

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION
COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: VINCENT ASTOR

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Vincent Astor

FBIHQ FILE 62-60925

171 pages reviewed

- 24 pages withheld as follows: Exemption (b)(1)... 1 page
Exemption (b)(7)(C)
(b)(7)(D)..8 pages
Exemption (b)(7)(D)..1 page
Referred Direct
Response..14 pages

147 pages enclosed

COPY-MG

Office of Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Jan. 4, 1940

Time 3 pm

Name tele SAC Foxworth at NYC

Agent [redacted] and Chauffeur [redacted] arrived safely. The car is in good condition -- it ran all the way to New York without filling the gas tank. [redacted] will return today. b7c

Mr. Foxworth wanted the Director to know that he has an appointment to see Mr. Astor tomorrow at 4 pm.

st

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/23/85 BY 9145/CS/glt

FOIPA 248072

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

62-60925-1

9 19

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
1300 Biscayne Building
Miami, Florida

JWV:rd

February 19, 1940

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: VINCENT ASTOR

Dear Sir:

In my absence Vincent Astor was requested to call at the Miami Field Division, by Special Agent in Charge W. S. Devereaux, for the purpose of talking with the Director by telephone. This was done on February 10, 1940, after Mr. Devereaux contacted Mr. Astor aboard his yacht the "Nourmahal" at Miami.

For the completion of the Bureau's file in this matter, there is attached hereto a copy of the memorandum prepared by Mr. Devereaux dated February 10, 1940.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Vincent
J. W. VINCENT
Special Agent in Charge

Encl.

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DATE 11/22/85 BY 9145/05/98

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-60925-2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 FEB 23 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON
TAMM
ONE
HENDERSON

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Lester	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. McGuire	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Loom	
Adm. Files	
Pers. Files	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

1 ENCL. 9

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DATE 11/22/85 BY 9145/cz/gtb

Miami, Florida,
February 10, 1940.

MEMORANDUM:

I wish to advise that about 11:00 AM on the instant date the writer received a telephonic call from SAM FOXWORTH, of the New York Office, at which time he instructed the writer to board the yacht of VINCENT ASTOR; further that Mr. ASTOR was to be requested to telephonically communicate with the Director at the New York Office, where he would be available until 1:00 PM at telephone Rector 2-3536. Mr. Foxworth instructed that every possible consideration be shown to Mr. ASTOR inasmuch as he was a good contact of the New York Office and also in view of the fact he was a personal friend of the Director.

At 12:15 PM the writer proceeded to Pier 1, Miami, to the Yacht NOURMAHOL, which is the yacht belonging to the ASTOR family. It was discovered that Mr. ASTOR was delayed due to train connections from the north, and the New York Office was telephonically advised Mr. ASTOR would not be ready to talk until approximately 3:00 PM.

The writer re-contacted Mr. ASTOR at 2:45 PM aboard his yacht and made arrangements for him to proceed to the Miami Office in order that the desired telephone call might be made. Subsequent to the telephone conversation the Director spoke with the writer and instructed that

b7D The call number of the Yacht NOURMAHOL is W.Q.B.T. Mr. ASTOR explained that he was proceeding this afternoon to Nassau

He informed that the Director should be advised that if he has not heard from Mr. ASTOR by Thursday of next week he should not be unduly concerned inasmuch as in all probability Mr. ASTOR was still in port at Nassau.

I also furnished Mr. ASTOR the office telephone number, as well as the writer's present resident address in Miami, namely: the Everglades Hotel.

FEB 11 1940

MIAMI, FLORIDA

ROUTE

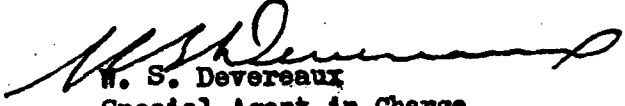
pls put in
c file
62-60925-2

MEMORANDUM:

2/10/40.

The writer was with Mr. ASTOR until approximately 4:30 PM, at which time his yacht put out to sea in order to proceed to the island of Nassau.

Every possible courtesy was shown to Mr. ASTOR on the occasion of his visit.


W. S. Devereaux
Special Agent in Charge.

WSD:C

JCH:R

June 6, 1940

Mr. Vincent Astor
23 West 20th Street
New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dear Mr. Astor:

When I returned from the Capitol this morning, my secretary told me that there had been a call for me from the White House from you. I at once called the White House Operator, but was sorry to learn that you had already left. I had to be before the Appropriations Committee of the House in connection with the supplemental appropriation for an increase of our investigative staff, so was awfully sorry to have missed you. I hope the next time you are in Washington I will have better luck. (u)

In the meantime, with continued expressions of my appreciation of your understanding and interested attention in the many matters which are so vital to the FBI, I am (u)

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP2 TAP/BB
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 2-17-90

FOIPA 248072
DECLASSIFIED BY 9145/ci/gt
ON 1/22/85

PERSONAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ JUN 6 1940 ★

P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

62-60925-
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 JUN 10 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson _____
Nathan _____
E. A. Tamm _____
Clegg _____
Ladd _____
Coffee _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Tele. Rm. _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Gandy _____

by [Signature]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
July 11, 1940

Mr. P. E. Foxworth
Barclay Hotel
111 East 48th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Foxworth:

Transmitted herewith is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] which is to be
signed and returned to Mr. Tracy in my office by you.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

REGISTERED MAIL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/27/85 BY 9145/CE/glt

Given to [REDACTED] of U.A. [REDACTED]

11-7-40

RECORDED

62-60925-3 X	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
SEP 10 1940	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

553

July 12, 1940.

Percival E. Foxworth, Esq.,
Assistant Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Pennsylvania Avenue and 9th St.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Foxworth:

I am writing at the suggestion of Mr. A.
He states that you want me to have your home address
in Washington, to which I should write, rather than
to your office.

If that is your wish, will you please send
it to me?

