

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Comment:

The name of the woman referred to by Winchell is not known to the Bureau. The Assistant Editor on the Foreign Desk referred to by Winchell is probably [REDACTED] of the Foreign News Desk, "New York Times."

b-6
b7C
b1

Winchell, in his broadcast, 11-20-55 stated that "Over thirty newspaper people have been subpoenaed from the most famous newspaper in the world."

By airtel, 11-4-55, Bureau advised New York, San Francisco, and Washington Field Office of scheduled hearings of Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. Airtel instructed New York to immediately search indices on probable witnesses; to bring cases up to date; to reopen cases on individuals and organizations where necessary to bring up to date; and to submit reports promptly. (Bufile 62-88217)

Winchell Said:

"Albany - The New York State investigation into wire tapping may be made public next month - spicy - a legal tap made by private sleuths in divorce cases in New York."

Comment:

None. For your information.

Winchell Said:

"London - The British newspapers expect a complete whitewash of the Burgess-Maclean spy case. Lord Jowitt, the apologist for Alger Hiss, is one of the top investigators."

~~SECRET~~

123

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

~~SECRET~~

Comment:

Washington News Service, 11-23-55, carried a story that Prime Minister Eden had appointed Lord Jowitt as one member of a Commission to investigate security in the Foreign Office. Lord William Allen Jowitt is former Attorney General and Solicitor General of England, who authored book entitled "The Strange Case of Alger Hiss" which was completely pro-Hiss.

Winchell Said:

"New York - G-men are rounding up Latin American Reds in the United States. Three Mexicans in New York to buy arms and ammunition were arrested. Many more expected this week."

Comment:

We have no information concerning this matter which probably relates to a case being handled by the Bureau of Customs. As you know, we have no jurisdiction over the illegal exportation of arms, ammunition and implements of war. Such violations are under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Customs.

Winchell Said:

"J. Edgar Hoover, the Chief of the FBI, has shown powerful strength as the Republican darkhorse. Stale news to those who followed the recent Winchell poll."

Comment:

None. For your information.

cc - Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Branigan
Mr. Bland
Mr. Baumgardner
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Shaw

HDS:baw
(10)

~~SECRET~~

124

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. E. V. Boardman

DATE: December 5, 1955

FROM : A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
DECEMBER 4, 1955

Classified by SP6BJP/605

Declassify on: OADR 7/8/84

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

Winchell Said:

111. "Chicago - Pat Gillon (or Dillon - phonetic) kidnapper of two women has been captured and admitted rape of one."

Comment:

Calls to Night Supervisor, Investigative Division, and the substantive supervisor of Kidnapping Desk did not disclose any data concerning the capture. Night Supervisor, Investigative Division, instructed Chicago Office to ascertain details. Chicago teletype 10:05 P.M., 12-4-55, reported inquiry disclosed subject Patrick M. Dillon kidnapped two women but no Bureau violation involved.

Winchell Said:

"New York City, U. S. Court House - Senate Internal Security Subcommittee has subpoenaed one of the top editors from New York evening newspaper. This witness will be confronted with a name as an alleged Communist Party member."

Comment:

Memorandum from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Boardman dated 11-28-55 captioned as above reported Bureau previously advised that the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee contemplates holding hearings to investigate alleged Communist infiltration in the "New York Times." Airtel to New York Office dated 11-4-55 instructed New York Office to search indices on probable witnesses to bring case up to date and to submit reports promptly. (62-88217)

The individual referred to by Winchell may possibly be identical with [redacted] of the "New York Post" who was reportedly a member of a Communist group in about 1933 and 1934. (65-58081-102)

Winchell Said:

"A third member of a leading morning paper resigned following a subpoena. He is one of five of the book section 1955 that paper."

CONFIDENTIAL

75 DEC 14 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Memorandum to Mr. Boardman

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Comments:

This person may be identical with [redacted] New York Office reported by airtel 11-28-55 [redacted] after receiving subpoena promptly resigned at "New York Times" where he was [redacted]. He is an ex-Communist Party member. He is not on Security Index. Airtel to New York dated 12-2-55 instructed report be submitted reflecting activities of [redacted] up to date. (100-402745)

Winchell Said:

b6
b7C "House Committee on Un-American Activities hearings will commence in Chicago on December 13, 1955."

Comments:

Bureau is cognizant of HCUA hearings scheduled to start 12-13-55 concerning Communist infiltration of the National Labor Relations Board and other Government agencies based on information furnished by [redacted] Bulet dated 11-18-55 to Washington Field Office and other interested offices instructed Bureau be advised of pertinent details obtained from reliable sources concerning hearings.

Winchell Said:

"Wire tapping revelations in New York City have sent income tax men to Los Angeles to check on all private detectives. More (wire tapping) equipment has been sent to Los Angeles area than New York City."

Comments:

For your information.

Winchell Said:

"Communist Party will hold not so secret meeting at New York City on December 10, 1955."

Comments:

[redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Winchell Said:

"Communist Party has been instructed to infiltrate the Southern textile industry."

Comments:

The Bureau is cognizant that the Communist Party is making arrangements for a long-term colonization program in the Southern textile industry. Details concerning this were set forth in "Current Intelligence Summary" dated 11-30-55.

cc - Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Branigan
Mr. Bland
Mr. Baumgardner
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Roxamus

MJR:jmf
(10)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

127

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. BELMONT

DATE: 12/19/55

FROM : J. J. TORRILLO

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
DECEMBER 15, 1955.

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Malone	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Nease	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

Walt Hauser, Night Supervisor, New York office, telephoned at 6:48 p.m., 12/18/55. He stated he was calling to bring to Bureau's attention that Walter Winchell, in his regular 6:00 p.m. broadcast over Radio Station WOR, stated: "Top Communist leaders are trying to make a deal with the Department of Justice whereby Red leader fugitives Gilbert Green and Henry Winston would be surrendered."

ACTION:

Bureau Supervisor M. J. Roxamus who also monitored the above broadcast at the Bureau was advised and stated details concerning this and other items of interest to the Bureau are being incorporated in the memorandum he is preparing concerning the broadcast.

JJT:jmm
(4)

Ticklers: Mr. Belmont
Mr. Roxamus
Mr. Torrillo

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/25/79 BY SP1 SPK/4
9/20/84 SP8 BTJ/KCL #2279

50 DEC 21 1955

RECORDED - 14
INDEXED - 14

DEC 20 1955

EX-107

587
128

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE December 15, 1955

FROM : Mr. [Signature]

SUBJECT: BOOK REVIEW -
 "LET'S GO TO PRESS"
 A BIOGRAPHY OF WALTER WINCHELL
 BY ED WEINER (EDWARD R. WEINER)

DETAILS

Tolson _____
 Boardman _____
 Nichols _____
 Belmont _____
 Harbo _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Nease _____
 Winterrowd _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____

The author has written a very detailed biography of Walter Winchell going back to his birth on April 7, 1897, and his boyhood with "tough groups of Italian, Jewish, and Negro kids" who "fought each other with bare fists, milk bottles, and bricks." He gives details of Winchell's life as a tap-dancer and shows how he gradually worked his way from an unknown writer of news items printed on the back of theater programs to the powerful figure he is today in the newspaper world.

