

# WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. McGuire	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

NEW YORK.--THE FIVE YEAR PRISON SENTENCE OF ALBERT N. CHAPERAU, CONFESSED SMUGGLER WHOSE CLIENTS INCLUDED COMEDIANS JACK BENNY AND GEORGE BURNS, WAS REDUCED TO TWO YEARS TODAY AT THE REQUEST OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

U.S. ATTORNEY JOHN T. CAHILL, WHO PROSECUTED THE SMUGGLER AND THOSE WHOM HE SERVED, JOINED CHAPERAU'S ATTORNEYS IN THE BID FOR LENIENCY. ATTACHES OF THE FEDERAL BUILDING SAID THE GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR LENIENCY AFTER SENTENCE WAS IMPOSED, WAS UNPRECEDENTED.

5/4--R243P 4JT

54-717A

New York, New York.

PF:RG

May 24, 1939

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

There has appeared in LEONARD LYONS' column upon several occasions reference to [REDACTED] b7C, b7D

LYONS has mentioned in his column that [REDACTED] paid for his passport; that he actually smuggled in property for GRACIE ALLEN and HARRY LEVINSON rather than GEORGE BURNS and JACK BENNY. Recently he mentioned that [REDACTED] was involved in connection with the passing of a \$10,000.00 U. S. note by an attorney in town. b7C

United States Attorney John T. Cahill spoke to me about this and said he was very much concerned regarding the information appearing in LYONS' column and wondered where the leak might be. I told Mr. Cahill that only one or two Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation knew of [REDACTED] other than myself and I was certain there had been no leak in the F.B.I.; that we furnished reports to him under Personal and Confidential cover and I did not know who in his office had access to those reports. I did tell Mr. Cahill that I thought that if he wanted to ascertain the source of LYONS' information he should call him down and ask him or else have him appear before the Grand Jury. b7C, b7D

RECORDED & INDEXED

At that time Mr. Cahill stated that he did not think that any purpose would be served by interviewing LYONS because he did not believe that he would disclose his source of information; further that he felt that if LYONS were called before the Grand Jury he would still refuse to disclose the source of his information. Mr. Cahill also pointed out that to follow such a procedure might interfere with the pleasant relations now existing between his office and the press. 7-13

Letter to Director

5/24/39

I informed Assistant Director E. A. Tamm of Mr. Cahill's remarks in connection with this matter and Mr. Tamm later instructed that I tell Mr. Cahill that the matter had been discussed with you and you were of the opinion that it would be a very good idea to have LYONS before the Grand Jury in order to question him concerning his sources of information and further that you were also greatly concerned about the source of information of [REDACTED] who has been found from time to time to be in possession of a good bit of confidential information and that it was your suggestion that at the same time [REDACTED] be questioned as to his sources of information. b7c

I informed Mr. Cahill of the above, telling him that it was your suggestion. At that time Mr. Cahill again stated that he did not feel that any purpose would be served by calling either of the individuals before the Grand Jury for the reason that they would undoubtedly refuse to disclose their sources of information and for the further reason that he felt that it would interfere with the present relationship existing with the representatives of the press.

Very truly yours,

F. E. FOXWORTH,  
Inspector.

607 U. S. Court House  
Foley Square  
New York, N. Y.

SJD:JPM  
62-6419

August 11, 1939

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Hon. John T. Cahill  
United States Attorney  
U. S. Court House  
Foley Square  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

b7C, b7D For your information, during a recent interview with [redacted] a prisoner in the Federal House of Detention, New York City, Special Agent [redacted] was informed that [redacted] b7C a bondsman, was interested in a prisoner by the name of [redacted] who was convicted early this year on a charge of counterfeiting and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. b7C [redacted] advised that [redacted] was also being held at the House of Detention, New York City. However, it was subsequently ascertained that [redacted] was transferred to the Atlanta penitentiary on July 14, 1939.

