

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS**

Subject: Oscar Vago

File Number: 101- 1988

Section: 3 Serial 211-259



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

F.O.I.A.

JULIUS ROSENBERG ET AL.

FILE DESCRIPTION

HQ VAGO **FILE**

SUBJECT OSCAR VAGO

FILE NO. 101-1988

VOLUME NO. 3

SERIALS

211

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259

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File No: 101-1988
SECT. 3

Re: OSCAR VAGO

Date: 1/86
(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	
211	10/26/51	CIA LETTER TO HQ	-	-	Expt handled by CIA (1)
211	11/13/51	HQ LETTER TO NY	1	0	b1
212	11/21/51	NY REPT HQ, NY, LA, SF, WFO	3	3	
213	11/15/51	NY TT to HQ	1	1	
214	1/10/52	NY TT to HQ	1	1	
215	1/16/52	NY REPT HQ, LA, SF, WFO	3	3	
216	2/18/52	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
217	3/22/52	NY REPT HQ, LA, SF, WFO	26	26	b1 b2 b7(D)
218	5/5/52	NY TT to HQ	1	1	
219	5/19/52	NY REPT HQ, NY, LA, SF, WFO	10	10	b2 b7(D)
220	5/21/52	NY TT to HQ	1	1	
221	5/22/52	HQ LETTER TO ANG	1	1	

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for rel from ...

File No: 101-1588
SECT.Re: OSCAR VAGO1/86
(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	
222	6/18/52	NY TT to HQ	1	1	
223	6/16/52	NY TT to HQ	1	1	
224	6/20/52	NY TT to HQ	1	1	
225	6/30/52	WFO NY REPT to HQ, LA, SE	3	3	
225	6/30/52	NY LETTER to HQ	1	1	
226	6/20/52	CLEVELAND MEMO to BERANET	1	1	
226	6/24/52	LADD MEMO to DIRECTOR	1	1	
227	7/1/52	LITRENTO MEMO to BRANIGAN	2	2	b1
228	9/3/52	NY LETTER to HQ	1	1	
229	9/3/52	INTERNAL LETTER	2	2	b1
230	10/14/52	MP LETTER to HQ	1	1	
N/R	2/26/53	NY LETTER to HQ	1	1	

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File No: 101-1988
SECT. 3

Re: OSCAR VAGO

Date: 11/86
(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	
231	4/28/53	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
232	5/26/53	NY LETTER TO HQ + 28 office	2	2	
233	6/11/53	NF LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
234	4/16/53	WFO LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
235	6/16/53	SF LETTER TO HQ, NY	1	1	
236	7/3/53	MP LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
N/R	2/9/54	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
N/R	3/19/54	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
N/R	3/11/54	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
237	6/2/55	NY LETTER TO HQ	2	2	b7D
238	10/5/55	NY LETTER TO HQ	5	5	b2 b7CD
239	1/30/62	NY REPT HQ,	24	24	b1 b2 b7CDE

41 41

Per REC Doing refer Presumed correct

File No: 101-1988
SECT. 3

Re: OSCAR VAGO

Date: 1/86
(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	
N/R	7/29/64	ROUTING SLIP	1	1	
247	1/25/65	NY REPT HQ	9	8	b1 b2 b7C DE
248	6/25/65	NY LETTER TO HQ W/ENC	8	8	b1 b7C DE
248	7/6/65	HQ LETTER TO STATE	2	2	b2
249	7/28/65	NY LETTER TO HQ	2	2	b2
250	8/6/65	WFO LETTER TO HQ, NY	3	1	b2 b7C 2 refer passport
N/R	8/17/65	STATE DEPT DOCUMENT	1	0	1 refer State
N/R	8/17/65	STATE DEPT RADIOGRAM	1	0	1 refer State
251	9/10/65	NY LETTER TO HQ	3	3	b7E b2 b7C
252	9/15/65	LEGAT LETTER TO HQ	1	1	b1
253	1/24/66	NY REPT HQ	9	8	b7C DE b2 b1 1 refer passport
N/R	8/24/66	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	

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File No: 101-1988
SECT. 3

Re: OSCAR VAGO

Date: 11/86
(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	
N/R	8/29/66	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
254	1/24/67	NY REPT HQ	9	9	b7CDE b1b2
255	4/20/67	AAG LETTER TO HQ	1	0	1 upon DOJ
N/R	7/24/67	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
256	1/24/68	NY REPT HQ	9	9	b7C, DE
N/R	3/22/68	NY LETTER TO HQ	6	5	b1 b7D
257	7/30/68	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
N/R	8/8/70	STATE DEPT. DOC	1	0	1 upon Passport
N/R	10/26/70	WFO LETTER TO HQ	2	2	b1 b7C
258	5/14/70	NY LETTER TO HQ	5	5	b1 b2 b7D 1 upon passport
N/R	3/10/71	NY LETTER TO HQ	1	1	
N/R	7/13/72	NY LETTER TO HQ	2	2	

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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):

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

SECURITY INFORMATION

FILE NO.

MZM

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 11/21/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/13, 18, 26; 10/3, 5, 6, 10, 12, 19, 26, 29, 31; 11/6, 12/51	REPORT MADE BY ROBERT M. KANE
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: VAGO still employed as engineer by Carol Management Corp., 12 E. 48 St., New York, and continues residence at 66-07 99th St., Rego Park, New York. Spot surveillances disclose no pertinent activity.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

- P - HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3-4-87 BY 3042/PWT/CB

DETAILS: HENRY BOLIA, assistant superintendent at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, advised that he sees VAGO almost daily at that address and had frequent occasion to visit the VAGO apartment. He advised that there are few visitors at that address during his period of duty and that in his conversations with VAGO and other members of the family there appears to be no doubt of the family's continuing intention to reside at the address. He stated that VAGO appears to avoid contact with other tenants since his arrest and no longer engages in attempts to project his political beliefs on his neighbors.

Doctor ROBERT JACOBS, dentist at the building in which VAGO resides, also advised that he sees VAGO regularly entering and leaving the building, but could furnish no other information.

JACOB ARONOW, former employer of VAGO at 12 East 48th Street, advised that VAGO works regularly at that address as an engineering draftsman for Carol Management Corporation.

*200-072-ET2
b2
12-12-51-RP*

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CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that VAGO had a balance of \$118.32 on November 9, 1951, at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard. He stated that cash deposits of \$120.00 and \$150.00 were made on October 30th and November 5th, respectively. All checks appeared to be of a routine nature, for such items as rent and utilities, with the exception of a check for \$100.00 to the Downtown Community School. It is noted that this school, which has been previously described as under Communist domination, was attended by VAGO's son, JOHN, during the previous school year. VAGO

The information obtained from Confidential Informant T-1 was obtained on a confidential basis and is not to be made public except on the issuance of a subpoena.

Spot surveillances of VAGO on September 13, 18, and 26, October 3, 5, 6, 10, 19, 26, 31, and November 6 and 12, 1951, reflect that VAGO is apparently abiding by his bond requirements but disclosed no information pertinent to this investigation.

- P E N D I N G -

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NY 100-5242

ADMINISTRATIVE

IDENTITY OF INFORMANTS

T-1

[REDACTED]

MISCELLANEOUS

Copies of this report are being furnished for information in accordance with Bureau instructions.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At Rego Park, New York:

Will continue to maintain a mail cover at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park.

Will maintain contact with assistant building superintendent HENRY BOLIA.

Will conduct spot surveillances to insure VAGO's residence and availability.

Will continue to monitor the bank account of the subject at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard.

At New York, New York:

Will follow and report prosecutive action.

REFERENCE: Report of SA ROBERT M. KANE, 9/18/51 at New York.

see serial 309

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

NOV 15 1951

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Laughlin	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASH FROM NEW YORK 16

15

4-44 P

DIRECTOR

DEFERRED

G.I.R. 57

Engel 10-
nm

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., PERJURY, ESP. DASH R. REPORT DICTATED.
WILL BE SUBMITTED WHEN TRANSCRIBED.

SCHEIDT

HOLD

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101-1988-213

NOV 21 1951

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EX-100

FILE

58 DEC 8 1951

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

JAN 0

TELETYPE

WASH FROM NEW YORK 34

9

5-28 P

G.I.R.-6

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DEFERRED

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Laughlin _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., PERJURY, ESPIONAGE DASH R. REPORT DICTATED
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JAN 11 1952

EX-68

50 JAN 24 1952

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SECURITY INFORMATION FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO.

CAC

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 1/16/52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/3,4,6,11,13,21/51; 1/2,9/52	REPORT MADE BY BLAZE J. TOMASONI
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

VAGO still employed as engineer by Carol Management Corporation, 12 East 48th Street, NYC and continues to reside at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, NY. Spot surveillances disclosed no pertinent activity.

- P -

At New York, New York

HENRY BOLIA, Assistant Superintendent at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, New York advised that he sees VAGO almost daily at that address and has not noticed anything of an unusual nature in VAGO'S activities.

He said that VAGO leaves his apartment every morning between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. and presumably goes to his place of employment.

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that VAGO, as of December 31, 1951 had a balance of \$122.82 at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard. The informant advised that all checks appeared to be of a routine nature for such items as rent and utilities.

T-1 stated, there appeared to be no indication that VAGO had any intention of closing the account. The information obtained from Confidential Informant T-1 was obtained on a

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WAB/DVK 10/7/75

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5242

confidential basis and is not to be made public except upon issuance of a subpoena.

Spot surveillances of VAGO on December 3, 4, 6, 11 and 21, 1951 reflect that he continues his employment at the Carol Management Corporation, 12 East 48th Street, New York City. These surveillances also indicate that VAGO is apparently abiding by his bond requirements but disclosed no information pertinent to this investigation.

- P E N D I N G -

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE

INFORMANTS

T-1 [REDACTED] 67cD

MISCELLANEOUS

Copies of this report are being furnished to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington Field for information in accordance with Bureau's instructions.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At Rego Park, New York

Will continue to maintain mail cover at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park on the subject.

Will maintain contact with Assistant Building Superintendent, HENRY BOLIA.

Will continue spot surveillances to insure VAGO'S residence and availability.

Will continue to monitor the bank account of the subject at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard.

At New York, New York

Will follow and report prosecutive action.

REFERENCE

Report of SA ROBERT M. KANE, at New York, 11/21/51. ser 2/2

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

Director, FBI (101-1988)

DATE: 2/18/52

FROM :

SAC, New York (100-55242)

SUBJECT:

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

AUSA ROBERT MARTIN, SDNY, advised on 2/18/52 that he has obtained tentative clearance to go to trial in the VAGO case in April of 1952.

MARTIN said he considers this a good case although it is a difficult question of law. This is being furnished for the information of the Bureau.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-4-87 BY 3002/pw/clb

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101-1988-216

FEB 21 1952

EX-25

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BJT:JEQ

19)
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CONFIDENTIAL

MAR 25 1952

1/24, 2/3, 13, 29

REPORT MADE BY

BLAKE J. TOMASONE

OSCAR JOHN VAGO

OSCAR VAGO, John Murray, John

ESPIONAGE

PERJURY

Investigative

SUMMARY REPORT

Synopsis of Facts

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-81 BY 3042 PUL/OK

OSCAR VAGO born Budapest, Hungary, 2/27/98. Entered U.S. at N.Y. on 1/12/25, and was naturalized in U.S. District Court, SDNY, 9/29/38. He studied in European schools until 1922 and from January to March, 1925, he attended Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N.Y. VAGO married CLAIRE WEISMANN at Long Island City on 3/31/28. He was arrested 9/28/50, at N.Y.C., on a bench warrant resulting from his indictment for Perjury on 9/28/50. He was released on \$5,000 bail 1/20/51, and is presently awaiting trial. Criminal record set out. He is employed by Carol Management Corporation, 12 E. 48th St., N.Y.C., and resides at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, N.Y. Communist Party connections set out. Bank data and description set out. Spot surveillances of VAGO reflect nothing pertinent to the investigation.

AGENCY
REF. REC'D
DATE FORW.
HOW FORW.
BY

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Edward Sheedy

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 14 1952

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INDEXED - 127

CONFIDENTIAL

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

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NY 100-55242

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I BACKGROUND DATA	2
A. Birth Data	2
B. Citizenship Status	2
C. Education	2
D. Marital Status	3
E. Military Service	3
F. Criminal Record	3
G. Employments	5
1. Association with A. Brothman Associates	6
H. Residences	13
II COMMUNIST PARTY AND RELATED CONNECTIONS	13
III CLAIRE VAGO	19
IV MISCELLANEOUS	20
V DESCRIPTION	21

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NY 100-55242

DETAILS: At New York, New York

I BACKGROUND

A. Birth Data

The records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 70 Columbus Avenue, reflect that OSCAR VAGO was born February 27, 1898, at Budapest, Hungary, to MORRIS and MATHILDE GOLDSTEIN VAGO. MR. P. F. S.

B. Citizenship Status

On May 31, 1938, VAGO filed Petition for Naturalization number 310521, in United States District Court, Southern District of New York, and was admitted to citizenship in the same court September 29, 1938, certificate number 4320335.

According to Immigration and Naturalization Service records VAGO entered the United States at New York on January 12, 1925, on the SS MONGOLIA. He was destined as a student to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, however, he actually attended Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York, from January to March, 1925, and then began work as an engineer in New York.

C. Education

VAGO on May 15, 1950, when interviewed by SAS LEO H. FRUTKIN and ROBERT M. KANE, advised that he had attended the Hessische Technische Hochschule at Darmstadt, Germany, from September, 1920 to May, 1921, and was graduated from the Royal Hungarian Technical Institute at Budapest as a Civil Engineer in 1922.

The records of Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, New York, checked by SA RAYMOND A. MULLINS, in the Fall of 1950, reflected that VAGO attended one course, in Structural Designing, at the Evening School of Science and Technology from January 22, 1925 to March 19, 1925.

- 2 - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

NY 100-55242

D. Marital Status

According to the records of the Department of Health, Borough of Queens, OSCAR VAGO married CLAIRE WEISMANN ~~VAGO~~ at Long Island City, New York, on March 31, 1928. Two children have been born of this marriage, a son born May 12, 1938, and a younger girl, named SUSAN.

E. Military Service

REF. OSCAR JOHN VAGO

The records of Confidential Informant T-1, another government agency which maintains personnel files, advised that VAGO registered under the Selective Service Act on February 15, 1942; that his serial number was 979, order number 11148 and that he had been classified 4A as of May 1, 1943. It was stated that VAGO did not enter into military service because he was over age.