The Director and the FBI are mentioned a number of times in the book. These instances are set out below:

Page 56- The author states that despite his substantial income, Winchell was intrigued with the idea of more money, and, in 1930, he accepted a week's engagement as an entertainer in a Chicago theater. At this time, according to the author, Winchell was getting a great deal of his information from members of the underworld and they felt he needed protection on this trip to Chicago. So when he boarded the train he found a "plug-ugly" at his side. When Winchell protested he was told to "Siddown and shaddup!" He says that a few minutes later Winchell discovered that he had a second bodyguard on the train when a young man approached him and said, "Excuse me, Mr. Winchell, I was on my way to report to our office in Chicago when Mr. J. Edgar Hoover suggested that I keep watch over you on this journey."

Page 57-

"At this time, J. Edgar Hoover was already the head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but the F.B.I. was not yet glamorous, and only a few people knew of its existence or the identity of its chief. Hoover, however, was already a friend of Winchell's."

Page 58-

"The friendship between Boney Madden and Winchell soon became a matter of widespread gossip, and finally

ENCL.

Book - Let's go to
 Press
 60 DEC 20 1955

SENT DIRECTOR
 12-15-55

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DEC 20 1955

EX-107

CRIME REC.

129

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 9/20/84 BY SP8 BJA/la

December 15, 1955

came to the attention of the now-famous G-man. Hoover sought out Winchell and cautioned him, saying, 'Walter, you shouldn't be seen with men of Madden's type. He's a killer and....'

"I know all about him," Winchell replied. "I know I'm keeping bad company. Why, only yesterday I had luncheon with the Police Commissioner."

Page 69- In speaking of the Lindbergh kidnapping case the author states:

"In 1934, Winchell's spectacular intrusion into the Lindbergh kidnapping case gave the columnist an almost unheard-of amount of publicity....

"On September 12, 1934, this line appeared in the Winchell column: 'The Federal men are convinced that they will break the most interesting crime on record-- the Lindbergh snatch.' Seven days later, Bruno Richard Hauptmann was arrested, charged with kidnapping the Lindbergh baby.

"This one sentence in the Winchell column convinced readers that the columnist had an inside track on F.B.I. information, and Winchell was not one to let his public down."

The author says that Winchell scurried around to discover unknown facts about the crime and finally learned that one rail of the kidnapper's ladder matched a portion of the wood flooring of the attic in Hauptmann's home and Winchell made the most of his scoop when he stepped up to the microphone, but where he received his tip is still a secret.

Page 70-

"On September 19, 1934, five minutes after Hauptmann had been apprehended, Winchell knew about it. But at the request of J. Edgar Hoover, who wanted to give his G-men an opportunity to get certain evidence, Winchell made no announcement of the fact until twenty-four hours later.

"By doing so, America's most news-hungry journalist sacrificed what is most dear to every newspaperman--a scoop. And up to this time, it was the most important one in his career. However, some of the sting was taken out of his disappointment when, many months later, he received the following letter from J. Edgar Hoover:"

December 13, 1953

The letter from Mr. Hoover is then set forth in the book on page 71. It was dated April 17, 1936, and related that Mr. Hoover, while speaking to a group of newspaper editors of America on the previous day had pointed out some of the things newspapers had done to help the FBI and without mentioning Winchell's name told them how a well-known columnist had refrained from printing a truly national and international scoop in the Lindbergh case for twenty-four hours, in order not to harm the investigation. The letter was signed "John."

Pages 72 and 73- The author furnishes the details of how Winchell personally delivered Louis (Lepke) Buchalter to Mr. Hoover through a series of telephone calls and underworld contacts. The actual apprehension is reported in the book in this fashion:

"Following orders, Winchell was at the drugstore at the appointed hour. In a few minutes, a stranger approached him. 'Tell Hoover to be at Twenty-eighth Street and Fifth Avenue between ten-ten and ten-twenty,' he said. Winchell telephoned Hoover and, when he returned to the car, the stranger was behind the wheel. Winchell got in and sat down beside him in the front seat. They drove off, ... He stopped at Twenty-eighth Street and Fifth Avenue, got out, and escorted his guest to a black limousine, inside of which sat the head G-man.

"Mr. Hoover," said Winchell, 'This is Lepke.'

"How do you do, Mr. Buchalter," said the G-man.

"Glad to meet you," said Lepke."

The author said that whether or not Winchell helped to arrange it so developments in Lepke's capture coincided with his newspaper's deadline is, of course, open to question. But coincident or otherwise, Winchell was succeeding in keeping his name on the front pages of the nation's newspapers.

Pages 90 and 91- "Months and months of expose' by Winchell and others made New York an uncomfortable place for Edward James Smythe, and he, too, decided to leave. Peculiarly enough, his decision to depart from New York coincided with FBI curiosity as to his whereabouts. A Washington, D. C., federal grand jury had included Smythe in an indictment, and the authorities were anxious to produce him in court. F.B.I. agents finally picked him up near the Canadian border. 'Wrong-way Smythe,' wrote Winchell, 'What a sense of direction. Traveling toward Canada- when he should have aimed for Germany.'

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

December 15, 1955

Page 135- In speaking of the tremendous amount of correspondence received by Winchell the author states: "If a letter should, in his opinion, be brought to the attention of the F.B.I. or other government bureau, he scribbles a note on it, directing his secretary to forward it."

Page 142- Between pages 142 and 143 are several photographs of Winchell showing him as a small newsboy, with members of his family, with Martin Dies, Al Jolson, Damon Runyon and Sherman Billingsley.

Page 215-

"J. Edgar Hoover, head of the F.B.I., is not a source of information, as some people have intimated. Winchell and the G-man are old and good friends, but that is where the matter ends. The two men frequently take dinner together, but if the reporter gets information from Hoover, it is the result of a chance remark during the course of conversation and nothing more. In this regard, it should be noted that Hoover is by nature and experience habitually cautious.

"The friendship between the G-man and the reporter goes back many years, to the time when the Bureau was an unimportant and little-known arm of the federal government. Winchell long ago appointed himself press agent to the investigating agency. Though he was never asked to do so, he embarked on a vigorous campaign for a larger budget for the Bureau and for higher salaries for its personnel....

"For his unflagging efforts, Hoover and every member of his agency were grateful to Winchell. But this attitude gave the reporter no special entry, and he has never received advance tips on Bureau releases. As a matter of fact, it works quite the other way around. As the recipient of thousands of letters annually, many of them containing information important to the investigating agency, Winchell turns over to the F.B.I. a tremendous number of tips, probably more than anyone else in the country.

"While J. Edgar Hoover is not a Winchell tipster, there are many men high in the government who are. Congressmen and various government-agency executives are regular sources of information."

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

December 15, 1955

Other items of interest in the book would be the notation on Page XIV of the Introduction, where the author is giving various views expressed by people on Walter Winchell, both pro and con. He quotes Mr. Hoover as writing: "The men in the Government service are cognizant of the tremendous job Walter Winchell is doing in this war." Following this he quotes the late Eleanor (Cissie) Patterson, publisher of the Washington Times-Herald as writing: "Walter Winchell suffers from a chronic state of wild excitement, venom and perpetual motion of the jaw."

On Pages XVII and XVIII of the Introduction the author states: "Walter Winchell is loved and hated, appreciated and resented, encouraged and harassed. He is viewed by some people as a cultured man while others call him a barbarian. One group acclaims his honesty, and another condemns his deceit. Some individuals are convinced he is a benevolent do-gooder, and others swear he is a vicious self-seeker."