[redacted] further informed that [redacted] case was handled by Assistant U. S. Attorney JOSEPH L. DELANEY, and that [redacted] and [redacted] are very close to MR. DELANEY and were working for a reduction in sentence. b7C

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Special Agent in Charge

cc-Bureau

INDEXED

54-717-13X
RECORDED
AUG 14 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
<i>[Signature]</i>

✓

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, N. Y.

SJD:EL  
62-6419

July 25, 1939

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Sir:

b7C

For the Bureau's information, during a conference on July 6, 1939, [REDACTED] a prisoner in the Federal House of Detention, New York City, advised Special Agent (A) [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] a bondsman, was interested in a prisoner by the name of [REDACTED] who was convicted early this year on a charge of counterfeiting and was sentenced to five years in the penitentiary. [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] was being held at the House of Detention, New York City. It has been subsequently determined that [REDACTED] was transferred to the Atlanta Penitentiary on July 14, 1939.

b7C, b7D  
1976-12-12  
b7C

b7C

[REDACTED] further informed that [REDACTED] case was handled by Assistant U. S. Attorney JOSEPH L. DELANEY, and that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are very close to DELANEY and were working for a reduction in sentence.

Very truly yours,

*P. E. Foxworth*

P. E. FOXWORTH,  
Special Agent in Charge.

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

54-117-14

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 7 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
EX-101 TWO

b7C

*Call Foxworth  
to bring this to  
Mr. Cahill's attention  
EW*

*Ans - 8/3/39  
VCZ*

VCZ:RMB

August 3, 1939

RECORDED 4-717-14

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

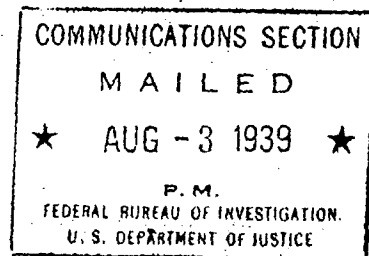
Reference is made to your letter of July 25, 1939, concerning [REDACTED] to the effect that [REDACTED] a bondswoman, was interested in a prisoner by the name of [REDACTED] whose case was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Joseph L. Delaney, and that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are very close to Delaney and were working for a reduction in sentence.

It is desired that the information related in your above-mentioned letter be brought to the attention of United States Attorney Cahill.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Mr. Tolson.....  
Mr. Nathan.....  
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....  
Mr. Clegg.....  
Mr. Coffey.....  
Mr. Egan.....  
Mr. Glavin.....  
Mr. Crowl.....  
Mr. Harbo.....  
Mr. Lester.....  
Mr. Lawlor.....  
Mr. Nichols.....  
Mr. Rosen.....  
Mr. Sears.....  
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....  
Mr. Tracy.....  
Miss Gandy.....



RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-49705-60  
b7c, b7D  
b7C

RH  
C  
3

## Gem Smuggler Suing Benny

Albert N. Chapereau, who did a bit of smuggling for Jack Benny, Mary Livingston, George Burns and Gracie Allen back in 1938, now wants the quartet to cough up with the \$7,682 he paid in fines, it became known yesterday.

Attorneys for the radio stars announced they'd move for dismissal of suits in Supreme Court at 10 A. M. today. Benny and Burns paid fines of \$10,000 and \$5,000, respectively, in connection with the smuggling.

In his suit against the Bennys—Jack and Mary—Chapereau seeks \$2,131 and interest, charging they asked him to carry diamond and gold clips and a bracelet from France.

 L7C  
*[Signature]*

HR  
✓

154-717-A-  
NOT RECORDED  
68 MAR 17 1945

CLIPPING FROM THE  
N. Y. DAILY NEWS

DATED 2-28-45  
FORWARDED BY N. Y. DIVISION

52 MAR 27 1945

# Prison Opens for Smuggler

## Chaperau Sentence Is Commuted

*News - 4-12-40*

NEW YORK, April 12.—(AP)—The United States Attorney's Office here was advised today that President Roosevelt had commuted to the time already served the five-year sentence imposed last April on Albert N. Chaperau, central figure in a widespread smuggling plot.