Sincerely yours,

[Redacted signature block]

b7c

RECORDED

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DATE 11/22/85 BY 9145/ST/su

62-60925-3X1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 10 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Vincent Astor

lett. 7-15-40

[Redacted] :LC

553

2126 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
August 2, 1940

c/o Vincent Astor
23 West 26th Street
New York City, New York

Dear [REDACTED]

I am transmitting herewith [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

If it isn't too much trouble I would also like
for you to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] address is as follows:
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Thanks a lot and with best wishes,

Sincerely,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11-22-88 BY 9145

P. E. Foxworth

RECORDED

Comm Stamp
8-2-40
copy

62-60925-3X2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 AUG 28 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RETURN DIRECTLY TO MR. FOXWORTH

2126 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
August 3, 1940

PEF:DAJ

b7C
c/o Vincent Astor
23 West 26th Street
New York City, New York

Dear [REDACTED] b7C

I am transmitting herewith [REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

FOIPA 248072
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/22/85 BY 9145/9/1

RECORDED

62-60925-313
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 AUG 13 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

B 555
RETURN DIRECTLY TO S.I.S. DIVISION

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 7 - 1940

WESTERN UNION

WH30 10

MS NEWYORK NY AUG 7 1940 406P

P E FOXWORTH

ASST DIRECTOR FBI US DEPT JUSTICE WASHDC

Vincent o Astor
[REDACTED] IN NEWYORK AND HAVE ARRANGED TO SEE HIM
TOMORROW

419P

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/21/85 BY 9145 c7/9/8

62-60925-3X4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 AUG 19 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED


B513

[Handwritten signature]

PEF:DAJ

2126 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
August 10, 1940

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~


c/o Vincent Astor
23 West 26th Street
New York City, New York

Dear 

I am transmitting herewith 




Sincerely yours,

FOIPA 248072 Enclosure
DECLASSIFIED BY 9145/CE/gu
ON 1/21/83

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/14/95 BY 1145/CE/gu

RECORDED

Comm stamp
8-10-40

62-60925-315	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
AUG 122 1940	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

RETURN DIRECTLY TO MR. FOXWORTH

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 13 1940

WESTERN UNION

Mu 4-2090

WH22 25

MS NEWYORK NY AUG 13 1940 143P

P E FOXWORTH ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ✓

FBI JUSTICE

WHAT IS NAME OF YOUNG MAN WHO IS COMING TO SEE ME
WEDNESDAY MORNING AND AT WHAT TIME WILL HE BE HERE
FOR I FORGET
VINCENT ASTOR.

155PM

*I called Astor
on this 8/13/40*

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-1-85 BY 9145/ET/gd

RECORDED

62-60925-4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
3	AUG 21 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
FOXWORTH	

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Adm. Files _____
Pers. Files _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

PEF:DAJ

Date August 15, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

While in New York with Vincent Astor, I furnished him with the names of the following former Agents:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7C

I told Astor that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] he might contact them if he so desired.

b7D

Respectfully,

[Signature]

P. E. Foxworth

*Director's
advised*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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62-60925-4
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 AUG 19 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Signature

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OCT 28 1964 96

VINCENT ASTOR
No 23 WEST 26th STREET

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Egan
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

New York, August 19th 1940

John Edgar Hoover, Esq.,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Your note of August 14th arrived in this morning's mail, and consequently missed Mr. Astor, who sailed for Bermuda last Saturday. I shall hold it here until he returns to New York in about three weeks' time.

Very truly yours,

S. H. Wood
Secretary.

SW:bvm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-22-85 BY 9145/9/1

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62-60925-4 X1	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
AUG 22 1940	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

B. 513

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Klein _____
Miss Gandy _____

PEF:DAJ

Date September 11, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

0

Vincent Astor called me this afternoon. He is just back from Bermuda. He is coming down to Washington Friday afternoon and inquired if you were expected back by then. I told him that I wasn't quite sure that you would be back, but that you might.

[REDACTED] I told him I would tell you of his proposed visit and that I was sure in the event you were back you would save some time for him on Friday afternoon.

Respectfully,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. Foxworth

FOIPA 248072
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/22/85 BY 9145/cj/gtd

Director advised
P. E. Foxworth

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62-60925-412	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
SEP 15 1940	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

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OCT 29 1964 96

Signature

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.


CC-160

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____


PEF:DAJ

Date September 14, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR


You will recall that Astor was at one time quite enthusiastic about sending such a commission to Japan, however, Sumner Welles of the State Department put the damper on his plans.

Respectfully,


P. E. Foxworth

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DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
11/24/86

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

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62-60925-5
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 OCT 10 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON TAMM FOXWORTH

Signature

~~SECRET~~

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 97-145-3

EAT:DS

October 24, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Vincent
I talked to Mr. Astor and explained that you
were in a travel status. [REDACTED]

Mr. Astor would like to talk to you tomorrow
morning by telephone. He will be in his office
from 10:15 A. M. until 12:00 noon and would like
to hear from you between those hours. His office
telephone number is Murray Hill 4-2090.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

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DATE 1/22/85 BY 9145 CT/ST

FOIPA 248072

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-60925-6
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 NOV 21 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FOLSON

CHT. ONE

*Missell make call
11-7-40
Oing has not come
to take them
at put them
CHT-67H*

*b7C
b7D*

1

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET8

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



Deleted under exemption(s) b7C ; b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.



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Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

EAT:DS

Personal and
~~Confidential~~

November 2, 1940

62-60925-61
Mr. Vincent Astor
No. 23 West 26th Street
New York, New York

RECORDED
INDEXED

My dear Vincent:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Looking forward to seeing you in the near future,

Sincerely,

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Foxworth _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

DECLASSIFIED BY 9145/CF/9th
ON 9/15/88

Sealed in
11/4/40

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/22/88 BY 9145/jt

17

John F. Lawler, Esq.
Dear Mr. Lawler:

Vincent Austin

In checking over
I find that

[REDACTED]

This is just for your
information in case it has not
been noticed by you.

