

PSF

State Dept.: Sumner Welles

1943-44

PSF. *also folder 2-43*

(100)  
THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

April 6, 1943

Secret and  
Personal

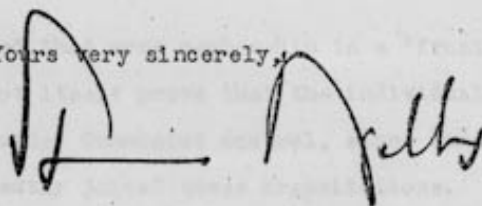
Dear Marvin:

I am sending you herewith, in accordance with our recent telephone conversation, a memorandum prepared in the Department of State covering some of the cases which you mentioned.

I think this memorandum will give you some of the key cases of the kind you had in mind, but there are others which may be brought to the President's attention if he desires to go into the matter more fully.

Believe me

Yours very sincerely,



Enc.

Honorable Marvin H. McIntyre,  
Secretary to the President,  
The White House.

RECORDED  
E. O. 11652, Sec 2(b) and 2(d) or (e)  
State Dept. letter 7-15-75  
R. S. L. Date 5-20-76

April 5, 1943

Memorandum

The following is a record of the activities of twenty-four individuals designated to be sent out on missions of importance by various agencies of the United States Government. Of these, nineteen, being the great majority, were selected by the Office of War Information, the Board of Economic Warfare, and by the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

All of these individuals are reported to have been actively connected either with the Communist movement, or with organizations for liberal purposes commonly known as "front" organizations, whose impetus came from Communist sources.

It is recognized that mere membership in a "front" organization does not itself prove that the individual was a Communist or under Communist control, since sincere liberals have frequently joined these organizations. But practically every informed investigator has developed the fact that the Communist underground organization in America has made a practice of using these "causes" and "front" organizations as a means of interfiltrating into various positions men who could be counted upon to obey implicitly directives given by the Communist Party officials.

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It is further clear that the Communist Party is only secondarily interested in Communism as such, either for the United States or elsewhere. Its primary activity consists in supporting the interests of the Soviet Government, irrespective of whether these interests happen to coincide with the interests of the United States or not. Thus, the directives given do not limit themselves to endeavoring to assure a Russian victory, which is in the interest of the United States, and towards which every possible activity of the Department is directed. They also include a variety of objectives directed at various times against General Sikorski and the Polish Government; General Mikhailovich, in Yugoslavia; the British Government in India; General Franco's Government in Spain; against the possible survival of the Baltic republics; against the possible assimilation of the Social Democrats in Italy; and against the unification of the French under auspices other than those supported by the Communist Party, which happens to be, at the moment, General de Gaulle. They have included a continued and bitter hostility to the Government of General Vargas in Brazil; to the present Peruvian Government; and to a considerable number of officials in the United States Government who are deemed inconvenient.

These

These activities are stated to be in the interest of the submerged classes in all of the various countries. The reality which emerges, however, is invariably a Party movement, or (as in Croatia), a puppet government, following the orders of Soviet Russia, which not infrequently has led to the complete submergence of the country involved. At various times Soviet policy has not only diverged from, but has directly opposed that of the United States, notably, between 1939 and 1941, when the Soviet Government was supporting and working with the German espionage and the German fifth column activities.

The records of the men involved seem to indicate that should there be a divergence between the policy of the United States and the policy of Soviet Russia, these men, with a large degree of control of the American machinery of war making, would probably follow the line taken by Soviet Russia, rather than the line taken by the United States.

If it is desired to give a distinctly liberal cast to these organizations, it would seem possible to find men who are liberal in the light of their own conviction, and of the American ideal, rather than men who have, for

OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION

Passports Issued

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one reason or another, elected to give expression to their liberalism primarily by joining Communist front organizations, and apparently sacrificing their independence of thought and action to the direction of a distinctly European movement.

