Morton Sobell has appealed his case many times in the courts for reviewal but the appeals have been denied by the upper courts and his case has never been reviewed by anyone other than Judge Irving Kaufman, the judge who sentenced him originally.

The support for Sobell's freedom has been growing steadily through his years of imprisonment. On the weekend of Nov. 19-21, supporters from all parts of the U.S. convened in Washington, D.C., in a national appeal. During the convocation, a delegation of ministers from various parts of the country presented to the Rev. Fredric Fox, special assistant at the White House, 1,200 appeals for clemency to President Eisenhower, which were signed by ministers, rabbis and priests from throughout the country.

In addition we would like to present as more evidence that there is reason to believe in Morton Sobell's innocence, the fact that some of this country's leading law schools - the Columbia law school, the Yale Law school, The Chicago Law school, and Northwestern Law school - have all reviewed the Morton Sobell case and have all ruled in favor of Morton Sobell.

The December 16, 1969, issue in the same section carried a reply to the BRUST letter by a Yale Kamisar, which is set out in full:

To the Editor: A Dec. 9 letter by "J. T. Brust, for the Minnesota Sobell committee," concludes:

"In addition, we would like to present as more evidence that there is reason to believe in Morton Sobell's innocence, the fact that some of this country's leading law schools - the Columbia Law school, the Yale law school, and Northwestern Law school - have all reviewed the Morton Sobell case and have all ruled in favor of Morton Sobell."

This must rank as one of the most fantastic and irresponsible statements of the year. Law schools don't "review" cases; neither Sobell's nor anybody else's. Nor did they "rule" for or against any

defendant. Surely, Brust is not suggesting that the faculties or the student bodies of the various law schools he lists took a vote on the question of Sobell's guilty or innocence. Or established committees to consider the question. Then just what does he mean?

No more, I suspect, than that one or two members of a 30 or 40 man law faculty at Columbia or Yale or Chicago personally believe in Sobell's innocence. So what? If you look long and hard enough, you can find one or two men on a big law faculty who take just about any conceivable position you're looking for on any given issue, be it wiretapping, artificial insemination, progressive taxation, or the Rosenberg case. By no stretch of the truth can it be claimed that such individuals speak for their "law schools." (Not any more than I necessarily speak for the "Minnesota Law school" when I write this letter, although I happen to be a member of its faculty.)

It is also possible that Brust means that student-written commentaries in the various legal journals of the afore-mentioned schools have "found Sobell innocent." If so I wish he'd tell me who and where.

So far as I know, the most comprehensive legal analysis of the Rosenberg-Sobell case to appear in any legal journal appeared in the February, 1954, Columbia Law Review. Several Columbia students who were assigned the task of appraising the Rosenberg case (I was not one of them, but I was a student editor of the Review at the time) found some support for the view that the evidence only established a conspiracy between Sobell and Rosenberg to recruit espionage agents and to send certain nonatomic military data to Russia; it did not also unequivocally show that Sobell was a member of a wider conspiracy (involving Rosenberg, Greenglass and Godl) to engage in atomic espionage as well.

But the students never maintained - nor ever suggested - that Sobell was innocent of any and all espionage activities.

[redacted] on [redacted] advised that the Minnesota Sobell Committee has been fairly inactive during the past six months and that consequently very few functions had been held. [redacted] advised that the major activity of the Minnesota Sobell Committee has been mailing out various literature in behalf of MORTON SOBELL rather than holding any public functions or meetings as such. b7D

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D

IV. SUBVERSIVE RAMIFICATIONS

[redacted] advised orally [redacted] that [redacted], had recently in discussing the Minnesota Sobell Committee, stated that it was not the concern of the committee or of the SWP whether MORTON SOBELL was innocent or guilty of the charges placed against him but that their only concern was that the MORTON SOBELL situation fit into a cause celebre that the SWP could take advantage of. b7D

[redacted] on [redacted] advised that as of February 14, 1961, the Minnesota Sobell Committee was controlled and dominated by the SWP locally and that its officers were either current or past members of the SWP and that the same applied to a substantial majority of its working committee. b7D

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell,' The Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case - a communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case' ----"

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 60.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The 1959-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York.