The author then quotes different people's opinion to show the widely differing views of Winchell:

"Walter is a cockroach." (Morris Beale, pamphleteer)

"He's a gent's-room journalist." (Westbrook Pegler, columnist)

"He's an unnecessary evil." (A reader, in a letter-to-the-editor column)

"He is a brilliant bore....He is a menace....He is inaccurate... Something should be done about his success--it is revolting...." (St. Clair McKelway, author)

"Thank God for Walter Winchell." (Sterling North, author)

The author is very complimentary about Mr. Winchell's wife, June. He says that Mrs. Winchell is Mr. Winchell's severest critic, "and he considers her to be the only person who is completely honest with him in evaluating his work. She is probably one of the few who dares to tell him exactly what she thinks." (Page 22)

Winchell's real name, according to the author, was Winchel. He is the son of Jacob and Janette Bakst Winchel who had come to America only a few years prior to his birth. (Page 26) "In one town, the electrician inadvertently added an extra 'l' to the name Winchel. The added letter seemed to lend weight to the name, and Winchel decided to keep it "Winchell" for good." (Page 34)

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

December 14, 1955

The author states that Winchell's boyhood was hard and bitter, his acting career dramatic and showy, and these elements are certainly an essential part of Winchell the man and Winchell the commentator.

(Page 37)

On Page 79 the author states that with the appearance of anti-Winchell propaganda in the German press, the reporter knew that he had succeeded in provoking the fight he was looking for. The crusade was becoming worthwhile. "These bastards are vulnerable," Winchell told a friend. "They can't be the supermen they claim. They wouldn't squeal so loud if they were." (Page 80)

The author uses a rather unique expression at the bottom of Page 81 where he says, "Winchell was accumulating enemies as easily as a dog does fleas."

In explaining Winchell's meeting with President Roosevelt the author states that, "One day, Winchell met Joseph P. Keenan, who was then Assistant U. S. Attorney-General, in the Stork Club, and in the course of conversation, Winchell told him of his desire to meet the President. Keenan smiled wisely, and said, "It may happen sooner than you think." A few days later, Mr. Winchell met the President at the White House. (Page 183)

The author goes into great detail to explain the ups and downs Winchell has had with the censors on his TV program and the various fights he has indulged in through his statements on TV and statements in the press which even led to lawsuits and finally Winchell's request to the American Broadcasting Company to cancel his lifetime contract. "The request was granted, and the commentator did his final simulcast for that network on June 26, 1955. A few weeks later, he agreed to do a Sunday-evening-at-six radio broadcast for the Mutual Broadcasting System, to commence on September 11, 1955. (Early in September, however, Winchell filed a seven-million-dollar lawsuit against the American Broadcasting Company, claiming that amount for damages and lost income in connection with his lifetime contract.)" (Page 262)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE December 15, 1955

FROM : N. M. Jones

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/20/84 BY SP8 BTJ/GCL

SUBJECT: BOOK REVIEW

"LET'S GO TO PRESS"
A BIOGRAPHY OF WALTER WINCHELL
BY ED WEINER (EDWARD R. WEINER)

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Nease	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

SYNOPSIS

Weiner has written an interesting, fast-moving biography of Walter Winchell from his birth to the present day. The author relates that: Winchell is the son of Jacob and Janette Bakst Winchel who came to America a few years before his birth on April 7, 1897. He added the second "l" to his name after seeing his name misspelled "Winchell" on a theater marquee. Winchell's boyhood was hard and bitter, acting career dramatic and showy, and these elements are certainly an essential part of Winchell the man and Winchell the commentator.

Mr. Hoover and the FBI are mentioned several times in the book. The author mentioned that Mr. Hoover and Mr. Winchell were already friends in 1930 when Winchell, en route to Chicago, found Mr. Hoover had requested a young Agent, also en route there, to "keep watch over" Mr. Winchell on this journey. (p. 57) Mr. Hoover warned Winchell about associating with gangsters like Owney Madden. (p. 58) Winchell's part in the Lindbergh case is given. (p. 69-71) Winchell's big scoop in turning Lepke Buchalter over to Mr. Hoover is set out on pages 71 through 73. The author says on page 81 that "Winchell was accumulating enemies as easily as a dog does fleas." Several photographs of Winchell are inserted between pages 142 and 143 showing him at different times of his life from boyhood to manhood. One of the most important things in the book from our standpoint is set out on pages 215 and 216 when the author states: "J. Edgar Hoover, head of the F.B. is not a source of information, as some people have intimated." He then goes on to explain in great detail how the friendship started; how Winchell appointed himself press agent to the Bureau and though Mr. Hoover and the Agents were grateful it gave Winchell no special entry, "and he has never received advance tips on Bureau releases...."

While J. Edgar Hoover is not a Winchell tipster, there are many men high in the government who are." The author sets forth the many fights Winchell has had with individuals, with his bosses, with censors, the statements which he has made on the air and in the press that have caused him trouble and his request to be let out of his contract with the American Broadcasting Company. (page 262) The items mentioned in this synopsis have been set forth in detail in the attached six-page memorandum of details.

RECOMMENDATION: None. For information only.

BMS:moo
(6)SENT DIRECTOR
12-15-55

EX-107

INDEXED - 66 DEC 20 1955

CHIEF OF BUREAU

135

Office Memo • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman

DATE: December 12, 1955

FROM : A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
DECEMBER 11, 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/21/84 BY SP7 MJS/lt
9/20/84 BPB BTJ/KCL #227,987

Winchell Said:

"Because of wire tapper Broady's conviction Carmine De Sapio will announce at 7 P.M. tonight that he will crack down on private detectives in New York."

Comments:

John J. Broady, New York private detective, was reportedly convicted in New York State Court on December 9, 1955, for violation of New York wire tapping law.

The release on December 11, 1955, by Carmine G. De Sapio, Secretary of State of New York, reflects that he reportedly said that inquiry will be made to determine if additional New York State legislation was needed in regard to the use of wire tapping equipment by private detectives in New York. ("New York Times," 12-12-55, page 1)

Winchell Said:

"New York City - Senate Internal Security Subcommittee investigating suspected Reds in United States newspapers subpoenaed 33 in secret session last week. The Senators will make the hearings public next month because 17 of the 33 refused to answer."

Comments:

Airtel to New York Office dated November 4, 1955, instructed New York Office to immediately search indices on probable witnesses to bring cases up to date, to reopen cases on individuals where necessary and to submit reports promptly. Bulet to New York dated November 30, 1955, instructed that New York advise Bureau substance of the information contained in New York files concerning the individuals who may be probable witnesses. (62-88217)

Winchell Said:

"Paris - French Government has produced a radium-proof uniform and gas mask effective against radioactive fallout."

RECORDED-66

INDEXED-66

17 DEC 21 1955

6 DEC 1955

1461

Tolson
Boardman
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Mohr
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

1 copy autostated
123 INFORMATION NEW YORK

136

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Comments:

For possible interest to Laboratory Division.

Winchell Said:

"The Communist underground is in a state of jitters over the possible action by Federal authorities over the harboring of the three top Communists who surrendered."

