

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS**

Subject: Lucille Ball

File Number: HQ 100-400465

Section:



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NOTICE

THE BEST COPIES OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE REPRODUCTION OF THE FILE. PAGES INCLUDED THAT ARE BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE RESULT OF THE CONDITION AND OR COLOR OF THE ORIGINALS PROVIDED. THESE ARE THE BEST COPIES AVAILABLE.



U.S. Department of Justice

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. 20535

Lucille Ball

Subject of Request: _____

FOIPA No. _____ /190- _____

Dear Requester:

Enclosed are copies of documents from FBI records. Excisions have been made to protect information exempt from disclosure pursuant to Title 5, United States Code, Section 552 (Freedom of Information Act) and/or Section 552a (Privacy Act). In addition, where excisions were made, the appropriate exempting subsections have been cited opposite the deletions. Where pages have been withheld in their entirety, a deleted page information sheet has been substituted showing the reasons or basis for the deletion. The subsections cited for withholding information from the enclosed documents are marked below:

Section 552

Section 552a

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(1) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(A) | <input type="checkbox"/> (d)(5) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(2) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(B) | <input type="checkbox"/> (j)(2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(3) _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(C) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(1) |
| _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(D) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(2) |
| _____ | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(E) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(3) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(4) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(7)(F) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(4) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(5) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(8) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(6) | <input type="checkbox"/> (b)(9) | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(6) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> (k)(7) |

(See Form 4-694a, enclosed, for an explanation of these exemptions.)

Pursuant to your request, 149 pages(s) were reviewed and ~~149~~ ¹⁴² page(s) are being released.

During the review of material pertinent to the subject of your request, documents were located which

- originated with another Government agency(ies).
These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.
- contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

If you desire, you may appeal any denials contained herein. Appeals should be directed in writing to the Co-Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, Flag Building, Suite 570, Washington, D.C. 20530, within thirty days from receipt of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal." Please cite the FOIPA number assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

The enclosed material is from the main investigative file(s) in which the subject of your request was the subject of the investigation. There are additional references to the subject(s) of your request in files relating to other individuals, organizations, events or activities. These additional mentions or references have not been reviewed to determine if, in fact, they are identifiable with the subject(s) of your request. Our experience has shown that such references are frequently similar to information contained in the processed main file(s). We will process these references if you now make a specific request for them. However, because of a significant increase in FOIPA requests and an expanding backlog, we have given priority to the processing of main investigative files and can only complete the processing of these additional references as time and resources permit

See additional information which follows.

Sincerely yours,

Chief
Freedom of Information-
Privacy Acts Section
Information Resources Division

Enclosures (2)

The enclosed material is from the main file maintained at FBIHQ, the corresponding OO main file and cross-references maintained in our Los Angeles field office.

*Freedom of Information
and
Privacy Acts*

SUBJECT LUCILLE BALL



Federal Bureau of Investigation

FILE DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT LUCILLE BALL

FILE NUMBER HQ 100-400465

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
XNO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES

March 27, 1953

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-11702)

~~11-1~~

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

[REDACTED]

(b)
(2)
(2)

REG. [REDACTED] SE 41 RECORDED 11/150-400465 APR. 1 1953

78 APR 10 1953

COPY DESTROYED
176 JUL 26 1963

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/21/11 BY SP100/4

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(D)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The above information is being submitted for the information of the Bureau. It is to be noted that additional information concerning Miss BALL was submitted by Los Angeles letter to the Director, dated 10/2/51, entitled [REDACTED], SECURITY MATTER-C". 100-380667-2

(b)(7)(C)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

DATE: Sept. 11, 1953

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Rm.
- Holloman
- Gandy

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL

[redacted] called to inquire if we could give him any guidance on Lucille Ball, the television actress. I asked him what his angle was. He then stated [redacted] had a notation earlier this week about a prominent television actress being turned up as a Communist; that their Los Angeles manager had checked the registration records (I assume voting registration records) and found Lucille Ball was listed as a Communist in 1936 and 1938. The handwriting was identical and they have checked the address back to the address of the Lucille Ball who is the actress.

I told [redacted] that I had heard a rumble; that the House Committee was holding some hearings and that he might want to check with them as they may have turned up something like this. He stated that this probably was the explanation; they would check further.

cc - Mr. Ladd

Mr. Belmont

RECORDED-29 | 100-400465-2
SEP 16 1953

EX-130

LEN

SEI

(5)
(7)
(10)

[redacted]

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

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(b)(7)(E)

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(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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

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

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

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

For your information: _____

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

100-400465-3

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

4

SAC, Los Angeles (100-41702)

September 24, 1953

RECORDED-42 100-40465-3

Director, FBI (100-40065)

EX-121

ROVILLE BALL, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

For the additional information of your office
and the completion of your file, there are attached

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/11/81 BY 31...

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/11/81 BY 31...

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Subject recently received considerable notoriety
as a result of her appearance before HCUA in Los Angeles
regarding registration to vote in 1936 and expressed at
that time preference for the CP.

[REDACTED]

Information was made available

[REDACTED]

COMM - FBI
SEP 24 1953
MAILED 27

62 OCT 5 1953

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: September 17, 1953

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM : Mr. D. V. Ladd

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL;
DEZI ARNAZ

Classified by SP100/lyms
Declassify on: OADR 2/14/87
#297511 ELR 3

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

SYNOPSIS:

Pursuant to your request of September 14, 1953, Bureau files were reviewed concerning Lucille Ball and her husband, Dezi Arnaz. No investigation conducted by the Bureau concerning Ball, born August 6, 1911, Jamestown, New York. Records, California Secretary of State, reflect Ball, in 1936, signed a certificate as sponsor for Emil Freed, a Communist Party candidate, and was appointed on the State Central Committee of California Communist Party, 1936. Records, Registrar of Voters, Los Angeles County, California, reflect that on March 19, 1936, Ball registered as a Communist voter.

[REDACTED]

Ball's registration as a Communist voter in 1936 was corroborated by [REDACTED]

her admissions on September 3 and 4, 1953, before the House Committee on Un-American Activities hearings at Santa Monica, California.

[REDACTED]

The "Daily Worker," April 10, 1951, alleged Ball was among Hollywood stars previously opposing HCUA.

[REDACTED]

investigation conducted by Bureau concerning Dezi Arnaz, born March 8, 1917, Santiago, Cuba. In February, 1946, Arnaz appeared on a show sponsored by the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, a cited Communist front.

[REDACTED] cited by the Attorney General.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-400465-4

100-400465
100-400465

RECORDED - 2
INDEXED - 2

CONFIDENTIAL EX-124

100-400465-4
INT SEC

Memo to The Director
Re: LUCILLE BALL
DEZI ARNAX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

DETAILS:

On September 14, 1953, you requested a search of our files on Lucille Ball and her husband, Dezi Arnax. A complete search of our indices was made concerning them including all probable name variations.

~~LUCILLE BALL~~ - 11/11/53

No investigation of Ball was conducted by the Bureau.

Biographical Data:

Ball was born on August 8, 1911, at Jamestown, New York, the daughter of Henry B. and Desiree Ball. Her education consisted of high school and dramatic school. She married Dezi Arnax on November 30, 1940. Ball has been employed as a motion picture actress since 1934, and as a television actress since 1947. Her residence is given as 19700 Devonshire Boulevard, Northridge, California. (Who in America, 1952-53; Current Biography, 1952)

Affiliation with Communist Party Activities:

Records of the California Secretary of State for the period 1934 to 1940 reflect that Lucille Ball (artist),

residing at 1944 North Ogden Drive, Los Angeles, California, signed certificates as sponsors for Emil Freed, a Communist Party candidate for the Assembly, 57th District, in 1936; that Lucille Ball was appointed on the State Central Committee of the Communist Party of California in 1936.

- 2 - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

Memo to The Director
Re: LUCILLE BALL;
DEZI ARNAZ

[REDACTED]

(These sponsoring certificates contained the statement that the sponsor is a member of the Party to which the candidate being sponsored belongs). (100-119-57, page 17)

(b)(7)(c)

Records of the Registrar of Voters for Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California, reflected that Lucille Ball, 2334 North Ogden Drive, Los Angeles, California, registered to vote as Communists on March 19, 1936.

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

(100-380667-2)

[REDACTED]

1
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(D)

121-9225-2, page 8; 100-198754-4, page 78)

[REDACTED]

1

CONFIDENTIAL

8

Memo to The Director
Re: LUCILLE BALL;
DEZI ARNAZ

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

(S)(7)(C)
(S)(7)(D)

(100-380667-1, 2)

Vena M. Vale, a Hollywood writer and an admitted former Communist Party member in Los Angeles, California, furnished a sworn deposition to the Assembly Fact Finding Committee on Un-American Activities in California in 1943. She stated that in 1937 she attended a Communist Party new members' class at the home of actress Lucille Ball. Vale added that Ball was not present at the meeting but that the person in charge (unidentified) specifically stated that Lucille Ball knew the character of the meeting and approved of its taking place in her home. Vale originally gave this information in her appearance before the Dies Committee at Beaumont, Texas, on July 22, 1940. (100-380-667-2; Dies Committee Hearings, Volume 3, page 1216)

[REDACTED]

(S)(7)(D)

(100-40065-1;

100-198754-1032)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

Memo to The Director
Re: LUCILLE BALL;
DEZI ARNAZ

Affiliation with Communist Front Activities:

[REDACTED]

, 61-9218-

16)

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[REDACTED]

(100-198754-113,

page 50)

[REDACTED]

; 100-9-79-109, page 12)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Memo to the Director
Re: LUCILLE BALL;
DEZI ARNAZ

[REDACTED]

(b)
(D)
(D)

100-138754-144, page 5)

[REDACTED]

(b)
(D)
(E)

(C) (b) (1)

100-353406-4, page 9)

The "Daily Worker," issue of April 10, 1951, contained an article captioned "Where Are the Big Stars Who Once Opposed the Un-Americans." The article asks where all of the famous Hollywood stars were who attacked the first hearings of the HCUA and are now silent about the then hearings of the HCUA. Among those Hollywood personalities named as previously being opposed to the HCUA was Lucille Ball. (100-138754-835, page 43)

Miscellaneous:

[REDACTED]

(b) (7) (D)
(b) (7) (D)

CONFIDENTIAL

- 6 -

11

CONFIDENTIAL

Memo to The Director
Re: LUCILLE BALL;
DEZI ARNAZ

[REDACTED]

(62-75147-6, page 38)

~~DEZI ARNAZ~~
~~DESIDERIO ALBERTO ARNAZ Y DE ACHA, III~~ - 59 mifiv

Biographical Data:

Arnaz, as Desiderio Alberto Arnaz y de Acha, III, was born on March 2, 1917, at Santiago, Cuba. He was educated at Colegio de Dolores, a Jesuit Prep School at Santiago, Cuba. He served as a staff sergeant, United States Army Medical Corps, for three years during World War II. He is a musician and actor by profession. (His American citizenship status is unknown). (Current Biography, 1952; Motion Picture and Television Almanac, 1952-1953.)

Information Contained in Bureau Files:

No investigation of Arnaz has been conducted by the Bureau.

A February 28, 1946, issue of the "California Eagle," a Los Angeles newspaper, contained an article entitled "Stars Intersperse Talks for FEPC on Program at Shrine Auditorium Show." (FEPC signifies Fair Employment Practices Commission). The article stated that Dezi Arnaz was one of the many entertainers who appeared on the show which was sponsored by the Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions (ICCASP). The ICCASP is cited as a Communist front by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report dated April 26, 1950. (100-185-26-181, page 8)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Memo to The Director
Re: LUCILLE BALL;
DEZI A. NAZ

[REDACTED]

(b)
(1)

(c) The California Labor School has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450. (100-326958-193, page 112)

(b)(1)

[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM

DO-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Mr. Sizoo _____
- Miss Gandy _____

[Handwritten initials and checkmark]

[Redacted area]

(6/20)

- See Me _____
- Note and Return _____
- For Your Recommendation _____
- What are the facts? _____
- Remarks: _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/21/79 BY SP2-ayf/4

MEMO DIRECTOR
PC 9/10/53

1/15/53

1:4 4
 ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/21/77 BY SP1/MLJ

100-420465-4X
CHANGED TO
94-52549-X

OCT 5 - 1959

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~~_____~~
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C

100-400-100-5 IN THIS FILE SKIPPED DURING
SERIALIZATION.

7500
1-11-60
[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/99 BY 2700/ep

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson ✓

DATE: Oct. 26, 1953

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

- Tolson ✓
- Ladd ✓
- Nichols ✓
- Belmont ✓
- Mohr ✓
- Harbo ✓
- Glavin ✓
- Tracy ✓
- Conroy ✓
- Malone ✓
- Winterrowd ✓
- Tele. Room
- Nease
- Miss Gandy

[redacted] called. They have scheduled Lucille Ball for the cover of the future issue of [redacted] Magazine. [redacted] wondered if there was anything new on Lucille Ball and her so-called Red affiliations. I told [redacted] I doubted very much we could be of any assistance to her and I knew nothing offhand and she might want to check with the House Committee on Un-American Activities. She stated she would do this.

cc: Mr. Ladd
Mr. Belmont

LBN: [redacted]

(b)(7)(c)

(b)
(7)
(c)

OTL

RECORDED - 50 / 100 - 400415-6

INDEXED-50

NOV 5 1953

November 23, 1953

LUCILLE BALL
Born August 6, 1911
Jamestown, New York

Classification
Review Conducted
See Top Serial
Form 4-774

This Bureau has conducted no investigation concerning the captioned individual. However, our files reflect the following information concerning the subject of your inquiry.

According to the official records of the California Secretary of State, Lucille Ball, [redacted] 1344 North Ogden Drive, Los Angeles, California, signed certificates as sponsors for Emil Freed, a Communist Party candidate for Assembly, 57th District, in 1936; that Lucille Ball was appointed on the State Central Committee of the Communist Party of California, in 1936.

The records of the Registrar of Voters for Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, California, reflected that [redacted] Lucille Ball, 1344 North Ogden Drive, Los Angeles, California, registered to vote as Communist on [redacted] March 19, 1936, [redacted]

[Large redacted block of text]

Orig. to Secret Service
Request received

RECORDED - 71

EX-124

NOV 25 1953

58 DEC

SEE RE...
ADD. DIS...

In 1943 Rena M. Vale, a Hollywood writer and an admitted former Communist Party member in Los Angeles, California, furnished a sworn deposition to the Assembly Fact Finding Committee on Un-American Activities in California wherein she stated that in 1937 she attended a Communist Party meeting in a room at the home of Lucille Ball. Vale stated that Ball was not present at the meeting, but that the person in charge was not identified. Vale specifically stated that Lucille Ball knew the name of the meeting and advised her of the date and place in Los Angeles.

In September, 1943, the House Committee on Un-American Activities issued a press release wherein it was reported that Lucille Ball had testified before the Committee and admitted having registered as a Communist voter in Los Angeles in 1936. Lucille Ball advised the Committee that she so registered only at the insistence of her grandfather. (S-2572-197)



(b)
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(D)

The Weekly Worker, an East Coast Communist newspaper issue dated April 10, 1941, carried an article captioned "Where Are the Big Stars Who Once Opposed the Un-Americans." The article asks the question "where are all the famous Hollywood stars who attacked the first hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and who for now silent about the then current hearings, among those Hollywood personalities named in previous being referred to the House Committee on Un-American Activities was Lucille Ball." The article further states that the information furnished to the individual involved. This information is furnished for your confidential use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-400465)

DATE: 12/16/53

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41702)

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL, was.
SM-C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/2/11 BY 202 01/4

ReBulet dated 1/18/52 captioned "CP, U.S.A.,
DISTRICT 13, Los Angeles Division, IS-C" and
remyAir-Tel to Bureau 9/11/53 captioned "HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES".

The subject furnished an executive statement to
WILLIAM A. WHEELER, West Coast Representative, House Committee
on Un-American Activities, on September 4, 1953, at Hollywood,
California. BALL stated that in 1936 she registered to vote
as a Communist or intended to vote the Communist Party ticket
because her grandfather, FRED HUNT, now deceased, wanted her
to register as such. She stated that FRED HUNT had been a
Socialist all his life and she had registered as a Communist
to make him happy and to do him a favor. She stated she at
no time intended to vote as a Communist.

BALL stated she has never been a member of the
Communist Party to "her knowledge"; had never been asked to
become a Communist Party member; did not ever attend any
meetings which she later discovered were Communist Party
meetings; did not know whether or not any meetings were ever
held at her home at 1344 North Ogden Drive; stated she did not
know EMIL FREED and if he had appointed her as a delegate to
the State Central Committee of the Communist Party in 1936 it
was done without her knowledge or consent; did not recall
signing the document sponsoring EMIL FREED for the Communist
Party nomination to the office of member of the assembly of
the 57th District; and has never heard of the California
Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, the
Southern California Council for Constitutional Rights, or
the Committee for the 1st Amendment.

A review of the subject's file reflects no activity
that would warrant her inclusion on the Security Index. The
subject's file is being maintained in a closed status. On
October 30, 1953, the Washington Field Office furnished the
Los Angeles Office with a copy of the subject's executive
statement which is located in Los Angeles file 100-41702-1a1.

Reg.

RECORDED - 90

100-400465-8
DEC 21 1953

5 DEC 21 1953



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

530 Broadway
San Diego, California WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
October 21, 1954

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-460465

DIRECTOR, FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1/awj
ON 7/21/81

RE: LUCILLE BALL, aka.
Mrs. Desi Arnaz
SECURITY MATTER - C
(HCUA Hearings in San Diego)

Dear Sir:

The House Committee on Un-American Activities held hearings at San Diego, California from April 19 to April 22, 1954. The results of these hearings are reported in "Investigation of Communist Activities in the State of California". (Part 1-10)

Information concerning the above-captioned person appears as follows:

Part 1, Page 4525

On February 24, 1953, during the testimony of STANLEY B. HANCOCK, Circulation Manager, Long Island Daily Press, Jamaica, Long Island, New York, a discussion arose concerning the fact that the State Committee of the Communist Party was composed of persons who were not actually State leaders. Congressman DONALD L. JACKSON commented that Miss LUCILLE BALL, who was a member of the State Committee, had stated in an affidavit that she had no knowledge or recollection of having been so appointed.

Part 4, Pages 4710, 4711, 4713

On April 19, 1954 DANIEL POMEROY TAYLOR, Los Angeles, California, who testified he had been a member

REGISTERED

RECORDED - 29

62-848

(62) 20

cc: Los Angeles (Info.) (REG.)

EX-119

COPY DESTROYED
176 JUL 26 1963

E: 100-460465

DIRECTOR, FBI

October 21, 1954

RE: LUCILLE BALL, aka.

of the Communist Party from 1935 until 1941, also testified concerning the State Committee that although the name of LUCILLE BALL was on the Committee, TAYLOR believed she was never a Communist.

Subsequently during TAYLOR's testimony, Congressman JACKSON commented that the LUCILLE BALL matter should be more clearly put in the record. He stated that although Miss BALL had knowledge of registration in the Communist Party she denied any activity or of having attended any Party functions during the period of time she was registered.

Since this Subject resides within the territory of the Los Angeles Division, no recommendation is being made by San Diego concerning the placing or retaining on or removal of her name from the Security Index, same being left to the discretion of the Office of Origin.

Very truly yours,

Glenn N. Willis
GLENN N. WILLIS
Special Agent in Charge

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-400465)

DATE: December 3, 1954

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41702)

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C
OO: Los Angeles

YEM
SOL

Rebulet dated 1/18/52 captioned, "Communist Party, USA, District 13, Los Angeles Division, Internal Security - C"; and re San Diego letter to the Director dated 10/21/54.

By referenced San Diego letter the Bureau was advised of the testimony of STANLEY B. MANCOCK on 2/24/53 and DANIEL POMEROY TAYLOR on 4/19/54 before the House Committee on Un-American Activities regarding the subject.

This subject furnished an executive statement to the HCUA which was set out in Los Angeles letter dated 12/16/53.

The subject's file reflects no activities that would warrant her inclusion on the Security Index.

The subject's file is being maintained in a closed status.

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)
REGISTERED

D

RECORDED - 13 100-400465-10

DEC 10 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/11/77 BY SP2/ty

103

[REDACTED]

DEC 14 1954

December 7,

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Boardman
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Parsons
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tamm
- Mr. Trotter
- Mr. Nease
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Holloman
- Miss Gandy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Washington 25, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/22/79 BY [signature]

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I read your interview with Vincent X. Flaherty published in the Los Angeles Examiner, October 22 and 23, (copies enclosed) and I am wondering if there is not a mistake or misquote of some kind since it lists Lucy and Desi among your favorite entertainers who you think set a good example for the youth of America.

Lucille Ball voted for the Communist Party and was appointed as a member of the Central Committee for the Communist Party. She insisted that she did this because her poor old grandfather was ill and that she had no dealings with communists on her own. Yet, ten years later--with no contact of any kind--grandpa had passed on--when a communist speaker who is to make a radio broadcast falls ill--the communist know exactly where to reach her and that she would be their willing stooge and she takes off from her job to broadcast for them. Again, she says, "I certainly was never in sympathy with the 'Dutryks', I can't remember any of the other names." Well, in the library there was a book by one of the Hollywood ten-- and it has forewords of sympathy and support by movie stars--and there is Lucille Ball with her words of sympathy and support.

She has never said she was sorry nor ashamed of these actions.

Since I'm one of the 98% of Americans who think Mr. J. Edgar Hoover is the greatest--would you mind clarifying this for me.

RECORDED - 27
Sincerely,

100-400465-11

EX-172

- (b)
- (7)
- (c)

4 DEC 14 1955

24

VINCENT X. FLAHERTY

Delinquency Causes Told by FBI Chief



I told John Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, some people seem to think the juvenile problem is worse in Los Angeles than anywhere.

The gentleman who heads the largest and most efficient law enforcement agency in the world quickly said this wasn't true. But what followed carried small reassurance.

"It is the same everywhere," he said. "I hate to say so but the problem is worse today than ever before. You cannot sectionalize this thing. Neither can you distinguish between big cities. The same things that happen in Los Angeles also happen in New York, or in Chicago, or in any big city."

I had a lengthy interview with the chief of the G-Men in his Washington office last week. He had talked quite a little while, and it was 6 o'clock and I guessed I was keeping him far beyond his normal office hours.

I also realized he was discussing a subject about which he is desperately concerned, one with which he is better acquainted than any man in the land.

"I don't particularly care for the term juvenile delinquency," he said. "Usually parents are guilty of the original delinquency, although most of them never realize it.

"When a boy gets into trouble," he said, "the father is dumbfounded. He is dismayed and he tells you: 'Why, I have given my boy everything he ever wanted. I just can't understand it.'

"There is a great difference between giving a boy everything he wants and giving him the things he really needs," said Mr. Hoover. "I mean religion and guidance and attention and things that count.

"No child is born a criminal. There isn't any such thing as a born criminal," he went on. "When you investigate the background of a criminal you invariably find various degrees of carelessness and neglect on the part of one parent or the other, or both parents.

"I'd like to make clear a point. Every family breeds criminals," he explained. "There are plenty of poor people who raise fine children. One of the most shining examples is the Bushweller family. The President and his brothers came from a poor working family. The father and mother over raised their distinguished sons. They raised Roosevelt boys. All of them became distinguished in their respective fields. Why? Because they were in a fine home environment and were raised

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/27/11 BY 60324/2

every the
more. Churches must be more concerned for the life of teenagers.")

2. Loss of respect for parents.

("Parents today think nothing of drinking or quarrelling in front of their children.")

3. Boredom.

("In the fast modern world fathers are too occupied with worries about their jobs when they come home from work; or the father and mother are too busy with social activities to give much attention to their child. So the boy is left on his own with nothing to do.")

Emphasizing the influences of "boredom" do not differentiate between the rich and the poor, Mr. Hoover pointed out that some of the worst juvenile offenders come from fine homes in such respectable sections as Beverly Hills or Park Avenue.

"The problem of juvenile delinquency takes on even more tragic aspects," he said, "when it is realized many offenders are intelligent boys and girls— young people who, with proper guidance, could contribute greatly to the nation's welfare. Unfortunately, intelligence as measured alone in terms of material knowledge, is not in itself a bar to criminality. Many times such a quality gives the criminal added dangerousness. He is more adept in planning and executing his evil designs.

"A youth's intelligence must be anchored in morality—to give him the ability to determine right from wrong, good from bad, the true from the false."

Juvenile gangs represent a tremendous problem. The story of the young boy, led on by an older and "experienced" pal, is a repetitious one in the FBI files. At first he is hesitant to commit a crime. With companions leading the way his "courage" is bolstered, especially if someone "dares" him. One older boy often leads a number of youngsters into criminal pursuits.

Mr. Hoover is firmly convinced parents should be held directly responsible for the misdeeds of their children, from the so-called trivial misdemeanor to the serious crime. He is convinced the term "first offender," usually followed by "judicial leniency," should be stricken from the language of the courts.

"The term is misleading," he explained. "In most cases it means the first time the boy was caught."

The FBI's all-encompassing files reveal starkly startling statistics. Last year 576,000 juveniles were arrested. These do not include the thousands of youngsters who were "given another chance" by juvenile aid bureaus. Last year juveniles between the ages of 10 and 17 were involved in 62 per cent of all arrests for automobile thefts; 63 per cent of all arrests for burglaries; 67 per cent of all arrests for larcenies.

Last year's figures jumped by 11 per cent over the year before. Now, in 1956, the figures are rising even higher.

It is an unhappy and unpretty picture, but it is a problem that can be solved, Hoover told me, if parents come to their senses and take charge.

"Let the parents set the example in the home," he said. "Every boy has to have a villain here. The father can be that hero if he tries. If not, the adolescent imagination can glorify Jesse James or some other unwholesome character."

VINCENT X. FLAHERTY

Hoover Hits Crime Trend in Movies



Last week while visiting J. Edgar Hoover in his Washington headquarters, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation expressed very real concern over the modern trend in motion pictures.

He was discussing the causes and (hopefully) the cures of juvenile delinquency. Mr. Hoover was vividly dismayed over some of the films now fouling the atmosphere. He spoke specifically of movies featuring juvenile violence and degeneracy.

The chief of the G-Men firmly believes there are hundreds of wonderful stories that can be told on the screen which could be beneficial, rather than destructive. He is convinced a movie can offer the ultimate in entertainment while being spiritually uplifting and educational.

"Why educate youngsters in the field of perversion, brutality and indecency?" he asked.

Among recent pictures he referred to one in which a little girl murders three people. It is billed as "The Big Shocker" and is "recommended for adults only."

Youthful Curiosity

"When they advertise a movie for adults only they know what they are doing," he said. "It arouses the curiosity of the youngsters and they make a point of going to see something they think they shouldn't see."

He recalled a movie of some years back in which Jesse James, a murderer, thief and scoundrel, was portrayed heroically.

"Jesse James was a terrible creature," he said. "He broke his mother's heart. Yet, youngsters were led to believe he was a hero."

I didn't want to interrupt, else I would have told Mr. Hoover 20th Century is now doing a re-make of the Jesse James story, starring Robert Wagner and Jeffrey Hunter. The new picture portrays James in his true light.

Many years ago Hoover had a talk with the late Will Hays, then czar of the movies. At that time movies glorified gangsters as courageous figures.

Hays Ordered Change

When Hoover unofficially protested, Hays brought about a change.

"For a long while," said Hoover, "they proceeded to glorify law enforcement instead of gangsters. But now motion pictures have returned to where they were years ago."

Hoover mentioned a recent life story, a perfunctory version of a figure who was dishonorably discharged from the Army during World War II. This individual had a background of robberies and all else. However, the movie gave youngsters the impression it was all right to be like this sterling character.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/21/77 BY SP2-2/21/77

could genuinely respect and admire?"

Director of the FBI also pointed to the shortcomings in feeding the juvenile delinquent a steady and insidious diet of crime.

At random Hoover named a few of his favorites of the entertainment world, Jimmy Durante, Bob Hope, Lucy and Desi, Abbott and Costello, Jack Benny, Phil Silvers, Bing Crosby and a few others.

Always Good Taste

"You never see these people entering into anything vulgar or suggestive," he said. "Why can't all of the entertainers be like them?"

Hoover thinks one of the finest motion pictures ever made was Bing Crosby's "Going My Way."

"That one picture proves they don't have to indulge in revolting things to make a great picture," said Hoover.

Hoover believes the stars of the entertainment world, as well as those who produce and write, have a job to do in the battle against the soaring juvenile crime problem. He includes stars of the sports world as well.

"As I have said," he continued, "the average boy must have a virile hero. If the father cannot be the hero, then the boy might want to be like Jesse James instead of a Joe DiMaggio."

"The stars of the movies, television or sports should be made to keep in mind they have a definite duty to perform," he said. "They should always understand they set examples for millions of youngsters. Therefore it is part of their jobs to make sure their public lives are above reproach.

"If a youngster reads about one of his heroes doing something disgraceful," Hoover said, "then he is apt to think it is all right for him to do the same thing."

Bewildering World

Mr. Hoover quickly concedes youngsters of today are living in a different and somewhat more bewildering world than that which existed 20, 30 or 40 years ago. If they don't get proper guidance from their parents, he says, then all they have to go by is what they hear and see.

"Religion must be made attractive to youngsters," he said. "I listen to some of these hum-drum Sunday sermons on radio and television and they are enough to make children turn to another channel.

"It is a shame all preachers do not have the ability to hold their audiences," he went on. "Bishop Sheen does a great job. So does Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. So did the late Rabbi Liebman. These three great men have performed wonderful jobs. Unfortunately, other fine men do not have the natural talent to strike as forcefully."

Mr. Hoover is not an Elvis Presley admirer.

"I saw him once," he said. "I have never seen such obscene contortions as this boy puts on. It just shouldn't be permitted—yet, he is the idol of the teen-agers.

"When an entertainer appeals to the evil, the baser instincts," he added, "then he no longer is an entertainer.

"Why can't they all pattern themselves after Jimmy Durante?" Mr. Hoover asked, in conclusion. "He has proved for years an entertainer doesn't have to resort to smut and vulgarity. Jimmy's private life always has been wonderful. I know Jimmy personally. There is a really fine man."

December 13, 1956

RECORDED

100-420465-11

EX-172

INDEXED

[Redacted]

(b)(7)(c)

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter dated December 7, 1956, with enclosures, has been received during Mr. Hoover's absence from the city. I know he will appreciate your interest in communicating with him in this regard.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/21/73 BY [Redacted]

Helen W. Gandy
Secretary

NOTE: Bufiles reflect no record on correspondent.

DEC 13 4 11 PM '56
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

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

64 DEC 20 1956

MAILED 8
DEC 13 1956
COMM-FS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/21/77 BY SP7 [signature]

100-400465-12, 13, 14, 15, 16,
17, 18, 19

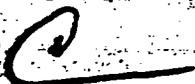
CHANGED TO

94-52549-X4, X3, X5, X6, X7,
X8, X9, X10

OCT 5 - 1959



(b)(7)(c)



(b)(2)(c)

September 10, 1968

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Federal Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/17/19 BY [signature]

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The young people of our church have become very inquisitive regarding different international as well as national communists.