Chaperau, a pseudo diplomat, was convicted as the carrier of smuggled goods which wound up in the hands of such notables as Jack Benny and George Burns, the radio comedians, and Mrs. Edgar Lauer, wife of a former New York State Supreme Court justice.

Chaperau's sentence, while originally put at five years, already had been cut by Federal Judge Hulbert, on motion of the prosecution, to two years minus the time served while awaiting trial—which made the actual sentence about 18 months. His unpaid \$5,000 fine will remain in judgment against him.

Benny paid a \$10,000 fine; Burns \$8,000. Mrs. Lauer served a 3-month jail term.

THE DETROIT NEWS  
APRIL 12, 1940

54-717-A



## U S. Rewards Chaperau

Albert N. Chaperau, serving two years in Federal prison for jewel smuggling, today earned his reward for co-operating with the Government in the case involving Jack Benny and George Burns, radio comedians, and Mrs. Elma N. Lauer, wife of former Supreme Court Justice Edgar A. Lauer.

An indictment against his wife, Paula Chaperau, was nolle prossed under authorization of U. S. Attorney John T. Cahill on the plea of Chaperau that Mrs. Chaperau and their 16-year-old daughter were poverty stricken in France and would like to return here.

Burns and Benny were given a suspended sentence and Mrs. Lauer was sentenced to three months in jail.

54-717-A-

CLIPPING FROM THE  
N. Y. EVENING JOURNAL AMERICAN

DATE. APR 7 - 1935  
FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.

# Smuggler Case Ended Against Mrs. Chaperau

## Cahill Drops Indictment as Reward to Husband for Manton Trial Testimony

The prosecution of Mrs. Paula Chaperau as a member of a jewelry smuggling syndicate operated by her husband, Albert N. Chaperau, and Mrs. Edgar J. Lauer, wife of the former Justice of the Supreme Court, was dropped yesterday when a three-count indictment drawn up against her on Dec. 18, 1938, was nolle prossed in United States District Court.

Joseph J. Delaney, Assistant United States Attorney, filed the government's intention to drop prosecution of Mrs. Chaperau which was said to be the last legal action taken in the case which resulted in guilty pleas by Jack Benny and George Burns, screen and radio comedians, as receivers of smuggled goods. Chaperau is serving a two-year term and Mrs. Lauer has completed a three-month sentence. Benny and Burns each received a suspended sentence of a year and a day. In addition, Benny was fined \$10,000 and Burns \$5,000.

The dropping of the indictment in which Mrs. Chaperau was named as "Paula Gheyskens" was authorized by John T. Cahill, United States Attorney, in consideration of the testimony offered by Chaperau as a government witness in the trial of Martin T. Manton, former senior judge of the United States Circuit Court of Appeals. The act followed the recent policy which Mr. Cahill has advocated on numerous occasions of rewarding confessed prisoners for services rendered to the government in its various prosecutions.

Chaperau had made many attempts since he was sentenced on Jan. 10, 1939, for his part in the smuggling conspiracy, either to gain his release or quash the indictment against his wife, so that she and their sixteen-year-old daughter, who are at present in Paris, could come to the United States. Chaperau told authorities that his family was poverty-stricken.

Mrs. Chaperau's part in the operations of the jewelry smugglers, according to the indictment, revolved around the smuggling into this country of a gold ring studded with diamonds, valued at \$905. The document charged that Mrs. Chaperau brought in the ring at the suggestion of her husband, who posed as a commercial attache of the Nicaraguan government, to escape payment of import duties. Besides smuggling the jewelry, Mrs. Chaperau was accused of making false declarations to the customs by stating that the ring was her personal property, whereas it really was intended to be sold to Burns, which was eventually done.