Hoping to see you this week
I remain,

Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

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DATE 11/23/85 BY 945/93/90

Oct. 24/40

OK not already
rec'd to take off
eggs calls by 11/2

RECORDED

62-60925-6X1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 4 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Jh

190 14485 1691

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

PEF:ATW

December 4, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SP. Drayton

[REDACTED]

←
b7c
b7D

[REDACTED] stated that he would like
to send down a memorandum as there appeared to be some
mixup on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] He stated that it
was nothing serious, [REDACTED]

I told him to send down the memorandum and
we would be glad to check it.

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. Foxworth

*Have already dictated
letter & it is in books*

RECORDED

62-60925-
~~64-4018-612~~
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 5 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-21-85 BY 9145/OS/g

(57)

VINCENT ASTOR
NO 23 WEST 26TH STREET

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

New York, December 6th, 1940.

Dear Edgar:

Thanks for all the material that
you sent me, which, as always, I know that I
shall read with great interest.

Ever yours,

Vincent

VA:SW

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

RECORDED

62-60925-7
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
4 DEC 17 1940
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
TOLSON
NICHOLS
HENDON

P.S. - Since dictating the above, I have been
looking at the charts showing the growth of S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
Communism, etc., and am wondering whether you
regard these as confidential. Would you, for
example, be willing to have them published in
NEWSWEEK? If so, they would certainly be of
interest - and instructive, too - to our readers.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/22/85 BY 7/45

EAT:DS

December 16, 1940

RECORDED 62-60925-7

Mr. Vincent Astor
No. 23 West 28th Street
New York, New York

Dear Vincent:

Upon receiving your note of December 6, 1940, in which you inquired concerning the possibility of making available to the publishers of Newsweek charts showing the growth of Communism, etc., I inquired of the Attorney General whether he would authorize the release of this material. I am now in receipt of information from him informing that he considers it inadvisable to release this material for publication at this time. I know you appreciate my position in this matter.

Sincerely,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/22/85 BY 9145/CJ/STH

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Foxworth _____
Mr. Nathan _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Gandy _____

Sealed in 100
11/16/40 2M.
6/12/ER

EAT

VINCENT ASTOR
NO 23 WEST 26TH STREET

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

New York, December 17th,

Dear Edgar:

I, of course, appreciate your position in regard to the inadvisability of publishing the material which you sent me concerning the growth of Communism, and will keep it carefully locked up.

Ever yours,

Vincent

VA:SW

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/22/85 BY 9145/CJ/gt

RECORDED

Hon. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

*Director advised
12-18-40*

62-60925-8	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
3	JAN 3 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	NICHOLS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 18 1940

WESTERN UNION

WH12 DH

MS NEWYORK NY DEC 18 1940

P E FOXWORTH, ASST DIRECTOR FBI JUSTICE

OVERLOOKED THE FACT THAT I HAVE A NEWSWEEK MEETING

AT FOUR OCLOCK THURSDAY AFTERNOON SO COULD YOU

MEET ME AT 120 EAST END AVENUE AT SIX INSTEAD

OF FIVE

VINCENT. *Astor*

120.

1136A

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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62-60925-8X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 31 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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OCT 29 1964 96

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. McIntire _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Tour Room _____
Mr. Kleinkeuf _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Miss Boehm _____
Miss Gandy _____

PEF:LH

Date January 9, 1941

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The two more interesting items I noticed are the two
top photostats.

Respectfully,

P. E. Foxworth

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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62-60925-9
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 FEB 13 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON
FIVE MONTHS

Signature

Some very interesting
material here.

3/1/41
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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Beer Too Strong

GOEULEITER Joseph Buerckel, squat, square-jawed, fair haired ex-schoolmaster and Nazi pioneer in the Rhineland, is the man responsible for terrorising Lorraine.

Buerckel has no brain, but two heavy fists. He achieves by banging those fists on office desks what the more intelligent Nazi chief attains by subtle trickery or persuasion.

When he was a power in Vienna he stamped out all opposition to Hitler, even sacking local Nazi leaders when they gumbled about his methods.

But, like Goering and Streicher, he has a taste for alcohol, and the Austrian beer was too heavy for him.

Even two thumping fists could not maintain authority after he had been publicly stamped as a drunkard. He left Vienna.

Now he is sampling the wines of Alsace.

Old Hatred

Buerckel was one of the earliest supporters of separatism, helping Hitler's agents across the frontiers. Now he has freed all the traitors who were imprisoned by the French for espionage.

But Hitler apparently does not trust Buerckel implicitly. He has given Hermann Roehling, notorious Nazi supporter among German industrialists, "a special mission of organisation."

Buerckel, son of a poor peasant family, hated the industrial barons, and, in particular, the man with whom he will have to work.

The two men were together in the Saar. It was Roehling who had Buerckel sent to Vienna.

Co-operation

THOSE concerned with the future relations between Britain and the United States have noted with approval the closeness of the understanding between the technical staffs of the two Admiralties.

All the latest discoveries of the British Admiralty are being passed on to the Americans, whose new great navy will, therefore, incorporate our own most recent improvements.

UNISTATES NAVY : Jan 3, 1940

(please see December 31 memo under this head.)

On December 31 there arrived at Honolulu for basing at Pearl harbor a squadron of 12 Consolidated naval patrol bombers from San Diego. The navy attempted to cover up this mass flight, the 8th. of its sort from San Diego to Hawaii. The first was in 1934.

According to story published in the HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN January 2, this ~~the~~ flight delivery was made simply to replace the squadron which was flown from Pearl Harbor to Manila last month.