Comment:

The field has been instructed in regard to surrender of Fred M. Fine, James E. Jackson and William N. Marron to determine their whereabouts prior to surrender and whether possible violation of harboring statute involved.

Winchell Said:

"Income tax returns of a number of high-ranking Communists are being re-examined by Internal Revenue people."

Comments:

Information received on November 29, 1955, that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and several other top-ranking Communists were subjects of re-examination of income tax returns by Internal Revenue Service.

Winchell Said:

"Communist leaders have issued orders to members to dress better and make better appearances."

Comment:

Information received by Bureau recently that Communist Party has instructed their members to dress better and make a better appearance in public.

cc - Mr. Boardman

Mr. Belmont

Mr. Branigan

Mr. Eland

Mr. Baumgardner

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Parsons

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Rozamus

MJR: [REDACTED]
(10)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman

DATE: December 19, 1955

FROM : A. H. Belmont

cc - Mr. Branigan
Mr. Baumgardner
Mr. Bland
Mr. Rosen

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
DECEMBER 18, 1955

CLASSIFIED AND
EXTENDED BY 604 JRM/jk
REASON EXTENSION
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR
DECLASSIFICATION 6/2/91
#3687 1/2/21

Tolson
Boardman
Belmont
Nichols
Rosen
Tamm
Trotter
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

Winchell Said:

"Washington - Senate Internal Security Subcommittee will commence public hearings on January 4 to expose suspected Reds working on Manhattan newspapers. At least five newspapermen from a respectable New York newspaper will be on the mat."

Comments:

Bureau has been cognizant of hearings held in executive session at New York City during December, 1955, by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee concerning alleged Communist influences in New York newspapers. New York Office was instructed by airtel dated 11-4-55 concerning handling of cases pertaining to individuals who might be witnesses. The substantive supervisor in security matters states he has no information as to the specific identity of the newspaper or identities of the five newspapermen referred to by Winchell. (62-88217)

Winchell Said:

"New York - the next crack down on wire tapping in New York State will be on hotel detectives. The state wants them all licensed and regulated."

Comments:

Substantive supervisor, General Investigative Intelligence Desk, advises that information has been received by Bureau that authorities of New York State are looking into activities, including wire tapping, of private detectives in New York State for purpose of enacting state legislation to further control their activities.

Winchell Said:

"The International News - Havana - Cuban rebels have exploded over 450 bombs in and around Havana. War of nerves against..."

cc - Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen

RECORDED 48
INDEXED 48
DEC 27 1955

SENT DIRECTOR
12-19-55

CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by SP8 BTJ/gcu
Declassify on: OADR 9/26/84

391

62

(10)

1956

138

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Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

President Batista."

Comments:

Legat, Havana, has furnished Bureau considerable information reflecting that during past several weeks there have been series of riots in Cuba, largely among students and youth groups. (109-12-210)

Winchell Said:

"Mexico City - Grapevine in Central America says that Colombia dictator Pinilla may be overthrown on or about December 20."

Comment:

Substantive supervisor, Espionage Section, advises that other intelligence agencies have furnished Bureau information concerning recent rumors that Colombia will be overthrown. (u)

Winchell Said:

"The big rumor in Brazil is that at least six Russian submarines having loaded ammunition and arms are along the Brazilian coast to assist the Vice-President elect if his enemies stop him from taking office."

Comments:

Substantive supervisor, Espionage Section, states that Bureau has not received information along this line either from other agencies or Legat. It is a well-known fact that Vice-President Elect Joao Saulart has been supported by Brazilian Communists. Substantive supervisor advises that Legat will be contacted re Winchell's allegation. (u)

Winchell Said:

"Another Washington investigation may reveal top Army and Navy brass who retired since World War II and are connected with large corporations -- suspected influence peddling."

Comment:

Substantive supervisor, Accounting and Fraud Section, states Bureau has not received any information re such an investigation.

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Winchell Said:

"Top Communist leaders are trying to make a deal with the Department of Justice whereby Red leader fugitives Gilbert Green and Henry Winston would be surrendered."

Comments:

[REDACTED]

b1

OK

*John Green
- 2 -
Winston*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman

DATE: December 27, 1955

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
DECEMBER 25, 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/20/84 BY SP8 BTI/GCL

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Gandy _____

Winchell Said:

"Washington - U. S. Senate investigators will be assigned to Hollywood, California, to find out why movies written by Dalton Trumbo are being reissued. Trumbo was one of the Hollywood Ten."

Comments:

Bureau files do not disclose receipt of any information regarding such an inquiry.

He was one of the so-called Hollywood Ten which was the name utilized by the press and the public in referring to the ten motion picture film personalities who were subpoenaed before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Washington, D. C., in 1947. As a result of these hearings all ten were cited and subsequently convicted of contempt and served prison sentences. (100-72270-52 and 66)

The last report received re Trumbo is dated 10-26-55 and copy was furnished to Department. Los Angeles Office is being informed of Winchell's statement and instructed to advise Bureau in the event any pertinent information is received concerning the inquiry by Senate investigators.

Winchell Said:

"The Senate Investigating Committee will soon hold open hearings on Reds in the Teachers Union in New York and a number of New York schools."

Comments:

The Teachers Union of New York City is the subject of a current security investigation, inasmuch as this union is not listed with the National Labor Relations Board, the investigation is being conducted to show that the organization is a Communist front rather than a Communist infiltrated union in accordance with a request received from the Department dated 12-6-55. (100-75957)

SEP 14 1964 New York Office is being instructed to promptly furnish Bureau any pertinent information received concerning the hearings mentioned by Winchell.

cc - Mr. Boardman

Mr. Belmont

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Boardman

Mr. Bland

Mr. Rozamus MJB:1/3(7)

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INDEXED

SENT DIRECTOR

12-27-55

62-31615-73

JAN 5 1956

EX-125

14

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman

DATE: 1-3-56

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont

Tickers: Boardman
Belmont
Nichols
Baumgardner
Bland
Wallace

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
JANUARY 1, 1956

Tolson
Boardman
Belmont
Harbo
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

Winchell Said:

"Washington - John Edgar Hoover the top G-man celebrated another birthday today. He is only 61."

Comments:

None. For your information.

FBI.
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/20/84 BY SP8 BTJ/KOL

Winchell Said:

"Istanbul: The odds are now six to five that a Middle East war with armies in the field will be raging by the spring, probably in May."

Comment:

No information has been received concerning war in the Middle East.

Winchell Said:

"Berlin: Dr. John, who escaped to the Russian Zone and then back to our side again, is telling such wild stories that psychiatrists are in attendance. John is either faking insanity or like Rudolf Hess is cracking up. He will never return to intelligence or any government service."

Comment:

Dr. John is being interrogated by the West Germans. They have filed treason charges. We have no information from the West Germans that he has broken down mentally.

Winchell Said:

"The House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) exposed 45 Communists in Government. Confirming how right the G-men were years ago and how wrong the Loyalty Board was for not firing those 45."

HHW:mp
(7)

RECORDED - 19

JAN 5 1956

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JAN 10 1956

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Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Comment:

This obviously applies to Public Hearing held December 13, 1955, in Chicago by the HCUA. Herbert Fuchs, American University professor recently suspended, testified at that time. Fuchs had been employed by the National Labor Relations Board and identified the individuals it is believed Walter Winchell was referring to. The information was furnished to the Bureau by [REDACTED] (Bufile 101-1169)

Winchell Said:

b6
b7C "John Gates the editor of the Communist newspaper in New York, the "Daily Worker," resumes at that job January 3. This man was sentenced in 1951 to a Federal jail for plotting to overthrow this country."