It will be of great significance to our young people if you could give us some assistance at this time regarding actor and actresses in America who are presently communists, communists sympathizers, or who in the past have been communists or communists sympathizers. It has been brought to my attention in the past that Lucille Ball fits in one of these categories.

We would deeply appreciate your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]

REC-60

100-400465-20

18 SEP 19 1968

P.S. Our church is just outside Ramey Air Force Base and is primarily made up of service personell.

only
9/17/68

[Redacted block]

(b)(2)(c)

September 17, 1968

AIRMAIL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/21/79 BY sp1/aw/ly

100-400465-20

REC-6

[REDACTED]

PHOTOGRAPH

(b)(7)(c)

Dear [REDACTED]

While I would like to be of assistance in connection with your letter of September 10th, information in our files must be maintained as confidential pursuant to regulations of the Department of Justice. I regret I am unable to be of help in this instance.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. ~~200000-Dali was the~~
~~subject of interest to the investigation in 1953.~~ She registered to vote as communist in Los Angeles County in 1934 supposedly to pacify her grandfather, Fred Hunt, whom she described as being a card carrying communist. She testified before the House Committee on Un-American activities in 1953 concerning Hunt.

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

MAILED 3
SEP 17 1968
COMM-FBI

SEP 20 1968

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

(b)(7)(c)

REC-2

[REDACTED]

January 19, 1971

BY LIAISON

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

Photo Card

CC TO:	<i>W. H.</i>
REQ. REC'D	<i>7-30-70</i>
AUG 4 1976	
ANS.	[REDACTED]
BY:	[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

Dear Mr. Butterfield:

Reference is made to your name check request concerning Kenyon C. Bolton and some other individuals.

Attached are separate memoranda concerning the following individuals:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Mr. and Mrs. Gary Morton

5
(b)(7)(c)

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *7/2/77* BY *[signature]*

Enclosures (4)

✓
JAN 22 1971

4 ENCLOSURE

- 1 - Mr. Sullivan - Enclosures (sent direct)
- 1 - [REDACTED] - Enclosures (sent direct)

Ret

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

DELIVERED BY LIAISON
JAN 21 1971

EX-112

NOT RECORDED
JAN 26 1971

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

January 19, 1971

MR. AND MRS. GARY MORTON Summary

Mrs. Gary Morton, who you advised is the actress Lucille Ball, has not been investigated by the FBI.

Classification Review Conducted See Top Serial Form 4-774

However, our files indicate Lucille Ball was born August 6, 1911, in Jamestown, New York, and reflect that she

Ball, [redacted], signed certificates as sponsors for Emil Freed, a CP candidate for California Assembly in 1936. Ball was appointed on the State Central Committee of the CP of California in 1936.

(b)(7)(D)
(b)(7)(C)

Ball testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1953, and stated she had registered as a communist only at the insistence of her grandfather.

(b)(7)(D)

[redacted]

(b)(7)(D)

(94-44139) (100-100465)

[redacted]

(b)(7)(D)

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

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Brennan, C.D. _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Walters _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

[redacted]

(b)
(7)
(C)

[redacted]

AUG 05

MAILED

AUG 05 1976

NAME CHECK

~~MR. AND MRS. GARY MORTON~~

Summary
Call

Captioned individuals, who you advised can be contacted through Lucille Ball Productions, Inc., Universal Studios, Universal City, California, were the subjects of a White House name check request in 1971.

There is attached one copy of an FBI summary memorandum dated January 19, 1971, containing the results of that request.

(100-400465-21)

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/17/99 BY sp-amy/4

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

NOTE: Per request of Miss Jane Dannenhauer, Staff Assistant (Security), The White House.

EX-109

100-400465-22

23 AUG 10 1976

- Exec. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Serv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Insp. _____
- Intell. _____
- Lab. _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Plan. & Eval. _____
- Rec. Mgmt. _____
- Tech. Serv. _____
- Training _____
- Telephone Rm. _____
- Director Sec'y _____

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

DELIVERED BY LIAISON
BY 9/5/76 PLM

4381
56 AUG 20 1976

TELETYPE UNIT

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Lucille Ball Probe Finds No Evidence of Red Party Ties

Star Admits Vote Registration in 1936

Congressman Donald L. Jackson declared last night that the House Committee on Un-American Activities has "no evidence" that Actress Lucille Ball "is or ever was a member of the Communist Party."

He said the red-haired, 43-year-old star of "I Love Lucy," television's most popular program, admitted she registered as a Communist voter in 1936.

It was done, she told Committee Investigator William Wheeler week ago, under the influence of "the political reasoning of her grandfather," Fred C. Hunt, since deceased.

TRANSCRIPT

As for actual Communist Party membership, Jackson said, Miss Ball flatly denied she ever had joined or attended any meetings.

The Congressman's statement followed her request that the committee "release a full transcript of the information I gave."

Jackson said the full transcript of her statement to Wheeler, to be released today, will show she also admitted signing the nominating petition for Emil Freed, 1936 Communist candidate for the Assembly, in the 57th District.

This transcript, Jackson said, also will include the statements of Miss Ball's mother, Mrs. Desiree Ball, and her brother, Fred H. Ball, and that both of them also registered for the Communist ballot in 1936.

Jackson said the statements

File

LUCILLE BALL
EM - C

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER

DATED SEPT. 12, 1953

101-203465-H
NO. 128
191 S. 26, 1953

STAR'S NAME ON RED SLATE

There Without Permission,
Lucille Ball Tells Probers

(Continued from Page One)

of all three were "cooperative," that all declared they never had "any Communist Party interests" other than the influence of the deceased grandfather.

The Santa Monica Republican Congressman described his own statement as "unusual" and brought about only because of public disclosure that Miss Ball had registered, and the committee's subsequent desire to "be fair and just in all instances."

Had not the matter, of which he said the committee has been aware "for several years," been disclosed by another source, the committee would not have divulged it.

'Couple of Points' to Be Checked

"The investigation of the committee will, of course, continue with respect to this case," he said, but fastened to explain:

"No case is ever closed. There are a couple of points we want to check."

Jackson said, however, there is no present plan to call Miss Ball as a witness and that the committee has received "no identification" to contradict her own flat declaration she is not and never was a Communist Party member, or that she never attended a Communist meeting.

As for her name appearing as a member of the Communist Party State Central Committee in 1936, Miss Ball insisted it was done without her permission and testimony of the then-state chairman of the Communist Party, Jackson added, was that he never knew or had met Miss Ball.

Jackson's unprecedented disclosure of committee information "at the investigation level" came after a telephonic poll of other committee members about the nation, giving him approval to go ahead.

Arnez Makes Public Statement

The news of the Congressman's action was received happily by Don Arnez, her husband and co-star of the "I Love Lucy" show just before they began filming an episode before a live audience of 200 in Hollywood.

"I was very anxious for all this to come out," said the Cuban band leader, going before the audience with a public statement.

"I know that you would find the truth, that Lucy had nothing to do with this and that she's completely clear."

"We both despise anything and everything that smells of Communism."

Earlier, Don had said:

"This whole thing is very silly. There's no doll more patriotic than this one. I've been married to this doll for 13 years and I know she's not a Communist."

"I know Communism. I saw it in my own country. I was thrown out of my country by Communists."

Arnez won the audience cheers when he concluded:

"Lucy's never been a Communist, is not now a Communist, nor ever will be a Communist."

'Nothing to Fear' Declares Lucille

Miss Ball said: "When you're right, you're right. I had nothing to fear." The affidavit of registration, on file at the office of the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters, bears No. 847,584, and was signed March 19, 1934.

The signature appears as "Miss Lucille D. Ball" declares intent "to affiliate at the ensuing primary election with the Communist Party," lists "no trade" as the signer's occupation, and gives the residence address of 3944 North Ogden drive.

(This registration was cancelled December 29, 1935, for non-compliance. In September 26, 1944, records disclosed Mrs. Lucille Ball Brown registered as a Democrat.)

An admitted ex-Communist, Rena M. Vale, signed an affidavit that in 1937 she attended a Communist Party "new members class" on North Ogden drive.

She said "an elderly man informed us that we were the guests of the screen patriots."

She said "an elderly man informed us that we were the guests of the screen patriots."

Lucille Ball, and showed us various pictures, books and other objects to establish that fact, and stated she was glad to loan her home for a Communist Party new members' class."

Miss Ball, speaking through personal representative, denied that, "to her knowledge" he Ogden drive home ever was used for a Communist meeting.

Arnas said that he and Miss Ball, both "voted for Eleanor Roosevelt" at the last general election.

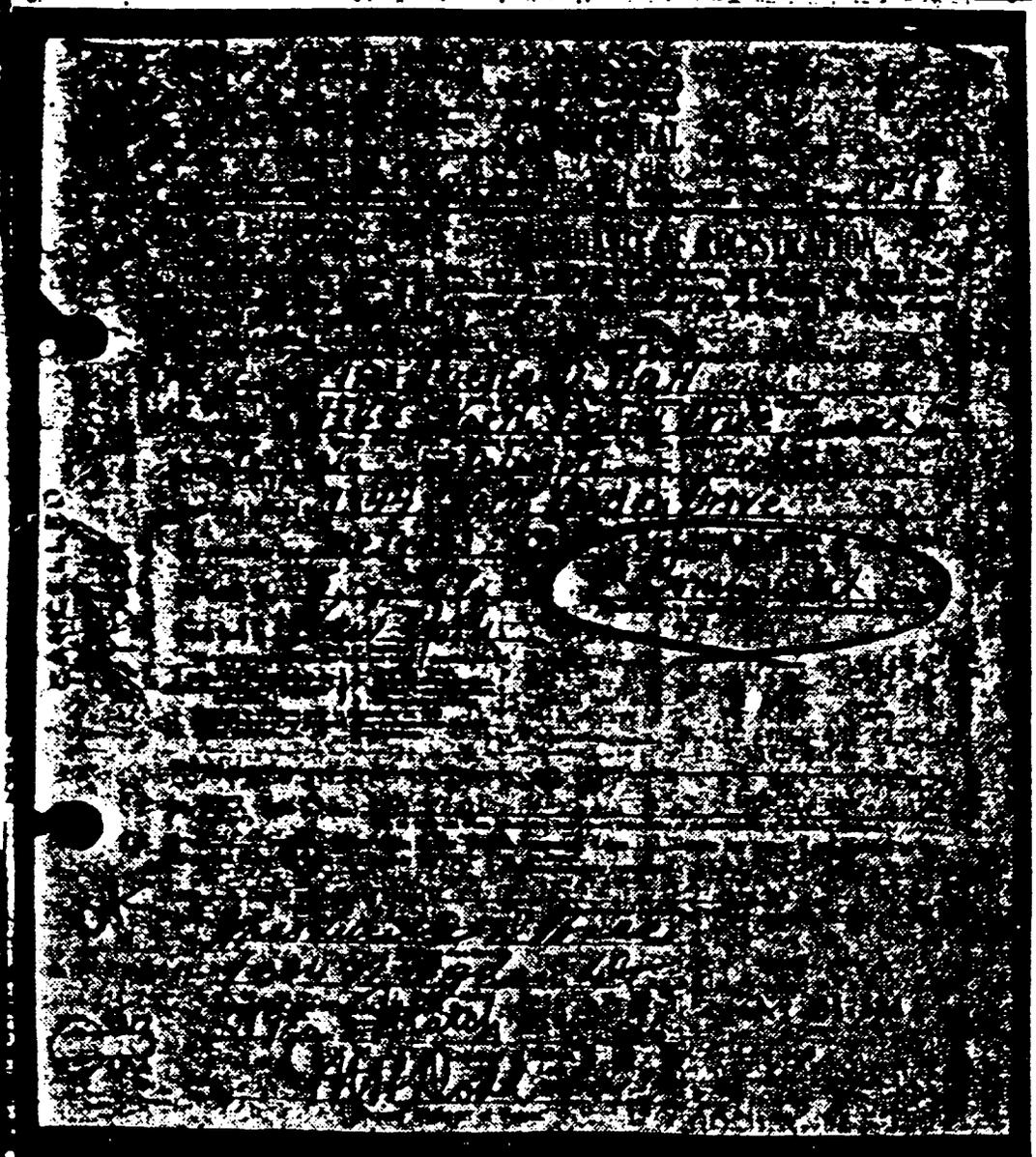
The couple rank as the best known of the entertainers in American home having won virtually every honor TV could bestow since the success of their "I Love Lucy" show.

They are presently filming new episodes for the series which is scheduled to return to the air Monday, October 14.

Through the TV medium, a audience estimated at 60,000,000 shared a portion of their personal lives last year while "Ricky and Lucy" of the show became parents at the same time Miss Ball became a mother in fact.

That child, a son, Desiderio Alberto Arnaz IV, was delivered by Cesarean section in January.

They also have a daughter, Lucie Desiré, now 2.



AFFIDAVIT of registration, on file at office of W. M. Carr, L. A. County Registrar of Voters, bearing No. 247,504 and signed March 15, 1954, in approved above signature of

"Miss Lucille D. Ball," occupation "actor" and intent to affiliate of the American Literary Society with the Communist (Soviet) Party for all clearly shown by the registration.

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER

DATED

SEP 12 1953



The evidence.

—Copied from photograph



REQUEST that secret testimony she gave a congressional committee be made public will be granted. Actress Lucille Ball (above) today according to Congressman Donald L. Jackson, House On American Activities Committee has "no evidence" Miss Ball ever was a member of the Communist Party. Jackson said in "national" statement last night.

LOS ANGELES EXAMINER

DATED

SEP 12 1953

No Case is Ever Closed

House Group Loves Lucy, for the Nonce

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

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12—Lucille Ball, television's top actress, maintained today she registered to vote as a communist in a 1936 primary election only to please her socialist grandfather.

But the red-haired comedienne, star of the "I Love Lucy" show, denied ever joining the Communist Party or ever casting a ballot for a communist candidate.

Rep. Donald Jackson (R., Calif.) of the House Un-American Activities Committee agreed "there is no indication that Miss Ball ever was a member of the Communist Party."

NEVERTHELESS

"Miss Ball has co-operated with the committee investigator in all respects," Rep. Jackson said. "She has acknowledged her Communist Party registration."

Nevertheless, the committee plans to continue investigating Miss Ball's case because "no case is ever closed," he said.

The actress had this to say:

"I explained that the reason I did it was because my grandfather wanted me to. At that time, it didn't seem at all wrong to try and please him.

"It was his last few years. He had always been a Socialist . . . we registered—my mother, brother and myself. That was all there was to it. I never voted myself . . . and 17 years later they present me with this."

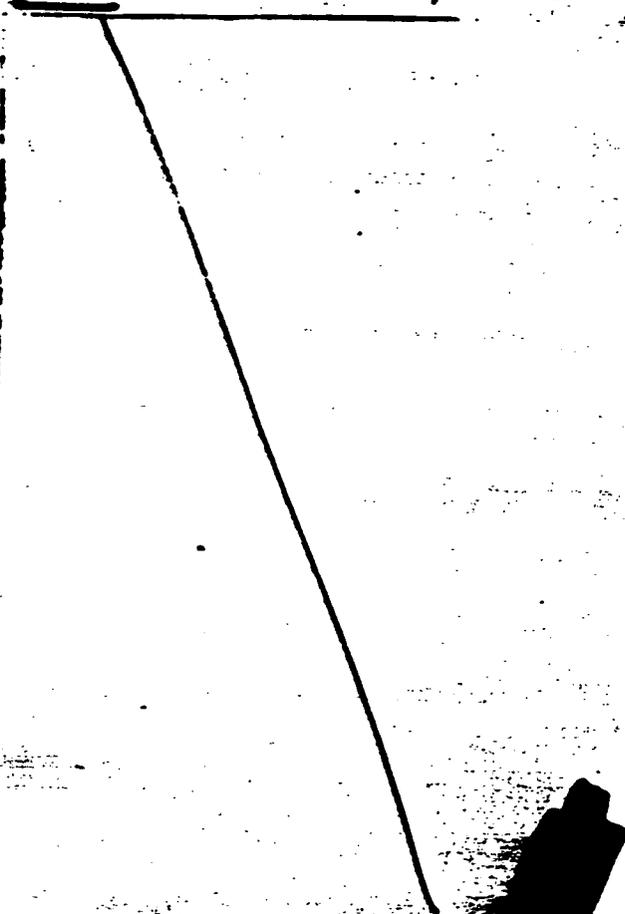
SHES JUST DOESNT KNOW

Her husband, Desi Arnaz, who stars with her on the television show, also denied his wife had ever been a member of the Communist Party.

"She was never a party member or held a card," he said. "She never belonged to any front organization or any committee. You know Lucy, she doesnt even know who the hell was governor last year."

"I believe she was influenced considerably by the political reasoning of her late grandfather, who was sort of patriarch of the clan, and this led to the registration of the entire family that year," Rep. Jackson said.

"The first time she ever voted in her life," Mr. Arnaz said, "was last fall. We both voted for Eisenhower."



File
5

100-44000-1

NOT RECORDED
191 SEP 16 1953

- Times-Herald _____
- Wash. Post _____
- Wash. News 4
- Wash. Star _____
- N.Y. Herald Tribune _____
- N.Y. Mirror _____

Date: SEP 12 1953

50 SEP 17 1953

House Investigators Absolve Lucille Ball Of Communist Ties

Registered as Red Voter In '34, but Had No Other Link, Jackson Says

By the Associated Press

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12.—Lucille Ball, television's top comedienne, never was a Communist, says the House Un-American Activities Committee, even though she registered as one 17 years ago.

The star of the popular "I Love Lucy" show freely admitted to Committee Investigator William Wheeler that she registered March 19, 1934, to vote for the Communist ticket "because Grandpa wanted all of us to."

But she emphatically denied ever being a party member or voting for party candidates.

"There is no evidence that Miss Ball is or ever was a party member," Representative Donald L. Jackson, Republican, of California, committee member, told a news conference last night.

Facts Long Known

Mr. Jackson explained he called the conference at the behest of a majority of committee members so that rumors implicating Miss Ball, 42, with communism could be snuffed.

If the rumors hadn't become widespread, he added, it is unlikely the committee would have made the disclosure, since it had known for several years of Miss Ball's registration.

Mr. Jackson said that there is some question as to whether Miss Ball ever voted the Communist ticket, but added that this point will be cleared up today with the release of the transcript of her testimony before Mr. Wheeler.

The same time she registered, Mr. Jackson said, she signed a nominating petition for Earl Fred, Communist Party candidate for the 97th California Assembly district. He said this was at the request of her grandfather, Fred C. Hunt, now deceased, and who, she actress said, made the political decisions in the family.

Failed to Vote in '34.
The actress was quoted by Mr. Jackson as saying that in addition to herself, her mother, Mrs. Desiree Ball, and brother, Fred H. Ball, all registered to vote Communist in 1934.

Miss Ball's registration lapsed two years later, records showed, because she failed to vote in 1936.

Mr. Jackson said Mr. Fred appointed Miss Ball a member of the State Central Committee

(See LUCY, Page A-3.)

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

Handwritten initials and a large black redaction mark.

NOV 16 1953
191 SEP 16 1953

- Times-Herald _____
- Wash. Post _____
- Wash. News _____
- Wash. Star _____
- N.Y. Herald Tribune _____
- N.Y. Mirror _____

SEP 17 1953

Date: SEP 12 1953



LUCILLE BALL

Lucy

(Continued From First Page.)

of the Communist Party, but added that Miss Ball denied having authorized him to do so.

Testimony of Communist Party members of the 1930s corroborated Miss Ball's statements, Mr. Jackson said. He said they testified they never saw her at a party meeting.

Delighted by Outcome.

Informed of Mr. Jackson's statements, Miss Ball, filming one of her shows for later release, said last night, "Oh my, I'm so happy. I found out today who all my friends are."

Television officials said she had received hundreds of telegrams from well wishers.

Her husband and co-star, Desi Arnaz, signed an \$8 million contract this year to produce the program two and a half more years.

Arnaz said, "Lucy has always had a clear conscience about this. She has never been a Communist and what's more she hates every Communist in Hollywood."

"Her grandfather was a character out of 'You Can't Take It With You,'" said Arnaz.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Gearty _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Mr. Sizoo _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Handwritten: [Redacted] b7C

WILF
 TADD BALL, HOLLYWOOD (908A)

A 27-PAGE TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY GIVEN BY MISS BALL BEFORE A COMMITTEE INVESTIGATOR DISCLOSED SHE ADMITTED REGISTERING TO VOTE AS COMMUNIST IN 1936 BUT DENIED EVER HAVING BEEN A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

REP. DONALD JACKSON (R-CALIF.) RELEASED THE TRANSCRIPT OF HER TESTIMONY GIVEN TO COMMITTEE INVESTIGATOR WILLIAM A. WHEELER ON SEPT. 4 IN HOLLYWOOD.

MISS BALL SAID IN THE INTERVIEW SHE AND THE REST OF HER FAMILY REGISTERED AS COMMUNISTS FOR THE 1936 PRIMARY ELECTION ONLY TO PLEASE HER SOCIALIST GRANDFATHER.

"IT WAS OUR GRANDFATHER," SHE TOLD WHEELER. "HE JUST WANTED US TO, AND WE JUST DID SOMETHING TO PLEASE HIM. I DIDN'T INTEND TO VOTE THAT WAY, AND AS I RECALL, I DIDN'T. WHEN I GO BEHIND THE CURTAIN TO VOTE, NOBODY KNOWS WHO I VOTE FOR."

WHEN ASKED IF SHE HAD EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, MISS BALL REPLIED, "NO, NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE. SHE ALSO DENIED, IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, THAT SSHE HAD EVER ATTENDED A COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING.

"I AM NOT A COMMUNIST NOW. I NEVER HAVE BEEN. I NEVER WANTED TO BE," SHE TOLD WHEELER.

9/12--GD347P

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NOT RECORDED
 191 SEP 16 1953

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Laughlin _____
- Mohr _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

No Communist, 'Lucy' Says; Tried to Please Grandfather

By the Associated Press
HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12.— Testimony of television star **Lucy Ball** that she was never a Communist, but once registered to vote the Communist ticket to "appease an old man," her Socialist grandfather, was made public today.

A transcript of the comedienne's testimony before **William A. Wheeler**, investigator for the House Un-American Activities Committee, last September 4 in Hollywood was released by committee order.

In the 37-page transcript of testimony under oath, Miss Ball summed up her feelings by saying:

"I am not a Communist now. I never have been. I never want to be. Nothing in the world could ever change my mind."

Miss Ball, 41, clad in pink slacks and white blouse, and her husband, **Dan Arnes**, talked to reporters. The actress said she first learned she was being investigated when **Mr. Wheeler** called her about 18 months ago and asked if she had recalled that she had registered to vote the Communist ticket.

"**Mr. Wheeler** asked just a few questions," said Miss Ball. "He told us not to talk to people about it, that he was just running down a rumor . . . and everything was okay."

"My conscience has always been clean," said the actress. "And I have great faith in the American people. They have been very good to me in the past and I'm sure they will be now."

As to her grandfather, the late **Fred C. Hunt**, **Mr. Arnes** chimed in to say: "Grandpa was the type of fellow who wanted the whole world to be happy and have lots of money. When I first started to date Lucy I'd come to the house and there would be Grandpa, 74 years old, reading the editorials of the **Daily Worker**. He was like a character out of 'You Can't Take It With You.'"

In the transcript released today it was disclosed that Miss Ball, star of the "I Love Lucy" TV show, admitted she registered March 19, 1936 to vote for Communist ticket.

things, or going among some people that thought differently—that has happened to all of us out here in the last 10 or 12 years, and it is unfortunate, but I certainly will do anything in the world to prove that we made a bad mistake by trying to appease an old man for one week or a couple of weeks." Miss Ball told the committee investigator. "But there has never been any thought of belonging to or wanting to belong to the Communist Party."

At a press conference last night Representative **Jackson**, Republican, of California, a member of the House Un-American Activities Committee, said there was some question as to whether Miss Ball ever voted the Communist ticket.

There were references to this in the transcript.

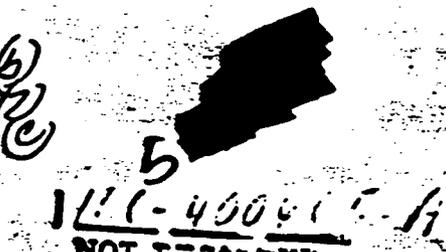
Investigator **Wheeler** asked the actress:

"You did register to vote then (in 1936) as a Communist or intending to vote the Communist Party ticket?"

"Yes," replied Miss Ball.

"Would you go into detail and explain the background, the reason you voted or registered to vote as a Communist or person who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party?"

"It was our grandfather, **Fred Hunt**. He just wanted us to, and we just did something to please him. I didn't intend to vote that way. As I recall, I didn't."



111-40041-19
 NOT RECORDED
 191 SEP 16 1955

- Times-Herald _____
- Wash. Post _____
- Wash. News _____
- Wash. Star _____ PA 3
- N.Y. Herald Tribune _____
- N.Y. Mirror _____

Date: _____

50 SEP 16 1955

Lucille Ball's Rating Holds, CBS and Sponsor Back Her

Special to the Herald Tribune
HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 14—The popularity of Lucille Ball apparently has been unaffected by the disclosure that she registered to vote for the Communist party in 1936, Harry Ackerman, vice-president of CBS-TV said today.

"We've had a very few phone calls, and almost all of them were favorable," he declared. "The people seem to think this thing is silly, not serious. They all love Lucy."

CBS-TV recently signed a long-term \$8,000,000 contract with Miss Ball and her husband, Desi Arnaz, co-stars of the program, "I Love Lucy." Although the contract includes a moral clause which would permit the sponsors to cancel it, spokesmen for Philip Morris, sponsors and agents of the show, said that at no time were they planning to revoke the clause.

No Shred of Evidence
 News that Miss Ball had registered to vote for the Com-

munist party in 1936 was revealed Friday by Rep. Donald L. Jackson, R., Calif., of the House Un-American Activities Committee. Rep. Jackson emphasized that "there is no shred of evidence" linking Miss Ball or her family with the Communist party. He said "the investigation is continuing, because no case is ever closed."

Miss Ball said she had registered in the Communist party in 1936 with her mother and her brother at the request of her late grandfather, Fred Hunt, who was a Socialist. "We tried to keep him happy in his declining years," Miss Ball explained. She said she had never joined the Communist party.

Asked at a later press conference whether she had voted in the Communist party primary that year, Miss Ball said, "no." Advised that an endorsement on her registration indicated she actually did so vote, the actress indicated by pantomime that she might have unknowingly, and commented: "So it's a big thing."

In a sworn statement to a committee investigator on whether she voted Communist in 1936 at the primary, Miss Ball said: "That could have been." She told the investigator: "All I remember was something about a garage and a flag... I would have said I voted when I went in there."

Registration officials said that, having registered March 19, 1936, with the statement, "I intend to affiliate in the ensuing primary election with the Communist party," she could have gotten only a Communist ballot in the primary.

"The registrar's record shows that Miss Ball's 1936 registration was canceled Dec. 30, 1936, by reason of not having voted at either the August primary or the general election of 1936."

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

(b)
(7)
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(7)
(c)

191 SEP 17 1953

- Times-Herald _____
- Wash. Post _____
- Wash. News _____
- Wash. Star _____
- N.Y. Herald Tribune 11
- N.Y. Mirror _____

22
 SEP 18 1953

Date: SEP 15 1953

FAIR ENOUGH

By Westbrook Pegler

Boston — In some published comments on the affair of Sgt. Ball, a television actress who was exposed as a registrant



of the Communist party 17 years ago, I detected a threat that any loyal American who does not forgive this woman will be punished. I do not react favorably to threats and I would not forgive her anyway, because she did not come clean but had to be

cracked down and exposed. The propositions that she was "only 34 years old" and that her grandfather was a family tyrant, a Socialist who made her do this, have no value at all with me. I was 34 years old once and for a long time I supported a family in New York on \$60 a week and walked to save a nickel. There never has been a moment in my life when I would have subscribed myself a patron, or devotee, of a party which is the enemy of my country.

I hate Communists. I wish it were possible to round up all those who are reasonably known to be Communists, including all who have invoked the 5th Amendment and put them into concentration camps as austere as the Arizona state prison, or the Louisiana state horror camp at Angola, where a lot of wretches cut their heel tendons to disable themselves for work and advertise their condition to the outside world.

I wouldn't Hitlerize those traitors. No; but I would mete out to them the treatment which is more or less normal in many of our lockups. For my law I would rely on the Supreme court in the case of a Japanese who was deported from his home and business in California and locked in a compound under military guard in Arizona until V-J day by order of Lt. Gen. De Witt, commanding the area which contained most of our Japanese population. The court held that Congress had a right to authorize a military commander by law to order all these people, including many native American citizens, to report to a place of assembly, deport them across state lines and keep them under guard for years if he believed they were a menace. He did not have to state the reasons for his apprehension.

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Gearty
- Mohr
- Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Holloman
- Miss Gandy

ELR-3

NOT RECORDED
44 OCT 2 1953

5 D.K.Y.

- Times-Herald
- Wash. Post
- Wash. News
- Wash. Star
- N.Y. Herald Tribune
- N.Y. Mirror

Date: SEP 22 1953

OCT 15 1953

Frankfurter, always flying the other way, took it on himself to write a separate concurring opinion which I would invoke against him, himself, on account of his original introduction of Alger Hiss and other Communists into the New Deal bureaucracy and his impudence in volunteering to testify in the Hiss trial.

Frankfurter wrote that the only question was whether we put these Japs away because they were Japs or just because they were individually suspect by the general. He decided that their race or nationality had

nothing to do with the case which, of course, was flagrantly false because that was the only reason. According to his own view of the Constitution and the law, however, Frankfurter could be treated the same way by decision of any corporal under certain conditions. He would have no squawk coming.

There have been a lot of nasty fakers in Hollywood. I am thinking of Edward G. Robinson and the late John Garfield among them who thought it was smart to sneer at the patriotism of better men and women earning a lot less money by much harder and more productive work. When they were caught they whined that they had been poor when they were young, that they were idealists, and that they now were terribly disillusioned, so excuse it, please.

To hell with that. I have worked as hard as any of those bums and longer hours. I set pins in a bowling alley before I was 10. I manhandled barrels of pork in a packing plant for 30 cents an hour at 15. I scrubbed floors in a drug store and squeeged windows and delivered stuff until all hours after school and in summer when I was still growing. On my first job away from home I got \$18.50 a week and lived in the Baltimore lunch and liked it because I was on my own and on my way.

I was in London when the war fell and was in the pack that got the story from Lord Robert Cecil, the foreign secretary. I was glad of it, in a stupid, ignorant way. But I wasn't disloyal, ignorant or stupid enough to cheer for the Bolshevik revolution later that year. And I never have consciously had friendly traffic with any Communist or current fellow traveler.

Lucille Ball is an easy target for the Communists, and I can tell you that the poor devil got there in Hollywood who taught the traitors in the movie business took terrible persecution. They suddenly lost out at the studios, never knowing why. They got threeshare. They got drunk and despondent, and the Reds sneered at them and snubbed them. Their friends were afraid to be seen with them. They could have done the same thing that Lucille Ball did, but they were too courageous and loyal. Some of them have died. Did Lucille Ball ever and any of these brave, lonely men a note of confidence or encouragement? Did she ever call up Jimmy McGuinness or Pat McNutt and admit that they were right and that she had been wrong?