Actual fact is that this flight was simply first in a series of at least five which will take place this & next month. Navy intends to permanently station these patrol bombers at Midway, Johnston island, Palmyra etc. outlying bases as they are completed. Already Midway is completed. First permanent stationing of naval patrol bombers will become effective at Midway immediately. Already there are less than 200 handpicked marines with coastal and anti-aircraft batteries stationed at Midway (please see my radiogram giving these details dated October 5, 1940).

Johnston island will be the next completed base. Then Palmyra. Main construction gangs are now digging in at Wake island ~~where~~ where Midway project will be duplicated ~~there~~ (base for subs, mincraft, cruisers, destroyers, patrol bombers & refuelling.)

This is simply part of the navy's 1941 plan to super pressure Japan and keep ~~Japan~~ Japan cool headed, diplomatically & aggressively. As I have pointed out in welter of memos during late 1940, the Midway project ~~means~~ means that America now has aggressive forces poised within easy striking distance of Japan, especially the vital economic-political area : Tokyo, Osaka, Yokohama, etc.

The Japs now know this : and that's why the Japs are cooling. Hitler's agents in Japan, including staff officers, can't give the Japs any idea of how they can counter America's terrific silent pressure.

.....

1-2-41

Super sparing in official announcements to the press about fleet activities, navy spokesmen at Honolulu said to the HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN on Dec. 23 that all units of the fleet now here will remain until Jan. 6 at least, all training operations being suspended meanwhile.

At this date there is only approximately one-third of the Pacific fleet in Hawaiian waters. For example : There are only 4 out of 15 battle-ships here. The others are still on the west coast being "periodically" overhauled. There is only one carrier here, the Yorktown, and lately they've been keeping ~~her~~ her "in the yard", meaning Pearl harbor base and repairs. Lots of major trouble with her electrical system. The other three Pacific fleet carriers are still on the coast.

However, backbone of the ships here is the Hawaiian detachment, formed at start of war in Europe, a so-called neutrality patrol unit placed on permanent station in Hawaii. The 8 heavy cruisers of the detachment are here now. In theory, the detachment, a highly mobile force, will remain in Hawaiian waters for the defense of the isles ~~the~~ rest of fleet ~~is~~ ^{go} other places. IF

The entire fleet is scheduled to be at Hawaii within the next 30 days. In the process of shifting the rest of the fleet to Hawaii from west coast bases, there'll be plenty of "mystery departure" stories in the newspapers. Navy will encourage these yarns just to keep the Japs hopping mad. Truth is that navy brass hats, as I've tried to point out in all memos lately, are not going to get caught short. They are basing all their plans on the Alaska-Hawaii-west coast-Panama front.

Recent movements of patrol bombers and submarines to the Philippines are nothing but replacements. Navy, naturally, is trying to censor the stories (as it did with the local press when the bombers left Pearl harbor for Manila) much as possible as part of real wartime drill, and at Manila end they encourage reports that bombers are additional force because they want to impress Japan that Uncle Sam is stacking up a better striking force about Manila, ~~and~~ thus dominating southward routes that Japan will take if & when.

Instance of the replacements taking place in the Asiatic fleet is fact that in November the USS Houston left Pearl harbor and went to Manila where it replaced USS Augusta as flagship of the Asiatic fleet, the Augusta coming to Hawaii & west coast for overhaul. Same thing today is taking place with submarines & bombers.

The navy is determined to remain based on Hawaii until the day when we have a definite two ocean navy.

Admiral Richardson, cinous of fleet, in past two weeks commanded a highly important series of joint tactical exercises with the army in Hawaii, the idea being to test the land defenses of the islands. These exercises were kept highly secret, of course, and not a word about them has leaked to the press. However, this is what happened, and these facts are direct from insiders who sat at operations table :

Admiral Richardson & his men know that Japan has at least 12 aircraft carriers, meaning that Japan has at least 1,200 warplanes (mainly dive bombers) which Japan can move about for attack. The ~~only~~ only way that Japan can smack at the Hawaii defense installations is with carrier based bombers : that is, until Japan ~~seizes~~ seizes Midway & Wake islands ~~so~~ so that she can use landbased planes, or makes an attack from landbases in the mandated islands.

However, American ~~analysts~~ argue that Japan would use the carriers because they possess immense possibilities of surprise, particularly if USA fleet, or most of it, is drawn away to Panama-Atlantic area in case of USA-Germany crisis. This crisis is what Japan is waiting for.

In the recent Richardson commanded exercises with the army in Hawaii, the navy forces here were split up to represent a Japanese attack upon Hawaii, an ~~assumption~~ assumption being that the main force of the USA fleet had been called to Panama.

In short, a few ships were left but the main defense of the islands had to be borne by the army, particularly the army's bombardment and pursuit planes. The picture of the Jap attack on Hawaii, as demonstrated in the recent exercises, was this :

The carrier forces attacked the islands (that is, the main island of Oahu -- Pearl harbor, all the army installations guarding it) from three different directions. The main Jap fleet swung out of the eastern end of the mandated islands and approached Hawaii from the south, from the vicinity of Christmas & Fanning islands.

The Jap carrier forces were sighted & identified okay, but, with the ~~the~~ attack coming en masse from three different directions at the same time, the army was caught with its pants down. It gave fight with what aircraft it has but in theory ~~the~~ the Jap aircraft broke thru and gave the Oahu installations a good going over.

Note : Today there are only 51 army bombardment (medium) planes in Hawaii and Wheeler Field, the one & only pursuit field here, has an assortment of approximately 85 planes (40 of them P-36, some observation, photo etc. planes.)

Every one of these planes was tested in the recent exercises. Of course, there just weren't enough of them to repulse the aerial invasion. And, of course, ~~the~~ what was left of them after the attacks upon the Jap ~~carriers~~ made little impression upon the main Jap fleet which, in the exercise, followed up the carriers and pounded hell out of the Oahu forts.