TWIN CITIES BRANCH
SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

A source advised on various dates between June and October, 1960, that the Twin Cities Branch of the Socialist Workers Party (TCB-SWP) is an affiliate of the Socialist Workers Party.

A second source advised on November 28, 1960, that the TCB-SWP was formed on August 21, 1955, through the merging of the Minneapolis and St. Paul Branches of the SWP. This merger was affected with the approval and under the direction of the National Office of the SWP.

The aim and purpose of this branch is to implement on a local basis the purpose set forth in Article II of the Constitution and By-Laws of the SWP adopted at the Foundation Convention in Chicago, Illinois, December 21, 1937, and January 1, 2, and 3, 1938; namely, "to educate and organize the working class for the abolition of Capitalism and the establishment of a worker's government to achieve Socialism."

[redacted]

b7d

Currently, the TCB-SWP is fully organized and operates in headquarters located in Room 240, at 704 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The Socialist Workers Party (SWP) has been designated by the Attorney General of the U. S. pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply Please
Refer to File
No. 100-8894

Minneapolis, Minnesota
February 20, 1961

All confidential informants and sources referred to in the report of SA [redacted] dated and captioned as above at Minneapolis, Minnesota, have furnished reliable information in the past. b7c

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FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4374 DATE 2-21-61

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant to Executive Order 11652 as it contains information which would disclose an intelligence source. This serial bears the Classification Officers number [redacted].

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4375 DATE 2-21-61

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant to Executive Order 11652 as it contains information which would disclose an intelligence source. This serial bears the Classification Officers number [redacted].

Report Form
FD-263 (5-12-55)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office	Office of Origin	Date	Investigative Period
PHILADELPHIA	NEW YORK	2/28/61	2/3-24/61

TITLE OF CASE	Report made by	Typed By:
COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL	[redacted] b7c	ARD

CHARACTER OF CASE

INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Synopsis

REFERENCE

Report of SA [redacted] dated 3/31/60, b7c at Philadelphia.

- P* -

LEAD

PHILADELPHIA

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Will follow and report activities of the Philadelphia Sobell Committee, local affiliate of captioned organization.

Approved	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below

Copies made:

5 - Bureau (100-337335)(REGISTERED MAIL)
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2 - New York (100-107111)(REGISTERED MAIL)
2 - Philadelphia (100-37667)

100-107111-4376

[redacted]

b7c

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☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1958 O—344750

PH 100-37667

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and "T" symbols were utilized only where identities must be concealed.

This report is classified confidential since information furnished by [redacted] could reasonably result in the identification of informants of continuing value and compromise the future effectiveness thereof. b2D

Copies of this report are being designated for G-2, ONI and OSI for information.

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Location
PH T-1: [redacted] b2D	[redacted] b7C
PH T-2: [redacted] b2D	[redacted]
PH T-3: [redacted] b2D	[redacted]
PH T-4: [redacted] b2D	[redacted]
PH T-5: [redacted] b2D	[redacted]
PH T-6: [redacted] b2D	[redacted]

PH 100-37667

Identity of Source	Location
PH T-7: HELENE ELITCHER, 72nd Avenue, Flushing, N.Y.	Characterization of BEATRICE GRAUMAN
PH T-8: CSNY-425-S	Characterization of ROSE MAMLIN
PH T-9: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-10: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-11: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-12: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-13: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-14: [redacted] b7D	[redacted] 100-37667-1B-32-13 100-37667-1B-31-41
PH T-15: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-16: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-17: PH-548-S*	
PH T-18: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-19: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-20: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-21: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
PH T-22: [redacted] b7D	[redacted]