Socialist grandfather. That is a new variant of the whine of the crooked White Sox player who did it for the wife and kiddies.

This country spent a lot of money "de-nazifying" the Nazis in Germany. We now need a program of "de-communication" right here at home. We have the law, already upheld by the court, against Frankfurter, and we have our precedents established by our own "de-nazification" plan in Germany.

Copyright, 1951, King Features Syndicate, Inc.

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- DeLoach _____
- McGuire _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

File

b)
3)
c)

Amaz Challenges Drunk Arrest

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 19 (AP)—Dean Amaz, TV actor-producer, says his arrest on a drunk charge early today was "a bum pinch."

The 42-year-old Cuban-born entertainer was taken into custody by two plainclothesmen who said they observed him staggering along a Hollywood street.

He was released from jail an hour and a half later after putting up \$21 bail.

Mr. Amaz is the husband of comedienne Lucille Ball.

L. E. A. JENKINS said Mr. Amaz refused to concede that he was drunk, that he talked erratically and was unsteady on his feet.

The officer said that when asked if he wanted to make a telephone call, Mr. Amaz replied: "Yes, get me Gene Biscaglia (former Los Angeles County Sheriff) and J. Edgar Hoover (FBI chief)."

APPROX 11:1
V.P.A.

|||

- The Washington Post and Times Herald _____
- The Washington Daily News _____
- The Evening Star *2-4* _____
- New York Herald Tribune _____
- New York Journal-American _____
- New York Mirror _____
- New York Daily News _____
- New York Post _____
- The New York Times _____
- The Worker _____
- The New Leader _____
- The Wall Street Journal _____
- Date _____

REC-3

NOT RECORDED
 20 SEP 23 1959

SEP 20 1959

67 SEP 24 1959

49

FILE DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT LUCILLE BALL

FILE NUMBER LA 100 - 41702

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
XNO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

FD-71
(7-80-45)



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____

100-244 284
COMPLAINT FORM

see rpt of [redacted] 11-16-48
b7c

Mr. William Wheeler
Subject's Name and Aliases

see rpt of [redacted]
SA [redacted] 2-3-50
b7c

Desi Arney
Name of Complainant
Hollywood, Calif
Address of Complainant
GR 3111

Impersonation
Address of Subject
Character of Case

4:15 PM 4/1/52
Telephone Number of Complainant
Date and Time Complaint Received

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-24-76 BY SP4 [redacted] b7c
#378872

FACTS OF COMPLAINT: Complainant advised that a Mr. William Wheeler has requested an interview with Lucille Ball. Wheeler displayed credentials as an "Investigator for U.S. Congress". Wheeler related he was from House Committee on Un-American Activities. Mr. Wheeler made initial contact with a Mr. H. E. Hitchcox agent for Lucille Ball. Complainant feels Wheeler may be an Impersonator.
b7c

ACTION RECOMMENDED BY AGENT:
Route to Supp [redacted] for handling
- re: Lucille Ball

This was
Wheeler of H.C.U.A.
not an impersonation

DEAD 100-41702-#

opened
dead [redacted]
4-3-57

SEARCHED... INDEXED...
SERIALIZED... FILED...
APR 1952
FBI - LOS ANGELES

[redacted]
Special Agent

[redacted] b7c
100-41702-1

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: 4/4/52

TO : SAC

b7C

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL
SM - C

100 - 41702*
+ refs.

WILLIAM A. WHEELER, Special Investigator, HCUA, advised the writer this date that he has obtained a copy of a registration of voters affidavit which reflected that LUCILLE BALL, actress, 1344 Ogden Drive, Los Angeles, registered as Communist in 1936.

WHEELER advised he has made inquiries through the Screen Actors Guild and has determined that LUCILLE BALL, the screen and TV actress, resided at 1344 Ogden Drive in 1936.

b7C

[REDACTED]
100-new

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-96 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

#378872

re opened
4-14-52
[REDACTED]

open
400
[REDACTED]

100-41702-2

SEARCHED [REDACTED]
SERIALIZED [REDACTED]
APR 11 1952
FBI [REDACTED]

rossign
[REDACTED]

b7C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

b7C

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

DATE: 8/19/52

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL, Was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

This case was opened on the basis of information furnished to the writer by WILLIAM A. WHEELER, Special Investigator, HCUA, on 4/4/52, to the effect that the Subject had registered to vote in 1936 expressing her preference for the Communist Party.

WHEELER further advised that he interviewed BALL in this regard and that she advised him that in 1936 she, her grandfather, her brother and her mother registered as Communists at the insistence of the grandfather. She pointed out that the grandfather was an old man who was losing his mental balance, and that he repeatedly nagged his family to register as Communists. She advised that according to her mother, her grandfather was a Communist; however, she never actually saw a Communist Party card in his possession.

A review of the Los Angeles indices revealed that the foregoing information and all other pertinent information concerning the Subject was furnished to the Bureau by letter dated 10/2/51, entitled, "FRED HENRY BALL, SECURITY MATTER - C".

A review of the office indices failed to reflect any activities on the Subject's part in the Communist Party or any current activity in Communist-dominated organizations.

[REDACTED] California, advised the writer on 7/18/52, that he was a member of the Communist Party in Hollywood from 1936 to 1943, and had no information in his possession which would reflect that the Subject was a member of the Communist Party or in sympathy with this Party's ideologies.

[REDACTED] who was familiar with the activities of the Communist Party in the Northwest Section during the period 1943-45, could furnish no information concerning Subject.

[REDACTED] who was familiar with the activities of the Communist Party in Los Angeles County during the period 1945-47, could furnish no information concerning Subject. Inasmuch as there is no information available to this office which would reflect Communist Party membership on the Subject's

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-96 BY SP4
#378872

Classified (adm)
8-20-52

SEARCHED [REDACTED] INDEXED [REDACTED]
SERIALIZED [REDACTED] FILED [REDACTED]
AUG 19 1952
FBI - LOS ANGELES

100-41762-3

b7C
100-41702

[REDACTED] ← b7C → [REDACTED]

LA 100-41702

part and further, inasmuch as there is no current activity in Communist-dominated organizations on the Subject's part, subsequent to January, 1949, this case does not merit investigation, and it is recommended that this case be placed in a closed status administratively. It is noted that the Bureau has been previously advised of the past activities of the Subject.

CLOSED.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: December 12, 1952

b7c

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL;
DESI ARNAZ;
SECURITY MATTER - C

100 - 41702 * - info
61-79-2233/2273/2529
100 - 22732 - 1520 p. 121 Vol 3
100-15732-96
100-2514 1250/21

On 12/12/52 [REDACTED] tele-
phonically furnished the following information to the writer in
strict confidence. [REDACTED]
of the National Heart Association: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the NHA and their pro-
gram for their coming fund drive in February, 1953, is centered
around a "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953." The two individuals who
had been tentively selected [REDACTED] for "Mr.
and Mrs. Heart of 1953" were the above captioned individuals -
LUCILLE BALL and DESI ARNAZ.

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED] advised that upon learning of the selection
of LUCILLE BALL and DESI ARNAZ, he immediately contacted [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] of the NHA, and very
confidentially advised him that LUCILLE BALL was not the proper
type of person to represent the NHA because of her connections
with subversive activities and organizations. [REDACTED]
that he had heard from a fairly reliable source that the HCUA
might possible subpoena LUCILLE BALL in the coming year, and he
felt that with the fund drive of the NHA in February the organ-
ization would not be able to stand the unfavorable publicity which
might result if LUCILLE BALL were to be subpoenaed.

[REDACTED] the promoters of the NHA have since
withdrawn their support of LUCILLE BALL, and they are in the
process of selecting a new "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953."

b7c
100- [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-96 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

#378872

b7c

100-41702-4
SEARCHED [REDACTED] INDEXED [REDACTED]
SERIALIZED [REDACTED] FILED [REDACTED]
DEC 16 1952
FBI - LOS ANGELES

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

DIRECTOR, FBI

March 27, 1953

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41702)

LUCILLE BALL, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] The National Heart Association, furnished the following information to SA [REDACTED] in strict confidence.

[REDACTED] the National Heart Association and their program for the fund drive in February, 1953 was to be centered around a "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953". The two individuals who had been tentatively selected [REDACTED] for "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953" were LUCILLE BALL, the well-known television and screen actress, and her husband, DESI ARNAZ.

[REDACTED] advised that upon his learning of the selection of LUCILLE BALL and DESI ARNAZ, he immediately contacted [REDACTED] the National Heart Association, and very confidentially advised him that LUCILLE BALL was not the proper type of person to represent the National Heart Association because of her connections with subversive activities and organizations. [REDACTED] that he had heard from a fairly reliable source that the House Committee on Un-American Activities might possibly subpoena LUCILLE BALL in 1953, and he felt that with the fund drive of the National Heart Association in February, 1953 the organization would not be able to stand the unfavorable publicity which might result if LUCILLE BALL were to be subpoenaed.

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED] promoters of the National Heart Association withdrew their support of LUCILLE BALL and are selecting a new "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953".

Mr. WILLIAM A. WHEELER, Special Investigator, House Committee on Un-American Activities, advised that he had obtained information to the effect that LUCILLE BALL had registered to vote in 1936, expressing her preference for the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER further advised that he interviewed Miss BALL in this regard and that she advised him that in 1936 she, her grandfather, her brother

Reg. [REDACTED]

b7C
[REDACTED]

b7C
DECLASSIFIED BY SP4 [REDACTED]
ON 2-26-96
#378872

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

100 - 41702 - 5

LA 100-41702

and her mother registered as Communists at the insistence of her grandfather. She pointed out that the grandfather was an old man who was losing his mental balance and that he repeatedly "nagged" his family to register as Communists. She advised that according to her mother her grandfather was a Communist. However, she never actually saw the Communist Party card in his possession.

Mr. WHEELER related that in view of Miss BALL's explanation and inasmuch extensive investigations and hearings held by the HCUA in Hollywood had failed to reflect that LUCILLE BALL has ever been a Communist Party member, she will not, in his opinion, ever be subpoenaed to appear before this committee.

It is to be noted that informants who have been familiar with the identities and the activities of members of the Communist Party in the motion picture industry have not reported any information reflecting Communist Party membership on the part of Miss BALL.

The above information is being submitted for the information of the Bureau. It is to be noted that additional information concerning Miss BALL was submitted by Los Angeles letter to the Director, dated 10/2/51, entitled "FRED HENRY BALL, SECURITY MATTER-C".

DIRECTOR, FBI

8/26/53

SAC, LOS ANGELES (62-1664)

ECUA

Mr. WILLIAM A. WHEELER, West-Coast Representative, ECUA, advised this office this date that the Committee will hold an executive hearing on 9/3/53-9/4/53 at the DelMar Hotel in Santa Monica, California. The testimony will be given before the two California Congressmen on this Committee - DONALD H. JACKSON and CLYDE DOYLE. The interrogation will probably be conducted by Mr. WHEELER.

WHEELER advised that the following individuals will appear as witnesses during this executive session:

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

LUCILLE BALL (Mrs. DESI ARNEZ), prominent motion picture and television actress, who is best known for her portrayal of LUCIE in the "I Love Lucie" television series.

b7C

2-cc-New York (AIR MAIL)
1-cc-LA [REDACTED]
1-cc-LA [REDACTED]
1-cc-LA [REDACTED]
1-cc-LA [REDACTED]
1-cc-LA 100-41702 (AIR MAIL)
1-cc-LA [REDACTED]

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Mr. WHEELER advised that the Committee has had information in the past to the effect that BALL had registered to vote in 1936, expressing her preference for the Communist Party. He advised that he interviewed BALL in this regard in the Summer of 1952, and that she had advised she and her grandfather, her brother and her mother registered as Communists in 1936 at the insistence of her grandfather. She pointed out that her grandfather was an old man who was losing his mental balance and that he repeatedly "nagged" his family to register as Communists. She related that, according to her mother, her grandfather was a Communist, however, she never actually saw a Communist Party card in his possession. Mr. WHEELER stated that BALL's explanation was satisfactory and that it was not contemplated until recently to subpoena her before this Committee. He pointed out, however, that the HCUA had recently learned that HENA VAI a former Communist Party member, has authored a book to be published in the coming Fall wherein she states that she attended a Communist Party meeting which was held in LUCILLE BALL's home and that, although BALL was not present during this meeting, she knew of the character of the meeting and approved of its taking place in her home.

Mr. WHEELER displayed to this office a booklet entitled "Republican, Democratic, Socialist, Prohibitionist, Progressive, Commonwealth and Communist State Central Committees" appointed pursuant to Section 24 of the direct primary law of California dated September 26, 1936, and compiled by FRANK C. JORDAN, California Secretary of State, which reflect on Page 30 that LUCILLE BALL was a member of the Communist Party State Central Committee.

Mr. WHEELER also displayed a certificate headed "Form Six", prepared by the Secretary of State and the Attorney General entitled "Sponsors Certificate (Section 5, Direct Primary Law)". The body of this certificate states "I, the undersigned sponsor for EMIL FREED for the Communist Party nomination to the office of Member of the Assembly, 57th District, to be voted for at the primary election to be held on the 25th day of August, 1936.

"My knowledge of the said EMIL FREED is sufficient to warrant my urging his election to the office of Member of the Assembly, 57th District. I am a qualified elector of Los Angeles County and I am registered as affiliated with the Communist Party." On line No. 23 of this Sponsors Certificate, there appears the name LUCILLE BALL, 1344 Ogden Drive, occupation - artist, Precinct - 1598.

Mr. WHEELER advised that he has ascertained through the records of the Supreme Actors Guild, Hollywood, California, that BALL, the screen and television actress, resided at 1344 Ogden Drive, Los Angeles, in 1936

It is to be noted that information concerning BALL was set forth in Los Angeles letter to the Bureau March 27, 1953, entitled "LUCILLE BALL, WAS; SECURITY MATTER - C" and in Los Angeles letter to

Letter to Director, FBI
LA 62-1664

8/26/53

Bureau 10/2/51 entitled "FRED HENRY BALL; SECURITY MATTER - C".

Mr. WHEELER advised that at present the Committee intends to hold this executive session in strict secrecy, however, he pointed out that in matters of this nature, information concerning the identity of witnesses is often "leaked" to the press.

Mrs. DESIREE BALL, mother of LUCILLE BALL, who also registered in 1936 as a Communist Party voter, will appear as a witness at the above session.

AIR-TEL - AIR MAIL - REGISTERED
XXXXXXX

FBI, LOS ANGELES 9-11-53 5:30 p. m.
DIRECTOR, FBI U R G E N T

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UNAMERICAN ACTIVITIES. LA PRESS TODAY
RELEASED INFO RE RECENT APPEARANCE OF LUCILLE BALL,
PROMINENT MOVIE AND TV ACTRESS, BEFORE AN INVESTIGATOR OF
THE HCUA IN LA REGARDING HER NINETEEN THIRTY SIX REGISTRATION
AS A CP VOTER. THE INFO RE BALL'S APPEARANCE BEFORE THE
HCUA WAS NOT RELEASED BY THE HCUA. WILLIAM A. WHEELER, HCUA
REPRESENTATIVE, LA, ADVISED THIS OFFICE TODAY THAT A STATEMENT
TO THE PRESS RE BALL'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WILL
BE MADE TODAY AT SIX P. M., AT WHICH TIME THE HCUA WILL
MAKE THE STATEMENT THAT BALL HAS APPEARED BEFORE THE HCUA,
THAT SHE REGISTERED TO VOTE ON THE CP, THAT SHE SIGNED A
PETITION FOR THE NOMINATION OF EMIL FREED ON THE CP AND
THAT HER NAME APPEARED ON THE CENTRAL STATE COMMITTEE OF
THE CP. THE HCUA WILL MAKE THE STATEMENT THAT THERE IS NO
EVIDENCE OF CP MEMBERSHIP OR ATTENDANCE AT CP MEETINGS FOR
BALL. WHEELER ADVISED THAT THE RELEASE OF THE INFO RE BALL

62-1664

cc: 1 - 100-41702 (LUCILLE BALL)
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PAGE TWO

BY THE LA NEWSPAPERS STEMS FROM THE RECENT RADIO ANNOUNCE-
MENT OF WALTER WINCHELL RE THE SUBPOENA OF A PROMINENT TV
AND MOVIE ACTRESS BEFORE THE HCUA IN LA. WHEELER ADVISED
THAT THE HCUA WILL RELEASE THE INFO RE BALL TOMORROW A. M.
THE LA PRESS DISPLAYED A PHOTO OF BALL'S NINETEEN THIRTYSIX
VOTERS REGISTRATION IN THE CP AND STATED THAT A CP NEW
MEMBERS' MEETING FOR INSTRUCTIONS IN COMMUNISM WAS HELD
AT BALL'S HOME AT ONE TIME. DESILU PRODUCTIONS RELEASED
A STATEMENT FROM BALL SAYING THAT SHE HAD TALKED TO A
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HCUA AND THAT SHE HAD GIVEN FULL AND
TRUTHFUL ANSWERS TO ALL THEIR QUESTIONS. THE NEWSPAPERS
QUOTE BALL AS SAYING QUOTE I AM VERY HAPPY TO HAVE HAD THIS
OPPORTUNITY TO REPLY TO UNFOUNDED RUMORS AND HOPE VERY MUCH
THE COMMITTEE WILL SEE FIT TO RELEASE A COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT
OF THE INFO I GAVE OUT UNQUOTE. WHEELER ADVISED THAT

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] TESTIFIED BEFORE THE HCUA TODAY
REGARDING THEIR FORMER CP ACTIVITIES.

MALONE

in 100 *
file

LUCILLE BALL FACES CHECK ON FEW POINTS

No Case Closed, Jackson Says, Going to Latin America

Investigation of Lucy Ball's "grandpa" inspired Communist voter registration yesterday was in status quo coincident with the departure of Rep. Donald L. Jackson of the House Un-American Activities Committee for South America.

The Congressman, who on Saturday released the text of a transcript of testimony by the famed television star in which she told of registering and voting as a Communist in 1936 to humor "a sweet old guy," will be gone for six weeks.

Jackson disclosed that investigation of the case would be continued, explaining that "no case is ever closed," and that "there are a couple of points we want to check."

REGISTERED

Transcripts of testimony before the committee last September 4 by Miss Ball, her mother, Desiree E. Ball, and her brother, Fred H. Ball, disclosed that they registered as Communist voters to pamper the ailing grandfather, the late Fred Hunt.

At a press conference at their San Fernando Valley ranch home, Lucy and her TV partner husband, Desi Arnaz, explained how Grandpa Hunt dominated the family's political thinking prior to his death in 1942.

Meanwhile, it was announced at the Arnaz home that the telephone was ringing constantly and telegrams were pouring in from television fans and phone callers, all expressing their confidence in her.

At Columbia Broadcasting headquarters here, which carries the popular "I Love Lucy" program, spokesmen who were contacted yesterday said that they would have no statement to make until today.

However, Lucy and Arnaz said they had received a telephone message from their

(Continued on Page 5, Col. 6)

LUCY THANKS WELL-WISHERS

Star Feels Career Uninjured— That Public Understands

(Continued from Page One)

sponsor with whom they have an \$8,000,000 contract, assuring them of his support.

And yesterday, red-haired Lucy, who has vowed she "never was interested in politics" and is not now, was doing housework and tending her babies at the Arnaz home.

COOK'S DAY OFF

"The housekeeper and the cook are gone today," explained Desi. "Lucy is busy with the cooking and the babies, and I'm answering the phone constantly."

"We're tremendously happy and grateful to everyone all over the country for their support," Desi told the Examiner. "We've had thousands of wire and telephone messages and they're still pouring in."

He added that he and his wife were grateful to the press for its complete handling of the facts.

When he released Lucy's sworn statement to the press, Representative Jackson said that there was no evidence that the actress was a member of the Communist Party.

OVERJOYED

"I'm overjoyed and humbled that thousands of people have written and telegraphed that they are behind me," exclaimed Lucy at her home.

She insists she does not feel that her career has been injured or that the public will misunderstand her motives in registering as a Communist voter 17 years ago for the purpose of dodging her grand

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LOS ANGELES EXAMINER
DATED

SEP 14 1953

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Happy to Have Cleared Up Rumors, Lucy Tells Columnist Hedda Hopper

BY HEDDA HOPPER

This morning Lucille Ball, star of the "I Love Lucy" television show, told me over the phone:

"It is true that I have talked to a representative of the Un-American Activities Committee, and gave full, truthful answers to all his questions. I am very happy to have had this opportunity to reply to all the unfounded rumors and hope that the committee will release a full transcript of the information I gave them."

Report on Radio

Following a radio report that the "top television actress had been confronted with a membership card in the Communist Party," I began hearing from people who said:

"To us the top television actress is Lucille Ball. Tell us the report isn't true."

I called Lucille and Desi Arnaz and asked them about the matter Wednesday.

"That is the most ridiculous thing in the world," said Ar-

naz. "Lucille has never been accused of being a Communist, she is completely in the clear. All anybody has to do is check with the Un-American Activities Committee. If she was a Communist they would call her for investigation."

Denies Affiliation

Lucille herself came on the phone and denied that she was in any way affiliated with the party. I asked if she had ever attended any of its meetings, and was told she hadn't. Desi said:

THE WEATHER

U.S. Weather Bureau forecast: Variable high cloudiness but generally sunny today and tomorrow. Chance of few sprinkles. Continued warm with a high today near 95 at Civic Center and 82 at the beaches. Continued high fire hazard. Yesterday's high, 93; low, 68.

"You tell your readers this, Hedda, the only thing that is red about this kid is her hair—and even that is not legitimately red. We are in the clear all the way."

Confirms Report

This morning Desi called to confirm the report that Lucille had been questioned by an investigator of the House Un-American Activities Committee, William Wheeler.

She was first approached by an investigator in April of this year.

"They had found a registration card in the 1936 primaries," Lucille told me this morning. "They asked me about it; they refreshed my memory. I didn't recall anything about it. I explained that the reason we did it was because 'Daddy' wanted us to — 'Daddy' meaning my grandfather. At that time it didn't seem at all wrong to try to please him. It was his last few years. He had always been a Socialist. It wasn't a matter of

Turn to Page 6, Column 4

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HOPPER

Continued from First Page

a political thing anyway. It was a man in the district who could do something grandfather wanted done. I've forgotten what it was. It was some man in the primaries he wanted us to vote for. We registered—my mother, brother and myself. That was all there was to it. I never voted myself; I was working. And 17 years later they presented us with this."

Her Voice Breaks

At this point Lucille's voice broke.

"The reason we didn't tell you the other day was that the committee had asked us not to," she explained.

"Did you register as a Communist or a Socialist in the election?" I asked.

"I don't know what they called the party then," she answered. She was crying as she continued:

"The committee was satisfied twice. The second time they came to me they said they had to clear themselves for sure, for they had heard that some magazine was coming out with the story. So they reopened the investigation privately. They asked me again, for they wanted to make sure they had their story straight and there was no way of stopping the magazine.

Writing Book

"I was told there was an ex-Communist woman who was writing a book and she had information that we couldn't verify. We had never heard of anything like that and we had to get some answers on it. That is why they opened the case up again. I never had anything to cover up or be frightened about but they now have a sworn statement testifying..."

At this point Lucille could not continue. So Desi came on the phone and said:

"It's terrible, Hedda, that something the poor kid did in 1936 to please her grandfather can kick back in her face now. She has never in her life done wrong to anybody; has never had any sympathy for these Commies. You know, the girl has never even been connected with these pinks out here; she has never gone to meetings; never been a member of their party—this is terrible, Hedda."

Denies Card

"It was reported she was confronted with a Communist Party card. That is a lie. She never had a card."

"But why didn't you tell me this when I asked the other morning?" I asked. "If you had told me the committee didn't want this known you should have said, 'no comment, in a few days you'll understand.' And I would have understood."

Desi replied, "If I did something wrong to you the other day, please forgive me. When you get in a spot like this you don't know what the hell you're doing."

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ANNIE'S TIMES

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Lucy and Desi Relax, Glad That Storm's Over

Stacks of Telegrams From Well-Wishers Reach TV Couple After Red Quiz Ordeal

Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, comforted by stacks of telegrams from well-wishers, luxuriated in the privacy of their Chatsworth home yesterday, glad that the storm was over.

They said they were happy that the full transcript of Miss Ball's testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee had been printed in The Times, and they hope the ordeal is over.

"Lucy and I just have nothing more to say," said Desi. "Everything has been said. All the truth has been told. Everybody has been wonderful. We never knew how many friends we had."

Alone With Children

The cook, the maid and the nurse were off for the day. Except for the telephone, which rang every few minutes, the stars of "I Love Lucy" were alone in the house with their children, Lucy, 2, and Desi IV, 8 months.

Desi took an early dip in the pool while Lucy made the beds and a pot of coffee.

Desi said they felt no resentment over their questioning by hordes of newspaper reporters since Lucy's 1936 registration as a Communist was made public by the House committee.

"We're lucky this happened to us in America, where newspapermen ask the questions,"

Desi said. "In other countries they shoot first and ask the questions later."

The TV stars said they plan to be back to work as usual at 9 a.m. today to prepare for the filming of another Lucy script next Friday night.

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LOS ANGELES TIMES

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COMFORTED — Lucille Ball and husband Desi Arnaz are pictured in Chatsworth home where they are being comforted by telegrams from well-wishers. Couple said they were glad ordeal stemming from actress' testimony in Red quiz was over.

Quiz by Solon Probers Told By Actress

CALIFORNIA, }
LOS ANGELES } SS. **AFFIDAVIT OF REGISTRATION.**

I, the affiant, being duly sworn, says: I will be at least twenty-one years of age at the time of registration, a citizen of the United States ninety days prior thereto, and a resident of the State ninety days, and of the Precinct forty days next preceding such election, and will be an elector at the next succeeding election.

I have not been registered from any other precinct in the State since January 1, 1936.

(Previously registered, mark out the word "not" and fill out the appropriate blanks at the top of the affidavit.)

Miss Lucille D. Ball

(Name or given name, and middle name or initial, and in the case of women, the prefix Miss or Mrs.)

1344 - North Ogden Drive, - east

(Name street or road. If remote from both, then give Sec., Twp., and Range.)

Main and Delongpre Streets. Floury Room.

1344 - North Ogden Drive

actress

I intend to affiliate at the next primary election with the Communist Party.

5 feet 6 1/2 inches.

New York

(State or Country)

(If citizen you need not answer question No. 4.)

Citizenship by } a. Decree of Court.
acquiring } b. Father's naturalization.
c. Mother's naturalization.
d. Citizenship of father.

COPY OF LUCILLE BALL'S AFFIDAVIT OF REGISTRATION IN RED PARTY
The Affidavit of Registration Was Dated March 19, 1936, and Says: 'I Intend to Affiliate at the Ensuing Primary Election With the Communist Party'

LOS ANGELES HERALD EXPRESS
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Lucille Ball Registration As Red in 1936 Bared

(Continued From Page 1)

ence this evening at the Statler Hotel. He indicated he would discuss Miss Ball's case.

Congressman Jackson pleaded that he couldn't say anything at present, although he admitted that the full House Committee on Un-American Activities is being polled on the possibility of releasing Miss Ball's testimony.

Jackson was asked if it wasn't true that Miss Ball once supported Emil Freed when he ran for Congress in 1938 on the Communist Party ticket, but replied emphatically that he couldn't talk until a poll had been taken of the whole committee.

When the Herald-Express reporters went to the couple's sprawling ranch home, "Desilu," at 19700 Devonshire street in exclusive Northridge in the San Fernando Valley, Miss Ball refused to meet them.

The reporters told Arnaz that the Herald-Express possessed a photostatic copy of an affidavit showing that Miss Ball had registered in 1936 as a voter intending to affiliate at the ensuing primary election with the Communist party.

Arnaz, however, flatly denied this, declaring it was a falsehood.

"What are you going to do, spread it all over the country?" the actor, barefooted and attired in a gray bathrobe, demanded.

When the Herald-Express reporter insisted that this newspaper had a photostatic copy of his wife's voting registration, Arnaz said he flatly did not believe that, then added:

"So what?"

A maid met the reporter at the front door.

"Miss Ball and Mr. Arnaz are asleep. I couldn't possibly wake them up now," said the maid.

"Please tell her I'm from the Herald-Express and want to talk with her about her political registration," insisted the reporter.

"I can't disturb her now," said the maid.

At this point the newspapermen saw Miss Ball enter the

living room to see who was at the door.

"She's up now. Will you ask her to see us?" asked the reporter.

"Just a moment," said the maid, closing the door.

A few minutes later, Arnaz, re-opened the door, and the reporter explained again that he wished to talk with Miss Ball about the registration.

"It's early, isn't it?" queried Arnaz. "Let's see your credentials."

After scanning the credentials, Arnaz asked:

"OK. Now what do you want?"

The reporter said: "We'd like a statement from Miss Ball regarding her registration as a Communist party voter."

Told that the Herald-Express possessed a photostatic copy of the affidavit showing that Miss Ball had registered in 1936 as a Party voter, Arnaz snapped "You're a . . . liar!"

But he invited the newspapermen inside the house, and after scanning their credentials for the second time, made his statement about the couple's Democratic registration.

AFFIDAVIT ON FILE

Her 1936 Affidavit of Registration, No. 847,584, is on file at the office of the Los Angeles County registrar of voters. He canceled it Dec. 30, 1938, for non-voting.

Miss Ball in 1936 listed her address as 1344 North Ogden drive.

A woman witness told the State Legislature's 1943 Committee on Un-American Activities that she had attended Communist party new members meetings for instructions in Communism at a North Ogden drive home.

The witness testified that an elderly man had told the new members that the residence was that of Lucille Ball, and that the actress was glad to have her home used for new Communist party membership meetings.

DATA IN STAR QUIZ REVEALED

Affidavit on Communist Party Registration Given Probers

Following is the full text of the statement issued last night by Rep. Donald L. Jackson, member House Committee on Un-American Activities, concerning Lucille Ball.

"For many months the House Committee on Un-American Activities has been in possession of information indicating that Miss Lucille Ball did, on March 19, 1936, register to vote in the California primary election of that year, and that she specified her party affiliation as Communist.

"In addition, it has been determined that on the 15th of September, 1936, Miss Ball was appointed a member of the State Central Committee of the Communist Party by one Emil Freed, a well known functionary of the Communist Party in the city and county of Los Angeles, who was, in 1936, a candidate for public office on the Communist Party ticket.

"Since the original information came into the possession of the committee, a staff investigator has made a careful and detailed investigation into the circumstances relating to Miss Ball's affiliation with the Communist Party for voting purposes and her subsequent appointment as a member of the Communist Party State Central Committee.

Telephone Poll of Committee

"Recently information on these matters has also been obtained by independent sources other than the committee, and the release of such information has served to spur conjecture and rumor with respect to Miss Ball and the extent of her association with and activities on behalf of the Communist Party.

