

SF 116-52286

DETAILS:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

The February 13, 1945 issue of the San Francisco Chronicle, a daily newspaper in San Francisco, on page 7, column 8, contained an article entitled, "BROWN Aids Appeal of HARRY BRIDGES". In its pertinent parts this article read as follows:

"District Attorney EDMUND G. BROWN came out against the deportation of HARRY BRIDGES, CIO leader, in a statement announced yesterday.

"BROWN in a letter to the Bridges Victory Committee, termed the deportation order against the longshoremens' president 'a threat to industrial peace'.....

"District Attorney BROWN concluded his letter with the hope that 'Mr. BRIDGES will soon be permitted the opportunity of becoming a U. S. citizen'."

From the time of the original petition for naturalization by HARRY RENTON BRIDGES in 1921, until ultimate disposition by the court on July 29, 1955, a series of trials and hearings were held concerning possible membership in and affiliation with the Communist Party on the part of BRIDGES. During the course of these trials and hearings, a second deportation warrant was issued on February 14, 1941. On June 12, 1941, finding against BRIDGES, the deportation warrant was upheld by the United States District Court. On January 3, 1942, the Board of Immigration Appeals disapproved the finding of June 12, 1941. On May 28, 1942, the Attorney General of the United States overrode the Board of Immigration Appeals and again ordered deportation, ~~adopting~~ the findings of June 12, 1941. On February 8, 1943, the presiding Judge, in the United States District Court, denied a petition for a writ of habeas corpus on the part of BRIDGES. After this, a later series of trials and hearings, including an appearance before the United States Supreme Court, occurred. Ultimately, on July 29, 1955, in connection with civil denaturalization proceeding, the United States District Court found for BRIDGES, the presiding Judge concluding that "the government has failed to prove allegations...as to membership in the Communist Party by clear and convincing evidence."

The Communist Party, USA, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

An article appearing in the August 9, 1945, issue of the San Francisco Chronicle, page 9, column 2, announced that District Attorney EDMUND G. BROWN had been elected one of the five Vice Presidents of the San Francisco Chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild.

A characterization of the National Lawyers' Guild is appended hereto.

In November, 1945, San Francisco [REDACTED], who is unavailable for recontact, furnished a letterhead entitled, "Salute to Young America Committee", which was a committee, according to the letterhead, to sponsor a second anniversary dinner of the American Youth for Democracy in San Francisco, California. The letterhead listed EDMUND G. BROWN as a member of the Committee in Formation. [REDACTED] stated that EDMUND G. BROWN was being considered by the Communist Party in San Francisco as a speaker for this committee. [REDACTED] furnished no further details. b2, b7D

A copy of the above mentioned letterhead is attached, marked "Exhibit D."

The American Youth for Democracy has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

In March, 1946, San Francisco [REDACTED] advised that in January, 1946, the Omicron Epsilon Society, a student veterans society at the University of San Francisco, San Francisco, California, addressed letters to persons whose names appeared as sponsors for the banquet honoring the American Youth for Democracy held Saturday, November 10, 1945, at the St. Francis Hotel in San Francisco, stating they could not believe they knowingly gave their consent to be used in support of the American Youth for Democracy and asking them for a written expression on their stand on the American Youth for Democracy. [REDACTED] furnished a copy of the letter written to EDMUND G. BROWN which was dated January 10, 1946. [REDACTED] also furnished a Photostat of the reply of EDMUND G. BROWN dated February 1, 1946, in which he stated he knew that the Young Communist League or some similar organization had participated in the formation of the American Youth for Democracy and that he had called an official of the American Youth for Democracy and asked her if it was Communistic in either origin or intent. According to BROWN, the official b2, b7D

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advised him that the American Youth for Democracy "was not in any manner, shape or form Communistic although some members of the Young Communist League had at one time belonged". BROWN added, "I have refused at all times to become a sponsor of any organization or any meeting until I first investigated its background".

A copy of the above letter of the Omicron Epsilon Society is attached, marked "Exhibit A".

A photostat of the above letter of EDMUND G. BROWN is attached, marked "Exhibit B".

The Young Communist League has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED] b7C

b7C On May 10, 1960, [REDACTED] advised that he has known Governor BROWN for 25 years or more and has had many social contacts with him. [REDACTED] said that he has not always agreed with Governor BROWN'S statements nor does he always agree with his expressed thinking because of their different political views, but he said he has no reservations whatsoever about Governor BROWN'S loyalty to the United States.

[REDACTED] stated he is quite aware of things that have been said about Governor BROWN'S "leanings to the left", but he dismisses them as unworthy of comment. He said such things gain publicity either by the wishful thinking of the "leftists" or from deliberate misinterpretation of what Governor BROWN would say. [REDACTED] pointed out that this is the type of thing that confronts nearly everyone who runs for a political office.

[REDACTED] stated that Governor BROWN'S social and private life are above question or suspicion; he knows him to be an excellent family man, a good father and a good husband. He stated that he has never heard one question of scandal raised in connection with Governor BROWN'S life.

[REDACTED] advised on May 10, 1960 that he has

known Governor BROWN since 1944, when BROWN became District Attorney of San Francisco. [REDACTED] stated that he thinks very highly of Governor BROWN, both personally and professionally, and he has no doubts as to his character or morals and said that his loyalty to the United States was above question.

b7C [REDACTED] pointed out that he and BROWN differed professionally in one or two celebrated criminal cases in which there was much publicity and BROWN made him extremely "annoyed to put it very mildly". [REDACTED] remarked that with more sober reflection and the passage of several years, he concluded that BROWN acted to the best of his knowledge and ability and that his actions were the result of his good conscience and his knowledge as a prosecuting attorney, and that he has never felt BROWN was swayed by any evil influences.

[REDACTED] stated that he knows Governor BROWN'S family and his brothers and has never heard anything that would reflect unfavorably upon any of them. except to note that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] concluded by stating that in his opinion Governor BROWN is an outstanding figure.

b7C [REDACTED] of San Francisco, advised on May 10, 1960 that he has known Governor BROWN for 25 years and first knew him when BROWN was entering public life. He stated he has had innumerable contacts with him in social and professional matters. [REDACTED] stated he would have no question concerning Governor BROWN'S morals, character or loyalty to the United States. He remarked that, as a Catholic, Governor BROWN would be hard pressed to reconcile his religion with any Communist doctrines or beliefs, and he stated that Governor BROWN has never said or done anything that would cause him to doubt his loyalty for one moment. He remarked that Governor BROWN is impulsive in speech and sometimes ambiguous, but he believes him to be an honest and sincere person.

[REDACTED] of San Francisco, advised on May 10, 1960 that his personal relations and friendship with Governor EDMUND G. BROWN go back to more than 20 years. He stated [REDACTED] in BROWN'S office when BROWN was District Attorney, [REDACTED] later carrying on the [REDACTED] of the administration and policy making for the entire District Attorney's Office. He stated that they are close personal friends and social acquaintances and have been for many years, and have confided in each other consistently on political and other matters.

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[REDACTED] advised there is no question at all in his mind about Governor BROWN'S loyalty, his thinking or his devotion to the United States. He advised he is a good family man and his associates are all people of the same type. [REDACTED] stated he is personally acquainted with all of Governor BROWN'S family; his wife BERNICE, [REDACTED]

He advised he has two brothers who are lawyers in San Francisco, HAROLD C. [REDACTED] and FRANK M. BROWN, and a sister, Mrs. ARTHUR (CONSTANCE) CARLSON, and all are of good character, reputation and absolutely loyal to the United States.

[REDACTED] stated that he felt Governor BROWN is impulsive, both in speech and action, and that people have tried to take advantage of this characteristic. He stated that he did not believe Governor BROWN would welcome support of any kind from any Communist or left wing faction.

[REDACTED] stated that in the late 1930s, the National Lawyers' Guild, local chapter, was organized by several young lawyers who were interested in obtaining recognition at conventions and Bar Association meetings. It had been traditional that only delegates of the San Francisco Bar Association would be recognized at meetings and conventions, and because of the control of the San Francisco Bar Association held by the "downtown" lawyers and the "old family" groups

it was impossible to obtain recognition by young lawyers who were on the "outside". [REDACTED] stated that several young lawyers conceived the idea they could achieve recognition by affiliation with some group like the National Lawyers Guild and stated that he had received an invitation to join and had attended several meetings, but for some reason failed to formally sign up. Subsequently, when it became apparent that the liberal and "left wing" groups were trying to get control, [REDACTED] said many of the members resigned from the local National Lawyers' Guild and he believed that BROWN, who had been a member for sometime and who never subscribed to any of the "left wing" views, resigned about that time. According to [REDACTED] Governor BROWN took little or no part in the proceedings of the National Lawyers' Guild.