PH 100-37667

Appendix Informants

Philadelphia Jewish Cultural Clubs [redacted] b7D

Philadelphia Sobell Committee [redacted] b7D

Philadelphia Social Science Forum Committee [redacted] b7D

- D* -
COVER PAGE

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

C O N[redacted]E N T I A L

Copy to: [redacted]
2 - G-2, Philadelphia (REGISTERED MAIL)
1 - ONI, Philadelphia (REGISTERED MAIL)
1 - OSI, Olmsted Air Force Base (REGISTERED MAIL)

Report of: [redacted] b7C
Office: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Date: February 28, 1961

Field Office File #: 100-37667
Bureau File #: 100-387835

Title: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Synopsis: Philadelphia Sobell Committee utilizes residence of PEARL CHERTOV, 2708 West Sterner Street, Philadelphia, as its headquarters and mailing address. Identities of officers [redacted] set out. PSC sponsored garden party in 6/60, honoring birthday of ROSE SOBELL, mother of MORTON SOBELL [redacted] Subject organization conducted a National Appeal for Freedom in Washington, D.C., 11/19-21/60. Details regarding this affair and PSC's participation set out. Local Committee sponsored exhibit and meeting on 12/18/60, featuring HELEN SOBELL. Literature distributed at this exhibit described. Connections with CPEPD and its support of National Appeal for Freedom included. Connections with Sholem Aleichem Club and PSSFC set out. b7D

- P* -

DETAILS: All addresses mentioned in this report are located in Philadelphia, Pa., unless otherwise indicated.

Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell (CSJMS) is characterized in the appendix section of this report.

C O N[redacted]N T I A L

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

PHILADELPHIA SOBELL COMMITTEE (PSC)

A characterization of the PSC is set out in the appendix section of this report.

Headquarters

[redacted] advised on [redacted] the PSC does not maintain a regular headquarters but utilizes the residence of PEARL CHERTOV, 2708 West Sterner Street, as its headquarters and mailing address. b7D

[redacted] advised on [redacted], that PEARL CHERTOV, as of this date, was a member of the Philadelphia Branch, Socialist Workers Party (SWP). b7D

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

Officers

On [redacted] advised the following are the current officers of PSC: b7D

Chairman - PEARL CHERTOV
Secretary - HARRIET FAHEY
Treasurer - SARAH EPSTEIN

[redacted]

[redacted] b7D

Subversive Affiliations of Officers

HARRIET FAHEY

[redacted] advised on [redacted], that HARRIET FAHEY was a member of the Communist Party of Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware (CPEPD) [redacted] b7D

[redacted] b70

The Communist Party, USA, its affiliates and subdivisions, have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

SARAH EPSTEIN

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that SARAH EPSTEIN, [redacted] was a member of Lodge 169 of the International Workers Order (IWO) in 1953. b70

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

JEAN FRANTJIS

[redacted] advised on [redacted], JEAN FRANTJIS, as of this date, was Secretary of the West Philadelphia Club, CPEPD. b70

BEATRICE GRAUMAN

PH T-7 has advised that BEATRICE GRAUMAN was a member of the CP in Washington, D.C., from 1943 to 1948. In 1947 and 1948, the informant was affiliated with what was known as the "Housewives Club" of the CP in Washington. PH T-7 advised that one of the members of the "Housewives Club" was BEATRICE GRAUMAN.

ROSE MAMLIN

PH T-8 advised on January 16, 1949 and April 17, 1952, that ROSE MAMLIN became a member of Lodge 496, Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order (JPFO) of the IWO in March 1947, and was a member of this Lodge as of April 1952.