"By direction of the Honorable Harold H. Velde of Illinois, Chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities; and following a telephonic poll of a majority of the members of the committee who could be reached today, I am authorized and directed by the chairman to make the following statement with respect to the status of the Lucille Ball matter insofar as the House Committee on Un-American Activities is concerned.

The committee is departing from its usual procedures in this instance to the end that fact may be separated from rumor and that the actual status of Miss Ball's association may be presented factually and officially.

"The House Committee on Un-American Activities is not unaware of the tremendous responsibility resting upon it to insure that those guilty of participation in the Communist conspiracy be exposed whenever and wherever possible. By the same token, there rests upon the committee an obligation to insure that distortion of available facts be not permitted and that rumor not be substituted for the truth in any case. The prominence of Miss Ball as an outstanding moving picture and television artist is secondary to the committee's determination to be fair and just in all instances.

Sworn Affidavit Given Investigator

"In light of the fact that irreparable damage may result to Miss Ball unless the full extent of the committee's information is disclosed, the committee has decided to release to the press and radio a sworn affidavit given to a committee investigator by Miss. Ball relating to her registration as a Communist Party voter and to her designation as a member of the State Central Committee of the Communist Party in 1936.

"Miss Ball has cooperated with the committee investigator in all respects. She has acknowledged her Communist Party registration. She has denied giving her authority to Mr. Freed for her appointment to the Communist State Central Committee.

"She has denied that she was ever in attendance at any Communist Party meeting, or that she participated in or attended the meeting of the Communist Party State Central Committee held in Sacramento in 1936.

"In an effort to determine the truth of these statements, the committee investigator has carried on a thorough and careful investigation.

"The then-chairman of the Communist Party State Central Committee has been interviewed to determine whether or

not Miss Ball was in attendance at the convention in question. The then-chairman, friendly witness, cooperated fully with the committee past investigations of Communist activity in California testified under oath that he has never met Miss Ball that he has no personal knowledge as to her membership in the Communist Party or attendance at the Communist Party state convention in at which he presided.

"Other cooperative witnesses who have in the past appeared before the committee and cooperated fully in exposing activities of the Communist Party in California, have interviewed by a committee investigator, and none has been able to identify Miss Ball as a party member during the period in question, nor to her at any time in any meeting of the Communist Party.

LOS ANGELES EXAMINE
DATED

SEP 12 1953

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Investigations Will Continue

"The investigations of the committee will, of course, continue with respect to this case.

"The unusual procedure of releasing an affidavit rather than to place Miss Ball in the witness chair has been necessitated, in this instance, by the release of certain information which has led to a welter of confusion and rumor.

"The committee, in making public the transcript of Miss Ball's testimony, assumes no position of advocacy. However, it is felt that justice requires that the action be taken and that the facts available to the committee now be made available to the American people.

"During the same period that Miss Ball registered as a member of the Communist Party for purposes of voting, the same registration was effected by her mother, Mrs. Desiree Ball, and by her brother, Fred H. Ball. Her grandfather, Fred C. Hunt, since deceased, also registered as a Communist during the same period.

"The reverse side of Miss Ball's affidavit of registration indicates that on June 16, 1936, she signed a Sponsor Certificate

on behalf of Emil Freed, who was a Communist Party candidate for election to the California State Assembly from the 57th Assembly District. This sponsorship is acknowledged by Miss Ball.

"The other members of Miss Ball's immediate family, who have also been interviewed by a committee investigator, likewise acknowledged the authenticity of their sponsorship to Mr. Freed, while denying any activity in or behalf of the Communist Party in any other respect.

"Miss Ball stated to the committee investigator that while she has no personal knowledge of a petition she is alleged to have signed for the repeal of the California Criminal Syndicalism Act, it is possible she did so at the request of her grandfather.

"These points, in summary, constitute the sum of the information presently in the possession of the committee, and all of the points enumerated have been acknowledged by Miss Ball in her sworn affidavit aforementioned.

"Copies of the affidavit executed by Miss Ball will be available for distribution to press and radio at 10 a. m. tomorrow."

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Transcript of Star's Secret Testimony to Investigator

Here are the principal portions of the transcript of TV Star Lucille Ball's secret testimony before William Wheeler, investigator of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, in which she admitted having registered as a Communist Party voter.

After Miss Ball stated she was appearing voluntarily and after she told how she got her start as a film actress at \$50 or \$75 a week in Hollywood, the testimony in part was as follows:

MR. WHEELER. When did you first register to vote?

MISS BALL. I guess the first time I ever did was in '36.

MR. WHEELER. I would like to hand you a photostatic copy of a voter's registration and ask you if that is your signature.

MISS BALL. That looks like my handwriting.

MR. WHEELER. You will note that the party that you intended to affiliate with at that time was the Communist Party.

MISS BALL. In '36?

MR. WHEELER. Yes.

MISS BALL. I guess so.

MR. WHEELER. You did register to vote then as a Communist or intending to vote the Communist Party ticket?

MISS BALL. Yes.

MR. WHEELER. Would you go into detail and explain the background, the reason you voted or registered to vote as a Communist or person who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. It was our grandfather, Fred Hunt. He just wanted us to, and we just did something to please him. I didn't intend to vote that way. As I recall, I didn't.

My grandfather started years ago — he was a Socialist as long as I can remember. He is the only father we ever knew, my grandfather. My father died when I was tiny, before my brother was born. He was my brother's only father.

TOOK DAILY WORKER

All through his life he had been a Socialist, as far back as Eugene V. Debs, and he was in sympathy with the working man as long as I have known and he took the Daily Worker.

It never meant much to us, because he was so radical on the subject that he pressed his

unist." He never said that he read the Daily Worker. He always talked about the working man.

He got very confused in his latter years, when Russia and—who got together—Russia and Germany got together, and he got so he couldn't answer our questions at all then. And he would get mad and change the subject. He never quite could find out what had happened to the working man after that, I guess.

MAID NEVER STAYED

We were never able to keep a maid, although we paid the highest prices we could afford or they were getting at the time. My grandfather would walk out into the kitchen and see a maid and would say, "Well, what is your name? How much are you getting?"

"Oh, 20 or 25 dollars a week," or whatever they were being paid.

And he would say, "That is not a working wage. What are you doing here?"

And after a few times of that, you know, they would leave. That is just one instance.

He was always talking to the garbage man early in the morning, or anybody doing any kind of a menial task, he would say, "Why are you doing that? Why aren't you doing something else?"

WANTED BETTER WORLD

He was just a fanatic on bettering the world. That is as far as we knew, and that is why we could endorse it at all.

Mr. Wheeler. Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. No, not to my knowledge.

Mr. Wheeler. Have you ever been asked to become a member of the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. No.

MR. WHEELER. Did you ever attend any meetings that you later discovered were Communist Party meetings?

MISS BALL. No.

MR. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not any meetings were ever held in your

Committee ~~it was~~ done without my knowledge or consent.

MR. WHEELER. I notice your grandfather, Fred Hunt, was also appointed as a delegate for the year 1936. Were you aware of that?

MISS BALL. No. I was not aware of it.

MR. WHEELER. Do you know who could be responsible for your name appearing on this document?

MISS BALL. Possibly my grandfather, Fred Hunt.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall if anyone contacted you in 1936 in regard to obtaining your proxy to vote?

MISS BALL. No, except my grandfather. Is that what you mean?

MR. WHEELER. You stated that you were appointed without your knowledge or consent, is that right?

MISS BALL. That is right.

DID NOT ATTEND MEET

MR. WHEELER. I assume you did not attend the meeting of the State Central Committee at Sacramento.

MISS BALL. I didn't even know there was one. I still don't know what it means.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall whether or not you were contacted by any individual to obtain from you your voting proxy at the Central Committee Meeting in Sacramento?

MISS BALL. Never.

MR. WHEELER. I would like to refer to the report of the Un-American activities in California for the year 1943, and refer to page 127 of that document, which is a portion of an affidavit submitted by Rena M. Vale.

In this affidavit she has admitted she was one time a member of the Communist Party and she is discussing how she became a member.

"That within a few days after my third application to join the Communist Party was made, I received a notice to attend a meeting on North Ogden Drive, Hollywood; although it was a typed, unsigned note, merely requesting my presence at the address at 3 o'clock in the evening on a given day, I knew it was the long-awaited notice to attend Communist Party new members classes."

GLAD TO LOAN HOME

"That on arrival at this address I found several others present; an elderly man informed us that we were the guests of the screen actress,

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LOS ANGELES HERALD & EXPRESS
DATED SEP 14 1954

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point a little too much, actually, probably, during our childhood, because he finally got over our heads and we didn't do anything but consider it a nuisance, but as a dad, and he got into his seventies, and it became so vital to him that the world must be right 24 hours a day, all over it, and he was trying his damndest to do the best he could for everybody and especially the working man; that is, from the garbage man, the maid in the kitchen, the studio worker, the factory worker. He never lost a chance to do what he considered bettering their positions.

FEARED ANOTHER STROKE

That was fine, and we went along with it wherever we could. Sometimes it got a little ridiculous because my position in the so-called capitalist world was pretty good and it was a little hard to reconcile the two. We didn't argue with him very much because he had had a couple of strokes and if he got overly excited, why, he would have another one.

So finally there came a point where my brother was 21, and he was going to see that Freddie registered to help the working man, which was, in his idea then, the Communist Party. At that time it wasn't a thing to hide behind doors, to be a member of that party.

As I recall, because of this he influenced us. We thought we wanted to do him a favor. We thought we could make him happy. I at no time intended to vote that way. And I remember discussing it with my mother, how I could register and make him happy. When I go behind a curtain to vote, nobody knows who I vote for.

He also considered it a personal victory at the time, that he had the entire family to register. He didn't influence us enough at any time to vote; at least, he didn't influence me.

DECIDED HE WAS WRONG

He influenced us to give a great deal of thought to whether he was right or wrong, and we always decided he was wrong, because the things he was shouting about didn't seem to be practical for this country. He admired the working man and the peasants all over the world, the Five-Year Plan and anything that was great for the working man.

MR. WHEELER. He considered the Communist party as a working man's party?

MISS BALL. That is all I ever heard. I never heard my grandfather use the word "Comm-

(3)
home at 1344 North Ogden drive?

MISS BALL. No, I know nothing of that. I don't believe it is true.

MR. WHEELER—How old were you in 1936?

MISS BALL. I am 42 now; 24.

INTRODUCED AS EVIDENCE

MR. WHEELER. I would like to introduce the affidavit of registration as Ball exhibit No. 1, registration No. 847584.

(The document referred to was marked Ball exhibit No. 1 and was received in evidence.)

MR. WHEELER. This affidavit of registration is signed by Lucille Ball and dated the nineteenth day of March, 1936.

Have you ever known an individual by the name of Emil Freed?

MISS BALL. I never heard the name before, to my knowledge, as I recall.

MR. WHEELER. Have you ever known an individual by the name of Jacob or Jack Breger?

MISS BALL. Not until I read it today.

MR. WHEELER. Are you aware that you were a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party for the year 1936?

MISS BALL. Was I aware before you told me, you mean?

MR. WHEELER. Yes.

MISS BALL. No.

NAMED TO COMMITTEE

MR. WHEELER. Well, I would like to hand you a document entitled "Appointment of Members of the State Central Committee Meeting at Sacramento in the Year 1936." It is stamped "Communist Party," and this document discloses that Emil Freed was a delegate by nomination to the State Central Committee of the Communist Party for that year. And he appointed three individuals as delegates.

Those appointed, according to the document, are Jacob Breger, 822 North Orange drive; Fred Hunt, 1344 North Ogden drive, and Lucille Ball, 1344 North Ogden drive.

Now, I would like to hand you this document and have you give any explanation that you desire.

MISS BALL. I have no explanation. I haven't signed it. I don't know where it came from, or what. My name is misspelled. The address is right; that is all.

GRANDFATHER NAMED

I don't know Emil Freed. I never heard of Emil Freed, and if Emil Freed appointed me as a delegate to the State Central

(5)
Lucille Ball, and showed us various pictures, books and other objects to establish that fact, and stated she was glad to loan her home for a Communist Party new members class;

"That the instructor introduced himself as Sidney Martin, but I later knew him by the name of Sidney Davidson, which he stated was his true name:

"That there were about seven or eight other members of this class, but the only names I recall are those of Herb Harris, an actor, whom I encountered from time to time within the Communist Party, and who took part in the play "The Blackguard," which ran for several years in Los Angeles around 1938 and 1939; and Libby Jacobson, who, in 1939, was active in consumer cooperatives in Los Angeles.

Do you have any knowledge of any meetings held in your home, Miss Ball?

MISS BALL. None whatsoever.

MR. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Rena Vale?

MISS BALL. I never heard the name before in my life.

MR. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with or have you ever been acquainted with Sidney Martin or Sidney Davidson?

MISS BALL. No, sir, I never heard the name.

MR. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with or have you ever been acquainted with Herb Harris?

MISS BALL. I never heard the name.

MR. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Libby Jacobson?

MISS BALL. I never heard that name.

UNAWARE HOME USED

MR. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not your grandfather, Fred Hunt, held meetings at the home?

MISS BALL. Not to our knowledge ever, and he was always with someone. As we look back now, we can't remember at any time he was ever alone, because he had had two strokes and we had a nurse that lived there at the time, and there was—he was never alone that we remember; no evidence of any meeting ever being held in our house when we were out. This is something we knew nothing about.

MR. WHEELER. I also have a photostatic copy of an Affidavit of Registration for the year 1936 for Mrs. Deaire

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LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

SEP 14 1953

(6)
Ball, and she discloses that she also registered to vote as a person who intended to affiliate with the Communist party on the twelfth day of June, 1936. What relation is Desiree Ball to you?

MISS BALL. My mother.
MR. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not she was ever a member of the Communist party?

MISS BALL. Not to my knowledge.

MR. WHEELER. I have a second photostat here, a voter's registration, signed by Fred E. Hunt, who also intended to affiliate with the Communist party.

MISS BALL. Fred E. Hunt?

MR. WHEELER. Well, it looks like an "E." What is his middle initial?

MISS BALL. Fred C.

MR. WHEELER. Fred C. Hunt, rather. This document is dated the twelfth day of June, 1936, and also shows he changed the vote to Democrat 11-18-40.

MR. WHEELER. I have a third document here, a photostat of an Affidavit of Registration, bearing the signature of Fred H. Ball, who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party in the ensuing election of 1936. It is also dated the twelfth day of June, 1936. What relation is Fred H. Ball to you?

MISS BALL. Brother.

MR. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not he was ever a member of the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. Not to my knowledge, nor to his.

MR. WHEELER. Where is your brother presently residing?

MISS BALL. Scottsdale, Ark.

BEEN INVESTIGATED

MR. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not he has ever been investigated by the government or any agency or employer who does government contract work, in regard to this Communist registration?

MISS BALL. Yes, he has.

MR. WHEELER. What was the outcome of this investigation?

MISS BALL. He has always been cleared.

MR. WHEELER. You mean he retained his employment?

MISS BALL. I think so. I don't know. He can tell you more about that. I don't think he has always retained his position.

(7)

sembly 57th District, to be voted for at the primary election to be held on the 25th day of August, 1936, hereby assert as follows:

"My knowledge of the said Emil Freed is sufficient to warrant my urging his election to the office of member of the Assembly Fifty-seventh District and, in my opinion, he is fully qualified, mentally, morally and physically, for the said office and should be elected to fill it. I am a qualified elector of Los Angeles county and I am registered as affiliated with the Communist party and am not at this time a signer of any other certificate nominating any other candidate for the above named office, or in case there are several places to be filled in the above named office, I have not signed more certificates than there are places to be filled in the above named office."

I would like to refer to the second page of this document, under line 23, and there appears the signature of Lucille Ball, 1344 Ogden Drive, and occupation, artist. It is dated 6-16-36. Is that your signature (indicating)?

MISS BALL. I would say it was.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall signing the document?

DON'T RECALL

MISS BALL. No, but I recall at that time doing what I could to appease grandpa, and this is just part of it. At that time it didn't probably seem very important to appoint this man.

MR. WHEELER. You will note what I read to you, that before signing the document it states that you know the man, and he is morally, physically and mentally qualified.

MISS BALL. It is something I signed without looking at it, or if I looked at it, it didn't seem like a big thing at the time.

MR. WHEELER. I believe your grandfather's signature appears on there, as well as the whole family?

MISS BALL. Yes, Fred, myself and my mother, and my grandfather. My name appears on the second page of this document. Our names appear there. It is possible that this was handed to us just as a list of names, without the strong-sounding sponsor certificate on the front of it. I don't recall that I ever heard anything which right now sounds very strong, and impossible to sign at this day and age, but I might have because at that

al rights they are all standing up for now. Is that what it means?

DID I SIGN IT?

MR. WHEELER. Well, it means more or less like this: "An act defining criminal syndicalism and sabotage, proscribing certain acts and methods in connection therewith and in pursuance thereof and providing penalties and punishments therefore."

MISS BALL. If I had ever seen that, I would have never signed it. Did I sign it?

MR. WHEELER. Well, the voters registration indicates that you did sign it. In other words, when a petition is signed they check each signature, to ascertain if the individual is a registered voter. When it is ascertained the individual is a registered voter they mark on his voter's registration, this particular number, 164-F, which indicates the person who registered did sign that petition. However, I have been unable to locate the actual petition.

MISS BALL. Because you register you are in sympathy with all this (indicating)?

MR. WHEELER. It would indicate as such. I mean, if a person signs a particular document requesting that the Criminal Syndicalism Act be removed from the statutes, it would seem to indicate to me that you would be against the Criminal Syndicalism Act.

SHE DOESN'T KNOW

MISS BALL. Well, anyway, I don't know what it means.

MR. WHEELER. You were previously contacted by myself, an investigator for the House Committee on Un-American Activities?

MISS BALL. Yes.
MR. WHEELER. You recall the date as April 3, 1952?

MISS BALL. Yes.
MR. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with the Committee of the First Amendment?

MISS BALL. Am I acquainted with it?

MR. WHEELER. Yes.
MISS BALL. Not to my knowledge.

MR. WHEELER. Well, your name is mentioned in the Daily People's World, the issue of 10-28-47, page 1, columns 5 and 6, as one of the sign personalities who were sponsoring or a member of the Committee of the First Amendment. That committee was formed here in Hollywood to oppose the Congressional hearings in 1947.

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ployment no. If during the
we were was a hint of that
suspicion, the investigation
probably went on, but you
didn't retain your employment.

MR. WHEELER. I notice now
that your mother and your
brother and grandfather all
registered on the 19th day of
March. Is there any significance
to that?

I DIDN'T GO

MISS BALL. See, I didn't go.
They were trying to recall to my
mind where we might have reg-
istered and I couldn't remem-
ber. Isn't this what he is talk-
ing about? I couldn't remem-
ber having gone down where
they said they went. They said
they went way downtown, where
Grandpa wanted us to go, way
downtown near Main street. I
don't even remember going
down that far. I really racked
my brain over a 17-year period
and all I remember was some-
thing like a garage and a
flag, like a voting day. They
said it didn't tie up for regis-
tration. I can't explain it. But
that bears me out, I didn't go
on that trip. I don't know where
I registered. I would have said,
if I hadn't talked to you last
year, that I voted. You said you
had no record of my voting. I
would have said I voted when I
went in there. I remember feel-
ing very foxy about the thing,
because I registered. We had a
very bad feeling we had done
that. I always felt I would be
all right if I didn't vote it, just
to appease Grandpa.

SHOWS SHE VOTED

MR. WHEELER. The Affi-
davit of Registration discloses
you voted in the primary for
the year 1936. That would be, I
assume, in June. However, you
did not vote in the general elec-
tion.

MISS BALL. That could have
been what I did there that
morning.

MR. WHEELER. Well now,
the Affidavit of Registration on
the reverse side discloses that
you signed two petitions for the
year 1936, the Freed nominat-
ing petition for the 57th As-
sembly District, or, rather, it
is a sponsor certificate. This
document was also obtained
from the files of the Secretary
of State and I will introduce it
in the record as Ball Exhibit 3.
The document referred to
is marked Ball Exhibit No. 3
(as was received in evidence.)

SPONSORED FREED

I will read the following from
the document:

"I, the undersigned, sponsor
for Emil Freed for the Com-
munist Party nomination to the
office of member of the As-

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time I was of a mind to try to
do something that would please
Daddy. It just didn't seem like
an important, awful thing to do,
like it does these days. But, to
my knowledge, I didn't ever see
the first part of this certificate
I signed.

ASKS MEANING

MR. WHEELER. Are you fam-
iliar with the words or the
phrase "Criminal Syndicalism"?

MISS BALL. No, but it is
pretty. What does it mean?

MR. WHEELER. Criminal
Syndicalism?

MISS BALL. What does it
mean?

MR. WHEELER. According to
the voter's registration for the
year 1936, the reverse part of it,
you signed a petition 164-F. This
particular petition was for the
Repeal of the Criminal Syndi-
calism Act in California.

MISS BALL. What does it
mean?

MR. WHEELER. The Com-
munists were taken to court
and tried for criminal syndical-
ism, and—

MISS BALL. And I signed
something else?

MR. WHEELER. —you signed
this petition to take the Crimi-
nal Syndicalism Act off the
statutes of the State of Cal-
ifornia.

MISS BALL. I did; that is,
without my knowledge. May I
see the signature?

MR. WHEELER. Unfortun-
ately, they have been destroyed,
those particular petitions.

MISS BALL. By whom?

MR. WHEELER. They are re-
tained a few years, under law,
and they can be destroyed.

NICE TO DADDY WEEK

MISS BALL. Was this the
same time we were being nice
to Daddy week?

MR. WHEELER. It was in
the year 1936. However, I do
have a photostat of a sample
copy of the petition which was
dated July 10, 1936, and this
particular petition was circu-
lated by the California Confer-
ence for Repeal of the Criminal
Syndicalism Act at 68 Haight
street, San Francisco, Calif.
Have you ever heard of that
organization?

MISS BALL. No.

MR. WHEELER. It was also
circulated by the Southern Cal-
ifornia Councils for Constitu-
tional Rights, 129 West Second
street, Room 326, Los Angeles,
Calif. Have you ever heard of
this second organization?

MISS BALL. No. I have since
then, probably. I imagine that
ties up with the pro-American
business activities, constitution-

WORKING ON PICTURE

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MISS BALL. Fine. Then I
have no knowledge of signing
it. However, I do recall I was
at a studio, and I was working
on a picture and I got a call
in the afternoon. I don't know who
called me. I assume now—I did
then—it was the Screen Actors
Guild, but I can be wrong. I
don't know who called me now.
It was something that was
through a union or the studio
wouldn't have felt compelled to
send me off a set and hold up
production until I got back. It
had nothing to do with me.

I got the call to go to a radio
station. As I remember, it was
M-G-M—it may not have been.
I remember an executive ex-
cused me and sent me to this
broadcast.

I got down there and said
"What am I supposed to do?"

She said, "Dorothy Petersen,"
—whoever she is—"she is ill.
We have to go on the air."

PETITION ON OKIES

I haven't seen her in years; I
don't know her.

She said, "Will you read
this?"

It was a long petition, or
whatever you call them, as I
recall. As I recall—I am not
sure of this—it was about the
Okies upstate California, Fresno
or some place, about admitting
the Okies. I read it. They
thanked me and they sent me
back to work.

I don't know how long after
that that it was that I was
called downtown in an FBI of-
fice and asked why I did it. Ap-
parently, it was wrong. It was
my first knowledge it was
wrong.

I had no answer at all, be-
cause I hadn't done it of my
own volition. I had been sent
there. It didn't seem wrong to
go some place the studio had
sent you.

HAD NO REASON

I tried to explain why I had
done it. I had no reason except
I had been called.

MR. WHEELER. How long
ago did you go to the FBI?

MISS BALL. I have no idea.
I have no idea when I did this
broadcast. I have no idea how
long after that they called me.
But that is the first time I
ever—

MR. WHEELER. It was three
or four years ago?

MISS BALL. It was more
than that.

MR. WHEELER. Did they dis-
cuss with you at the time—

MISS BALL. Must have been
six, eight, nine years ago;
maybe 10. There were two
broadcasts. I don't know who

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LOS ANGELES HERALD & EXPRESS
DATED

sent me on the first one, and I don't know what the second one was about. It was something that everybody was doing. You just get asked to do these things. I again was called in at the last minute.

I had nothing to do with whatever it was. I didn't know what I was doing, but you assumed at the time, when you are called by a union or one of your—I don't know who called me. I know both times I was called to replace someone.

MR. WHEELER. Did you discuss that material today with the FBI or did they question you regarding your voter's registration?

MISS BALL. No. That was apparently just something I read on the radio I shouldn't have. I don't know.

MR. WHEELER. Do you have anything in addition you would like to add for the record?

MISS BALL. I am very happy to have this opportunity to discuss all the things that have cropped up, that apparently I have done wrong. I am aware of only one thing I did that was wrong, and that at the time wasn't wrong, but apparently now it is, and that was registering because my grandfather wanted us to. I at no time thought it was the thing to go, nor did I ever intend to vote in the presidential election, I guess it was at that time, I don't know. To my knowledge I didn't vote, but I did register. Since then I have never done anything knowingly against the United States.

I have never done anything for Communists, to my knowledge, at any time. I have never contributed money, or attended a meeting or even had anything to do with people connected with it, if to my knowledge they were.

NEVER A COMMUNIST

I am not a Communist now. I never have been. I never wanted to be. Nothing in the world could ever change my mind. At no time in my life have I ever had in sympathy with anything that even faintly resembled it. He was always opposed (indicating) to how my grandfather felt about any other way this country should be run. I thought things were just fine the way they were.

It sounds a little weak and silly and corny now, but at the time it was very important because we knew we weren't going to have Daddy with us very long. If it made him happy, it was important at the time. But I was always conscious of the fact I could go just so far to make him happy. I tried not to go any farther.

ALWAYS FOR ROOSEVELT

In those days that was not a big, terrible thing to do. It was almost as terrible to be a Republican in those days. I have never been too civic-minded and certainly never political-minded in my life.

Since I got any feelings on the subject at all, we went maybe a little strongly Democratic one year and we got into trouble doing that. That is when Roosevelt was still alive. We were always very much for Roosevelt and did everything that Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt asked us to do, as all of Hollywood, or as most of Hollywood was doing.

He was the only President I had ever known. It was a wonderful thing to get out and help him with his March of Dimes or bond tours during the war, and we were very busy. Never in my life have I had any other feeling than the Communists were wrong, that anybody in this town would dare to think of changing any of it or complaining about what they had is just the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard of.

I certainly was never in sympathy with the Dmytryks, I can't remember any of the other names.

How we got to signing a few things, or going among some people that thought differently, that has happened to all of us out here in the past 10 or 12 years, and it is unfortunate, but

I certainly will do anything in the world to prove that we made a bad mistake by, for one week or a couple of weeks, trying to appease an old man. But there has never been any thought of belonging or wanting to belong to the Communist Party.

MR. WHEELER. I have no further questions. Thank you for your co-operation.

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2-26-96

They Still 'Love Lucy' — Public, Sponsor, Gov't, CBS Assure Ball As Storm Subsides

Everybody still loves Lucy! That's what CBS-TV v.p. Harry Ackerman said yesterday, following a Communist-labeling maelstrom involving the network's top star, Lucille Ball. Ackerman said public reaction thus far has been overwhelmingly with the actress, given a clean bill of health by the House Un-American Activities Committee after it was disclosed she filed a Communist voting registration in 1936.

Philip Morris, sponsor of the nation's No. 1 video show, "I Love Lucy," starring Miss Ball and her husband, Desi Arnaz, has also expressed company as being completely satisfied, "and is in Lucy's corner," Ackerman said. Miss Ball has been flooded with wires from all over the country, with the fans saying they're on her side, states Ackerman.

"We've had very few phone calls, and virtually all were favorable. The people seem to feel this thing is silly, not serious, and they all love Lucy," Ackerman enthused.

The CBS-TV exec, who said he knew of Miss Ball's testimony, on Sept. 4, 1952, before House Un-American Activities Committee investigator William Wheeler since last Fall, said that the record is now clear for anyone to read, and that the network "is satisfied, just as are Rep. Donald Jackson and Wheeler that Miss Ball is not and never has been a member of the Communist Party."

He said he had discussed the case with CBS toppers in NY, and that reaction seemed to be the

First "I Love Lucy" film of the season was filmed as scheduled Friday night before an audience that applauded Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz who asked that the public study the transcript of the actress' interrogation by the House Un-American Activities Committee before forming any opinions.

CBS sources said Miss Ball had received hundreds of telegrams expressing good wishes from video fans.

same throughout the country. "The press has been generally fair. We are terribly pleased at the attitude of the trade and the press, who have offered their support," he added.

By late afternoon Friday, after the first story was broken by the L.A. Herald-Express, Miss Ball was given a clean bill of health by the House Un-American Activities Committee which emphasized, in an unprecedented action, that "there is no indication that Miss Ball ever was a member of the Communist Party." Save for the potential seriousness of the situation, the rapid-fire events of the weekend assumed an opera bouffe quality that might have been taken right out of an "I Love Lucy" script.

Miss Ball's difficulties, the Committee disclosed, stemmed from the fact that she wanted to please her late grandfather, Fred C. Hunt. It was at his request that the actress, her mother and her brother, registered to vote as Communists in the 1936 primary elections.

Study of the voting records reveals that Miss Ball voted in that election, presumably on the Communist ticket since, after her registration declaration, a ballot from that party would have been handed to her.

Information gathered by the Committee included the fact that Miss Ball's name subsequently was put up for the Communist Party's State Central Committee but this was done, she declared, without her knowledge. There is no evidence of any other affiliation with the Communist Party.

In calling an unprecedented press conference Friday evening to release details of Miss Ball's interrogation by Committee investigator Wheeler, Rep. Donald L. Jackson (R., Cal.) emphasized that the Committee has no intention of calling Miss Ball as a witness. He said there have been no identifications of Miss Ball by any of the cooperative witnesses and that one such witness, a former chairman of the Communist Central Committee, testified that he had never met the actress and had no knowledge of any party affiliation on her part.

Jackson said the Committee would continue its investigation of Miss Ball since "no case is ever closed."

A transcript of the interrogation, released Saturday, mentions that she admitted former Communist, Rena M. Vale, told the State Un-American Activities (Tenney) Committee that she had attended a CP meeting at Miss Ball's home in 1936. Her testimony indicated that the meeting may have been conducted by the actress' grandfather, but Miss Ball said she had no knowledge of any such meeting.

The information concerning Miss Ball's voting registration was a matter of public record, Jackson pointed out, and the Committee has known for some months that "independent sources" were checking on the situation. The Committee's investigation thus far had not warranted any publicity, he added. The Committee member added that he was satisfied there had been no "leakage" of information from Committee sources but pointed out there was nothing that could be done about publication by "independent sources" of material which was in public record.

Rep. Jackson's press conference at which he gave Miss Ball a clean bill of health was comprehensively shown on KNXT, CBS-TV station here, Friday night in an astute piece of public relations work by the web.

Both the L.A. Times and the L.A. Examiner devoted over a full page yesterday to carrying the full transcript of Miss Ball's testimony before the House investigator. It was very evident that the complete coverage given the story by the newspapers here as well as those in key cities all across the country greatly helped Miss Ball fully present her side of the story.