[REDACTED] also commented on a statement attributed to Governor BROWN in behalf of HARRY BRIDGES. [REDACTED] stated that HARRY BRIDGES, a San Francisco labor leader who has long been accused of being a Communist and who has always been associated with "left wing" groups, was being threatened with deportation by the U. S. Government in the early 1940s. He advised BRIDGES was an acknowledged labor

leader on the waterfront and a strike was threatened, if he was deported. [redacted] stated that many prominent people, including Governor BROWN, objected to the deportation at that time in a community effort to help San Francisco and the war effort. He said they feared the strike and the possible slowdown of cargo handling on the waterfront and its very obvious effect on the war effort. [redacted] stated that the deportation objections were, ironically enough, motivated by patriotism even though "left wingers" and their organizations were behind the movement.

[redacted] advised that it was brought to his attention that Governor BROWN'S name had been used by the American Youth for Democracy or the Young Communist League around 1946. He stated that this was done without Governor BROWN'S permission and that BROWN had made a statement to this effect during his campaign for Governor and apparently had successfully repudiated any statements to the contrary.

b7c [redacted] stated that [redacted] is well acquainted with Governor BROWN and, since they [redacted] for several years, suggested he be interviewed. [redacted] said, however, that [redacted] would probably be unfriendly to Governor BROWN, because [redacted] feels [redacted] has visualized himself as the Attorney General, or Governor, and has blamed Governor BROWN for the fact that he is not. [redacted] explained that [redacted] approached him about running for Attorney General and that [redacted] explained he could not support [redacted] because of their different political affiliations. [redacted] indicated he blamed BROWN and protested that on the State level partisan politics was unimportant. [redacted] stated furthermore, that in his opinion [redacted] has become so conservative in his views on nearly everything, that he feels [redacted] has become overly scrupulous.

[redacted] advised on May 11, 1960 that he has known Governor BROWN for nearly 20 years and he considers him an honest, loyal American. [redacted] said he is willing to accept the edict of the people of the State of California who elected Governor BROWN and feels that the loyalty of such a person is not open to question. He commented that he and Governor BROWN were members of the same political party but that he had always felt Governor BROWN was much too conservative to be a "true" Democrat. [redacted] stated that his social contacts with Governor BROWN were rather limited, but that professionally he believes Governor BROWN enjoys a very fine reputation.

[redacted] remarked that he felt quite strongly against an investigation of this kind involving the Governor, and remarked that it was, in his opinion, an infringement upon the sovereign right of the State of California.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
INTERVIEW REPORTDate May 16, 1960

b7C [redacted] advised that he has known Governor BROWN for 25 years and first became acquainted with him when Governor BROWN [redacted] stated that he and [redacted] decided to deliver to Governor BROWN [redacted] San Francisco. [redacted] stated that he was the "go-between" in the National Lawyers' Guild between that organization and the CIO for whom [redacted] were doing legal work. He stated that it was only natural that he and [redacted] should try to influence the labor vote in behalf of BROWN because BROWN was favorably looked upon by labor at that time. [redacted] said that it was not so much a favorable view of BROWN but rather a protest against the incumbent MATT BRADY, who has since died and who prosecuted SAM DARCY who was a leader in Communist circles in the San Francisco Bay area. He said the CIO would have supported anyone against BRADY.

[redacted] said he has never known Governor BROWN to be friendly with any "left wing" groups. [redacted] further stated that Governor BROWN was an early member of the National Lawyers' Guild but that in the late 1930s so were a great many lawyers in San Francisco because it was only through this organization that a young or "unknown" lawyer could be heard. However, when "left wing" elements began to "take over" and attempt to dictate policy, many of the more conservative elements resigned, including BROWN. [redacted] said that subsequent to this, the National Lawyers' Guild got the bad reputation it enjoyed for sometime because of the "left wing" elements that obtained and maintained control. [redacted] stated he believes that BROWN quit the National Lawyers' Guild in 1941 or 1942.

[redacted] stated he, [redacted], was a member of the Communist Party from 1936 to 1950 and that his former law partner, [redacted] was a member of the Communist Party from 1936 to 1950 and he believes that [redacted] is still a member of the Communist Party.

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on 5/11/60 at San Francisco, California Date dictated 5/13/60
by Special Agent [redacted] wap b7C

b7c

[redacted] Long and Levit, Attorneys, Merchants Exchange Building, on May 11, 1960 advised that his first association with Governor BROWN was nearly 25 years ago when they were both beginning their interest in politics and both were members of a good Government organization in San Francisco. [redacted] stated that they became friendly because he liked Governor BROWN'S straightforward manner and when Governor BROWN became District Attorney, [redacted] re-organizing his office, and later when Governor BROWN was elected Attorney General [redacted] to help organize the Attorney General's Office.

[redacted] also noted that when Governor BROWN was elected Governor, [redacted] for the purpose of assisting him in organization. [redacted] remarked that from this it can be seen he thinks very highly of Governor BROWN and put it in this manner: "A lawyer's greatest asset is his reputation and I would stake mine on Governor BROWN".

[redacted] stated that he is of a different political affiliation and has different political views than Governor BROWN and noted that things have been said in campaigns concerning BROWN'S "leanings". [redacted] remarked, however, that he knows Governor BROWN well enough to state that all of these statements were either false or exaggerated and that he would never knowingly seek help from the "leftists" and would never give them aid or comfort. He stated that Governor BROWN often acts independently after getting advice. For example, [redacted] stated that in the CHESSMAN case, the convict who was condemned for these many years, Governor BROWN sought his advice and he told him to remain aloof, except as the law required him to act. [redacted] stated that Governor BROWN did not take his advice and the case has put him in "continual hot water".

[redacted], Attorneys at Law, [redacted] on May 13, 1960 said he has known and been friendly with Governor BROWN (for 25 years) and has supported Governor BROWN in all of his campaigns. He characterized Governor BROWN as an honest, God-fearing man of strong character and integrity and one who would not even think of a disloyal thing. [redacted] former U. S. District Judge EDWARD MURPHY, who is now dead, and Governor BROWN joined the National Lawyers' Guild in the late 1930s. [redacted] stated this organization was formed so the rank and file lawyers could have a spokesman before the American Bar Association. After a

time, [redacted] stated it appeared that the "Commies" were getting control of the organization in New York and the people in the West did not like it but found they were going to have a fight on their hands in San Francisco. [redacted] stated that MURPHY was seeking re-election to the Superior Bench in San Francisco at the time and he and Governor BROWN were supporting him. They felt that if MURPHY resigned from the National Lawyers' Guild, the local CIO would run a candidate against MURPHY so Governor BROWN, MURPHY and [redacted] all agreed they would resign together when MURPHY was re-elected. [redacted] stated that they all resigned shortly after Judge MURPHY'S re-election and as far as he knows, Governor BROWN never re-affiliated with the National Lawyers' Guild nor did he ever hold an office in this organization.

[redacted] Watson Navigation Company, 215 Market Street, [redacted] (San Francisco, advised on May 16, 1960 that he first knew Governor BROWN when he, [redacted] San Francisco in 1944 and had many contacts with him, both socially and professionally, since that time. [redacted] stated that he has not conversed with Governor BROWN for about one year and noted that both he and Governor BROWN differed politically, but he is convinced from the numerous talks and meetings he has had with Governor BROWN, that he would never knowingly say or do anything that would not be to the best interests of the United States. [redacted] stated he does not think that Governor BROWN would ever be "soft" toward Communism or anything else that would undermine or attempt to tear down the Government of the United States.

[redacted] said Governor BROWN is a good family man and is honest and sincere. [redacted] commented on the recent publicity Governor BROWN received concerning capital punishment, and stated he is convinced that Governor BROWN acted in good conscience and to the best of his ability, even though, in [redacted] opinion, he damaged himself politically.

