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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WALTER WINCHELL
PART\# 5 of 13

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FEDERAL' BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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IV. GFORGE GYLVESTER VIBPECA

Reforance was made by Kr. Finchell to the fact that several congressmen were associated with Viereck but that little publioity was given to their identity and their association with Vioreck during his trial. He stated:

> Washington = As,you probnbly know from reading your newspapers, George Sylvestes Viereck has been convicted as a Naxi agent. He is facling a pramable trelve year term in Federel je41. But one item in the indictment seems to have been buried or 'played dom'. So let's make it public now. The indictment under which Viereck was convicted charged hin with using some membere of Congreas to help spread Nasf propaganda. Congressional immaity shielde these Legialators from the long arn of the law. But whe aren't their names revealed. Why's thaty When this reporter exposed the link between some members of Congress and liasi agents orer * here, he was almost court-martialled. But now $1 t$ seens that it is ail rery legel; oxcept publication of thoir names. We'll see about that!"

The Congresamen to whon Mr. Winchell referred wory undoubtedly Representative Hemiltor Fish of Rew York, Senator Hobert RARegnolde of 'North Garolina, Senatof Gerald P Cyy of North Dakote, Senstor D. Worth Clark of Idaho, Senator Burton K Wheoler of Montana, Senator Darid I, Waish of Massachusette, and the former/senator fondem. Contrary to Mr. Finchell's statement, agreat deal of publicity has been given to Fiereck's association with these Congressmen and evidence was introduced at Vioreck's trial regarding the material they inserted in the Congressional Record as a result of Viereck's efforte.
V. CURRENT INTERNATIONAL EVENTS
$\cdots$ Mr. Winchell made the following commenta which may be of general interest:
"Reportare all ofer the world are trying to flind out the whereaboute of Benitopussolini. The newspaper men who have covered Rome do not bel/dve that the infamoue coward has left Italy. They believe that he resigned only under personal presaure


Munich probably included threats on his life. If Mussolini has loft Italy, his safest hideout would be Switzerland.

Marshall Rodolph fratsiant, one of those named by the King of Italy to replace the Mussolini menagerie, was described today as a friend of the United Rations and an enemy of Fasolen. This is not so. Gratulant, according to Washington insiders, was one of the original blackshirt murderers.

MStockholm telephone contact between Rowe and Sweden was broken tonight. The breakdown in telephone connections discovered when Swedish newspapers tried to confine the report of the Duels resignation. It is not jet know whether the break was made on the German or the Italian exchange.

The Vatican City - The most exciting piece of debunidng wade yesterday's broadcast from the Vatican, which branded as entirely unfounded the German and Italian reports that Pope Pius has protested the raids to President Roosevelt. In Washington it is again emphasized that the raids will be as often as necessary or until Row is declared an open city and makes it co."


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## YPIORMDLE FOR HHE DIREGTOR

Walter linahel1, in wis colminn of Jalr 21, 1943, I unable to suggeet any posaible souroe for such infomation.

For your information, to date this Burean has handed 253,482 investigations of Selective Service matters and of theie 70,116 related to individuals who foiled to possest their regiatration or classifliontion oarde.

## ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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DATE $8 / 88 / 84=$ BY $8+608014$
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goes into s navy uniformy
more than two miluon:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAR!ED HEREIN ISUNCLASSIFIEU DATE $8 / 38 / 84$ BY SP8 BTI $/ 6 C C$

HAE NEM YOR DAILI MIRBCR
 Joily 21, 1943


The following cormenta concerning matters apparently of interest to the Bureau were made by Mr. Winchell during the course of his broedcast this date.

I. GERMAN MATTERS

做. Finchell addressed himself to the following subjects touching on German activities which seem to be of some possible or potential interest,
A. Nazi Activities in Mexico

Mr. Finchell stated: Mexico City. Novelist Zana-lejer3 (phonetic reported in the press as seriously hurt after being struck by a motorcar in Mexico City, was actually the victim of Nazi thugs. Her recent best sellery was an attack on the Hitler regime."

2 hitmench Coas ${ }^{\circ}$
B. Fritz Thyssen, Forter German Economic Minister.