EAH J

RES

b7c

WAM

b7c

54-717-A-

CLIPPING NO. 74 NEW YORK

RELAND TRIBUNE

DATE

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK TRIBUNE

[REDACTED] b7C  
COUNSELLORS AT LAW

[REDACTED] b7C  
HANOVER 2-7800

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: [REDACTED] b7C

Gentlemen:

[REDACTED] b7C  
[REDACTED] has brought suit against our client alleging that on or about November 9, 1940, it negligently destroyed some of his personal property, contrary to his instructions. b7C

We have some recollection of a man of a similar name being involved with the Department of Justice, due to violations of the Customs Laws. Our basis for believing that this is the same man is the fact that among the alleged property destroyed there is claimed to have been some correspondence from people of prominence in the theatrical and radio business.

We are interested in obtaining any useful information you may have in your files which will assist us in the defense of our case.

If convenient and agreeable to you, we shall be glad to have our representative confer with your representative in New York City to go over the matter in more detail.

Yours very truly,

2/14/43  
[REDACTED] b7C  
By: [REDACTED] 54-717-15

JEC:GU

Managing Attorney

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

[REDACTED] b7C

JAC:EC  
54-717-15

February 2, 1943

[REDACTED] b7C  
27 Cedar Street  
New York, New York

Dear [REDACTED] b7C

I have for acknowledgment your letter dated  
January 16, 1943.

Please be advised that the matter referred to  
therein was handled by the Customs Service in New York  
City, and it is, therefore, suggested you may desire to  
communicate with the Customs Service or with the United  
States Attorney's Office in New York City, which prosecuted  
this case, for further details in this regard.

I regret advising that I am unable to render  
you any assistance in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

40 FEB 9 1943

*[Handwritten signature]*

June 25, 1964

**JACK BENNY**  
Born: February 14, 1894  
Waukegan, Illinois

In response to your request for a check of the files of this Bureau concerning the captioned individual, you are advised that no investigation of him has been conducted by the FBI.

The files of this Bureau do reveal, however, that according to newspaper publicity appearing in late 1939 and early 1940 Benny was the subject of a smuggling investigation as a result of which he was convicted and paid a fine of \$10,000.

You may desire to check with the Customs Bureau, U. S. Treasury Department, for information concerning this matter. (54-717)

Original & 1 - CSC  
Request Received 6/23/64

SHS:nch  
b(4)

ENCLOSURE

EX-101

REC-16

12 JUN 30 1964

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. This is in answer to your request for a check of FBI files.

58 JUL 8 1964

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
BUREAU OF PERSONNEL INVESTIGATIONS  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION"  
AND REFER TO  
FILE  
AND DATE OF THIS LETTER

*James*  
Benny, Jack (stage name)  
DOB: 2-11-94  
POB: Waukegan, Ill.

WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA, VOLUME 31, 1960-1961, page 222

Radio entertainer; b. Waukegan, Ill., Feb. 14, 1894; s. Meyer and Emma (Sachs) Kubelsky; ed. Waukegan (Ill.) High Sch.; m. Mary Livingstone (actress) Jan. 25, 1927; 1 dau., Joan Naomi (adopted); Began as violinist, 1912; featured player on vaudeville stage; star in motion pictures since 1929; radio entertainer since 1932 also on TV as guest artist and in own program; recent pictures: To Be or Not to Be, George Washington Slept Here, The Horn Blows at Midnight. Served in U. S. Navy, World War I; spent summers 1943, 44, 45, entertaining armed forces Overseas during World War II. Recipient award for best continuing performance by a male entertainer Nat. Acad. Television Arts and Sci., 1957, Spl. award. Home: 1002 North Roxbury Dr., Beverly Hills, Cal.

SII Check - No Record

*bqub*  
In response to your request  
there are attached  
memo *to appear to relate*  
to the subject of your inquiry.