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b7c [redacted] advised on May 14, 1960, that he has known Governor EDWARD BROWN since he was eight or nine years of age and that they have had innumerable contacts during his life time. He said he considers Governor BROWN a close personal friend and noted that both are members of the same political party. He said that they have been in each other's company on countless occasions in social gatherings as well.

[redacted] stated that he had absolutely no concern that Governor BROWN would be permitted access to very highly classified material and said that it is unthinkable to question his loyalty or devotion to the United States and its democratic form of government.

[redacted] stated that BROWN's personal attributes are many and that he is a good family man.

[redacted] stated that he believed it only fair to state, however, that BROWN is inclined to equivocate in his language at times, but stated that he is certain that his decisions are made honestly, sincerely, and in good conscience.

[redacted] commented on allegations which he stated were made during Governor BROWN's political campaign and stated that some of the allegations dwelt upon BROWN's "liberal" tendencies. [redacted] stated that he is aware that Governor BROWN at one time was a member of the local chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild and also noted that he was in very select company in his membership, noting that members of the judiciary and prominent lawyers were members at the same time. He remarked that membership in the National Lawyers' Guild at that time, 1939 to 1941, was not at all unusual and that it was only through this organization that the young lawyers of the San Francisco Bay area were able to receive recognition at the Bar Association Conventions. As soon as it became evident that liberal elements were attempting to control the National Lawyers' Guild, [redacted] stated that Governor BROWN and countless other attorneys deserted the ranks of the National Lawyers' Guild in protest.

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The following investigation was conducted by Investigative Clerk [REDACTED] b7C

CREDIT AND POLICE CHECKS

b7C On May 11, 1960, the files of the San Francisco Retail Credit Association were checked by [REDACTED] Files of this Credit Association. A record was found concerning EDMUND GERALD BROWN [REDACTED] reflecting that they had a favorable credit rating. There was nothing in the files of this Credit Association reflecting unfavorably upon them.

On May 12, 1960, the files of the San Francisco Police Department were checked by [REDACTED] but nothing identifiable with EDMUND GERALD BROWN [REDACTED] was found. b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
INTERVIEW REPORTDate May 12, 1960

[redacted] California, advised that he has known Governor BROWN for the past 14 years as District Attorney of San Francisco County, Attorney General and Governor of the State of California. [redacted] stated that it is his personal opinion that Governor BROWN is lacking in character, ability, judgment and integrity, and that he cannot keep a secret.

As an example of Governor BROWN'S lack of ability and judgment, [redacted] cited what he considered Governor BROWN'S mis-handling of the recently publicized CARYL CHESSMAN case wherein Governor BROWN granted CHESSMAN a reprieve. [redacted] advised in this connection that he is strongly opposed to Governor BROWN'S stand in favor of abolishing capital punishment as he, [redacted] is [redacted] to retain capital punishment.

b7c
Concerning Governor BROWN'S lack of character and integrity and his inability to keep a secret, [redacted] stated that in December, 1949 he attended the National Chiefs of Police Convention wherein U. S. Attorney General McGRATH gave a talk and stated that in February, 1950 he, McGRATH, was having a meeting in Washington, D. C. with a few selected members of the national Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs regarding organized crime. [redacted] stated that after this speech he went to Attorney General McGRATH and asked him why the District Attorneys were not included in this February, 1950 meeting inasmuch as the District Attorneys were the front line defense in organized crime. McGRATH advised him that the District Attorneys had no national organization. [redacted] told McGRATH that he had been working on a national association of District Attorneys for over a year. [redacted] advised that McGRATH then requested that he, [redacted] five District Attorneys from throughout the United States to attend the meeting in February, 1950.

[redacted] advised that he attended this meeting with [redacted] District Attorneys but that BROWN, then District Attorney for San Francisco County, was not invited. [redacted] stated that BROWN attended this meeting even though he was not invited. According to [redacted] at the meeting he, [redacted], made a talk regarding the formation of the national association of District Attorneys and informed that he, [redacted] County Supervisors Association of California,

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on 5/11/60 at Oakland, California Date dictated 5/12/60
by Special Agent [redacted] b7c

had worked on this plan for over a year and contacted many of the District Attorneys throughout the United States. According to [REDACTED] also took the floor and further explained the plans for a national association of District Attorneys.

b7c [REDACTED] stated that the next day Mr. BROWN called a press conference and announced that the national association of District Attorneys was his idea and that he, BROWN, had presented it at a meeting on the day before. [REDACTED] stated that this was 100% false and a deliberate lie. According to [REDACTED] later when he saw Mr. BROWN in California and accused BROWN of this falsification, BROWN stated "well, you didn't have a patent on it".

Concerning loyalty to the United States, [REDACTED] said that while he certainly does not believe Governor BROWN is disloyal, on one occasion at a District Attorneys Convention in Santa Barbara, California, date not recalled, Mr. BROWN gave a speech and criticized congressional committees and hearings. [REDACTED] stated that Chief WILLIAM PARKER, Los Angeles, California Police Department, gave a speech following that of Mr. BROWN. According to [REDACTED] Chief PARKER pointed his finger at Mr. BROWN and stated that BROWN talked like a Communist and that he was espousing the Communist Party line.

Other than the above, [REDACTED] said that he had no additional comment to make concerning Governor BROWN'S loyalty. He stated, however, that in view of the items which he mentioned, as set forth above, he did not feel that he could personally recommend that Governor BROWN be given access to confidential data in which the United States Government has an interest.

b7C The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED]

b7C
b7D
AT OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

[REDACTED] advised on May 11, 1960 that he has known of Governor BROWN professionally for 20 years and always knew him to be a loyal American. [REDACTED] stated that as Governor of the State of California, Mr. BROWN is head of the California National Guard and also as Governor of the State of California, he is entrusted with confidential information. [REDACTED] advised he did not believe that any leaks would come from Governor BROWN. [REDACTED] further stated that he did not know Governor BROWN well enough to pass on his character or associates.

b7C The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED]

b7C
b7D
AT MODESTO, CALIFORNIA

[REDACTED] Attorney, 4115 I Street. [REDACTED] on May 11, 1960 advised that he had known Governor EDMUND G. BROWN for approximately ten years, and since BROWN has been Governor, he has been in contact with him several times a week during the periods the Assembly is in session. He advised that he considers Governor BROWN as being of good character and reputation. He advised that he considers Governor BROWN as being a loyal American and that no question has ever been raised regarding Governor BROWN which would reflect unfavorably on his character, reputation or loyalty.

b7C The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED]

b7C
b7D
AT SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

[REDACTED] Aerojet General Corporation, advised on May 12, 1960 that he has been acquainted with Governor BROWN since approximately 1947 and has had a great deal of social contact with him since that time. He stated that he regards Governor BROWN as a person of excellent character, associates and he has no reason whatsoever to doubt Governor BROWN'S loyalty to the United States. He stated he believes Governor BROWN can be placed in a high position of trust.

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The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED] b7C

b7C On May 12, 1960, [REDACTED] Sacramento, California, advised that he has known Governor BROWN for over 20 years and regards him as a person of excellent character and associates. He stated he has no reason to doubt Governor BROWN'S loyalty to the United States and would highly recommend him to a position of trust. b2, b7D

On May 11, 1960, San Francisco [REDACTED] furnished a 6-page mimeographed document mailed to him from the Northern California Headquarters of EDMUND G. (PAT) BROWN for Attorney General, San Francisco, California, on October 16, 1950, which was captioned "For Your Information and Use". This mimeographed document was designed to refute charges that BROWN was a "leftist" because (1) in February, 1945, he described deportation proceedings against HARRY BRIDGES as a "threat to industrial peace" and joined in the recommendation that they be dropped, (2) he held membership in the San Francisco Chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild, (3) his name was used as a member of a committee on a letterhead of the National Citizens Political Action Committee, Northern California Division in conjunction with a testimonial dinner on April 22, 1946, and (4) because his name was used in connection with a banquet given by a "Salute to Young America".

A photostat of the above document, together with the envelope in which it was received, is attached, marked "Exhibit C".

A characterization of the National Citizens Political Action Committee is appended hereto.