F. Criminal Record

VAGO was arrested September 28, 1950, in the vicinity of 18 East 48th Street, New York City, by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on a bench warrant issued by United States District Judge JOHN C. KNOX, following the indictment of VAGO on September 28, 1950, by the Grand Jury of the Southern District of New York for Perjury. He was released on \$5,000 bail January 20, 1951. He is presently awaiting trial and is residing at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, Queens, New York.

Assistant United States Attorney ROBERT MARTIN, Southern District of New York, on February 18, 1952, advised that he had received tentative clearance to go to trial in the VAGO case sometime in April, 1952.

The following is the record of OSCAR VAGO under Federal Bureau of Investigation number 519746A:

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

<u>Contributor of Fingerprints</u>	<u>Name and Number</u>	<u>Arrested or Received</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
USM New York NY	Oscar John Vago #C 133550	9/28/50	perjury before the Federal G.J. So. Dist of NY	
Fed Detention Hdq NY NY	Oscar John Vago #60513	9/28/50	perjury before Grand Jury	\$50,000.00 bail
SOS Army	Oscar John Vago #88-Fel-182	chief engineer- structural FP 6/11/42		

Fingerprint Classification:

7 9 13 T 10 19
I 20 W III

Alias: Oscar J. Vago.

Description:

Color: white
Sex: male
Height: 5 ft. 6 in.
Weight: 150 lbs.
Complexion: dark
Build: stocky
Hair: dark brown
Eyes: brown
Scars and marks: hernia scar.
Birth: 2/27/98, Budapest, Hungary.
Citizenship: US
Residence: from 1942 to 1950 - 6607 99th St.
Forest Hills, Long Island, NY.
Company: in 1942 - Fellheimer and Wagner (as
on prt #88-Fel-182)

The fingerprint file of this individual
includes a photograph.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

<u>Contributor of Fingerprints</u>	<u>Name and Number</u>	<u>Arrested or Received</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
BFD, New York N Y	Oscar John Vago #100-55242	9/28/50	perjury	

Refer two copies of record on all inquiries re. Oscar John Vago, was, Oszkar Vago, John Muray, John Murray, to BFD NYC NY their file #100-55242 per inf rec therefrom 2/10/51. Bufile #101-1988. (Ident FBI #519 746 A).

G. Employment

The following are the employment listings by VAGO since his arrival in the United States, compiled from personal interview, employment and school records, Immigration and Naturalization files and from Confidential Information T-1:

J. M. Felson, architect	March 16, 1925 to April 10, 1926
New York Central	April 15, 1926 to April 20, 1926
White Construction Company	April 26, 1926 to February 11, 1928
J. M. Felson	February 13, 1928 to October 27, 1928
White Construction Company	October 29, 1928 to February 1, 1933
G. W. A. - WPA	January 29, 1934 to October 28, 1936
Austin Company 19 Rector Street	October 28, 1936 to December 10, 1937
Procurement - F.W.A.	July 25, 1938 to December 1, 1939

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55262

War Department

December 16, 1939 to June 26, 1941

White Construction Company

June 13, 1941 to July 18, 1941

Fellheimer & Wagner

July 21, 1941 to April 17, 1943

John Greenewalt

April 19, 1943 to October 31, 1943

Angelo Conti

November 15, 1943 to February 29, 1944

Regal Chemical Company

March 1, 1944 to August 12, 1944

A. Brothman Associates

August 15, 1944 to May 31, 1948

Severud-Elstad-Krueger

June 7, 1948 to July 30, 1949

Jacob S. Aronow

October 4, 1949 to November 11, 1949

Carol Management Corporation

To date

From early 1950 to the time of his arrest, VAGO was also employed on a part time basis by PAUL WEIDLINGER, partner in the firm of General Engineering Associates, with offices in Washington, D.C. and 101 Park Avenue, New York City. After his release from prison VAGO again worked for this individual out of his own home, on a part time basis, until April, 1951, at which time he began his employment with the Carol Management Corporation, where he is presently employed.

1. Association with A. Brothman Associates

As set out above, VAGO was a partner in A. Brothman Associates from August, 1944 to June, 1948.

On May 15, 1950, in connection with the investigation resulting in the arrest of ABRAHAM BROTHMAN and HARRY GOLD, VAGO was interviewed by SA LEO H. FRUTKIN and SA ROBERT M. KANE. At that time, in addition to the background information

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NY 100-55242

previously set out, VAGO stated that upon coming to New York in 1925, he had taken up residence with an uncle in Brooklyn, New York, WILLIAM GOLDSTEIN, now deceased. He stated that he had returned to Hungary in 1928, and that he and his wife had returned to New York, in 1933. He stated that he had not left the United States since that time.

In connection with his relationship with BROTHMAN, VAGO advised that he had received a telephone call from BROTHMAN in the summer of 1941, at which time BROTHMAN informed him that a mutual friend, whose name VAGO could not recall, had suggested that VAGO might be interested in doing some part-time work. VAGO recalled that BROTHMAN was at that time designing a chemical plant for the Rufert Company at Seymour, Connecticut, and that he had paid VAGO \$25.00 for some structural engineering work which VAGO had done in his spare time. He stated that he had given his work to BROTHMAN and that he did not again see or hear from BROTHMAN until early 1944. At that time, according to VAGO, BROTHMAN informed him that he was hiring men for the Regal Chemical Company, and asked VAGO to accept a position as a structural engineer. VAGO accepted the job, and recalled that BROTHMAN had him doing odds and ends of engineering work in setting up a plant for the purpose of manufacturing DDT. BROTHMAN had been given the job of designing the plant, and VAGO was instructed to set up an office at 55 West 42nd Street, to handle work at the plant. However, the project lasted only some three weeks, at which time BROTHMAN and all of the men whom he had hired were discharged. VAGO recalled that BROTHMAN had quarreled with the president of the company over financial questions, but was unable to supply any details.

Since BROTHMAN and VAGO were unemployed, they looked for new openings until BROTHMAN conceived the idea of setting up a firm of engineers. BROTHMAN promised that through his connections he would be able to obtain some large engineering jobs and painted such a rosy picture of the situation that he was able to induce VAGO to accept a partnership in the firm which became A. Brothman Associates.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-35242

VAGO stated that the firm was in desperate straits financially during almost the entire period of its existence, and that he himself had gone in debt \$2,500.00 for personal living expenses, although he had incurred no debts for the firm. He stated that BROTHMAN repeatedly borrowed money to meet current expenses of the firm and informed the partners that he was borrowing on his own credit from personal friends. VAGO was unable to supply the names of the lenders, and was also unable to supply the names of friends of BROTHMAN. He stated that as a result of the financial difficulties of the firm, EMIL PARISH, GERHARDT WOLLAN and JULES KORCHIEN, all partners in the firm, gradually dropped out so that in 1946 only BROTHMAN, MIRIAM MOSKOWITZ and VAGO remained. VAGO stated that he himself had finally left the firm as a result of a violent argument with BROTHMAN, and that he had not seen or contacted BROTHMAN since that time, which was in June of 1948, with the exception of one meeting at the office of an attorney in connection with the dissolution of the firm.

In connection with HARRY GOLD, he advised that he had met GOLD at the time when the latter was hired in 1947, and that he had known him quite well during the remaining period that VAGO was with the firm. He was unable to supply any information concerning GOLD other than that he appeared to be quite friendly with BROTHMAN.

Subsequent to this interview, HARRY GOLD confessed his participation in Soviet espionage and also furnished information indicating that he had been induced by ABRAHAM BROTHMAN to commit perjury before the Grand Jury which had questioned BROTHMAN concerning his relations with JACOB GOLOS, a known Soviet agent.

According to GOLD, a great deal of the conversation concerning BROTHMAN'S attempts to instruct GOLD as to the testimony which he was to give before the Grand Jury took place in the presence of VAGO. However, on re-interview by Special Agents JOHN M. COLLINS and THOMAS H. ZOELLER, VAGO denied that such a conversation took place in his presence concerning the above testimony before the Grand Jury in 1947.

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NY 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

VAGO said, however, that looking back on his association with GOLD and BROTHMAN, he has a hazy recollection that something was happening in 1947 that he should have known about, but didn't. VAGO stated that he was unable to be more specific about this. In retrospect, VAGO now believes that "this something" was concerned with GOLD and BROTHMAN'S testimony before the Grand Jury.

VAGO also advised that he had never heard of GOLD having received an award from the Soviets for his work, nor had he ever been told by BROTHMAN that the latter had received an award from the Soviet Union for work done by him. VAGO stated that he last saw GOLD about Christmas, 1949, at which time GOLD paid him a visit at his home, and their mutual associations with BROTHMAN were discussed. VAGO denied that he had asked GOLD at this time whether BROTHMAN had ever actually received an award from the Soviet Union, and also that BROTHMAN had once told him that his, BROTHMAN'S work for the Russians, was worth one or two brigades of men. It is noted that GOLD advised that VAGO had made such statements to him, GOLD.

It is noted that in an earlier re-interview with VAGO, subsequent to the arrest of HARRY GOLD, he had advised that GOLD had visited him at his home in late December of 1949, but denied that he had any knowledge of GOLD'S espionage activities.

Following is a signed statement of HARRY GOLD, convicted Soviet espionage agent who operated from about 1935 to 1945, concerning his knowledge of OSCAR VAGO:

"October 2, 1950
Philadelphia, Penna.

"I, Harry Gold, make the following voluntary statement to Robert G. Jensen and Ralph J. T. Carter, Jr., who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made to me and I know that any statement I make can be

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

"used against me in a Court of Law. I have been advised of my right of counsel and I know that I do not have to make any statement at all.

"I first heard of Oscar John Vago in 1943 from Abraham Brothman, who was at that time furnishing me with technical information for transmittal to the Soviet Union. Brothman at this time wanted me to get financial assistance for him from Semen M. ~~Semenov~~ so that he, Brothman, could hire Oscar John Vago and Jack Miller. Vago and Miller were to work for Henry Golwynne or rather the Chemurgy Design Corporation. Brothman was a partner with Art Weber and Henry Golwynne in this firm.

"Semenov was my Russian espionage superior at this time. I informed him of Brothman's request which he rejected rather violently.

"Vago and Miller had been described, by Brothman, to me as sincere and convinced Communists who could form the nucleus of a later development of a Brothman organization. This organization to produce and design chemical processes for the Soviet Union. This venture of Brothman's was all to be backed by Amtorg or Russian money,

"I first met Vago in May of 1946 on the morning I came to work for A. Brothman Associates. He was a partner in this firm and was also a design engineer and the chief draftsman.

"Many times in the ensuing months, Vago would spend a great deal of time in the office on 32nd Street in discussing such matters as what had gone in his own particular 'Communist Party Club' the night before. He would also dwell at some length on news items and editorials in the New York Herald Tribune and would expostulate about the perfidy of the capitalist press in general.

"Later when the design offices had been moved to the Chatham-Phoenix Bldg. in Long Island City, on one occasion,

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

43
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

"Brothman became upset for we were delayed in completing a report for the Mattur Chemical Co. of India, because Oscar Vago was at that very moment busy selling a special edition of the Daily Worker in Queens Plaza. On at least one other occasion, Vago told me of having sold the Daily Worker in both his home neighborhood, Rego Park, and nearby Queens Village.

"Sometime in the spring of 1948, a mimeographed series of pamphlets criticizing the policies of the National Leaders of the American Communist Party came out. These pamphlets were issued by an individual whose name may have been 'Franklin'. To the best of my knowledge, this 'Franklin' became a leader of a factionalist group in Harlem.

"Abraham Brothman was much taken with the arguments presented by 'Franklin'. He at one time argued these points before a Communist Party Club in Chelsea, which is a section of Manhattan.

"A few days later, while I was working at the Elmhurst Laboratories of A. Brothman Associates, Vago called and asked me to come to his home some two miles distant. While at the Vago residence, Oscar stated his belief that the Chelsea Communists had been perfectly justified in ejecting Brothman from their meeting. Vago added that in his own Rego Park Club, Brothman would not have succeeded in even getting a few words of criticism out.

"In late May of 1948, Brothman went to Switzerland to sell one of the firm's processes to the Lonza Co. of that country. After he had left, we discovered that Brothman was planning to deprive the rest of his associates from their fair share of any future income of A. Brothman Associates. On one evening in the week following Brothman's departure for Switzerland, Phil Levine and I were at the Vago home discussing what procedure we should best follow to insure that

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

"Our interests in A. Brothman could be protected. As we were preparing to leave, I mentioned that I was in no position to be too harsh with Brothman. Vago then added that he too did not wish to undergo any scrutiny by the F.B.I., inasmuch as there was an irregularity involved in his leaving the United States for Hungary after his first stay in America. He elaborated on this only to the extent that while the authorities thought or believed he had actually left for Hungary, he was in reality still in the United States.

"Phil Levine, who was present during this entire conversation, was a co-worker of Vago and mine at Abraham Brothman Associates.

"The next time this matter or irregularities in connection with Vago's entry into the United States, came up was in December of 1949. I was in New York City on a visit to the National Exposition of Chemical Industries at the Grand Central Palace. At 5:30 or 6:00 p.m., on the evening of the first Friday in December, 1949, I called Vago just to say hello, but Oscar insisted I come over to his house for dinner and a talk. At the end of several hours of conversation, Vago again mentioned his fear of an investigation concerning the irregularities of his movements in and out of the United States of America in the late twenties or early thirties. This was the last time that I saw or heard from Oscar John Vago.

"This is to certify that I, Harry Gold, have read the above statement consisting of this and four other pages, I have placed my initials at the bottom of the preceding four pages signifying that I have read those pages. I have also placed my initials at the corrections indicated on page 2 and again on page 4. The information that I have furnished above is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

"/s/ Harry Gold
October 2, 1950.
Philadelphia, Penna."

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

CONFIDENTIAL

H. Residences

From the sources mentioned above, under employments the following residences were also compiled:

January 12, 1925 through Summer of 1925	59 Bay 32nd Street, Brooklyn, New York
1928	397 Third Avenue, Astoria, Long Island, N.Y. (unable to verify)
1929 to 1931	28-20 37th Street, Long Island City, N.Y.
January 15, 1931 to May 1, 1935	2281 37th Street, Long Island City, N.Y.
1937 to 1938	25 Sickles Street, New York City
October 1, 1938 to June 30, 1939	6323 Luzon Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.
July 24, 1939 to May 31, 1941	4117 N. Fourth Street, Arlington, West Virginia
June 10, 1941 to date	66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, New York

II COMMUNIST PARTY AND RELATED CONNECTIONS

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, advised that VAGO was a member of the Communist Party on October 28, 1943.