24-117-16  
ENCLOSURE

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

## SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Benny, Jack

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

R# (312) Date 6/23 Searcher Initial 532

Prod. \_\_\_\_\_

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100-20231-20, 34,  
 I 495 p29;  
 I 554 p2-B;  
 I 730 p178;  
 I 854 p41;  
 I 970 p30;  
 I 1005 p115  
 100-243765-8 NP NP  
 100-336809-2, 3,  
 I 9

b7C

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Benny, Jack

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

R# 312 Date 6/23 Searcher Initial 532

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NUMEROUS REFERENCE

## SEARCH SLIP

Subj

*Bennett, Jack*

Supervisor

Room

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*312*

Date

*6/23*

Searcher

Initial *532*

Prod.

FILE NUMBER

JUN 24 1964

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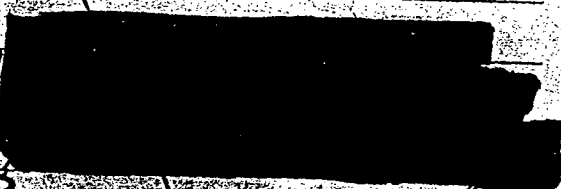
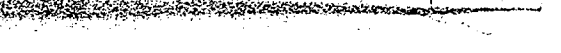
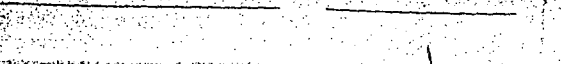
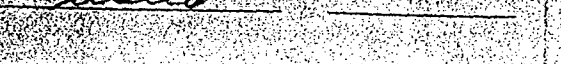
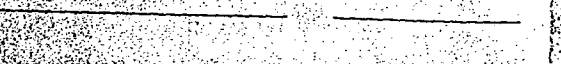
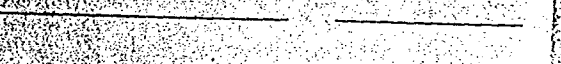
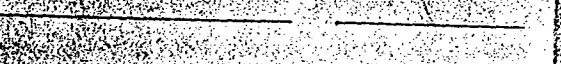
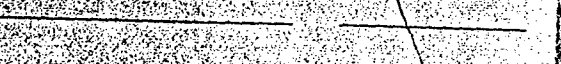
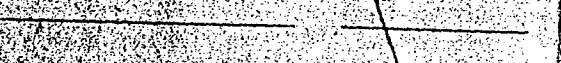
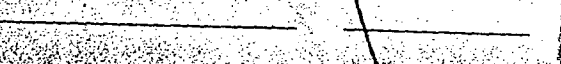
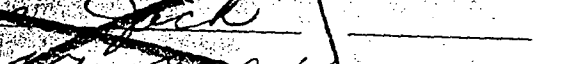
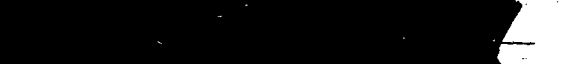
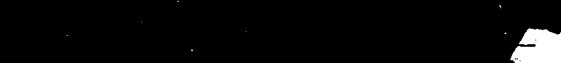
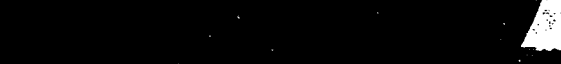
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*100-350608-23 p. 5 E.**5 I**I 38 p. 10, 11*

67C

*87-739410**See on sp. note  
listed*

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

, 19\_\_

- ☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527  
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524  
☐ Forward to File Review  
☐ Attention *Scatterden*  
☐ Return to *6125*

Supervisor Room Ext.

## Type of References Requested:

- ☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
☐ Subversive References Only  
☐ Nonsubversive References Only  
☐ Main References Only

## Type of Search Requested:

- ☐ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject *Benny, Jack*

Birthdate &amp; Place \_\_\_\_\_

Address *JUN 24 1964*

Localities \_\_\_\_\_

R# *312*Date *6/23*

Searcher

Initials *532*Prod. *7/4/64*

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

*54-717*

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JUN 24 1964

ND 57

ND 59

67C

August 12, 1964

*Summary*  
BENJAMIN KUBELSKY, ALSO KNOWN  
AS JACK BENNY  
BORN: FEBRUARY 14, 1894  
WAUKEGAN, ILLINOIS *Cab*

Captioned individual has never been the subject of an investigation conducted by the FBI.

