cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities [illegible] similar committees.

The loyalty form for Perkins reflects she is a member of the National Consumer's League. Bureau files reflect this organization has not been investigated by the Bureau and it is not identical with the National Consumer's Union. (100-153350)

(C) Alleged Association by Perkins With the Communist Party and Reported Communists.

(1) Communist Party

Bureau files contain letters written by individuals in which it is alleged that Perkins is a Communist or Communist sympathizer. None of these letters contain any factual basis for the allegations. It is noted most of these letters made similar allegations regarding other prominent people employed by the United States Government. (61-7559-8220X, 8372, 9486, 9694, 9599) (100-10718-2)

A former member of the Communist Party advised the Bureau he had heard remarks at Communist Party meetings to the effect that Perkins favored Communist Party policies. (39-915-412)

b7C, b7D [redacted] was reported to have said that if a Communist has trouble coming to America or getting off Ellis Island, Perkins eases things for him. (65-8946-5104)

An article appeared in the July 27, 1940 issue of the Saturday Evening Post written by Benjamin Stolberg which set forth "Perkins is not a Communist nor even remotely a Communist sympathiser. She represents a classic type of soft-minded liberals whom the Stalinists behind the scenes know how to exploit for their own purpose." (39-915-96X5)

You will recall that on October 30, 1946 you made the following notation on a memorandum regarding Perkins: "While not a Commy, she is naive and opinionated and far from judicial in her approach to matters." (62-28592-A)

Bureau files do not reflect Perkins has been active in any reported Communist Party front organizations.

(2) Association with Reported Communists

Perkins was reported to have canceled in 1934 the deportation order of Frank Borich, who was charged with being a

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member of an organization seeking the overthrow of this government by violence. Borich, in 1948, was reported to be a Communist Party member and Executive Secretary of the National Council of Americans of Croatian Descent. (100-346288-118)

[redacted] charged that Perkins was directly responsible for the rise to power of Joseph Curran. (61-7550-1523, pg. 3)

Walter S. Steele of the "National Republic," testifying before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1939 concerning the American League for Peace and Democracy, stated "The late Henri Barbusse, French Communist, was the founder of this international movement who came to the United States with the permission of Secretary of Labor Perkins to assist in launching the American section." (61-7582 Copy A, Vol. 1, pg. 457)

[redacted] reportedly said Perkins was a close friend of [redacted] and that he was the "go-between" between Perkins and the Russian Ambassador in Sweden. (65-8946-5104)

Bureau files reflect that Perkins was a friend of three individuals whom this Bureau has investigated because they were reported to be pro-Russian. (77-28923-A), (65-32677-3)

b7C, b7D

Perkins was reported to have spoken in 1944 at the Community Church of Boston [redacted] (100-29870-21)

III - MISCELLANEOUS

An article in the October 18, 1933 issue of the "Daily Worker" refers to Secretary Perkins as having been a member of the Socialist Party for the past fifteen years. (101-255-2)

Perkins was listed as a reference in 1942 by [redacted] (65-39300-732,733)

Much unfavorable comment has been made of Perkins regarding her reported action in withholding the deportation of aliens who were reported to be Communists. This criticism pertains to such well-known individuals as Harry Bridges and Frank Borich, mentioned above. Such organizations as the American Legion, the National Small Businessmen's Association and the House Committee on Un-American Activities have issued

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statements voicing such criticism. (61-7587-2-10) (61-7582 Vol. 3, pg. 2001; vol. 4, pg. 2927) (94-1-7451-A)

The November 17, 1945 issue of the "Sunday Star" carried an article which set forth that Perkins had expressed herself as being opposed to "snooping" investigators, checking up on federal office holders and applicants. (62-28592)

RECOMMENDATION:

Bureau files reflect Perkins is not a member of any organization cited by the Attorney General, the House Committee on Un-American Activities, or any other public committee. Her name does appear, along with other prominent individuals, as one who offered advice and suggestions to the American Youth Congress. Many unspecific complaints have been received that Perkins is a Communist or Communist sympathizer. She is alleged to be friendly with individuals reported to be pro-Communists and to have withheld the deportation of reported Communists. However, since she is not a member of any cited organization and most of the complaints regarding possible disloyalty on the part of Perkins are unspecific, it is recommended no investigation of Perkins be conducted under Executive Order 9835 and that the loyalty form be returned to the Civil Service Commission stamped "No Disloyal Data -- FBI Files."