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised that on March 29, 1944, VAGO was listed by the Communist Party as a functionary.

Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, advised that on March 16, 1944, OSCAR VAGO was a member of the Rego Park Club of the Communist Party.

NY 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised that at a County Conference of the Communist Party held on December 18, 1944, VAGO delivered a report on club conditions.

The same informant advised on January 1, 1945, that VAGO was listed as a Communist Party member who had obtained five or more subscriptions to the "Daily Worker" and was invited as a consequence, to attend a dinner for EARL BROWDER on December 27, 1944.

Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised that in January, 1945, VAGO was elected County Council Delegate from the Rego Park Club of the Communist Party.

On March 3, 1945, Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, advised that VAGO had submitted a report of approximately two and one-fourth typewritten pages entitled, "Remarks on the Work of the Communist Political Association" dealing with suggestions for improving such phases of Communist Party activities as discussions at meetings, education, "Daily Worker" circulation and literature sales".

On April 23, 1945, Confidential Informant T-5, advised that VAGO was one of the delegates from the Rego Park Club of the Communist Political Association to the County Council.

The same informant advised on October 4, 1946, that VAGO was still carried as a member of the Rego Park Section of the Communist Party.

This informant advised on January 20, 1947, that VAGO was listed as the purchaser of a bond in the amount of \$50 issued by the Queens County Branch of the Communist Party to facilitate the purchase of a building for Jamaica Communist Party Headquarters at 107-04 New York Boulevard, Jamaica.

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CONFIDENTIAL

NY 100-55242

The following signed statement was obtained by
SA VICTOR TURYN from Mrs. BERNICE RIVERIA, 114 West 114th
Street, New York City:

"607 U.S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, N.Y.
October 9, 1950

"I, Mrs. Bernice Riveria, make this statement voluntarily of my own free will to Victor Turyn, who identified himself and is known to me as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats, force, or duress were used against me and no rewards, or promises were made to me to give this statement. This statement concerns my knowledge about one Oscar Vago, for whom I worked in 1948.

"I am twenty-six years old and reside at 114 West 114th Street, N.Y., N.Y. I completed the tenth grade of school and can read and write.

"I first met Mr. and Mrs. ~~Oscar Vago~~ through Mrs. Marilyn Bailey, for whom I was doing housework at the time. I worked for Mrs. Bailey for a period of approximately two and one-half years. After I met Mrs. Vago I was then engaged by her to do housecleaning which I did for her for a period of approximately two months.

"During my brief period of employment for Mrs. Vago, she attempted to get me to join the Communist Party on several occasions. She told me that she and Mr. Vago were both members of the Communist Party.

"I know that Mr. and Mrs. Vago were members of the Communist Party because I saw both their names in a loose leaf note book kept by Mrs. Bailey. Mrs. Bailey was Secretary or Treasurer of the Communist Party in Queens and she kept names of members in this note book in alphabetical order. Mrs. Bailey told me herself that this note book contained the

CONFIDENTIAL

NY 100-55242

"names of Communist Party members in Queens. I saw this book many times and looked up names in the book at the request of Mrs. Bailey. After I started working for Mrs. Vago, it was then that I looked in the book and found the name of Oscar Vago and the name of Mrs. Oscar Vago.

"The Oscar Vagos had numerous bits of literature in their apartment about the Communist Party. Oscar Vago also received the 'Daily Worker' which I observed in the apartment. Mrs. Vago would also play record entitled 'The Red Army Song' to which the children would march,

"The note book I referred to earlier which was kept by Mrs. Bailey and contained names of members of the Communist Party in Queens is described as follows: Large loose leaf binder, light blue cover which cover appeared to have been canvas of some sort,

"I have read the above statement consisting of three pages and every word is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

(signed) "Bernice Riveria

"Witnessed;

"Victor Turyn, Special Agent, F. B. I."

Confidential Informant T-8, of known reliability, has advised that on August 21, 1950, a check made payable to DOROTHY SMITH and signed by VAGO in the amount of \$6.51 was endorsed by DOROTHY SMITH to the account of the International Worker's Order, Lodge 818. It is noted that the IWO appears on the list of organizations prepared by the Attorney General under Executive Order 9835.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities Hearings, under the date of October 25, 1939, (Volume X, page 6414), lists as a member of the American League for Peace and Democracy, under Treasury Department Employees, Procurement Division, Engineer, the name of OSCAR L. VAGO of 6323 Luzon Avenue, N. W.

CONFIDENTIAL

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NY 100-55242

Confidential Informant T-9, of known reliability, stated that in 1941, the name of OSCAR J. VAGO, 4117 4th Street, North, Arlington, Virginia (CH-1946), was contained in a "Members List"--3 by 5 index card system of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action.

Confidential Informant T-10, of known reliability, advised in the Spring of 1944, that the name, OSCAR JOHN VAGO, followed by the date, July 25, 1940, 4117 4th Street, North Arlington, Virginia, was among the list of expired members of the Washington Bookshop Association.

Confidential Informant T-11, of known reliability, advised that the date, July 25, 1940, referred to the last payment of dues to the Washington Bookshop Association.

Confidential Informant T-12, of known reliability, advised in 1941, that contained on the membership list of the Washington Committee for Aid to China was the name OSCAR VAGO, 4117 4th Street, North Arlington, Virginia.

The Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists, and Technicians edition of the CIO News, dated November 28, 1940, (Volume III, No. 48), revealed that OSCAR VAGO was secretary of the National Legislative Bureau of the FAECT at Washington, D.C.; further, that communications to this legislative bureau were to be addressed to VAGO at 4117 4th Street, North Arlington, Virginia.

The American League for Peace and Democracy, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action and the Washington Bookshop Association have all been declared within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

In its guide to subversive organizations and publications, the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., comments as follows concerning the Washington (D.C.) Committee for Aid to China:

1. Cited as Communist controlled organization (Special Committee on Un-American Activities report, March 29, 1944, page 143).

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

2. Cited as a Communist front which followed the line laid down by the Communist front, American Friends of the Chinese People (California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, pages 143 and 336).

The following is noted concerning the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians:

On page 151 of the book "A Story of the CIO", by BENJAMIN STOLBERG, appears the following: "Only four CIO unions are under complete control of Stalinist officials. They are the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians....." The following information appears on pages 264 and 265 of the above mentioned book by STOLBERG: "The Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists, and Technicians was organized in 1934 mainly from the technical staffs in the Works Progress Administration. From the very beginning the Federation has been under Stalinist leadership and its rank and file are chiefly Communist followers."

Confidential Informant T-13, of known reliability, advised on January 10, 1942, that the FAECT was one of the CIO unions which was completely dominated by the Communist Party.

Confidential Informant T-14, of known reliability, reported that OSCAR J. VAGO was listed as a petition canvasser for the Election Campaign Committee of the Communist Party in the 1949 campaign for the reelection of BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., Communist candidate for Councilman, City of New York.

Confidential Informant T-15, of known reliability, on July 20, 1950, advised that OSCAR VAGO was a stockholder of the 107-04 New York Boulevard Real Estate Corporation, Jamaica, Long Island, New York. VAGO was issued stock certificate number 57 in the amount of \$50.00.

Confidential Informant T-16, of known reliability, has reported that the property located at 107-04 New York

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

Boulevard, Jamaica, Long Island, was given to the Communist Party, Queens County, New York, as headquarters for the Jamaica Section, by OTTO ABBRIGHT, SR., who according to the informant, is a member of the Jamaica Section of the Communist Party. PC

III CLAIRE VAGO

Records of Immigration and Naturalization Service reflect that the subject's wife was born in Budapest, Hungary, January 31, 1907, and entered the United States as CLARA OLGA WEISZMAN at New York on March 26, 1926. She was naturalized November 19, 1931, in the Supreme Court at Jamaica, Long Island, New York.

Confidential Informant T-17, of known reliability, advised that on May 23, 1944, CLAIRE VAGO, 66-07 99th Street, Queens, New York, was listed as a Rego Park Communist Club Assistant.

Confidential Informant T-18, of known reliability, advised that CLAIRE VAGO had signed a "Daily Worker" Victory Brigade Pledge card in 1944.

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that CLAIRE VAGO was a member of the Queens County Communist Party on May 20, 1949.

Confidential Informant T-19, of known reliability, advised that Mrs. CLAIRE VAGO, 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, had sent a communication to Judge HAROLD R. MEDINA protesting the trial of the Communist Party leaders,

It is noted that in the signed statement set out above from Mrs. RIVERIA, considerable information is contained concerning Mrs. VAGO'S Communist Party connections,

The records of the Board of Elections, Queens County, reflect that OSCAR and CLAIRE VAGO registered

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

as members of the American Labor Party from 1941 through 1949, inclusive.

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications", dated March 3, 1951, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the American Labor Party:

"American Labor Party

"1. 'For years, the Communists have put forth the greatest efforts to capture the entire American Labor Party throughout New York State. They succeeded in capturing the Manhattan and Brooklyn sections of the American Labor Party but outside of New York City they have been unable to win control.' (Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944, page 78.)

"2. 'Among organizations that are victims of Communist domination.' (California Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 1948, pages 40 and 41.)"

Confidential Informant T-14 advised that CLAIRE VAGO was listed as a petition canvasser for the Election Campaign Committee of the Communist Party in the 1949 campaign for the reelection of BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., Communist candidate for Councilman, City of New York.

IV MISCELLANEOUS

Confidential Informant T-20, of known reliability, advised that VAGO, as of March 6, 1952, had a balance of \$190.28 in his account at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard, Rego Park, New York. The informant advised that VAGO, on February 28, 1952, made a payment of \$157.50 to the Downtown Community School.

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NY 100-33242

It is noted that this school, which has been previously described as a Communist dominated school, has been attended by VAGO'S son, JOHN.

The informant further advised VAGO made out two checks on February 23, 1952, and March 3, 1952, to CHARLES WEISMAN in the amounts of \$40.00 and \$50.00, respectively. Both of these checks were endorsed CHARLES WEISMAN and JOSEPHINE WINKLER.

The informant advised that other checks issued by VAGO appeared to be of a routine nature for such things as the payment of rent and utilities.

The above information was obtained on a confidential basis and should not be made public without the issuance of a subpoena.

CHARLES WEISMAN and JOSEPHINE WINKLER both reside at 2844 50th Street, Woodside, Long Island, New York. JOSEPHINE WINKLER is the sister of CLAIRE VAGO, wife of OSCAR VAGO and provided the \$5,000.00 bond for VAGO.

The above information was obtained on a confidential basis and should not be made public without the issuance of a subpoena.

Mr. HENRY BOLIA, Assistant Superintendent at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, advised that he has noticed nothing of an unusual nature in VAGO'S activities. He said the subject continues to follow his normal routine of going to work at the usual time of day.

Spot surveillances of VAGO on January 24th, February 5th, 13th, 29th, and March 6th and 7, 1952, reflect that he continues his employment at the Carol Management Corporation, 12 East 48th Street, and continues to reside at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park. The surveillances also indicated that the subject is apparently abiding by his bond requirements but disclosed no information pertinent to the investigation.

V DESCRIPTION

Name:

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, with alias:
Oszkar Vago, John Murray,
John Murray

NY 100-55242

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Description (Cont'd.)

Date of Birth:	February 27, 1898
Place of Birth:	Budapest, Hungary
Height:	5'6"
Weight:	150
Eyes:	Brown
Hair:	Brown, graying, thick
Complexion:	Ruddy
Build:	Medium
Occupation:	Engineer
Employed:	Carol Management Corporation 12 East 48th Street, New York City
Social Security No.:	090-05-9115
Citizenship:	United States naturalized September 29, 1938
Wife:	CLAIRE VAGO
Children:	JOHN VAGO SUSAN VAGO
Father:	MORRIS VAGO
Mother:	MATHILDE GOLDSTEIN VAGO
Brothers:	ROBERT, ERNEST, STEPHEN, ARTHUR, BERTHOLD VAGO, all of whom reside in Hungary
Residence:	66-07 99th Street Rego Park, New York

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NY 100-55242

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ADMINISTRATIVE

INFORMANTS

T-1 Selective Service files, Local Draft Board 251, Selective Service Headquarters, 516 West 34th Street, New York City.

T-2 Anonymous

T-3

[REDACTED] b1 (c)

T-4 Anonymous

T-5

[REDACTED] b2 b7D

T-6 Anonymous

T-7

Anonymous b7C

T-8

[REDACTED] b2 b7D

T-9

Washington Field Security Informant as reflected in report of SA HOLLIS W. BOWERS, dated October 30, 1950, at Washington, D.C., in instant case.

T-10

Washington Field [REDACTED] as reflected in report of SA HOLLIS W. BOWERS, dated October 30, 1950, at Washington, D.C. b2 b7D

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NY 100-55242

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ADMINISTRATIVE (Cont'd.)

T-11 Washington Field [REDACTED] as reflected
in report as set out above. b2 b7D

T-12 [REDACTED]
in report of Special Agent R. G.
DUNKER, dated July 16, 1941, at
Washington, D.C., entitled
"Washington Committee for Aid to
China, Internal Security - C", b7C
set out in report as reflected above.

T-13 [REDACTED] as reflected in report of
SA WILLIAM A. LAMB, at New York,
dated July 28, 1950, in case
entitled [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

T-14 [REDACTED] 2321 Seventh Avenue,
New York City, who furnished this
information to SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED] b7C

T-15 [REDACTED]
Avenue, New York City, July 20, 1950.
who furnished information to SA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and requested that his name
be kept confidential.

T-16 [REDACTED] who furnished information to
SA [REDACTED] b2 b7D

T-17 Anonymous

T-18 [REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] (C)

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NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE (Cont'd.)

T-19

Miss GORMAN, Secretary to United
States District Judge HAROLD R.
MEDINA, b7CD

T-20

[REDACTED]

MISCELLANEOUS

Copies of this report are being forwarded to the Los Angeles Office, the San Francisco Office, and the Washington Field Office for information purposes as per Bureau instructions.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At Rego Park, New York

Will continue to maintain mail cover at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, on the subject.

Will maintain contact with Assistant Building Superintendent, HENRY BOLIA.

Will continue spot surveillances to insure VAGO'S residence and availability.

Will continue to monitor the bank account of the subject at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard.

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SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FILE NO.

AOB

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 5/19/52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/14, 21; 4/2, 15, 22, 30; 5/1, 8/52	REPORT MADE BY BLAZE J. TOMASONI
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

AUSA ROBERT MARTIN, SDNY advised on 5/5/52 that trial date for VAGO is set for 6/16/52. VAGO continues employment at Carol Management Corporation, 12 East 48th Street, New York City, and continues to reside at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, New York. Surveillances reveal no activity pertinent to instant investigation.