The files of this Bureau do reveal, however, that according to newspaper publicity appearing in late 1939 and early 1940, Benny was the subject of a smuggling investigation as a result of which he was convicted and paid a fine of \$10,000.

As the files of the FBI contain no additional pertinent information concerning this matter, you may desire to check with the Customs Bureau, U.S. Treasury Department, for further information. (54-717)

*b7c* (Request per [REDACTED] Social Secretary, White House.)

JMM:cmk  
(10)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ENCLOSURE

20208  
54-1717-17  
ENCLOSURE

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach ☒ \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 8-13-64

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: NAME CHECK REQUESTS FOR WHITE HOUSE

b7C  
[REDACTED] Social Secretary at the White House,  
requested a check of Bureau files concerning the following individuals:  
Dan Blocker, Nathan Birnbaum (George Burns), Alfred Gerald Caplin  
(Al Capp), [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Michael Landon, Raymond Massey, [REDACTED] b7C  
[REDACTED] Richard Bernard Skelton (Red Skelton), Sam Jaffe

There are attached 14 memoranda reflecting the results  
of these checks.

## RECOMMENDATION:

That you, Mr. DeLoach, furnish the attached letterhead  
memoranda to [REDACTED] b7C

Enclosures (14)

- ENCLOSURE
- 1 - Mr. Belmont - Enclosures
  - 1 - Mr. Mohr - Enclosures
  - 1 - Mr. DeLoach - Enclosures
  - 1 - Mr. Evans - Enclosures
  - 1 - Mr. Rosen - Enclosures

JMM:cmk  
(9)

54-717  
3 AUG 20 1964

REC 13 2 1964

CRIME RESEARCH

4 AUG 28 1964

19

- ☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527  
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524  
☐ Forward to File Review  
☐ Attention *[redacted]* *b7C*  
☒ Return to *[redacted]* Supervisor Room Ext.

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
☐ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
☐ Subversive References Only  
☐ Nonsubversive References Only  
☒ Main all References Only ✓

Type of Search Requested:

- ☐ Restricted to Locality of ☐ ☐ Variations  
☐ Exact Name Only (Only those)  
☐ Buildup ☐

Subject Zubelsky, Benjamin  
 Birthdate & Place \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

## Localities

Re ~~6/2/13~~ Date 3/13 Searcher Initials \_\_\_\_\_  
Prod 3

FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
100-334327	1
100-334327	2
100-334327	3
100-334327	4
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100-334327	99
100-334327	100

✓ 62-5-20208  
Benny, Jack (AKA)  
✓ 54-717  
✓ 54-717-16 sum 6/25/64  
✓ 137-10352-1  
Benny, Jack Mrs.  
✓ 87-73946

MAR 13 1968

MAH  
RG000

54-717-  
ENCLOSURE

Mrs. Mildred Stogall

Information was received in 1963 that a Czechoslovakian citizen, who had been a member of the Czechoslovakian Communist Party since 1945, was to visit the United States on the cultural exchange program in 1966. He indicated an intention to visit friends in the United States included among whom was John Steinbeck.

The files of the Identification Division were checked and found to contain no additional pertinent data concerning the above individuals.

A copy of this communication has not been sent to the Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

- 2 -

b7c  
NOTE: Our files reflect that the final results of our name check concerning [REDACTED] was sent by memorandum dated 9-12-63, rather than 9-4-63. The additional information was developed subsequent to the prior summary memorandum furnished in 1963.

June 6, 1972

~~MR. AND MRS. JACK BENNY~~

Jack Benny, who you advised resides at 1400 Tower Grove Drive, Beverly Hills, California, has not been the subject of an investigation conducted by the FBI. However, our files reveal that in late 1939 and early 1940, Benny was the subject of a smuggling investigation which was not investigated by this Bureau, and was subsequently convicted and paid a fine of \$10,000. (54-715)7

Attached is a copy of an FBI Record, Number 3 367 854, which may relate to Jack Benny. The central files of the FBI contain no additional pertinent information concerning captioned individuals based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

Enclosure

NOTE: Per request of Alexander P. Butterfield, Deputy Assistant to the President.