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The commies themselves had a big part in breaking the Lucille Ball story and here's why: they feel that when Miss Ball proves she was never a Red it'll tend to discredit charges of commie membership still to be lodged against others. Fiendishly clever. these fiends.

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The Hollywood Reporter
9-14-53

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FILE FROM LUCY - Actress Lucille Ball laughs as she explains Desi Arnaz' contemplates an answer at their press conference. (AP Photo) Heavy roll news item after her Red link controversy was released

L.A. Times
9-13-53

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Lucille Ball Explains 1936 Communist Link

Star Confident Election Registration Won't Prove Damaging to Her Career

Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz faced the press beside the swimming pool of their Chatsworth ranch home yesterday and said they were glad the truth was out about Lucy's fleeting affair with Communist politics 17 years ago.

The nation's top television star and her costarring husband were interviewed at home as the House Un-American Activities Committee released the transcript of her secret testimony before it.

(The full transcript starts in adjoining columns on Page 1 of today's Times.)

Confidence Expressed

Miss Ball, the red-haired star of TV's "I Love Lucy," said she was confident the current stir over her registration as a Communist in 1936 would not damage her career.

"Hurt me?" she said. "I have more faith in the American people than that. I think any time you give the American people the truth they're with you."

Miss Ball, told that records showed she had not only registered as a Communist but also voted the Communist ticket in 1936, declared she couldn't remember voting at all.

There were press agents present. One stepped forward, told Lucy she had voted after all in the primary election, although she had failed to vote in the following general election.

"Okay," said Lucy, "I voted. Big deal."

Side by Side

Desi and Lucy sat side by side in green canvas yacht chairs under the trees beside the rustic pool which Desi himself designed. She wore pink linen slacks and an embroidered white silk blouse. Her orange hair was caught up on the back by a pink bow.

Lucy was only occasionally her usual saucy self as a semi-circle of newspapermen laid down a barrage of questions. In the last couple of days, she said, dabbing at her pouting forehead with an embroidered handkerchief, "I've realized this is nothing to laugh about."

Telephones Home

Lucy said the quiet investigation which exploded last week in the public eye began a year ago last April, when an investigator for the House committee, William Wheeler,

telephoned the Arnaz home and said he would like to interrogate her.

"I got news for you," Desi interrupted. "I investigated heem! I call up the FBI. I say 'Who is this Wheeler?' They tol' me there is a man name Wheeler, all right, but I should ask to see his credentials."

Lucy said Wheeler visited the house and talked to her.

"He asked only a few questions," she said. "There was no sworn testimony. Then he said, 'I'm satisfied there's nothing wrong here. Thank you very much. You'll probably never hear of this again.'"

Asked why, then, the investigation was revived, Lucy said:

"That's their business. When Mr. Wheeler came back, I was glad to see him. If he had any questions he wanted to ask, I wanted to answer them."

Cuban-born Desi agreed.

"Anytime there are rumors of any kind it's their duty to investigate," he said. "So it doesn't happen here what it happened in Cuba!"

Lucy explained why neither she nor Desi had made any public statement during the year and a half that her brief political past had been under investigation.

"They told us not to talk to people," she said. "They said there was no reason to talk to anybody."

Tell Reason

As she had in her sworn testimony before the committee, Lucy insisted she knew nothing of politics in 1936 and registered as a Communist only to please her grandfather, Fred Hunt, who was a zealous Socialist.

Asked why she registered as a Communist, then, and not as a Socialist, Lucy twisted her handkerchief and looked confused.

"I just don't know. I've forgotten completely. I never even heard the word Communism from Daddy. I heard Eugene Debs and I heard Socialism, but I never heard Communist."

Desi characterized Lucy's grandfather as a lovable old man who only wanted to do good and make everybody happy.

"Grandpa was a wonderful old guy," he said. "He was about 73 or 75. He had a bad heart. He died about three years later."

"He wanted everybody in the world to be happy and get more money. He was always talking about the working classes, but he never mentioned the word Communism."

"When I was courting Lucy, I meet the family. Lucy was always late when I come for her. So Grandpa, he use to read the editorials from the Daily Worker."

Don't Argue, She Says

"I used to tell Lucy, 'Let's get out of here,' but she tol' me don't argue with him. She expected him to drop dead any minute."

"After we got married," Desi went on, "Grandpa used to go into the kitchen and talk to the cooks."

"How much money you making," he ask. The cook say \$20 a week. 'You should make more money,' Grandpa say. The cook quit."

"For quite a while Lucy and me, we couldn't figure out why we couldn't keep a cook in the house."

Lucy was asked about her signature on a certificate in behalf of Emil Freed, a Communist Party candidate for the State Assembly in June, 1936. Her big eyes aimed an SOS at Desi.

Career Question

"Now, Lucy," he said. "I wanna tell you. I have been married to you 13 years and in that time you have signed don't know how many thousand papers. And you haven't read one of them yet!"

"Didn't you think then, back

in 1936, that this might hurt your career?" Lucy was asked. "Career?" said Lucy. "I didn't have any career. I was a stock girl at RKO. Down in the small print it said I had to sweep out the office if they wanted me to."

"How old were you then?" "I don't even know how old I am now," snapped 42-year-old Lucy.

Express Gratitude

Both Desi and Lucy expressed deep gratitude for the heartwarming reception an audience of 300 fans gave them Friday night when they filmed an "I Love Lucy" sequence for October release.

"I was pretty numb," said Lucy. "But I was thrilled the way the audience acted. It was sensational. Unbelievable. More than you could hope for."

She said there has not been one bitter note in the public reaction.

"They tell me telegrams have poured in by the thousands at the studio, and there hasn't been one dissenting vote, anywhere."

Miss Ball insisted she was glad the whole thing has come out. We asked them, begged them to bring it out.

She said she has never even met Rep. Donald L. Jackson who has stated emphatically that Miss Ball, was never a member of the Communist Party or involved in Communist activities.

"All I know is I saw his picture in the morning paper," she said. "He's a pretty good looking guy."

Holds Back Tears

Two or three times during the interview Lucy's saucer eyes watered up but she held her tears. Lest anyone think they took the situation lightly, Desi kissed her on the cheek from time to time and muttered:

"This has been terrible, terrible."

While Lucy was prettying up for the interview Desi took a dip in the pool. He climbed out spilling, dripping and cool.

"You know, Desi," said a reporter, "yesterday was one of the hottest days of the year?" "You tallin' me!" said Desi.

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Lucille Ball's Testimony on Red Link Released by House Committee

Took Daily Worker

Throughout his life he has been a Socialist, as far back as Eugene V. Debs, and he was in sympathy with the working man as long as I have known him and he took the Daily Worker.

Testimony of Television Star Lucille Ball concerning her registration as a Communist in 1936 was released yesterday by Rep. Donald L. Jackson (R) Cal., of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Release of the transcript followed the sensational disclosure that the red-haired actress had registered to vote the Communist Party ticket 17 years ago, when she was 24 years old.

Jackson issued a statement after the disclosure saying that while she had registered as a Communist, evidence now before the committee indicates Miss Ball never had a role in the Communist Party.

He ordered the transcript released for publication, as the actress requested, to "present Miss Ball's status factually and officially."

The transcript was made available by William A. Wheeler, West Coast investigator for the House committee. It details her appearance before Wheeler in executive session last Sept. 4 in Hollywood.

In addition to the actress' testimony, that of her mother and brother is also given. They

had also registered to vote Communist in 1936. Three exhibits, including a copy of her registration, were made a part of the transcript, and are further identified in the testimony.

Following is the complete record of her testimony as taken by Investigator Wheeler.

Wheeler: State your full name, please.

Miss Ball: Lucille Desires Ball Arnez.

Wheeler: Where were you born?

Miss Ball: Jamestown, N.Y.

Wheeler: You are presently resident of Los Angeles County?

Miss Ball: Yes.

Wheeler: And your profession?

Miss Ball: Actress, television actress now.

Wheeler: How long have you been engaged as an actress?

Miss Ball: Since '33, I guess; '32 or '33.

Wheeler: What is your educational background?

Miss Ball: Just school, high school.

Wheeler: Are you under subpoena or are you appearing voluntarily?

Miss Ball: I am appearing voluntarily.

Wheeler: You graduated from high school?

Miss Ball: No, I didn't, even graduate.

Wheeler: You have been employed in motion picture work since that time, since you left school?

Miss Ball: No, I was in New York working.

Wheeler: How long have you been a resident here?

Miss Ball: '33.

Wheeler: You have pursued acting since that time?

Miss Ball: Yes.

Wheeler: For whom have you worked in the studios?

Miss Ball: Goldwyn and Columbia and RKO and Paramount and M-G-M.

Got \$75 a Week

Wheeler: Where were you employed in 1936?

Miss Ball: It was, I think, RKO. It might have been Columbia.

Wheeler: What was your salary bracket in 1936, approximately?

Miss Ball: Well, if it was at Columbia I was getting \$75 a week. If it was RKO I was getting \$50.

Wheeler: Did you have any screen credits about that time?

Miss Ball: I might have been getting more in '36, maybe \$75. No screen credits. Maybe a bit part here and there. I doubt that, even, in '36; possibly a bit part.

Wheeler: Did you ever reside at 1344 N Ogden Drive?

Miss Ball: Yes.

Rented Her House

Wheeler: Who owned that residence?

Miss Ball: We rented it. I don't remember who owned it.

Wheeler: When did you first register to vote?

Miss Ball: I guess the first time I ever did was in '36.

Wheeler: I would like to hand you a photostatic copy of a voter's registration and ask you if that is your signature.

Miss Ball: That looks like my handwriting.

Wheeler: You will note that the party that you intended to affiliate with at that time was the Communist Party.

Miss Ball: In '36?

Wheeler: Yes.

Miss Ball: I guess so.

Explains Background

Wheeler: You did register to vote then as a Communist or intending to vote the Communist Party ticket?

Miss Ball: Yes.

Wheeler: Would you go into detail and explain the background, the reason you voted or registered to vote as a Communist or person who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party?

Miss Ball: It was our grandfather, Fred Hunt. He just wanted us to and we just did something to please him. I did not intend to vote that way. As I recall, I didn't.

My grandfather started years ago—he was a Socialist as long as I can remember. He is the only father we ever knew, my grandfather. My father died when I was tiny, before my brother was born. He was my brother's only father.

It never meant much to us because he was so radical on the subject that he pressed his point a little too much, actually probably, during our childhood, because he finally got over our heads and we didn't do anything but consider it a nuisance, but as a dad, and he got into his 70s, and it became so vital to him that the world must be right 24 hours a day all over it, and he was trying his damndest to do the best he could for everybody, and especially the working man—that is, from the garbage man, the maid in the kitchen, the studio worker, the factory worker. He never lost a chance to do what he considered bettering their positions.

That was fine, and we were along with it wherever we could. Sometimes it got a little ridiculous because my position in the so-called capitalist world was pretty good and was a little hard to reconcile the two. We didn't argue with him very much because he had had a couple of strokes and he got overly excited, why, he would have another one.

Does Favor for Him

So finally there came a point where my brother was 21, and he was going to see that Fred die registered to help the working man, which was, in his idea

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then, the Communist Party. At the time it wasn't a thing to hide behind doors, to be a member of that party.

As I recall, because of this he influenced us. We thought we wanted to do him a favor. We thought we could make him happy. I at no time intended to vote that way. And I remember discussing it with my mother, how I could register and make him happy. When I go behind a curtain to vote, nobody knows who I vote for.

He also considered it a personal victory at the time, that he had the entire family to register. He didn't influence us enough at any time to vote; at least, he didn't influence me.

He influenced us, to give a great deal of thought to whether he was right or wrong, and we always decided he was wrong, because the things he was shouting about didn't seem to be practical for this country. He admired the working man and the peasants all over the world, the five-year plan and anything that was great for the working man.

'Got Very Confused'

Wheeler: He considered the Communist Party as a working-man's party?

Miss Ball: That is all I ever heard. I never heard my grandfather use the word "Communist." He never said that he read the Daily Worker. He always talked about the working man.

He got very confused in his later years, when Russia and— who got together—Russia and Germany got together and he got so he couldn't answer our questions at all of them. And he would get mad and change the subject. He never quite could find out what had happened to the working man after that, I guess.

We were never able to keep a maid, although we paid the highest prices we could afford or they were getting at the time. My grandfather would walk out into the kitchen and see a maid and would say, "Well, what is your name? How much are you getting?"

Just a Fanatic

"Oh, \$20 or \$25 a week," or whatever they were being paid. And he would say, "That is not a working wage. What are you doing here?" And after a few times of that, you know, they would leave. That is just one instance.

as they talking to the man early in the morning, or anybody doing any kind of a menial task, he would say, "Why are you doing that? Why aren't you doing something else?"

He was just a fanatic on bettering the world. That is as far as we knew, and that is why we could endorse it at all.

Never a Red

Wheeler: Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Miss Ball: No, not to my knowledge.

Wheeler: Have you ever been asked to become a member of the Communist Party?

Miss Ball: No.

Wheeler: Did you ever attend any meetings that you later discovered were Communist Party meetings?

Miss Ball: No.

Wheeler: Do you know whether or not any meetings were ever held in your home at 1344 N Ogden Drive?

Asked About Freed

Miss Ball: No, I know nothing of that. I don't believe it is true.

Wheeler: How old were you in 1936?

Miss Ball: I am 42 now; 24.

Wheeler: I would like to introduce the affidavit of registration as Ball Exhibit No. 1, Registration No. 847584. (The document referred to was marked Ball Exhibit No. 1 and was received in evidence.)

Wheeler: This affidavit of registration is signed by Lucille Ball and dated the 19th day of March, 1936.

Have you ever known an individual by the name of Emil Freed?

Member of Committee

Miss Ball: I never heard the name before, to my knowledge, as I recall.

Wheeler: Have you ever known an individual by the name of Jacob or Jack Breger?

Miss Ball: Not until I read it today.

Wheeler: Are you aware that you were a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party for the year 1936?

Miss Ball: Was I aware before you told me, you mean?

Wheeler: Yes.

Miss Ball: No.

Wheeler: Well, I would like to hand you a document entitled "Appointment of Members of the State Central Committee Meeting at Sacramento in the Year 1936." It is stamped "Communist Party" and this document discloses that Emil Freed was a delegate by nomination to the State Central Committee of the Communist

Party for that year. And he appointed three individuals as delegates.

Has No Explanation

Those appointed, according to the document, are Jacob Breger, 822 N Orange Drive; Fred Hunt, 1344 N Ogden Drive, and Lucille Ball, 1344 N Ogden Drive.

Now, I would like to hand you this document and have you give any explanation that you desire.

Miss Ball: I have no explanation. I haven't signed it. I don't know where it came from or what. My name is misspelled. The address is right; that is all.

I don't know Emil Freed. I never heard of Emil Freed and if Emil Freed appointed me as a delegate to the State Central Committee it was done without my knowledge or consent.

Wheeler: I notice your grandfather, Fred Hunt, was also appointed as a delegate for the year 1936. Were you aware of that?

Didn't Attend Meeting

Miss Ball: No. I was not aware of it.

Wheeler: Do you know who could be responsible for your name appearing on this document?

Miss Ball: Possibly my grandfather, Fred Hunt.

Wheeler: Do you recall if anyone contacted you in 1936 in regard to obtaining your proxy to vote?

Miss Ball: No, except my grandfather. Is that what you mean?

Wheeler: You stated that you were appointed without your knowledge or consent, is that right?

Miss Ball: That is right.

Wheeler: I assume you did not attend the meeting of the State Central Committee at Sacramento.

Introduced as Exhibit

Miss Ball: I didn't even know there was one. I still don't know what it means.

Wheeler: Do you recall whether or not you were contacted by any individual to obtain from you your voting proxy at the Central Committee meeting in Sacramento?

Miss Ball: Never.

Wheeler: I will introduce this as Ball Exhibit No. 2. It is dated the 15th day of September, 1936.

Miss Ball: I should say never, to my knowledge.

(The document referred to was marked Ball Exhibit No. 1 and was received in evidence. Wheeler: I might say, for the record, that the last document was obtained from the files of the Secretary of State in Sacramento.

No Record of Proxies

Also, there is no record of the proxies filed by different delegates in the office of the Secretary of State.

I would like to refer to the report of the un-American activities in California for the year 1943, and refer to Page 1 of that document, which is a portion of an affidavit submitted by Rena M. Vale. The affidavit begins on Page 122 and continues through Page 17 and bears the date of the 23 day of November, 1942.

I would like to read a portion of Page 127. In this affidavit she has admitted she was one time a member of the Communist Party and she is discussing how she became a member.

'Guests of Actress'

"That within a few days after my third application to join the Communist Party was made, I received a notice to attend a meeting on N Ogden Drive, Hollywood; although it was a typed, unsigned notice merely requesting my presence at the address at 8 o'clock in the evening on a given day. I knew it was the long-awaited notice to attend Communist Party new members' classes; "That on arrival at this address I found several other present; an elderly man informed us that we were the guests of the screen actress Lucille Ball, and showed us various pictures, books and other objects to establish that fact and stated she was glad to let her home for a Communist Party new members' class; "

"That the instructor introduced himself as Sidney M. Davis, but I later knew him by the name of Sidney Davids which he stated was his true name;

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Actor at Meeting

"That there were about seven or eight other members of this class, but the only names I recall are those of Herb Harris, an actor, whom I encountered from time to time within the Communist Party, and who took part in the play 'The Blackguard,' which ran for several years in Los Angeles around 1938 and 1939, and Libby Jacobson, who, in 1939, was active in consumer co-operatives in Los Angeles."

Do you have any knowledge of any meetings held in your home, Miss Ball?

Miss Ball: None whatsoever.

Wheeler: Are you acquainted with Rena Vale?

Miss Ball: I never heard the name before in my life.

'Never Left Alone'

Wheeler: Are you acquainted with or have you ever been acquainted with Sidney Martin or Sidney Davidson?

Miss Ball: No, sir, I never heard the name.

Wheeler: Are you acquainted with or have you ever been acquainted with Herb Harris?

Miss Ball: I never heard the name.

Wheeler: Are you acquainted with Libby Jacobson?

Miss Ball: I never heard that name.

Wheeler: Do you know whether or not your grandfather, Fred Hunt, held meetings at the home?

Miss Ball: Not to our knowledge ever, and he was always with someone. As we look back now, we can't remember at any time he was ever alone, because he had had two strokes and we had a nurse that lived there at the time, and there was—he was never alone that we remember; no evidence of any meeting ever being held in our house when we were out. This is something we knew nothing about.

Mother Also Registered

Wheeler: I also have a photostatic copy of an affidavit of registration for the year 1936 for Mrs. Desiree E. Ball, and it discloses that she also registered to vote as a person who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party on the 12th day of June, 1936. What relation is Desiree Ball to you?

Miss Ball: My mother.

Wheeler: Do you know whether or not she was ever a member of the Communist Party?

Miss Ball: Not to my know-

edge.

Wheeler: I have a second photostat here, a voter's registration, signed by Fred E. Hunt, who also intended to affiliate with the Communist Party.

Miss Ball: Fred E. Hunt?

Wheeler: Well, it looks like an "E." What is his middle initial?

Miss Ball: Fred C.

Changed His Affiliation

Wheeler: Fred C. Hunt, rather. This document is dated the 12th day of June, 1936, and also shows he changed the vote to Democrat Nov. 18, 1940.

I believe you testified that Fred C. Hunt was your grandfather?

Miss Ball: That is right.

Wheeler: Is he living?

Miss Ball: No.

Wheeler: I have a third document here, a photostat of an affidavit of registration, bearing the signature of Fred H. Ball, who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party in the ensuing election of 1936. It is also dated the 12th day of June, 1936. What relation is Fred H. Ball to you?

Miss Ball: Brother.

Wheeler: Do you know whether or not he was ever a member of the Communist Party?

Miss Ball: Not to my knowledge, nor to his.

Wheeler: Where is your brother presently residing?

Miss Ball: Scottsdale, Ariz.

Wheeler: Do you know whether or not he has ever been investigated by the government or any agency or employer who does government contract work, in regard to this Communist registration?

Miss Ball: Yes, he has.

Wheeler: What was the outcome of this investigation?

Miss Ball: He has always been cleared.

Asked About Work

Wheeler: You mean he retained his employment?

Miss Ball: I think so. I don't know. He can tell you more about that. I don't think he has always retained his employment, no. If during the war there was a hint of that suspicion, the investigation probably went on, but you didn't retain your employment.

Wheeler: I notice now that your mother and your brother and grandfather all registered on the 12th day of June to vote, and you registered on the 19th day of March. Is there any significance to that?

Miss Ball: See, I didn't go. They were trying to recall to my mind where we might have registered and I couldn't remember.

Isn't this what he is talking about? I couldn't remember having gone down where they ~~said they~~ went. They ~~were~~ they

went way downtown, where Grandpa wanted us to go, way downtown near Main St. I don't ever remember going down that far.

Doesn't Know Where

I really racked my brain over a 17-year period and all I remember was something like a garage and a flag, like a voting day. They said it didn't tie up for registration. I can't explain it. But that bears me out, I didn't go on that trip.

I don't know where I registered. I would have said, if I hadn't talked to you last year, that I voted. You said you had no record of my voting. I would have said I voted when I went in there.

I remember feeling very foxy about the thing, because I registered. We had a very bad feeling we had done that. I always felt I would be all right if I didn't vote it, just to appease Grandpa.

Voted in Primary

Wheeler: The affidavit of registration discloses you voted in the primary for the year 1936. That would be, I assume, in June. However, you did not vote in the general election.

Miss Ball: That could have been what I did there that morning.

Wheeler: The Deputy Registrar of Voters, who signed this document, is a Mrs. Dodd. Does she mean anything to you?

Miss Ball: What did you say she was?

Wheeler: Deputy Registrar of Voters.

Miss Ball: No.

Wheeler: She is the Deputy Registrar of Voters. She would be the individual who you would sign that document in the presence of.

Signed Two Petitions

Well now, the affidavit of registration on the reverse side discloses that you signed two petitions for the year 1936, the Freed nominating petition for the 57th Assembly District, or, rather, it is a sponsor certificate. This document was also obtained from the files of the Secretary of State and I ~~was~~ in ~~the~~ record as Ball Exhibit 3.

(The document referred to was marked Ball Exhibit No. 3 and was received in evidence.)

Wheeler: I will read the following from the document:

"I, the undersigned, sponsor for Emil Freed for the Communist Party nomination to the office of member of the Assembly 57th District, to be voted for at the primary election to be held on the 25th day of August, 1936, hereby assert as follows:

"My knowledge of the s. Emil Freed is sufficient to warrant my urging his election to the office of member of the assembly, 57th District, and in my opinion he is fully qualified mentally, morally and physically for the said office and should be elected to fill it. I am a qualified elector of Los Angeles County and I am registered as affiliated with the Communist Party and am not at the time a signer of any other certificate nominating any other candidate for the above-named office, or in case there are several places to be filled in the above-named office, I have registered more certificates than are places to be filled in the above-named office."

Part of Appeasement

I would like to refer to the second page of this document under Line 23, and there appears the signature of Luci Ball, 1344 Ogden Drive, and occupation, artist. It is dated 6-16-'36. Is that your signature (indicating)?

Miss Ball: I would say it was Wheeler: Do you recall signing the document?

Miss Ball: No, but I recall at that time doing what I could to appease Grandpa and that is just part of it.

At that time it didn't probably seem very important to point this man.

Wheeler: You will note what I read to you, that before signing

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ing the document it states that you ~~are~~ the man and he is morally, physically and mentally qualified.

Miss Ball: It is something I signed without looking at it, or if I looked at it, it didn't seem like a big thing at the time.

Grandfather Signed, Too

Wheeler: I believe your grandfather's signature appears on there, as well as the whole family?

Miss Ball: Yes, Fred, myself and my mother and my grandfather. My name appears on the second page of this document. Our names appear there. It is possible that this was handed to us just as a list of names, without the strong-sounding sponsor certificate on the front of it.

I don't recall that I ever heard anything which right now sounds very strong and impossible to sign at this day and age, but I might have because at that time I was of mind to try to do something that would please Daddy. It just didn't seem like an important, awful thing to do, like it does these days. But, to my knowledge, I didn't ever see the first part of this certificate I signed.

Wheeler: Are you familiar with the words or the phrase "criminal syndicalism"?

'Word Sounds Pretty'

Miss Ball: No, but it is pretty. What does it mean?

Wheeler: Criminal syndicalism?

Miss Ball: What does it mean?

Wheeler: According to the voter's registration for the year 1936, the reverse part of it, you signed a petition 164-F.

This particular petition was for the Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act in California.

Miss Ball: What does it mean?

Wheeler: The Communists were taken to court and tried for criminal syndicalism, and—

Miss Ball: And I signed something else?

Wheeler: You signed this petition to take the Criminal Syndicalism Act off the statutes of the State of California.

Nice to Daddy Week

Miss Ball: I did; that is, without my knowledge. May I see the signature?

Wheeler: Unfortunately, they have been destroyed, those particular petitions.

Miss Ball: By whom?

Wheeler: They are retained a ~~few~~ years, under law, and they can be destroyed.

Miss Ball: Was this the same time we were being nice to Daddy week?

Wheeler: It was in the year 1936. However, I do have a photostat of a sample copy of the petition which was dated July 10, 1936, and this particular petition was circulated by the California Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act at 68 Haight St., San Francisco, Cal. Have you ever heard of that organization?

Miss Ball: No.

Has Heard of Group

Wheeler: It was also circulated by the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights, 129 W 2nd St., Room 326, Los Angeles, Cal. Have you ever heard of this second organization?

Miss Ball: No. I have since then, probably. I imagine that ties up with the un-American business activities; constitutional rights they are all standing up for now. Is that what it means?

Wheeler: Well, it means more or less like this: "An act defining criminal syndicalism and sabotage, proscribing certain acts and methods in connection therewith and in pursuance thereof and providing penalties and punishments therefor."

Miss Ball: If I ever seen that, I would have never signed it. Did I sign it?

Signing Indicated

Wheeler: Well, the voter's registration indicates that you did sign it. In other words, when a petition is signed they check each signature, to ascertain if the individual is a registered voter.

When it is ascertained the individual is a registered voter they mark on his voter's registration, this particular number, 164-F, which indicates the person who registered did sign that petition. However, I have been unable to locate the actual petition.

Miss Ball: Because you register you are in sympathy with all this (indicating)?

Wheeler: It would indicate as such. I mean, if a person signs a particular document requesting that the Criminal Syndicalism Act be removed from the statutes, it would seem to indicate to me that you would be in sympathy with the Criminal Syndicalism Act.

Miss Ball: Well, anyway, I don't know what it means.

Wheeler: You were previously contacted by myself, an investigator for the House Committee on Un-American Activities?

Miss Ball: Yes.

Never Joined Committee

Wheeler: You recall the date as April 3, 1952?

Miss Ball: Yes.

Wheeler: Are you acquainted with the Committee of the First Amendment?

Miss Ball: Am I acquainted with it?

Wheeler: Yes.

Miss Ball: Not to my knowledge.

Wheeler: Or were you a member of the Committee of the First Amendment?

Miss Ball: Not to my knowledge.

Wheeler: Well, your name is mentioned in the Daily People's World, the issue of 10-28-47, page 1, columns 5 and 6, as one of the high personalities who were sponsoring or a member of the Committee of the First Amendment.

Can't Recall Signing

That committee was formed here in Hollywood to oppose

the Congressional hearings in 1947.

Miss Ball: Refresh my memory on it. I can't imagine ever signing that. Did I sign that, too? Was it under an assumed name?

Wheeler: That I don't know. There was a reference to it.

Miss Ball: What is the People's World? Is that like the Daily Worker?

Wheeler: Yes, a Communist publication of the Western States.

Asks to See Copy

Miss Ball: In '47? That certainly was not for Grandpa. Grandpa was gone by then. I can't imagine doing anything for these people. If I was hoodwinked into it, with one of those long democratic souped-up names, that is something else. I would like to see it. Could I see that?

Wheeler: I don't have the copy of the People's World for that date.

Miss Ball: Am I supposed to have signed something as being in sympathy?

Wheeler: Your name was used as in—

Miss Ball: Was it used or did I sign something?

Wheeler: I have no knowledge of your signing.

Recalls Phone Call

Miss Ball: Fine. Then I have no knowledge of signing it. However, I do recall I was at a studio, and I got a call in the afternoon. I don't know who called me. I assume now I did then—it was the Screen Actors Guild, but I can be wrong. I don't know who called me now. It was some thing that was through a union or the studio wouldn't have felt compelled to send me off to set and hold up production until I got back. It had nothing to do with me.

I got the call to go to a radio station. As I remember, it was MGM—it may not have been. I remember an executive excused me and sent me to this broadcast.

I got down there and said "What am I supposed to do?"

She said, "Dorothy Petersen, —whoever she is—she is ill. We have to go on the air."

Read a Petition

I haven't seen her in years. I don't know her.

She said, "Will you read this?"

It was a long petition, on whatever you call them, and I recall. As I recall—I am not

5A
2-26-96
b7c

sure of this—it was about the Okies upstate California, no or some place, about admitting the Okies. I read it. They thanked me and they sent me back to work.

I don't know how long after that that it was that I was called downtown in an FBI office and asked why I did it. Apparently, it was wrong. It was my first knowledge it was wrong.

I had no answer at all, because I hadn't done it of my own volition. I had been sent there. It didn't seem wrong to go some place the studio had sent you.

to explain why I had done it. I had no reason except I had been called.

Wheeler: How long ago did you go to the FBI?

Miss Ball: I have no idea. I have no idea when I did this broadcast. I have no idea how long after that they called me. But that is the first time I ever—

Wheeler: It was three or four years ago?

Miss Ball: It is more than that.

Wheeler: Did they discuss with you at that time—

Miss Ball: Must have been six, eight, nine years ago; maybe 10. There were two broad-

casts. I don't know who sent me on the first one and I don't know what the second one was about. It was something that everybody was doing. You just get asked to do these things. I again was called in at the last minute.

'I Don't Know'

I had nothing to do with whatever it was. I didn't know what I was doing, but you assumed at the time, when you are called by a union or one of your—I don't know who called me. I know both times I was called to replace someone.

Wheeler: Did you discuss this material today with the FBI or did they question you regarding your voter's registration?

Miss Ball: No. That was apparently just something I had

read on the radio I shouldn't have. I don't know.

Wheeler: Do you have anything in addition you would like to add for the record?

Miss Ball: I am very happy to have this opportunity to discuss all the things that have cropped up, that apparently I have done wrong.

Never Helped Reds

I am aware of only one thing. I did that was wrong, and that at the time wasn't wrong, but apparently now it is, and that was registering because my grandfather wanted us to. I at no time thought it was the thing to do, nor did I ever intend to vote in the Presidential election, I guess it was at that time, I don't know. To my knowledge I didn't vote, but I did register. Since then I have

never done anything knowingly against the United States.

I have never done anything for Communists, to my knowledge, at any time. I have never contributed money or attended a meeting or ever had anything to do with people connected with it, if to my knowledge they were.

