connected with the waterfront was Harry Kweit whom Chambers believed was an OGPU or Comintern Agent. The first group organized by Kweit was known as the Seaman's Club.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On the basis of the information from Chambers an active investigation of Harry Kweit was instituted on July 7, 1942. The instructions for this investigation also set forth that Harry Kweit had witnessed a fraudulent passport investigation on November 21, 1929, for Alexander Bittleman, a prominent Communist. It was also noted that Kweit had been sentenced to one year and one day on April 21, 1936 for passport fraud. 100-132479-1

The investigation of Kweit which included a reinterview of Chambers reflected that Kweit was born April 8, 1897, in New York. He entered the United States Navy on April 17, 1918, and received an honorable discharge September 30, 1929. Former Communists have stated that Kweit served on special missions to the comintern in Russia and was active in Communist Party activities among seaman during 1920's. Kweit was ordered to leave India in 1930 by the authorities allegedly because of Communist activity. Kweit had traveled to India on a fraudulent passport obtained in 1929. Kweit had been separated from Amy Schechter, a well known New York Communist, since 1930. Kweit was a licensed radio operator and on November 10, 1942, went to sea as a radio operator on a merchant ship. He was reported lost at sea in the North Atlantic in May, 1943, after the ship he was on was bombed and sunk. 100-132479-10, 14

It might be noted that Gerhart Eisler testified before an Alien Hearing Board in March, 1947, that "Harry" was his contact in the United States who arranged for his fraudulent United States passport in 1934. Leon Josephson in later testimony stated that the Harry referred to by Eisler was Harry Kweit who was dead. 100-132479-22

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

No information was set forth in these notes concerning Kweit.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers advised that Kweit organized a Seaman's Club on the Waterfront in the twenties and that it was a very small affair and never got very far. He added following this that Kweit disappeared and nobody knew where he was or anything about his activities. He added, one day after his break with the Party when he was coming out of the Carnegie Movie House, Kweit came out at the same time. He stated that Kweit looked somewhat like Gerhart Eisler and that he had married a woman who was a Communist Party organizer in the South under the name of Amy Schechter.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted as a result of the above information inasmuch as when obtained Kweit was dead.

LOVELL

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Inasmuch as no first name or identifying data was furnished by Berle concerning this individual, he could not be identified in 1943 with anyone who was mentioned in the Bureau's files, and for the same reason he cannot be identified at this time.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

On page 2 of the Berle notes, in connection with a State Department group, there is the following notation:

"?
(Wadleigh) Wadley - Trade Agreement Section
Lovell - " "
Communist Shop Group
Elinor Nelson - Laurence Duggan - Julien Wadleigh -"
(100-25824-27 page 2 enclosure)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None. See Number I above.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

None.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

Kisseloff-26420

MAN FROM CANADA

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was conducted.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 13, 1942

He furnished no information at this interview.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN June, 1943

There was no information concerning this matter in Berle notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 10, 1945

In connection with his activities as a courier Chambers was asked if he ever contacted other individuals besides those that he had previously mentioned. In connection with Peters, Chambers recalled that on one occasion he was instructed by Peters to proceed to Buffalo, New York, and to take a room in the Statler Hotel and he was told that he would be contacted by a man from Canada who would give him a package which he was to deliver to Peters in New York. He explained that he did go to Buffalo as instructed and that he was contacted in the Statler Hotel by a man that he recalls very vaguely as about 5' 5" in height, in his thirties, with a ruddy complexion. Chambers added that this person did not impress him very favorably and appeared to be very nervous and over cautious. Chambers did not know what the envelope contained which was delivered to him.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to identify the above described person.

Kisseloff-26421

Dr. Isidore Miller
alias Dr. Isador Miller

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

None.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942 Whittaker Chambers stated that Isidore Miller was a chemist and connected with the Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey. Chambers stated that Miller was certainly in Russian circles and that Miller was a friend of Dr. Philip Rosenbliett. (100-25824-22, Page 5)

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No record has been found in the Bureau files of anyone who could be identified with Miller.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

It was reflected in the Berle Notes which were obtained in June, 1943 that Dr. Philip Rosenbliett was connected with Dr. Isador Miller who was described as "Chemist's Club, 41st Street" and was further described as "Chemist, Explosive Arsenal, Picatinny, New Jersey." (100-25824-27, Page 1)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945 Whittaker Chambers advised that Dr. Philip Rosenbliett had mentioned on one or two occasions his connection with a Dr. Isidore Miller, whom he described as a chemist employed by or connected with the Explosive Arsenal at Picatinny, New Jersey. Miller was always referred to by Rosenbliett as Dr. and it appeared to Chambers that Miller and Rosenbliett met often at the Chemist's Club on 41st Street. Chambers stated that he assumed that Miller might be engaged in Communist underground activities. (100-25824-36, Page 5)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: PAUL WILHELM MASSING, was
Karl Billinger;
HEDI TUNE MASSING, wa
Hedi Gumperz

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No active investigation was conducted.

II (A). CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers stated that in Washington there was a man by the name of Laurence Duggin (Duggan) who was not connected with the Communist underground but who, he believed, was connected with the OGPU. Chambers stated that Hedda Gumpertz (phonetic), whom he was told was an Austrian, was a direct contact of Duggin. He stated that Hedda Gumpertz was married to Paul Massing, who had written the book "Fatherland." He stated that Mr. and Mrs. Massing were said to have broken with the Party and were said to be living near Quakertown, Pennsylvania. Chambers stated that he thought these two individuals were connected with the Russian terror apparatus of the OGPU and that in his opinion they did not really break with the party.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On the basis of Chambers' information, as active investigation of Paul and Hedi Massing was instituted on July 6, 1942. This investigation reflected that Hedi Tune Massing was formerly married to Gerhart Eisler, but divorced him in 1926 to become the wife of Julian Gumperz.

Paul Wilhelm Massing is a German alien who was born on August 30, 1902 at Grumbach, Germany. Paul Massing became a member of the Communist Party in 1928. In that year Hedi Massing left Julian Gumperz and is now the wife of Paul Massing. Hedi Massing was first active in Soviet espionage in Europe as early as 1930, later coming to the United States where she was active until 1936. Paul Massing, after coming out of a German concentration camp came to the U. S. in 1933. In November of 1935 he went to Europe to work in the Soviet intelligence under the former Soviet Agent Ignatz Reiss. After Reiss was murdered in 1937 by Soviet Agents, Paul and Hedi Massing were called to Moscow and were interviewed for seven months by the NKVD concerning their work in the Reiss apparatus. They then returned to the United States, having reportedly broken with Soviet intelligence.

Paul and Hedi Massing were extensively interviewed in March of 1947 by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, at which time

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they gave a great deal of valuable information concerning Soviet espionage. They have both continued to be cooperative and valuable in identifying persons engaged in Soviet espionage in the 1930's, up to the present time.
(65-9940-97,100)

Copies of reports concerning the Massings have been sent to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice and dissemination of information received from the Massings has been made available to the other Government agencies.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Mr. Berle's notes reflect the following:

"West European Div'n - Field - still in -
(Levine says he is out went into I.E.O.
Then in Committee for Repatriation
His leader was Hedda Gompertz."

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted based upon Mr. Berle's notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers stated that Duggin had been a close associate of Hedda Gomperts who is presently married to Paul Massing, author of the book "Fatherland." Chambers stated that Duggin's association with Hedda Gomperts, whom he knew to be a Communist, indicated that Duggin might possibly have been a fellow traveler.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted based upon this information. Hedi Massing when interviewed in the Spring of 1947 stated that Duggin had never worked in Soviet Intelligence to her knowledge and was not a Communist insofar as she knew. (65-9940-94)

GEORGE MINK

CONFIDENTIAL

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

By letters dated February 23, March 11, and March 23, 1935, the Danish State Police requested the Federal Bureau of Investigation to conduct an investigation of George Mink, Leon Josephson and Nicholas Sherman, who were then in custody in Denmark charged with Soviet espionage. The Danish authorities stated that Mink had in his possession three American passports which were later found to be United States passports fraudulently obtained. Mink allegedly had been born on April 23, 1899 at Scranton, Pennsylvania, although no such birth record has ever been located. It is believed that he was actually born in Russia. The investigation of Mink reflected he was well known in waterfront and Communist circles, having been to Moscow and having acted as a representative of the Red International of Labor Unions (Profintern). Mink was also reported to have been active during the Civil War in Spain as a Soviet Agent. (61-8648-20)

Mink's whereabouts since 1940 are not known although he has been variously reported as in many cities in the United States, in Russia and most often in Mexico City. (61-8648-65)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers stated that Mink had been very active in a Seaman's Club which had been organized by the Communist Party and which had been under the leadership of Harry Kweit. Chambers said that Mink later took over this organization which thereupon became more active. Chambers believes that Mink was a member of the OGPU terrorist group. He stated that Mink was in this country in 1938 and 1939 and that he believed he was on a mission to assassinate Trotsky. He stated that there was evidence that Mink was active in the OGPU in Spain and had a hand in some murder. He said that Mink was a close friend of Earl Browder and is a nephew of Alexander Losofsky, who was the organizer of the Profintern. He stated that Mink was always a Stalinist which would certainly qualify him for the OGPU. He said that Mink had been one of the Soviet Agents arrested in Denmark in 1935 and that the arrest had been caused by Mink's attempted rape of a chambermaid. He stated that as far as he knew Mink then dropped out of the picture until he reappeared in the United States in connection with the Trotsky assignment.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted on the basis of Chambers' information inasmuch as extensive investigation was already being conducted regarding Mink.

Kisseloff-26425

III CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

No information is contained in the Berle Notes regarding Mink.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers stated that he was acquainted with George Mink and had seen him several times around the offices of the Daily Worker and the Communist Party headquarters in the early 1930's before Mink was arrested in Denmark for espionage. He advised that he had no definite information indicating that Mink had returned to the United States as he had stated during the 1942 interview but observed that the rumor that Mink had returned to the United States in 1938 was so persistent that he believed there must be some basis to it. He said that according to the best of his recollection the rumor was to the effect that Mink had come to the United States in 1938 and had gone to Florida where he had taken a ship to Latin America.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted on the basis of Chambers' allegations as set forth above.

Kisseloff-26426

Mones

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

None.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945 Whittaker Chambers advised that Dr. Philip Rosenbliett had mentioned a very intimate friend of his by the name of Mones. Chambers stated that he believed that Mones had been living in France but was not certain about this. (100-25824-36, Page 5)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No record has been found in the Bureau files of anyone who could be identified with the individual described as Mones.

Kisseloff-26427

MARK MOREN, was.
Mark Moran; Philipovitch;
Mack Moren; Mack Moran

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None.

I. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In the Berle Notes obtained in June, 1943, there appeared the following notations:

"Rosenbliett - in U.S.

"was 'front' behind Mack Moren - existed in Miller's employ - knew Pressman - his alias was 'Cole Phillips' -- Introduced him to Mack Moren, buying arms for Spanish (Loyalist) Government -- Pressman -- as counsel -- helped Moren -- made a flight to Mexico with him; forced down at Brownsville, Texas, in late 1936 or early 1937 -- probably fall of 1936." (100-25824-27, p. 1)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No record has been found in the Bureau files of anyone who could be identified with this individual.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers stated that Mark Moren or Moran was somewhat of a mythical underground character who was heard about in Communist circles during the Spanish Civil War. Chambers stated that he did not know Moren and did not know of any information that would identify him. Chambers stated that on many occasions J. Peters told him about the activities of Moren and had explained to him that he was purchasing arms

and ammunition to be shipped to the Loyalists in Spain. Peters had further advised that Lee Pressman had been accompanied by Moren to Mexico late in 1936 and that a small Texas newspaper had reported both of their names in connection with an airplane accident near Brownsville, Texas. Chambers could not furnish any additional information concerning Moren and stated that he did not believe that Moren had an alias of Philipovitch as had been set forth in the notes of the conversation between Berle and Chambers. (100-25824-36, Page 8)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

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Kisseloff-26429

ELINOR NELSON, was.
ELEANOR NELSON
ELEANOR NELSON PORTER
ELEANOR NELSON SOYRING

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Eleanor Nelson, who is believed to be identical with Elinor Nelson, Eleanor Nelson Porter, and Eleanor Nelson Soyring, has been the subject of Bureau investigation since December, 1940, in connection with an Internal Security - C investigation. In March, 1941, the Attorney General authorized an investigation of Eleanor Nelson at the request of the Secretary of Labor. It was ascertained from the personnel files of the Department of Labor that Eleanor Nelson Porter had been employed by the Department of Labor from August, 1929, until June 30, 1937, when she had resigned as an assistant economic analyst. It was ascertained through discreet inquiry in October, 1941, at the offices of the United Federal Workers of America in Washington, D. C., that Eleanor Nelson was national secretary-treasurer of the UFWA at that time. As a result of this information, the Hatch Act investigation was discontinued. In 1941, Mr. Paul Porter, the husband of Eleanor Nelson from 1933 to 1934, described his former wife as being a Communist.
(101-352-x3,x2,x4,2,17,18)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation concerning the Communist activities of Eleanor Nelson was continued during this period.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In the Berle notes furnished to the Bureau in June, 1943, there appeared the name of Elinor Nelson, and she was described as the treasurer of the Federal Employees Union (Federal Workers Union, CIO - headed by Jake Baker). (100-25824-27 page 2)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation continued concerning the Communist activities of Eleanor Nelson, but the data furnished in the Berle notes pertaining to Elinor Nelson was not included in the investigative reports pertaining to Eleanor Nelson.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

None.