10-1, 2

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042 PWT/015

G. I. R. - 3

At New York, New York

Mr. ROBERT MARTIN, Assistant United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, on May 5, 1952 advised that the VAGO case has been scheduled for trial to commence June 16, 1952.

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that as of May 8, 1952 VAGO had a balance of \$110.46 in his account at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard, Rego Park, New York. The informant advised that all checks issued by VAGO appear to be of a routine nature for such items as rent and utilities

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward Schmitt</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPY IN FILE 68 COPIES OF THIS REPORT ⑤ - Bureau (101-1988) 1 - USA, SDNY COPIES CONTINUED 3 - New York (100-55242) 12 JUN 13 1952	101-1988-219 MAY 22 1952	RECORDED - 96 INDEXED - 96

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SECURITY INFORMATION

WAB/DON 10-7-75

NY 100-55242

with the exception of a check dated May 2, 1952 for \$50.00 payable to ~~CHARLES WEISMAN~~ and endorsed CHARLES WEISMAN and JOSEPHINE ~~WINKLER~~.

The above information was obtained on a confidential basis and should not be made public without the issuance of a subpoena.

CHARLES WEISMAN and JOSEPHINE WINKLER both reside at 2844 50th Street, Woodside, Long Island, New York. JOSEPHINE WINKLER is the sister of CLAIRE VAGO, wife of OSCAR VAGO and provided the \$5000.00 bond for VAGO.

Mr. HENRY BOLIA, Assistant Superintendent at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, New York, advised that he has noted nothing of an unusual nature in VAGO's activities. He said VAGO continues to follow his normal routine.

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, on April 19, 1952 advised that OSCAR VAGO, 6607 99th Street, Rego Park, New York, had received the following newspapers:

"Magyar Jovo"
130 East 16th Street
New York City

"Union Voice"
13 Astor Place
New York City

On May 1, 1952 the informant advised that VAGO received the "Magyar Jovo" daily.

The informant also advised that VAGO on May 2, 1952, had received correspondence from the American Committee For Protection Of Foreign Born, 23 West 26th Street, New York City.

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability,

COPIES CONTINUED

- 1 - Los Angeles (65-525)
(Info.)
- 1 - San Francisco (65-4286)
(Info.)
- 1 - Washington Field (65-5598)
(Info.)

NY 100-55242

advised that ~~"Magyar Jovo"~~, Hungarian daily journal, is a Hungarian language newspaper, which consistently reflects the prevailing Communist Party line and at all times expresses itself in favor of Communist principles and the Soviet Union.

"Magyar Jovo" is published by the ~~Hungarian Daily Journal Association, Inc.~~, New York City.

The interim report submitted on December 17, 1948 by the Sub-Committee on Education and Labor, United States House of Representatives, 80th Congress, Session Committee Report No. 16, reflects the following concerning the "Union Voice".

The "Union Voice" which gives much publicity to wages, hours, working conditions, job security, etc., is essentially a front for Communism. Because it poses as a legitimate union paper it is able to lard into text and cartoon either absolute Communist Party doctrine or an equally persuasive party line and thus penetrate minds which would indignantly reject such propaganda if they saw it in an out and out identifiable Communist newspaper such as the "Daily Worker".

The American Committee For Protection Of Foreign Born is an organization designated by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Surveillances on OSCAR VAGO on March 14, 21, April 2, 15, 22 and May 1 and 8, 1952 reflect that he continues his employment at the Carol Management Corporation, 12 East 48th Street, New York, and continues to reside at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, New York.

The surveillances also indicated that the subject is apparently abiding by his bond requirements but disclosed no information pertinent to the investigation.

Confidential Informant T-4, a business concern familiar with other businesses in the New York area in a report dated April 4, 1951 with supplemental reports dated October 11, 1951 and March 14, 1952 supplied the following information concerning the Carol Management Corporation, 12 East 48th Street, New York City, where VAGO is employed:

NY 100-55242

The Carol Management Corporation is in the Real Estate Owning and Management business. The President is ALFRED KASKEL and DAVID BARRIE is the Secretary and Treasurer.

"The Corporation was chartered under New York State laws on October 23, 1935 with an authorized capital of \$5,000. in common stock.

"This concern has a wholly owned subsidiary, namely Belplaza Corp. and owns 100% of the outstanding capital stock in that concern. The subsidiary owns and operates the Belmont Plaza Hotel, with headquarters located at the caption address and the hotel located at 539-541 Lexington Avenue, New York City. The subsidiary concern was chartered under New York State laws on October 6, 1945 with an authorized capital of 100 shares of no par value common stock. A balance sheet has not been made available on the subsidiary and the extent of intercompany relations between the parent and its subsidiary has not been fully ascertained, but it is stated that the parent concern pays all the bills and other debts incurred by the subsidiary.

"~~ALFRED~~ KASKEL, born 1901, Austria, started business in 1925 in Brooklyn, N.Y. as a principal in an electrical contracting company. He later appeared as principal in the Wellworth Electric Corp. and Dayorite Electric Corporation, both of which have since been discontinued. He also appeared as a member of the firm of Isias & Kaskel, 16 Court Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. which has been engaged in the building line, but discontinued in 1935. Since that time KASKEL has been the President and principal at interest in over 25 corporations engaged in building, holding title to or managing apartment houses in the Greater New York area. Among the companies with which he was connected, but which are no longer active were: C. & J. Holding Corp., Goetz Werstein & Goetz Inc., Wellington Apartments Inc., Greenwich Residences Inc., Bronxville Gardens Inc., Triangle Engineer Co. Inc., Washington Improvements Inc., Cambridge Development Corp., Kaston Realty Co.

"ALFRED KASKEL is said to be the principal and sole

NY 100-55242

"stockholder of the following corporations, all of which are active at this time: Belplaza Corporation, which owns and operates the Hotel Belmont Plaza, New York City; Berkeley Gardens Inc.; 320 Park Place Inc.; Orange Properties Inc.; Princeton Operating Corp.; Lincoln Arcade Inc.; 160th Street Management Corp.; Clinton Operating Corp. and Forest Hills Apartments Inc., all of which hold title to real estate in and around New York City; Ritalde Realty Corp. which reportedly holds title to land in Queens County; and Blossom Operating Co. Inc. holding title to the Hotel Bradford in Boston, Mass.

"Three corporations are currently being used for construction work on apartments to be held by other newly formed real estate companies. Selgate Realty Corp. is building Central Graden Apartments at 110th Street and 63rd Drive, Forest Hills, which will be held by Central Gardens Unit #1 Inc. and Central Gardens Unit #2 Inc. Percy Construction Co. Inc. is building the Hunter Garden Apartments at Flushing, N.Y.C. which will be held by Hunter Gardens Inc. Doral Construction Corp. is currently engaged in building the Fleetwood Garden Apartments at Bronxville, N.Y. which will be held by Fleetwood Section #1 Inc. and Fleetwood Section #2 Inc.

"In addition to the above corporations, of which ALFRED KASKEL is reported to own all of the outstanding stock, he also appears as Secretary of Monarch Construction Corp. which was chartered under New York laws May 2, 1949 to construct a series of apartment house buildings to be known as Netherland Gardens in the Bronx. KASKEL is said to own 59% of the stock in that corporation, but the net worth of the company was not learned.

"ALFRED KASKEL appears as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Industrial Bank of Brooklyn, N.Y. He is said to own 80% of the outstanding capital stock. As of December 31, 1949 the bank statement showed a paid in capital of \$500,000, surplus of \$500,000 and undivided profits of \$69,517 for a Tangible Net Worth of \$1,069,572.

"ALFRED KASKEL is also a principal at interest in the Somerset-Wilshire Apartments Inc., Park City Inc. and the Empire

NY 100-55242

"Land Corp., which concerns maintain their headquarters at the caption address. Complete details regarding the officers, purposes of those concerns, financial data and other pertinent details are not available at this date. The extent of inter-company relations, if any, between the aforementioned corporations and the subject has not been ascertained at this date.

"KASKEL was the President of Carol Development Corporation which had held title to the Hotel Empire at 1889 Broadway, New York City, until it was sold on January 18, 1949 to a Chicago syndicate. KASKEL also appeared as principal of 231 West 82nd Street Corp. which operated the Half Moon Hotel in Brooklyn, N.Y. until January 21, 1949 when it was sold to the Harbor Hospital of Brooklyn.

"DAVID BARRIE is middle aged, married. He has had diversified experience in the real estate field and has been associated with KASKEL in a number of the latter's corporations for several years. Although he holds official titles in a number of aforementioned corporations, he has no stock interest. BARRIE had been Secretary of the subject corporation until about July 1949 at which time he was also elected to the position of Treasurer. DAVID BARRIE is also stated to be a principal in the Triboro Coin Corp. Details regarding that concern are not available, with regard to the corporate strudure and a complete list of officers and its function. However, it is reported that there are no inter-company relations in the form of loans, guarantees or endorsements between that corporation and the subject.

"DAVID KASKEL, brother of ALFRED KASKEL, was Secretary of this corporation from inception until around July 1949.

"This concern maintained headquarters at 68-38 Yellowstone Blvd., Forest Hills, N.Y., Boro of Queens, up until January 1, 1946 at which time headquarters were moved to 12 East 48th Street, New York City. A branch continues to be maintained at 68-38 Yellowstone Blvd., Forest Hills, N.Y.

"FIRE RECORD: Extensive damage was suffered from fire which occurred at the caption address on February 16, 1948. The extent of damage was not disclosed by the management but

NY 100-55242

"almost an entirely new building was erected in its place of the old structure.

"This concern has a wholly owned subsidiary, namely Belplaza Corp, and owns 100% of the outstanding capital stock in that concern. The subsidiary owns and operates the Belmont Plaza Hotel, with headquarters located at the caption address and the hotel located at 539-541 Lexington Avenue, New York City. The subsidiary concern was chartered under New York State laws on October 6, 1945 with an authorized capital of 100 shares of no par value common stock. A balance sheet has not been made available on the subsidiary and the extent of inter-company relations between the parent and subsidiary has not been fully ascertained, but it is stated that the parent concern pays all the bills and other debts incurred by the subsidiary.

"The principal activity of this company is the managing of apartment buildings owned by affiliated companies. This corporation collects the rents, makes purchases in the name of the owner of the property for the operating and maintenance of the properties. Close details regarding the procedure for payment of these services has been withheld. Carol Management Corp. is also reported to hold title to several apartment houses in Queens County and New Jersey. A rather sizable staff is employed to handle all of the management details. Staff includes an architect, accountant and an attorney in addition to other office employees.

"Headquarters are maintained in a new brick building which is maintained in excellent repair and owned by the subject corporation. A branch is reported maintained at 68-38 Yellowstone Blvd., Forest Hills, N.Y.

"Interviewed on March 30, 1951 ALFRED KASKEL, President, deferred all financial information at this date. In the past it has been stated that all of the stock in this corporation is owned by ALFRED KASKEL individually. In outside quarters consulted in the past it was learned that this corporation had a tangible net worth somewhat over \$1,000,000 and was represented chiefly by real estate. ALFRED KASKEL individually is said to be worth over \$5,000,000.

NY 100-55242

"Records disclose that seventeen suits were entered against the subject corporation from December 19, 1944 until November 16, 1950 and in amounts ranging from \$56 up to \$1,000 in regard to various natures of actions. In addition there is also a foreclosure on a lien and a mechanics lien in the amount of \$3,897, latter which was satisfied on October 3, 1950. Records also show three judgments in amounts ranging up to \$10,317. Two of the judgments were satisfied as of record and a judgment obtained on February 16, 1950 by J. PETTIT, New York City, in the amount of \$3,514, is still outstanding as of the latest search. A current search is underway regarding this judgment.

"A local depository reports the account as having been closed. In the past relations at the bank were regarded as satisfactory.

"Real estate records show that the property located at the caption address consisting of a seven-story brick office and store building is in the name of the subject corporation, having been purchased on March 9, 1946. The total mortgages amount to a building loan of \$160,000 effective November 9, 1948 payable to installments due May 1, 1949 with interest at 4½% to the Home Title Guarantee Co. The property is assessed at \$450,000 for the 1950-1951 year."

The informant also advised that the Carol Management Corporation maintains an additional subsidiary, namely, Half Moon Alleys Inc. which was formed in New York last March 27, 1948, with an authorized capital of \$5,000. ALFRED KASKEL, President of the corporation, declined to comment on the Half Moon Alleys when requested to do so by the informant.

- P E N D I N G -

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE

INFORMANTS

IDENTITY OF SOURCE	DATE OF ACTIVITY AND/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION	DATE RECEIVED	AGENT WHO RECEIVED INFORMATION	FILE NO. AND LOCATION
T-1 LOUIS STEINMULLER, Assistant Vice President, Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard, New York.		5/8/52	SA BLAZE J. TOMASONI	
T-2 Mail cover on OSCAR VAGO, 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, New York		4/19/52 5/1,2/52		NY 100- 55242
T-3 [REDACTED]		various dates	SA [REDACTED]	NY 65-3 83 letter Bureau dated 6/13/51
T-4 [REDACTED]		report dated 4/4/51 with supplemental reports dated 10/11/51 and 3/14/52.	SA BLAZE J. TOMASONI	NY 100- 55242

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE (Cont'd)

MISCELLANEOUS

Copies of this report are being furnished to Los Angeles, San Francisco and the Washington Field Office for information, in accordance with Bureau instructions.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At Rego Park, New York

Will continue to maintain a mail cover on OSCAR VAGO at 66-07 99th Street.

Will maintain contact with Assistant Building Superintendent, HENRY BOLIA.

Will continue spot surveillances to insure VAGO's residence and availability.

Will continue to monitor the bank account of the subject at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard.

At New York, New York

Will follow and report prosecutive action.

REFERENCE

Report of SA BLAZE J. TOMASONI, at New York, dated March 22, 1952.

101-1788-29

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

MAY 24 1952

TELETYPE

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

WASH 2 FROM NEW YORK

21

3-51 A

DIRECTOR

DEFERRED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/DO/KS

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., ESP-R, PERJURY. BUFILE ONE ZERO ONE DASH ONE
NINE EIGHT EIGHT. ROBERT MARTIN, AUSA, SDNY, ADVISED HE DISCUSSED VAGO
CASE MAY TWENTY FIFTYTWO WITH MOSES WEIMAN, ATTORNEY FOR VAGO. WEIMAN
WANTED TO ARRANGE FOR VAGO TO PLEAD NOLO CONTENDERE. MARTIN ADVISED
USA DOES NOT ACCEPT THIS TYPE OF PLEA. MARTIN FEELS POSSIBILITY THAT
VAGO WILL PLEAD GUILTY ALTHOUGH TOO INDEFINITE AS YET AND WEIMAN
WANTED MORE TIME TO THINK MATTER OVER.