The ~~the~~ exercises proved to the hilt what Richardson has been arguing & arguing with FDR : That Hawaii is not properly defended so that the fleet can take off for Panama-Atlantic. If Hawaii falls, USA west coast is thrown wide open. The army defenses in Hawaii are excellent but the great serious lack is in airpower. Richardson knows this full well : he knows (after British & German demonstrations of the real thing) what landbased bombardment can do to warships and today Richardson is the greatest advocate (altho primarily he is a warship man) the army has (behind the scenes) for more & more bombardment & pursuit defense in Hawaii.

The ~~the~~ results of these recent exercises are going to be used by Richardson & the brass hats of the navy staff who think with Richardson to smack down FDR's efforts to break up the Pacific fleet : that is, station a big unit at Manila, Singapore etc. Richardson & his gang are arguing now that the fleet must remain intact at Hawaii.

Note : The army can't do much about improving the aerial defenses of Hawaii because Britain is getting the very production that the army wants. The army brass hats think it is scandalous that Hawaii has not been stocked with enough planes first.

Thorn

3.

In connection with warplane releases to Britain, it is interesting to note that only army types are being released: the navy is carefully seeing that its stocks of planes are built up. All the carriers, for example, are fully stocked today. Whereas Hickam Field (bombardment) in Hawaii has only 51 bombers, yet it has more than 4,000 officers and men on the field, who are sitting around ~~the~~ twiddling their thumbs because of lack of equipment. Wheeler Field, the pursuit field near Hickam, has some 3,000 men but only approx. 85 planes ~~of~~ of various types.

Another angle is developing behind the scenes, too: Richardson & navy brass hats now are much more sold on the power of landbased bombardment than many army ~~the~~ brass hats are. So navy strategy is to methodically establish navy landbased air stations. Example: in past six months navy has condemned one vast area on island of Oahu for construction of longranged landplane field, and also taken over two ~~small~~ small fields from the army air corps on Oahu. Besides, the navy on the shore adjacent to the ~~Kaneohe~~ Kaneohe patrol bomber base recently completed on north shore of Oahu ~~is~~ in constructing a landplane field that can be extended for big planes.

In short, the navy knows that landbased bombardment is going to be vital part of navy's front line defense of Hawaii etc. and navy intends to establish its own landbased air corps, thus taking over army's air corps mission. Here in Hawaii, the army-navy brass hats are frank about this development and they chide each other. Of course in fun. The decisions for the moves are made in Washington and the brass hats out here simply carry out orders.

These brass hats see around the corner to the day when the navy gets control of this frontline airpower. They say when the navy does, then navy will bring political pressure in Washington ~~for~~ for the formation of a separate air arm bossed by the navy, of course. The army air corps bombardment would be absorbed in the new idea. Navy is confident this ultimate plan will go thru because of navy minded FDR being in office.

.....

So summed up, this is the Pacific fleet-strategy picture for 1941:

Richardson is determined to keep the navy based on Hawaii. Meanwhile, he & ditto advocates are going to plug like hell for improvement of army's aerial defenses of Hawaii, plus development of navy landbased airplane facilities in Hawaii, too. Matter of fact, within one year navy may have far finer landbased air force in Hawaii than army will. That is part of navy strategy of ultimate taking over of frontline airpower. Meanwhile, Richardson etc. keeping pals with army because it is from army in H-awaii that navy today is learning all about technique & tactics involved in operating landbased bombardment and familiarizing warships with attacks from this bombardment.

The fleet based on Hawaii is USA's ace in the hole. Berlin is trying to pressure Japan to stride southward ho, but fleet at Hawaii is keeping Japan cool. Berlin, too, is trying to create Atlantic crisis so that warships will have to be moved from Hawaii into Atlantic, which would weaken Hawaii defense, enabling Japan to take a crack. Richardson & Co. know all this and their best strategy, they know, is to remain fast at Hawaii, meanwhile praying for production of two ocean navy and

praying that Washington can diplomatically take care of tricks which Berlin may frame up in the Atlantic area.

During 1941, as new warships go into commission, they will be sent into the Pacific for gruelling shakedown, while one by one ships will be sent from the Pacific fleet into Atlantic. The Atlantic fleet may be small in numbers, but every ship will be efficient. It is safer to bring the new ships into Pacific where they are protected by the great force of the Pacific fleet.

But no ~~fooling~~ fooling, Richardson & Co. are anxious as devil about army's lack of airpower in Hawaii. Note : Rep. Dow W. Harter (D-Ohio), chairman of the house military affairs committee, was recently in Hawaii (2 weeks ago) and he was impressed by army's real lack of ACTUAL PLANES. The fields, etc. & personnel are tops, but they have nothing to fight with. Harter would give your Washington man an earful.

Richardson & Co. ~~must~~ must not let Hawaii fall because if it does, all the west coast navy bases are wide open. Hawaii is the key of the north Pacific.

Note : Harter and, of course, the army are anxious that the air corps start making flying fortress flights from California to Hawaii. Biggest planes in Hawaii are simply the old twin-engined B-18 Douglas medium bombers. Hickam Field last week designated a heavy bombardment field (flying fortresses - B-17) but it has no heavy planes. The army strategists say that if the army starts the fortress flights to Hawaii that would impress Japan's brass hats as much as the fact that the USA fleet will remain at Hawaii. The Japs know what heavy bombardment planes can do, particularly America's long ranged.

And Richardson, of course, is all for flying fortresses in Hawaii. The navy right along has blocked the army flying down fortresses to Hawaii, but now the war in Europe has proved landbased bombardment, so for their own safety's sake, navy is warming to army plan for fortress flights to Hawaii.

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for armed upheavals.

It is clear that from a viewpoint of democratic orthodoxy little if anything can be said in favour of an evolution which has led one after the other of the Central American Republics to be turned into what a humorist has called "Creole Monarchies", as each president has had his term renewed or extended, often twice or more frequently still.