Mr. Winchell comented: Buenos Aires. Although he has been reported dead by the Nazi-controlled press in Germany and Vichy, France, it is now said that Hitler's first great financial backer, Frity Thyssen, is alive. This has not been verified. Frits Thyssen, they say, is believed to be malcing munitiona for the Allies in South America." recent months as to the possibility that Thyssen may be alive, and if so, as his present whereabouts. As indicated, it would appegrothg these are all s positions and are not based on substantiated data.
II. " DIVISION SIX MATTERS

A. Wer Frauds Cases

Mr. Winchell stated: None of the best known filllitad 291943 the Unit Stetes will soon be indicted by a Federal Grand Jury. The former Federal Attorney Medalie will be defense couneet. The shipyagds a not Kaiser's. They are not Kaiser's."

It would appear that Kr . Winchell was referring to the war frauds case involving the Sullivan Dry Dock and Repair Corporation. This case has been extensively investigated by the Bureau and, according to present plans, it will be presented to a Grand Jury in the very near future, probably next week, in the Eastern District of New York. The chargea against this corporation will involve, among other things, alleged salary kickbacks and falsified expense accounts amounting in total to probably in excess of $\$ 70,000$. Some five of the company's officers are involved as prospective defendante. Attol ney George Medalle, formerly United States Attorney at New York, will, as indicated by Mr. Winchell, probably be retained as defense counsel.

## B. New York Murder Case

4r. Winchell remarked thet the New York Police are on the verge of breaking "a big murder Case" involving the recent slaying of a woman in the Merritt Park section of New York. He described this case as being one of a "very sensetional nature." No further names or identifying data were mention and it rould appear that this is exclusively a State case.
III. Matters of gengital Interest to the bureau

During the broadcast Kr. Winchell addressed himself to the followi subjects which appear to be of general interest to the Bureau:
A. Comment Concerning Mussolini's Secreting Money in Argentina

Mir. Winchell stated that it is now definitely known that Mussolini and members of his family have deposited large amounts of Italian gold bulli in vaults in banks at Buenos Aires, Argentina, and in Dublin, Ireland. You remember that in a recent broadcast Kr . Winchell made a aimilar remark, obse ing at the time that iussolini's son-in-law, Coung/Ciano, hes already "sent
most of his stolen money to Argentina."
B. Allusion to Ose of Franking Privilege for Propaganda Purposes

At one point in his broadcast Ar. Winchell commented at length concerning the splendid progress which has been made by the Anerican Armed Forch In extending these observations he stated, in substence, that in the future America must beware of its past mistakes and illusions of "isolationism," at that in the future it must be at all times adequately armed and organized to prevent recurrences of any more "Pearl Harbors." During this discussion Mr. finchell referred at one point to international boundaries, remarking that 1 were not secure and do not mean what they did in years past when modes and n nors of travel were comparatively more primitive. At this point he referred in pert to international boundaries as representing in some instances the it of demarcation where "propaganda can be mailed on a Congressman's franks." Quite obviously Mr. Winchell was referring in a rather indirect and offhand manner to the rather numerous instances wherein "isolationist" and similar

Memorandum for Mr. Lad
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眙terial has been distributed under the franking privilege. You will recall that this practice was referred to rather frequently in connection with the recent trials of George Sylvester Viereck.
C. Extension of Network Carrying Mr. Winchell's Broadcast

In closing his broadcast, Mr. Winchell stated that beginning
next Sunday, July 18, his broadcast will be featured by all Blue Network stations and that in the future 151 stations; in contrast to the present 116 stations, will carry his program. He further stated that "at many places" his program will be broadcast "at a different time," and in this connection urged his listeners to consult their newspapers as to any changes in time affecting them.



The following comments concerning matters apparently of interest to the Bureau were made by Mr. Winchell during the course of his broadcast on this dates

Clews
Mr. Glevin_
Mr. Lu dd
Mr. Niftre
Mr. Ron le
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson_
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Header
Mr. Eoiloma
Mr. MeGeirt
Mr. Quinn T
Mr. Harbor_
Pele. Rom.
Mr. Neaten_
Mise Beahm,
Mise Gand_

4. Reported instructions by Communist Party officials to membership concerning interviews by. Bureau Agents

Mr. Michel stated: Mew York. In case John Edgar Hoover hasn't heard about it yet, this is for the FBI. The Communists have a nev Inge of attack against G-men. In a recent letter, high Party Communistic officials state that the Supreme Court legalized the
 of the Fest Coast. Party members have been ordered not to answer questions of G-men, and wherghern carman asks a suspected communist any question, that member is to ${ }^{2}$ report -the G-man to Party hera warts