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IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Investigation concerning the Communist activities of Nelson is presently in a pending status and copies of pertinent investigative reports concerning this inquiry have been furnished to the Division of Records in the Department.

Kisseloff-26431

NATHAN PERLOW
(VICTOR PERLO)

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

None

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers advised that Nathan Perlow was a member of the Harold Ware group of the Communist Party underground in approximately 1935. He described Perlow as being associated at that time with the Brookings Institute in Washington, D. C. Chambers also stated that after the death of Harold Ware a meeting was held and at this meeting John Abt was elected the new leader of the group. Chambers stated that he was present at this meeting which took place in the residence of Henry Collins and that to the best of his recollection the following persons were present at this meeting: Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlow, and J. Peters. Chambers further stated that Nathan Perlow had been the other candidate for leader and that he received only one vote. 100-25824-36 p. 11 and 14

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

A search of the Bureau files fails to reflect an individual with the name of Nathan Perlow answering the description set forth by Chambers. In November

Kisseloff-26432

1945 an intensive investigation was initiated concerning the activities of Victor Perlo as a result of information furnished by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley alleging that Perlo was a member of a Soviet espionage ring. 65-56402-220

This investigation reflected that on November 7, 1945, Victor Perlo was employed by the Research Coordinators Staff, Bureau of Progress and Statistics in the Office of the Director of the Civil Production Administration. On December 14, 1945, he transferred to the Division of Monetary Research in the Treasury Department. He resigned from the Treasury Department on or about March 31, 1947. 65-56402-219, 2477

As a result of the information which Elizabeth Bentley furnished in the fall of 1945, a memorandum dated February 21, 1946, captioned "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the United States Government" was furnished to General Harry H. Vaughan, Military Aide to the President, to the Secretary of State and the Attorney General. This memorandum was distributed on February 25, 1946, and contained a summary on Victor Perlo. The summary on Perlo included the information on Nathan Perlow as furnished by Whittaker Chambers. It was pointed out in this memorandum that Nathan Perlow may be identical with Victor Perlo. Chambers advised that Nathan Perlow was an economist and formerly associated with the Brookings Institute in Washington, D. C. The credit records in Washington, D. C., reflect that Victor Perlo was employed at Brookings Institute as a mathematician and reviewer. 65-56402-573

In 1947 Whittaker Chambers was shown the photograph of Victor Perlo and at the time identified Nathan Perlow as being identical with Victor Perlo. 65-56402-2260, page 73

Distribution of information developed through the case entitled "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster" has been furnished to the Attorney General, The White House and other government agencies. The complete listing of this distribution has been set forth previously in connection with the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster investigation. 65-56402-621

Kisseloff-26433

POST
RICHARD HOWELL POST

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

None.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers advised that there was a man by the name of Post, who was obtained to work in connection with the underground movement of the Communist Party. Chambers described Post as an anthropologist connected with skull measurements in the WPA and later became co-editor of the State Department's house organ (State Department's publication). (100-25824-22 page 3)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In the notes furnished to the Bureau in June, 1943, by Mr. Berle, there appeared the name of Post under the heading "State". Post was described as having the editorship of the Foreign Service Journal and was in the Alexandria Unit of the Communist Party, and was in the "underground apparatus." (100-25824-27 page 2)

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers identified Post as the editor in 1939 of the Foreign Service Journal of the State Department. He stated that he first met Post in his home in Alexandria, Virginia, when Chambers addressed a small unit meeting of the Communist underground, of which Post was the leader. He said that this group was one of the newer groups which had been created, and that it was considered very weak on doctrine, and that he had been assigned to give them an "indoctrination pep talk." Chambers stated that to the best of his recollection Post had been employed by the WPA on a project of measuring babies' heads. At the time of Chambers' visit to Post's home, he stated that he was very much surprised to find that Post, a leader of a Communist underground unit, was living in such a sumptuous home. He explained that Post's wife spoke a very rarified form of English, and that they had two negro maids as servants.
(100-2582-36 page 12)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As a result of a State Department inquiry concerning Richard H. Post, that Department was orally furnished information concerning the allegations made by Whittaker Chambers concerning one Post on September 26, 1947. (121-63-1)

On December 29, 1947, a loyalty investigation was initiated on Richard Howell Post, foreign service official in the State Department. The request for report of loyalty data form signed by Richard Howell Post reflected that he was born January 17, 1904, in New York, New York. From May, 1937, to October, 1937, he was employed in the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. From October, 1937, to January, 1940, he stated that he was unemployed, but had a part-time job with the Foreign Service Journal. From January, 1940, to the date of the request (September 3, 1947) it was indicated that Post was employed in the Foreign Service Branch of the State Department. This form indicated that from May, 1937, to May, 1939, Richard Howell Post resided at 212 South Pitt Street, Alexandria, Virginia. (121-63-4)

In connection with the loyalty investigation, Whittaker Chambers was reinterviewed on February 7, 1948, when he again advised that he first met a Mr. Post in the latter's home in Alexandria, Virgina. He stated that this was in approximately 1936, and that he was introduced to Mr. Post at that time by J. Peters. During this interview, Whittaker Chambers was shown a photograph of Richard Howell Post and was asked to identify the photograph in connection with the Post he had previously described. Chambers then advised, "I am not able to recognize or deny that this photograph is a picture of the Post whom I knew to be associated with the State Department, and at whose home in Alexandria, Virginia, I addressed a Communist Party cell. It has been such a long period since I have seen Post that I don't feel able to state that this photograph is a picture of Post." (121-63-27, page 3; 121-63-33)

On May 1, 1948, four copies each of the investigative reports reflecting the results of the loyalty investigation were forwarded to the Civil Service Commission. (121-63-34)

Photostatic copies of these reports are presently being prepared for submission to the Department of Justice.

CONFIDENTIAL

Kisseloff-26435

WEBSTER POWELL, WITH ALIAS:
WEB POWELL

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

In July, 1940 the Los Angeles Office advised that it had received a report from the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office which disclosed that a Mrs. Webster Powel, nee Alice Mendham, and her husband, Webster Powel, were then employed by the Government on the Labor Relations Board. The report stated further that, according to Mrs. Carrie Greene, 820 South Cochran Avenue, Los Angeles, Alice Mendham became interested in Communism at Columbia University, New York City, and that upon completing her course there she inherited a small fortune and went to Moscow, Russia for instructions and training. According to Mrs. Greene, Alice Mendham, while en route to Russia met her husband, Webster Powel, who was en route to Russia for the same purpose. Mrs. Powel reportedly resided at Trotsky's home in Russia for more than a year. Mrs. Greene stated that Mr. and Mrs. Powel had recently passed through Los Angeles en route to San Diego, California, and that due to the Trotsky connection in Russia, she believed the purpose of their trip at that time was to enable Mrs. Powel to contact Trotsky at some nearby place. (61-10404-1)

Photostatic material obtained in 1942 from Walter Steele, of the National Republic Magazine, includes a letterhead of the National Committee to Aid Striking Miners Fighting Starvation, 799 Broadway, New York City, containing a form letter dated in November, 1931. The letterhead set forth the names of a number of individuals, apparently sponsors of the Committee, and one of the names was that of Webster Powell. (100-153571-1 Enc.)

In August, 1940, the San Diego Office advised that Alice Coe Mendham was listed as a Philadelphia member of the Philadelphia Committee of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners in 1934. (61-10404-2)

On November 4, 1941, a technical source disclosed that Miss Alice Mendham asked the Soviet Embassy in Washington for the name of the Washington agent who handled Soviet bonds. According to the source, the inquiry was on behalf of a friend who had such bonds. (65-30092-512)

A membership list of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action in 1941 contained the name, Miss Alice Coe Mendham, Green Acres School, Silver Spring, Maryland, SHephard-5138. (100-4590-9 Page 162)

In 1941 a highly confidential source furnished a list of persons connected with the Capital City Forum, an allegedly radical lecture group in

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the District of Columbia, which included the name Webster Powell, Macsfolly Farm, Silver Spring, Maryland, which indicated that his name was obtained from the contact list of the League of Industrial Democracy. (100-26255-1 P.82)

Copies of correspondence and other material of the United Spanish Aid Committee disclosed in June, 1942 the names of Mr. and Mrs. Webster Powell as persons who were believed to be in the Committee's active indices. (100-7061-124 P.21)

During an interview with Charles E. Persons, Trial Examiner, National Labor Relations Board, Washington, D. C., and Henry J. Kent, also of the NLRB, on January 9, 1943, by an Agent of the Washington Field Office, they referred to a Communist faction in the NLRB and named Webster Powell as one of the NLRB employees in that faction. (62-41918-96)

In January, 1947 a highly confidential source furnished the names in the address book of Henry Hill Collins, Jr. Under a heading of "Foreign" were included two names as follows:

"Web Powell
Alice Powell, Australia" (101-1335-18 P.19)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

None.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

None.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945 by New York Agents Chambers stated that Harold Ware, now deceased, was the leader in 1935 of a group of high-salaried Government employees who were Communist Party members,

but that their activities with the Party had ceased when they were transferred to the Communist Party underground. Chambers recalled the following individuals as members of the Ware Underground Group:

John Abt
Lee Pressman
Henry Collins
Nathan Perlo (later identified by Chambers as Victor Perlo)
Charles Kramer, also known as Charles Krivitsky
Alger Hiss
Donald Hiss
~~Nathan~~ Post Witt
and an unnamed man who was described as the husband of Alice Mendham.

Concerning the latter individual, Chambers stated that he could not recall the name of this man, but remembered him to be a short fellow who was the husband of Alice Mendham, who ran a school on the Virginia side of Washington. He was unable to recall this man well enough to give any physical description of him. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

During an interview with Alger Hiss on June 2, 1947 by Bureau Agents, he stated that he had known Alice Mendham since about 1933 or 1934 when she was running a children's school. He stated that her husband's last name was Powell, but that he could not recall his first name. (65-56402-2530, P.6)

JULIET STUART POYNTZ, WAS.
JULIET STUART POYNTZ GLASER,
JULIET STEWART POINTS, JULIET STUART GLASER,
JULIA GLASER, JULIA POYNTZ

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Juliet Stuart Poyntz was born November 25, 1886 at Omaha, Nebraska, and married Frederick Franz Ludwig Glaser on October 8, 1913. (100-206603-7 p.2)

From 1928 to 1934 Juliet Poyntz was active in Communist Party circles in the vicinity of New York and in 1928 was the Communist candidate for Attorney General of New York. On June 3, 1937, Juliet Poyntz mysteriously disappeared from her quarters at the American Women's Association Club, 353 West 57th Street, New York City. According to accounts appearing in New York papers at that time various reasons were assigned as explanation of why she might have disappeared. The first of these reasons was that she had broken with the Communist Party and was writing a book of memoirs in which she exposed Communism and the inter-working of the Russian Military Intelligence Service. Another reason why she may have disappeared, according to the New York World Telegram, was the fact that she was litigating the estate of her husband, Dr. Frederick Glaser, an economist connected with the German Consulate in New York City. The Daily Worker admitted that Juliet Poyntz had been a member of the Communist Party until 1934 but the Party disavowed any entanglement in her disappearance. (100-206603-3 p. 2)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers advised on May 13, 1942, that he was convinced that Krivitsky was forced to kill himself and that Julia Poyntz was kidnapped and killed by the OGPU. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

An investigation was instituted by the Bureau concerning the disappearance of Juliet Poyntz in 1944 to ascertain whether Juliet Poyntz's disappearance was a real disappearance or one manufactured by the NKVD with the purpose of enabling Juliet Poyntz to function more effectively in the ranks of the NKVD. (100-206602-3 p.2)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

None

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The above mentioned investigation concerning the disappearance of Juliet Poyntz was initiated in 1944. (100-206603-3 p. 1)

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IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS OF MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers' attention was invited to the allegation that he had previously made concerning the disappearance of Juliet Poyntz. Whittaker Chambers stated, at that time, that he did not recall ever making any statement concerning the disappearance of Poyntz and advised that he had never had any information on which to base such a remark. He pointed out that in conversations with many different individuals he had discussed Poyntz's disappearance but that he had never run across any information which he would consider factual or which would constitute a logical lead as to her whereabouts. (100-25824-36 p. 16)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation concerning the disappearance of Juliet Poyntz continued until December 1945 after Elizabeth Terrill Bentley advised that she had never heard of Juliet Poyntz subsequent to her mysterious disappearance and that Jacob Golos had advised her that Juliet Poyntz had been "liquidated." (100-206603-15 p. 1)

The Bureau's files do not reflect that reports on its investigation of Juliet Poyntz were distributed outside the Bureau.