Governor EDMUND G. BROWN, in a telephone conversation with SAC RICHARD D. AUERBACH on May 9, 1960, expressed a desire to furnish certain pertinent information to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Accordingly, an appointment was requested and Governor BROWN was contacted on the afternoon of May 13, 1960 and furnished the following information to SA [REDACTED] b7

He stated that while campaigning for election as Attorney General of California during the fall of 1950, certain elements in California attempted to "smear" his reputation by inferring that he had "leftist" tendencies. These persons attempted to cite three or four incidents to support their contention.

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Governor BROWN said that for the purpose of combating this "smear", a carefully documented statement of the true facts was prepared for presentation to the public.

Governor BROWN reviewed this statement prepared during September, 1950 and stated that although his recollection of some of the details was somewhat hazy, due to the lapse of time, it is an accurate description of his position on these matters, as noted above. A photostatic of the statement referred to by Governor BROWN is submitted with this report as Exhibit C.

One of these charges related to a recommendation made by Mr. BROWN in February, 1945, that deportation proceedings not be carried out against HARRY BRIDGES, West Coast longshoremen's Union leader. Mr. BROWN, who was then District Attorney of San Francisco County, noted that the political philosophy of BRIDGES had nothing whatever to do with his action in this instance. BRIDGES at the time had what amounted to almost virtual control of western ports through which men and weapons were being routed to the Pacific. Many persons, Governor BROWN stated, were apprehensive that action against BRIDGES at the time might lead to a sympathy tie-up of the waterfront which could possibly have disastrous results on the war effort.

Governor BROWN said his action at that time was dictated entirely by military expediency. He noted, in referring to the statement referred to above, that numerous U. S. officials, prominent civic and industrial leaders, members of the California and other West Coast legislatures, members of Congress, and the press expressed themselves publicly to the same effect. Included in this group was the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, a United States Senator and the California Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Another of these charges, he stated, related to the fact that at one time during about 1945 he was listed as a member of the National Lawyers Guild.

Governor BROWN stated that his connection with this organization was brief. His original intention to join was prompted by Judge ED MURPHY, then a prominent and highly respected member of the Superior Court in San Francisco County. Governor BROWN recalled a conversation with Judge MURPHY on a

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plane trip which influenced his action. He could not recall attending any meeting, however, and decided to resign from the organization after reading one of the pamphlets. He became aware that he "didn't like the people in it" and that he had no sympathy for the "line" which the organization was beginning to take. He also recalled that several prominent persons, which he believed included Judge MURPHY, also resigned on the same day.

Governor BROWN stated that the quotation from his letter in the statement referred to above clearly points out the reason for his resignation, i.e., the differences between the Guild's national policy and his own personal convictions.

He also stated that he was criticized for attending a dinner for HENRY A. WALLACE who during 1946, as Secretary of Commerce, visited San Francisco, and noted that prominent civic leaders in San Francisco, including both Republicans and Democrats, participated in the arrangements.

The fourth charge, Governor BROWN stated, related to his alleged connection with a banquet in late 1945 in San Francisco. He recalled a group of young people visiting him at his office in this connection, and that there was some indication that he was desired as a speaker. He noted that he had always been interested in young people and their activities. However, he later received information from a Judge McMAHON, who had also been approached, that there was some question as to the sponsorship of the banquet. In reviewing the statement, previously referred to, he stated that use of his name was without his authorization; that he did not appear at the banquet; and that he did not support the organization or engage in its activities.

Governor BROWN also recalled another meeting in the Los Angeles area about June, 1946, at which he made a brief appearance. This occurred during his campaign for Attorney General on a ticket headed by BOB KENNEY, who was also there along with a number of other speakers. The meeting was held at some large auditorium where prize fights were held because he recalled the ring in the auditorium, and the rally was attended by perhaps as many as 5,000 people. He could not recall the organization which sponsored the meeting but believed that the theme of the meeting had something to do with opposition to the Ku Klux Klan. Governor BROWN said on this occasion he spoke four or five minutes, and that several other candidates were present and spoke. He recognized the group, after his arrival, as having what he described as a "left wing" flavor.

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EOR:wap

He noted that he could not recall this incident as having been included in the "smear" campaign but that an individual who was not aware of the true facts might possibly place the wrong interpretation on his appearance.

Governor BROWN observed, in conclusion, that one of the great problems this country faces today is the danger of Russian Communism and that the Federal Bureau of Investigation and he, as the Governor of California, have a common purpose in meeting and facing this danger.

b7C [REDACTED] The following investigation was conducted by SA [REDACTED]

CREDIT AND POLICE CHECKS

b7C, b7D On May 13, 1960, [REDACTED] Sacramento Retail Credit Association; [REDACTED] Sacramento Police Department, and [REDACTED] Sacramento County Sheriff's Office, all advised they had no record in their files concerning Governor BROWN [REDACTED] b7C

NATIONAL CITIZENS POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The Fifth Report of the Un-American Activities Committee to the 1949 Regular California Legislature at page 351, cited the National Citizens Political Action Committee as "typical of the completely Communist created and controlled organizations in the...political association and civic committee field." This Report indicates it was also cited in the 1948 Report of the same Committee at page 38. At page 315 of the 1949 Report of the above Committee, the following is set forth:

"The Hollywood Unit of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. Cited as a Communist front which was successor to a number of Communist fronts, including Motion Picture Democratic Committee, and Hollywood Democratic Committee. When ICCASP 'joined hands' with National Citizens Political Action Committee to 'form the new political Communist front, Progressive Citizens of America, HICCAPS became the Hollywood Unit. (PCA later merged into the Independent Progressive Party, just before the 1948 presidential campaign, in the HENRY WALLACE third party, but the nucleus of HICCAPS regrouped late in 1948 as the Arts, Sciences and Professions Council'.)"

The 1955 Report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities, page 46, stated, "The Independent Progressive Party in California was quickly captured by the Communists, and by the time the Wallace for President campaign had swung into high gear was being operated lock, stock and barrel by the Communist Party of California. Time after time the committee in questioning witnesses throughout the State discovered that the leaders of the Communist Parties in various localities were identical with the leaders of the Independent Progressive Party in the same area. It is true, of course, that in the Independent Progressive Party there were many sincere liberals who, because of dissatisfaction with the two major political organizations registered as Independent Progressives and continued their affiliation until the true control of the I.P.P. became obvious. These people invariably resigned, many of them having given the benefit of their experience to various official agencies interested in the exposure of subversive activities."

APPENDIX PAGE

SF 116-52286
EOR/jr

NATIONAL LAWYERS' GUILD

The Special Committee on Un-American Activities in House Report No. 1311 on the CIO Political Action Committee dated March 29, 1944, page 149, cited the National Lawyers' Guild as a communist front.

The Committee on Un-American Activities in House Report No. 3123 on the National Lawyers' Guild dated September 21, 1950 (originally released September 17, 1950) cited the National Lawyers' Guild as a communist front which "is the foremost legal bulwark of the Communist Party, its front organizations, and controlled unions" and which "since its inception has never failed to rally to the legal defense of the Communist Party and individual members thereof, including known espionage agents".

The Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, in its Handbook for Americans, Senate Document No. 117, dated April 23, 1956, page 91, stated that "To defend the cases of communist lawbreakers, fronts have been devised making special appeals in behalf of civil liberties and reaching out far beyond the confines of the Communist Party itself. Among these organizations are the * * * National Lawyers' Guild. When the Communist Party itself is under fire these offer a bulwark of protection".

APPENDIX PAGE



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 116-52286

San Francisco, California
May 16, 1960

EDMUND GERALD BROWN
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT-APPLICANT

All Confidential Informants referred to in the
report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated May 16, 1960, at San Francisco, California, have furnished
reliable information in the past. b7C

This is furnished for your information and
should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

[REDACTED] - JH b7C
(5)

COPY

January 10, 1946

Mr. Edmund G. Brown
460 Magellan Avenue
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Brown:

In a newspaper dispatch datelined New York, January 8, 1946, Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, publicly stated that the American Youth for Democracy is the successor of the Young Communist League.

The same United States Government Official, who above all others should be in a position to speak with authority, stigmatizes American Communism as holding "....a godless, truthless philosophy of life. They are against the America our forefathers fought and died for; they are against the established freedoms of AmericaThere is a distinction between respecting our ally Russia and respecting those within our country who would destroy all that we believe in."

We note that you were listed as a Sponsor for the Banquet honoring the American Youth for Democracy held on Saturday, November 10, 1945, at the St. Francis Hotel.

