

FILE DESCRIPTION

NEW YORK FILE

SUBJECT Morton Sobell

FILE NO. 100-37158

VOLUME NO. 19

SERIALS 939

thru

963

## **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.**

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		*	Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released		
939	12/9/50	NY letter to HQ NY REPORT TO HQ	3	3	yes	to be processed
940	12/15/50	CAPTIONED <sup>MAX</sup> HELENE ELITCHER	119	0	yes	bufile 101-2485
941	12/16/50	Si teletype to HQ, WFO & NY	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
941	12/16/50	copy of above teletype	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
942	12/16/50	WFO teletype to NY	1	1		
942	12/16/50	copy of above teletype	1	1		
943	11/22/50	SAC memo	1	1		
944	12/18/50	Lak report to NY	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
944	12/18/50	<sup>copy</sup> Lak report to NY	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
945	12/18/50	Lak report to NY	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
945	12/18/50	copy of above report	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
946	12/18/50	Lak letter to NY	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483

\*Designated to or from Bureau and/or Albuquerque

File No: 100-37158

Re: Morton Sobell

Date: 11/22  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		*	Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released		
946	12/8/50	copy of Hq letter to NY	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
947	12/18/50	Hq letter to WFO	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
947	12/18/50	copy of above	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
948	12/18/50	NY letter to Postmaster	1	1		
949	12/18/50	NY teletype to Hq	1	0	yes	bufile 65-58236
950	12/18/50	Lab report to NY	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
950	12/18/50	Copy of above report	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
951	12/19/50	NY letter to Hq	1	0	yes	bufile 65-58236
952	12/20/50	WFO teletype to Hq + Ba	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
953	12/20/50	WFO teletype to Hq + Cr.	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
954	12/20/50	NY memo	2	2		
954	12/24/50	Copy of above memo	2	2		

\*Designated to or from Bureau and/or Albuquerque

VOLUME

19

REVIEWED BY

Dji 1/15

File No:

100-37158

Re:

Morton Sobell

Date:

11/27

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		*	Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released		
955	12/21/50	Bartlett type to Hq, WFO + NY.	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
955	12/21/50	copy of above	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
956	12/21/50	Postmaster letter to SAC, NY	1			referred to P.O.
957	12/22/50	NY letter to NY telephonics	1	1		
958	12/22/50	Hq. teletype to NY	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
958	12/22/50	copy of above	1	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
959	12/24/50	WFO report to Hq.	4	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
959	12/26/50	copy of above	4	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
959	12/26/50	copy of above	4	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
959	12/26/50	copy of above	4	0	yes	bufile 101-2483
960	12/27/50	NY teletype to Hq.	1	0	yes	bufile 65-58236
961	12/28/50	NY memo	2	2		

\*Designated to or from Bureau and/or Albuquerque

FBI/DOJ

19

Re: PLD

100-37158.

Re

Morton Subell

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

11/22

(month/year)

FBI/DOJ

Serial Number	Date of Serial	DELETION (S)
939	12/9/50	No exemptions were cited.
940	12/15/50	This report was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
941 with one copy	12/16/50	This teletype was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
942 with one copy	12/16/50	No exemptions were cited.
943	11/22/50	(b) (7) (D) - This exemption was cited to protect the identity of a source for which an expressed or implied promise of confidentiality has been given.
944 with one copy	12/18/50	This report was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
945 with one copy	12/18/50	This lab report was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
946 with one copy	12/18/50	This letter was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
947 with one copy	12/18/50	This letter was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
948	12/18/50	No exemptions were cited.
949	12/18/50	This teletype was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
950 with one copy	12/18/50	This lab report was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.

Serial Number	Date of Serial	DELETION (S)
951	12/19/50	This letter was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
952	12/20/50	This teletype was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
953	12/20/50	This teletype was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
954 with one copy	12/20/50	No exemptions were cited.
955 with one copy	12/21/50	This teletype was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
956	12/21/50	THIS DOCUMENT WAS REFERRED TO ANOTHER GOV'T AGENCY
957	12/22/50	No exemptions were cited.
958 with one copy	12/22/50	This teletype was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
959 with three copies	12/26/50	This report was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
960	12/27/50	This teletype was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
961 with one copy	12/28/50	No exemptions were cited.
962 with one copy	12/29/50	This letter was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.
963	1/2/51	This report was previously processed as shown on the Inventory Worksheet.