KP  
KPW:ped  
(6)

Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Bates \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Campbell \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Cleveland \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Dalbey \_\_\_\_\_  
Marshall \_\_\_\_\_  
Miller, E.S. \_\_\_\_\_  
Ponder \_\_\_\_\_  
Soyars \_\_\_\_\_  
Walters \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSURE

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐



4-22 (Rev. 1-22-60)

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

163

19

☒ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527  
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524  
☐ Forward to File Review  
☐ Attention  
☐ Return to  
Supervisor Room Ext  
No. of References Requested  
☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
☐ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
☐ Subversive References Only  
☒ Nonsubversive References Only  
☐ Main References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☒ Restricted to Locality of Cal  
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject James Earl Ray  
Birthdate & Place  
Address

Locality

338 Date 5-10-72 Searcher Initials 107

	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
I	54-717	
NI		
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NR		
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AUG 1 1972

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

2

*KW*

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527  
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524  
☐ Forward to File Review  
☐ Attention  
☐ Return to  
Supervisor Room Ext.

## Type of References Requested

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
☐ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
☐ Subversive References Only  
☐ Nonsubversive References Only  
☒ Main *Line* References Only

## Type of Search Requested

☐ Restricted to Locality of  
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject

Birthdate &amp; Place

Address

Localities

R#

Date

Searcher

Initials

Prod#

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

1

57-717

2

[REDACTED]

3

[REDACTED]

4

[REDACTED]

5

[REDACTED]

6

[REDACTED]

7

[REDACTED]

8

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

27

[REDACTED]

28

[REDACTED]

29

[REDACTED]

30

[REDACTED]

JUN 1 1972

*[Signature]*

b7C



4-22 (Rev. 1-22-60)

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

4

19

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527  
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524  
☐ Forward to File Review  
☐ Attention  
☐ Return to  
Supervisor Room

Type of Reference Requested:  
☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
☐ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
☐ Subversive References Only  
☐ Nonsubversive References Only  
☐ Main References Only

Type of Search Requested:  
☐ Restricted to Locality of  
☒ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
☐ Building ☐ Variations

Subject  
Birthdate  
Address

Localities

R# Date Searcher Initials

Prod.

	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
✓	87-73946	10162/63
AD		
AD		

JUN 1 1972

2154

DO-6  
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

11:02AM June 8, 1971

b7C The Tour Room advised that a special tour of the Bureau has been arranged for the daughter of Jack Benny, the famous comedian, [REDACTED] Mr. Benny's grandson, [REDACTED] and his guest, [REDACTED] for 10:30 a.m., tomorrow, Wednesday, June 9th. They will be conducted on tour by a Special Agent of the Crime Records Division.

There was no request to meet the Director.

This tour was requested through the office of the Vice President.

MR. TOLSON \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SULLIVAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. MOHR \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. BISHOP \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. BRENNAN, C.D. \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CALLAHAN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CASPER \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. CONRAD \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. DALLEY \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. FELT \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. GALE \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. ROSEN \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. TAVEL \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. WALTERS \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. SOYARS \_\_\_\_\_  
MR. JONES \_\_\_\_\_  
TELE. ROOM \_\_\_\_\_

CONFERENCE

54-717  
NOT RECORDED  
JUN 16 1971

JUN 15 1971

ORIGINAL FILED IN 44-1

70 JUN 18 1971

June 6, 1972

BY LIAISON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/14/91 BY 8123 MCA/B  
FOIA# 319,546

Honorable Alexander P. Butterfield  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Jack Benny

Dear Mr. Butterfield:

Reference is made to your name check request  
concerning Mr. and Mrs. Jack Benny, [REDACTED] and  
[REDACTED]

b7C

Attached are separate memoranda concerning  
these individuals.