As Veterans who fought to prevent these United States from becoming "a godless, totalitarian state" we cannot believe that you, as an American citizen, knowingly gave your consent to be used in support of the American Youth for Democracy.

Our membership comprising over seventy per cent of the Student Body of this University would like a written expression of your stand on the American Youth for Democracy.

Sincerely yours,

Omicron Epsilon

per

Americanization Committee

Committee
Second Anniversary Dinner in San Francisco
210 POST ST

EXHIBIT 1

in San Francisco

210 POST STREET, ROOM 915, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Telephone: GARfield 5084

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.
Telephone: GARfield 5084

Speakers
Alexander Knox? - on Budget
Pat Brown - on Negro
Jonathan Russell - on Labor
Dewey - on Negro youth
Beaver? - on collection
Thompson - collection

Gilford?
Carm

Ext. Jack Gilford?
Hostelle
Ext. "Carm"

\$5
 advance tickets
 Green
 T.V.

TV. 9724

18
 ON:
 Addis
 Blod
 Bridges
 Earl Brown
 Elmer G. Brown
 Rabbi Elliot Bernstein
 Jesse W. Carter
 Ada Cernat
 Yusef Dori
 Roger Dunn
 Daniel Del Carlo
 Samuel Owens deLoraine
 C. L. Deltune
 Selomita Dreyfus
 Min Paul Blal
 Adnan J. Falt
 Martha Field
 Ted Fogarty
 Earl Gomer
 Kathleen Griffin
 Cipriano Jankobal
 Art's Que' and Mr. Kenney
 Mr. John C. Laffier
 Mr. Edgar A. Lawther
 Robert & Lucia
 Richard Lueder
 James L. McGrath
 John Robert McMahon
 Jerry Mood
 Dr. U. S. Mitchell
 Judge Clarence Morris
 & H. Norton
 Dr. Norman Pendleton
 Mervyn Rabinovich
 George B. Bailly
 J. C. Bernhardt
 Dr. W. Rogers
 Fred Scher
 Roy Shepardon
 Harry William Stee
 D. W. Morgan Tobbs
 Martin E. Turner
 Edith E. Vogel
 Harold Wells
 Dr. Curtis E. Warren
 Rabbi Saul White
 Anita Whitney
 Dr. Ernst Wolff
 Sam Young
 Edward A. Zeisler

EDMUND G. BROWN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

DOUGLAS 25-1

OFFICE OF
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

CITY & COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
550 MONTGOMERY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 11, CALIFORNIA

February 1, 1946

b7C

[REDACTED]
Americanization
Committee
Omicron Epsilon
University of San Francisco
San Francisco 7, California

b7C

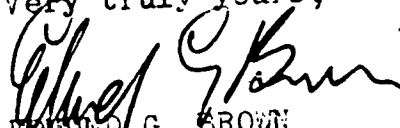
Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of January 16. I have refused at all times to become a sponsor of any organization or any meeting until I first investigated its background. I knew that the Young Communist League or some similar organization had participated in the formation of the American Youth for Democracy. I, therefore, called the young lady who asked me to become a sponsor for the dinner, not the organization, and asked her if there was any truth in the assertion that the American Youth for Democracy was communistic in either origin or intent.

She advised me that it was not in any manner, shape, or form communistic although some members of the Young Communist League had at one time belonged. She told me that they were affiliated with many church groups. I was also advised by her that the organization encouraged young people to participate in government and that it fought racial intolerance and religious bigotry.

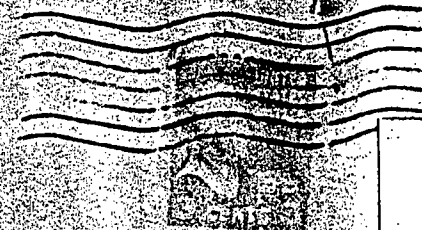
I would consider it a pleasure to discuss with you at length organizations such as this. You have fought and died for a terrific cause, but the real fight has now begun. Merely being against some organization is not sufficient. Active participation to hold the things you won must never cease.

Very truly yours,


EDMUND G. BROWN
District Attorney

EGB:dh

OFFICE OF
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
550 MONTGOMERY STREET
SAN FRANCISCO 11, CALIFORNIA



b7C

[REDACTED], Americanization
Committee
Omicron Epsilon
University of San Francisco
San Francisco, California (7)

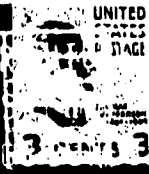
Exhibit B

Northern California Headquarters
EDMUND G. (PAT) BROWN
FOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL

607 Market Street
San Francisco 5, Calif.



BUILD YOUR FUTURE TODAY
WESTERN SAVINGS
U.S. SAVINGS SAVINGS



FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND USE

The undersigned believe that you, as a responsible individual interested in truth will want to read the attached document refuting a Statewide political smear designed to portray Edmund G. (Pat) Brown, District Attorney of San Francisco and Democratic nominee for Attorney General, as a "leftist."

The document categorically destroys each of four separate allegations on the following subjects; (1) Pat Brown's letter on the Bridges deportation case; (2) membership in the Lawyers' Guild; (3) assistance in arranging a banquet in 1946 for the then Secretary of Commerce, and former Vice President of the United States, Henry A. Wallace; (4) alleged support of a "Salute to Young America" Banquet.

The allegations against Mr. Brown first emerged as a political document whose sponsors, through elementary inquiry, could have determined the baseless nature of this attempt to impugn his loyalty and integrity.

Following the original circulation of the "leftist" canard, it was reproduced last week as a "Special Report Dealing with Communism" in a scurrilous handbill distributed by "Alert", a "confidential" newsletter whose Los Angeles publisher is a campaign associate of Mr. Shattuck, and appears at public meetings with him. The handbill is being mailed to thousands of persons in envelopes bearing no return address.

MR. SHATTUCK HIMSELF IS EMBRACING THIS DEFAMATORY MATERIAL AND GIVING UTTERANCE TO IT IN HIS CAMPAIGN TALKS.

In our view--and we believe in the view of thinking citizens--the conduct and actions of Mr. Brown's opponent and his allies pose this question:

Would Mr. Shattuck, as Attorney General--the State's chief law enforcement officer--have the same reckless disregard of TRUTH in matters affecting YOUR reputation, if by so doing he could advance his own political fortunes?

Although we have no desire to play into the hands of Mr. Brown's opponent by giving further circulation to this smear, we believe that you as a leader of public opinion, should have the facts. You are privileged to use this statement, and the accompanying documentary proof of Mr. Brown's victimization, in any manner that you deem appropriate.

Sincerely,

HENRY G. BODKIN, SR., Los Angeles

HONORABLE HUGH BURNS, Fresno
(Chairman, State Senate Committee
on Un-American Activities)

GEORGE CREEL, San Francisco

FREDERICK DOCKWEILER, Los Angeles

EHMETT DOHERTY, Los Angeles

HONORABLE CHESTER GANNON, Sacramento

LEON HAPPELL, Stockton
(Past Commander, Department of
California, American Legion)

HUGH McKEVITT, San Francisco

SIG NYLANDER, San Francisco

LLOYD F. OLESON, Ventura
(Past National Commander. Disabled
American Veterans)

HONORABLE JOHN W. PRESTON, Los Angeles
(Former Associate Justice, California
State Supreme Court)

HONORABLE PETER J. SHIELDS, Sacramento
(Dean of the Sacramento County
Superior Court bench, retired)

September 29, 1950

CHARGE #1

....that District Attorney Edmund G. (Pat) Brown, Democratic nominee for Attorney General, is a "leftist" because, in FEBRUARY, 1945 he described deportation proceedings against Harry Bridges as a "threat to industrial peace " and joined in a recommendation that they be dropped.

THE TRUTH

IT IS APPARENT FROM THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT OF FACT THAT DISTRICT ATTORNEY BROWN'S FEBRUARY, 1945, STATEMENT WAS ISSUED IN CONCERT WITH STATEMENTS MADE BY OTHER CIVIC, STATE AND NATIONAL LEADERS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTING WATERFRONT STRIFE AT A TIME WHEN THE NATION WAS ENGAGED IN A DEATH STRUGGLE WITH THE AXIS POWERS. THE ATTEMPT, FIVE YEARS LATER, TO ISOLATE THE BROWN LETTER AND MAKE IT APPEAR THAT HE IS A "LEFTIST" FOR HAVING WRITTEN IT, IS A PALPABLY CRUDE POLITICAL SMEAR.