The Omaha Field Office recently advised the bureau that under fate c June 25, 1943 the Secretary of the 32 nd District of the communist Party, cover the States of Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas, suggestelito fife Fiftylasimershtp in that area in the form of a mimeographed letter that in the evert they mete
 the Agents that the Party has been legalized by the Schneidemang decision, th. the Agents ahould busy themselves with contributing toward fining the war ma the Communist Party is doing" and should extract detailexiMropation from th
 further suggested to the membership that the questions asked should not be answered, that requests should be made for representation by counsel and that any attempts at interviews should be immediately reported to Party headquarte The receipt of this information was made available to the Field under date of
 July 29,1943 in the form of a letter addressed to 211 Special Agents in Charge. In this letter it was pointed out that this situation wild not alter the Bureau's practice of having Agents proper if identify the selves when the circumstances so dictate in the usual way in connects Fth their official investigations However; in connection wt the
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Party's instruction to the membership that detailed information shoold be secured from lgents as to their status, credential numbers, et ceters, it was further pointed out that this function can and should be accomplished without any ostentatious or unusual exhibitions of credentials or bedges. Specific instructions were set forth that under no circumstances should credentials or badges be allowed out of the Agents' possession at any time during such interviews. It was further stressed that during the course of any interviews of this type agente should be very circunspect and should be almays mindful of the fact that they are conducting the interviens and are not being interviewed.

## B. Activity within the merican Labor Party

> Yr. Wnchell camented: Mnother war has been declared between the Left and the Rdght Fings of the American Labor Party. Scendslous charges will be made alleging that union leaders are conopiring agai Soviet Russia. The explosion will be heard on Tuesday next."

The Bureau is aware that for a considerable period of time there hat been a definite ciash between the Right and Left elements within the American Labor Party. The Leftist faction is cantrolled by the Communist Party and represents the expression of Comunist ideals and purposes within the merican Labor Party. The Right element, on the other hand, is under the influence of Socialiats and Social Democrata. The Leftist element has been atteapting to gain complete control of the American Labor Party and on practically $a l l$ questions of a controversial nature, the Right and Left elements are in stro conflict. ase representation of this is to be found in the reaction to the Russian Government's recent execution of Alter and Erhlich, Polish leaderse The fight olement within the merican Labor Party severely condemned the Soviet for this action, while the Leftists defended the action with equal rig The Bureau is not aware of any speciflc outbreak of difference of opinion scheduled between these two groups ad thin the near future, but it would appea that the comnents set forth above, if of substance, may have reference to the continuation of the disputes and differences between these two factions withil the merican Labor Party.

## II. SEDITION MATTERS

4. Gerald L. Finith

Mr. Whachell remarked! "Buffalo, New York. 4 few weeks ago I reported the rabble rousing of 'wackpot' Gerald L. K.) fmith of Detroit at a meeting in Buffalo, in wich he reportedity trampled on an merican flag and then spat upon it. The flighting and Erie County Post of the Anerican Legion there in Buffalo unanimousl passed a resoluticn to ask the Department of Justice to take actio against Gerald L. K. Smith. How about giving him a bath."

This remark has reference to a speech given by Guith at Buffulo, Hew Iork approximately six weeks ago. During his speach Smith, in an endearor to dranntife his dislike for any idea of morld umin" or combination of governmen between Great Eritain and the Doited States, diaplayed a flag which; bo otated, represented the proposed hag to be used as a representatico of inglo-merican unity under one government. This flag was not the fmerican flag, as stated by Mr. Tinchell, but was a makeshift affair, purportedly a copy of a proposed flag which has been suggested by those persons who advocate morld union. * The Eric County Post of the fuerican Legion, as well as one of the newspapers in Buffalo, claimed that the Flag or replica used by Saith was actually the flag of St. Ceorge, which in colonial days was used by the Continental Armies prior to the adoption of the prisent hanerican flage 1 copy of its resolution was forwarded to the Bureau by the Eric county Post of the Anerican Legion, an in view of the allegations set forth, the matter was referred to the Criminal Division of the Department, as in the case of all pertinent information which is received conceming Geraid L. K. Sinith. The Departanent indicated that Snith's activities in this regard do not justify prosecution, and it would appear that there is little doubt as to the correctness of this opinion, inasmuch as the flag reportedly desecrated by Simith was not the currently adopted merican flag. Furthermore, the Dapartant has advised that under Federal statutes it is not a violation to desecrate even the merican fiag miess the desecration takes plece within the District of columbia.
B. Joseph E 人
$\rightarrow$
Mr. Winchell stated: Chicago. Last Sunday night jour newsboy gave wider circulation to the stories from the "Chicago Sun" and New York's "RM" regarding Joe McFilliame, the Hitler rooter, getting a job that gave him entry to industrial planta which have war and Naval contracts. Apparently your protests did the trick. I an now told that Joe Kcmilisms' new enployer, the Ceorge S . May Company, has discharged him. If you want to know more about Joe Mciniliama and othere over here who marched in the Hituer parade, read the new best seller "Inder Cover" and then shudder nith revulaion."