Comments:

John Gates, Editor of the "Daily Worker," along with Eugene Dennis, Carl Winter and Jack Stachel, all members of the National Committee of the Communist Party, U.S.A., who were conditionally released from prison March 1, 1955, were able to resume Communist Party activities on December 26, 1955, when their conditional release status terminated. (Bufile 100-3-69)

Winchell Said:

"Sometime this month or next the Communist Party will start a drive to get your taxes reduced. They will use labor unions as a soap-box. This is another red hitchhike on a very good thing. Many decent and patriotic organizations have been fighting to get taxes reduced right or wrong."

Comment:

Cincinnati airtel 12/19/55 captioned "CP, U.S.A. Organization" states the Party in Ohio is going to stress the issue of reducing taxes. (Bufile 100-3-69)

Winchell Said:

"Washington, D. C. - The most electric perhaps of the Congressional investigations will be open to the public January 4th, Senator Eastland's Committee on alleged Reds who were connected with newspapers, magazines, radio and television. One of the features of this investigation will be the published stories by the suspects showing, among other things, how they have slanted the news in favor of Russia."

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Some of the accused denounced such men as McCarthy, even when he was right. Over 75 newspaper people have been subpoenaed and in previous closed sessions many of these people refused to plead Number Five. They simply refused to answer. That's why the hearings starting January 4th will be open to the public."

Comments:

Bureau has been cognizant of hearings held in executive session at New York City during December, 1955, by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee concerning alleged Communist influences in New York newspapers. New York office was instructed by airtel dated 11/14/55 concerning handling of cases pertaining to individuals who might be witnesses. (Bufile 62-88217)

OK [signature]
[initials] ✓

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. Boardman

DATE: Jan. 9, 1956

FROM : A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
JANUARY 8, 1956

FBI
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/20/84 BY SP8 BTJ/ka

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Winchell Said:

"Washington: The Senate Internal Security Committee will start hearings next week on the Morgenthau diaries. Disclosures of Red influence on American Far East policy will be shocking and sensational."

Comments:

Our files reflect that in a hearing regarding the Morgenthau diaries held by Senator Eastland's committee on 6/21/55,

[REDACTED]

(Bufile 101-4053)

Winchell Said:

"Manila: The Trans-Siberian and the South China Railways are crowded with military supply trains. Red hospitals as far north as Ching Yang, that is, Mukden, are being evacuated. This indicates a Southeast offensive is being mounted."

Comments:

None. For your information.

HHW:emb
(7)

cc: Boardman
Belmont
Nichols
Boardman
Malone
Bland

RECORDED

INDEXED

EX-126

JAN 13 1956

62-31615-959

65 JAN 11 1956

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Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Winchell Said:

NY, D.C. "A \$164,000 question, why didn't Senator Eastland's investigating committee call Elizabeth Bentley when they examined Benjamin Fine, the Pulitzer Prize winner of 'The New York Times'?"

Comment:

[REDACTED]

b-6
b7C
[REDACTED]

Winchell Said:

"The Senate Committee investigating Red influence on newspapers will take on radio and television next week. Dozens of subpoenas will be handed out to all the networks but one network will get a lot more than the others."

Comment:

On January 5, 1956, a memo entitled "Communist Infiltration of Radio-Television Industry" states that information set forth in running memo of 12/21/55 (same caption) from confidential informants in New York City and Los Angeles and from individuals familiar with and active in radio-television unions indicates Communist infiltration of this industry is negligible at the present time. The New York office was instructed by airtel 11/4/55 to be alert for other scheduled hearings of the Internal Security Subcommittee and to reopen cases on organizations or individuals where necessary. (100-340,922)

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Winchell Said:

"The U. S. Senate Security Committee again confirmed warnings by Walter Winchell last week regarding alleged Reds, former and otherwise, on newspapers. I especially remind the members of the Press Club in Los Angeles that I told them all that several years ago in a speech. I also told it to the editors of the 'New York Times' through my own column in the 'Mirror.' The 'New York Times' publisher wrote me a letter assuring me there was absolutely nothing to it. A big exaggeration, he said.

"Ladies and gentlemen, there were more Government subpoenas handed to people on the 'New York Times' than any other newspaper for this investigation. That newspaper now fears that the Senate probe might impair the free press. It conceded that the press was properly the subject for congressional inquiry. Then, the 'New York Times' scorned the investigation as an inquisition before all the evidence, incidentally, was made public. In this case, the 'New York Times,' which is strenuously opposed to one-man investigations, acted as its own judge, its own jury and chief propagandist. The newspaper then says it believes in redeemable sin. Communism is not merely a sin. It is a crime! Overthrow the United States, for instance--surely the sophisticated 'New York Times' knows that Communism is more than a moral issue. It is a police problem. The fact is, ladies and gentlemen, no newspaper, including the 'New York Times,' is as pure white as it claims. The senate committee is not as black as it is painted by the 'Times.' The controversy involves different shades of gray and pink. No newspaper should fear a lie. It can always retaliate with the truth even when some of the Reds on the staff can slant the news. If a newspaper is too weak to survive an investigation, it is not strong enough to serve as a fortress of democracy. Those who carry the torch of liberty must not be afraid of the light."

Comment:

Bureau inquiries have been made concerning the "New York Times" (Bufile 100-400370). Similar inquiries have been made as to "Time, Inc.," the "New York Herald Tribune" and the Associated Press. During above inquiries cases have been opened as to individuals where substantial allegations of Communist Party activities were uncovered.

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

The Bureau has been cognizant of hearings held in executive session at New York City during December, 1955, by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee concerning alleged Communist influences in New York newspapers. The NY office was instructed by airtel dated 11/4/55 concerning handling of cases pertaining to individuals who might be witnesses. Public hearings commenced 1/4/56.

[Handwritten initials: "gwb" and "st" are visible below the text.]

ice Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. BOARDMAN

DATE: Jan. 16, 1956

FROM : A. H. BED

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
JANUARY 15, 1956

Classified by SP8 BTJ/601
Declassify on: OADR 9/20/84

Tolson
Boardman
Belmont
Harbo
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
Trotter
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

WINCHELL SAID:

"Washington: The U. S. Senate investigation of alleged Reds in radio and television will start next month. 215 subpoenas to actors, producers, writers and stage hands."

COMMENT:

The New York office was instructed by airtel 11-4-55 to be alert for scheduled hearing of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and to reopen cases on organizations or individuals where necessary. (100-340, 922)

WINCHELL SAID:

"Washington: The Senate investigating committee has subpoenaed the head of the Robert Louis Stevenson School in New York City for Tuesday next."

COMMENT:

NY airtel 12-25-55 (Bufile 100-415, 268) furnished info to the Bureau that [redacted] the Robert Louis Stevenson private high school would be subpoenaed concerning funds paid to the school in connection with the education of veterans. This school was investigated by the Bureau in 1947 and report was sent to Department November 13, 1947, and a copy to Veterans Administration. We told the Department the Bureau was investigating the school based on allegation that school was billing the Veterans Administration for high school courses while actually providing veterans with courses of below high school standards. (Bufile 100-353, 208)

WINCHELL SAID:

"Mr. Fine of 'The New York Times' was let off the Senate investigation hook because he allegedly cooperated against newspaper Reds."