The political philosophy of Harry Bridges had nothing to do with Mr. Brown's action, and the chronology of events leading up to it makes this fact absolutely clear.

In FEBRUARY, 1945, our nation was at war. As leader of the Longshoremen's Union, Harry Bridges virtually controlled the operation of West Coast ports through which American men and material had to pass enroute to the theatres of war.

Early in 1944 Bridges' union wrote a voluntary "no-strike" clause into its contract. This action, in support of the war effort, lead the California State Assembly, on JUNE 13, 1944, to pass a resolution publicly praising the union for its pledge. The resolution was voted 58 to 1 and later made unanimous.

On JUNE 26, 1944 - 13 days after the Assembly resolution was passed -- the United States Circuit Court of Appeals denied Bridges a writ of habeas corpus in his fight against deportation.

This led immediately to openly expressed public apprehension that Bridges' workers would tie up the waterfront in sympathy with him.

On AUGUST 14, 1944, Rear Admiral Carlton H. Wright, Commandant of the Twelfth Naval District, wrote an official letter to Bridges in which he stated:

"As Commandant of the Twelfth Naval District I wish to take this occasion to express the appreciation of the Navy here of the work of the stevedore and longshore trades in the transporting of troops and supplies to the war area....It is gratifying to receive your assurances that the work in connection with supporting the war effort will go on."

Government officials, prominent citizens. Legislative leaders and the Press joined in expressing themselves publicly in favor of dropping deportation proceedings against the longshore leader.

Here are some of the actions taken and statements made:

On FEBRUARY 2, 1945, Royce Brier, Editorial Director of the San Francisco Chronicle, a Republican newspaper, wrote in his column:

"Attorney General Biddle is going to deport Bridges simply because he, Biddle, thinks it is a good idea.... Biddle says he has a law for this and undoubtedly he has. So much more the reason for repealing it."

On FEBRUARY 5, 1945, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted a resolution addressed to President Roosevelt and Attorney General Biddle, urging that deportation proceedings against Bridges be abandoned because "incalculable harm" to home front unity would result.

On the same date, FEBRUARY 5, 1945, District Attorney Brown wrote the letter describing the Bridges deportation proceedings as a "threat to industrial peace" and said he hoped Bridges would be permitted the "opportunity" to seek citizenship.

At about this time, members of the West Coast Congressional delegation, including United States Senator Downey, appealed to the President to intervene in Bridges' behalf.

On FEBRUARY 24, 1945, R. R. McFall, California Department Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, wrote President Roosevelt that:

"In the interests of harmony, and in order that we may continue to present a united front in this critical period of our war, I ask for a careful consideration of all the facts in this case."

On FEBRUARY 28, 1945, Governor Mon C. Wallgren of the State of Washington, wrote the President that:

"From impartial observation it appears to me that the residents of the Pacific Coast and the State of Washington favor the dismissal of the deportation proceedings against Harry Bridges."

At the same time 23 members of the Washington State Senate, and 51 members of the Washington State House of Representatives joined in a similar appeal to the President.

On MARCH 31, 1945, Republican Assemblyman Thomas A. Maloney of San Francisco, Speaker Pro Tem of the California Legislature, wrote to President Roosevelt that:

"It would be an economic mistake to deport Mr. Bridges."

On JUNE 18, 1945, the United States Supreme Court ruled that the deportation order against Bridges was invalid.

* * * * *

CHARGE #2

....That Pat Brown is a "leftist" because he held membership in the San Francisco Chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild.

THE TRUTH

Pat Brown was a member of the San Francisco Chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild. The Honorable Edward P. Murphy, Judge of the San Francisco Superior Court, was president of the chapter when Brown served as a vice president in 1945. Serving as vice-president with him was Walter Gordon, now chairman of the California State Adult Authority (an appointee of Governor Warren). Many other prominent California attorneys likewise held memberships in its State chapters, including such leaders of the legal fraternity as Philip H. Angell, of San Francisco, former President of the State Bar of California.

The Guild's national roster included the names of such men as United States Supreme Court Justice Jackson; Federal Judge Ferdinand Pecora, of New York; the Honorable William H. Hasty, United States Court of Appeals, District of Columbia;

the Honorable James H. Wolfe, Utah Supreme Court; and the Honorable John P. Devaney, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Minnesota.

It is interesting to note that State Senator Jack Tenney, former Chairman of the California Legislature's Un-American Activities Committee, was a charter member of the Los Angeles chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild. He sought law business for his firm, Tenney & Halva, by advertising in the National Lawyers' Guild Quarterly magazine.

Pat Brown resigned from the Guild when it became clear that the Guild's national policies conflicted with his own views. Other resignations followed. In his letter of resignation, District Attorney Brown stated his disagreement with Guild policy in these words:

"It is my belief that the greatest problem facing us today is the prevention of another war. I believe the Marshall Plan will do more than anything else in the world to solve this problem. In view of the Guild's national policy and my own convictions, I have taken the above action" (resignation).

* * * * *

CHARGE #3

....That Pat Brown is a "leftist because his name was used as a member of a committee on a letterhead of the National Citizens' Political Action Committee, Northern California Division, in conjunction with a testimonial dinner for Henry A. Wallace, given at the Palace Hotel, San Francisco, on APRIL 22 1946.

THE TRUTH

On APRIL 22, 1946, Henry A. Wallace, former Vice-President of the United States, was United States Secretary of Commerce, and in that capacity, he visited San Francisco.

The committee in charge of the banquet represented a cross-section of the leaders of the San Francisco community. The Honorable Roger D. Lapham, Mayor of San Francisco, and a Republican leader, gave the welcoming address. Mrs. Henry

F. Grady, wife of the former American Ambassador to Greece, was chairman of the Arrangements Committee.

CHARGE #4

....That Pat Brown is a "leftist" because his name was used in connection with a banquet given by a "Salute to Young America Committee", a Communist-front organization.

THE TRUTH

This accusation is based solely upon a report published in the "People's World" under date of November 7, 1945, announcing a "Salute to Young America" banquet, and listing District Attorney Brown as a member of the banquet committee.

The use of District Attorney Brown's name was entirely without his knowledge or authorization. Mr. Brown never appeared at the banquet which he allegedly sponsored. He has never been a supporter of the organization. He has never in any way participated in its activities.

//////

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office LOS ANGELES	Office of Origin BUREAU	Date 5/16/60	Investigative Period 5/12-16/60
TITLE OF CASE EDMUND GERALD BROWN, aka. "Pat" Brown Ca - 15757		Report made by [REDACTED] b7c	Typed By: lan
		CHARACTER OF CASE AEAA	

~~SECRET~~

REFERENCE: San Francisco airtel to Los Angeles dated 5/9/60.

- RUC -

ADMINISTRATIVE

Files of the Los Angeles Office failed to reflect pertinent information regarding the applicant in addition to that included in the details of this report.

CC TO: <i>State</i>
REQ. REC'D <i>8-13-63</i>
AUG 26 1963
ANS. BY: <i>IKMRC CH</i>

- A* -

COVER PAGE

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 4 - Bureau (116-442786) (AIR MAIL) 1 - Los Angeles (116-670892) 2 cc to Atomic Energy Commission MAY 31 1960		116-442786-25	
		NOT RECORDED 17 MAY 18 1960	

*Corrected Cover Page #1
EMH:sl 5/25/60*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: [REDACTED] b7C

Date:

5/16/60

Office: Los Angeles, California

Field Office File No.: Los Angeles 116-67059

Bureau File No.: 116-442786 -

Title:

EDMUND GERALD BROWN
CA-15757

Character:

AEAA

Synopsis:

[REDACTED] commented favorably concerning the applicant's loyalty, character and reputation and stated that to his knowledge, the applicant was never knowingly associated with individuals or organizations of questionable reputation or loyalty. Applicant reportedly spoke at a meeting sponsored by the Mobilization for Democracy in Los Angeles in June, 1946.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

MISCELLANEOUS

On May 16, 1960, [REDACTED]

California, advised that he has known the applicant for approximately the past 25 years. He stated that he was associated professionally with the applicant between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] during which period the applicant was [REDACTED]

was serving as [REDACTED]

He related that BROWN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] continued that his contact with the applicant over the years has been on a limited social basis as well as a professional one and even though they have had their political differences in being associated with different political parties, he has always regarded the applicant as a man of the highest integrity whose morals,

LA 116-67059

b7c
personal habits, reputation and loyalty are above reproach. In addition, [REDACTED] stated that he has never known the applicant to knowingly be associated with persons or organizations of questionable reputation and loyalty.