12 JUN 4 1952

SCHEIDT

JUN 9 1952

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9 1952

RECORDED
INDEXED
JUN 3 1952

122

Assistant Attorney General
James M. McInerney

May 22, 1952

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY

You will recall that this Bureau previously furnished to you for your information copies of investigative reports in connection with the above-captioned individual who was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury in the Southern District of New York on September 28, 1950, on a charge of perjury.

This Bureau is in receipt of advice from the New York Division to the effect that Mr. Robert Martin, Assistant United States Attorney, has recently had a discussion concerning the Vago case with Moses Weiman, the attorney representing Vago. According to the information, Weiman was desirous of arranging for Vago to enter a plea of nolo contendere, but Mr. Martin informed him that the United States Attorney does not accept this type of plea. It was indicated that Mr. Martin felt there is a possibility, although not too definite as yet, that Vago will plead guilty and that his attorney Weiman desires more time to think the matter over.

The above is for your information.

RECORDED BY 3042 PWT/OLS
ON 3-5-84

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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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JUN 4 1952
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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Ladd
Nichols
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Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Laughlin
Mohr
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

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DATE 3-5-87 BY 3242 PWT/clb

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

JUN 18 1952

TELETYPE

WASH FROM NEW YORK 42

18

7-30 P

DIRECTOR

URGENT

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

G.I.R.-6

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS, ESP - R., PERJURY. REMYTEL JUNE SIXTEEN INST. SUBJECT APPEARED BEFORE USDJ SYLVESTER J. RYAN ON STIPULATED SET OF FACTS REGARDING SUBJECT-S PERJURY BEFORE GJ SEPT TWENTY, NINETEEN FIFTY. DEFENSE ARGUED THAT SINCE SUBJECT RECANTED AND CORRECTED FALSE STATEMENT AT NEXT APPEARANCE BEFORE GJ ON SEPT TWO SEVEN, FIFTY, HE SHOULD NOT BE CONVICTED. DEFENSE ALSO TRIED TO CLAIM THAT VAGO-S APPEARANCE BEFORE GJ ON SEPT TWO SEVEN, FIFTY, WAS MERELY CONTINUATION OF SESSION OF SEPT TWENTY, FIFTY AND THEREFORE VAGO-S CORRECTION OF FALSE STATEMENT WAS MADE BEFORE HIS TESTIMONY WAS COMPLETED. NO ARGUMENT MADE BY GOVT SINCE JUDGE RYAN STATED HE DID NOT DESIRE ANY. JUDGE RESERVED DECISION BUT INDICATED HE WILL FIND VAGO GUILTY. WILL GIVE DECISION JUNE TWENTY NEXT, NINE THIRTY AM.

RECORDED - 162

JUN 25 1952

SCHEIDT

HOLD PLS

1 JUL 7 1952

EX-99

Laughlin

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

JUN 16 1952

TELETYPE

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

WASH 31 FROM NEW YORK 16 7-38 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLS

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., ESP-R., PERJURY. BUFILE ONE NAUGHT ONE DASH
ONE NINE EIGHT EIGHT. ROBERT MARTIN, AUSA, SDNY, ADVISED JUNE SIXTEEN,
FIFTYTWO, THAT VAGO IS TO APPEAR IN US DISTRICT COURT, JUNE EIGHTEEN,
FIFTYTWO, AT TWO THIRTY PM BEFORE FEDERAL JUDGE SYLVESTER J. RYAN.
VAGO HAS ENTERED A WAIVER OF JURY TRIAL ON A STIPULATED STATE-
MENT OF FACTS. THE STATEMENT OF FACTS WILL BE PRESENTED TO JUDGE
RYAN AND THE JUDGE WILL DECIDE UPON THE FACTS WHETHER VAGO IS GUILTY
OR NOT GUILTY.

RECORDED - 162

JUN 25 1952

65 JUL 8 1952

SCHEIDT

EX-9911

HOLD PLS

cc Brangan

GIR-6

104-1988-223
JUN 25 1952
Kathleen

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

JUN 20 1952

TELETYPE

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

WASH 22 FROM NEW YORK

20

4-34 PM

DIRECTOR

DEFERRED

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS, ESP-R, PERJURY, BUFILE ONE HUNDRED ONE DASH ONE
NINE EIGHT EIGHT. REMYTEL JUNE EIGHTEEN LAST. FEDERAL JUDGE
SYLVESTER J. RYAN FOUND OSCAR VAGO GUILTY OF PERJURY JUNE TWENTY INST.
STENTENCE THREE YEARS SUSPENDED AND PLACED ON PROBATION.

SCHEIDT

HOLD PLS ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042 PWT/cls

RECORDED - 162

101-1988-

20 JUN 25 1952 224

60 JUL 2 1952

TO : Director, FBI (101-1988)

DATE: June 30, 1952

FROM : SAC, New York (100-55242)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
PERJURY. ESPIONAGE - R

Enclosed herewith are five copies of the report of SA BLAZE J. TOMASONI dated 6/30/52, at NY.

It is noted that the enclosed is a closing report. However, in view of the situation in the MORTON SOBELL case, the stops placed against VAGO with U.S. Customs, Immigration and Naturalization and the Alien Tax Division of the Internal Revenue are being maintained. It is possible that if SOBELL furnishes any information, an espionage case can be developed against VAGO. Therefore, the stops are being maintained and after one year, they will be reevaluated to determine the desirability of continuing them.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/BUT (C/S)

RECORDED - 21

101-5988-225
JUL 1 1952

EX-106

En cs. 5

59 JUL 25 1952

5
FIVE
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THREE

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO.

REM

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 6/30/52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/16, 18, 20, 23/52	REPORT MADE BY BLAZE J. TOMASONI
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

VAGO tried in U.S. District Court, SDNY, before Federal Judge SYLVESTER J. RYAN 6/18/52. Trial based on stipulated statement of facts, and VAGO waived jury trial. Judge RYAN reserved decision to 6/20/52, and on that date found VAGO guilty of perjury, gave him three years suspended sentence and placed him on three years probation.

*1cc - INS
1cc - BAR
1cc - DNS
1cc - G-2
7-9-52
Ope*

ENCLOSURES DETACHED
AND HANDLED SEPARATELY

STATISTICS TAKEN

DETAILS: **At New York, New York**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE **3-5-87** BY **3042 PWT/CL**

On June 18, 1952, OSCAR JOHN VAGO appeared for trial before United States District Judge SYLVESTER J. RYAN on a stipulated set of facts regarding subject's perjury before the Federal Grand Jury of the Southern District of New York on September 20, 1950.

VAGO had waived jury trial, and the defense argued that since VAGO had recanted and corrected his false statement, at the next appearance before the Grand Jury on September 27, 1950, he should not be convicted. Defense also tried to claim that VAGO'S appearance before the Grand Jury on September 27, 1950 was merely a continuation of the session of September 20, 1950, and, therefore, VAGO'S correction of false statement was made before his testimony was completed.

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED:

Edward Schmitt
SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

ENCLOSURE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

RECORDED - 21

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- 1 - Washington Field (65-5598) (Info.)
- 3 - New York (100-55242)

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAB/DON 10-7-75

NY 100-55242

No argument was made by the Government, since Judge RYAN stated he did not desire any. Judge RYAN on this date reserved decision to June 20, 1952.

On June 20, 1952, Federal Judge SYLVESTER J. RYAN stated he found OSCAR VAGO guilty of violation of Section 1621, Title 18. He sentenced VAGO to three years suspended sentence and placed him on three years probation.

A Probation Flash on the subject has been submitted to the Bureau.

ENCLOSURE - Bureau (1)

Probation Flash on the subject.

- C L O S E D -

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE

MISCELLANEOUS:

Copies of this report are being furnished to the Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington Field Offices for information in accordance with Bureau instructions.

REFERENCE:

Report of SA BLAZE J. TOMASONI, New York, 5/19/52.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: June 24, 1952

FROM : D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY

Tolson	
Ladd	
Clegg	
Glavin	
Nichols	
Rosen	
Tracy	
Harbo	
Belmont	
Mohr	
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To answer your inquiry on the attached memorandum as to why Oscar John Vago was not given a jail sentence. Vago, while known to be a partner of Abraham Brothman, was not known to be involved in espionage activities. He was called before a Federal Grand Jury on September 20, 1950 and made certain false statements regarding his whereabouts in the period 1929 to 1933. We informed Special Assistant to the Attorney General Donegan of the falsity of these statements. Vago was then recalled before the Grand Jury on September 27, 1950 at which time he stated he wanted to amend part of his testimony. Donegan refused to allow him to do so before answering specific questions through which Vago was then forced to admit the falsity of his previous testimony. He was then indicted.

The prosecution in this case has been viewed from its inception as a technical violation with considerable doubt existing as to whether Vago's false testimony could be shown to be material to the purpose of the Grand Jury inquiry and thus in violation of the perjury statute. It was on this basis that the Government agreed to going before Judge Ryan with the defense and making a statement of facts after which the Judge found Vago guilty, but gave him only the three years' suspended sentence and three years' probation.

ACTION:

None. The above is in answer to your inquiry.

RML:jl
101-1988RECORDED - 88
EX-130 JUN 27 1952

66 JUL 16 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/PAT/OLB

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT *AB*

FROM : MR. W. V. CLEVELAND *WVC*

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY

DATE: June 20, 1952

PURPOSE:

To advise that the subject was found guilty of perjury and sentenced today by U. S. District Judge Sylvester J. Ryan, New York to 3 years suspended and 3 years probation.

BACKGROUND:

Vago was a partner in the firm of A. Brothman and Associates, New York City, from August, 1944, to June, 1948. During this period he became closely associated with Abraham Brothman and Harry Gold. On September 20, 1950, Vago testified before a Federal Grand Jury in the Southern District of New York, at which time he stated that he left the United States in 1929 to visit his relatives in Hungary and that he did not return until January, 1933. Inasmuch as an FBI investigation conclusively showed that Vago was continuously employed in New York City during the years 1929 through 1932, he was again summoned to appear before the Grand Jury on September 27, 1950. Upon questioning before this body, he admitted he had previously testified falsely as to his trip to Hungary and that he actually returned to Hungary for a visit of about one month during the months of December, 1942, and January, 1943. He was indicted on September 28, 1950, for perjury, based on this false testimony.

DETAILS:

On the morning of June 20, 1952, Supervisor Tom McAndrews of the New York Office telephonically advised that Vago had been found guilty of perjury and was sentenced today (June 20) by U. S. District Judge Sylvester J. Ryan, Southern District of New York, to a 3-year suspended sentence and was given 3 years probation.

ACTION:

None. The above is for information.

WVC:LL
101-1988

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLS

Tolson ☒
Ladd ☒
Clegg ☒
Glavin ☒
Nichols ☒
Rosen ☒
Tracy ☒
Harbo ☒
Belmont ☒
Mohr ☒
Tele. Room ☒
Nease ☒
Gandy ☒

RECORDED - 58

JUN 27 1952

What is reason for
Judge letting him
out without serving any time?

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : W. A. BRANIGAN *WAB*FROM : A. P. LITRENTO *APL*SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET~~

DATE: July 11, 1952

CLASSIFIED BY: *3042 PWT/CLS*
DECLASSIFY ON: OADRPURPOSE:

To recommend that the attached report of Special Agent Blaze J. Tomasoni, dated June 30, 1952, at New York, placing this case in a closed status, be accepted.

DETAILS:

OSCAR VAGO came to the Bureau's attention in connection with the Harry Gold investigation when it was determined that Vago was a business partner of Abraham Brothman during the period Brothman was associating with Gold.

Investigation reflected that Vago was born February 27, 1898, in Budapest, Hungary. He came to the United States in 1924, and was naturalized as an American citizen in the Southern District of New York on September 29, 1938. He resided in Washington, D.C., from 1938 to 1941, during which period he was employed by the Federal Building Administration, Procurement Division of the Treasury Department, and the War Department at Fort Myer, Virginia. (101-1988).

While in Washington, D.C., Vago was reported as being a member of the Washington Book Shop, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, and the American League for Peace and Democracy. (61-7582-1298).

In 1941, Vago moved back to New York City. In May, 1944, it was reported that he was a member of the Executive Committee at Large of the Rego Park Club of the Communist Party of America. In July, 1944, he was elected to the Queens City Council of the Communist Party of America. As of June, 1949, he was listed as president of the Trylon Club, Ridgewood Section, Queens County Communist Party. (65-58805-1153; 100-3-4-3938-P. 5; 100-3-4-4498-P. 18; 100-3-4-6723-P. 17)

No evidence of Vago's involvement in espionage was developed during this investigation.

APL:j1
101-1988

Enclosure

EX-164

Classified by *2855 WAB/oon*
Exempt from GDS Category *243*
Date of Declassification Indefinite~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET~~

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

51 JUL 18 1952
328

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

b1

(S) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On September 20, 1950, Vago was called before a Federal Grand Jury in the Southern District of New York and made certain false statements concerning his whereabouts in the period 1929 to 1933. We advised Special Assistant Attorney General Donegan of this, and Vago was recalled before the Grand Jury on September 27, 1950, and thereafter was indicted for perjury.

On June 20, 1952, Vago was found guilty and sentenced by U. S. District Court Judge Sylvester J. Ryan, Southern District of New York, to three years' suspended sentence and placed on three years' probation.

Subject is being retained in the regular section of the Security Index in view of his Communist background.

Stops placed against Vago with U. S. Customs, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and the Alien Tax Division of Internal Revenue are being continued for another year when they will be reevaluated by the New York Office to determine the desirability of continuing them.

Dissemination of all pertinent information concerning subject has been made to the Department, G-2, ONI and INS.

Bureau references on subject have been reviewed and all pertinent information reflected in these references are in subject's main case file.

RECOMMENDATION:

Inasmuch as all logical investigation has been conducted and this case has been successfully prosecuted, it is recommended that the attached report of SA Tomasoni be accepted, and this case be placed in a closed status.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (101-1988)

FROM : SAC, New York (100-55242)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: SEP 3 1952

Remylet, 1/20/52.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042 PDI/MS

By referenced letter all offices receiving copies of this communication were requested to place stops concerning the subject with U.S. Customs, INS, and the Alien Tax Division of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

On 6/20/52 Federal Judge SYLVESTER J. RYAN, USDC, SDNY, found VAGO guilty of perjury and gave him a three year suspended sentence and placed him on three years probation. In view of possible developments in the MORTON SOBELL case and VAGO'S probationary sentence it is requested that these stops be continued for a period of one year at which time New York will make a revaluation in order to determine the desirability of continuing them.