Sincerely yours,

L. Patrick Gray, III  
Acting Director

Z

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-38171

Enclosures (4)

REC-4

54-717-18  
NOT RECORDED  
141 JUN 9 1972

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURES

1 - Mr. Cleveland - Enclosures (sent direct)

JCF:mcblmb  
(6)

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

JUN 8 1972

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Bishop  
Mr. Casper  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. Felt  
Mr. Gale  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Miss Holmes  
Miss Gandy

F444

51 JUN 14 1972 TELETYPE UNIT

August 22, 1972

BY LIAISON

Honorable Alexander P. Butterfield  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Butterfield:

Reference is made to your name check request concerning [REDACTED] Jim Backus and some other individuals.

Attached are separate memoranda concerning the following individuals:

[REDACTED] Jim Backus

[REDACTED] George Burns

[REDACTED] Vince Edwards

Sincerely yours,

L. Patrick Gray, III  
Acting Director

Enclosures (10)

54-777-19  
NOT RECORDED  
184 AUG 23 1972

1 - Mr. Cleveland - Enclosures (sent direct)

JCF:mcb  
(5)

DELIVERED BY LIAISON  
ON 8/23/72

4 AUG 24 1972

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-5-38490

Room  
ley  
strong  
wig  
en

SEP 1 1972  
MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

**GEORGE BURNS**

The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning captioned individual based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

March 18, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

Reference is made to your name check request for a review of FBI files concerning the following individuals subsequent to the date of the previous name check request as noted following each name.

[REDACTED] b7c September 12, 1963  
Benjamin Kubelsky (also known as Jack Benny) August 12, 1964  
John Ernst Steinbeck May 20, 1964

Our files contain no additional pertinent information concerning Mr. Kubelsky.

In 1937, information was received that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was a reference for an individual who was a delegate from the New York Guild of the American Newspaper Guild to its National Convention in 1945. The New York Newspaper Guild had been described as communist infiltrated and communist dominated. This same individual reportedly sent a communication to Governor Thomas Dewey in 1934 appealing for executive clemency for [REDACTED] who was convicted on June 28, 1941, in General Sessions Court, New York, and sentenced to State Prison on four counts of giving false testimony before the Rapp--Coudert Joint Legislative Committee. During his testimony [REDACTED] had admitted membership in the Communist Party but had lied with respect to the number of individuals he knew to be members of the City College of New York Unit of the Communist Party.

ENCLOSURE

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (sent direct)
- 1 - Mr. Gates (sent direct)

NOT RECORDED

126 MAR 21 1968 MAR 19 1968

See note next page.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-5-1-305/6

b7c

b7c

6 MAR 1968 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT



August 13, 1964

**NATHAN BIRNBAUM, ALSO KNOWN  
AS GEORGE BURNS  
BORN: JANUARY 20, 1896  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

Captioned individual has never been the subject of an investigation conducted by the FBI.

The files of this Bureau do reveal, however, that according to newspaper publicity appearing in late 1939 and early 1940, Burns was the subject of a smuggling investigation as a result of which he was convicted and paid a fine of \$8,000.

As the files of the FBI contain no further pertinent information concerning this matter, you may desire to check with the Customs Bureau, U. S. Treasury Department, for further information. (54-717)

In 1943, Burns was reported to be a sponsor of the Committee for the Care of Children in Wartime, which organization allegedly had Communist Party affiliations and connections. Burns, however, was believed to be unaware of the true nature of the organization. (100-92879-24)

In the early 1940's, Burns was reported to be a member of the Hollywood Democratic Committee, cited as a communist front by the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee On Un-American Activities in a 1948 report. In June, 1945, Burns was also listed as a member of the executive council of the Hollywood Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions (HICCASP), successor to the Hollywood Democratic Committee. The HICCASP was also cited as a communist front by the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee On Un-American Activities in its 1948 report. (100-197270-7, 21; 100-15252-39).

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_

JVA:gms (10)

b7c  
(Request per [REDACTED], Social Secretary, White House.)