8-2-51 Under date of 7-3-51 CIA submitted a "name check" on Frances Perkins. The CIA report was returned stamped:

NO INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED BY FBI PERTINENT TO YOUR INQUIRY

WDC:HMW

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 1949

FROM : DIRECTOR, FBI

SUBJECT: FRANCES PERKINS
Aka Mrs. Paul Caldwell Wilson
Commissioner
U. S. Civil Service Commission
Washington, D.C.
LOYALTY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
RECEIVED
FEB 11 1949

No investigation initiated

A loyalty form has been received at the Bureau for Frances Perkins from the Civil Service Commission.

For your information, the Bureau has not conducted any investigation of Frances Perkins.

I - BACKGROUND

Frances Perkins was born April 10, 1882 at Boston, Massachusetts. She was a member of the New York State Industrial Board from 1923 to 1933. From 1933 to 1945, she was Secretary of Labor. The loyalty form reflects she has been employed with the Civil Service Commission since October 9, 1946 and at present holds the position as captioned above.

II - INFORMATION IN BUREAU FILES CONCERNING FRANCES PERKINS PERTINENT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER 9835

(A) There is no information in Bureau files which reflects Frances Perkins is, or has been, a member of any organization cited by the Attorney General as within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Prior to the First American Youth Congress held at New York City in 1934, official publications of this Congress listed some individuals who were interested in the movement and had offered advice and suggestions. Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, was listed among these individuals. It is noted that this list included other cabinet members, several governors, and other prominent people.

(B) There is no information in Bureau files which reflects Frances Perkins is, or has been, a member of any organization cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities or any other public committee.

The loyalty form for Frances Perkins reflects she is a member of

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12/13/83 BY 3947 933

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the National Consumer's League. This organization has not been investigated by the Bureau and it is not identical with the National Consumer's Union.

(C) Alleged Association by Frances Perkins with the Communist Party and Reported Communists

(1) Communist Party

Bureau files contain letters written by individuals in which it is alleged that Frances Perkins is a Communist or Communist sympathizer. None of these letters contain any factual basis for the allegations. It is noted most of these letters made similar allegations regarding other prominent people employed by the United States Government.

A former member of the Communist Party advised the Bureau he had heard remarks at Communist Party meetings to the effect that Frances Perkins favored Communist Party policies.

b7C, b7D [redacted] was reported to have said that if a Communist has trouble coming to America or getting off Ellis Island, Frances Perkins eases things for him.

An article appeared in the July 27, 1940 issue of the Saturday Evening Post written by Benjamin Stolberg which set forth "Perkins is not a Communist nor even remotely a Communist sympathizer. She represents a classic type of soft-minded liberals whom the Stalinists behind the scenes know how to exploit for their own purpose."

Bureau files do not reflect Frances Perkins has been active in any reported Communist Party front organizations.

(2) Association with Reported Communists

Frances Perkins was reported to have canceled in 1934 the deportation order of Frank Borich, who was charged with being a member of an organization seeking the overthrow of this government by violence. Borich, in 1948, was reported to be a Communist Party member and Executive Secretary of the National Council of Americans of Croatian Descent.

Walter S. Steele of the "National Republic," testifying

[redacted]

before the House Committee on Un-American Activities [redacted] concerning the American League for Peace and Democracy, stated "The late Henri Barbusse, French Communist, was the founder of this international movement who came to the United States with the permission of Secretary of Labor Perkins to assist in launching the American section."

[redacted] reportedly said Frances Perkins was a close friend of [redacted] and that he was the "go-between" between Frances Perkins and the Russian Ambassador in Sweden.

Bureau files reflect that Frances Perkins was a friend of three individuals whom this Bureau has investigated because they were reported to be pro-Russian.

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b7D

Frances Perkins was reported to have spoken in 194[redacted] Community Church of Boston [redacted]

III - MISCELLANEOUS

An article in the October 18, 1933 issue of the "Daily Worker" refers to Secretary Frances Perkins as having been a member of the Socialist Party for the past fifteen years.

Frances Perkins was listed as a reference in 1942 by [redacted]

Much unfavorable comment has been made of Frances Perkins regarding her reported action in withholding the deportation of aliens who were reported to be Communists. This criticism pertains to such well-known individuals as Harry Bridges and Frank Borich, mentioned above. Such organizations as the American Legion, the National Small Businessmen's Association and the House Committee on Un-American Activities have issued statements voicing such criticism.

The November 17, 1946 issue of the "Sunday Star" carried an article which set forth that Frances Perkins had expressed herself as being opposed to "snooping" investigators, checking up on federal office holders and applicants.

It is requested that you advise this Bureau if a full field loyalty investigation should be conducted of Frances Perkins, based upon the above information. If you do not desire such an investigation, please advise if a summary of this information should be furnished to the Civil Service Commission on the back of the loyalty form.

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