U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

( Bureau File Number

DO NOT FURNISH ANY INFORMATION FROM  
THIS FILE TO ANY OUTSIDE AGENCY  
WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION FROM SECT 6

See also Nos.

Serials

Volume Number

100-37158  
19  
939-963

2-11-44

Director, FBI

December 9, 1950

SAC, New York

EUGENE HARKAWI, AKA: EUGENE HARKOVY;  
Classifier  
War Assets Administration  
Washington, D.C.  
LOYALTY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Re: SA WILLIAM T. WELDEN, 4/14/48, and N.Y. teletype 11/29/50,  
the latter captioned "MORTON SOBELL, was; ESPIONAGE - R".

On November 29, 1950 GERTRUDE SUSSMAN, wife of NATHAN SUSSMAN, was  
interviewed at her home 56-55 205th Street, Bayside, Long Island, by SAs JAMES  
T. O'BRIEN and CHARLES P. SILVERMORN.

Concerning NATHAN SUSSMAN, DAVID GREENGLASS, who is awaiting to be  
sentenced after pleading guilty to espionage, has advised that NATHAN SUSSMAN  
was in periodic contact with JULIUS ROSENBERG from 1938 until sometime in 1947.  
GREENGLASS also advised that NATHAN SUSSMAN was a member of the Steinmetz  
Hall Branch of the Young Communist League at the City College of New York.

Concerning ROSENBERG, mentioned above, Agents of the New York Office,  
on July 17, 1950, arrested ROSENBERG. On August 17, 1950 JULIUS ROSENBERG and  
his wife, ETHEL, were indicted by the Federal Grand Jury in the Southern District  
of New York on a charge of conspiracy to commit espionage.

As set forth in the report of SA BERT S. TAYLOR, entitled, "NATHAN  
SUSSMAN, was.; ESPIONAGE - R", dated October 29, 1950, New York file 65-15399,  
ND 301, on March 3, 1947, advised that NATHAN SUSSMAN and his wife GERTRUDE SUSSMAN,  
of 43-09 47th Avenue, Queens, were members of the Sunnyside Section of the  
Communist Party for the year 1946.

Under the caption "MORTON SOBELL, was; ESPIONAGE - R" Bureau permission  
was requested and was received to simultaneously but separately, interview  
NATHAN SUSSMAN and his wife GERTRUDE SUSSMAN. While NATHAN SUSSMAN was being  
interviewed at his place of employment, the Fairchild Aviation Corporation,  
Long Island, on November 27, 1950 by SAs REX I. GUNDEL and BERT  
TRUDEN SUSSMAN was being interviewed at her home.

field

100-37158-939-1

Letter to Director  
NY 121-616

GERTRUDE SUSSMAN furnished considerable information concerning the social visits of her and her husband with JULIUS ROSENBERG, whereas NATHAN SUSSMAN furnished practically no information regarding his contact with JULIUS ROSENBERG.

GERTRUDE SUSSMAN identified ALFRED SARAIT and JOEL BARR as being Communists and as being present at ROSENBERG'S home while the SUSSMANS were visiting. GERTRUDE SUSSMAN placed the time of those visits as being around 1942 or 1943. In addition to BARR and SARAIT being present at ROSENBERG'S home on the occasion of their visits, GERTRUDE SUSSMAN stated that a MORRIS SAVITSKY also visited the ROSENBERGS. She identified SAVITSKY as an engineer and a person who lived in a project in Brooklyn and who was employed at that time in the Brooklyn Navy Yard. She could not state definitely if SAVITSKY was a Communist, but remarked since all the rest of the individuals were Communists, he must have been also.

She also indicated a person by the name of GENE HARKAVI (Phonetic) was also present at the ROSENBERG home when the SUSSMANS visited. She identified HARKAVI as a person living on the East Side whom she believed went to City College, New York, but was not an engineer. She thought HARKAVI worked in a personnel department for the government. However, she did not know what branch of the government HARKAVI worked for or whether he was still employed by the government.