I am not a Communist now. I never have been. I never wanted to be. Nothing in the world could ever change my mind. At no time in my life have I ever been in sympathy with anything that even faintly resembled it.

I was always opposed (indicating) to how my grandfather felt about any other way this country should be run. I thought things were just fine the way they were.

It sounds a little weak and silly and corny now, but at the

was very important because we knew we weren't going to have daddy with us very long. If it made him happy, it was important at the time. But I was always conscious of the fact I could go just so far to make him happy. I tried not to go any farther.

'Never Political Minded'

In those days that was not a big, terrible thing to do. It was almost as terrible to be a Republican in those days. I have never been too civic-minded and certainly never political-minded in my life.

Since I got any feelings on the subject at all, we went maybe a little strongly Democratic one year and we got into trouble doing that. That is when Roosevelt was still alive. We were always very much for Roosevelt and did everything

that Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt asked us to do, as all of Hollywood, or as most of Hollywood, was doing.

He was the only President I had ever known. It was a wonderful thing to get out and help him with his March of Dimes or bond tours during the war and we were very busy. Never in my life have I had any other feeling than the Communists were wrong, that anybody in this town would dare to think of changing any of it or complaining about what they had is just the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard of.

Questioning Ends

I certainly was never in sympathy with the Dmytryks. I can't remember any of the other names.

How we got to signing a few things or going among some

people that thought differently, that has happened to all of us out here in the last 10 or 12 years and it is unfortunate, but I certainly will do anything in the world to prove that we made a bad mistake by, for one week or a couple of weeks, trying to appease an old man. But there has never been any thought of belonging or wanting to belong to the Communist Party.

Wheeler: I have no further questions. Thank you for your co-operation.

2-26-46 SP4 [redacted] b7c 5.

TOWN MEETING

Says Lucy Didn't Seem Red

Town Meeting: One of the surest ways to promote communism is to convince the rank and file that a loved one doesn't find it repugnant. I don't number myself among the followers of "I Love Lucy," because television is for me still too "nouveau," "joven," or expensive—I don't even own a set—but I do know Lucy is loved by millions of Americans.

I knew Lucille Ball in 1936. If she was a communist then she was the queerest-acting communist (besides being the greatest actress) anyone ever heard of. She was not a communist.

The fourth estate has a responsibility to the nation in direct proportion to the number of people it influences. To use its influence to subvert is to turn freedom of the press into license and lawlessness.

—RUTH AGNEW.

100-417027

LUCILLE BALL
SECURITY MATTER - C

HOLLYWOOD CITIZEN-NEWS
SEPTEMBER 16, 1953
HARLAN PALMER, JR. - MANAGING EDITOR

AL
22696

SM [REDACTED]

b7c

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED [REDACTED]
SEP 18 1953
FBI

b7c

100-41702-18

TRUE COPY



Dear Winchell;

What are these bums trying to prove ? Lucille Ball defended the UNFRIENDLY TEN as late as 1948 and Granpop was not around to guide her at that time.

Clyne of the Biow Agency knew this dame was on the Pinko side when he signed her for Morris Cigarettes. Now Metro and the Morris people are trying to save what they can out off the mess by pushing aside Winchell and others who had the guts to PORVE THAT THIS DAME SIGNED WITH THE COMMY PARTY.

Ball is 42 now. In 1936 she was 29--well over the 21 year old mark and should have had all of her marbles regarding polittical parties. FIVE YEARS AGO 1948, she STILL SHOULD HAVE HAD ENOUGH BRAINS TO KNOW THAT THE UNFRIENDLY TEN OF HOLLYWOOD WERE STILL COMMY BUMS.....But no she went along with them.

If Walter Winchell had bothered to call Dizzy he would have handed Winchell the same lies he handed the Herald Express the other day---namely she never registered as a member of the Communist Party...WHEN THE HERALD HAD THE SIGNED PROOF RUNNING IN THE PAPER AS DEZIE DENIED IT. I still think the show should be called

I LOATHE LUCY and every real American feels that way too.

b7c



Index →

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-96 BY SP4

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b7c ↑

100-41702-19

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 29 1953	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

2

(9/1/53)

TRUE COPY

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, Los Angeles (100-41702)

DATE: September 24, 1953

b7c

FROM : Director, FBI (100-400465)

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

For the additional information of your office and the completion of your file, there are attached two copies of a self-explanatory communication forwarded to the Bureau by Mr. Walter Winchell under postmark of 9-18-53. The writer of the attached letter is not identifiable in Bufiles.

Since the envelope in which this communication was transmitted to Winchell is not available to the Bureau, neither the postmark nor the point of origination can be determined.

In view of the source of the attached, you are requested that, in the event it is necessary to utilize this information at some future time, the source be fully protected and the material paraphrased appropriately.

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-28-96 BY SP5 [redacted]
378872

b7c 2

100-41702-20

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 28 1953	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

[redacted]

[signature]

War Vets Protest To 'Lucy's' Sponsor

Indianapolis, Oct. 6. — A war veterans group here made public today a petition it has sent to Philip Morris protesting the cigarette company's employment of Lucille Ball as star of "I Love Lucy" on the CBS-TV network. Vets based their complaint against Miss Ball on fact she once registered to vote as a Communist in a California Primary Election.

The vets, who identified themselves as including two former American Legion Post commanders, warned Philip Morris that they will boycott that company's cigarettes until Miss Ball is replaced. Indianapolis is the national headquarters of the American Legion.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-96 BY SA [redacted]

b7c

100-41702-21

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 20 1953	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

DAILY VARIETY
OCT 7 1953

CHARGE-OUT SLIP

FD-5
(7-10-52)

FILE 100 41702 12-9-54
Class Number Last Serial Date
Serials 22 ident _____
Serials _____ Date _____
Serials 19 _____ Date _____
Serials _____ Date _____

Employee: _____

RECHARGE

_____ Date

To: _____ From: _____

b7C

m

One of the points to be cleared up about Lucille Ball, as announced by Congressman Jackson, appears on Pages 107 and 108 of the 1943 Tenney Report. Hearing transcript quotes John M. Weatherwax as testifying under oath that he knew her and that he was appointed to the Party's State Central Committee at the same time she was. Weatherwax may be called to testify again on how well he knew Lucy.

Index

100-41702 *

100-41702-23

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 9 1953	
FBI-LOS ANGELES	

The Hollywood Reporter
9-18-53

b7c

100-41702

CHARGE-OUT SLIP

FD-5
(7-10-52)

FILE 100 41702
Class Number Last Serial Date

Serials 24 12-17-53
Date

Serials Serials ident
Date

Serials _____
Date

Employee: 100-41702-20
Per [REDACTED]
Date

To: [REDACTED] b7C From: _____

DIRECTOR, FBI (61-7582)

October 30, 1953

SAC, WFO (100-22169)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

WFOA released a pamphlet entitled Investigation of Communist Activities in the Los Angeles area, Part 7, which includes testimony of the following individuals given before the committee on September 4, 1953 in California:

~~LUCILLE DESIRÉE BALE ARNAZ
DESIRÉE BALL
FRED HENRY BALL~~

100-41702-*

b7C

A copy of this pamphlet is enclosed for the Bureau and each office receiving a copy of this communication.

For the information of the Phoenix Office there is enclosed herewith a copy of Bureau communication to the WFO dated June 3, 1953, outlining the procedure to be followed in reviewing WFOA testimony.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-96 BY SP4
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2 - Los Angeles (100-~~15732~~) (Incl. 1) RM
Phoenix (Incl. 2)
Incl. (1)

100-41702-2

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NOV 3 1953

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see lat

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-400465)

12/16/53

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41702)

LUCILLE BALL, was.
SM-C

ReBulet dated 1/18/52 captioned "CP, U.S.A., DISTRICT 13, Los Angeles Division, IS-C" and remyAir-Tel to Bureau 9/11/53 captioned "HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES".

The subject furnished an executive statement to WILLIAM A. WHEELER, West Coast Representative, House Committee on Un-American Activities, on September 4, 1953, at Hollywood, California. BALL stated that in 1936 she registered to vote as a Communist or intended to vote the Communist Party ticket because her grandfather, FRED HUNT, now deceased, wanted her to register as such. She stated that FRED HUNT had been a Socialist all his life and she had registered as a Communist to make him happy and to do him a favor. She stated she at no time intended to vote as a Communist.

R
BALL stated she has never been a member of the Communist Party to "her knowledge"; had never been asked to become a Communist Party member; did not ever attend any meetings which she later discovered were Communist Party meetings; did not know whether or not any meetings were ever held at her home at 1344 North Ogden Drive; stated she did not know EMIL FREED and if he had appointed her as a delegate to the State Central Committee of the Communist Party in 1936 it was done without her knowledge or consent; did not recall signing the document sponsoring EMIL FREED for the Communist Party nomination to the office of member of the assembly of the 57th District; and has never heard of the California Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, the Southern California Council for Constitutional Rights, or the Committee for the 1st Amendment.

A review of the subject's file reflects no activity that would warrant her inclusion on the Security Index. The subject's file is being maintained in a closed status. On October 30, 1953, the Washington Field Office furnished the Los Angeles Office with a copy of the subject's executive statement which is located in Los Angeles file 100-41702-1a1.

Reg. [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-96 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

b7c

#338 872

100-41702-26

530 Broadway
San Diego, California
October 21, 1954

CONFIDENTIAL

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: LUCILLE BALL, aka.
Mrs. Desi Arnaz
SECURITY MATTER - C
(HCUA Hearings in San Diego)

100-41702 *
+ refs

Dear Sir:

The House Committee on Un-American Activities held hearings at San Diego, California from April 19 to April 22, 1954. The results of these hearings are reported in "Investigation of Communist Activities in the State of California". (Part 1-10)

Information concerning the above-captioned person appears as follows:

Part 1, Page 4525

On February 24, 1953, during the testimony of STANLEY B. WAINCOCK, Circulation Manager, Long Island Daily Press, Jamaica, Long Island, New York, a discussion arose concerning the fact that the State Committee of the Communist Party was composed of persons who were not actually State leaders. Congressman DONALD L. JACKSON commented that Miss LUCILLE BALL, who was a member of the State Committee, had stated in an affidavit that she had no knowledge or recollection of having been so appointed.

Part 4, Pages 4710, 4711, 4713

On April 19, 1954 DANIEL POMEROY TAYLOR, Los Angeles, California, who testified he had been a member

REGISTERED

62-848

cc: Los Angeles (Info.) (REG.)

b7c

Handle as
HCUA letter
(2)

b7c

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2-26-76
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100-41702-27
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

DIRECTOR, FBI

October 21, 1954

RE: LUCILLE BALL, aka.

of the Communist Party from 1935 until 1941, also testified concerning the State Committee that although the name of LUCILLE BALL was on the Committee, TAYLOR believed she was never a Communist.

Subsequently during TAYLOR's testimony, Congressman JACKSON commented that the LUCILLE BALL matter should be more clearly put in the record. He stated that although Miss BALL had knowledge of registration in the Communist Party she denied any activity or of having attended any Party functions during the period of time she was registered.

Since this Subject resides within the territory of the Los Angeles Division, no recommendation is being made by San Diego concerning the placing or retaining on or removal of her name from the Security Index, same being left to the discretion of the Office of Origin.

Very truly yours,

GALEN N. WILLIS
Special Agent in Charge

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-400465)

December 3, 1954

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41702)

LUCILLE BALL, was.
SECURITY MATTER C
OO: Los Angeles

Rebulet dated 1/18/52 captioned, "Communist Party, USA, District 13, Los Angeles Division, Internal Security - C"; and re San Diego letter to the Director dated 10/21/54.

By referenced San Diego letter the Bureau was advised of the testimony of STANLEY B. HANCOCK on 2/24/53 and DANIEL POMEROY TAYLOR on 4/19/54 before the House Committee on Un-American Activities regarding the subject.

This subject furnished an executive statement to the HCUA which was set out in Los Angeles letter dated 12/16/53.

The subject's file reflects no activities that would warrant her inclusion on the Security Index.

The subject's file is being maintained in a closed status.


REGISTERED

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closed



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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-96 BY SP4

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100-41702-28

"Irony dept.; Walter Winchell about to complete a telefilm pact with Desi Arnaz, nearly wrecked the Desilu empire a couple years back when he reported that Lucy Ball had been a registered member of the Communist Party. Remember?"

100-41702 +
+ refs

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED
JAN 24 1957
FBI - LOS ANGELES

b7C
SA [REDACTED]
#37892

100-41702-29

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 24 1957	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

DAILY VARIETY
JAN. 14, 1957

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES

DATE: 3/11/58

b7c

FROM : SUPERVISOR [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: *Lucille Bull*

SM - C

By Bureau letter dated 2/21/58, in case entitled "COMMUNIST PARTY, USA FUNDS; INTERNAL SECURITY - C", the Bureau instructed that a review of the files of the Los Angeles Office be made to determine the identities of individuals who have made financial contributions to the CP.

A review of the CP, USA funds file reveals that the captioned individual was referred to in serial 100-23483- 3 as a contributor or who made a pledge or loan to the CP or related groups. This case is being reopened for the express purpose of determining the advisability of interviewing the subject relative to CP funds and other phases of his CP activity.

If this person is on the Security Index or is a member of the press, a religious leader, teacher, prominent individual, or an individual in a sensitive position which through interview might embarrass the Bureau, you are instructed to write a letter to the Bureau setting forth a concise summary of the activities of this individual together with your recommendations and comments regarding an interview with him.

The Bureau set a deadline of 3/20/58 on this project, however, a 20 day extension has been requested, and you will be advised immediately upon receipt of the Bureau answer. Proceed as though the 3/20/58 deadline is to be met.

The Bureau has been requested for blanket authority to interview without submission of letter of request all individuals other than those classified above.

You will be advised immediately if this approval is granted. If Bureau approval is not granted, then a letter setting forth a summary of the individual's

1 - 100-23483

b7c

[REDACTED]

2-26-56

SA [REDACTED]

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100-41702-30

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Rec. 3/17

activities together with your recommendation and comments regarding an interview must be submitted before 3/20/58.

In all letters to the Bureau, refer to Bureau letter to Los Angeles, dated 2/21/58, entitled "COMMUNIST PARTY, USA FUNDS; INTERNAL SECURITY - C".

The letter requesting Bureau authority to interview the subject should be the regular 7 point letter as is customary in a request to interview security subjects. Refer to Section 87D, page 39, Manual of Instructions.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-19333)

DATE: 3/28/67

b7C

FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: COMINFIL INTO RADIO & TV INDUSTRY
IS-C

b2
b7D

SOURCE	ACTIVITY	RECEIVED	AGENT	LOCATION
[REDACTED]	Film Broadcast "All About People" on 3/6/67.	3/9/67	Writer	[REDACTED]

Informant's report has been Xeroxed and is attached.

ACTION:

Informant was thoroughly interviewed concerning the above and could add nothing further.

All necessary action in connection with this memo has been taken by the writer.

INDEX:

"ALL ABOUT PEOPLE"
FEDERATION OF JEWISH PHILANTHROPIES

b7C

[REDACTED]
GEORGE BURNS

[REDACTED]
HENRY FONDA

[REDACTED]
CONSOLIDATED FILM INDUSTRIES

b2/b7D

cc: [REDACTED]

- 94-484 (KHJ-TV)
- 100-15732 (COMINFIL INTO MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY)
- 80-228 (JEWISH FEDERATION COUNCIL)
- 100-41702 (LUCILLE BALL)
- 100-22505 (EDWARD G. ROBINSON)
- 65-1901 (JACK BENNY)
- 100-40549 (BURT LANCASTER)

[REDACTED]
(9) Read by [REDACTED]

b7C

SEARCHED [REDACTED] INDEXED [REDACTED]
SERIALIZED [REDACTED]
DATE 2-26-96 BY SP4 [REDACTED]
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100-41702-3

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MAR 28 1967	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

(b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. The subject of your request is listed in the title only.

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

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

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

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

For your information: _____

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

LA 100-41702-36 Attachment

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Lucie Desiree Arnaz Wed on Birthday

BY JOYCE HABER

Times Columnist

"I didn't feel it was really a wedding. Nobody broke a glass," said Virginia Graham. She was talking about the very real wedding of Lucie Desiree Arnaz to young producer-director (of prize-winning documentaries) Philip Vandervort Mene-gaux.

In fact, it was all so real that it was a rare thing of beauty for Hollywood: The wedding even took place on real, not roll-up, grass. The grass belonged to the gardens of the bride's famous mother and stepfather, Lucille Ball and Gary Morton.

Mobs of people gathered outside their mansion in Beverly Hills at dusk Saturday hoping to catch a glimpse of just about anyone. The crowds were so great that the Mortons' neighbors turned their sprinklers on full blast to keep them from trampling their lawns. And it all took place on Lucie's 20th birthday.

Last year, young Lucie celebrated her birthday with a mammoth, colorful gypsy dance in the very same mansion in Beverly Hills. "What can I do to top that" she wondered to Natalie (Mrs. Daniel) Schwartz a few months ago. She clearly figured it out.

The bride wore a dress of her own design, exchanging her vows beneath an arch which was flanked with yellow carnations, giant yellow chrysanthemums and white daisies. Flowers decked latticed pillars along the aisle and floated in the

rock-edged swimming pool. The Rev. Ray Harris, director of UCLA's department of spiritual care, officiated, reading the letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians ("faith, hope and love, these three, and the greatest of these is love").

Desi Arnaz Jr. was a handsome and meticulous host; he visited with friends in almost every row before the ceremony started. As always, women were everywhere swooning at that Man of the House, and gossiping still about his rumored old-new romance with the estranged wife of a major figure in show business.

Later at the reception came the moment everyone waited for—the moment when Lucie's father

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

IV-1 Los Angeles Tim
Los Angeles, Calif.

7/20/71

Date: 7/20/71
Edition: Tuesday Final
Author:
Editor:
Title:

Character:
or
Classification: 100-4170
Submitting Office Los Angeles

Being Investigated
SEARCHED [redacted] INDEXED [redacted]
SERIALIZED [redacted]
b7c
FBI - LOS ANGELES

2-26-96 SP4 [redacted] b7c

100-4170-23

Desi Sr. danced with Lucy, the mother of the bride. But the moment was only a moment, because Lucy's husband, Gary Morton, immediately cut in.

The dress of the guests ranged from Buddy Hackett's white cotton see-through blouse to Ruta Lee's white cotton see-through hotpants. Jack Carter was off to his opening this week at the Cave in Vancouver. Dick Gautier, Vandervort's best man (Phil uses Vandervort as his professional name) apparently made a great but unreleased film that everyone was talking about. Mingling at the reception poolside were both the Bridges, Lloyd and Beau, the Cecil Smiths (Cleo is Lucy's cousin; the Smiths' son Marcus, 7, was ring bearer); the Joe Hamiltons (Carol Burnett, who cried a great deal at the wedding), Ruth Berle (her Milton is working in the east) with Dr. Leon Krohn, Ken Berry, the Ross Martins and maybe 200 more.

Yes, Lucie outdid her 19th birthday party this year—and on my daughter Courtney's very first birthday . . .

A Night Spot to Be Seen At

A smart little restaurant on Melrose Ave. near Vine St. is Hollywood's new St. Germain. The bistro has become an increasingly "in" luncheon spot for show business types, particularly for the Columbia/Paramount people, whose lots are next door. and now, after word gets around of Friday's rather spectacular dinner group there, I wager the St. Germain will become another of the handful of elite night-time spots to be seen at.

It was Anne and Kirk Douglas' party, at which they brought together a few new and old friends of the man in the news, Dr. Henry Kissinger, the President's adviser for national security affairs. Henry was fresh from his triumph at a Red China conference room. He was also fresh from front page photos of him with a stunning blonde TV producer and him with President Nixon—in Henry's case, in that order. His companion on Friday was the beautiful Hope Lange, who flew in from Arizona where she's finishing up the first segments of Dick Van Dyke's new series, in which she plays Dick's wife.

I'm sure Kissinger's friend Frank Sinatra had briefed him on what a charmer Hope is. Warren Beatty was in the party, clean shaven, with his steady best girl Julie Christie. Ann Ford Johnson and her handsome husband Deane represented the legal side of things at dinner. Bob Evans was stag because his Mrs., Ali MacGraw, was recuperating from a bout with the mumps in Cap Ferret; Ali flew home, recuperated, on Sunday.

Completing the high-level Hollywood powwow were my husband, just back from Poland and Israel and scouting locations for ABC's five-part, five-hour rendering of Leon Uris' bestseller, "Q.B. VII," and Carol Lynley. Carol had only to come from her beachhouse at Malibu to meet the fabulous good doctor, of whom all his friends are so proud. In arranging the President's visit to Chou En-lai, he scored the diplomatic coup of many an Administration, as host Kirk Douglas charmingly

pointed out in a toast. He also pushed V.P. Agnew and his going trip around-the-world to Page 40 of the nation's newspapers, as I pointed out in another, more private tribute to Kissinger.

Cooling 'Shoot Straight' Blurbs

"The Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight," which is shooting in New York, got orders to cool it on publicity after the Joe Columbo assassination attempt . . . My friend Carol Channing is really hung up on Dallas' Neiman Marcus. Every time she plays that city, she sends her friends some goodies from the store. This year it's rock sugar in three colors, green, orange and blue, with three matching bowls, green, orange and blue. "Here's a sample of Prentis Hale's fabulous wares," said Carol's card to me. Prentis Hale, of course, derives from the Broadway-Hale department store clan which owns little goodies like Neiman-Marcus, Oscar De La Renta, Maximilian, and on and on.



NUPTIAL SCENE—Ring bearer Marcus Smith and flower girl Cee Cee Durante are shown with bride, following the wedding of Lucie Desiree Arroy to Philip Vandervort Menegaux in Beverly Hills.

Times photo

2-26-96

SPY

b7C



TWO CELEBRATIONS—Lucie Desiree Arnaz, daughter of Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, became the bride of Philip Vanderyort Menegaux on her 20th birthday Saturday. Times photo by Harry Chase

2-26-76

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Date prepared

4/30/73 b7C

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Date received

4/30/73

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in person by telephone by mail orally recording device written by Informant

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Date

Dictated _____ to _____

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Date of Report

4/25/73

Date(s) of activity

4/23/73

Brief description of activity or material

Miscellaneous SCDCP Organization

File where original is located if not attached

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* INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED BY AN ASTRISK (*) ONLY ATTENDED A MEETING AND DID NOT ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE. VIOLENCE OR REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES WERE NOT DISCUSSED.

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INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE
LOS ANGELES AREA—PART 7

HEARING
BEFORE THE
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
EIGHTY-THIRD CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION

SEPTEMBER 4, 1953

Printed for the use of the Committee on Un-American Activities

INCLUDING INDEX



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378872

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UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON : 1953

COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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FRANK S. TAVENNER, Jr., *Counsel*
LOUIS J. RUSSELL, *Chief Investigator*
THOMAS W. BEALE, Sr., *Chief Clerk*
RAPHAEL I. NIXON, *Director of Research*

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PUBLIC LAW 601, 79TH CONGRESS

The legislation under which the House Committee on Un-American Activities operates is Public Law 601, 79th Congress [1946], chapter 753, 2d session, which provides:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, * * **

PART 2—RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RULE X

SEC. 121. STANDING COMMITTEES

* * * * *

17. Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

RULE XI

POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

* * * * *

(q) (1) Committee on Un-American Activities.

(A) Un-American activities.

(2) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time investigations of (i) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (ii) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (iii) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpoenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.

RULES ADOPTED BY THE 83^d CONGRESS

House Resolution 5, January 3, 1953

RULE X

STANDING COMMITTEES

1. There shall be elected by the House, at the commencement of each Congress, the following standing committees:

(q) Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

RULE XI

POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

17. Committee on Un-American Activities.

(a) Un-American Activities.

(b) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time, investigations of (1) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (2) the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (3) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

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VI

INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE
LOS ANGELES AREA—PART 7

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1953

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,
Hollywood, Calif.

EXECUTIVE STATEMENTS¹

Executive statements, given September 4, 1953, at room 512, 7046 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, Calif., commencing at 2 p. m.
Present: William A. Wheeler, investigator.

TESTIMONY OF LUCILLE DÉSIRÉE BALL ARNAZ

(The witness, having been previously duly sworn, testified as follows:)

Mr. WHEELER. State your full name, please.

Miss BALL. Lucille Désirée Ball Arnaz.

Mr. WHEELER. Where were you born?

Miss BALL. Jamestown, N. Y.

Mr. WHEELER. You are presently a resident of Los Angeles County?

Miss BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. And your profession?

Miss BALL. Actress; television actress now.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you been engaged as an actress?

Miss BALL. Since 1933, I guess; 1932 or 1933.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your educational background?

Miss BALL. Just school, high school.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you here under subpoena or are you appearing voluntarily?

Miss BALL. I am appearing voluntarily.

Mr. WHEELER. You graduated from high school?

Miss BALL. No; I didn't even graduate.

Mr. WHEELER. You have been employed in motion-picture work since that time, since you left school?

Miss BALL. No; I was in New York working.

Mr. WHEELER. How long have you been a resident here?

Miss BALL. 1933.

Mr. WHEELER. You have pursued acting since that time?

Miss BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. For whom have you worked in the studios?

¹ By direction of the chairman and members of the Committee on Un-American Activities, the following executive statements have been printed for release.

MISS BALL. Goldwyn and Columbia and RKO and Paramount and M-G-M.

Mr. WHEELER. Where were you employed in 1936?

MISS BALL. It was, I think, RKO. It might have been Columbia.

Mr. WHEELER. What was your salary bracket in 1936, approximately?

MISS BALL. Well, if it was at Columbia I was getting \$75 a week. If it was RKO I was getting \$50.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you have any screen credits about that time?

MISS BALL. I might have been getting more in 1936, maybe \$75. No screen credits. Maybe a bit part here and there. I doubt that, even, in 1936; possibly a bit part.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever reside at 1344 North Ogden Drive?

MISS BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Who owned that residence?

MISS BALL. We rented it. I don't remember who owned it.

Mr. WHEELER. When did you first register to vote?

MISS BALL. I guess the first time I ever did was in 1936.

Mr. WHEELER. I would like to hand you a photostatic copy of a voter's registration and ask you if that is your signature.

MISS BALL. That looks like my handwriting.

Mr. WHEELER. You will note that the party that you intended to affiliate with at that time was the Communist Party.

MISS BALL. In 1936?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

MISS BALL. I guess so.

Mr. WHEELER. You did register to vote then as a Communist or intending to vote the Communist Party ticket?

MISS BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you go into detail and explain the background, the reason you voted or registered to vote as a Communist or person who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. It was our grandfather, Fred Hunt. He just wanted us to, and we just did something to please him. I didn't intend to vote that way. As I recall, I didn't.

My grandfather started years ago—he was a Socialist as long as I can remember. He is the only father we ever knew, my grandfather. My father died when I was tiny, before my brother was born. He was my brother's only father.

All through his life he had been a Socialist, as far back as Eugene V. Debs, and he was in sympathy with the workingman as long as I have known, and he took the Daily Worker.

It never meant much to us, because he was so radical on the subject that he pressed his point a little too much, actually, probably, during our childhood, because he finally got over our heads and we didn't do anything but consider it a nuisance, but as a dad, and he got into his seventies, and it became so vital to him that the world must be right 24 hours a day, all over it, and he was trying his damndest to do the best he could for everybody and especially the workingman; that is, for the garbage man, the maid in the kitchen, the studio worker, the factory worker. He never lost a chance to do what he considered bettering their positions.

That was fine, and we went along with it wherever we could. Sometimes it got a little ridiculous because my position in the so-called

capitalist world was pretty good and it was a little hard to reconcile the two. We didn't argue with him very much because he had had a couple of strokes and if he got overly excited, why, he would have another one.

So finally there came a point where my brother was 21, and he was going to see that Freddie registered to help the workingman, which was, in his idea then, the Communist Party. At that time it wasn't a thing to hide behind doors, to be a member of that party.

As I recall, because of this he influenced us. We thought we wanted to do him a favor. We thought we could make him happy. I at no time intended to vote that way. And I remember discussing it with my mother, how I could register and make him happy. When I go behind a curtain to vote, nobody knows whom I vote for.

He also considered it a personal victory at the time—that he had the entire family to register. He didn't influence us enough at any time to vote; at least, he didn't influence me.

He influenced us to give a great deal of thought to whether he was right or wrong, and we always decided he was wrong, because the things he was shouting about didn't seem to be practical for this country. He admired the workingman and the peasants all over the world, the 5-year plan and anything that was great for the workingman.

Mr. WHEELER. He considered the Communist Party as a workingman's party?

MISS BALL. That is all I ever heard. I never heard my grandfather use the word "Communist." He never said that he read the Daily Worker. He always talked about the workingman.

He got very confused in his latter years, when Russia and—who got together?—Russia and Germany got together and he got so he couldn't answer our questions at all then. And he would get mad and change the subject. He never quite could find out what had happened to the workingman after that, I guess.

We were never able to keep a maid, although we paid the highest prices we could afford or they were getting at the time. My grandfather would walk out into the kitchen and see a maid and would say, "Well, what is your name? How much are you getting?"

"Oh, \$20 or \$25 a week," or whatever they were being paid.

And he would say, "That is not a working wage. What are you doing here?"

And after a few times of that, you know, they would leave. That is just one instance.

He was always talking to the garbage man early in the morning, or anybody doing any kind of a menial task. He would say, "Why are you doing that? Why aren't you doing something else?"

He was just a fanatic on bettering the world. That is as far as we knew, and that is why we could endorse it at all.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. No; not to my knowledge.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been asked to become a member of the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever attend any meetings that you later discovered were Communist Party meetings?

Miss BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not any meetings were ever held in your home at 1344 North Ogden Drive?

Miss BALL. No, I know nothing of that. I don't believe it is true.

Mr. WHEELER. How old were you in 1936.

Miss BALL. I am 42 now; 24.

Mr. WHEELER. I would like to introduce the affidavit of registration as Lucille Ball Exhibit No. 1, Registration No. 847584.

(The document referred to was marked "Lucille Ball Exhibit No. 1" and was received in evidence.)

Mr. WHEELER. This affidavit of registration is signed by Lucille Ball and dated the 19th day of March 1936.

Have you ever known an individual by the name of Emil Freed?

Miss BALL. I never heard the name before, to my knowledge, as I recall.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever known an individual by the name of Jacob or Jack Breger?

Miss BALL. Not until I read it today.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you aware that you were a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party for the year 1936?

Miss BALL. Was I aware before you told me, you mean?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Miss BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, I would like to hand you a document entitled "Appointment of Members of the State Central Committee Meeting at Sacramento in the Year 1936." It is stamped "Communist Party," and this document discloses that Emil Freed was a delegate by nomination to the State Central Committee of the Communist Party for that year. And he appointed three individuals as delegates.

Those appointed, according to the document, are Jacob Breger, 822 North Orange Drive; Fred Hunt, 1344 North Ogden Drive; and Lucille Ball, 1344 North Ogden Drive.

Now, I would like to hand you this document and have you give any explanation that you desire.