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LEE PRESSMAN
ALIAS LEON PRESSMAN

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An investigation of Lee Pressman, whose correct name is Leon Pressman, was initiated in 1941 upon a review of information in the files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., indicating that Pressman was possibly a member of the Communist Party. 100-11820-1 p. 1

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On May 13, 1942, Whittaker Chambers advised that prior to 1937 he and Harold Ware began to organize the men in the New Deal and to make such individuals a part of the underground organization of the Communist Party. He stated that one of the converts at that time was Lee Pressman of the AAA who had since gone to the CIO on the direct advice of the Party itself. Chambers advised that it was important that Pressman should be Lewis' right hand man. 100-25824-22 p. 3

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The allegations made by Whittaker Chambers on May 13, 1942, were set forth in the report of Special Agent Russell E. White, New York, New York, dated 3-29-43, entitled "Leon Pressman, wa.". A copy of this report was furnished to the Division of Records in the Department of Justice on April 12, 1943. 100-11820-31 p. 2

Investigation conducted as a result of the information furnished by Chambers reflects that the personnel file of Lee Pressman was examined at the Department of Agriculture. This file reflected that on July 13, 1933 Pressman was appointed as Chief Attorney in the AAA at six thousand dollars per annum in Washington, D. C. He resigned this position on February 2, 1935. From July 1, 1935 until June 30, 1939 he held various administrative positions in the Resettlement Administration and the Farm Security Administration. 100-11820-19 p. 3

Subsequent to his government employment he was appointed General Counsel for the National CIO. 100-11820-31

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

The notes obtained from Mr. Berle in June 1943 contained the following

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notations:

> "Rosenbliett - in U.S. was 'front' behind Mack Moren - existed in Miller's employ - knew Pressman - his alias was 'Cole Phillips' - Introduced him to Mack Moren, buying arms for Spanish (Loyalist) Government -- Pressman - as counsel - helped Moren -- made a flight to Mexico with him; forced down at Brownsville, Texas, in late 1936 or early 1937 -- probably fall of 1936."

The notes also reflected that Pressman was in the underground organized by the late Harold Ware. The notes further read as follows: "Pressman was in his group (1932-3?) Pressman then in the AAA," and also reflected that Donald Hiss was a member of the Communist Party with Pressman and Witt. 100-25824-27, p.1&4

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation concerning Pressman continued but the information set forth in the Berle notes was not included in the investigative reports covering the activities of Pressman.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

On May 10, 1945, Whittaker Chambers advised that Mark Moren was somewhat of a mythical underground character who was heard about in Communist circles during the Spanish Civil War. J. Peters had informed Chambers that Lee Pressman had accompanied Moren to Mexico late in 1936 and that a small Texas newspaper had reported both of their names in connection with an airplane accident near Brownsville, Texas. Chambers stated that Lee Pressman was a member of the Harold Ware underground group of the Communist Party and described Pressman as later becoming General Counsel of the National CIO. Chambers advised that after Harold Ware's death a meeting took place in the home of Henry Collins and that John Abt was elected leader of this group. Chambers stated that he was present at this meeting and to the best of his recollection the following persons were present at that time: Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlow, and J. Peters. 100-25824-36, p. 14

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On March 25, 1946, the Washington Field Office furnished the Bureau and New York a summary of the activities of Lee Pressman and this memorandum contained the allegations made by Whittaker Chambers on May 10, 1945. This summary was not furnished to any outside agencies and the allegations made by Chambers on May 10, 1945, have not been included in an investigative report concerning the activities of Pressman. 100-11820-62

The investigation concerning the activities of Lee Pressman is presently in a pending status. According to an article appearing in the February 9, 1948, issue of the CIO News, Pressman resigned as General Counsel of the CIO on February 6, 1948. 100-11820-419, p. 2

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Re: FRANCIS VICTOR RENO, was
Victor Reno, Vincent Reno,
Lance Clark, "Ves".

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Francis Victor Reno was brought to the attention of the Bureau on December 20, 1939 when data was provided by the Intelligence Officer of the Third Corps Area, United States Army, reflecting that this individual was a civilian employee at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland and was reported to have been an active Communist while in college. The Army Intelligence Officer advised that an investigation was then being conducted of Reno, based upon a request by the War Department.

The substance of this information indicated that Reno, while a student at the University of Virginia, had been active in a group known as the National Students League, which was allegedly a Communist organization. The Army had checked with representatives at the University and had been informed that Reno during his student days had been considered an active radical. The Army stated that their investigation had failed to indicate that Reno was engaged at that time in subversive activities and that a report of the investigation had been returned to the War Department without any recommendation.

It was noted that Reno had been employed as a civilian by the Army originally on July 26, 1937 as a mathematician and worked in the computing section of the Ballistic Research Laboratory. The Army file indicated that Reno was born at Salt Lake City on May 14, 1911 and attended the University of Virginia from 1932 to 1935, graduating with a Masters Degree. The information further indicated that the employee had previously worked for the WPA in Washington as an Assistant Statistical Clerk from September 1935 to March 1937. (Victor Reno, according to Army records, had a brother named Philip Reno who was employed by the Social Security Board.) The Army Intelligence officer requested that no investigation be made of Reno by the FBI. No investigation was made of Reno by the Bureau based upon this information.

II CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

This individual was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview on the above date.

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III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes, based upon an interview of Chambers in 1939, contain the following reference to one Vincent Reno, who is apparently identical with Francis Victor Reno:

"Vincent Reno - Now at Aberdeen Proving Grounds -
Computer - Math. Assist. to Col. Zornig
(Aerial bomb sight Detectors)
Formerly CP organizer under alias 'Lance Clark'."
(100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear from the Bureau files that investigation was conducted of this individual based upon the reference in the Berle notes.

However, in the report of the Intelligence Division, Third Service Command, Baltimore, Maryland dated December 15, 1943, a copy of which was furnished the Bureau, the Army set forth the results of its investigation of Francis Victor Reno which in substance disclosed that while taking his Masters Degree at the University of Virginia from 1932 to 1935, Reno was involved in the National Students' League, created considerable agitation on the campus and evidenced general Communistic tendencies. The Army report reflected, however, that during his employment at the Aberdeen Proving Ground from 1935 to the date of the report, there had been no indication of any such tendencies on his part. A recommendation was made in the report to place Reno under further observation and to develop fully his background from 1935 to 1937.

It is to be noted that the Army was provided with a copy of the report prepared by the Baltimore Office of the FBI dated November 1, 1943 reflecting an investigation of Philip Reno, brother of Francis Victor Reno, and indicating that Philip Reno had reportedly been brought to Baltimore, Maryland by Dr. Blumberg to work for the Communist Party. This report also reflected that Philip Reno was associating with known Communists in his position as editor of the official organ of a local labor organization, which had been reported by informants to be Communist dominated. This report also contained information concerning Francis Victor Reno.

(61-7728-2)

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IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

This invididual was not mentioned in the Chambers interview on the above date.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Information was provided by the Baltimore Office on March 1, 1948 concerning Francis Victor Reno in connection with the investigation of loyalty of Government employees. This information indicated that data was available concerning this individual to the Baltimore Office indicating that he was at one time employed by the Aberdeen Proving Ground and making reference to information previously furnished by Army Intelligence. The Baltimore Office also indicated that information had been received on July 21, 1947 indicating that one Lance Clark, whose real name was Reno, had in August, 1936 recruited a confidential informant of the Baltimore Office into the Farmers Labor Party at Cumberland, Maryland. The source stated that a meeting of this party had taken place in the month of September, 1936 at which time the informant learned for the first time that he had in fact joined the Communist Party. Lance Clark upon being questioned concerning this by the informant reportedly stated that the Communists were the spark plugs of the Farmers Labor Party and "what is the difference in a name if the program and aims are identical?"

(121-1765-1

The Baltimore Office was instructed on March 12, 1948 by the Bureau to ascertain immediately whether or not Francis Victor Reno was still an employee of the Government at the Aberdeen Proving Ground.

(121-1765-1)

The Baltimore Office advised on March 20, 1948 that it had determined from Army authorities that on July 16, 1947 Reno had become ill and had subsequently been moved to a hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. The last report had indicated that his condition was extremely critical and his recovery was questionable.

(121-1765-2)

On March 31, 1948, the Bureau advised the Baltimore Office that in view of these circumstances, no further investigation should be conducted but that arrangements should be made with the Army Intelligence authorities at the Aberdeen Proving Ground to advise immediately in the event Reno returned to active service with the Government.

(121-1765-2)

Re: PHILIP RENO, alias Phil Reno

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I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

On August 13, 1941 the Washington Field Office advised the Bureau in connection with the Hatch Act that Philip Reno, an employee of the Social Security Board, had reportedly appeared on the mailing or membership lists of the American Peace Mobilization, Washington, D. C.

(101-1634-1)

On August 27, 1941 a memorandum was forwarded to Mr. Matthew F. McGuire, Assistant to the Attorney General, setting forth available information concerning Reno in accordance with the existing Congressional instructions and requesting whether investigation should be conducted. It is noted that the information provided in addition to the data concerning possible affiliation with the American Peace Mobilization that in August, 1936, information was submitted to the effect that Philip Reno, Social Security Board Lodge No. 245, was reportedly a Communist or a sympathizer of that movement. In addition, it was reported that one Philip Reno, according to a confidential source, employed by the Social Security Board, Washington, D. C., was a close associate in the Communist activities of one Sam Dean, who was described as being a Communist. Also included was a report by a confidential source received during December, 1940, that Philip Reno, employed by the Social Security Board, Washington, D. C., was allegedly the Communist Party organizer for the Federal employees in Washington, D. C. This same source stated that Reno addressed a Communist meeting at the Rubber Workers Hall, Cumberland, Maryland during the summer of 1939 and that the meeting was allegedly for members and perspective members of the Communist Party. The informant advised that Reno's presence at such a meeting would definitely indicate his membership in the Party although he had not definitely stated he was a Communist.

(101-1634-1)

On November 12, 1941, available information was likewise forwarded to Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special Defense Unit, Department of Justice.

(101-1634-2)

Investigation in connection with the Hatch Act as reported by the Washington Field Office on February 9, 1942, indicated that Philip Reno was employed by the Social Security Board of the Federal Security

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Agency from April 27, 1936 to that date. His name appeared on the Dies Committee list as a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action. It was also confidentially reported that the name of his wife, Ruth Reno, appeared on the active indices of this organization and that the names of both Reno and his wife appeared on the active indices of the American Peace Mobilization, later known as the American Peoples Mobilization. The auto registered to Reno was observed in the vicinity of an anti-conscription meeting of the American Peace Mobilization on September 4, 1940. Informants further revealed that the intimates of Reno are also identified with either one or both of the aforenamed organizations and among these are two individuals reported to be known Communists. Ruth Reno, wife of Philip Reno, was reportedly employed until May, 1941 as the private secretary of Sidney R. Katz, who was allegedly one of the leaders of the Communist movement in the District of Columbia.

(101-1634-9)

Further investigation by the Denver, Colorado Office indicated that Reno had been transferred to the Social Security Board, Denver Regional Office on February 3, 1941. Available informants advised that it was not definitely known whether Reno was a member of the Communist Party but was reported at least sympathetic with its views.

In accordance with the established procedure for conducting Hatch Act investigations, Reno was interviewed by a Bureau agent at Denver, Colorado on March 16, 1942. Under oath he denied past or present membership in the Communist Party, but declined to answer questions on whether he was a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, American Youth Congress, American Peoples Mobilization or the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

(101-1634-11)

Reno also denied having addressed a Communist Party meeting at Cumberland, Maryland or a Communist meeting anywhere at any time and further denied attending an anti-conscription meeting of the American Peace Mobilization.

(101-1634-11)

On April 24, 1942, the results of the investigation conducted concerning Philip Reno were forwarded to the Honorable Paul V. McNutt, Administrator, Federal Security Agency, Washington, D. C., requesting advice as to the ultimate disposition of this case.

(101-1634-12)

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By letter dated July 7, 1942, the Bureau was informed by the Federal Security Agency that the employee, Philip Reno, had been exonerated and no further action was being taken.

(101-163444)

On September 1, 1942, copies of reports in connection with the Hatch Act investigation were forwarded to Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special War Policies Unit of the Department of Justice.

(101-1634-16)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

This individual was not mentioned in the Chambers interview on the above date.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

These notes contain the following references to Philip Reno:

"Philip Reno - in Social Security (??) -
was head of Underground Trade Union Group
Political leader.

"Reno connected with Baltimore Party
organizer - Benjamin (Bundey) Friedman
alias Field - then California - then Russia
- now organizer for Baltimore & Washington
of Above-Ground Party - Underground connections."

"S.E.C. -
"Philip Reno - used to be."

(It would appear that the information set forth above concerning Reno's connection with the Baltimore Party organizer, Friedman and the ensuing information concerning California, Russia, etc., refers to the activities of Friedman rather than Reno. See another section of this memorandum relative to Benjamin Friedman).

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Although it appears that no specific investigation was made

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based upon references in the Berle notes concerning Philip Reno, active investigation was re-instituted concerning this individual in May, 1943 when Reno was reported to have left the Government service in Denver, Colorado and obtained employment with a labor organization in Baltimore, Maryland. Investigation by the Baltimore Office indicated that Reno was closely associated with a number of prominent Communist figures in the Baltimore area and Reno himself was reported by informants to be believed to be a Communist due to his adherence to the Communist line and association with known members of the Party.

(61-1634-22)

A report in November, 1943 indicated that information had been received reflecting that Reno had been brought to Baltimore by Albert Blumberg, National Legislative Representative of the Communist Party and was continuing his association with known Communists in the Baltimore area.

(101-1634-28)

Reno returned to Denver, Colorado from Baltimore in October, 1943. In Denver, Reno obtained employment with the Denver CIO Council and was reported to be in frequent contact with officials at the Communist Political Association Headquarters in Denver.

(101-1634-29, 34, 35)

While in Denver he was known to have been contacted by two prominent National Communist figures, John Williamson and Lem Harris.

(101-1634-39)

During 1945 and early 1946 Reno held a number of non-governmental positions, primarily with labor organizations and continued his close contact with Communist Party officials in Denver, Colorado.