However, there is one good to be said in favour of these practices, and that is that they actually act as a powerful brake on the machinations of Nazi and Fascist agents. It is a regrettable but truthful paradox that at the present moment no one is more interested in the unhampered blossoming of democracy in the Caribbean area than Hitler is. Nothing would suit the Nazi emissaries better than unrestrained party strife or presidential campaigns in these States where the spirit of democracy has not yet really got under the skin. Hitler's henchmen have long developed an astounding virtuosity in turning up under the most unconceivable disguises and I for one should not be surprised if some of the most vocal trumpeters of democracy around here were found out to be actually taking orders from Berlin.

In this country, for example, which by and large is unquestionably the most civilized, most sincerely democratic and ~~most~~ least Nazi-ridden of the six Central American Republics, there has been of late weeks a strange outcrop of viciously anti U.S. and anti-British publications. Into the most respectable newspapers of this capital articles are finding their way which in the name of democracy make hysterical attacks on "Yankee imperialism" or denounce President Roosevelt for maintaining good neighbour relations with the established governments in Latin America. It is not hard to perceive behind the high-falutin verbiage of these pseudo-champions of democracy the real wire-pullers of a campaign which is concerned very little with the survival of democracy and very much with stabbing Uncle Sam in the

the belief that the moment the United States goes to war, or is involved in warlike complications with the Axis, a well-prepared flash of revolutions will go off, like a set of fireworks, in at least half-a-dozen countries south of the Rio Grande. The Guatemala affair, it appears, was a premature flash in the pan and it has set the governments of all the neighbouring States on the alert. Measures of vigilance have been redoubled, sudden shifts of administrative personnel have occurred in various Republics and a keener watch on the fifth-column activities is being made.

Against this background must also be viewed, according to the same observers, the rather spectacular and unexpected change which President Anastasio Somoza of Nicaragua has lately effected in his Cabinet. In the course of this shake-up the President also relieved from his post the commander of the National Guard general Reyes, along with several other top-ranking officers. The appointment, announced two days ago - on the same day that the conspirators of Guatemala were put to death - of captain Benjamin Arguilla to the post of Under-Secretary of War, Navy and Aviation is believed to be a further step in a methodical clean up by which President Somoza is guarding himself and his country against all eventualities.

Signs of growing unrest and revolutionary fermentation are also reported from Honduras where President Tiburcio Carías Andino, three weeks ago, had his term of office extended, by a vote of Congress, to last until 1949. This policy of having the President's powers extended again and again, under more or less democratic forms, which has a counterpart in all the other Central American Republics, with the only exception of Costa Rica, could not fail to arouse bitter opposition and thus to pave the way

Jan. 3, 1941

B-

From

Privately some Administration officials are worried about the development of appeasement sentiment in a group where its presence has not been generally suspected: in the cotton exporting group. This includes not only brokers and handlers, but some of the producers. With enormous cotton stocks on hand, and a still higher surplus likely to be piled up next year unless stringent measures are taken, these people are naturally interested in recovering the export market as quickly as possible. In conversations with officials in the Administration they have displayed an interest not only in recovering the continental markets in Europe, which were cut down before the war, but in preserving their Japanese market. Behind-the-scenes pressure ~~pressure~~ from this group was a factor in preventing or postponing action to restrict Japanese silk imports.

Activity in this group is quiet and behind-the-scenes so far, partly because of the strongly pro-British sympathies and the natural belligerence of the South, but it may come into the open soon in controversy over cotton production control next year, and whether or not exports should be subsidized.

In this connection I note in the paper today that the British are concerned about the large quantities of cotton going to Vladivostok. A dispatch from London says that the Russians are importing more than they need for their own use.

Dear

Your little checks spur me on in my literary (?) efforts, and I'll try to see if I cannot think up some news.

One thing which we are running into here, which may throw quite a monkey wrench in the whole defense and construction program, is the SHORTAGE OF LABOR. This is now being felt most on the docks, because stevedoring and longshoreman work is most irregular, and the lowest paid down here (\$.24 per hour), against \$.28 for unskilled labor on defense projects, plus board and room ~~xx~~ for \$1.20 a week. Last week was one hell of a week. One Jap ship waited three days, obtained no men to remove cargo, and sailed off without unloading. We had two ships which we unloaded with the ships' crews. All ships were from twelve hours to three days late in getting unloaded, and the docks were just jammed with cargo. And the real cargo hasn't started coming in, for the third looks, new construction projects, etc. etc. The normal turnout for work on the docks is about 1800 men, and last week anywhere from 150 to 1000 were turning out. This may become quite a bottleneck, because all equipment ~~xxxx~~ and supplies must come in by ships.

A great many of the laborers here are recruited from various West Indies islands, particularly Jamaica, and the Canal has recruiters out after men all the time. With the construction projects planned for all of the new bases, you can definitely anticipate an increasing shortage, and increasing delays. No one who wants to work in Panama is out of a job, and plenty of people are crying for help.

If you want a little more on red cake down here, you might talk with Jolly Harrison of Harrison & Foulhoux. They come down here in July, full of flight, and expected that the contractors were going to start building before the plans were even completed. They have been working on plans for eight or ten buildings since July, and so far not one bit of construction has been done.

We, and other people, are getting a lot of Central European Jewish refugees who have obtained visas in Germany for various South and Central American countries, have then obtained Panamanian transit visas, and have arrived here on Jap ships after crossing Russia. The procedure here is to cable to the countries to which they are going, to confirm the validity of their visas. About 30% of them are found to be not valid, and the refugees are urged to remain in the ships, to return to Japan. God knows where they'll go from there!!