Miss BALL. I have no explanation. I haven't signed it. I don't know where it came from, or what. My name is misspelled. The address is right; that is all.

I don't know Emil Freed. I never heard of Emil Freed, and if Emil Freed appointed me as a delegate to the State central committee it was done without my knowledge or consent.

Mr. WHEELER. I notice your grandfather, Fred Hunt, was also appointed as a delegate for the year 1936. Were you aware of that?

Miss BALL. No, I was not aware of it.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know who could be responsible for your name appearing on this document?

Miss BALL. Possibly my grandfather, Fred Hunt.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall if anyone contacted you in 1936 in regard to obtaining your proxy to vote?

Miss BALL. No, except my grandfather. Is that what you mean?

Mr. WHEELER. You stated that you were appointed without your knowledge or consent; is that right?

Miss BALL. That is right.

Mr. WHEELER. I assume you did not attend the meeting of the State central committee at Sacramento.

Miss BALL. I didn't even know there was one. I still don't know what it means.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall whether or not you were contacted by any individual to obtain from you your voting proxy at the central committee meeting in Sacramento?

Miss BALL. Never.

Mr. WHEELER. I will introduce this as Lucille Ball Exhibit No. 2. It is dated the 15th day of September 1936.

Miss BALL. I should say never, to my knowledge.

(The document referred to was marked "Lucille Ball Exhibit No. 2" and was received in evidence.)

Mr. WHEELER. I might say, for the record, that the last document was obtained from the files of the secretary of state in Sacramento.

Also, there is no record of the proxies filed by different delegates in the office of the secretary of state.

I would like to refer to the report of the un-American Activities Committee in California for the year 1943, and refer to page 127 of that document, which is a portion of an affidavit submitted by Rena M. Vale. The affidavit begins on page 122 and continues through page 176, and bears the date of 23d day of November 1942.

I would like to read a portion of page 127. In this affidavit she has admitted she was at one time a member of the Communist Party and she is discussing how she became a member.

That within a few days after my third application to join the Communist Party was made, I received a notice to attend a meeting on North Ogden Drive, Hollywood; although it was a typed, unsigned note, merely requesting my presence at the address at 8 o'clock in the evening on a given day, I knew it was the long-awaited notice to attend Communist Party new members' classes;

That on arrival at this address I found several others present; an elderly man informed us that we were the guests of the screen actress, Lucille Ball, and showed us various pictures, books, and other objects to establish that fact, and stated she was glad to loan her home for a Communist Party new members' class;

That the instructor introduced himself as Sidney Martin, but I later knew him by the name of Sidney Davidson, which he stated was his true name;

That there were about 7 or 8 other members of this class, but the only names I recall are those of Herb Harris, an actor, whom I encountered from time to time within the Communist Party, and who took part in the play, The Blackguard, which ran for several years in Los Angeles around 1938 and 1939; and Libby Jacobson, who, in 1939, was active in consumer cooperatives in Los Angeles.

Do you have any knowledge of any meetings held in your home, Miss Ball?

Miss BALL. None whatsoever.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Rena Vale?

Miss BALL. I never heard the name before in my life.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with or have you ever been acquainted with Sidney Martin or Sidney Davidson?

Miss BALL. No, sir; I never heard the name.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with or have you ever been acquainted with Herb Harris?

Miss BALL. I never heard the name.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Libby Jacobson?

Miss BALL. I never heard that name.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not your grandfather, Fred Hunt, held meetings at the home?

Miss BALL. Not to our knowledge ever, and he was always with someone. As we look back now, we can't remember at any time he was ever alone, because he had had two strokes and we had a nurse that lived there at the time, and there was—he was never alone that we remember; no evidence of any meeting ever held being in our house when we were out. This is something we knew nothing about.

Mr. WHEELER. I also have a photostatic copy of an affidavit of registration for the year 1936 for Mrs. Désirée E. Ball, and it discloses that she also registered to vote as a person who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party on the 12th day of June 1936. What relation is Désirée Ball to you?

Miss BALL. My mother.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not she was ever a member of the Communist Party?

Miss BALL. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. WHEELER. I have a second photostat here, a voter's registration, signed by Fred E. Hunt, who also intended to affiliate with the Communist Party.

Miss BALL. Fred E. Hunt?

Mr. WHEELER. Well, it looks like an "E." What is his middle initial?

Miss BALL. Fred C.

Mr. WHEELER. Fred C. Hunt, rather. This document is dated the 12th day of June 1936, and also shows he changed the vote to Democrat on November 18, 1940.

I believe you testified that Fred C. Hunt was your grandfather?

Miss BALL. That is right.

Mr. WHEELER. Is he living?

Miss BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. I have a third document here, a photostat of an affidavit of registration, bearing the signature of Fred H. Ball, who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party in the ensuing election of 1936. It is also dated the 12th day of June 1936. What relation is Fred H. Ball to you?

Miss BALL. Brother.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not he was ever a member of the Communist Party?

Miss BALL. Not to my knowledge, nor to his.

Mr. WHEELER. Where is your brother presently residing?

Miss BALL. Scottsdale, Ariz.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not he has ever been investigated by the Government or any agency or employer who does Government contract work in regard to this Communist registration?

Miss BALL. Yes; he has.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the outcome of this investigation?

Miss BALL. He has always been cleared.

Mr. WHEELER. You mean he retained his employment?

Miss BALL. I think so. I don't know. He can tell you more about that. I don't think he has always retained his employment; no. If during the war there was a hint of that suspicion, the investigation probably went on, but you didn't retain your employment.

Mr. WHEELER. I notice now that your mother and your brother and grandfather all registered on the 12th day of June to vote, and you registered on the 19th day of March. Is there any significance to that?

Miss BALL. See, I didn't go. They were trying to recall to my mind where we might have registered, and I couldn't remember.

Isn't this what he is talking about? I couldn't remember having gone down where they said they went. They said they went way downtown, where grandpa wanted us to go, way downtown near Main Street. I don't ever remember going down that far.

I really racked my brain over a 17-year period, and all I remember was something like a garage and a flag, like a voting day. They said it didn't tie up for registration. I can't explain it. But that bears me out; I didn't go on that trip.

I don't know where I registered. I would have said, if I hadn't talked to you last year, that I voted. You said you had no record of my voting. I would have said I voted when I went in there.

I remember feeling very foxy about the thing, because I registered. We had a very bad feeling we had done that. I always felt I would be all right if I didn't vote it, just to appease grandpa.

Mr. WHEELER. The affidavit of registration discloses you voted in the primary for the year 1936. That would be, I assume, in June. However, you did not vote in the general election.

Miss BALL. That could have been what I did there that morning.

Mr. WHEELER. The deputy registrar of voters, who signed this document, is a Mrs. Dodd. Does she mean anything to you?

Miss BALL. What did you say she was?

Mr. WHEELER. Deputy registrar of voters.

Miss BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. She is the deputy registrar of voters. She would be the individual in whose presence you would sign that document.

Well, now, the affidavit of registration on the reverse side discloses that you signed two petitions for the year 1936, the Freed nominating petition for the 57th assembly district or, rather, it is a sponsor certificate. This document was also obtained from the files of the secretary of state and I will introduce it in the record as Lucille Ball Exhibit 3.

(The document referred to was marked "Lucille Ball Exhibit No. 3" and was received in evidence.)

Mr. WHEELER. I will read the following from the document:

I, the undersigned, sponsor for Emil Freed for the Communist Party nomination to the office of member of the assembly 57th district, to be voted for at the primary election to be held on the 25th day of August 1936, hereby assert as follows:

My knowledge of the said Emil Freed is sufficient to warrant my urging his election to the office of member of the assembly 57th district and, in my opinion, he is fully qualified—mentally, morally, and physically—for the said office and should be elected to fill it. I am a qualified elector of Los Angeles County and I am registered as affiliated with the Communist Party and am not at this time a signer of any other certificate nominating any other candidate for the above-named office, or in case there are several places to be filled in the above-named office, I have not signed more certificates than there are places to be filled in the above-named office.

I would like to refer to the second page of this document, under line 23, and there appears the signature of Lucille Ball, 1344 Ogden Drive, and occupation, artist. It is dated June 16, 1936. Is that your signature [indicating]?

Miss BALL. I would say it was.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall signing the document?

Miss BALL. No; but I recall at that time doing what I could to appease grandpa and this is just part of it.

At that time it didn't probably seem very important to appoint this man.

Mr. WHEELER. You will note what I read to you, that before signing the document it states that you know the man, and he is morally, physically, and mentally qualified.

Miss BALL. It is something I signed without looking at it, or if I looked at it, it didn't seem like a big thing at the time.

Mr. WHEELER. I believe your grandfather's signature appears on there, as well as the whole family?

Miss BALL. Yes, Fred, myself, and my mother, and my grandfather. My name appears on the second page of this document. Our names appear there. It is possible that this was handed to us just as a list of names, without the strong-sounding sponsor certificate on the front of it.

I don't recall that I ever heard anything which right now sounds very strong, and impossible to sign at this day and age, but I might have because at that time I was of a mind to try to do something that would please daddy. It just didn't seem like an important, awful thing to do, like it does these days. But, to my knowledge, I didn't ever see the first part of this certificate I signed.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you familiar with the words or the phrase "criminal syndicalism"?

Miss BALL. No, but it is pretty. What does it mean?

Mr. WHEELER. Criminal syndicalism?

Miss BALL. What does it mean?

Mr. WHEELER. According to the voter's registration for the year 1936, the reverse part of it, you signed a petition 164-F.

This particular petition was for the repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act in California.

Miss BALL. What does it mean?

Mr. WHEELER. The Communists were taken to court and tried for criminal syndicalism, and—

Miss BALL. And I signed something else?

Mr. WHEELER. You signed this petition to take the Criminal Syndicalism Act off the statutes of the State of California.

Miss BALL. I did; that is, without my knowledge. May I see the signature?

Mr. WHEELER. Unfortunately, they have been destroyed, those particular petitions.

Miss BALL. By whom?

Mr. WHEELER. They are retained a few years, under law, and they can be destroyed.

Miss BALL. Was this the same time we were "Being Nice to Daddy Week"?

Mr. WHEELER. It was in the year 1936. However, I do have a photostat of a sample copy of the petition which was dated July 10, 1936, and this particular petition was circulated by the California Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act at 68 Haight Street, San Francisco, Calif. Have you ever heard of that organization?

Miss BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. It was also circulated by the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights, 129 West Second Street, room 326, Los Angeles, Calif. Have you ever heard of this second organization?

Miss BALL. No. I have since then, probably. I imagine that ties up with the un-American business activities; constitutional rights they are all standing up for now. Is that what it means?

Mr. WHEELER. Well, it means more or less like this:

An act defining criminal syndicalism and sabotage, proscribing certain acts and methods in connection therewith and in pursuance thereof and providing penalties and punishments therefor.

Miss BALL. If I had ever seen that, I would have never signed it. Did I sign it?

Mr. WHEELER. Well, the voter's registration indicates that you did sign it. In other words, when a petition is signed they check each signature to ascertain if the individual is a registered voter.

When it is ascertained the individual is a registered voter they mark on his voter's registration, this particular number, 164-F, which indicates the person who registered did sign that petition. However, I have been unable to locate the actual petition.

Miss BALL. Because you register you are in sympathy with all this [indicating]?

Mr. WHEELER. It would indicate as such. I mean, if a person signs a particular document requesting that the Criminal Syndicalism Act be removed from the statutes, it would seem to indicate to me that you would be against the Criminal Syndicalism Act.

Miss BALL. Well, anyway, I don't know what it means.

Mr. WHEELER. You were personally contacted by myself, an investigator for the House Committee on Un-American Activities?

Miss BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. You recall the date as April 3, 1952?

Miss BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with the Committee for the First Amendment?

Miss BALL. Am I acquainted with it?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Miss BALL. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. WHEELER. Or were you a member of the Committee of the First Amendment?

Miss BALL. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, your name is mentioned in the Daily People's World, the issue of October 28, 1947, page 1, columns 5 and 6, as one of the high personalities who were sponsoring or a member of the Committee of the First Amendment.

That committee was formed here in Hollywood to oppose the congressional hearings in 1947.

Miss BALL. Refresh my memory on it. I can't imagine ever signing that. Did I sign that, too? Was it under an assumed name?

Mr. WHEELER. That I don't know. There was a reference to it.

Miss BALL. What is the People's World? Is that like the Daily Worker?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes; a Communist publication of the Western States.

Miss BALL. In 1947? That certainly was for grandpa. Grandpa was gone by then. I can't imagine doing anything for these people.

If I was hoodwinked into it, with one of those long democratic souped-up names, that is something else. I would like to see it. Could I see that?

Mr. WHEELER. I don't have the copy of the People's World for that date.

Miss BALL. Am I supposed to have signed something as being in sympathy?

Mr. WHEELER. Your name was used as in—

Miss BALL. Was it used or did I sign something?

Mr. WHEELER. I have no knowledge of your signing.

Miss BALL. Fine. Then I have no knowledge of signing it. However, I do recall I was at a studio, and I was working on a picture, and I got a call in the afternoon. I don't know who called me. I assume now—I did then—it was the Screen Actors' Guild, but I can be wrong. I don't know who called me now. It was something that was through a union or the studio wouldn't have felt compelled to send me off a set and hold up production until I got back. It had nothing to do with me.

I got the call to go to a radio station. As I remember, it was M-G-M—it may not have been. I remember an executive excused me and sent me to this broadcast.

I got down there and said, "What am I supposed to do?"

She said, "Dorothy Petersen"—whoever she is—"she is ill. We have to go on the air."

I haven't seen her in years; I don't know her.

She said, "Will you read this?"

It was a long petition, or whatever you call them, as I recall. As I recall—I am not sure of this—it was about the Okies upstate California, Fresno or some place, about admitting the Okies. I read it. They thanked me, and they sent me back to work.

I don't know how long after that that it was that I was called downtown in an FBI office and asked why I did it. Apparently, it was wrong. It was my first knowledge it was wrong.

I had no answer at all, because I hadn't done it of my own volition. I had been sent there. It didn't seem wrong to go some place the studio had sent you.

I tried to explain why I had done it. I had no reason except I had been called.

Mr. WHEELER. How long ago did you go to the FBI?

Miss BALL. I have no idea. I have no idea when I did this broadcast. I have no idea how long after that they called me. But that is the first time I ever—

Mr. WHEELER. It was 3 or 4 years ago?

Miss BALL. It is more than that.

Mr. WHEELER. Did they discuss with you at that time—

Miss BALL. Must have been 6, 8, 9 years ago; maybe 10. There were two broadcasts. I don't know who sent me on the first one, and I don't know what the second one was about. It was something that everybody was doing. You just get asked to do these things. I again was called in at the last minute.

I had nothing to do with whatever it was. I didn't know what I was doing, but you assumed at the time, when you are called by a union or one of your—I don't know who called me. I know both times I was called to replace someone.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you discuss this material today with the FBI or did they question you regarding your voter's registration?

Miss BALL. No. That was apparently just something I had read on the radio—I shouldn't have. I don't know.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you have anything in addition you would like to add for the record?

Miss BALL. I am very happy to have this opportunity to discuss all the things that have cropped up, that apparently I have done wrong.

I am aware of only one thing I did that was wrong, and that at the time wasn't wrong, but apparently now it is, and that was registering because my grandfather wanted us to. I at no time thought it was the thing to do, nor did I ever intend to vote in the Presidential election. I guess it was at that time. I don't know. To my knowledge I didn't vote, but I did register. Since then I have never done anything knowingly against the United States.

I have never done anything for Communists, to my knowledge, at any time. I have never contributed money or attended a meeting or ever had anything to do with people connected with it, if to my knowledge they were.

I am not a Communist now. I never have been. I never wanted to be. Nothing in the world could ever change my mind. At no time in my life have I ever been in sympathy with anything that even faintly resembled it.

I was always opposed [indicating] to how my grandfather felt about any other way this country should be run. I thought things were just fine the way they were.

It sounds a little weak and silly and corny now, but at the time it was very important because we knew we weren't going to have daddy with us very long. If it made him happy, it was important at the time. But I was always conscious of the fact I could go just so far to make him happy. I tried not to go any farther.

In those days that was not a big, terrible thing to do. It was almost as terrible to be a Republican in those days. I have never been too civic-minded and certainly never political-minded in my life.

Since I got any feelings on the subject at all, we went maybe a little strongly Democratic one year and we got into trouble doing that. That was when Roosevelt was still alive. We were always very much for Roosevelt and did everything that Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt asked us to do, as all of Hollywood, or as most of Hollywood, was doing.

He was the only President I had ever known. It was a wonderful thing to get out and help him with his March of Dimes or bond tours during the war, and we were very busy. Never in my life have I had any other feeling than the Communists were wrong; that anybody in this town would dare to think of changing any of it or complaining about what they had is just the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard of.

I certainly was never in sympathy with the Dmytryks—I can't remember any of the other names.

How we got to signing a few things, or going among some people that thought differently, that has happened to all of us out here in the

last 10 or 12 years, and it is unfortunate, but I certainly will do anything in the world to prove that we made a bad mistake by, for one week or a couple of weeks, trying to appease an old man. But there has never been any thought of belonging or wanting to belong to the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions. Thank you for your cooperation.

TESTIMONY OF DÉSIRÉE E. BALL

(The witness, having been previously duly sworn, testified as follows:)

Mr. WHEELER. Will you state your full name, please?

Mrs. BALL. Désirée E. Ball.

Mr. WHEELER. Where do you presently reside?

Mrs. BALL. At 22143 Cantlay Street in Canoga Park.

Mr. WHEELER. Your occupation?

Mrs. BALL. Housewife and mother.

Mr. WHEELER. And grandmother.

Mrs. BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your relation to Lucille Ball Arnaz?

Mrs. BALL. Mother.

Mr. WHEELER. Your relation to Fred H. Ball?

Mrs. BALL. Mother.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the relationship of Fred Hunt to you?

Mrs. BALL. He was my father. I was his daughter.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever reside at 1344 North Ogden Drive?

Mrs. BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall registering to vote as an individual who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party?

Mrs. BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. I hand you a document and ask you if you can identify this. This is a photostat of voter's registration bearing your signature.

Mrs. BALL. You want me to identify my signature here, you mean?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mrs. BALL. Yes. This here I didn't write though, did I?

Mr. WHEELER. No.

Mrs. BALL. It says, "My full name is," but I didn't write that. I wrote that [indicating].

Mr. WHEELER. The bottom signature?

Mrs. BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you state the reason you registered to vote as a Communist?

Mrs. BALL. On account of my daddy wanting us to. My father was an old man, and that was the one thing that he thought was all right and wanted us to do it. We did it to please him.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you here under subpoena or are you appearing voluntarily?

Mrs. BALL. I am appearing voluntarily.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you ever a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been asked to join the Communist Party?

Mrs. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Did you ever attend any Communist Party meetings, that you have knowledge of?

Mrs. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not any Communist Party meetings were held in your residence at 1344 North Ogden Drive in Hollywood?

Mrs. BALL. Never was, to my recollection.

Mr. WHEELER. I would like to refer to the booklet on un-American activities in California for the year 1943, and to page 127 of this document. What I am referring to is a reprint of an affidavit submitted by Rena M. Vale, who was at one time a member of the Communist Party in Los Angeles. Her affidavit begins on page 122, and carries through page 175.

Now, Miss Vale, in writing this affidavit, this particular part I am referring to, is writing about how she became a member of the Communist Party. I would like to read this to you:

That within a few days after my third application to join the Communist Party was made, I received a notice to attend a meeting on North Ogden Drive, Hollywood; although it was a typed, unsigned note, merely requesting my presence at the address at 8 o'clock in the evening on a given day, I knew it was the long-awaited notice to attend Communist Party new members' classes;

That on arrival at this address I found several others present; an elderly man informed us that we were the guests of the screen actress, Lucille Ball, and showed us various pictures, books, and other objects to establish the fact, and stated she was glad to loan her home for a Communist Party new members' class;

That the instructor introduced himself as Sidney Martin, but I later knew him by the name of Sidney Davidson, which he stated was his true name;

That there were about 7 or 8 other members of this class, but the only names I recall are those of Herb Harris, an actor, whom I encountered from time to time within the Communist Party, and who took part in the play The Blackguard, which ran for several years in Los Angeles around 1938 and 1939; and Libby Jacobson, who, in 1939, was active in consumer cooperatives in Los Angeles.

Did you have any knowledge of this?

Mrs. BALL. Never, never. Did they tell you that I had a nurse—what date was this, now?

Mr. WHEELER. This would be the first part of the year 1937.

Mrs. BALL. This girl came to my house in 1936. She is a registered nurse, a friend of mine, and she was there for 6 years.

We never left the house because daddy had these heart attacks, and things. In fact, he was bedridden a good share of the time and she was supposed to be there, you know, and give him a shot if it was necessary, and everything like that.

I asked her if there was ever a meeting, or anything, when I wasn't there; that I might have been out. I was going to Hollywood High at the time, evening classes.

I asked her yesterday if she ever knew of anybody being there to a meeting. She said to her knowledge she had never known of it, because daddy always went to bed early and she said, "I am sure if there had been anybody in the front room I would have known about it."

I said, "Were there two people?"

I think they can constitute a meeting—two people.

She said not to her personal knowledge; she had never known of anybody coming there.

Mr. WHEELER. What is her name?

Mrs. BALL. Elaine L. Stewart.

Mr. WHEELER. Where does she reside?

Mrs. BALL. She is with me now. It happens she is back with me again. I don't recollect any of those names.

Did you, Lucille?

Miss BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Were you aware that your daughter, Lucille Ball, and your son, Fred Ball, and your father, Fred Hunt, all registered during the year 1938 as with the intention to affiliate with the Communist Party?

Mrs. BALL. You mean registered to vote?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mrs. BALL. Yes, we all did at the same time.

Mr. WHEELER. Who did you say was responsible for this?

Mrs. BALL. My daddy.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Emil Freed?

Mrs. BALL. I never heard of the man before, to my recollection. I mean I might have heard of it out in 1936, or whenever this was, but I mean the name doesn't ring a bell at all.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Jack Breger or Jacob Breger?

Mrs. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall anyone coming to your residence and requesting the family to sign certain petitions?

Mrs. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you aware you signed a nominating petition to place Emil Freed on the ballot in the year 1936?

Mrs. BALL. I am aware of it because I was told. I have no recollection of it. I do know I must have signed, probably, papers that daddy put in front of me. I wouldn't know whether it was that or not.

Mr. WHEELER. Referring back to the exhibit introduced in the testimony of Lucille Ball, I would like to read this to you:

• • • In my opinion, he is fully qualified, mentally, morally, and physically, for the said office and should be elected to fill it.

This would indicate that you had certain knowledge of the individual.

Mrs. BALL. In those things, Mr. Wheeler, a petition, whatever it is, isn't there always the petition and then the slip where you sign your name on top of it, as a rule? I imagine that is what happened, and I didn't read it, I am sure.

Mr. WHEELER. Your signature appears on the second page, signature 21.

Mrs. BALL. That is my handwriting. I was looking to see if any of these other names were any of my neighbors. He must have brought it home, if we signed it. We just signed it thinking he was a smart man. I don't see any of my neighbors there.

Mr. WHEELER. The petition was circulated by Jacob Breger.

Mrs. BALL. Jacob Breger? You mean daddy couldn't have brought it home?

Mr. WHEELER. I am not saying he couldn't have brought it home; no. However, the person, the individual circulating the petition, was Jack Breger.

Mrs. BALL. Oh.

Mr. WHEELER. You testified you didn't know him.

Mrs. BALL. I never heard of the man, that I can recall. There is no doubt but that I signed it. I don't ever remember signing anything daddy hadn't approved of. We didn't question him, because, I mean, he was so firm in his beliefs and everything that if he thought it was all right we did it. You see, I did it, anyway. I can't say "we." I don't know what my children did.

If he said it was all right, I just naturally fell in with him to pacify him. Otherwise, I went through a lot of ifs and buts and things.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you have any knowledge whether or not he was a member of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BALL. I know he registered. So far as being a member, I don't know how anyone could tell you were a member. That is what I mean—I have never been able to—you know, when you have read and heard people say, "Remember, they carry a card," and that.

When he passed away, as I told Mr. Hickox, when we were talking about it, I always thought they gave you a card if you were a member. I went through his wallet where he had the only personal things, you know, when he passed away; there was no card.

Mr. WHEELER. What year did he pass away?

Mrs. BALL. 1942.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not he was a delegate, your father, Fred Hunt, was a delegate to the central committee of the Communist Party in the year 1936?

Mrs. BALL. No; I have no knowledge of that.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you have knowledge whether or not he attended such a meeting in Sacramento? Was his health such he could go to Sacramento?

Mrs. BALL. No; he was never away from Hollywood after we came out here. He never was anywhere.

Miss BALL. He couldn't even go downtown to the Paramount Theater, unless there was someone with him.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall whether or not your daughter, Lucille Ball, was a delegate to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the State of California in 1936?

Mrs. BALL. No. I wouldn't have any reason to think she was, because I never heard about it.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you recall whether or not she may have gone to Sacramento in the year 1936?

Mrs. BALL. I know she didn't. Those things I would positively remember, if she had done that.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, I have no further questions, and if you have anything you would like to add for the record, you can certainly say whatever you desire.

Mrs. BALL. I don't know. Daddy being old and being ill and everything, this, as I told Desi, I have always felt we figured—I felt in some ways fortunate, that he was only interested in helping the working people. That is all we ever heard from him, was helping the working people. You know, that is, he felt sorry for the guy

that didn't have as much, like the garbage man, and things like that. It was his sole purpose in helping the guy that didn't have anything.

I think we had a lot of out-of-work people at that time, and we just figured there was no harm to it, although I wasn't in favor of it, and we did it to pacify him. I had always voted for Roosevelt, and I just figured—I told him at the time, I said, "Well, we could register Democrat or Republican and vote the way we want to."

But he wanted us to do it that way, so we did it, never dreaming we were doing anything that was wrong.

As far as my children are concerned, he had some influence over them. In fact, he was their father. Their father had passed on and he had been so good to them we figured to pacify him if it would make him happier—things like that.

I am certain in my own mind that neither Lucille Ball, my daughter, or my son, Fred, were connected in any way with the Communist movement. We were very close. We lived in the same house. They didn't have people come in or hold meetings.

In the first place, I would never have allowed a meeting. I don't care how much he would argue with me, if he had ever said to hold a meeting in my house, I would have argued to a point we would have a severe argument. We never did that with him. He never asked us to have a meeting there.

If I hadn't had this nurse in my home to look after him—I just yesterday asked her, "Between you and me, do you ever remember a meeting?"

She said, "Never." She was sure she would have heard people talking about it had it been in the front room. The house was small and it wasn't that big that you could hide yourself in one place. I never as much as even saw a man stop by and talk to him.

He talked to the garbage man and the grocery man and the mailman. That was his little clique.

Of course, it was a standing joke around the house. Lucille would say, "Now, So-and-So is coming to pick me up. Please keep daddy occupied so he won't start on one of those editorials in the Daily Worker."

I couldn't keep any help in the house. I have heard him say this to my help—I would hear from the other room or something—he would say, "Sit down. Sit down."

"Well," he said, "I have to finish my ironing," or something.

He would say, "Sit down. Sit down." And then he would start on this editorial or something he wanted her to listen to, and he would say, "What are you working so hard for? Why aren't you getting the same money she is getting [indicating]?"

Naturally, they only had to hear that about three times and they would walk out on me. They would either say, "This man is nuts. I don't want to be around him," or "Maybe he is right; he is trying to organize us."

That was his one theme—if they organized, if they joined a union—he said, "She has to belong to a union. She works at the studio. She has to belong to a union [indicating]. You are scrubbing floors. Why don't you belong to a union?"

They would either think he was nuts or they would walk out and get a job somewhere else.

Mr. WHEELER. I think that covers everything I wanted to ask you.

Mrs. BALL. I mean he was such a harmless soul in his way because, as Desi said, many times we just laughed; we thought it was a joke.

I have said many times, "Thank goodness, he is interested in the Daily Worker instead of getting drunk with the men on the corner or being interested in women," and things like that. I always knew he was home. I always knew where he was, so if he sat in the corner and read the Daily Worker I was happy. At that time it seemed like it was a lucky thing.

Mr. WHEELER. Well, I have nothing further to ask you. Thank you a lot.

Mrs. BALL. I would like to ask you a question:

If you register just as a Communist, does that make you a member of the Communist Party? That is what I have never been able to find out; if they say we are a member and we have done this, does that make you a member because you registered?

Mr. WHEELER. No. There has been evidence—

Mrs. BALL. I mean from the evidence.

Mr. WHEELER. Of other people registering to vote as Communists who are not members of the Communist Party.

(Whereupon the statement of Désirée E. Ball was concluded.)

TESTIMONY OF FRED HENRY BALL

(The witness, having been previously duly sworn, testified as follows:)

Mr. WHEELER. State your full name, please.

Mr. BALL. Fred Henry Ball.

Mr. WHEELER. Where do you presently reside?

Mr. BALL. Scottsdale, Ariz.

Mr. WHEELER. And your occupation?

Mr. BALL. Salesman.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you here under subpoena or are you appearing voluntarily?

Mr. BALL. I am appearing voluntarily and cooperating with you.

Mr. WHEELER. What is your relationship to Lucille Ball?

Mr. BALL. Brother.

Mr. WHEELER. I have here a photostatic copy of an affidavit of registration, obtained from the registrar of voters here in Los Angeles, and it bears the signature of Fred H. Ball and it is dated the 12th day of June, 1936.

On this petition, after item 9, "I intend to affiliate at the ensuing primary election with the Communist Party," the word "Communist" is struck out and this document discloses that you changed your affiliation to the Democratic Party on November 18, 1940.

I would like to have you look at this and state whether or not that is your signature appearing on the document.

Mr. BALL. That is my signature.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BALL. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever been asked to join the Communist Party?

Mr. BALL. No, sir; not to my knowledge.

Mr. WHEELER. Have you ever attended any meetings you later thought may have been Communist Party meetings?

Mr. BALL. Not to my knowledge.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not any meetings were ever held in the residence at 1344 Ogden Drive?

Mr. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Would you state how or why you registered as you did?

Mr. BALL. My grandfather was actually thought of, so far as I am concerned, as my father, inasmuch as my father died before I was born, and it was grandpa that was my father all the years of my childhood.

For all of the years, I guess, up to the time that I passed the teens, whatever grandpa said was good enough for me. The reason that this thing came about was that I realized, along with the rest of my family, that grandpa didn't have too many years to go, and what he wanted us to do, as long as it was more or less something that would make him feel that we were with him, we were inclined to do it.

He used to talk to all of us and all of our friends by the hour about the workingman, and his Daily Worker. We used to listen, not because of the interest we had, but, rather, because of the courtesy we felt we owed him. And this is the direct result of our attitude toward grandpa.

Mr. WHEELER. Has this matter been brought to your attention previously?

Mr. BALL. Oh, very definitely.

Mr. WHEELER. In what way?

Mr. BALL. By "this matter," you mean this particular document right here [indicating]?

Mr. WHEELER. Yes, the registration.