(101-1634-52)

It was reported that Reno attended the Communist Party State Convention on May 18, 1946 and the Communist Party State Board meeting on July 5, 1946 at Denver, Colorado. He continued, according to information received, to meet with Communist Party functionaries.

(101-1634-53)

A summary of evidence concerning the Communist activities of Reno was submitted on February 6, 1947 indicating that information had been received reflecting that Reno was then a member of the State Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Colorado and outlined further his

Communist Party associations and affiliations, including information which was developed showing that Reno had endeavored to recruit an individual to join the Communist Party in December, 1942.

(101-1634-56)

Reno attended the Rocky Mountain Conference of the Communist Party on October 11, 1947 at Denver, Colorado. He was reported to have left Denver for New Mexico. Information was developed indicating that Reno was being criticized by Communist Party officials in Denver for possible factionalism.

(101-1634-61)

Investigation verified Reno's residence in Santa Fe, New Mexico and Albuquerque, New Mexico and return to Denver, Colorado in April, 1948. Informants reported that Reno had been expelled from the Communist Party at Denver, Colorado on June 28, 1948 for factional activities.

(101-1634-66)

In this connection it has been reported that possibly Reno has joined a nation-wide group of former members of the Communist Party who were expelled from the Party for so-called factionalism and who are believed to have been planning the ouster of present leadership of the Communist Party. These individuals included such former prominent Communist members as Lyle Dowling, Vern Smith and Harrison George.

(101-1634-63)

Pertinent reports reflecting the results of the investigation of Philip Reno have been currently made available to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice.

IV CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Philip Reno was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview conducted on the above date.

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ANNA ROCHESTER

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An investigation was initiated by the New York Office in April 1941 concerning Anna Rochester, 85 Bedford Street, New York City, as she was being considered for custodial detention. This investigation reflected that the Daily Worker for May 8, 1940, page 4, reflected that Anna Rochester was a member of the Communist Party. (100-12805-4 p. 2)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers advised on May 13, 1942, that in his opinion OGPU agents would definitely be traveling with a great amount of money on their person but that there were those in the Party who acted as financial agents and who supplied such members with money. He mentioned one of these members was Grace Hutchins. He described her as being an old Party member and was in the inner group of Communists. He stated that Grace Hutchins along with her colleague Anna Rochester were fanatical Communists and trusted members of the Party. Chambers advised that he was told that Grace Hutchins was the chief financial transactor for the Party. (100-25824-22 p. 6)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On August 4, 1942, the Bureau instructed the New York Office to reopen the investigation concerning Anna Rochester and it was specifically pointed out in this letter that Anna Rochester was referred to by Whittaker Chambers as a fanatical Communist and trusted member of the Party. It was subsequently ascertained by New York that Anna Rochester was born March 30, 1880, in New York City, according to the New York Board of Health. From 1912 to 1915 Anna Rochester was publications secretary of the National Child Labor Committee and from 1915 to 1919, she was a publications worker for the U.S. Childrens Bureau. In 1922 she was a joint author with Grace Hutchins of "Jesus Christ and the World Today." Subsequent to 1928 she was a research worker and writer with the Labor Research Association. Her Party membership was designated as "Communist." Anna Rochester has not been employed by the U.S. Government since 1919. (100-12805-10 p. 2) (100-12805-8)

[redacted] apartment of Anna Rochester advised that she resided with Grace Hutchins and that Rochester and Hutchins maintained a very extensive library with books of interest to the Communist Party. The Whittaker Chambers' allegations were not included in the investigative reports concerning Anna Rochester. (100-12805-10 p. 14) b7D

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

None

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III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Instant investigation was continued to ascertain the Communist Party activities of Anna Rochester. (100-12805-19 p. 1)

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

None

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation concerning the activities of Anna Rochester was continued until May 1, 1947, when this case was placed in a closed status. Copies of the pertinent reports in instant investigation have been furnished to the Department. (100-1285)

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Re: DR. PHILIP ROSENBLIETT

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I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Initial inquiry concerning Dr. Philip Rosenbliett was made by the Bureau in connection with the investigation of Moische (Maurice) Stern, was, etal, Espionage. It was reported in connection with this investigation that on August 3, 1935, Lydia Stahl, a Soviet Espionage Agent who was convicted in Paris, France, had sent Ingrid Bostrom to see a Dr. Philip Rosenbliett, a dentist whose office was then on the sixteenth floor at 1440 Broadway, New York City, residence, 143 West 87th Street, New York City, for the purpose of informing him that Lydia Stahl wanted to leave the United States.

Investigation in the same case indicated that on the afternoon of September 8, 1931, on the day which subject, Stern obtensibly obtained secret plans from an informant in the case was observed while under surveillance to go to an office on the sixteenth floor at 1440 Broadway, New York City.
(61-6670-19, page 21)

Later, in connection with the investigation of Nicholas Dozenberg, an admitted Soviet Espionage Agent, Dozenberg was interviewed on February 26, 1940, and stated that in 1929 or 1930 there was a doctor's office in New York City where money was brought in from Russia by German seaman couriers. This money was to be used by Soviet Espionage Agents in the United States. According to Dozenberg, this office of the dentist was also a place where people coming to the United States could be met and where they received assignments. Dozenberg was first taken to this office by Alfred Tilton whom Dozenberg understood was then in charge of operations in the United States.

During an interview with Dozenberg at the Lewisburg Penitentiary in June, 1940, by a Bureau agent it was learned from Dozenberg that the dentist referred to was named Rosenbliett. (61-6670-19)

Dozenberg further alleged that Rosenbliett was a financial agent for Expionage Agents in the United States. Investigation of Rosenbliett determined that his full name was Dr. Philip Rosenbliett and that he had been practicing dentistry in New York City since October 1, 1917, and that his license had been renewed annually until 1936. Inquiry further reflected that Rosenbliett was born in Russia, November 3, 1895, and had received his degree in dentistry from the New York College of Dental and Oral Surgery in 1917.
(61-6670-24)

A check of the building at 1440 Broadway indicated that Rosenbliett had maintained an office in room 1657 from May 1, 1930 to April 19, 1935, at which time he informed the rental agent that he was returning to Russia to

attend to business. He left no forwarding address. It was further determined that Rosenbliett is still the owner of a rooming house at 89 West 118th Street, Harlem, New York, and his affairs in the United States were being managed by Harold Klein, 342 Madison Avenue, an attorney, and his brother-in-law, Dr. Morris Greenberg. (61-6670-26)

Further information developed that Rosenbliett had immigrated to the United States in September, 1905, and was naturalized at New York City on May 3, 1910. On June 18, 1936, Rosenbliett obtained an American passport to include his wife for the professed purpose of visiting England, France, and Austria. The exact whereabouts of Rosenbliett were not determined. (61-6670-30)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

On the above date Chambers advised Bureau agents in discussing Isidore Miller who was a chemist and connected with the Picatiny Arsenal in New Jersey that Miller was evidently in Russian circles because a common friend, Dr. Philip Rosenbliett, who was formerly a dentist on Broadway, was an old member of the Party and judging from the things he told Chambers was in the OGPU for many years. Chambers advised that Dr. Rosenbliett went back to Moscow and he has heard nothing about him since. (100-25824-26)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation was conducted in connection with Rosenbliett based upon the above statement by Chambers inasmuch as information of a more specific character had originally been received by the Bureau in connection with the Dozenberg and Stern cases, concerning which inquiry had indicated that Rosenbliett had departed from the United States.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN June, 1943

The following is an exact copy of information set forth concerning Rosenbliett in the Berle notes based upon the interview with Chambers in 1939.

London — Underground Espionage Agent

(1) Dr. Philip Rosenbliett - Formerly of (41st St. & B'way, NE)
Dr. Greenberg - MD (West 70th NY
Brother-in-law
American leader of British Underground C.
Head in America Mack Moren (alias Philipovitch
- allegedly Yugoslav) -
real name - ?

Kisseloff-26454

Rosenbliett - U.S.
connected with Dr. Isador Miller - Chemist's Club - 41st St.
Chemist, Explosive Arsenal, Picatinny, N.J.
was "front" behind Mack Moren existed - in
Miller's employ
Knew Pressman - his alias was "Cole Philips" -
Introduced him to Mack Moren, buying arms
for Spanish (Loyalist) Gov't. -
Pressman - as counsel - helped Moren - made
a flight to Mexico with him; forced down
at Brownsville, Tex. in late '36 or early
'37 - probably fall of '36.

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Investigation was not made of Rosenbliett based upon the information of Berle notes by reason of previous investigation as cited above. However, the investigation of his connections with Soviet Intelligence in the United States were again instituted and were being handled at the time of the receipt of the Berle notes based upon information received in March, 1941, from [redacted] in connection with the case of Ernst Czuczka, was, etal, Espionage [redacted] b7D R. This case developed when one Rubin Glucksmann was interned by the [redacted] authorities in England in May, 1940, and an examination was made of his books and records based upon operations of a firm known as the Far Eastern Fur Trading Co., of London. This examination reflected that this firm had close connections with a firm in Germany, Wostwag, Berlin, which was known to be a cover organization utilized by Soviet Intelligence. The London company also had connections with a known Soviet Espionage cover firm in France. Among the papers of the firm were found references to the name of Ernst Czuczka. The [redacted] advised that Czuczka and his brother had departed for the United States in the fall of 1940. (65-35048-2)

Investigation in connection with this case reflected that Czuczka's brother advised that the former had himself been formerly associated with Wostwag, Berlin. Glucksmann who was further interviewed by the [redacted] admitted that he had been in contact with Dr. Philip Rosenbliett in Paris in 1937 and that Rosenbliett was one of the directors of Wostwag, Berlin. (65-35048-23)

Investigation at New York looking toward the possible location and connections of Rosenbliett in this country was again negative, it being determined that he had reportedly departed from the United States in 1936 and left his business affairs in the hands of his brother-in-law, Dr. Morris Greenberg, 143 West 87th Street, New York City. (65-35048-35)

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 10, 1945

Chambers when interviewed by Bureau agents on the above date recalled that on an occasion when he needed dental work in the middle thirties he

received a recommendation from "Peter" (Alexander Stevens) to Dr. Philip Rosenbliett who maintained offices at Broadway and 41st Street, New York City. Chambers added that he gained the impression that Rosenbliett was the regular Communist Party dentist in New York and from conversation with "Peters" understood him to be an old reliable party man who might be connected with the underground apparatus and also with Russian Intelligence. He added that he did not believe that Rosenbliett was actually a participant in Espionage activity but that he did furnish his office as a meeting place for individuals who desired to converse secretly. In fact, he told Chambers on several occasions that the Russians referred to his office as "Rafka", meaning a roof of shelter for clandestine meetings. Chambers said he visited Rosenbliett's office on numerous occasions and became very friendly with him. In connection with their conversation Rosenbliett talked about his brother-in-law, Dr. Greenberg, and also mentioned connections with Dr. Isidore Miller. Chambers further recalled that Rosenbliett had occasionally mentioned some very intimate friends of his who at that time were teaching in a college at Tientsin, China. He recalled from the manner in which Rosenbliett talked about them that it was his impression that they also might be engaged in Communist underground activities. In this connection he stated that he had learned from various sources which he could not recall that Rosenbliett left the United States to return to Russia sometime in 1936 or 1937 and that he had never heard from him or about him since and supposed that he had been liquidated.

Chambers described Rosenbliett as follows: age, 50 in middle 30's; height, 5'9", build, slim; weight, 160 pounds; hair - was unable to recall; characteristics, very vain, talkative, indiscreet.

(100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation was conducted of Rosenbliett based upon the information given by Chambers in the above interview. More specific data had previously been received concerning Rosenbliett and investigation of his activities in connection with other pending Soviet Espionage investigation was then being conducted. It will be noted in this connection that the Bureau investigation showed more conclusively that Rosenbliett was in fact deeply implicated in espionage activities in this country.

Kisseloff-26456

AMY SCHECHTER

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS.

Active investigation of Amy Schechter, whose complete name is Amy Esther Schechter Safford, was initiated by the New York Office in November, 1942. The subject, commonly known as Amy Schechter, was determined to have been the former wife of Harry Kweit, a known Communist agent, (now deceased) and the investigation of Schechter grew out of the Kweit inquiry. (100-134371-1x)

Investigation determined that Schechter was born at Cambridge, England on August 4, 1898, of Rumanian-German parentage and entered the United States at New York City in 1902, and claimed citizenship by reason of the naturalization of her father. She was educated in the public schools, at Barnard College in New York City, married Harry Kweit in 1924, and was separated from him in 1930. Schechter visited the Soviet Union from June, 1930 to June, 1932, reportedly as a writer and teacher of English but allegedly at the same time attended the Lenin School in Moscow. (100-134371)

Continued investigation reflected that Schechter had been active in the Communist Party movement since the early 1920's and received notoriety as an active member of the National Textile Workers Union at Gastonia, North Carolina. She was indicted for inspiring a strike during the spring and summer of 1929, which resulted in the fatal shooting of the Chief of Police of Gastonia on June 7, 1929. This indictment against Schechter was subsequently dismissed. Schechter was then associated with Fred Erwin Beal, leader of the Gastonia strike, who was convicted of second degree murder in connection with the foregoing incident and who escaped to the Soviet Union. Beal has subsequently testified, after breaking with the Communist Party and returning to the United States, of the Communist inspiration and conspiracy in connection with this incident. (100-134371-22)

Schechter is presently a member of the Communist Party at San Francisco, California. Investigation indicates that she is still closely associated with a number of prominent figures in the Communist Party movement in the United States. (100-134371-28)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942.