It may or may not be generally known that the Jansons, though operating a ship and doing no legitimate business themselves, still lease a large plot of ground in the Canal Zone, commanding a fine view of the harbor, docks, and all shipping activities. Their staff of 20 lives there, have large offices, and, as residents of the Zone, are granted the very favorable Commissary privileges (everything at 50% cost, gasoline at 9¢, cigarettes at 8¢, sugar at 13¢ per lb., bath beach suits for \$8.75, etc.) which are denied even to American citizens living across the street in

IN CRISTOL

BRITISH INDIAN WORRIES

Transport of troops from India to the Near East, which was fairly steady during the first months of the war, has been halted recently. The order was given by London after the Cabinet studied an urgent report from British authorities in India warning that the British and loyal native effectives must not be weakened further. Two reasons were cited in the report:- (1) secret preparations for a revolt in the Northwest Frontier area, abetted by Axis agents from Afghanistan; and (2) the belief that Gandhi is preparing a bold independence demand. London now has under consideration a plan to shift Anzac reinforcements, originally scheduled to be sent to the Near East, to Indian garrisons. Censorship has concealed the fact that two regiments were sent recently from the Calcutta area to Peshawar.

*(N.Y. man with excellent
diplomatic sources)*

December 30, 1940

1-3-41

Via Air - Mail

Unrest in Central America

In the wake of the abortive Christmas "putsch" in Guatemala, a wave of unrest and uneasiness is sweeping over the small Republics of Central America. If the events which led to the arrest and summary execution, on December 28th, of an undetermined number of conspirators against the government of President Jorge Ubico of Guatemala, did not transcend the traditional pattern of Latin American revolutions, the effects of the bloody purge in Guatemala upon the neighbouring countries would have been slight only. But there was more, it seems, behind this suppressed uprising than the time-honored settlement of accounts, in a turbulent Republic, between the clique in office and the one that would like to take its place. The Guatemala affair, it is generally believed here, pivoted on the higher plane of international power politics. Hence the intense excitement which the news of its outbreak and suppression caused in all the other Republics of Central America.

Behind the frustrated plot of Colonel Pedro Montenegro Morales and Dr. Julio Carrillo - the two best-known ringleaders who were passed through the arms, at Guatemala City, with a number of accomplices - there is the same influence which has an obvious interest in stirring up trouble in the Americas, wherever it can. To put it plainly, the whole affair is but a link in the chain of efforts, on the part of the Axis Powers to make things hot for Uncle Sam by starting a fire at his backdoor.

Well-informed observers in Central America express

According to best information here on the Soviet-German oil deals

for the coming year (British as well as American sources) the Germans will probably be able to get about 2,000,000 tons of oil from the Russian wells during the coming year, not only over land but also up the Danube.

####

The information on India and the war, which I'm getting together, will be sent along within the next two days.

####


Censorship of the telephone connections between the United States and

Norway has recently been instituted. Before last week, the members of the Norwegian legation in Washington had been calling up family and friends in Norway and talking over conditions and their health freely. Now, however, since last week, the ~~xxxx~~ telephone company has been told that the German military authorities in Norway will only permit calls of the utmost urgency, such as illness or special business.

####

NAZI OCCUPATION PLANS

Vichy insiders know that occupation of the rest of France by the Nazis is only a matter of time. The move was planned originally at the time of the Hitler-Franco meeting, then postponed when the aims of that conference fell through (Periscope, Jan. 6). Despite Marshal Petain's protests that the Germans were breaking an Armistice pledge, total occupation again was prepared at the time the Italians drove into Greece, but was halted once more with the Italian reverses. Recent word from Vichy is that the occupation move is inevitable and may be made at any time now as part of a strategy that the French themselves are in the dark about. Consequently, political prisoners whose friends still have some influence with Petain have been moved out of the areas near the demarcation line so that they can be taken along if the Government decides on a sudden flight. A number of records, including evidence prepared for the Riom trials, have already been sent secretly to Algeria.



*Ret to [unclear]
Washington*

Jan. 3, 1941

*Re: German Business
activities in Latin
America.*

Dear

This will acknowledge your letter of December 26, enclosing check for items on Belbenoit and Trinidad pilots.

I am wondering however whether a former letter of yours may not have been mislaid, as I have received no communication or check for the Trinidad naval base and whatever other material you may have used at an earlier date than the above mentioned items.

Here is something about the Central American republics that may be of use to you:

Although the matter of German penetration in Central America in a political way has been considerably overrated in this country, the Germans have perfected a form of commercial squeeze play during recent months that has been alarmingly successful.

German business men in Central American capitals, where business is American-dominated

to a far greater extent than in most Latin American nations, have lately been desperately handicapped by the blockading of their imports from Germany. Many of them have thereupon looked around and picked out the American business representatives who appeared to be doing the least industrious jobs in merchandizing their American products.

The Germans have written to the parent firms in the United States, stating that the company's affairs were being neglected in the country concerned, and asking for a consignment of the product. The German merchants, presumably financed by German government subsidies, pay cash for these shipments. With the benefit of their established customers, the Germans have been able to dispose of their first consignments in short order. They then proposition the American firms, seeking to replace the American agents as local representatives of the firms in question. In many cases they have succeeded.

It is true that in some instances the above maneuver has resulted in the American firms obtaining better agents. But the greater volume of American business should not be regarded as advantageous to this country, even ignoring the unfortunate fate of the displaced American agents. The reason is that nearly every German business man in Central America

contributes a certain proportion of his gross to the German consulates. This money is then used largely for Nazi propaganda in Latin America.

Originally I had this story from an American military attaché stationed in Central America. Later I heard confirmation of it, particularly in El Salvador and in Guatemala where the German influence is extra strong.