By report dated June 20, 1946, U. S. Army Intelligence advised that the Mobilization for Democracy on June 14, 1946 sponsored a "Stop the Klan" meeting at Olympic Auditorium, Los Angeles, California. According to this report, EDMUND BROWN, District Attorney of the City and County of San Francisco, was introduced at this meeting and spoke briefly. This report indicated that BROWN complimented Los Angeles on "its great meeting tonight" and said he was "going to try to have the same kind of meeting in San Francisco."

The Third Report on Un-American Activities in California, 1947, on page 369 describes the Mobilization for Democracy as one of "the key Communist fronts in California."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

Reporting Office WASHINGTON FIELD	Office of Origin BUREAU	Investigative Period 5/18/60 5/13-17/60	Report made by [REDACTED] b7c	Typed By: pam
TITLE OF CASE EDMUND GERALD BROWN - CA aka Pat Brown Ca - 15757		CHARACTER OF CASE AEA-A		

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

EX-100-100

REFERENCES

Bureau radiogram and airtel 5/6/60.
Bureau airtel 5/11/60.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

HCUA records were not checked during the course
of this investigation because of their unavailability at this
time.

INFORMANT IDENTIFICATION

WF T-1 is [REDACTED] (S)(u)

The identities of the SAs who observed DREW PEARSON
and Governor BROWN enter the Soviet Embassy are located in WFO
file 100-16597 Sub B. (S)(u)

Approved <i>J. H. [signature]</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 4-Bureau (116-442786) 1-Washington Field(116-132564)		116-442786-26	
		NOT RECORDED 18 JUN 1 1960	
		EX-100-100	

2 cc to
Atomic Energy Commission
MAY 31 1960

~~SECRET~~

WFO 116-132564

~~SECRET~~

Careful consideration has been given to the source concealed, and a T symbol was utilized in the report only in that instance where the identity of the source must be concealed.

LEAD

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will report results of check at CIA.

-B*-

COVER PAGE

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECRET

Copy to:

Report of: FRANK J. HUDSON
Date: 5/18/60

Office: Washington, D. C.

Field Office File No.: 116-132564

Bureau File No.: 116-442786

Title: EDMUND GERALD BROWN - CA
CA-15757

Character: AEA-A

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

12-3-97
CLASSIFIED BY 9803RDD/BCE/DG
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 1/6

Synopsis: No record CSC. Passport information set forth. WF T-1 advised Governor BROWN and columnist DREW PEARSON had luncheon appointment with Soviet Ambassador 1/26/60. (U)

- P -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP7 CE/WB
ON 2/22/01
apparel 80-1705

b7C The records of the Investigations Division, Civil Service Commission, as caused to be checked on May 16, 1960, by IC [REDACTED], did not reflect any information concerning Governor BROWN.

b7C The files of the Passport Office, Department of State, reviewed by SE [REDACTED] on May 16, 1960, disclose that EDMUND GERALD BROWN was issued San Francisco Series passport #30196 on October 11, 1954, for a five-week trip to Mexico, Guatemala, Uruguay, Brazil and Venezuela to attend the Pan American Congress of Public Law Administration. Attached is a photostat of his birth certificate which lists his birth date as April 21, 1905, at San Francisco, California. He listed his permanent residence as 460 Magellam Avenue, San Francisco, California. He listed his father as EDMUND JOSEPH BROWN who was born at San Francisco, California, on October 22, 1870, deceased. He listed his mother as IDA SHUCKMAN who was born at Venado, California, on January 11, 1879, residing at above permanent residence. He states he was married on October 30, 1931, to BERNICE LAYNE who was born at San Francisco, California, on November 19, 1908.

SECRET

~~SECRET~~

The file contained no additional pertinent information.

WF T-1 learned on January 26, 1960, that DREW PEARSON, newspaper columnist, had a luncheon appointment with the Soviet Ambassador, MIKHAIL A. MENSHIKOV, on that date. According to informant, PEARSON advised that Governor BROWN of California was in Washington, D. C., and PEARSON wondered if the Ambassador would like to change the luncheon appointment and have luncheon with PEARSON and the Governor. Informant learned that MENSHIKOV invited PEARSON and Governor BROWN to have lunch with him at the Embassy of the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics at 1:00 p.m. on January 26, 1960. (S)(u)

Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation observed DREW PEARSON and Governor EDMUND G. BROWN enter the Soviet Embassy shortly before 1:00 p.m. on January 26, 1960. They observed Governor BROWN leave the Embassy about an hour later and observed PEARSON leaving the Embassy almost half an hour after Governor BROWN departed. (u)(S).

~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. 116-132564

Washington 25, D.C.
May 18, 1960

EDMUND GERALD BROWN
AEA - A

b2
b7C
b7D [REDACTED] mentioned in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated and captioned as above, has furnished reliable information in the past.

This is furnished for your information and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

~~SECRET~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. 116-132564

~~SECRET~~

Washington 25, D. C.

May 18, 1960

EDMUND GERALD BROWN
AEA - A

b2
b7C
b7D

Agent [REDACTED] mentioned in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated and captioned as above, has furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

~~SECRET~~

F B I

Date: 5/26/60

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, WFO (116-132564)
EDMUND GERALD BROWN - CA
aka
AEA-A

Rerep of SA [REDACTED] dated 5/18/60. b7C

A representative of CIA advised SA [REDACTED] that the files of that agency contain no derogatory information concerning BROWN. This information was furnished 5/26/60.

3-Bureau
1-WFO

GGD:pam
(4)

AIRTEL

NOT RECORDED

18 JUN 1 1960

Approved: [Signature]

51 JUN 8 1960

Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

May 25, 1960

K (2-)
EDMUND GERALD BROWN
also known as Pat Brown
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

b7C [redacted] of California advised on May 23, 1960, that he has known Governor Brown since 1945 when he, [redacted], was California State [redacted] and Brown was the State Attorney General. [redacted] stated there had been differences in political beliefs; however, he felt that Governor Brown was entirely loyal and competent to handle Atomic Energy information.

EMH:jpr
(6) jpr

CC TO: State
REQ. REC'D 8-13-63
AUG 26 1963
ANS.
BY: KMR CA

116-442786-28
NOT RECORDED
5 JUN 2 1960

Tolson _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
DeLoach _____
Malone _____
McGuire _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

JUN 7 1960

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

file
6/1/60

May 25, 1960

MR. MOHR:

EDMUND GERALD BROWN, aka
"PAT" BROWN
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT

Pursuant to the request of the Investigative Division, I talked with the Office of [REDACTED] (R. - Calif.) 5-23-60. Previous attempts had been made to get in touch with [REDACTED] but in view of travel status he was not available.

b7C [REDACTED] advised 5-23-60 that he had known Governor Brown since 1945 when he, [REDACTED] and Brown was the State Attorney General. He stated there had been differences in political beliefs, however, felt that Governor Brown was entirely loyal and competent to handle Atomic Energy information.

[REDACTED] has been contacted on three different occasions, the last contact being 5-23-60, relative to determining if [REDACTED] desired to make any comments regarding Governor Brown. There has been no reply from [REDACTED] to date, consequently, it is anticipated he does not desire to make any comments for the report.

ACTION:

It is suggested this memorandum be forwarded to the Investigative Division for appropriate consideration.

RESPECTFULLY,

C. D. DE LOACH

1 - Mr. Rosen

CDD:sak
(3)

REC-1

5 JUN 2 1960

51 JUN 9 1960

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Mr. W. C. Sullivan	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Ingram	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

6-Orig and 5
① Yellow
1-Liaison

b7C

May 24, 1960

DL 2-1

EDMUND GERALD BROWN
Also known as "Pat" Brown
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT-APPLICANT

On May 23, 1960, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] furnished the following comments in connection with this matter:

He has known Governor Brown for about the past 15 years, beginning when he, [REDACTED] and Brown was a District Attorney there. Later, Brown was Attorney General while [REDACTED]. While he and Brown were affiliated with different political parties during the above periods, Brown was always most cooperative with him and was considered a good law enforcement officer. There has never been any question in his mind about Brown's honesty and he considers Brown to be loyal to the United States, with no inclination toward communism. There is nothing he could say which would be adverse to Brown insofar as his character, loyalty or associations are concerned.