The JPFO of the IWO has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

[redacted]

[redacted] b7D

[redacted]

[redacted] b7D

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

[redacted] advised on [redacted] the PSC sponsored a garden party on August 7, 1960, from 4 to 8 p.m. at 839 Cricket Road, Secane, Pa. The purpose of this affair was to celebrate the 66th birthday of Mrs. ROSE SOBELL, the mother of MORTON SOBELL. MORTON SOBELL is currently confined in the Federal Penitentiary, having been convicted of espionage. The affair was presided over by JEAN FRANTJIS and attended by approximately 22 persons. FRANTJIS stated that she had been engaged on behalf of MORTON SOBELL for the past seven years and gave a brief summary of her activities in this regard. She stated that the opportunity to gain freedom for MORTON SOBELL was excellent. She added that "we" have a good case, the time is right, and she indicated that this was true because 1960 was an election year. She also mentioned that plans for a delegation to Washington, D.C., and the White House were in the making. FRANTJIS added that this would be a mass demonstration and delegations from various states would participate. She said she hoped the PSC would be able to organize a train load from Philadelphia to participate in this mass demonstration. b7D

Informant advised that the next speaker at this affair was Mrs. ROSE SOBELL. She, too, gave a resume of her efforts and activities to gain her son's freedom from prison. She

further stated that professional people all over the United States and from all walks of life have sent letters to the President of the United States asking for justice and clemency for her son.

[redacted] advised on [redacted] that the PSC sponsored a garden party at [redacted] Cricket Road, Secane, Pa., on August 7, 1960. [redacted] b7D

[redacted] advised during 1950 that the SOBELL family had resided at this address from July 1931 to December 1940. [redacted] and he added that although he believed Mrs. SOBELL to be a CP member because of this, he could not confirm her as a member of the CP or a Communist front organization. b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] The featured speaker at this affair was HELEN SOBELL. She gave a resume of her activities and travels on behalf of her husband. She also announced that the CSJMS would sponsor a National Freedom Appeal in Washington, D.C., in the latter part of November 1960, and it was hoped that amnesty for her husband could be secured by Christmas. The informant advised that admission to this meeting was $1.00 per person and it was attended by approximately 60 individuals. [redacted] b7D

[redacted] This informant attended and furnished substantially the same information [redacted] regarding this meeting. b7D

[redacted] identified on February 2, 1944, HELEN GUREWITZ (HELEN SOBELL, Mrs. MORTON SOBELL) as a member of the Education and Literature Committee of the CP in Washington, D.C., as of February 1, 1944. b7D

[redacted] the National Appeal for Freedom sponsored by the CSJMS on November 19, 20, and 21, 1960. The first portion of this Appeal was on Saturday, November 19, 1960, and consisted of a cocktail party at the Bird Cage Walk, Hotel Shoreham, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. A number of exhibits had been placed on temporary bulletin boards along the wall of the cocktail lounge and consisted of enlarged photographs of MORTON SOBELL, his wife and his mother. The exhibits also included enlarged copies of newspaper clippings, letters and telegrams relating to the SOBELL case, all of which expressed doubt as to the guilt of MORTON SOBELL. Cocktails were served to approximately 250 people in attendance. b7D

Following the cocktail party, approximately 300 individuals attended a banquet at the Hotel Shoreham. Two tables at this affair were set aside for representatives of the press, and they were occupied by the press representatives from New York City and Washington, D.C. The invocation was given by Reverend NELSON C. PIERCE, Palisades Community Church, Washington, D.C. According to the informant, GERHARD VAN ARKEL, Washington attorney, was supposed to serve as chairman of the banquet. However, because of conflicting commitments, he was unable to attend. An attorney from Chicago, whose last name was LOVE, substituted as chairman of this banquet. The informant further advised that the following individuals, who were listed on the program as speakers, did not actually speak:

BURNS CHALMERS, American Friends Service Committee, Washington, D.C.

HAROLD A. CRANEFIELD, Detroit, Michigan, attorney who was not present.

Rabbi JACOB J. WEINSTEIN, National Chairman of the Committee for Labor Israel, Chicago, Ill., who was not present.

The chairman stated that he was very familiar with MORTON SOBELL's case, and he feels deeply that SOBELL is innocent of the charge of conspiracy to commit espionage. He added that if he had the slightest doubt of SOBELL's guilt, he would not have associated himself with the SOBELL case at all. He then introduced many prominent clergymen who were in the audience and who had worked on behalf of MORTON SOBELL.