1 - Albany
1 - Anchorage
1 - Boston
1 - Butte
1 - Detroit
1 - Houston
1 - Miami
1 - Mobile
1 - New Orleans
1 - Philadelphia
1 - Portland
1 - San Antonio
1 - San Juan
1 - Seattle

1 - Albuquerque
1 - Baltimore
1 - Buffalo
1 - Chicago
1 - El Paso
1 - Los Angeles
1 - Minneapolis
1 - Newark
1 - Norfolk
1 - Phoenix
1 - San Francisco
1 - San Diego
1 - Savannah
1 - Washington Field

BJT:RMS

RECORDED - 9

101-1988-228

EX-129

17 SEP 8 1952

60 SEP 16 1952

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

September 2, 1952

3-5-87

CLASSIFIED BY: 3042/PWT/CK
DECLASSIFY ON: DADR

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.

Perjury

Espionage - R

Bufile #101-1988

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

SUMMARY
Oscar John Vago was a partner in the firm of A. Brothman and Associates, New York City, from August, 1944 to June, 1948. During this period he became closely associated with Abraham Brothman and Harry Gold, a confessed Soviet agent.

According to Gold, Vago was present in the office of A. Brothman and Associates on the evening when Brothman had received his Grand Jury subpoena and announced his intention of telling the whole story as to his furnishing information to the Russians. Gold also stated that Vago in December, 1949, made inquiry of him as to whether Brothman's statement, that he (Brothman), had received a Red Star from the USSR for his activities in behalf of the Soviets was true. Vago upon interview, however, denied the above.

[REDACTED] b1
CONFIDENTIAL (S)

On September 20, 1950, he testified before a Federal Grand Jury in the Southern District of New York, at which time he stated that he left the United States in 1929 to visit his relatives in Hungary and that he did not return until January, 1933. Inasmuch as an FBI investigation conclusively showed that Vago was continuously employed in New York City during the years 1929 through 1932, he was again summoned to appear before the Grand Jury on September 27, 1950. Upon questioning before this body he admitted that he had testified falsely as to this trip to Hungary and that he actually returned to Hungary for a visit of about one month during the months of December, 1942, and January, 1943.

APL:jdb

RECORDED - 91

SEP 4 1952

NOTE: Prepared at request of Administrative Division for Budget Material

INDEXED

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

Classified by 2355 WAB/Don
Exempt from GDS Category 293
Date of Declassification Indefinite

62 SEP 15 1952

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

Vago was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury for the Southern District of New York on September 28, 1950, on the charge of perjury based on his false testimony before the Federal Grand Jury on September 20, 1950. Vago entered a plea of not guilty on arraignment. On June 20, 1952 Vago was found guilty and sentenced by U.S. District Judge Sylvester J. Ryan, of the Southern District of New York, to three years' suspended sentence and placed on three years' probation.

- 2 -

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum •

UNITE!

GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (101-1988)

FROM : SAC, Minneapolis (65-872)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: October 14, 1952

Reference New York letter to the Bureau dated September 3, 1952.

In accordance with the request in referenced letter this is to advise that the following stops were placed October 7, 1952.

Mr. IRVIN SHRODE, Officer in Charge, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Post Office Building, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Mr. M. B. FAIRBANKS, Division Chief, Internal Revenue, Alien Tax Division, Post Office Building, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Inspector C. O. NORDLIE, United States Customs, Federal Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The New York Office is requested to advise the Minneapolis Office when these stops are no longer necessary.

- R U C -

SEC:dad

cc - 1 - New York (100-55242)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042 PWT/CK

RECORDED - 54

OCT 17 1952

EX-60

LITRENA

70 OCT 27 1952

RECEIVED
OCT 15 1952

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, F. B. I. (101-661988)

DATE: February 26, 1953

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-55242)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, wa.
ESP-R, and PERJURYALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 13042901/3/5/530pcIt is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the
above-captioned individual.

X

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be
changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

Farkas and Barron Construction Engineers, 150 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List) _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

CWT:MAT

101-1988
NOT RECORDED

17 MAR 2 1953

50 MAR 30 1953

Balaban
L. Trentone

3256

Office N.

idum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-1988)

DATE: 4/28/53

FROM : SAC, New York (100-55242)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
PERJURY;
ESP-P

Re NY letter to Bureau, 6/30/52.

Referenced NY letter stated that stops would be maintained on the subject for one year after VAGO'S conviction on 6/20/52 for Perjury.

The NYO believes that these stops are no longer necessary, and UACB all stops will be removed 10 days after date of this letter.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3.5.87 BY 3042/PWT/CS

RECORDED-8

100-1988-231

APR 29 1953

MAY 14 1953

BJT:JAT

7256

ESE

Luttrell

OFFICE MEMORANDUM . UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Date: 5/26/53

To : Director, FBI (101-1988)
From : SAC, New York (100-55242)
Subject: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

Re NY letters of 1/20/51 and 4/28/53.

Referenced letter of 1/20/51, requested all offices receiving a copy of this communication to place stops against the subject with US Customs, INS, and the Alien Tax Division of the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

By referenced letter of 4/28/53, the NYO advised the Bureau these stops were no longer considered necessary and UACB would be cancelled ten days after 4/28/53.

- 1 - Albany (74-6)
- 1 - Albuquerque (100-731)
- 1 - Anchorage (100-307)
- 1 - Baltimore (65-1794)
- 1 - Boston
- 1 - Buffalo
- 1 - Butte (65-528)
- 1 - Chicago
- 1 - Detroit
- 1 - El Paso (65-813)
- 1 - Houston (100-8303)
- 1 - Los Angeles (65-5125)
- 1 - Miami (65-2424)
- 1 - Minneapolis (65-872)
- 1 - Mobile
- 1 - Newark
- 1 - New Orleans (100-14401)
- 1 - Norfolk (74-3)
- 1 - Philadelphia (65-4411)
- 1 - Phoenix (100-3781)
- 1 - Portland (65-1732)
- 1 - San Antonio (74-73)
- 1 - San Diego (65-0-581)
- 1 - San Francisco (65-4296)
- 1 - San Juan (74-10)
- 1 - Savannah (65-0-504)
- 1 - Seattle (65-3133)
- 1 - Washington Field (66-1922) (65-5598)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/PWT/CJS

RECORDED - 2

101-1988-232
37 MAY 28 1953

BJT:RLM
78 JUN 9 1953

ESP
F. P. [Signature]

Letter to Director
NY 100-55242

Therefore, all offices receiving a copy of this communication are requested to cancel all stops they have placed against the subject.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (101-1988)
FROM : SAC, NORFOLK (74-3)
SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 6/11/53

Re New York letter to Bureau dated 5/26/53.

Stops removed at Norfolk, Virginia. RUC.

LWK:plc

cc: New York (100-55242)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/pwt/cb

RECEIVED
JUN 13 11 03 AM '53

101-1988-233

RECORDED - 118

50 JUN 18 1953

JUN 12 1953
Lester
ESE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (101-1988)

DATE: June 17, 1953

FROM : SAC, WFO (65-5598)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.,
PERJURY and ESPIONAGE - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLS

w Re New York letter dated May 26, 1953, requesting removal of stops.

WFO by letters dated June 5, 1953, requested the Collectors of Customs, INS, and Bureau of Internal Revenue to remove stops. Copies of WFO letters sent to New York. Passport stop removed by WFO letter dated June 17, 1953, to Passport Office.

New York requested to report removal of stops in its next report.

-RUC-

HWB/mmd
2-CC-NEW YORK (100-55242) -- REGISTERED MAIL

RECORDED

JUN 19 1953

79 JUN 25 1953

A. P. LITRENT 4736

ESP

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (101-1988)

DATE: 6/16/53

FROM : SAC, SAN FRANCISCO (65-4286)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, Was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - RALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/PWT/CS

Re New York letter to Bureau dated 5/26/53.

The stop notices placed against subject with U.S.
Customs, INS, and the Alien Tax Division of the Bureau of Internal
Revenue were removed as requested by relet on 6/10/53. RUC.

FPP:ed

CC: New York (100-55242)

RECORDED

69

101-1988-235

JUN 23 1953

JUN 52

EX 6014

12

JUN 28 1953

A.P. 117-1736

ESP

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (101-1988)
FROM : SAC, MINNEAPOLIS (65-872)
SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 7/3/53

Re New York letter to Director, dated May 26, 1953.

This is to advise that stops placed by this office have been cancelled in accordance with the instructions set out in referenced letter. - RUC -

SEC/wb

CC: New York (100-55242)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/BUT/c/s

RECORDED-65

101-1988-236

JUL 6 1953

79 JUL 13 1953

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (101-1988)

DATE: 2/9/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-55242)

Card U.T.D.

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, wa
SM-C2-23-Skap
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/pw/CJS

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____ Verification Pending _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____ ☒ Unknown ☒ 101-1988- _____

RM

JEM:EMM

2492
50 FEB 24 1954747
E. S. S. 101-1988-101

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (101-1988)

DATE: 3/11/55

FROM : SAC, New York (100-55242)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, wa
SM-CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042 PWT/CIS

Card U.T.O.

MAR 28 1955

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the
above-captioned individual.☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be
changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

✓ James Ruderman (Consulting Engineer)

32 Union Square, New York, New York

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

RM

NOT RECORDED

11 MAR 14 1955

ECM:EMM 23 APR 1 1955

INT SEC

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (101-1988)

DATE: 3/19/54

FROM : SAC, New York (100-55242)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, wa
SM-CALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLB

2nd U.I.D.

3-31-54

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the
above-captioned individual.☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be
changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

Dr. Jacob Feld

155 E. 33rd Street, NYC ✓

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____ 101-1988-

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 164-13 73rd Avenue, Flushing, LI, NY

NOT RECORDED

12 MAR 23 1954

RM

EJT:MXW

60 APR 1 1954

A. J. [Signature]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (101-1988)
 FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-55242)

6/2/55

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
 PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R

Rebulet to NY 3/24/55, captioned [REDACTED] IS-R," which signified the Bureau desired that immediate steps be taken to correct the previous characterization of [REDACTED] in all reports and letters prepared in the past. Rebulet directed that in all instances information furnished by [REDACTED] should be attributed to [REDACTED] by name. He should be characterized as "an alleged former Comintern representative whose credibility is not known since he has in the past furnished both reliable and unreliable information." Rebulet additionally instructed that the characterization be inserted on all copies of the communication in ink, noting the date of change and the initials of the person making the change. 170

In accordance with the above, the following communication has been changed in the NYO to properly attribute the information to [REDACTED] by name and characterization:

(Rpt., Letter, Airtel, Etc.)	(Date)	(Agent's Name)	(Place Where Made)	(Page Nos.)	(T-Symbol)
Report	3/20/51	SA ROBERT M. KANE	NY	10 (Admin. Page)	None

Where this communication was a report, the information corresponding to the T-symbol number for [REDACTED] on the informant page has been marked "Deleted."

It is requested that the Bureau and all interested offices who received copies of the communication make changes on all copies in their possession.

It is to be noted that copies of this communication were disseminated locally to the following NY agencies: USA, SDNY

These agencies have been advised by separate letter of [REDACTED] new characterization and they have been advised that they may desire to change their copy of the communication accordingly.

It is noted that a copy of the above communication was disseminated locally to **None**. It is requested that the Office notify this agency in writing, making reference to the communication which has been changed, that [REDACTED] credibility cannot be evaluated since he is known to have furnished both reliable and unreliable information and the agency may desire to change the copy of the communication in its possession accordingly.

RECORDED: 71 101-1988-237

- 1 - Los Angeles (65-5125) (RM)
 1 - San Francisco (65-4286) (RM)
 1 - Washington Field (65-5598) (RM)
 1 - Bufile 61-6029
 1 - NY 105-1261-Subfile A-2

10 JUN 6 1955

66 JUN 14 1955

ESP/SEC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 3-23-87 BY 3042/PW/ds

Letter to the Director
NY 100-55242

It is to be noted that the report of SA ROBERT M. KANE dated 3/20/51, at NY, referred to above, contained the name of [REDACTED] on the administrative page (10) only, under the title "Informants." No information was attributed to [REDACTED] in the details by name or by symbol number. Therefore, no communication is being directed to the USA, SDNY, who received a copy of the report. b7D

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DIRECTOR, FBI (101-1988)

DATE: 10/5/55

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-55242)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE-R

OK to cancel S.I. card - JPT

Security Index card cancelled

OCT 14 1955

REFERENCE

SAC letter 55-30, 4/12/55.

SUCCINCT RESUME OF CASE

Symbol informants utilized in this letter have in the past furnished reliable information unless otherwise noted.

1. Subject male, white, born 2/27/98, Hungary, naturalized SDNY 9/29/38.

2. It was developed in October, 1943, that OSCAR VAGO, 66-07 99th St., Rego Park, NY (Subject's residence at that time) had on 10/15/43, been officially transferred from the C-8 Branch of the CP to the 6th AD Branch, Queens County CP, NY.

3. On 5/22/44, it was determined OSCAR VAGO, 66-07 99th St., Rego Park, Queens was a member-at-large of the Rego Park Club, Queens County CP.

4. On 10/4/46, it was developed OSCAR VAGO, 66-07 99th St., Rego Park, was member of Rego Section, Queens County CP.

5. On 4/28/47, information was received reflecting subject was a member and possibly president of the Trylon Club, Rego Section, Queens CP.