It has been the theory of this Department that, outside of Soviet Russia, most of the groups struggling for expression desire freedom and a chance to find their own way, and that they have looked to the United States, rather than to the Russian collectivism, as offering the hope of achieving both social advance and individual freedom. The concern which we have is that the men asked to state, represent and carry out American policy shall be men who both understand that policy, and will be loyal to it, rather than to any outside connection.

NOTE: Frederick Louitt - born November, New York - born May 12, 1900, parents born Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Reported to have written a critique against capitalism and the school system for the Federated Press, a Communist news agency.



SANITIZED DOCUMENT

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Around the world with Wilkie

BARNES, Joseph Fels - born Montclair, New Jersey July 21, 1904; father born New York; mother Australia.

News correspondent in USSR several years. Alleged to have stated that the Soviet Constitution is the best ever written. Supported the left wing of the American Newspaper Guild. It is reliably stated that there has been no crucial point in Russian development, since 1934, when Barnes has not followed the Party line and has not been much more successful than the official spokesman in giving it a form congenial to the American way of expression.

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Great Britain

ANDERSON, Maxwell - born Atlantic, Pennsylvania December 15, 1888; parents born Pennsylvania.

Connected with various Communist front organizations such as Committee to Save Spain and China, National Federation of Constitutional Liberties, the Free Company, etc. This connection continued during period of Soviet Cooperation with Germany.

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British Isles

REDEFER, Frederick Lovatt - born Haverstraw, New York February 26, 1905; parents born Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

Reported to have written a diatribe against capitalism and the school systems for the Federated Press, a Communistic news agency.

SANITIZED DOCUMENT

British Isles

SULLIVAN, John Andrew Jr. - born Boston, Massachusetts, April 30, 1917; parents native born.

Employed by PM and followed Communist Party line in his column; had very definite Communist leanings; writing watched by PM as being extremely liberal. PM well satisfied when he resigned.

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North Africa

HOUSEMAN, John - formerly Jack Davies Haussman - born Bucharest, Rumania, September 22, 1902; emigrated United States, 1936; naturalized March 1, 1943; father born Paris, France; Mother British.

Member of Communist Front organizations including Friends of Abraham Lincoln Brigade. Producer of play "Native Son" considered inflammatory in effect and possibly subversive in intent and un-American. Said to have been responsible for placing Communists in key position in foreign radio sections of OWI. Is reliably reported to be known in newspaper and theatrical circles in New York as a Communist. Military authorities consider should remain United States for the duration.

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India

CARSON, Saul - born Russia, June 19, 1895; emigrated to United States 1898; naturalized through father March 26, 1912; father born Russia.

Allegedly member of Communist Party under name Frank Leonard.

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India



India

STARR, Roger Samuel - born New York, New York April 16, 1918; parents born New York.

Did one years volunteer work for the National Advancement for the Colored People. Although he was not in the Army, the Daily Worker reported that he was a white soldier, "a Park Avenue Socialite" who had requested that he be transferred to a Negro regiment and that he would address the National Negro Congress. In his speech he stated that he intended to ask his draft board to let him serve with the Negroes. The National Negro Congress is a Communist Front organization.

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BOARD OF ECONOMIC WARFARE

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Brazil

SHERWOOD, William K. - born Milwaukee, Wisconsin November 19, 1916; parents native born.

Strongly Communistic in writings and belief; prolific writer on Communism; possessor of much subversive material. Suspected of Communist activity by British as early as 1937.

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Cuba

SHIRE, Albert C. - born Atlantic City, New Jersey, August 28, 1896; parents born New York City and Washington, D.C.

Member of Washington Committee for Democratic action and American Peace Mobilization (Communist front organizations). Refused to answer questions re membership in first mentioned organization.

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Ecuador

Ecuador

WOLF, Mortimer Bertram - born New York, New York March 22, 1912; father born Germany; mother born New York.

Name appeared on active indices of Washington Committee for Democratic Action and American Peace Mobilization. Wife allegedly radical.

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Latin American countries

KISICH, Oliver Michael - born Oakland, California March 13, 1899; father born Yugoslavia.