Amy Schechter was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview on the above date.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943.

Schechter's name was not included in the Berle notes.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

Chambers, when interviewed on the above date in discussing the activities of Harry Kweit (see section on Kweit in another part of this memorandum)

stated that Kweit married a woman who was a Communist Party organizer in the South under the name of Amy Schechter. (100-25824-36)

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation was conducted on the basis of the Chambers allegations concerning Amy Schechter inasmuch as there was already an intensive investigation being conducted by the Bureau of this individual and this information had already been developed.

The case on Amy Schechter was closed in a report by the San Francisco Office on March 14, 1946, inasmuch as the subject's Communist Party activity was not believed sufficient to warrant a continued investigation. (100-134371-28)

Reports in the Schechter case have been distributed to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice.

Kisseloff-26458

GERTRUDE SCHILBACH, was
Gertrude Schildbach, Gertrude
Neugebauer, Gertrude Neugenbauer

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No active investigation of Gertrude Schilbach was conducted prior to Chambers' allegations.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 13, 1942

Chambers in speaking of what he termed an OGPU Terrorist Group stated that an agent by the name of Rice who broke with the Party and was denounced by them was murdered in Lausanne. According to Chambers this murder was carried out by means of a girl who had been a member of the Rice family for years and had thereafter become a member of the Terrorist Group when she brought him into ambush. Chambers advised that he does not know the name of this woman but that she was in the United States in 1939 ostensibly on her way to China.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No active investigation was conducted based upon Chambers' allegations. He is referring in speaking of Rice to Ignace Reiss, a former Chief of the Soviet Intelligence Service, who was machine gunned to death on a highway near Lausanne, Switzerland, on September 4, 1937. The Soviet Agents found to be responsible for the actual murder by the French and Swiss Police were Gertrude Schilbach and Roland Abbiate. Gertrude Schilbach is apparently the girl of the Rice family of whom Chambers speaks. According to [redacted] b7D Gertrude Schilbach was born June 23, 1894, in Strasbourg, Germany. She was the former mistress of Reiss. No information has been received verifying that she was ever in the United States in 1939 ostensibly on her way to China. 100-342424-38; 100-35015-14

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

No information concerning this matter was set forth in the Berle notes obtained in June, 1943.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON May 10, 1945

No information concerning this woman was received from Chambers on May 10, 1945.

CONFID

RE: WILLY SCHLAMM

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

[redacted] Information was furnished to the Bureau by Confidential Informant of the New York Office concerning Willy Schlamm in a report dated February 6, 1943. This report indicated that Schlamm had written a book entitled "Die Diktatur Der Luege" (Dictatorship of the Lie), which was a 158 page volume published in Germany at Zurich, Switzerland in 1937. Informant stated he had reviewed the book and found it to be a passionate anti-Soviet polemic reflecting Schlamm's violent reaction to the first Moscow Purge trial of 1936. The informant pointed out that Schlamm defended himself against being called a Trotzkyite but did not mention his former Communist connections. The informant observed that previous reports on Schlamm's former promotions of the Communist line were based upon the contents of magazines he edited in Europe during the 1920's and 1930's. The present book, reviewed by the informant, indicated a close familiarity with Communist activities which the informant observed, while not being conclusive proof of former Communist affiliation, indicates a question as to where he acquired his intimate, inside knowledge. b7D

The informant suggested the possibility that Schlamm would make a good source on Communist activities by reason of his knowledge of the situation. (100-88151-2)

The New York Office, by letter dated February 12, 1943, with reference to Willy Schlamm, observed, with respect to the information provided by Confidential Informant [redacted] that the New York Office had been aware of Schlamm's possibility as a source of information since January 31, 1941, at which time he was contacted by Special Agent George J. Starr at the residence of Benjamin Gitlow. [redacted] (100-88151-2)

II. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Willy Schlamm was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview by Bureau agents on the above date.

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

Willy Schlamm was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

Kisseloff-26460

IV (a) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945.

In discussing Gerhard Eisler who was known to Chambers as "Edwards" Chambers stated in the interview by Bureau agents on May 10, 1945, that he did not know Eisler's true identity until approximately a year before that date. He stated that while talking to Willy Schlamm, an editor of Fortune Magazine who had formerly been a Communist Party leader in Austria and who had known Eisler very well in Europe, Schlamm remarked to Chambers that he had met Eisler about a year before in Grand Central Station. He told Chambers about this meeting with Eisler and informed him that Eisler's Communist Party name was "Edwards". (100-25824-36)

IV (b) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was made of Willy Schlamm by reason of the reference to him in the Chambers interview of May 10, 1945. It will be noted that Chambers merely cited Schlamm as a source of information in identifying Eisler as "Edwards". [redacted] b7D [redacted] no investigation was believed justified.

Kisseloff-26461

Re: AGNES SMEDLEY, was.,
Agnes Brundin, Marie Rogers,
M. A. Rogers, Alice Bird, Mrs. Petroikos

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Bureau's files reflect that Agnes Smedley, an American citizen, has for many years been well known by reason of her championship of the Communist cause in the Far East. Smedley has written a number of books which have received wide circulation supporting the Chinese Red Army, and the building of the Chinese Soviet territories in North China. Bureau files indicate that information has been received from various sources dating back to 1918 when Smedley and others were indicted in New York City for a violation of the espionage statutes in connection with her activities in supporting British Indian insurrectionist groups. These indictments were subsequently dismissed.

(61-6580-9)

Active investigation of Smedley was instituted by the Bureau by instructions to the field on October 25, 1944, based upon information received from censorship intercepts, indicating that Smedley, then residing at Saratoga, New York, was in communication with a number of known German Communists associated with the Free Germany Movement in Mexico City.

(61-6580-2)

The investigation of Smedley since 1944 has continued until the present time.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No mention was made of Agnes Smedley in connection with the interview of Chambers on the above date.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

The name of Agnes Smedley was not contained in the Berle notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

When interviewed on the above date by Bureau agents, Chambers in

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discussing his knowledge of Gerhart Eisler, who was known to Chambers at the time as "Edwards," stated that he recalled that some time during 1936 he had learned that Agnes Smedley, well-known writer and author of the "Battle Hymn of China" and other works, was in New York City. Chambers stated that he had advised "Peter" (Alexander Stevens, was.,) that he would like to meet her. Chambers stated that "Peter" had advised him that he could arrange a meeting for him with Smedley and told him to go to an automat somewhere in the East 70's. Chambers advised that Agnes Smedley had arrived at the automat before him and was sitting at a table and that when he introduced himself to her she refused to speak to him. Chambers explained that he identified himself to her as a Communist and she then consented to talk with him but first made the remark: "I thought I was going to meet Edwards."

Chambers was asked whether or not he had any knowledge of Communist Party affiliation on the part of Smedley and he pointed out that he did not have any actual evidence, but everybody knows she is a Communist. He stated, "There is absolutely no question about it."

He recalled that "Peter" had close contact with her and that she was always "hanging around" the ninth floor of Communist Party Headquarters. He added that she may never have held a Communist Party membership book, but that if she did not, it would merely be because the officials of the Communist Party had believed her to be of more value to them if her party affiliations were not definitely established.

With regard to Smedley, Chambers recalled that at the time that Browder was sent out to the Far East, there was a story current in Communist Party circles in New York City to the effect that Browder had carried numerous large denomination bills and that when he arrived in Manila he had been forced to cash a $1,000 bill and that the officials at the bank had tipped off the proper people who had placed Browder under surveillance after he left Manila for China. He stated that the rumor indicated was to the effect that in Canton or Nanking Browder gathered together a group of high Communist Party officials at a most secret meeting and that one of the participants at this meeting was Agnes Smedley's Chinese husband. He added that the Nanking police surrounded the house and raided it and arrested the whole group. Chambers could not recall the source of his story.

(100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear from a review of the files that any specific investigation was conducted concerning the activities of Smedley, based

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upon the allegations received in the aforeoutlined interview of Whittaker Chambers. It will be noted, however, that an analysis of the information furnished by Chambers indicating the general acceptance of Smedley as a Communist Party tool was well known by reason of information available to the Bureau prior to the receipt of these data.

The continuing investigation of Agnes Smedley indicated her to be active in propaganda work in the United States , for the most part in lecturing and publishing books and articles supporting the Chinese Communist movement. Investigation also indicated that Smedley was contacted by Dr. Tung Ti-Wi, Chinese Communist Delegate to the San Francisco Conference of the United Nations, at Saratoga Springs.

(61-6580-16)

In October, 1947, information was received from Military Intelligence Division indicating that Agnes Smedley was closely implicated in the so-called Sorge Red Army espionage network in Japan and China during the period of 1933 to 1941. Dr. Richard Sorge, together with other principals in the network were executed or given long prison sentences by the Japanese courts. It was noted that Smedley, who was during this period an American Journalist and correspondent in China and Japan, was believed to have been active in the network and is reported to have recruited one of Sorge's principal Japanese agents. This information would indicate that Smedley was active in Red Army Intelligence from approximately 1930 to at least 1934.

(61-6580-32)

[redacted] who has broken b7D with the Soviets and is now a confidential informant of the Bureau, has indicated that she met Smedley in Moscow in 1931 and suspected that Smedley was then being prepared for an assignment in China for the Comintern. Although the informant had no specific information as to whether in fact Smedley knew she was being used by the Comintern, she was certain that Comintern representatives and/or Soviet intelligence used her for her contacts and knowledge of the Far East. [redacted] likewise stated that to her personal knowledge, Dr. Richard Sorge, Red Army Intelligence agent in China and Japan, was acquainted with Smedley.

(61-6580-35)

Further information concerning Smedley's implication in the Sorge espionage ring have been requested of the Intelligence Division of the Army.

Reports reflecting Bureau investigation of Smedley have been distributed to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice.

CONFIDENTIAL
Kisseloff-26464

Re: JESSICA SMITH, wa.,
Mrs. John Abt

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Active investigation of Jessica Smith, who is the wife of John Abt, was instituted, based upon a complaint received on June 27, 1941 from [redacted] alleging that the subject was a Communist. b7D

(65-44184-X)

Since that date, active investigation has been made of Jessica Smith which has continued to the present time. The New York Office is the office of origin in this investigation.

This investigation has reflected that she is the former wife of Harold M. Ware, and is presently President of SRT Publications and Editor of the magazine "Soviet Russia Today," which has consistently followed Communist policies and has been a principal pro-Soviet propaganda medium. Investigation further indicates that the subject maintains close contact with prominent Communist Party officials, as well as representatives of official Soviet diplomatic missions in the United States. It is to be noted that Smith has made several trips to the Soviet Union since the early 1920's, returning on the last occasion to the United States in January, 1946.

(65-44184)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers did not mention Jessica Smith in connection with his interview by Bureau agents on this date.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

An examination of a copy of the notes made by Adolf Berle, based upon his interview with Chambers in 1939, indicates a notation of the name of Jessica Smith in two places, both of which appear to be collateral references to notations concerning John Abt. The notations are referring to the underground organized by Harold Ware in Washington, D. C. The notations referred to are set out as follows:

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"John Abt - followed Witt in that group -
Tax Div'n - Dep't. of Justice & now - CIO
(M. Ware's widow - Jessica Smith Ed. Soviet Russia).

"Mr. Abt - Sister: Marion Bacharach - Secretary -
Communist from Minnesota. (Jessica Smith: with
Rauters in 1926 - friend of Louis Fischer."
(100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

While no specific investigation was made of Jessica Smith, based upon the notations concerning her in the Berle notes, the information contained therein was subsequently forwarded to the New York Office on January 29, 1945. It was known at the time of the receipt of the information in the Berle notes that Jessica Smith was the wife of John Abt. In the continuing investigation which was being made of the activities of Jessica Smith, the Berle notes were set forth in a report of the New York Office dated July 17, 1945.

In supporting the implications of Jessica Smith's possible connections with the Communist underground in Washington, D. C. in the early 1930's, information was developed by the New York Office confirming the fact that she had been married to Harold Ware, the alleged organizer of this underground movement and subsequently married John Abt, who was likewise allegedly a member of the group. Investigation reflects that at the time Jessica Smith was associated with the Russian Information Bureau in Washington and following the recognition of the Soviet Union, became a member of the Press Staff of the Soviet Embassy in Washington. Information was also developed indicating Jessica Smith's connections with other members allegedly belonging to the underground group.
(65-44184-23, 31)

The investigation made by the Bureau in connection with Alexander Stevens, who has been identified as J. Peters, who according to Whittaker Chambers was the underground leader, likewise reflects that Jessica Smith and her husband, John Abt, have been in close contact with Stevens.

100-184255-180)

The investigative reports concerning Jessica Smith, as well as those concerning Stevens showing the connection between these individuals have been furnished to the Division of Records of the Department of

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Justice. The investigation of this subject is continuing by the Bureau.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

The name of Jessica Smith was not mentioned by Chambers in connection with his interview by Bureau agents on this date.