The above information concerning HARKAVI was all the information interviewed Agents were able to obtain at this time from GERTRUDE SUSSMAN, since she was very reluctant to talk about anyone who was present at the ROSENBERG home during their visit.

GENE HARKAVI (Phonetic) appears to be identical with the captioned individual. A review of the file in this case indicates that EUGENE HARKAVY attended City College, New York and was graduated in June of 1932 with an A.B. Degree in Education.

File also indicates that EUGENE HARKAVY resided at 10 Monroe Street from 1934 until 1939 with his father and mother. It is also to be noted that JULIUS ROSENBERG has continuously resided at 10 Monroe Street, New York City. From 1939 to about 1943 HARKAVY resided with his father and mother at 151 Norfolk Street, New York City.

By teletype dated November 22, 1950, captioned "MORRIS SAVITSKY, was; ESPIONAGE - R", the results of the interviews with NATHAN and GERTRUDE SUSSMAN were furnished to the Bureau.

Inasmuch, as it is not certain that the individual referred to by Mrs. SUSSMAN is identical with the captioned individual, this matter is not submitted in report form.

Letter to Director  
NY 121-616

One copy of this letter is designated for Washington Field Office, in the event the Bureau should desire to verify HARKOVY'S current employment with the government.

Unless advised to the contrary, no further action will be taken in this matter. RUC.

W  
m

CHIEF	_____
DEPUTY CHIEF	_____
ASST. DIR.	_____
IDENT.	_____
INSP.	_____
INTELL.	_____
LABORATORY	_____
LEGAL COUNSEL	_____
RECORDS & COMM.	_____
TRAINING UNIT	_____

NEW YORK 52 FROM WASH FIELD

16

8-36

DIRECTOR AND SAC..... U R G E N T

MORTON SOBELL, WAS, ESP. R. ATTENTION OF BUREAU IS CALLED TO THE FACT THAT IN TESTIMONY BEFORE HCUA IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON DECEMBER THREE, FIFTY, HENRY THOMAS, LOCAL NEGRO LABOR LEADER, AND FORMER MEMBER OF CP, TESTIFIED THAT HE KNEW CASEY GUREWITZ TO BE CP MEMBER. WHEN ASKED IF HE KNEW CASEY-S WIFE, HELEN, HE STATED CASEY HAD TWO WIVES BOTH NAMED HELEN, AND THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THE FIRST HELEN GUREWITZ WAS A CP MEMBER BUT THAT HE HAD SEEN HER AT MEETINGS OF THE YCL. THOMAS HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED BY WFO AGENTS PREVIOUSLY CONCERNING CP MATTERS AND HAS APPEARED COOPERATIVE. BUREAU AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO INTERVIEW HIM FOR INFO RE MORTON AND HELEN SOBELL. THOMAS IS SUBJECT OF BUFILE ONE HUNDRED DASH FOUR FOUR SEVEN SEVEN NAUGHT AND ONE TWO TWO DASH ONE FIVE THREE.

HOTTEL

BUREAU ADVISED

HOLD PLS

100-37158-942

Y  
R. G. Schneider

NEW YORK 52 FROM WASH FIELD

16

E-36 P

DIRECTOR AND SAC..... U R G E N T

MORTON SOBELL, WAS, ESP. R. ATTENTION OF BUREAU IS CALLED TO THE FACT THAT IN TESTIMONY BEFORE NSUA IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON DECEMBER THREE, FIFTY, HENRY THOMAS, LOCAL METRO LABOR LEADER, AND FORMER MEMBER OF CP, TESTIFIED THAT HE KNEW CASEY GUREWITZ TO BE CP MEMBER. WHEN ASKED IF HE KNEW CASEY-S WIFE, HELEN, HE STATED CASEY HAD TWO WIVES BOTH NAMED HELEN, AND THAT HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THE FIRST HELEN GUREWITZ WAS A CP MEMBER BUT THAT HE HAD SEEN HER AT MEETINGS OF THE YCL. THOMAS HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED BY WFO AGENTS PREVIOUSLY CONCERNING CP MATTERS AND HAS APPEARED COOPERATIVE. BUREAU AUTHORITY IS REQUESTED TO INTERVIEW HIM FOR INFO RE MORTON AND HELEN SOBELL. THOMAS IS SUBJECT OF BUFILE ONE HUNDRED DASH FOUR FOUR SEVEN SEVEN NAUGHT AND ONE TWO TWO DASH ONE FIVE THREE.