Ticklers: Boardman
Belmont
Bronigan
Wallace

Nichols
Baumgardner
Bland
Rosen

RECORDED-61

INDEXED

NHW: rmp

JAN 30 1956

IN Sec

Supp. Cont. SEC

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~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

COMMENT:

[REDACTED] He was a very cooperative witness. (Bufile 100-382, 260)

WINCHELL SAID:

"New York Journal American": The Communists have rented Carnegie Hall January 20, for a big rally celebrating "Daily Worker" Editor, John Gates', freedom after three years in jail for conspiracy against this country."

COMMENT:

The "Daily Worker" January 16, 1956, on the first page carries an article headed "CP Urges Big Turnout." It reflects there will be a mass rally on the 20th commemorating the "Daily Worker's" 32nd anniversary. Speeches will be given by John Gates, Eugene Dennis and other CP personalities.

WINCHELL SAID:

"New York City": On many of these broadcasts I have charged that a man by the name of Samuel Roth of NYC was a public enemy of every American home. This Sam Roth has been pedaling filthy books and indecent literature for a very long time. For nearly 30 years this vulture, I had to clean that one up, has squirmed through the courts. In that time a prosecutor says he sent over 10 million obscene pieces through the U.S. mails. The Federal District Attorney in New York, however, finally dealt with him. Last week Sam Roth was convicted in Federal Court, NYC. He comes up for sentence February 7th. I now feel that my efforts to stop this louse were justified. This filthy bum, for example, sent a scummy book to a house for little children. Sam Roth is now going away for a very long stretch."

COMMENT:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Sam Roth is the publisher of "Good Times Magazine."
[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

WINCHELL SAID:

"Mexico City: The underground in Mexico reports that another rebellion is being plotted against the Guatemalan President. The Reds there are said to be arming again."

COMMENT: (b-1)(b-7)

[REDACTED] A cable is being sent to Legat, Mexico, for his comments. (Bufile 109-12-213)

WINCHELL SAID:

M.A.S.

"Boston: The Brink's holdup would never have happened if a deportation order against Tony Pino hadn't been cancelled six years ago. Pino, one of the robbers, was pardoned by the State of Massachusetts. Even as late as last year, ladies and gentlemen, the U.S. Immigration Department, which wanted this Pino deported was blocked by the Supreme Court."

COMMENT:

Bureau Informant [REDACTED] in the Robink case (Bufile 91-5535) advised during the last ten days that [REDACTED]

WINCHELL SAID:

"This is Walter Winchell reporting the Brink's case in a nutshell. Crime won a round - Justice won the fight."

COMMENT:

None. For your information.

~~SECRET~~

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: Jan. 23, 1956

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
JANUARY 22, 1956

Classified by SP8 BTJ/GCL
Declassify on: OADR 9/20/84

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Parsons _____
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Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

Winchell Said:

"Washington: Judge Robert Morris of New York City has resigned from the bench to be the chief counsel for the U.S. Senate investigating committee. The Senate knockout punch will be a brand new probe of Reds on NY newspapers, radio and television."

Comment:

None. For your information. Bufile 62-98670 reflects that the Bureau has enjoyed cordial relations with Judge Robert Morris who formerly was the counsel for the Jenner Subcommittee.

Winchell Said:

"New York City: A subpoena has just been issued to Annette Rubinstein, a teacher in New York, to be a witness in the inquiry into Reds in New York's private schools."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Comment:

N.Y. airtel 12-25-55 (Bufile 100-415268) furnished information to the Bureau that Annette Rubinstein, Director of the Robert Louis Stevenson private school (high) in New York, would be subpoenaed concerning funds paid to the school in connection with the education of veterans. This school was investigated by the Bureau in 1947 and report was sent to Department, November 13, 1947, and a copy to Veterans Administration. We told the Department the Bureau was investigating the school based on allegations the school was billing the Veterans Administration for high school courses while actually providing veterans with courses of below high school standards. (Bufile 100-353, 208) Bufile 100-117432 contains a "Security Matter - C" summary report [redacted] which was disseminated 1-16-56 to the Department and to the Department of State [redacted]

Ticklers: Boardman
Belmont
Nichols
Brannigan
Burgardner
Belmont
Belmont

RECORDED-90

INDEXED-90

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JAN 27 1956

1956

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Winchell Said:

"Attention Editor Cleveland News: The very top Communist leaders in the State of Ohio are holding a big secret meeting in Cleveland. FBI television cameras are shooting their faces right now."

Comments:

[REDACTED]

Winchell Said:

"New York City: The US Senate investigating committee, the Chairman is Senator Eastland, is expecting a very bitter counter-attack from The New York Times." Part of the attack will be a so-called exposure of Ben Mandel. He is the committee's research director. 'The New York Times' will remind the people that Mandel is a former Communist. 'The New York Times' is also expected to claim that it has as much right to employ former Communists as the Senate Committee to which the Senate Committee will reply that the difference is this; 'The New York Times' has employed Fifth Amendment former Reds while the Senate Committee never has and never will. Ben Mandel's chief value in exposing the details of the Red conspiracy over here has been his very deep knowledge of the plot because he once was part of it. A fact well known to the Committee and the FBI. The Committee will answer that 'The New York Times,' the newspaper in New York, continues to employ former Communists who have never given any information to the FBI or any Government agency or for that matter to the Editor of 'The New York Times.'"

Comments:

Buf file 77-56154 reflects that Benjamin Mandel was investigated at the specific request of the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee during the 83rd Congress. This report reflects in detail Benjamin Mandel's former Communist activities and his fight against Communism since 1929.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Bureau inquiries have been made concerning "The New York Times" (Bufile 100-400370). Similar inquiries have been made as to "Time Inc.," the "New York Herald Tribune" and the "Associated Press." During above inquiries cases have been opened as to individuals where substantial allegations of Communist Party activities were uncovered.

The Bureau has been cognizant of hearings held in executive session at New York City during December, 1955, by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee concerning alleged Communist influences in New York newspapers. The NY office was instructed by airtel dated 11-4-55 concerning handling of cases pertaining to individuals who might be witnesses. Public hearings commenced 1-4-56.

WHD
JAN 10 1956
✓

- 3 - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum

• UNITED STATES

GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: 2-2-56

FROM : Mr. Callahan

SUBJECT: COLUMN OF WALTER WINCHELL
"NEW YORK MIRROR," 2-1-56ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/20/84 BY SP8 BTJ/KCL

Tolson	_____
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Belmont	_____
Harbo	_____
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Winterrowd	_____
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Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

Director has inquired concerning item appearing in above column which questioned "Why is the Dept. of Justice suddenly probing a top investigator for a Senate Committee?"

Not possible to definitely identify individual referred to, but probably refers to Robert Morris, who reportedly is returning to the Committee on the Judiciary, U. S. Senate. Morris was formerly employed as Special Counsel, Subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary Investigating the Administration, Operation and Enforcement of the Internal Security Act of 1950 and is presently a judge in the State of New York. Morris was investigated in 1953 in connection with above employment. No request has been received for current investigation; however, on 1-26-56, chief clerk, Senate Judiciary Committee, advised Morris was returning to that committee and chairman would request Bureau to bring 1953 investigation up to date.