CONFIDENTIAL
Kisseloff-26467

RE: VERN SMITH

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

There is information contained in the Bureau files dating back to the early 1920's concerning the activities of Vern Smith as being active in the IWW as editor of the organization's newspaper "Solidarity." Other information reflects connections of Smith and collaborations with such known Communists during the 1920's as James Cannon, William Z. Foster, Robert Minor and others. (61-2241-45, p.4)

Other information reflects that Smith, who was then active in the IWW, joined the Communist Party around 1922. (39-915-1109, p. 7)

Active investigation of Vern Smith was initiated by the San Francisco Office in February, 1941, by reason of his activities in San Francisco with the Communist Party movement and by reason of the fact that he was then Labor Editor of the "Daily People's World." The investigation at that time indicated that Vern Smith had been former Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker" at New York City in 1932. (100-17082-1)

Further inquiries reflected that Smith had been formerly a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party as well as correspondent of the "Daily Worker" in the Soviet Union from the summer of 1933 to about August, 1935. Records (available to the State Department) of World Tourists, Incorporated, reflected that Smith's transportation to the Soviet Union had been charged in part to the Communist Party and in part to the "Daily Worker." (100-17082-13)

II. (a) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

In the interview conducted by Bureau agents on the above date, Whittaker Chambers stated that Verne Smith, who was former editor of the IWW "Solidarity", was one of the oldest party members and knows the business inside and out. It is noted that in connection with this part of the interview that Chambers had been asked concerning his knowledge of various Communists whom he had known to be important persons in the Party at the time of his association with the movement. (100-25824-22)

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II. (b) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No specific investigation was conducted on the basis of the Chambers allegations inasmuch as an active investigation had already been instituted of Vern Smith who was undoubtedly identical with the individual named by Chambers.

The investigation, which continued, reflected that Smith remained very active in Communist Party activities in San Francisco and became the foreign editor of the "Daily People's World." (100-17082-32)

In a report dated November 21, 1946, the San Francisco Office advised that Smith was then still residing in San Francisco with Sue Paxton as man and wife, the latter likewise a member of the Communist Party. Smith was associate editor of the "Daily People's World" until August 15, 1946, at which time he was expelled from the Communist Party for basic disagreement with the Communist Party line and for sympathizing and supporting so-called factional groups. Sources reported that prior to being publicly expelled from the Party, William C. Foster had given Smith his first membership card and that they were old friends. (100-17082-36)

Investigation has continued, notwithstanding the expulsion of Smith from the Party, inasmuch as it is known from investigation that Smith and a number of other persons who were similarly expelled are continuing their activities apparently aimed at dislodging the leadership of the Communist Party through direct intervention and connections with contacts in the Soviet Union. It has likewise been suggested that it is not at all impossible that this may be a tactic for placing Smith and others in an underground position and divorcing themselves from the above ground Communist Party. (100-17082-41)

A news item published in the New York Journal American on April 27, 1948, datelined at Oakland, California, indicated that Vern Smith, expelled Communist and ex-foreign editor of the "Communists People's World," was convicted in a Justice Court on April 26, 1948, at Oakland, California, for contempt of the California State Un-American Activities Committee. The news item indicated that Smith had been immediately sentenced to pay a fine of $3,000. (100-17082-A-Journal American 42748)

Copies of investigative reports in this investigation have been distributed to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice. In addition, a dossier showing information then available in the files of the Bureau regarding Vern Smith was furnished to Mr. L. M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special Defense Unit, Department of Justice, on December 1, 1941. (100-17082-11)

A prosecutive summary report, prepared by the San Francisco Office dated December 13, 1946, was forwarded to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice on February 14, 1947. (100-17082-38)

III. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

Vern Smith was not mentioned in the Berle notes.

IV. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Vern Smith was not mentioned by Chambers in the interview conducted by Bureau agents on the above date.

Kisseloff-26470

State Department Employee
Sent to Turkey

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was conducted.

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

In speaking of persons employed by the United States Government who were active in underground Communist organization, Chambers advised that there was another individual whose name he did not recall who was connected with this movement. He stated that this individual was in the Trade Agreement Section of the State Department and was sent to Turkey to negotiate a trade agreement. This individual was further described as a protege to Ed Minster of the Department of Agriculture.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation failed to reflect that any investigation was conducted as a result of the above.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

There is no information in Berle notes concerning this matter.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

There is no information regarding this matter in the results of the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945.

(See individual writeups on "Julien Wadleigh (Wadley)" and "_____ Lovell.")

Kisseloff-26471

ALEXANDER STEVENS, with aliases
Alexander Goldberger, J. Peters,
Peter, J. V. Peters, Steven Lapin,
Pete Stevens, Steve Miller, Isador
Boorstein, Silver or Silvers

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

For purposes of clarification it is pointed out that Alexander Stevens has been determined to be identical with all of the above names. In this connection, prior to the Chambers' allegations in 1942, separate investigations had already been instituted by the Bureau on Stevens under the names of J. Peters, J V. Peters, Alexander Stevens and Alexander Goldberger. The name J. Peters was known to the Bureau in connection with Communist Party activities in the United States based upon the publication of "The Communist Party, A Manual of Organization," which was authored by one J. Peters in 1935. The investigation of the subject as Alexander Stevens arose in early 1942, when he was in contact in Los Angeles with prominent Communist Party members in that city. Information available in our files concerning J. Peters was furnished to the Department of Justice on April 1, 1941.

Alexander Stevens was born on August 11, 1894, at Kop, Czechoslovakia, and used the name Alexander Goldberger. He was the son of Martin Goldberger and Rosalie Deutch. He served in the Hungarian army from 1914 until 1918. He first entered the United States on February 10, 1924, as Alexander Goldberger. He again entered the United States on September 5, 1928, under this name. He has endeavored to become a citizen on two occasions, the first time being in February, 1924, but allowed his application to lapse, and again filed for citizenship on July 20, 1939. He registered under the name of Alexander Stevens as an alien on December 5, 1940. Stevens received a divorce from Franciska Goldberger at Reno, Nevada, April 29, 1942, and has for some time been residing as man and wife with one Anne Silver. The latter is a naturalized U. S. citizen who has been reportedly engaged in setting up Communist underground activities in this country. She is likewise the subject of a Bureau investigation. (100-184255-198 & 122)

b7D

Stevens has been identified with his various aliases through exhibiting photographs to a number of confidential informants, including [redacted] of the Communist Party of the United States [redacted] (100-184255-198); Confidential

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Informant [redacted] former member of the Communist Party (100-184255-198); b7D
Confidential Informant [redacted] a former member of the Communist Party who saw Stevens in Moscow in 1931 (100-184255-198); and many others who were acquainted with the Communist movement at the time subject was known under his various aliases.

II. (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Upon being interviewed on the above date, Chambers advised Bureau Agents that a man named "Peter", whose last name he never knew, was the head of the Communist underground movement and stated he had seen Peter only from time to time; that although his connection with this man was more that of a personal friendship than of a formal Party relationship, he never learned much about Peter. He stated he did know that Peter lived once at Woodside, Lond Island, at which time he went under the name of Silver or Silvers. Chambers gathered from Peter that he had previously been treasurer of the Hungarian paper "Uj Elore" and that Peter was likely in the United States without a passport or on a false passport. He said that Peter had connections with the OGPU because he had met members of the OGPU in Peter's presence. Although he did not know these men by name, he had later checked with Krivitsky and had ascertained such individuals were OGPU men. It is to be noted in this conversation that Peter was the source of much of the information furnished by Chambers. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It is to be noted that the Bureau was already conducting investigation in two cases concerning individuals who were later determined to be identical with the "Peter" mentioned in the Chambers' interview. However, on the basis of the Chambers' allegations, the New York Office was requested by letter, on June 11, 1942, to immediately conduct necessary investigation to determine the identity, location and activities of the individual known to Chambers as "Peter," alias Silver or Silvers. (100-25824-22)

Investigation was made by the New York Office, based upon the information furnished by Chambers; however, the identity of "Peter," with alias Silver or Silvers, was not established at that time. It was pointed out, however, that it appeared that this individual was identical with the subject of a separate investigation in New York of J. Peters, with alias Steve Lapin

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by reason of the information developed and these two investigations were consolidated. (100-25824-25)

Further investigation in the J. Peters inquiry, as well as the concurrent investigation which was made separately of Alexander Stevens, alias Alexander Goldberger, resulted in a consolidation of these investigations, based upon an identification of the photograph of Stevens as J. Peters by Benjamin Gitlow and James S. Glaser. This was reported by the New York Office in a letter dated March 6, 1943. (100-184255-74)

Subsequently, the photograph of Alexander Stevens was further identified as J. Peters by [redacted] a confidential informant who said he was acquainted with the subject in Moscow, Russia, in 1932. (100-184255-99) b7D

On March 5, 1943, a photograph of Alexander Stevens was identified by Whittaker Chambers as being the individual known to him as Peters, head of the Communist underground movement in the United States. (100-184255-67)

The investigation continued of subject's activities following the consolidation of the previous investigations under the various aliases of the subject.

III (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes contained references to the individual identified as Stevens under the name "Peters" and were as follows:

"Known from Peters - formerly in Bela Kun
Govt. Agricultural Commissariat - called Gandosz (?)
Then to Russia - then here, in Business Office of
Communist paper 'Uj Elori' - then, after 1929 -
head of CP Underground, lived in Hamilton Ap'ts.
Woodside, L.I. - under alias 'Silver' - &
lectured in Communist camps -
Friend: 'Blake' of 'Freiheit' - Real name -
Weiner - American: Polish Jew. -
Peters was responsible for Washington Sector
Went to Moscow - where is he now? -

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"Wife - a Comintern courier -
West Coast - Head: 'The Old Man' - Volkov is
his real name - daughter a Comintern
courier. He knows the West Coast
underground - Residence: San Francisco
or Oakland - " (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It is noted that no specific further investigation was conducted based upon Berle's notes inasmuch as Peters had then been identified and an active investigation was being made of him by the Bureau. The investigation which was continuing indicated close associations by Stevens with individuals prominent in the Communist Party. (100-184255-101)

IV (A) CHAMBERS ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers, when interviewed on the above date, gave further details concerning his association with the individual then known to him as J. Peters. (It is noted in this interview that Chambers apparently referred to Stevens as both J. Peters and Peter.) He stated that while in the position of editor of "New Masses," in approximately 1932, he, Chambers, was called into the offices of Max Bedacht in Communist Party headquarters in New York and advised he was to be given a special assignment. At a second meeting with Bedacht he was introduced on the street to an individual known to him as "Arthur." "Arthur", in turn, made an appointment for the following evening on a street corner and introduced him, at another place, to an individual known to him as "Peter." Chambers said he recognized this man as the formesr treasurer of the Hungarian Communist newspaper "Uj Elore' (phonetic) who had also published numerous articles on Communism under the name of J. Peters. He was told by Peters that he would act as a courier between him and "Arthur" until he received further instructions. For the next two or three years, until approximately 1935, he was a paid courier and this was his sole occupation. He engaged in carrying envelopes and messages between Arthur and Peter in New York City. He related that he never learned much about the identities of these men and never knew their residences other than that Peter lived somewhere in Woodside, Lond Island, under the name of Silver. Chambers stated in this interview that most of his knowledge of the underground and Russian courier activities was derived from

conversations with Arthur and Peter who became very friendly with him and often talked about their activities rather freely. In the interview he mentioned the OGPU connections of Peter. In 1935, his courier activities ceased and he was told by Peter that he would act as a connecting link between Harold Ware in Washington and himself in New York City and, in addition to his courier activities, he would also serve as a sort of morale officer, giving pep talks and indoctrination talks to the Communist group headed by Ware in Washington. Based upon this assignemnt from Peter, Chambers became acquainted with the Communist underground in Washington. He mentioned that Peter himself attended some of the underground meetings in Washington when he felt the group needed a pep talk or required special instructions regarding some particular problem. (100-25824-36)

Inasmuch as the major portion of the information contained in this interview relates to data furnished to Chambers by Alexander Stevens, known to him as Peter, detailed references are not being set out in this section but are contained in the individual write-ups of the various individuals mentioned as hereinafter set forth in this memorandum.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation of Alexander Stevens, based upon the Chambers interview above, continued, it being noted that Peters was already identified as Stevens.

During the course of this subsequent investigation, Stevens was further identified with an individual who, during the latter part of 1945 and 1946, and early 1947, was employed at Communist Party headquarters as Steve Miller.

During the course of the investigation, it was determined that State Department files contained information indicating that an individual by the name of Isador Boorstein had been issued a U. S. passport for travel to Germany, France and England on October 8, 1931. This forgery was not discovered until a Bureau Agent viewed the subject's photograph in the State Department files on June 6, 1946, and recognized Boorstein as being identical with Alexander Stevens. In view of the lapse of time, any violation of passport regulations would be barred by the Statute of Limitations. (100-184255-222)

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On February 14, 1947, in a memorandum to the Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle all reports concerning Alexander Stevens, including those reflecting investigation of the subject under his various aliases, were forwarded to the Criminal Division. (100-184255-199 and 200)

Further reports relating to the Alexander Stevens investigation were forwarded to Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle on March 21, 1947, pursuant to his request, including reports on related investigations. (100-184255-202)

A prosecutive summary report dated February 17, 1947, was forwarded to the Division of Records of the Department on March 24, 1947. (100-184255-198)

On September 18, 1947, a summary memorandum was furnished to the Immigration and Naturalization Service and a copy of the prosecutive summary report of the New York Office dated February 17, 1947, was included. (100-184255-223)

In a memorandum dated September 26, 1947, which was forwarded on September 27, 1947, a summary on this subject was transmitted to the Attorney General reflecting Stevens' activities, including references to the passport fraud of 1941 and his alien status. (100-184255-222)

On September 30, 1947, the Attorney General telephoned the Director and expressed his appreciation for this memorandum on Stevens and stated he throught subject could be deported, although the Statute of Limitations barred action on the passport fraud. (100-184255-221)

It is to be noted that the memorandum to the Attorney General contained a summary of the allegations received from Whittaker Chambers concerning Stevens' connections with the Government underground. It is further to be noted that the summary report of February 17, 1947, which was forwarded to the Division of Records and to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, contained information furnished by Whittaker Chambers, set out under a confidential informant symbol, indicating Stevens, under the name of Peters, as being the head of the Communist underground movement in the United States prior to 1937.