HOTTEL

BUREAU ADVISED

HOLD PLS

100-37188-942

(6)

Shader h

Memo: Morton Sobell - Espionage R.  
100-37158

11/22/50

[REDACTED] Mortgage  
Department, County Trust Co, Tarrytown  
N.Y. advised subject's house sold to  
Edith Levitor 600 Trinity Ave Bronx NY  
the date of sale being 10/13/50, although  
a signed statement by Helen & Morton Sobell  
dated Nov. 6, 1950. On 10/13/50 Solomon  
Fisher, attorney, advised <sup>that</sup> Edith Levitor  
had contracted with Anthony La Sala  
851 Bushwick Ave, Bklyn NY to sell  
house & that same was expected to be  
completed by 11/15/50, altho bank has  
received no info in this matter regard.  
As far as bank is concerned Levitor  
is present owner of house.

100-37158

- TPL

100-37158-943  
F.B.I.  
DEC 14 1950  
N. Y. C.  
ROUTED TO  
J. T. Callahan  
FILED  
E. J. C.

607 U.S. Court House  
Foley Square  
New York 7, New York

100-37158

December 18, 1950

Honorable Albert Goldman  
Postmaster

U.S. Post Office  
33rd Street and Eighth Avenue  
New York 1, New York

Dear Sir:

In connection with an investigation being conducted by this Bureau, it is requested that a cover be placed on all mail, including special delivery and registered mail, of the following for a period of thirty days:

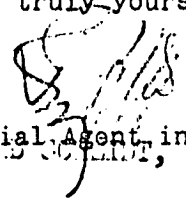
HELEN SOBELL  
LOUIS SOBELL  
ROSE SOBELL  
600 Trinity Avenue  
Bronx 55, New York

☒ return cards

☐ tracings

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

  
Special Agent in Charge

RS:LEW  
100-37158

100-37158-948



New York, New York  
December 20, 1950

MEMO

Re: MORTON SOBEL  
ESPIONAGE - R

Re tel from Newark to New York dated November 4, 1950, 3:13 p.m.

On December 1, 1950, WESLEY THEODORE HERMANSON, 222 Van Houten Avenue, Wyckoff, New Jersey, was interviewed at his place of employment, The Western Electric Company, 30 Church Street, New York City, by SA JOSEPH J. PALGUTA.

HERMANSON stated that he has been employed by the above organization in the installation division as electrical engineer since October 28, 1946. He stated that he graduated from the College of the City of New York in 1939 with a degree in electrical engineering.

Photographs of the following persons were exhibited to HERMANSON, but the only photographs HERMANSON was able to identify were those of JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG:

STANLEY ROBERT RICH  
MICHAEL SIDOROVICH  
ANNA SIDOROVICH  
ALFRED SARANT  
MARK PAGE  
RUSSEL ALTON McNUTT  
STEVEN JAVNA  
DAVID GREENGLASS  
MAX ELITCHER  
HELENE ELITCHER  
WILLIAM DANZIGER  
JOEL BARR  
MORTON SOBEL  
JULIUS ROSENBERG  
ETHEL ROSENBERG

HERMANSON stated that he first met JULIUS ROSENBERG in 1937 or 1938 at the Electrical Engineering School, College of the City of New York. He said that he only knew ROSENBERG as a casual speaking acquaintance and

JJP:EXM  
100-37158

100-37158-954

F. B. I.
N. Y. C.
ROUTED TO

MEMO

NY 100-37158

that he knew nothing about ROSENBERG'S associates or activities at College of the City of New York. HERMANSON said that in October or November 1940 at a social gathering in Long Branch, New Jersey, he again met JULIUS ROSENBERG and his wife, ETHEL ROSENBERG. HERMANSON said that this social gathering was just a get together of some of the employees of the U. S. Signal Corps, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, and that it took place at the apartment of one of the employees of the above organization. HERMANSON stated that he does not recall the names of the persons who were in attendance at this gathering, and does not recall the name of the person who invited him to that occasion. HERMANSON stated that he has not seen JULIUS ROSENBERG since that time.