While employed by the U.S. Navy in Jamaica, he and his wife associated with members of the so called intellectual and liberal groups, some of whom have advocated self-government for that colony and have had connections with American Communist organizations. Kisich is also said to have attended exiled writers and anti-Nazi literary meetings in Mexico City.

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Passports not Issued

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Venezuela

WEYL, Nathaniel - born New York, New York July 20, 1910; father born Pennsylvania; mother Illinois.

Formerly member of National Committee of the Students Congress against War. Student agitator while attending Columbia University.

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Bolivia

BETTELHEIM, Ralph W. - born New York, New York December 26, 1909; parents born Austria.

Resided Austria 1910-1927. Parents apparently aliens. Allegedly radical. Contributed to fund raised by New York Conference for Inalienable Rights.

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COORDINATOR OF INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

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South America

WELLES, Orson - born Kenosha, Wisconsin May 6, 1915;  
father born Missouri.

Alleged Communist.

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South America

FRANK, Waldo David - born Long Branch, New Jersey,  
August 25, 1889; father born New York City.

Member of many Communist front organizations.  
Associated with Communists. Known as a fellow traveler.

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South America

FAHEY (or FAHY), Jack Bradley - born Washington, D. C.,  
November 5, 1908; father born Connecticut.

Served in International Brigade of Spanish Army.  
After return resigned from Socialist Party in letter  
denouncing Socialist attacks on Communist Party. Wife  
allegedly Communist. Known to have associated with  
Communists in New York.

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Central America

BELL, Bernard Raymond - born Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
January 9, 1912; parents born Russia.

Associated with Communists. Member of organization  
in which Communists were active. Denied party membership.

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Ecuador

Ecuador

BOKE, Richard Lathrop - born Berkeley, California  
January 14, 1909; father born California.

Reported to be a close associate of many Communists  
and Communist sympathizers.

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Mexico

HERLING, John - born New York, New York April 14, 1905;  
parents born Austria.

Formerly member of Socialist party. Has been  
active in several communist front organizations, in-  
cluding (in September 1939) Keep America Out of War.  
Allegedly said "I believe in the abolition of the  
Capitalist system. I believe in the necessity of the  
destruction of this system of exploitation by the  
might of the workers' organizations". Was connected  
with "Revolt" the Intercollegiate Associate Review.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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North Africa

DODD, William Edward Jr. - born Ashland, Virginia; August  
8, 1905; parents native born.

Holds membership at large card in Communist Party.  
Takes active part in controversial "front" organization  
activities, being a leader in a number of movements of  
Communist strategy. Is personally untrustworthy, having  
disclosed confidential information in the past. Was  
generally known in Berlin as a moral pervert and his  
moral weakness was known to both British and German au-  
thorities, who maintained funds to be used to gain infor-  
mation from him in Berlin.

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TREASURY

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North Africa

GLASSER, Harold - born Chicago, Illinois November 23, 1905; parents born Russia.

Allegedly Communist. Member of two or more Communist front organizations. Allegedly opposed military training in colleges. Name of wife appears in active indices of Washington Committee for Democratic Action.

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WAR DEPARTMENT

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Far East

HAUSER, Ernest Otto - born Germany February 28, 1910; German born parents; came United States 1936; naturalized May 25, 1942.

Actually connected with Communist Party in Germany; had done undercover Communistic work in China and "understood to be doing similar work in United States". Associate of Japanese and named on list of members of study group for Geopolitics, Heidelberg. Memo of May 31, 1938, National Socialist German Workers Party, Wilhelmstrasse, Berlin.

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OFFICE OF EDUCATION

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Haiti

Haiti

HONIG, Edwin - born New York City September 3, 1919;  
father born Palestine.

Associated with Communists. Reported to have  
Communist sympathies. In possession of Index Cards con-  
taining reference to confidential defense matters and  
military information which were taken from office where  
his wife was employed.

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RED CROSS

Passports Issued

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British Isles

SLAFF, George - born Passaic, New Jersey May 22, 1906;  
parents born Russia.

Allegedly member of communist front organizations.  
Now said to be employed by FCC..

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