Mr. BALL. The first time this particular thing was ever brought to my mind, after this signing took place, was when I worked for what was then Vega Aircraft. I was working on the night shift and I was removed from duty and discharged from the employ of Vega.

The next day, I think it was, or very shortly after that particular night, I was asked why I was being discharged, and I remember one thing that was said to me—naturally, I don't know the man's name, but he was across the desk in the employment office there, and making some remark about not being a good citizen.

Also I remember that there was, at least I think that he made some reference to how did I vote or how did I register. Beyond that I don't—no one has ever made any reference to me in respect to this.

But I deducted from that situation that this registration was the cause of my dismissal, but yet nobody ever told me that.

At that time I attempted to get—I did get documents, shall we say, or affidavits or letters of character from people that I knew, attempting to get that job back. I was particularly upset because, not having done anything wrong, I was deprived of making a living, and then I was, you might say, directly accused of not being a good American.

I was particularly determined at the time I was going to get my job back. In spite of anything I could present, nobody would listen at Vega.

So I went from Los Angeles to Wichita, Kans. It was the result of having been dismissed at Vega. However, I had made arrangements through a friend of mine in Wichita to go to work at a particular tool shop.

There was to be a few months' wait before that job materialized. However, I went to Wichita a couple of months before, and in the interim I decided to go to work at Beechcraft, the reason being that the tool shop I was to go to work for was subcontracting from Beech, and I thought inasmuch as I was going to be their superintendent of production I could go to work at Beech and learn the particular product we were going to produce; which I did.

I went to work at Beech and I worked there, it seems like it was 2 or 3 months, and I worked on the aircraft assemblies that this G. & H. Tool Co. was going to produce.

At that time I left Beech voluntarily and went in to G. & H. and I worked in Wichita for G. & H. Tool Co. and also Swallow Aircraft Co. I voluntarily left G. & H. and went to Swallow.

The total of the 2 places probably was 3½ years—somewhere in that neighborhood.

When I was working at Swallow's, they were trying to induct me in the Army in California. At one time we tried to get a deferment for me at Swallow's—Swallow Aircraft Co. Swallow Aircraft went to the State director of Selective Service in Kansas, who went to the California State Selective Service, and came back a refusal; no deferment.

So I said, "I am not going to be inducted in Kansas. If I am going to be inducted, I am going to be inducted in California; that is my home State."

I quit my job and came back here to California, and they took me in the thing down here, downtown, the induction station. I was practically inducted, ready to be sworn in, and they got me a deferment from Wichita. So I packed up and went back to Wichita and back to Swallow to work.

The same thing came up again—that 6 months' deal they went through. Rather than have that happen again, I said, "I am going to go this time and go in the Army, regardless."

I quit my job and came back here and went down to the draft board, and they said, "You are critically needed in aircraft, your particular occupation. We would rather you would not go in the Army. You go see if you can get yourself a job."

Inasmuch as I was set to go in this time, rather than riding that fence of 6 months, and not knowing where you are, I didn't look very hard for a job and went back and said, "I am ready. Let's go."

And they said, "We will give you an extension. Go find yourself a job."

So then I figured if they wanted me to work that bad, rather than go in the Army I at least would find a job that would pay me the best. In looking around and applying at all the plants, I finally went in to Vultee.

They hired me and put me through the physical, and halfway through the physical they came out and told me to get dressed and told me to go home. I don't know why they told me to go home, but that is the only reason I can deduct—was this thing.

Those are the only two times I have ever had any occasion to have anything like this brought up in this manner.

I went right out to Pacific Airmotive and went to work on a Navy contract. I left Pacific Airmotive and went in the Army, because they canceled the critical Navy contract they were working on, and they immediately inducted me.

Mr. WHEELER. How long were you in the Army?

Mr. BALL. Fifteen months.

Mr. WHEELER. Honorably discharged?

Mr. BALL. Honorably discharged.

Mr. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with Emil Freed?

Mr. BALL. No, sir.

Mr. WHEELER. I wonder if you would pick up that second document and read the top part of it. Read it into the record.

Mr. BALL (reading):

Sponsor's certificate: I, the undersigned sponsor for Emil Freed for the Communist Party nomination to the office of member of the Assembly 57th District, to be voted for at the primary election to be held on the 25th day of August 1936, hereby assert as follows:

My knowledge of the said Emil Freed is sufficient to warrant my urging his election to the office of member of the assembly, 57th district, and in my opinion he is fully qualified, mentally, morally, and physically for the said office and should be elected to fill it. I am a qualified elector of Los Angeles County and I am registered as affiliated with the Communist Party * * *

Mr. WHEELER. Now turn over on the second page and see if your signature appears.

Mr. BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. Is that your signature? What number is it?

Mr. BALL. Twenty-two.

Mr. WHEELER. You said you don't know Emil Freed. Do you recall reading the preface to that when you signed the document?

Mr. BALL. Yes; I do.

Mr. WHEELER. You do?

Mr. BALL. This strikes something, and I can't tell you what. The only thing I recall here is these particular lines on these sheets, and so forth here; that strikes something. I can't remember signing it. I don't know who this guy Freed is. I can't remember signing it and I can't associate anything with it.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know Jack Breger or Jacob Breger?

Mr. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. According to the document, he is the individual who circulated the petition. Do you recall whether or not the petition was brought to you to sign by your grandfather or another individual?

Mr. BALL. I wouldn't have any idea. I don't think I have ever had any contact with anyone that I ever believed, ever thought of as being a Communist. I can never recall any such, any conversation or any picture in my mind of any particular man.

I do, however, recall this—not completely—and I can only say I signed this because that is my signature. I can't remember the time or the place.

Mr. WHEELER. You are familiar with the criminal syndicalism law previously on the statutes of the State of California?

Mr. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. Do you know what criminal syndicalism is?

Mr. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. According to the affidavit of registration, which you previously identified as signing, on the back of it is a list of petitions signed by each voter or signed by you as a voter.

You will note the second petition there is 164-F. That indicates that you signed a petition to remove criminal syndicalism laws off the statutes of the State of California.

Can you recall signing such a document?

Mr. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. The document itself I have been unable to locate. However, here is a sample that may in some way refresh your memory.

Mr. BALL. Grandpa died with the phrase on his lips, "Working-man," and that is all. That is all there was ever to it, in any sense of the word. All he cared about was the poor guy next door that wasn't making enough to live on.

That is why we went along with him. There wasn't anything vicious about anything that man ever did in that respect. He was a workman all his life and he only died because he stopped working.

Mr. WHEELER. Going back to the year 1936, did you ever entertain any thoughts that perhaps any member of your family was a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. BALL. No.

Mr. WHEELER. What was the general attitude of the members of the family regarding communism, other than your grandfather?

Mr. BALL. Well, we never had any thoughts or any conversations with respect to communism, so far as we were concerned—I am sure I speak for all of us—so far as we were concerned. Lucille was busy making a living and I was doing the same thing. That is all we were concerned about. She had a career and—we were concerned about getting grandpa and mother from New York to California and getting back together and having our home together. We weren't concerned with communism or Democrats or anything like that, so far as that goes.

Mr. WHEELER. How were you employed in 1936?

Mr. BALL. I was employed by the Trocadero or the Coco Club. I would have to do some checking to find out just exactly which job I was on.

I was working at the Trocadero as a page boy.

Mr. WHEELER. I have no further questions, Mr. Ball. However, I would like for you to add whatever you desire to the record.

Mr. BALL. I can't add anything to anything I have already said. It is merely a matter of our living grandpa, and anything we could have done to help him bide his time—that was all he was doing, was biding his time—and he had no interest in life other than the workman.

He sat around and read the Daily Worker day in and day out, and chewed about it to everybody that came in.

It was a little embarrassing at times, but there was nothing we could do about it, and the easiest thing to do and the thing that made him the happiest was to listen, which we all did. Anybody that ever came to our house listened to him, and I will tell for sure they didn't get out the door without listening. If we could get them in the back door, that was so much the better.

I know for sure, and I also know the reason grandpa never asked us to participate directly in anything was because he knew better than to ask us. We would listen to him, and it is evident we signed some documents because he asked us to sign them. That is the truth. Are you interested in when I went in Phoenix to the FBI?

Mr. WHEELER. Have you reported this matter that we have been discussing to any other Federal agency?

Mr. BALL. Yes. I went into the FBI in Phoenix, Ariz., about 2 years ago.

Mr. WHEELER. About 2 years ago?

Mr. BALL. Yes.

Mr. WHEELER. And you gave them practically the same outline you have given me today; is that correct?

Mr. BALL. That is correct.

Mr. WHEELER. I mean there is no additional information you can add regarding it?

Mr. BALL. No. If it would be of any interest, I can tell you why I went in.

Mr. WHEELER. Yes.

Mr. BALL. I went to Phoenix without any prior arrangement for employment, and there was a place called Motorola that I heard about and decided it might be a place to apply.

However, in association with some of the people in the trailer court where I lived, I understood that there was quite an extensive security check. It was one of those secret projects—working on some sort of secret stuff.

Remembering my experience in California, and in deciding I wanted to go to Motorola, I decided the best thing to do, instead of worrying about this thing the rest of my life, was to go down to the FBI and find out if there was anything to prohibit me from going to work; check me first and then go out, and I knew if they wanted to hire me, I would have a job and not have a recurrence like at Vultee.

I told them exactly what I wanted to know and why I wanted to know it. The answer was that Motorola did have a security check that got back to that local FBI office in Phoenix. The rest of them had their own security checks and the FBI wasn't involved. In other words, I could go to any other plant or any plant I wanted, except Motorola, and be pretty sure of employment.

If they wanted to hire me, if there was anything in the record that would stop me from working, the chances are it would come out if I went to Motorola. Therefore I didn't go to Motorola.

Mr. WHEELER. I have nothing further.

(Whereupon, at 4 p. m., Friday, September 4, 1953, the statements were adjourned.)

×

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FILE DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT LUCILLE BALL

FILE NUMBER LOS ANGELES CROSS REFERENCES

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
XNO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

LAW OFFICES

RUDIN & PERLSTEIN

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VINCENT H. CHIEFFO
ROBERT A. FINKELSTEIN
GREGORY MOISEEFF
JUDITH E. FRIESS

August 17, 1977

b7c

[REDACTED]

F.B.I.
11000 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90024

UNSUB, AKA,
SON OF SAM OF OHIO;
LUCILLE BALL-VICTIM;
EXTORTION;

Re: Lucille Ball - 00:LA
Son of Sam of Ohio

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

As per our telephone conversation, I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter dated August 5, 1977, received and addressed to our client, Lucille Ball, from "Just call me Mr. Son of Sam Ohio".

We have encased the letter in one of the clear plastic envelopes which you had previously provided us with, so as to preserve any fingerprints which may have been left on the letter.

Your attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

RUDIN & PERLSTEIN

Robert A. Finkelstein

By ROBERT A. FINKELSTEIN

RAF:sb
Enclosure
cc: Mr. Ed Perlstein

IN OUR REF. TELCALL
I ADVISED THAT THERE WAS
NO VIOLATION AND THIS WOULD MERELY
BE FILED FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.
WRITER TOLD ME THAT ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF THIS LETTER WAS NOT NECESSARY.
[REDACTED]
8/18/77 b7c

3461-362
9- [REDACTED]

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
AUG 18 1977
FBI - LOS ANGELES

b7c

August 5, 1977

Lucille Balls:

All you drought stricken snakes listen:

When World War III comes there ain't gonna be any more poor American guys dying for you rich bitches. It will be everyone for themselves, and the sooner God sends devastation to earth, the better!

I served honorably (but stupidly) once in the service of my country, but come next time there ain't gonna be anybody to fight and die for the fatcats and the rich. God will wreak widespread devastation, and no area on earth will be exempt from the fiery burning of God's wrath. Then all you rich snakes will fight and die for yourselves—no innocent, stupid serving youth will die for you.

May the drought continue until all you snakes are forced out of the west and your rich homes, until you lose millions.

I know that the rich don't care for the poor because I have written to several rich snakes, and they didn't even answer. Well, your day will come!

That flunky singer-actor missed death in the Beverly Hills Supper Club, Southgate, Kentucky, and when the earthquake hits L.A., I will be scouring the obituaries, expectantly to see your name on it.

If you were burning to death, I wouldn't spit or piss on you to quench the flames.

All there is is war, hate, kill, friction, murder, and pressure..

Just call me MR. Son of Sam Ohio

**Rain Due
Over Wide
U.S. Area**

By The Associated Press
Thunderstorms were reported over the southeast, central and Pacific Northwest portions of the nation today. The National Weather Service said rain could be expected over a wide area of the nation.

A large area of scattered thunderstorms stretched from Missouri to the Dakotas and south to the Texas Panhandle, while in the southeast storms ranged in an area from central Tennessee southeast through Georgia. Other storms were reported from Indiana to Lake Erie.

West of the Rockies a few showers and thunderstorms were reported over the interior from northern Idaho to the northern Arizona and New Mexico. But there was no precipitation for drought-plagued California.

Skies were mostly clear over New England and the middle Atlantic states southwest through most of Texas.

Temperatures around the nation at 3 a.m. EDT ranged from 45 at Lewistown, Mont. to 100 at

The weather service said showers and thundershowers will extend from the Missouri Valley and upper half of the Rockies through the mid-Mississippi Valley and over the north half of the Ohio Valley.

HELLO ALL YOU
DROUGHT PLAGUED
CALIFORNIA SNAKES!
YOU HAD AN EARTH-
QUAKE IN SAN FRAN-
CISCO, NOW I'M
WAITING FOR THE BIG
ONE IN LOS ANGELES.
MAYBE YOUR RICHES
AND PUSSY CAN
BUY YOUR INAY OUT
OF THIS.

HEH! HEH! HEH!

Lucille Ball

1000 North Roxbury

Beverly Hills, California:



LAW OFFICES

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MILTON A. RUDIN
EDWIN PERLSTEIN
VINCENT H. CHIEFFO
ROBERT A. FINKELSTEIN
JOHN D. FORBESS

October 24, 1978

HAND DELIVERED

b7C

[REDACTED]
Federal Bureau of Investigation
11000 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90024

Re: Lucille Ball

b7C

Dear [REDACTED]

Enclosed please find two letters that were delivered to Lucille Ball's residence.

The letter beginning "By the wall" was delivered at approximately 3:30 p.m. on October 23, 1978 and the other letter was discovered at approximately 11:00 p.m. on October 24, 1978.

b7C

The letters were brought to us by [REDACTED] Lucille Ball's [REDACTED]. He can be reached by telephone at [REDACTED].

We would appreciate your taking whatever action you deem appropriate in the circumstances.

Very truly yours,

RUDIN & PERLSTEIN

By ROBERT A. FINKELSTEIN

RAF: ch
Enclosures
Dictated but not read

9-3461-362/B

SEARCHED [REDACTED]	INDEXED [REDACTED]
SERIALIZED [REDACTED]	FILED [REDACTED]
OCT 24 1978	
FBI-LOS ANG [REDACTED]	
b7C [REDACTED]	

You Give Ball
AND Hearst This
Message for Me:

Give Me \$500,000
From Hearst and \$450,000
From Ball for This
Monitor Ball Shit with
Me NCW, You Know
Where I am, Down
by Employment Office
on Venice Blvd.

Troy from The Monitor

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (9-3461-362) (3)

DATE: 10/31/78

b7c
FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: UNSUB, aka
Troy;
LUCILLE BALL -
VICTIM
EXTORTION (C)
OO: Los Angeles

On 10/25/78 [REDACTED] LUCILLE BALL's [REDACTED] advised that the handprinted notes furnished to the FBI on 10/24/78 by Attorneys RUDIN and PERLSTEIN were in actuality not sent through the United States mail. He stated that the first note (beginning "By the wall") was left in the mailbox at LUCILLE BALL's residence, 1000 North Roxbury Drive, Beverly Hills, California, telephone 274-4002, on Monday 10/23/78. The second note, also left in the mailbox, was found on Tuesday 10/24/78.

b7c [REDACTED] additionally advised that [REDACTED] the [REDACTED] employed by LUCILLE BALL, may have seen the individual who left the note on Monday and could possibly furnish a good description.

It was explained to [REDACTED] that there is no federal violation inasmuch as the notes were not sent through the United States mail. He was advised that the notes would be immediately turned over to the Beverly Hills Police Department, at which time he suggested that the police department contact him through telephone number [REDACTED]

On 10/25/78, Attorney ROBERT A. FINKELSTEIN, 9601 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California, was advised that the FBI had no jurisdiction in captioned matter and that the notes would be turned over to the Beverly Hills Police Department on 10/25/78. FINKELSTEIN stated that he appreciated the FBI's interest in this matter and indicated that he had no objections to the notes being furnished to the Beverly Hills Police Department for appropriate action.

b7c [REDACTED]
(1)

Classified
[REDACTED] ← b7c

SEARCHED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED

9-3461-362/11



LA 9-3461

b7c On 10/25/78, the original letters, plus the letter
of transmittal from Attorney FINKELSTEIN, were furnished to
[REDACTED] Beverly Hills Police Department [REDACTED]
stated that his department would take appropriate action.

WOT HOPPENED?

An article from the Daily Worker, reprinted in the American Legion magazine, is revealing. The Worker is hurt because some of the Hollywood people who attacked the House Un-American Activities Committee in 1947 have nothing to say today. It lists the following names: Robert Young, Lucille Ball, Frank Sinatra, Joseph Cotten, Margaret Sullivan, Burt Lancaster, Gregory Peck, Myrna Loy, Fredric March, Richard Conte, Gene Kelly, William Wyler, Cornel Wilde, and Bob Ryan. Then it says: "Why are they silent today? Why don't they speak up as they did in '47? The committee has not changed. It's still the same in '51 as in '47. The longer their silence, the greater their shame."

FOIA/PA
Do Not Destroy Serial _____
Prior To 3-15-99
File No. 190-1A-154151

6494 4/9/89
REMAINS UNCLASSIFIED

100-15732B-1803
SEARCHED _____ INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED _____ FILED _____
MAY 21 1951
FBI - LOS ANGELES
b7c

100-15732B-1823
clippings

Date prepared
12/11/70

Date received
12/11/70

Received from (name or symbol number)
[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D

Received by
[REDACTED] b7C

Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks)

in person by telephone by mail orally recording device written by Informant

If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent:
Date

Date of Report
12/11/70

Dictated _____ to _____

Date(s) of activity
12/10/70

Transcribed _____

Authenticated by Informant _____

Brief description of activity or material

BPP FUNDS

File where original is located if not attached
[REDACTED] b2/b7D

* INDIVIDUALS DESIGNATED BY AN ASTERISK (*) ONLY ATTENDED A MEETING AND DID NOT ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE. VIOLENCE OR REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITIES WERE NOT DISCUSSED.

Information recorded on a card index by _____ on date _____

Remarks:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-27-96 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

#378872

CHANGED

b7C

SEARCHED
DATE 1-4-71

Oral dissemination made on _____ to:

Name

Time

___ IAPD _____

___ IASO _____

___ SS _____

___ Region II _____

___ USA _____

___ ATTD _____

Other _____
FOIA/PA _____

Do Not Destroy Serial _____
Prior To 3-15-99

File No. 190-CA-15415 Special Agent

TO BE CHANGED

b2/b7D

Block Stamp

SEARCHED [REDACTED] INDEXED [REDACTED]
SERIALIZED [REDACTED] FILED [REDACTED]
DEC 11 1970
FBI - LOS ANGELES

b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (157-3579)

DATE: 1/11/71

b7C
FROM : SA [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: BLACK PANTHER PARTY - FUNDS
RM

SOURCE	ACTIVITY	RECEIVED	AGENT	LOCATION
b7C b7D [REDACTED]	BPP Funds 12/10/70	12/11/70	Writer	[REDACTED] b2/b7D

Source's report has been xeroxed and is attached:

ACTION:

Source was thoroughly interviewed concerning the above and could add nothing further.

All necessary action in connection with this memo has been taken by the writer.

INDEX: ~~LEE MARKIN~~
LUCILLE BALL

b2/b7D
CC: [REDACTED]

157-3909 (BPP BREAKFAST PROGRAM)

b7C
[REDACTED]
(#) [REDACTED] Read By [REDACTED]

b2/b7D

[REDACTED]

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
JAN 11 1971
FBI - LOS ANGELES

b7C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-27-96 BY SA [REDACTED]
#378872 b7C

FOIA/PA
Do Not Destroy Serial _____
Prior To 3-15-99
File No. 190-1A-154151



XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

(b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. The subject of your request is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

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

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

Pages were not considered for release as they are duplicative of Enclosure to FD-306

For your information: with Date of Report as 12/11/70

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
SA Memo to SAC, LA Dated 1/11/71

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M *** UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, LOS ANGELES DATE: 3/24/58
b7C FROM: SUPERVISOR [REDACTED]
RE: Trullo vs. [REDACTED]
SM - C.

Reference Supervisor's memo dated 3/11/58 concerning possible interviews with various contributors to the Communist Party.

By airtel dated 3/17/58 the Bureau advised that the primary interest in this program is in the category of "angels" who have contributed substantially to the Communist Party.

Since the captioned individual does not appear to fall within this category, do not submit the requested letter to the Bureau.

If this case was opened solely for the purpose of requesting Bureau authority for an interview under the funds program, then it should be closed administratively at this time.

If the case is pending for some other reason such as the preparation of an annual investigative report or for the verification of employment and residence, etc., then you should conduct such investigation and bring the case to a logical conclusion.

cc: LA 100-23488 (FUNDS)

[REDACTED] b7C

100-41702-31

Searched	Indexed
Serialized	Filed
March 24, 1958	
FBI Los Angeles	

2-26-56

SP4 [REDACTED]
#37882

b7C

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-)

7/18/61

b7C

SA [REDACTED]

LUCILLE BALL

SM-C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] has been contacted from time to time as a confidential source on matters pertaining to the Communist infiltration of the film industry. He is rated as having furnished reliable information in the past on matters within his personal knowledge.

b7C

b7D

Although it is no longer necessary to conceal [REDACTED] should be concealed by T-symbol in this particular instance at his request, and the material should be paraphrased to avoid disclosing its exact nature if used in reports for dissemination.

Documentation of the material is noted briefly as follows:

During the period from approximately 1951 to about 1954, the American Legion was bringing considerable pressure on the film industry not to employ individuals who had been identified or were suspected of having been affiliated with the CP and/or its various front groups and who refused to take a forthright stand before the HCUA. The various major film producers thereupon began to address letters to such suspects in their employ setting out the allegations against them and calling upon them for explanation.

[REDACTED]

b7C

b7D

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-24-96 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

#378872

b7C

OVER

100-41762-36

b7C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

Attached exhibit refers to captioned subject and is being channelized to the pertinent file.

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

(b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. The subject of your request is listed in the title only.

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

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

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

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

For your information: _____

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

LA 100-41702-32 Attachment

XXXXXX
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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-

DATE: 11/13/61

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO [REDACTED]

b7c

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]
SM - C

Re Chicago letter to Los Angeles, 4/28/60, captioned as above.

For the information of the Los Angeles Office

[REDACTED] telephoned SA [REDACTED] of the Chicago Office on October 10, 1961, and advised that she had just returned from Los Angeles, and has some information in reference to [REDACTED] which may be of interest to the FBI.

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED] was personally contacted by SA [REDACTED] on October 11, 1961, at her residence. She stated that [REDACTED] telephoned her from Los Angeles, stating that she was ill and requested [REDACTED] come out to Los Angeles to help her while she was ill. [REDACTED] stated that she went to Los Angeles on [REDACTED] and departed on October 10, 1961. [REDACTED] stated during that time she stayed at the residence of [REDACTED] California, and during that time has observed the following:

13 - Los Angeles (RM)

- 1 - 100-
- 1 - 100-
- 1 - 100- b7c [REDACTED]
- 1 - 100-
- 1 - 100-
- 1 - 100-
- 1 - 100-
- 1 - 100-
- 1 - 100-
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- 1 - 100-
- 1 - 100-

(LUCILLE BALL)

+ refs

100-41702-3

1 - Chicago [REDACTED]

b7c

(14)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-96 BY SP4 [REDACTED]

378 872

← b7c → [REDACTED]

CG [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is being treated by [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] both having an office in
Medical Building, next to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] work with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] These doctors are supposed to be friends
of the subject and not the family doctors which are usually
called for medical treatment. [REDACTED] feels that these
doctors are associated with the subject and possibly connected
with the Communist Party (CP).

[REDACTED] stated that one day at the subject's home,
[REDACTED] stated to the subject
that he had a list of names, from the Cinema Educational Guild,
of persons in show business who are supposed to be connected
with the CP. Subject asked to see the list and began reading
aloud some of the names. When the subject came to specific
names, he would remark [REDACTED] "They couldn't be CP members".
The only name that [REDACTED] could remember being mentioned on
the list of 50 or 60 persons was the name LUCILLE BALL.

[REDACTED] stated that during her stay at [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] she could not recall meetings of any kind being held, but
that the subject received many phone calls, some late at night.
After some of these calls, he would leave the home overnight
without giving any explanation [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] stated that there have been instances while
in the presence of [REDACTED] that they
would converse [REDACTED] knowing full well that she did not
understand the language.

The subject is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The subject was planning [REDACTED]

The subject is presently [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a very good
friend of the subject

[REDACTED] The subject is noted for [REDACTED]

CG [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a very good friend of the subject and is associated with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that when General Secretary of the United Nations, DAG HAMMARSKJOLD, was reported killed in a plane crash in the Congo, the subject remarked, on reading it in the paper, "I suppose they will say the plane has been sabotaged".

[REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] very good friend of the subject. [REDACTED] stated that she talked to [REDACTED] during her stay with [REDACTED] and was advised by her that [REDACTED] works at [REDACTED] as an [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that just prior to leaving [REDACTED] had a friendly talk at which time she asked [REDACTED] why [REDACTED] criticize the U.S. form of Government and that if they did not like the country, why doesn't [REDACTED] leave and go somewhere else where they would be happy [REDACTED] remarked "OH, you just don't leave a country. What you try to do is change the form of government".

[REDACTED] stated that she is furnishing this information under the strictest confidence and that under no conditions should the subject [REDACTED] ever know that she has furnished information to the FBI.

Chicago Office indices are negative on all names mentioned.

Inasmuch as the Chicago Office is not office of origin, and is not in possession of all pertinent facts, it is being left to the discretion of the Los Angeles Office as to what action should be taken on the above information.

many refs

Lucille Ball, Comic Morton Marry in N.Y.

Illustrated on Page 3, Part 1

NEW YORK (UPI) — Actress Lucille Ball and nightclub comic Gary Morton were married Sunday while some 1,500 fans milled outside the church chanting "I Love Lucy."

The Rev. Dr. Norman Vincent Peale united the show business veterans at Marble Collegiate Church in Fifth Avenue in a ceremony delayed by the huge crowd of well-wishers which blocked Miss Ball's path to the door. Four policemen finally formed a flying wedge to get the red-haired comedienne to the altar.

The service itself was attended only by 40 guests: close friends and family, including Miss Ball's two children by her previous marriage to Cuban-born Desi Arnaz.

"I'm happy, I'm happy," sighed the actress whose year-long romance with Morton had started off like one of her improbable TV situation comedies, with a blind date in a pizza parlor.

Acapulco Honeymoon

Matron of honor was Actress Paula Stewart, who introduced Miss Ball to Morton in New York while she was starring in the Broadway hit "Wildcat." Miss Stewart's husband, comedian Jack Carter, served as best man.

The newlyweds planned a honeymoon in Acapulco in January after Morton completes a booking at the Chi Chi club in Palm Springs. They will live in California.

Miss Ball, 50, received a divorce last May from Arnaz, her co-star in TV's "I Love Lucy" show and partner in a multi-million dollar entertainment empire that sprang from that popular, long-run series. They had been married 20 years and still are associated in Desilu Productions, in which the red-headed comedienne from Butte, Mont., owns about 25% of the stock.

Morton, 44, also was married once before, to Jacqueline Inmoor. The marriage was annulled in California in 1957.

Los Angeles Times

Date 11-20-61

Los Angeles Division

Editor: NICK B. WILLIAMS

RE: LUCILLE BALL
INFORMATION
CONCERNING

LA file _____

Bufile _____

cc Bureau
11/20/61
[redacted] b7c

2-26-76 *SP4 [redacted]*
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↓
100-41702 - 34
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]



HE LOVES LUCY—Comedian Gary Morton and his bride, actress Lucille Ball, are all smiles as they leave church in New York after a quiet wedding ceremony.
Story on Page 2, Part 1

(R) Wirephoto

2-26-96

SP4 [REDACTED]

b7c

Miss Ball Succeeds Arnaz As Prexy Of Desilu Prods.

100-41702*
T ref

Telefilm's oldest partnership ended yesterday when Lucille Ball bought out Desi Arnaz's stock interest in Desilu Productions Inc., for a sum estimated at \$3,000,000. Arnaz resigned as prexy of Desilu, which he and Miss Ball formed in 1950, and she succeeded him.

Arnaz also quit as a director of the company, and henceforth will have no association with it. He was exec producer of "The Lucille Ball Show," relinquishes this also.

Neither of the two was available for comment on the split yesterday, Arnaz incommunicado at his Indian Wells Country Club in Palm Springs where hotel sources said he was "out," Miss Ball at the studio declining to talk about the split.

However, associates of the pair indicated the break-up was due to a number of factors. Arnaz was restless under the burden of administrative work, particularly since he is interested in other activities, such as thoroughbred breeding and his Palm Springs hotel.

In a sense, the separation began two years ago when the pair were divorced. Miss Ball since has married comedian Gary Morton. Associates said Arnaz wanted out for some time, but didn't care to exit last season when studio fortunes were at a low ebb. Desilu has picked up impetus this semester, with three series on the air, including Miss Ball's show.

Arnaz is undecided as to his

(Continued on Page 13)

future plans, but may remain in the industry as an indie v. du m. ^(Continued from Page 1) Ironically, it would be a return to his status of a dozen years ago when he and Miss Ball formed Desilu, to produce "I Love Lucy," which became one of tv's all-time hits. From this series, the fortunes of Lucy and Desi soared, and as a result they bought Desilu Cahuenga Studios, and later acquired from RKO its Gower Street and Culver City studios, now Desilu Gower and Desilu Culver City.

Arnaz a couple of years ago was interested in selling the Desilu empire, and there actually were q.t. negotiations with Westinghouse Broadcasting Co., which at one time was definitely interested in purchasing Desilu and its studios.

Desilu Staffers Stay

Studio yesterday said operation will be run by Miss Ball as prexy; Edwin E. Holly, administration and finance veepee; Jerry Therpe,

programming veepee, and W. Ar-gyle Nelson, production and studio operations veepee. Actually, only change in the top echelon is Miss Ball's succeeding Arnaz as prexy, since the other officers have been functioning in their respective capacities for some time.

Miss Ball is buying the 300,350 shares of Desilu stock owned by Arnaz at a price way over the current market price ~~4 1/2~~ which ups her total holdings to 600,650 shares, or 52% of the total outstanding stock of Desilu.

"Daily Variety"

NOV 9 1962

Page 1 col 3 & 4

FILED
NEWS
DATE 2-26-96

↑ 100-41702-35

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