HERMANSON further advised that he does not recall the names of any of these persons whose photographs were exhibited to him, with the exception of JULIUS ROSENBERG, as having attended College of the City of New York at the time he attended there.

JOSEPH J. PALGUTA, SA

New York, New York  
December 20, 1950

MEMO

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MICHAEL SIDOROVICH  
ANNA SIDOROVICH  
ALFRED SARANT  
MARK PAGE  
RUSSEL ALTON McNUTT  
STEVEN JAVNA  
DAVID GREENGLASS  
MAX ELITCHER  
HELENE ELITCHER  
WILLIAM DANZIGER  
JOEL BARR  
MORTON SOBEL  
JULIUS ROSENBERG  
ETHEL ROSENBERG

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JJP:FTW  
100-37158

100-37158-954

FEB 1951	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

MEMO

NY 100-37158

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JOSEPH J. PALCUTA, SA

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO

FILE NO. 100-37158

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice



607 United States Court House  
Foley Square  
New York 7, New York

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

December 22, 1950

Mr. Edward L. Braune, Agent  
New York Telephone Company  
140 West Street  
New York 7, New York

Dear Mr. BRAUNE:

In connection with an official investigation being conducted by this Office it is requested that information be furnished concerning toll calls charged to Cypress 2-3535 during past 3 month period. This number is reported to be listed to ROSE SOBELL  
600 Trinity Ave  
Bronx 55, N.Y.

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

*Edward Scheidt*  
EDWARD SCHEIDT  
Special Agent in Charge

WHS:LEW  
100-37158

100 37158-957

New York, New York  
December 28, 1950

MEMO

RE: MORTON SOBELL  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to page 25 of the report of SA REX I. SHRODER, dated August 5, 1950 at New York, New York, which reflected that Professor WILLIAM LYNCH, Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, Brooklyn, New York, had recommended MORTON SOBELL as an Assistant Professor at the above mentioned institute.

Professor WILLIAM LYNCH, Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, was interviewed on December 14, 1950, at which time he advised that he did not know MORTON SOBELL personally and had only spoken to him a few times over the telephone. Professor LYNCH stated that he (LYNCH), conducts a graduate course in Feedback Amplifiers at Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute. He stated that due to the large number of students who had enrolled for this course, it became necessary for him to obtain another professor who could teach half of the students. LYNCH stated that he discussed this problem with DONALD L. HERR, an employee of REEVES who also taught at Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute.

According to LYNCH, HERR recommended that MORTON SOBELL be selected as an instructor for the course in Feedback Amplifiers. HERR stated that SOBELL was a fellow employee of his at REEVES and had ten years' experience in that field, and would make an ideal instructor for that course.

As a result of HERR'S recommendation, LYNCH stated that he telephonically contacted SOBELL and arranged for him to teach this course. He added that he talked to SOBELL on three or four occasions over the telephone but never met him in person.

RWC:PMS  
100-37158

100-37158-961	
F. B. I.	
DEC 28 1950	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

Memo

NY 100-37158

Professor LYNCH stated that he knows nothing whatsoever concerning SOBELL, and from the information he gathered from the students who attended SOBELL'S class, it was his impression that SOBELL was not a very good instructor.

Professor LYNCH stated that this might possible be due to the fact that SOBELL had never taught before and had undertaken to teach this course on short notice and was not fully prepared.

ROBERT W. COHOLAN, SA

New York, New York  
December 28, 1950.

MEMO

RE: MORTON SOBELL  
ESPIONAGE - R

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RWC:PMS  
100-37158

100-37158-961	
F. B. I.	
DEC 28 1950	
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO <i>Shroder</i>	FILE <i>h</i>



Memo

NY 100-37158

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*He was then given instructions*

ROBERT W. CONOLAN, SA