Alexander Stevens was arrested by the Immigration and Naturalization Service on a deportation warrant at Peekskill, New York, on October 8, 1947. He was later released on $5000 bail. (100-184255-230)

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As you are aware, the House Committee on Un-American Activities has been in contact with INS in the interim, endeavoring to obtain information as to Stevens' whereabouts in order that they could serve a subpoena for his appearance before the Committee. This matter was referred by INS to the Criminal Division of the Department.

The Washington "Times-Herald" for August 25, 1948, reflected that Stevens would be served with a subpoena by the House Un-American Activities Committee, if present at the scheduled deportation hearing which was held on August 30, 1948.

The Washington "Times-Herald" for August 31, 1948, revealed that Stevens appeared at the INS hearing on August 30, 1948, and was served with a subpoena to appear before a hearing of the House Committee on Un-American Activities to be held in New York on August 30, 1948. According to the article, Stevens appeared but declined to answer questions on the grounds that to do so might incriminate him. Members of the House Committee announced that Stevens might be charged with contempt of Congress for refusing to answer questions.

In addition to the distribution made of the Chambers information re Alexander Stevens, with aliases, specifically in connection with his case, the following distribution of summaries containing information concerning Alexander Stevens, with alias J. Peters, either as a separate section of the report or incidental to the write-ups on certain named individuals, was made. This information, in all cases, included the data concerning Stevens which was received from Whittaker Chambers and in certain cases was specifically attributed to Chambers by name:

(1) Summary entitled "Soviet Espionage in the United States" dated November 27, 1945;

(2) Summary entitled "Soviet Espionage in the United States" dated December 12, 1945;

(3) Summary entitled "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the U. S. Government" dated February 21, 1946;

(4) Summary entitled "The Comintern Apparatus" dated March 5, 1946;

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(5) Summary entitled "Soviet Activities in the United States" dated July 25, 1946;

(6) Summary entitled "Underground Soviet Espionage Organization (NKVD) in Agencies of the U. S. Government" dated October 21, 1946.

Copies of summaries 1 through 6 were furnished to the White House and the Attorney General.

Copies of Summaries 1 through 4 and 6 were furnished to the State Department.

Copies of summaries 1 through 4 were furnished to the Navy Department.

Copies of summaries 2 and 3 were furnished to the War Department.

Copies of summaries 2, 3 and 6 were furnished to the Treasury Department.

A copy of summary 3 was furnished to the Central Intelligence Group.

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TASS NEWS AGENCY

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The Tass News Agency is the official news agency of the Soviet Government and was registered on January 6, 1938, with the Attorney General under the Foreign Agents Registration Act. The New York Bureau of Tass was created in 1925 succeeding the New York Bureau of Rosta which had been established about January 1923. (100-183386-217 p. 1)

An investigation to ascertain if Tass employees were acting outside the scope of their authority was initiated on April 25, 1941. (100-183886-X)

However, prior to 1941 investigations were conducted on individuals employed by the Tass News Agency and in this connection an investigation was conducted concerning the activities of Kenneth Durant, Manager of Tass until 1944. (65-2299-11)

In this connection it is to be noted that in 1939 it was alleged by Mr. Frank H. Bartholomew, Vice-President of the United Press, San Francisco, California, that Durant was an espionage agent on behalf of the Soviet Government. (65-2299-5)

The investigation of Tass revealed that the majority of American employees had Communist Party backgrounds and some of the employees had been in contact with suspected Soviet agents. (65-2299)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers advised on May 13, 1942, that there was an OGPU organization during the period of time when he was associated with the Communist Party and that he presumed that there was also such an organization at the time of the interview. He advised that he did not know the identity of the head of such an organization but suspected that it was connected with the Amtorg Trading Corporation and the Tass newspaper. (100-25824-22 p. 2)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Instant file fails to reflect specific investigation of Tass as a result of the Chambers' interview. It is noted that Chambers only speculated that Tass was being used as a cover for Espionage. Similar allegations had been previously received and instant investigation was instituted in 1941 to determine if Tass employees were acting outside the scope of their authority. Chambers' speculative allegations did not add to the Bureau's knowledge of the Tass News Agency. (65-2299)

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III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

None

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Instant investigation was continued to identify any Soviet agents within Tass.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

None

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

Instant investigation is presently in a pending status and pertinent copies of the investigative reports have been furnished to the Department. (100-183386)

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ALEXANDER LEO TRACHTENBERG

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

As is well known, Alexander Trachtenberg is one of the foremost figures in the Communist Party movement in the United States. Information concerning his Communist activities, as reported in connection with the investigation of the movement, is contained in the Bureau files dating back as early as 1920.

In view of the voluminous information available to the Bureau as reported in investigations of this individual, for purposes of brevity the following short summary concerning Trachtenberg is being set forth.

Trachtenberg was born November 23, 1885, at Odessa, Russia; entered the United States, August, 1906; attended Trinity College and Yale University; was naturalized at New Haven, February 28, 1914; and for the most part has resided in or around New York, New York. He is presently General Manager of the International Publishers Company, Inc., New York City, which for many years has published the majority of the Marxist literature in the United States. He has occupied numerous high positions in the Communist Party in the United States and reportedly was a member of the National Control Commission of the Party since its early days. Trachtenberg himself has admitted trips to Europe and Russia on numerous occasions since the early 1920's, allegedly for the promotion of his publishing business. He was until recently a National Committeeman of the Communist Party. Benjamin Gitlow, former General Secretary of the Communist Party in the United States, who broke with the Party, testified in 1939 before the House Committee on Un-American Activities that the publishing firm of Trachtenberg was taken over by the Communist International. He further stated that Trachtenberg was among the persons cooperating with Russian OGPU agents in the United States.

Also in October, 1939, Maurice L. Malkin, a member of the Communist Party from 1919 to 1936, testified in hearings before the House Committee on Un-American Activities that Trachtenberg was a member of the Central Control Commission of the Communist Party in the United States; that in Russia the Central Control Commission members are part of the OGPU; that in every country members of such Commission send its agents to gather information which they forward to the Soviet Union; and that Anna Louise Strong, a member of the Russian Communist Party and a member of the OGPU for years, usually reported to Trachtenberg. Trachtenberg still figures prominently in the affairs of the Communist Party in the United States and is still the subject of continuing investigation by the Bureau. (Summary prosecutive report 61-2115-341)

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Of further interest concerning Trachtenberg are the results of investigation by the Bureau in connection with the Red Army Intelligence Ring exposed in Canada by the statements of Igor Gouzenko, which investigation reflected close association between Trachtenberg and Sam Carr prior to the breaking of this case both in the United States and at the Third National Assembly of the Communist Party of Cuba which was held from January 24 to 28, 1946. (Summary memorandum dated September 3, 1946, entitled "Soviet Activities in the United States.")

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Chambers when interviewed by Bureau Agents on the above date, in duscussing activities of the OGPU in the United States, indicated that some of the OGPU parallels have for their purposes the guidance of the Party so that it follows the Moscow line. He stated that these agents are in close touch with the Central Control Commission of the Party. He stated that Charles Dirba, the head of the Central Control Commission for years, and Alexander Trachtenberg, also a member for many years, operated under the National Minorities which are duplicated in Russia and he, Chambers, had always heard that Dirba was connected with the OGPU. (100-25824-22)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear that this information as such was acted upon with reference to Trachtenberg, it being noted, however, that these data had already been received in more specific form and were the subject of investigation based upon previous allegations. It will further be noted that these allegations concerning Trachtenberg were made at the hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1939 as set forth in the summary above.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The Berle notes obtained on the above date contained the following reference to Alexander Trachtenberg:

Alexander Trachtenberg - Politburo -
Member of the Exec. Committee
Head of GPU in U. S.
Works with Peters -

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear that any specific investigation was conducted based upon the reference to Trachtenberg in the Berle notes. However the same

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observation as previously set forth applies to this information and was known to the New York Office where Trachtenberg was the subject of a continuing and vigorous investigation.

IV. CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

No reference was made to Trachtenberg by Chambers in the interview conducted on the above date.

It is to be noted that reports concerning Trachtenberg, including a prosecutive summary dated March 22, 1947, (61-2115-341) have been furnished to the Division of Records of the Department of Justice.

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JULIEN WADLEIGH (WADLEY)

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

No investigation was made of Wadleigh prior to 1942.

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Wadleigh was not mentioned by name by Chambers in the interview conducted by Bureau Agents on the above date.

(However, in reviewing the results of the 1942 interview, together with the Berle notes received by the Bureau in 1943 (see below), it will be noted that in the 1942 interview Chambers advised that there was another individual, whose name he did not recall, connected with the underground movement who was in the Trade Agreement Section of the State Department and was sent to Turkey to negotiate a trade agreement. This individual was a protege of Ed Minster of the Department of Agriculture.)

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The files of the Bureau fail to reflect that any investigation was conducted based upon information furnished concerning this unknown individual.

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS CONTAINED IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Contained in the Berle notes, which were received in June, 1943, and which were based upon information furnished by Chambers in 1939, there is a notation of an individual by the name of Wadley or Wadleigh:

"State
Post - Editorship, Foreign Service Journal
Was in Alexandria Unit of CP - in
'Underground Apparatus' -
Duggan - Laurence - (Member CP??)

"?
(Wadleigh) Wadley - Trade Agreement Section
Lovell - " " "
Communist Shop Group
Elinor Nelson - Laurence Duggan - Julien Wadleigh -
West European Div'n - Field - still in -
(Levine says he is out went into I.E.O.
Then in Committee for Repatriation
His leader was Hedda Gompertz."

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While it is not entirely clear from the notes as to the exact allegation made by Chambers concerning Wadleigh or Wadley, it would appear that he was an alleged member of the Communist group in the State Department.

(100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

It does not appear that any investigation was conducted of Wadleigh based upon the Berle notes at the time of their receipt. However, in connection with the Cogog investigation (Communist Political Association Government Group), a letter was sent to the Washington Field Office on May 4, 1945 directing that a separate investigation of the reported secret Communist Government Group be opened. At this time the Washington Field Office was informed of the allegations made in the Chambers' interview of 1942 concerning the existence of a Communist underground in the Government and at the same time furnished a copy of the Berle notes.

(100-3-65-1)

A review of the Bureau files indicates that one Julian Wadleigh and his wife Mariam at 4019 - 18th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. and later 124 Quincy Street, Chevy Chase, Maryland, were subscribers to Socialist party publications.

(61-626-198X1, p. 24
100-26255-1)

Bureau files also indicate that on May 27, 1943 a highly confidential source advised that Julian Wadley (phonetic) of the State Department apparently was associated in a "car pool" with (Hoyt) Haddock of the CIO Maritime Committee in Washington, D. C.

(100-203-268-75X3)

By letter dated March 11, 1948, the Washington Field Office advised that pursuant to the instructions of the Bureau of December 2, 1947, to review the files of the Cogog case to determine the most prominent members of the Communist underground group, a review had been made and 131 names were submitted to the Civil Service Commission to ascertain if they were ever employed or are still employed by the Government. As a result of this check of Civil Service records, there was forwarded to the Bureau on the previously mentioned date a list of persons

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previously reported in connection with the Cogog investigation who were reportedly still employed in the Government. Included in this list was the name of Julias Wadleigh, a transferee from F.E.A. to the State Department. (100-3-65-941)

The foregoing named individuals may be identical with the person named in the Berle notes.

IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

In the interview of Chambers conducted by Bureau Agents on the above date, Chambers did not specifically refer to an individual by the name of Wadleigh or Wadley.

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Re: HAROLD M. WARE

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

The first investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation of Harold Ware was an investigation conducted in 1921 which reflected that on December 27, 1921 the National Convention of the Workers Party of America held in New York City, elected Harold Ware as an alternate member of the Executive Committee of that organization. At the same convention on January 12, 1922, Ware was appointed as agrarian organizer of the Workers Party of America. On February 5, 1922, he was appointed as business manager of the "Worker."

(61-23-66, 89
61-228-38)

Ware sailed for Russia on the SS "Latvia" on May 10, 1922. He was accompanied by his wife, Chris, and Ware was taking tractors to Russia and reportedly was to represent the Communist Party of America in Russia on the agrarian question.

(61-443-98)

In November of 1922 the Friends of Soviet Russia received a communication from Lenin lauding the work of the United States tractor group in the Ukraine headed by Harold Ware. Lenin stated that he was suggesting that the group farm be used as a model for all Russia.

(61-181-216)

On June 22, 1923, Harold Ware sailed for Russia on the SS "Westphalia" giving as his address 1223 United Trust Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He had United States passport No. 160968. He reportedly was to be the delegate of the United Farmers Educational League of North Dakota to the All-Russian Agricultural Exposition in Moscow. It was reported that on August 28, 1923, officials of the Communist Party were contemplating sending a message to Ware on board the SS "Westphalia" informing him that his wife was dead.