NOTE: Above interview with [REDACTED] conducted by SA [REDACTED], Liaison Section. In accordance with approved procedure for handling interviews in this case, [REDACTED] was informed of reason for investigation; namely, that it has been requested by Atomic Energy Commission in order to provide basis for clearance determination in view of Brown's need for access to classified Atomic Energy data as Chairman of Board of Regents, University of California.

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR
ADD. DISSEMINATION

NOT RECORDED

4 JUN 8 1960

Tolson _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
DeLoach _____
Malone _____
McGuire _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

(9)

Original and 5 for transmittal to Special Inquiry Section.

62 JUN 9 1960

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

RICHARD B. RUSSELL, GA., CHAIRMAN
HARRY FLOOD BYRD, VA.
LYNDON B. JOHNSON, TEX.
JOHN STENNIS, MISS.
STUART SYMINGTON, MO.
HENRY M. JACKSON, WASH.
SAM J. ERVIN, JR., N.C.
STROM THURMOND, S.C.
CLAIR ENGLE, CALIF.
E. L. BARTLETT, ALASKA
HOWARD W. CANNON, NEV.

LEVERETT SALTON, L. MASS.
STYLES BRIDGES, N.H.
MARGARET CHASE SMITH, MAINE
FRANCIS CASE, S. DAK.
PRESCOTT BUSH, CONN.
J. GLENN BEALL, MD.

HARRY L. WINGATE, JR., CHIEF CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

May 27, 1960

Personal

Mr. C. D. DeLoach
Assistant Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. DeLoach:

With reference to your inquiry about Governor Edmund G. Brown, who is subject to security clearance because of his membership on the Board of Regents of the University of California:

I have no hesitancy at all in giving my unqualified approval to such a clearance.

Sincerely yours,

b7C

b7C

b7C

REC-87

11-44278-31

31

6

116-44278
GERALD R.

Photostat
sent by mail
to
Special Agent in Charge
of FBI
JmY
6/3/60

JUN 4 1960

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Rosen

FROM : Mr. Callahan

SUBJECT: EDMUND GERALD BROWN, aka
Pat Brown, CA 15757
ATOMIC ENERGY ACT - APPLICANT
(GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA)

12-2-97
CLASSIFIED BY 9803RDD/BCE/OG
DECLASSIFY ON 1.6

DATE: May 27, 1960

409483
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Tolson ☒
Mohr ☒
Parsons ☒
Belmont ☒
Callahan ☒
DeLoach ☒
Malone ☒
McGuire ☒
Rosen ☒
Tamm ☒
Trotter ☒
W.C. Sullivan ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Ingram ☒

Investigation requested by John A. McCone, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) ordered 5/6/60, completed 5/26/60.

Interviews were conducted with persons associated with Brown in civic, social, legal, official and political fields, but no neighborhood investigation was conducted. All persons interviewed advised investigation being conducted at specific request of AEC. Attached investigative reports reflect Brown, when District Attorney, San Francisco, in 1945, opposed deportation of Harry Bridges, notorious west coast labor leader; Brown former member and vice president San Francisco chapter National Lawyers Guild (NLG), cited as communist front; in 1945 Brown reportedly sponsored a dinner honoring the American Youth for Democracy (AYD), designated by Attorney General under EO 10450. Brown and Drew Pearson, newspaper columnist, visited Soviet Embassy 1/26/60, to have lunch with Soviet Ambassador Menshikov. (S)(u)

Numerous prominent Democrats and Republicans interviewed, including U. S. Senator Thomas H. Kuchel (R), Congressman John F. Shelly (D), former U. S. Senator William F. Knowland (R), former Governor Goodwin J. Knight (R), all of California, as well as Chief Justice Warren, U. S. Supreme Court. All furnished favorable comments concerning Brown except [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Brown characterized by those who furnished favorable information as loyal American whose private life and integrity unquestioned. However, some persons close to Brown state he is impulsive and ambiguous in both speech and actions and as a result gets in "hot water" on occasions.

[REDACTED] believes Brown is lacking in character, ability, judgment, integrity and cannot keep a secret. [REDACTED] criticized Brown's handling of recently publicized Caryl Chessman case and also accused Brown of stealing [REDACTED] of forming National Association of District Attorneys.

Enclosures

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Liaison Section

DECLASSIFIED BY SPICELWB
ON 2/22/01
Approved 00-1905

REC 34

EMH:kkn:jpr (8)

4 JUN 14 1960

SECRET

Memorandum to Mr. Rosen
Re: EDMUND GERALD BROWN

Brown, who was advised investigation was being conducted at the request of AEC was interviewed at his request. Brown stated he was aware of allegations of leftist tendencies against him. Said his opposition to deportation of Harry Bridges dictated by military and civic expediency since he feared deportation of Bridges would result in tie-up of California waterfront. Claimed his membership in NLG prompted by legal associates but that he left NLG after becoming aware of the nature of the organization. Brown concluded by stating that one of the greatest problems this country faces today is the danger of Russian communism and that the FBI and he, as Governor of California, have a common purpose in meeting and facing this danger.

RECOMMENDATION

(NOT AN FBI EXCISION)
It is recommended that the ~~REDACTED~~ investigative reports be delivered to AEC by a representative of the Liaison Section.

Handwritten signature
5/27

Handwritten signature

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Handwritten signature

Handwritten signature

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*delivered to
The Commission
Assistant to the
Oakley - 6/1/63
Jm7*

DO-6

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

12:28PM May 2, 1960

Mr. Tolson ☒
Mr. Parsons ☒
Mr. Belmont ☐
Mr. Callahan ☒
Mr. DeLoach ☒
Mr. Malone ☐
Mr. McGuire ☐
Mr. Rosen ☐
Mr. Tamm ☐
Mr. Trotter ☐
Mr. Jones ☐
Mr. W.C. Sullivan ☐
Tele. Room ☐
Mr. Ingram ☐
Miss Holmes ☐
Miss Gandy ☐

Chairman JOHN MC CONE, Atomic Energy Commission, telephoned through the White House operator for the Director. He was advised of the Director's absence and asked if anyone else could be of service to him. He declined to speak to anyone else and asked that the Director return his call through the White House operator. He did not indicate what he wishes to discuss with the Director, but said that it was "quite important."

He was told that the Director would be advised upon his return to the office.

Mr. Mohr knows of no reason for Mr. McCone's call. Mr. Parsons is checking and if he finds any reason for the call, the Director will be immediately advised.

msr

ADDENDUM: 12:38PM msr

Mr. Parsons has advised that Mr. McCone may be calling in regard to their request for a Bureau representative on the team surveying French Atomic Energy Security measures. This request was turned down last week. Copies of memoranda regarding this matter are being obtained and will be furnished the Director.

REC-79

116-442786-33

51 MAY 10 1960

RECEIVED
MAY 10 1960

F B I

Date: 8/23/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI(116-442768)
FROM: SAC, WFO(116-132564)(RUC)
EDMUND GERALD BROWN,
aka Pat Brown - CA - 15737
AEA - A

Re WFO report dated 5/18/60 captioned as above by
SA [REDACTED] b7C

Rerep stated that HCUA records were unavailable for
review at that time.

b7C
HCUA records are being reviewed and on 8/23/62, IC
[REDACTED] reviewed the records of the HCUA and
determined that there are numerous references to the applicant
while the applicant was an official of the State of California,
however, these references are not deemed sufficiently derogatory
or pertinent to report. UACB, WFO not reporting information
contained in HCUA files.

3- Bureau
1- WFO

JJO:erm
(4)

AIRTEL

NOT RECORDED

22 AUG 30 1962

57 SEP 4

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M

Per _____

34

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☒ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☐ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

- ☒ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request or the subject of your request is listed in the title only.

- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld inasmuch as a final release determination has not been made. You will be advised as to the disposition at a later date.

Pages were not considered for release as they are duplicative of _____

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s): _____

- ☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

116-442786-35
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 X Deleted Page(s) X
 X No Duplication Fee X
 X for this page X
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