While the Commission on Government Security does not fall in category of "Senate Committee," the Bureau on 1-24-56 completed an investigation of former Special Agent Robert A. Collier for the commission. Collier formerly employed by House Judiciary Committee in 1953, House Appropriations Committee in 1954 and the Senate Committee on Government Operations in 1954.

Bureau is currently investigating former Special Agent Charles M. Noone for this Commission. Noone was employed from 1951 to 1953 by the Senate Select Committee on Small Business. This request was received 1-20-56. On 2-1-56, the same date as the news item appeared, the Bureau received a request from the Commission on Government Security to investigate former Special Agent Edward C. Kennelly. Kennelly was employed from March to June, 1952, by the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry; from August, 1952, to January, 1953, by the House Select Committee to Investigate Foundations; and from March, 1953, to January, 1955, by the House Government Operations Committee.

ACTION:

ENCLOSURE

None. This is for information only.

RECORDED - 97

INDEXED - 97

Request received 1/26/56

cc: Mr. Nichols

MLI;mar

63 MAR 26 1956

155

Walter Winchell Of New York

Man About Town

Grace Kelly is said to be upset about the way her publicity has been going. The kidding from comedians and kin writing "insides" about her. She has consulted a public relations man on how to get back on the right track... Willie Mays, the N. Y. Giants star, apparently plans marrying Marguerite Wendell, as oft rumored. The sparkler he just gave her came from the diamonds in his championship belt... Joanne Gilbert of Hollywood and bridegroom Danny Arnold decided against Reno. Dating steadily, though dwelling apart... The Dewey Martin-Peggy Lee idyll is for sure... "Miss Universe" and Prince Charles Mami (of Tahiti) are another international romance. He is the nearest thing to a Royal Catch in Hollywood these nights... The Ford stock payment date and Ike's failure to give a definite yes or no on '56 are blamed for the stock market decline... Dick Haymes' brother Bob and his wife are ending their long estrangement. Consulting attorneys.

Joan Collins' place in Sidney Chaplin's affections has been inherited by Jean Coyne... The torch toter in Terry Hatfield's life is not the Geo. Thompson of Ralph Flanagan's staff... Sterling Hayden's ex (Betty) and actor Wm. Phipps are steady... Peter Townsend will wed Elizabeth Seal of the London "Pajama Game" cast. He's the writer, not Meg's ex... Donna Martell, seen in the film, "Love Is A Many Splendored Thing," and husband Gene Corso, outfielder for the Pirates, will get their image in April... Jean Carroll's reconciliation with husband Buddy Howe ended a 5 year estrangement... Did Lorna Bolton of the Latin Quarter line clope with Frank Military, mgr for Eileen Barton? They allegedly so confided to pals... Eyebrow-raiser: Time Mag's capsule critique of "Helen of Troy," the film: "Hot pants in high places."

Broadwayites are flipping over the score of "Mr. Wonderful," the hottest in seasons. The writers, all in their 20s, were sponsored by music publisher Tom Valando... Warner Bros. wrapped up the movie rights to Broadway's latest hit, "Time Limit," long before it arrived in town... That mysterious blonde seen with Franchot Tone is Dolores Dorn-Hett of "Uncle Vanya"... Bill Johnson, who says he doesn't date the ladies, dates Jet MacDonald, divorcee, at Upstairs-at-the-Duplex... That swanky car in Shubert Alley nightly is to pick up Temple Texas of "Pipe Dream"... Hide-a-woosers include Brando and actress Suzanne Ayers... Burt Lancaster and producing partner H. Hecht are on the verge of ending a friendship.

The former Mrs. Jack Carter is the sugar in Silas Davis's tea. He's the Brazilian dept store biggie... Even though the British tax collector cut 50 percent out of her salary, Joyce Grenfell will return to Broadway next Fall... That was a darling argument between a tap baton-twirler and her boy friend at Longchamps the other night. She tossed her roast beef at him. He ducked and it landed on a show-girl's snail. Lawsuits, etc... Prettiest night club boss in town is Martha Ray, a former model. Her spot is The Velvet on 52nd Avenue... The Hickory House and Fa Manchu in Miami Beach are very high on the list of the Very Choosy... The Thunderbird calls itself a motel. It is more like a palace... Movie critic Bosley Crowther rapped the father in the screen version of "Desperate Hours" for not telling the police. Last week Bosley reviewed "Ransom" and rapped the parent for going to them!

January was a sour month for the Broadway cinema place. Worst than in '55... Sunny Gale's new heartbeat is Noel Kramer, her second-promoter... Howard Rushmore is now editor of Police Gazette... The current chill between Linda Christian and Edmund Purdom started over the party she chucked for Ty Power... Mrs. Wm. Woodward, Jr., the widow, relaxes in the park every day skating with her sons. She wears a leopard skin as a good-luck blit... Holly Brooke, a Warner starlet, is suing Mickey Mantle for \$200,000. Alleged breach of business contract. Due in the courts this month... Topic A at Romeo Salt's was Garbo and her new best friend, Greek shipping tycoon Onassis... Authorities are wise to the UN Girl Fridays, some of whom are prospering in a slick black market of tax-free foreign cigarettes.

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Holloman _____
Gandy _____

SEE PAGE 7

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
N. Y. Mirror _____
N. Y. Daily News _____
Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

Date FEB 1 1956

ENCLOSURE

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DATE 9/30/84 BY SP8 BTJ/bcl

RECORDED - 92

62-31615-962

13 FEB 8 1956

Is everything honky-doo with Ilona Massey and her mate? We hope so. The busybodies keep saying they left not... Cleo Moore's amouree is Al Mathes... The George Barnes divorced. He's the songwriter. She's actress Joyce Jameson... Why is the Dept. of Justice suddenly probing a top investigator for a Senate Committee? Don Taylor and Marian Brash are twining... Greg Peck is in almost every scene of "Man in the Gray Flannel Suit." Has dialog on all but 14 "sides" of the 125 page script... Hoagy Carmichael thinks Sylvia Sidney is the most... They say Mary Astor's next is a Chicago broker... Miriam Hopkins has a justice mad about her... Frances Faye returns to town (at the Cameo) tomorrow after an absence of six years... Add tender titles for a new film: "Count the Dead."

Rocky Graziano's ex-mgr, Jack Healy, and Rita Harrington (of the Embers) are planning to blend it all... Marlene Dietrich reportedly said she'd do her first TV spectacular, but didn't want money. She wondered if the network would give the equivalent in time to Adlai!... Eddie Rickenbacker will be a Horatio Alger nominee this year... The Mutual network reports: "Winchell's fast-expanding Mutual audience one-fourth greater than last year in N. Y. One-sixth greater in Chicago. One and a quarter times greater in Los Angeles and one and a half times ditto in San Francisco"... Tokyo Rose's debt to society is paid. No other indictment remains but the one in her heart. So here's wishing her what she wished all of us—when Japan was winning... Jesse Greer's latest song: "Oh, What a Night for Murder! I'm Gonna Kill You With Love!"