(61-231243
61-3537-2
61-167-1930)

According to an informant, on November 24, 1923 information had been received by the Communist Party from Harold M. Ware to the effect that the subject Government had granted a concession of 27,000 acres of agricultural land on the Donetz River, Ukrain. Ware had agreed to

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develop this land with American agricultural equipment which was to go to Russia before February 15, 1924.

(61-23-269 p. 19)

On July 17, 1924, Ware sailed for Russia representing the Ukrainian Farm and Machinery Corporation which had been formed in the United States to develop agricultural land for the Soviet Government. Ware as managing director of this corporation was to sign the final contract with the Soviet Government.

(61-223-296

In 1925 Ware reportedly made another trip to Moscow, accompanied by his second wife, Jessica Smith, who later married John Abt. He organized a Russian-American State Farm in the Caucasus and was later one of the organizers and Assistant Director of "Verblud."

(Biographical Sketch of
Jessica Smith in files of
Soviet Russia Today)
(61-5381-2071)

The investigation also reflected that Harold Ware was the son of Ella Reeve Bloor by her first husband, Lucien Ware. Ella Reeve Bloor is a famous figure in the Communist Party, USA, reportedly living with Earl Browder in the early days of the movement. It was also reported that Harold Ware was a graduate from an agricultural college and had been active during War World I in large scale farming activity. According to information received in 1941, Harold Ware with the aid of Jay Lovestone in 1930 and later with the support of Foster and Browder was in charge of an agricultural Communist Research Bureau in Washington, D. C. that had for its purpose the preparing of Communist Party material for dissemination among farmers.

[redacted] b7D

101-142-67)

The hearing of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 77th Congress, First Session, reports the testimony of Dr. J. B. Matthews to the effect that Hal Ware was employed by the Department of Agriculture until 1935 when he was killed by a street car in Washington. It might be noted at this point that a report from another informant reflects that he was killed in an automobile crash near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in 1935. According to the files of the Public Relations Division of the Metropolitan Police, Hal Ware was at one time Assistant Research Director for Farm Research, Incorporated, Washington, D. C.

(101-142-6, 16)

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II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers stated that when he became associated with the underground movement of the Communist Party, they sent him to Washington to assist Harold Ware, who was associated with the son of Mother Bloor (Carl Reeve) to develop the very fertile field which was Washington, D. C. in the early and middle days of the New Deal. Chambers stated that Ware had been a courier prior to this time who had carried American currency from Russia to the United States for investment here. Chambers stated that the underground work in Washington was ostensibly in the farm field and that they established underground quarters in the violin studios of Ware's sister, located above a florist shop on Connecticut Avenue and Dupont Circle.

He stated that they began to organize the men in the New Deal and to make such individuals a part of the underground organization of the Communist Party.

Further identifying his position in this movement, Whittaker Chambers advised that he was the assistant to Ware who was the organizer and that he, Chambers, was kind of a morale officer inasmuch as the recruits had to be guided in the Party's policies at all times.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No active investigation of Harold Ware was instituted at this time inasmuch as he was known to be dead. An investigation at the violin studio of Helen Ware was instituted on February 5, 1943, which reflected that she had maintained a studio in 1932 at 1501 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. (100-12997-28; 100-197163-2130)

III. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

Mr. Berle's notes reflected the following notation:

"Underground organized by the late Harold Ware;
Pressman was in his group - (1932-3??) Pressman
then in the A.A.A."

III. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation of Ware was conducted on the basis of Mr. Berle's notes.

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IV. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Chambers stated that after he was recruited for underground activities in Washington, D. C., he was told by J. Peters that he would act as a connecting link between Harold Ware and Peters in New York and that he would also serve as sort of a morale officer, giving pep talks and indoctrination talks to the Communist group headed by Harold Ware in Washington. Peters explained that Ware was the leader of a group of men composed of Government employees in high-salaried positions who were Communist Party members, but whose activities with the Party as such had ceased when they were transferred to the underground of the Communist Party. Chambers pointed out that Ware's group was composed of approximately eight individual members and that almost everyone of these members was himself a leader of another underground unit operating in Washington which consisted of from six to eight members; that the members of each of these underground units were not aware of the identity or composition of any of the other units.

Chambers stated that one of the meeting places was the violin studio belonging to Helen Ware, Harold Ware's sister above a florist shop on Connecticut Avenue and Dupont Circle. He explained that this was more or less Ware's headquarters and that the members did not meet there as a group. Chambers recalled that after Harold Ware died a meeting took place at which John Abt was elected as the new leader of the group.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation of Harold Ware was conducted as a result of the above allegations.

The Chambers allegations concerning Harold Ware were included in a summary of Communist activities in the United States Government given distribution to the White House, State Department, the Attorney General and other agencies in February, 1946. (65-56402-573)

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Re: HELEN WARE CAPPEL, aka HELEN WARE

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An investigation of Harold Ware was conducted in 1921 and 1922 which reflected that Helen Ware was the daughter of Ella Reeve Bloor, famous Communist propagandist. In 1921, Helen Ware was reportedly married but was using her maiden name. One informant reported that she was employed on the "Toiler". Other information reflects this report may have been erroneous as it was stated her only Communist activity was to attend meetings where her mother spoke and on occasion play her violin at these meetings.

(61-71-18; 61-167-171; 61-440-40)

II. (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

Whittaker Chambers stated that after he became associated with the underground movement, the Communist Party sent him down to assist Harold Ware, who was ostensibly working in Washington in the farm field. Chambers said they established underground quarters in the violin studio of Ware's sister, located above a florist shop on Connecticut Avenue and Dupont Circle.

II. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

On February 5, 1943, an investigation was instituted to locate the violin studio of Helen Ware at Dupont Circle, Washington, D. C. It was learned that in 1932 Helen Ware rented a studio at 1501 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. It was reported that she occupied this studio until about 1937. It was noted that a flower shop of the J. H. Small and Sons had been located at that address under the studio since prior to 1932. In further verification, a search of Boyd's District of Columbia Directory for 1932 gave the address of Helen Ware, a music instructor at 1501 Connecticut Avenue, N. W. Helen Ware's residence address in the Directories was given as 3264 S Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

An investigation at 3264 S Street in 1943 reflected that the entire house was occupied by the family of C. C. Cappel and that Helen Ware was the wife of C. C. Cappel. It was determined that Mr. Cappel was a well-known orchestra leader in the Washington area but had moved

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to Baltimore. An investigation in Baltimore reflected that the Cappel's were residing at 1614 Park Avenue, Baltimore and that Mr. Cappel was the Business Manager of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

(100-12997-28
100-197163-2130)

According to an informant interviewed in 1944, Helen Ware had been married to an Austrian before marrying Cappel. According to this informant she was reported to be anti-Communist.

[redacted] b7D

100-316282-1)

The Chambers allegations concerning Helen Ware insofar as they included the location of the violin studio, were included in a summary of Communist activities in the United States Government, which was given distribution to the White House, State Department, the Attorney General and other agencies in February, 1946.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE 1943

There is no mention of Helen Ware in these notes.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

Whittaker Chambers in 1945 advised that the violin studio which was used as a meeting place belonged to Helen Ware, Harold Ware's sister. This studio was located above a florist shop on Connecticut Avenue and Dupont Circle. Chambers explained that this was more or less Ware's headquarters and that the members did not meet there as a group.

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No additional investigation was conducted on the basis of this information.

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WELWEL WARSZOWER, was
Robert William Weiner;
Will Blake; A. Blake;
Abe Benson

I INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

An active investigation of Welwel Warszower, better known as William Weiner, was instituted on June 12, 1941, although considerable information concerning Weiner had previously been developed as reflected by the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The investigation instituted in 1941 reflected that Weiner was a member of the Socialist Party in 1915. He joined the Communist Party in 1919, was a Communist Party Organizer in 1927 and 1928, was Financial Secretary of the Communist Party from 1933 to 1940, was a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party in 1938, and a leading member of the International Workers Order since at least 1930. (100-14778-37)

Weiner was born as Welwel Warszower in Russia on September 5, 1893. He entered the United States at Philadelphia on March 27, 1914. Weiner went abroad in 1932 and in 1937 applied for a passport under the name of Robert William Weiner fraudulently reporting himself to be a United States citizen. Weiner was found guilty of passport fraud and sentenced to serve a sentence of two years in a United States Penitentiary in the Southern District of New York on February 20, 1940. This sentence was suspended due to Weiner's bad heart. In connection with this passport fraud it is to be noted that Weiner was active during the 1930's using the name of Blake in connection with the organization World Tourists, Incorporated, which arranged for travel of leading Communists to Europe. One of the persons so assisted was Gerhart Eisler who traveled on a false passport under the name of Samuel Liptzin. (100-14778-2)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

No information concerning William Weiner was received during the course of this interview.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

In the Berle notes regarding J. Peters the following notations were made by Mr. Berle relative to Weiner: Friend: "Blake" of "Freiheit" - real name - Weiner - American: Polish Jew.

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No actual investigation was conducted based upon these notations inasmuch as the information concerning Weiner was already well known to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

In speaking of Gerhart Eisler, Chambers stated that he knew that Welwel

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Warszower (better known as William Weiner) had been a close contact of Edwards (Gerhart Eisler) in the middle thirties in the United States. He stated that he had known Weiner under the name of Blake when he was an editor of the "Freiheit". He could not recall the source of his information as to this contact between Eisler and Warszower.

IV. (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

No investigation was conducted based upon Chambers' allegations listed above. Documentary evidence was later established in the Eisler investigation reflecting that Eisler's passage to Europe in 1935 and 1936 was paid for by Blake of Communist Party Headquarters who has been identified as Weiner.

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NATHAN WITT, WITH ALIASES:
Nat Witt, Nathan Witkowsky, Nathan Witkowski

I. INVESTIGATION PRIOR TO CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS

Nathan Witt has been under investigation by the Bureau since January, 1941. (100-16886-2)

He resigned his position as Secretary of the National Labor Relations Board on November 19, 1940. (100-16886-3, P.4) Since that time he has been practicing law in New York City, representing many large Communist-infiltrated unions in New York City. (100-16886-3-27)

II (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 13, 1942

None.

II (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The Bureau continued the investigation started in January, 1941.

III (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS IN BERLE NOTES OBTAINED IN JUNE, 1943

The notes made by Berle at the time of his interview with Chambers in September, 1939 were obtained from Berle in June, 1943. With regard to Witt, Berle's notes are as follows:

"Nathan Witt - Secretary of the NLRB - Head of the underground group after Harold Ware."

On the last page of the Berle notes it is stated that Donald Hiss was a "member of C.P. with Pressman & Witt." (100-25824-27)

III (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

As indicated under Item I, an investigation of Witt was commenced in January, 1941. Also, as indicated under Item III (A), Chambers' allegations were not obtained by the Bureau until June, 1943, which was approximately one and one-half years after Witt had resigned as Secretary of the National Labor Relations Board and had gone to New York City. Chambers' allegations against Witt were investigated in connection with the continuing investigation of Witt, previously started, and in connection with the Gregory investigation.

IV (A) CHAMBERS' ALLEGATIONS ON MAY 10, 1945

During the interview with Chambers on May 10, 1945 by New York Agents, he named Harold Ware, Nathan Witt and John Abt as the leaders of the Ware Underground

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Group with whom he, Chambers, had dealt directly. Chambers stated that the members of the Ware Group were high-salaried Government employees who were Communist Party members, but that their activities with the Party had ceased when they were transferred to the Communist Party underground. Chambers recalled the following individuals as members of the Ware Group: John Abt, Lee Pressman, Henry Collins, Nathan Perlo (later identified by Chambers as Victor Perlo), Charles Kramer, also known as Charles Krivitsky, Alger Hiss, Donald Hiss, ____ Post, Nathan Witt and an unnamed man who was described as the husband of Alice Wendham. (100-25824-36)

IV (B) INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

The investigation of Witt, which was started in January, 1941, was continued into 1947. The closing report from the New York Office is dated October 1, 1947. (100-16886-23)

In addition to continuing the individual investigation on Witt, the information about him in the Berle notes, together with the information from Chambers, was furnished to the Washington Field Office in May, 1945, in connection with the COGOG investigation. (100-3-65-1)

The investigation of Witt confirmed his acquaintance with Charles Kramer, Lee Pressman, John Abt, Victor Perlo, Alger Hiss and Alexander Stevens (J. V. Peters), all of whom were named by Chambers as members of the Ware Underground Group; and showed that Witt has been in contact with several of the most outstanding national figures in the Communist Party - USA. (100-16886-11,21,23; 65-56402-2586)

During October, 1947, Witt's conversations with Communist contacts disclosed that he had a definite knowledge of and interest in developments in the Gregory case, and that he admittedly was a "coordinator" - at least of information and developments on behalf of other subjects in the Gregory case. (65-56402-2966)

Investigation did not disclose that Witt is a card-carrying member of the Communist Party. As an underground member, he would not, of course, be a card-carrying member. (100-16886-12) b7D

However, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised the Washington Field Office on February 3, 1948, that during the late summer of 1940 she, the informant, was present at a small gathering in the apartment of Marian Bachrach (sister of John Abt), Washington, D. C. when Nathan Witt disclosed his affiliation with the Communist Party. (100-16886-24)

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Copies of investigative reports have been furnished to the Army and Navy Intelligence agencies and to the Division of Records in the Department.

(100-16886)

In connection with the Gregory investigation, information about Witt was furnished at various times to the Attorney General, the White House and other interested Government agencies.

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