6. HARRY GOLD, self-confessed and convicted espionage agent, on 9/14/50, advised that subject was a CP member. He stated during the period he was acquainted with subject he had been told by subject that he attended meetings and was a CP member in Forrest Hills, Queens. On 10/2/50, HARRY GOLD furnished a signed statement in which he advised he first heard of subject through ABRAHAM BROTHMAN in 1943. At that time GOLD was receiving technical information from BROTHMAN for transmittal to the Soviet Union. BROTHMAN desired that GOLD obtain

RECORDED - 64

101-1988-234

RM

JST:dmg

OCT 6 1955

EX - 124

Classified by
Exempt from GDS, Category
Date of Declassification Indefinite

WAB/DVN 10/14/75

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-5-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLS

Letter to DIRECTOR
NY 100-55242

financial assistance from his Russian superior so that VAGO could be worked into a position with an organization partly controlled by BROTHMAN. At this time BROTHMAN described VAGO as a sincere and convinced Communist. VAGO was to become a part of an organization whose purpose was to produce and design chemical processes for the Soviet Union. The venture sponsored by BROTHMAN was to be backed by AMTORG or Russian money, GOLD further stated he first met VAGO in 1946 when subject was at that time a partner in the FIRM, ~~SEE~~ A BROTHMAN Associates. GOLD stated he gathered from VAGO's conversation, actions, and other factors that he was, during 1946, active in the CP and completely in sympathy with the Communist cause. As late as 1948 GOLD stated that VAGO indicated to him he was active in the CP. He last saw subject in December, 1949. GOLD stated he did not believe VAGO was involved in any espionage because he was too talkative.

7. On 9/20/50, subject appeared before the FGJ, SDNY, and refused to answer any questions as to CP membership on grounds of self-incrimination. He denied having ever participated in any espionage activity and stated he knew of no espionage conducted by HARRY GOLD or ABRAHAM BROTHMAN.

8. In a signed statement executed 10/9/50, Mrs. BERNICE RIVERIA, domestic for the VAGO family in 1948, advised that subject's wife had attempted to recruit her into the CP on several occasions. Further, Mrs. VAGO told her that both she and the subject were CP members.

9. On 9/28/50, the FGJ, SDNY, returned an indictment against subject charging he committed perjury in testimony given under oath before the FGJ on 9/20/50. He was charged with giving false testimony concerning his country of residence from 1929, to 1932. He testified that during this period he was in Hungary, when in fact he was in the U. S. continuously from 1925, to 1932. Subject was arrested by the FBI on 9/28/50, and bail was subsequently set at \$40,000. Subject could not meet the bail and he was placed in the custody of the USM, SDNY. The FGJ before which subject appeared was conducting investigation and inquiring into possible violation of espionage laws of the U. S.

10. After subject was arrested and was unable to raise bail, he was placed in the Federal House of Detention, NYC. Also in this institution at the time was JULIUS ROSENBERG. In connection with information

Letter to DIRECTOR
NY 100-55242

62679
DISPATCH
b7c

furnished by JEROME EUGENE TARTAKOW, [REDACTED] concerning JULIUS ROSENBERG, the following data relative to subject was also obtained: 1. During VAGO's period of incarceration ROSENBERG was very friendly with subject and on one occasion subject furnished ROSENBERG with several sheets of paper which both studied together for the most part of one day. Both subject and ROSENBERG on several instances discussed mutual acquaintances of theirs who resided in different sections of the US. Once ROSENBERG told VAGO to tell BROTHMAN (ABE) to stop acting "like a scared Kid and everything would be taken care of". 2. In January, 1951, TARTAKOW advised VAGO indicated to him in conversation he intended to flee the US upon release from detention whether he was acquitted, released on bail, or on completion of sentence. VAGO made the statement, according to TARTAKOW, that he would go by a "tried and proven route" if a US passport was denied him. Further, he is reported to have said his arrest ended his "usefulness in the US". Immediately upon his release, VAGO is alleged to have stated, he intended on going to Budapest and that he had been preparing to leave the US at the time of his arrest. He informed TARTAKOW that friends in France were to write him a letter offering him a job which would then enable him to obtain an American passport. 3. On 1/18/51 TARTAKOW advised that subject related to him that all the material furnished the Russians by Dr. KLAUS FUCHS was first turned over to ABRAHAM BROTHMAN to check for accuracy and verification. 4. In describing ROSENBERG and VAGO, TARTAKOW stated: "Never have I been associated with two men whose hatred for our government is so profound. Every statement contains a threat of destruction, of violence, to America. There men are not mere Communists. What is more important is that they are revolutionists and that even in the Communist organization itself that is a horse of a different color". [REDACTED]

JEROME TARTAKOW's reliability is not known.

11. On 6/20/52, subject was found guilty by Federal Judge SYLVESTER J. RYAN (he waived trial by jury) and was sentenced to a three year suspended sentence and placed on three years probation.

12. Subject was a partner in the ~~FRAN~~ A. BROTHMAN Associates from August, 1944, to June, 1946. In connection with the investigation which led to the arrest of ABRAHAM BROTHMAN and HARRY GOLD, subject was interviewed by Bureau agents on 5/15/50. At this time he furnished considerable information regarding his relationship and business association with BROTHMAN. He admitted knowing GOLD through that individual's employment at BROTHMAN Associates. However, he denied any knowledge of any espionage activity engaged

[REDACTED]

Letter to DIRECTOR
NY 100-55242

in by either GOLD or BROTHMAN or any connection these two might have had with the Soviet Union. He stated he had severed relationship with BROTHMAN in June, 1948, after having engaged in a violent argument with him. As of the time interviewed he had not had any further association with BROTHMAN.

As a result of information revealed by HARRY GOLD and through investigation relative to Soviet espionage activity in the US, extensive investigation was conducted to ascertain if VAGO himself was involved in espionage. As far as the investigation disclosed no direct evidence of subject's involvement in espionage was developed. Based on information furnished by JEROME TARTAKOW to the effect subject planned to flee the country when released from prison, stops were placed throughout the US at points of embarkation and the USA authorized an arrest if subject was determined to be attempting to leave the country. However, no evidence or indication of such intention on his part was received during the period of time the stops were in effect. [REDACTED]

As a condition of his probation subject was required to inform the US Probation Office of his employment and residence at all times. He has been employed by various engineering firms since being placed on probation and is currently working with the firm of JAMES RUDERMAN, Consulting Engineer, NYC, and resides in Flushing, Long Island, where he purchased a home in October, 1953.

No evidence has been received during his period of probation which would indicate he has been engaged in any subversive activity.

RECOMMENDATION.

Remove from the SI.

Even though subject has been identified as a CP member and was from 1944, to 1948, affiliated with ABRAHAM BROTHMAN, who figured prominently in the HARRY GOLD espionage apparatus, no direct evidence of actual involvement on the part of the subject has been developed. Information as furnished by JEROME TARTAKOW would tend to indicate the possibility that subject might have been engaged in some type of activity which was not in the best interest of the US. However, investigation failed to determine, if any, the extent or degree of such activity. HARRY GOLD stated while subject was a CP member

Letter to DIRECTOR
NY 100-55242

he did not believe him to be engaged in espionage. No direct connection was determined between subject's act of perjury and any espionage activity. There has been no evidence of CP membership on his part within the past five years nor does his known activity otherwise bring him within the criteria for retention on the SI.

DETCOM TABBING

1. Not tabbed.
2. Not applicable.
3. Recommending deletion from the (SI.)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office NEW YORK	Office of Origin NEW YORK	Date 1/30/62	Investigative Period 10/23/61-1/5/62
TITLE OF CASE OSCAR JOHN VAGO aka		Report made by [REDACTED]	Typed By: plm
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

REFERENCE:

Report of SA BLAZE J. TOMASONI, dated
6/30/52, at New York

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE

Copies of this report and previous reports have not been furnished to INS, New York City, because information has not been developed to indicate that the subject was engaged in Communist activity prior to his naturalization in September of 1938.

CLASSIFIED BY: **3042/PWT/CLS**
DECLASSIFY ON: **OADR**

Classified by **7/8 BFP/al**
Declassify on: **OADR 7-27-83**

Approved [Signature]	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
④ Bureau (101-1988) (RM) 1-G-2, First Army, NYC, (AA 611495) (RM) 3-New York (100-55242)		101-1988-239	REC-97
		12 FEB 2 1962	EX-111
[REDACTED]		62	EX-100
		SUB CONTROL	

REC-62

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

It is recommended that the subject's name be included in the Security Index for the following reasons:

[REDACTED] b1
(S)
In the evening on 9/28/61, Special Agents of the FBI observed DICK PASTOR [REDACTED] and several other known Queens CP members, who because of the location of their residences, could logically be considered as members of the Kew Pomonok CP Club, enter the subject's residence. b7c

[REDACTED] b1
(S)

[REDACTED] b1
(S) (C)

[REDACTED] b1
b7D

On 10/19/50, Mrs. BERNICE RIVERIA, in a signed statement executed by her, stated that in 1948, Mrs. VAGO, the subject's wife, had told her that both she and Mr. VAGO, the subject, were members of the CP.

- 2 -
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE CONT'D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

One copy of this report is being furnished to G-2, First Army, New York City. [REDACTED] b7c

The pretext telephone call on 12/22/61, was made by SA [REDACTED] to a [REDACTED], telephone number [REDACTED] which is listed in the current Queens County telephone directory to a [REDACTED] Queens, New York. [REDACTED] b7c b7E

The pretext telephone call on 1/2/62, was made by SA [REDACTED] to an unidentified individual at the subject's employment. No formal pretext was necessary because this unidentified individual advised the subject had not as yet arrived at work. It is noted that the call was placed at approximately 8:35 AM. b7c

A suitable photograph of the subject is available.

An FD 122 recommending that the subject's name be included in the Security Index is being submitted.

Bureau authority to interview the subject is not being requested at this time to preclude any embarrassment to the Bureau, which might possibly arise from such an interview in view of the subject's conviction in Federal Court on 6/20/52, on a charge of perjury. b7c

[REDACTED]

A summary report has been previously submitted in this case.

The Agents who participated in the surveillance on 9/28/61, are identified as follows:

[REDACTED] b7c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE CONT 'D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

The stops placed by the New York Office and auxiliary offices, in connection with the perjury case involving the subject have been cancelled.

b7c

[REDACTED]

The subject's spouse, CLAIRE VAGO (New York 100-66457; Bureau 100-335813) is being recommended for inclusion in the Security Index.

This report is classified "CONFIDENTIAL" because portions of the information contained therein can be attributed to [REDACTED] extremely sensitive source. The unauthorized disclosure of this information could result in the exposure of this source. This would be detrimental to the National Defense.

b2 b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

INFORMANTS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>File Number Where Located</u>
(c) NY T-1 [redacted] b1	
(c) NY T-2 [redacted] b1	[redacted] (c)
u NY T-3 [redacted] b2 b7D	100-32814-1B-74
(c) NY T-4 [redacted] b1	100-55242-344
(c) NY T-5 [redacted] b1 Former	100-55242-311
u NY T-6 [redacted] b2 b7D	(X)
(c) NY T-7 [redacted] b1	Used to characterize JOHN PAUL VAGO
(c) [redacted]	[redacted]

- D -
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

INFORMANTS CONT'D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Identity of
Source

File Number Where
Located

NY T-7
(cont'd)

(c) [REDACTED] b1
Instant report page 8
(FURNISHED TO SA [REDACTED]) b7D

(e) NY T-8

b2 b7D

[REDACTED] (R) b1
(c)

The following are the informants utilized in the
characterization of "Advance," as it appears in the Appendix
attached to this report: (u)

Former [REDACTED]

(u) b2 b7D

The following are the informants utilized in the
characterization of the New York School for Marxist Studies,
as it appears in the Appendix attached to this report: (u)

[REDACTED]

(u) b2 b7D

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NY 100-55242

INFORMANTS CONT'D

The following are the informants utilized in the characterization of the Chicago Committee to Defend Democratic Rights and the Chicago Smith Act Families Committee: ~~(S)~~ U

~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

62 67D

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

The informants not identified by T symbols, in the attached report, and who were unable to furnish any information concerning the subject, are identified as follows:

Informant

Date Contacted

Contacting Agent (u)

u ~~(S)~~ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ~~(S)~~ (u)

62 67D

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PAGE

NY 100-55242

INFORMANTS CONT'D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

<u>Informant</u>	<u>Date Contacted</u>	<u>Contacting Agent</u>
X [REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] (u)

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

1. Will await Bureau decision regarding the recommendation by the New York Office that the subject's name be included on the Security Index.
2. Upon receipt of such approval, the NYO will place a Security flash in the subject's name with the Identification Division, Washington, D.C.
3. Should the Bureau not concur with this recommendation the New York Office will place the subject's name on Section B of the Reserve Index.
4. Will endeavor to personally observe the subject.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to: 1-G-2, First Army, New York City (AA 611495) (RM)
 Report of: [REDACTED] b7c
 Date: January 30, 1962
 Field Office File No.: 100-55242
 Bureau File No.: 101-1988
 Title: OSCAR JOHN VAGO

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Subject resides at 164 - 1373rd Avenue, Queens, New York, and is employed by James Ruderman, Consulting Engineer, 84 Fifth Avenue, New York City. Informant reported that [REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] On the evening of 9/28/61, SAS of the FBI observed several Queens County CP members enter the subject's residence. Informants reported that a [REDACTED] b1 b7D

[REDACTED] that the subject [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] relatives' activities set forth.

- P* -

Classified by ~~1678 RE/ob~~
 Declassify on: OADR 7-29-83
 Comp # 59 261

WAB/Don 10-7-75

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
 OTHERWISE

CONFIDENTIAL

NY 100-55242

DETAILS:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence and Employment

On December 29, 1952, Mr. SAYLER, Probation Officer, United States Probation Office, Room 205, United States Court House, Foley Square, New York, New York, advised SA GORDON W. TINDLE that the subject was then employed by Farkas and Barron Construction Engineers, 150 Broadway, New York City.

On February 23, 1954, WILLIAM H. PETERS, Probation Officer, United States Probation Office, Federal Building, Brooklyn, New York, advised SA BLAZE J. TOMASONI, that the subject had, on October 26, 1953, purchased his own home at 164 - 13 73rd Avenue, Queens, New York.

Mr. PETERS also advised that the subject was then employed by Dr. JACOB FELD, 155 East 33rd Street, New York City.

On March 7, 1955, Mr. ALEX J. MOORE, Probation Officer, United States Probation Office, Federal Building, Brooklyn, New York, advised SA EARL MC COOL, that the subject was then employed by James Ruderman Consulting Engineer, 32 Union Square, New York City.

On December 22, 1961, a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) through a pretext, ascertained that the subject was then residing at 164 - 13 73rd Avenue, Queens, New York.

Through a pretext, on January 2, 1962, a Special Agent of the FBI determined that the subject was then employed by James Ruderman, Consulting Engineer, 84 Fifth Avenue, New York City. It was further ascertained that this concern formerly occupied office space at 32 Union Square, New York City.

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NY 100-55242

II. AFFILIATION WITH THE COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

A. Evidence of Communist Party
(CP) Membership

[REDACTED] NY T-1 advised that on that date, [REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] The informant was unable to furnish any other information with respect to this matter.