During a subsequent portion of his broadcast, Mr. Winchell gave expression to the following additional remarks conceraing ycinlliame.

Miew Iork city. Tomorrow's MRI" will carry the complete story an the ousting of Joe YeNazi from his job with the ceorge S . May company. Mchlliams is quotod as eaying, get this, Mciniliama is quoted as telling the "PM" reporters that he lost his job because of the intolerant forces working against him. Ha, Ha, Ha! xindly cait flowers."

III. TREASON MATTERS
4. Recent indictment of eight individuals broadcasting from AXis territory

Concerning these cases, Mr. Winchell made the following observations
Washington. I was among those who were not impressed by the report
last week that several mexicans broadcasting to the Ads in Germany
and Italy were indicted for treason, oven though the penalty when
and if captured is death, not while so many of their echoes over
here in high places and low are allowed to go on getting away with
practically the same murder. My only interest in those indicted
abroad is to tell you this. On these broadcasts, ladies and gentienen, came the very first mention of the activities of half of those traitors. Their names argi Jenexinderson, Constance
 were first struck by this reporter's spotightening.in 1936."

You will recall that the four individuals mentioned are bung the eight persons who were indicted for treason in the District of Columbia on
 made reference to the four persona mentioned in his broadcasts, it is of interest to note that the treasonable activities of these persons, that is, their broadcasts from Axis territory, did not commence until 1940.

Later in this broadcast Mr. 揣nchell made the following remark concerning Robert Best, ane, of the eight persons indicted for treason MLisbon. Robert, \&eat, one of the alight american traitors indicted for treason by the United States, has reacted to the indictment on a कhoritmave broadcast from berlin. tit we indicted; he said, because Roosevelt is trying to keep him, Best, from running for the Presidency in 1944."


It is know to the Bureau that during the sumer of 1942 Best announced his candidacy for the Presidency of the United States in 1944. The Bureau has not previously been informed, however, that since his indictment Best has claimed that the indictenent against him was predicated on a desire to keep him, Best, from seeking the Presidency.

## B. Treason case concerning Mrs. Henry Topping

Mr. Winchell stated mrs. Henry Popping, mentioned by me recently as the American traitor broadcasting from Tokyo, was positively identified by our State Department. She is the widow of a missionary. She is eighty years old, 80 years old."

During the course of his brosdcast July 18 last, Mr. Winchell made reference to this individual, stating that she is engaged in treasonable activities in connection with propaganda broadcasts from Tokyo. The Bureau': files reflect no information which can bo identified with this individual, an accordingly the State Department has been requested to furnish all data in 14 possession concerning her. This matter is being followed very closely, and a soon as information is received from the State Department, appropriate invesligation $\boldsymbol{W} 111$ be instituted to determine whether she is engaged in treasonab] activities.

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## IV. Matters of general Interest to the burred

During one portion of his broadcast, Mr. Winchell spent considerab time in analyzing the general progress of the war. As a phase of these rena he commented that the ordinary persons, in contrast to the leaders of the Government, are ultimately responsible for the well-being of world condition. and are themselves the ones who must bear the brunt and hardships of warfare. In extending these remarks, he stated that the people of america should make certain in the future that intolerance is not permitted and that america is Tided of all manti-democratic forces." His closing statement to this offer was that world peace begins at home and that the people themsel ves must be responsible for eliminating intolerance and other anti-democratic factors which cause disruption. Although he talked at length on the subject, Mr. Winchell did not mention any names and apparently was editorializing on the necessity of democracies being well educated and careful to eliminate antidemocratic factors which foment and cause trouble. In concluding his broad Ur. Winchell stated that he would be on vacation for the next four weeks an will not return to the air until the first Sunday in September. During this interim his broadcasts are to be taken over by three news commentators, Pul Ousler, Robert St. John and Louella Parsons.







Momerandum for Mr. D. Ma Ind

-The sttenpt mas mado by Aungarian Inasis at the inatigation of the costapo. Towas Horthy was a liberial and hat Jevioh anceatory. Hile brother, 8tephen, died in a meterion acoident onis lest jear."


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