Actress Leigh Snowden and Dick Contino say they will not wed, just remain in love... A noted merchant broke up the Kyle McDonnell-Ed Wilcox romance... Dorothy Kilgallen flew to Florida for the first time last week and caught a cold. Bedded most of her visit. Her first impression must be a corker... Susan Hayward's ex (Jesse Barker) has a new interest. Starlet Jean Osborn... Who was the movie star (male) who paid the St. Regis hotel more than \$700 for breaking up the suite on a binge?... Locals think Gary Crosby's pulse-hopper is Myrna Fox, but Vegas folks say the one and only is the prettiest gal in the Sands Hotel line. Linda Lawson... Gloria Vanderbilt will call her autobiog "Secret Garden"... "Someone Waiting," the new Emlyn Williams thriller, was rapturously received in Boston... Close friends report that Joan Crawford sleeps with her \$7 diamond bracelet for sentimental reasons... Lenore Lemmon is suing her ex-husband for \$26,000, which she alleges he owes her... They say Grace Kelly wears white gloves because she is a snob.

Do we know anything about this? #

0-19 (11-15-55)

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Boardman _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Parsons _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Sizoo _____
Mr. Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

Wash. Post and
Times Herald _____
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
N. Y. Herald
Tribune _____
N. Y. Mirror _____
N. Y. Daily News _____
Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

Date _____

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman

DATE: 1-30-56

FROM : Mr. A. H. Belmont

Ticklers: Boardman
Nichols
Belmont
Rosen
Baumgardner
Bland
Brannigan
Wallace

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
JANUARY 30, 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/2/84 BY SP8 BTJ/SC

Winchell Said:

"A reporters report to the people. Inside the Communist Party. The planned march on Washington, D. C., next month has been deferred by the Red leaders. It may be staged in March. The demonstration was to complain about Civil Rights."

Comments:

The Bureau is cognizant that the Communist Party is giving full support to the National Conference on Civil Rights being sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Leaders of the CP, USA, describe this conference as a "March on Washington." The conference is now scheduled to be held March 4-5, 1956. Details were set forth in "Current Intelligence Summary" dated 1-18-56.

Winchell Said:

"Communist chiefs held another secret conference at their new headquarters in New York City in the Jefferson School of Social Science Building. The date was last January 16th."

Comments:

Physical Surveillances

Flare conducted by the New York office reflected seven or eight of the top leaders of the Communist Party, USA, met January 16, 1956 at the Jefferson School of Social Science Building, 575 Avenue of the Americas, New York City. Exact details of the meeting have not as yet been ascertained; however, it is probably another one of a series of meetings being held by Communist Party top leadership to recognize the open Communist Party.

Information as to the Jefferson School of Social Science Building being the new headquarters of CP, USA, was set forth in the "Current Intelligence Summary" dated 1-18-56.

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Holmes
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Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Winchell Said:

"Membership in the Communist Party at Los Angeles is now at an all time high."

Comments:

The statement above by Winchell is erroneous insofar as the membership figures are concerned. It is not an all time high. It is believed that reference in this case to strong membership in Los Angeles in fact concerns information furnished by key informants to the effect that there was less retrenchment in Los Angeles than in other parts of the country. This was due in great part to the strong leadership in the Los Angeles District.

(Bufile 100-3-25)

Winchell Said:

"Red leaders in the far northwest are having great trouble getting members to serve as officers. All comrades out there rejected the post of regional treasurer."

Comments:

Latest information reflects Elmer Kistler is the District ^{WASH} Treasurer, District #12 (Seattle). It is believed Winchell's remarks are more suited to the difficulty District #12 is having in filling the position of District Organizer. This position is still unfilled due to trouble in locating a responsible leader to take over as District Organizer. Leadership for this area is controlled at this time by Milford A. Sutherland, Organizational Secretary, which position is actually first assistant to the District Organizer. (Bufile 100-3-20-1290)

^{WASH}

Winchell Said:

"Washington: The US Senate Committee investigating Reds on newspapers will resume hearings February 8 with a scoop that will embarrass certain newspapers nailing the argument that they are not now employing present-day Communists."

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Comments:

The Bureau is cognizant of the hearings being held by the US Senate Committee concerning alleged Communist influences in New York newspapers. The New York office was instructed by airtel dated 11-4-55 concerning handling of cases pertaining to individuals who might be witnesses. Public hearings commenced 1-4-56 will resume 2-8-56. On basis of limited data furnished by Winchell no identification or possible identification can be made of the person or persons referred to or the newspapers involved.

Winchell Said:

"Washington, D. C.: The Senate investigating committee is quietly probing the activities of another Interstate Commerce Commissioner. A trucking company is involved."

Comments:

This probably refers to Hugh W. Cross who, although the Interstate Commerce Commission was not directly involved, allegedly injected himself into a contract granted by the railroads in Chicago to a company affiliated with the Keeshin Motor Truck Lines. This contract related to the transfer of baggage between various railroad terminals in Chicago. This was prominently mentioned in the newspapers about two months ago. The Department did not request investigation, it being noted no clear-cut allegation of conflict of interest violation.

Winchell Said:

"The Congress will pass an Adoption Mann Act making it a federal crime to carry a baby across state lines for adoption for a profit. The profit is the essence of the crime."

Comments:

None. For your information.

Winchell Said:

"The Government says it will deport Tokyo Rose as an undesirable alien. She cannot be deported according to experts on constitutional laws."

Memorandum for Mr. Boardman

Comments:

X D'AguiNO No 100
Tokyo Rose, whose true name is Iva Ikuko Toguri *X D'AguiNO*, was convicted of treason 9-29-49 and sentence 10-6-49 to ten years in prison and \$10,000 fine. She was investigated by the Bureau and our case is presently closed. The Bureau has no knowledge of deportation plans which would be the responsibility of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. (Bufile 61-11,000) *No 100*

Winchell Said:

"Bernes: The Balkan underground is now convinced that Malenkov's job is a front. His title is Commisar of Electric Production. His real operation, I am told, is Chief of Foreign Intelligence like the late Beria."

Comment:

None. For your information. *V*

gaw
gaw
gaw

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. L. V. Boardman

DATE: February 6, 1956

FROM : Mr. A. H. Boardman

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST
FEBRUARY 5, 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/84 BY SP8 BJA/ea

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Winchell Said:

"It is now definite that the march on Washington to promote civil rights legislation will be staged March 5. The Reds are mobilizing to try and take over that meeting." 1956

Comments:

In his broadcast of 1-29-56 Winchell referred to such march possibly taking place next March. The Bureau is cognizant that the Communist Party is giving full support to the National Conference on Civil Rights being sponsored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Leaders of the CP, USA, describe the conference as a "March on Washington." The conference is scheduled for March 4 - 5, 1956. Details were set forth in "Current Intelligence Summary" dated 1-18-56.

Winchell Said:

"As a result of the Paul Hughes acquittal in New York last week the Department of Justice will investigate the activities of a very top leader at ADA many times exposed by me."

Comments:

Winchell is possibly referring to [redacted] Americans for Democratic Action, who testified as a Government witness in the perjury trial of Hughes which resulted in Hughes acquittal on 2-3-56. Hughes had been charged with lying to a grand jury investigating Harvey Matusow. Although there were inconsistencies noted in the testimony [redacted] the Department has given no indication it intends to pursue the matter and we have not been requested by the Department to investigate [redacted] (74-1686)

Ticklers - Mr. Boardman
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Baumgardner
Mr. Bland
Mr. Nease
Mr. Torrillo

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