On the evening of September 28, 1961, Special Agents of the FBI observed the following individuals enter the subject's residence, 164 - 13 73rd Avenue, Queens, New York, at the indicated times:

[REDACTED] 8:45 PM

[REDACTED] 8:47 PM

[REDACTED] 8:55 PM

[REDACTED] 9:00 PM

[REDACTED] 9:05 PM

NY T-2 advised on [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] b1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
- 3 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
NY 100-55242

NY T-7 advised on [REDACTED]
that [REDACTED]

b1 b7D

NY T-7 advised on [REDACTED] that

b1 b7D

NY T-7 advised on [REDACTED]
that [REDACTED]

b1 b7D

NY T-7 advised on [REDACTED] that

b1 b7D

NY T-7 advised on [REDACTED]
that [REDACTED]

b1 b7D

NY T-7 advised on [REDACTED] that

b1 b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

NY T-7 advised on
that

b1 b7D

NY T-8 advised on
that

b1 b7D

For a characterization of the New York
School for Marxist Studies, see the
Appendix attached hereto.

NY T-7 advised on
that

b1 b7D

NY 100-55242

B. Evidence of CP Sympathies

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
NY T-2 advised that [REDACTED] b1 b7D

[REDACTED] (c)
[REDACTED] (c) b1
For a characterization of the CCDDR,,
CSAFC and the "National Guardian," see
the Appendix attached hereto.

[REDACTED] NY T-3 made available information (u) b7D

For a characterization of Camp Kinderland,
see the Appendix attached hereto.

[REDACTED] NY T-4 made available information (u) b1 b7D

For a characterization of the "New
World Review," see the Appendix
attached hereto.

NY 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
[REDACTED] NY T-5 made available information [REDACTED] (E) b1 b7D

"The Worker" is an East Coast Communist newspaper.

C. Relatives

Wife, CLAIRE VAGO

On October 9, 1950, Mrs. BERNICE RIVERIA, 114 West 114th Street, New York City, furnished a signed statement to SA VICTOR TURYN. In this statement, Mrs. RIVERIA relates that she worked as a housecleaner for the subject for approximately two months in 1948. She stated that during her brief employment by the VAGOS, the subject's wife, attempted to recruit her into the CP on several occasions.

Mrs. RIVERIA further stated that Mrs. VAGO had told her that both she and Mr. VAGO were CP members.

Son, JOHN PAUL VAGO

[REDACTED] NY T-6 advised that [REDACTED] (u) b7D

For a characterization of "Advance," see the Appendix attached hereto.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

III. MISCELLANEOUS

~~SECRET~~
[REDACTED] were reviewed on December 8, 1961,
by SA [REDACTED] No additional information identifiable
with the subject was located in these records. b7D b7C

[NY T-7 and other confidential informants] who are
familiar with various phases of CP activity in the New York City
area, when contacted during December, 1961, advised that they
were unable to furnish any information concerning the subject. du

APPENDIX

CAMP KINDERLAND

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning Camp Kinderland:

"Camp Kinderland (Hopewell Junction, N.Y.)

- "1. 'The Communist management of six camps in New York State and another in California was exposed by committee investigations and hearings.' Listed among these is Camp Kinderland, a children's camp owned and operated since 1951 by Camp Lakeland, Inc. David Green and Sol Vail, manager and president respectively of Camp Lakeland, Inc., 'have been active members of the Communist Party.'
(Committee on Un-American Activities, Annual Report for 1955, H. R. 1143, January 17, 1956, originally released January 11, 1956, pp. 2, 8, and 9.)"

APR 11 1964

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675


~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADVANCE, An Organization of Progressive Youth (Cont'd)

67D


"The Worker," an East Coast Communist newspaper, dated April 16, 1961, page 2, column 2, sets forth the Advance Office as Room 635, 799 Broadway, New York City. This article also sets forth that Advance needs to develop a well balanced club life of social education and political activity.

CHICAGO COMMITTEE TO DEFEND DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS, formerly known as the Chicago Joint Defense Committee to Defeat the Smith Act.

A source advised on April 15, 1958, that the Chicago Joint Defense Committee to Defeat the Smith Act (CJDC) was formed by the Communist Party (CP) in March, 1956.

A second source advised on July 17, 1958, that at a working conference of the CJDC held on June 8, 1958, at Chicago, the name of the CJDC was changed to the Chicago Committee to Defend Democratic Rights (CCDDR). The purpose of the CCDDR, according to its "Statement of Principles and Organization," is to "...defend and extend the human rights embodied in the Bills of Rights...and to put an end to the political and racial persecutions which threaten American democracy today." Officers of the CCDDR elected at this conference were Chairman, LEON KATZEN, and "paid Executive Secretary," RICHARD CRILEY, both of whom were officers of the CJDC. As of May, 1959, this organization continued to function within the framework of its stated principles. Working committees affiliated with the CCDDR in 1958 and 1959, in accordance with the CCDDR's Statement of Principles and Organization, included a welfare committee for the families of Smith Act victims and a committee to work for Taft-Hartley defendants.

LEON KATZEN was identified by a third source as a member of the CP in March, 1959.

RICHARD CRILEY, according to a fourth source, as of March, 1959, was a member of the Illinois CP State Committee.

The CP, USA has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On May 9, 1960, the second source revealed information which indicated that the Chicago Smith Act Families Committee is an affiliate of the CCDDR.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NATIONAL GUARDIAN

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., contains the following concerning the "National Guardian":

"National Guardian

- "1. 'Established by the American Labor Party in 1947 as a "progressive" weekly. * * * Although it denies having any affiliation with the Communist Party, it has manifested itself from the beginning as a virtual official propaganda arm of Soviet Russia.'
(Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, 'Trial by Treason: The National Committee to Secure Justice for the Rosenbergs and Morton Sobell,' August 25, 1956, p. 12)"

NEW WORLD REVIEW

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, reflects the following citation concerning the NEW WORLD REVIEW:

"1. Cited as an organization specializing in pro-Soviet propaganda. It was formerly known as Soviet Russia Today.

"(Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, S. Doc. 117, April 23, 1956, p. 90.)"

NY 100-55242

APPENDIX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE NEW YORK SCHOOL FOR MARXIST STUDIES,
FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE PEOPLE'S SCHOOL
FOR MARXIST STUDIES

[REDACTED] b7D

"The Worker," an east coast communist newspaper, in its issue of December 11, 1960, identified BETTY GANNETT as a full-time member of the New York State CP Staff in the capacity of Organizational and Educational Director.

"The Worker" of September 18, 1960, included an announcement regarding the PSMS, Room 1922, 853 Broadway, New York, New York, reflecting that the Fall Term would extend from October 17, 1960, through November 23, 1960, and that the SCOPE (Youth) Classes would extend from October 7, 1960, through November 11, 1960.

"The Worker" of October 16, 1960, announced the opening of the New York School for Marxist Studies (NYSMS) with general classes beginning October 17, 1960, and SCOPE (Youth) Classes beginning October 14, 1960. The address of the School is Room 1922, 853 Broadway at 14th Street, New York, New York. The Spring Term, 1961, catalogue reflects Dr. HERBERT APTHEKER as the Director of the School.

[REDACTED] b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York
January 30, 1962

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Bureau 101-1988
New York 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Title Oscar John Vago

Character Security Matter - C

Reference is made to the report of Special
Agent [REDACTED] dated and captioned as above, at
New York.

b7c

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced
communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SIT made

TO : Director, FBI (Bufile- 101-1988)

DATE: 1/30/62

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-55242) (RM)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, aka
SECURITY MATTER - C
(OO:NEW YORK)

Recommended for SI

WGS

*Card filed
Cards sent 02/14/62*

3-6-87

☒ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

CLASSIFIED BY: 3042/PWT/CLB
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows (specify change only):

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Name OSCAR JOHN VAGO		
Aliases OSZKAR VAGO, JOHN MURRAY, JOHN MURAY		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race White	Sex <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth 2/27/98	Place of Birth Budapest, Hungary	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) James Ruderman, Consulting Engineer 84 Fifth Avenue New York, New York		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number		Responsibility
Interested Agencies		
Residence Address 164-13 73rd Avenue, Queens, New York		

1678/REP/CLB
Classified by 7-27-83
Declassify on 50YR

REC-3
EX 171

101-1988-240

2-Bureau (101-1988) (RM)
1-New York (100-55242)

LEB: [illegible]
REGISTERED MAIL
FEB 15 1962

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBV CONTROL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

It is recommended that the subject's name be included in the Security Index for the following reasons:

[REDACTED] b1

(C) In the evening on 9/28/61, Special Agents of the FBI observed DICK PASTOR [REDACTED] and several other known Queens CP members, who because of the location of their residences, could logically be considered as members of the Kew Pomonok CP Club, enter the subject's residence. b7c

[REDACTED] (C) b1

[REDACTED] (C) (C) b1

[REDACTED] b1 b7D

On 10/19/50, Mrs. BERNICE RIVERIA, in a signed statement executed by her, stated that in 1948, Mrs. VAGO, the subject's wife, had told her that both she and Mr. VAGO, the subject, were members of the CP.

- 2 -
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (101-1988)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-55242) (c)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO aka
SM-C
(OO:NEW YORK)

DATE: 2/23/62

ReNYrep of SA [REDACTED] and FD-122 both
dated 1/30/62.

NY in receipt of Security Index cards regarding
the subject.

Subject was personally observed by Agent personnel
in the vicinity of his residence on 2/21/62.

NY has placed a Security Flash (FD-165) in the
subject's name with the FBI Identification Division, Washington,
D.C.

There being no outstanding leads, this case is
being placed in a closed status.

3-587 3042/PWT/OKS
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-27-83 BY 1628 RAB/kab
Comp # 36,261

REC-91

101-1988-241

13 FEB 26 1962

- 2 - Bureau (101-1988) (RM)
1 - New York (100-55242)

LEB:rmc
(3)

JOHN WILLET DIA
REC.D

SUB CONTROL

50 MAR 10 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

No-7

TO : Director, FBI (Bufile- 101-1988)

DATE: 11/14/62

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-55242)

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO aka
SM-C
(OO: NEW YORK)

Chris UNO ✓
Chris Sub 00
11/27/62

☐ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows (specify change only):

Name		
Aliases		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom.	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address) Add: Engineer		
Key Facility Data 25 NOV 15 1962		
Geographical Reference Number _____ Responsibility _____		
Interested Agencies _____		
Residence Address		

101-1988-
NOT RECORDED

2-Bureau (101-1988)
1-New York (100-55242)
CJR:jad
(2) 53 NOV 29 1962
REGISTERED MAIL

358153012101/05
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-27-83 BY 1628 RFP/KL
(56,201 Comp#)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FC
T31

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	DATE 12/10/62 - 1/22/63	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
TITLE OF CASE OSCAR JOHN VAGO aka		REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]	TYPED BY gmz
		CHARACTER OF CASE SM-C	

Post-d 1-31-63 b7c

REFERENCE:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

NYrep of SA [REDACTED] dated
1/30/62.

3-6-87
CLASSIFIED BY: 3042/PWT/CLS
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

ADMINISTRATIVE:

One copy of this report is being furnished
G-2, First Army, New York City, [REDACTED] b7c

SAS [REDACTED] observed
the subject at his residence on 12/5/62.

The pretext telephone call of 1/22/63, was made
by SA [REDACTED] to the switchboard operator at the subject's
employment. No formal pretext was necessary because when

APPROVED COPIES MADE: 27 m/yf	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
④ - Bureau (101-1988) (RM) 1 - G-2, First Army, New York City, (AA 611495) (RM) 3 - New York (100-55242)		101-1988-242	EX-120
		18 JAN 30 1963	CONTROL
DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT		NOTATIONS	
AGENCY	REQUEST RE	SUBJECT	
DATE FWD.	HOW FWD.	[REDACTED]	
BY		[REDACTED]	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

SA [REDACTED] asked to speak to the subject, the operator advised that he was out to lunch, but that he would return to the office in a little while. b7c

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

File No. Where Located

NY T-1

NY 100-55242-365 ✓

The following informants when contacted on the dates indicated were unable to furnish any information about the subject:

Informant

Date Contacted

Agent Contacting

SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]
SA [REDACTED]

COVER PAGE

- B -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

00...

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
 2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
 3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
 4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☐ is ☐ is not available.
 5. ☐ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
 6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and _____ is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____.
 7. ☐ This report is classified _____ because (state reason) _____.
 8. ☐ Subject previously interviewed (dates) _____.
☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) _____ to preclude any embarrassment to the Bureau in view of the subject's conviction in Federal Court during 1952 on a charge of perjury.
 9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
 10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason) _____ b1
- (c) _____
- On the evening of September 28, 1961, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation observed several known Queens Communist Party figures enter the subject's residence. _____
- _____ (c)
- This information is located in referenced report.
11. ☒ Subject's SI card ☐ is ☒ is not tabbed Detcom.
☒ Subject's activities ☐ do ☒ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

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- c* -

CONFIDENTIAL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - G-2, First Army, NYC (RM)

Report of: [REDACTED] *b7c* Office: New York, New York
Date: JAN 2 1963

Field Office File No.: 100-55242 Bureau File No.: 101-1988

Title: OSCAR JOHN VAGO

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis

Subject resides at 164-13 73rd Ave., Queens, NY, and is employed by JAMES RUDERMAN, Consulting Engineer, 84 Fifth Ave., NY, NY. Subject was a member of IWC from 1947 - 1951. Miscellaneous data set forth.

- C -

DETAILS:I. BACKGROUNDResidence and Employment

On December 5, 1962, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation observed the subject at his residence, 164-13 73rd Avenue, Queens, New York.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-6-87 BY 3042 PWT/clb

NY 100-55242

Through a pretext, A Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation determined on January 22, 1963, that the subject was then employed by JAMES RUDERMAN, Consulting Engineer, 84 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York.

II. MISCELLANEOUS

NY T-1 stated on January 22, 1962, that OSCAR JOHN VAGO, who was born on February 27, 1898, in Budapest, Hungary, [REDACTED] 67

The IWO has been designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The following letter appeared in the "Letters To The Editor" section of the October 30, 1962, Late City Edition of the "New York Herald Tribune":

"To the N. Y. Herald Tribune:

I wish to commend Mr. LIPPMANN for his writing in today's (Oct. 25) Herald Tribune.

All warlike steps we have taken should be canceled and let us negotiate rather than perish. We either discuss our problems with Cuba at the round table in the UN or else there will be nothing and nobody left to discuss. Any one has the right to feel "better dead than Red" but he has no right to impose this death upon those who do not feel that way.

OSCAR J. VAGO

Flushing"