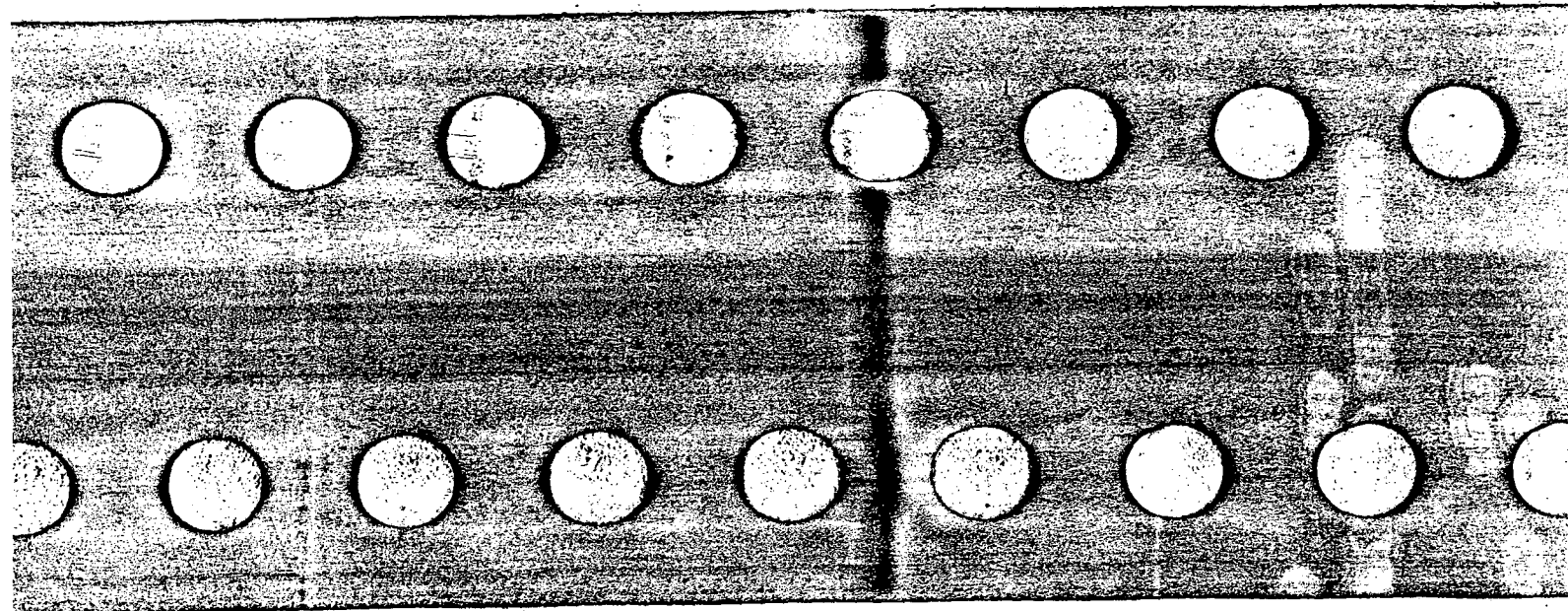
I am Trusting you had a bouncing New Year,

Yours very truly,

AUSTRALIAN WARP EFFORT : Jan. 3, 1941

Here is a swell Periscope : Australia lately ran into war production problem that it was running short of vital supply of ~~range finders~~ rangefinders, fire control, etc. instruments involving production of lenses. General manager in Australia of British General Electric is an up & coming youngish man ~~named~~ named ~~HEER~~ Hartnett. He told the Aussie government he would guarantee production of the necessary instruments. Government said it could not be done. Hartnett then showed how : he & aides thumbed thru immigration files of German Jewish etc. refugees for past few years entering Australia. Their patience was rewarded. They found a German Jew, living an obscure life in Australia, who was an expert with famed Carl Zeiss lens & instrument concern. They roped him in, today he heads a factory that is now producing the very vital things that Aussie & New Zealand defense forces want.

.....



MAIL CENSORSHIP.

A LITTLE NOTICED BUT SIGNIFICANT "U.S. "MEASURE SHORT OF WAR" IS NOW ENABLING BRITAIN TO CENSOR EVERY OUNCE OF MAIL GOING BOTH WAYS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE. BY THE SUGGESTIONS, RESPECTIVELY, OF THE MARITIME COMMISSION AND THE CIVIL AERONAUTICS AUTHORITY, ALL AMERICAN EXPORT LINE STEAMSHIPS AND PAN-AMERICAN CLIPPER SHIPS NOT STOP AT BERMUDA, ALLOWING BRITISH CENSORSHIP OF ALL AMERICAN-BORN, TRANS-ATLANTIC MAIL. ALL OTHER SHIPS ON THE ATLANTIC BEING BRITISH OR BRITISH CONTROLLED, THE ATLANTIC SCRUTINY IS AIR-TIGHT. FOR XX A BRIEF INTERVAL, THE POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT MAINTAINED A MAIL ROUTE TO GERMANY AND POLAND VIA JAPAN AND ~~XXXXXX~~ SIBERIA, BUT THIS WAS CANCELLED WITHOUT EXPLANATION AFTER A MONTH. ITS MAIL CENSORED ALONG WITH ALL THE REST, THE GERMAN EMBASSY HAS DISCONTINUED ITS DIPLOMATIC POUCH AND NOW BEATS THE CENSORSHIP BY ADDRESSING MAIL TO ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ RELAY POINTS IN JAPAN, WHERE THE OUTER ENVELOPES ARE TAKEN OFF AND THE INNER MAIL FORWARDED VIA SIBERIA~~X~~ TO BERLIN.

*New print;
stained from*

The from man who

in U.S.

Vintila Petala, Rumanian charge d'affaires in Mexico, ^{170/14}who was recalled by the Bucharest government, was, contrary to diplomatic usage, searched on his entering the US by the border authorities on the International Bridge, Laredo.

The incident was never disclosed by the US authorities, and only now that the charge d'affaires reached Lisbon, a Washington source revealed the story.

Petala, who was, prior to his Mexican post, for many years first secretary of the Rumanian legation in Berlin, was known in Mexico City as a diplomat very friendly to German legation circles there and it was often rumored that the Rumanian charge d'affaires was one of the neutral diplomats promoting German interests in Mexico.