[redacted] advised that chairman LOVE then introduced the principal speaker, Reverend JOHN PAUL JONES of Ashfield, Mass., whom he referred to as a great religious leader. Reverend JONES told those in attendance that he had followed the SOBELL case very closely, although he had never met SOBELL personally and in fact had never seen him. He continued that he did not believe SOBELL was guilty of conspiracy to commit espionage as charged by the United States Government. b7D

[redacted] the last speaker of the evening was Mrs. HELEN SOBELL. She stated that she wanted to contact President EISENHOWER and persuade him to grant executive clemency to MORTON SOBELL so that he may be home with the family for Christmas and eventually have his name completely cleared. Mrs. SOBELL thanked those in attendance who had travelled to this Appeal from Massachusetts, New York City, Buffalo, Cleveland and San Francisco, and she particularly thanked the Washington, D.C., Sobell Committee who served as the host committee, in arranging the National Appeal for Freedom. The informant advised that the banquet ended at approximately 11 p.m. b7D

[redacted] advised that at 2 p.m., Sunday, November 20, 1960, a panel on the "Facts and Issues in the Sobell Case" was scheduled in the West Ballroom of the Hotel Shoreham. Approximately 200 persons were present at this affair. b7D

The informant added that prior to the beginning of the Sunday affair, one chartered bus arrived with approximately 30 passengers who attended the panel discussion. This bus was

chartered by the Philadelphia Sobell Committee [redacted] b70

The informant advised that although the program described the Sunday afternoon affair as a panel, it actually consisted of a speech by Professor THOMAS EMERSON of Yale University Law School. EMERSON, in his opening remarks, said that he did not know MORTON SOBELL personally and did not know enough about SOBELL to decide whether or not he was guilty of conspiracy to commit espionage, as charged. He added, however, that he disagreed with the method employed by United States authorities to return MORTON SOBELL from Mexico for prosecution. EMERSON continued that SOBELL had served almost ten years in prison of his 30-year sentence. He said that it is customary, when an individual has been a model prisoner, that he be eligible for parole at the expiration of one-third of his sentence. He added that in SOBELL's case, even though he had been a model prisoner, he apparently has no hope for parole.

The informant advised that EMERSON also stated that MORTON SOBELL has exhausted every legal avenue to obtain his freedom and EMERSON knew of no other legal means open to SOBELL to obtain his freedom. He stated that the United States Supreme Court has turned down SOBELL's plea for a retrial. EMERSON claimed that even though the United States Government made a mistake in convicting SOBELL, it cannot now admit this mistake because such an admission would imply that JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG were not guilty of conspiracy to commit espionage, for which they were executed. EMERSON also stated that the principal witness against SOBELL, MAX ELITCHER, was a notorious liar, and SOBELL's conviction should not be based on the testimony of such an individual.

[redacted] advised that EMERSON was followed by a short talk by Mrs. SOBELL who also gave an account of how she and her husband were illegally removed from Mexico and placed in the hands of United States authorities. b70

[redacted] advised following the above meeting, approximately 100 of those in attendance rode in three or four chartered local Washington, D.C., buses to the vicinity of the White House, where they participated in a prayer meeting. This meeting was led by Reverend ALVA TOMPKINS, who led a prayer b70

that President EISENHOWER would grant executive clemency to MORTON SOBELL, which was followed by a silent prayer by those in attendance. Following the prayer, those present paraded in front of the White House for a short period of time. Informant advised that the paraders carried no signs and created no known disturbances. The prayer meeting and demonstration ended at the White House at approximately 6:00 p.m.

[redacted] b7D

On November 20, 1960, [redacted] advised that a reception and banquet was sponsored by the CSJMS at the Hotel Shoreham in Washington, D.C., in connection with a National Freedom Appeal for MORTON SOBELL. The informant advised that the reception and banquet was attended by representatives from all parts of the country, including the PSC. [redacted] advised that he attended this affair and he furnished substantially the same information as [redacted] regarding the reception and banquet. b7D

[redacted] advised on November 28, 1960, that a bus load of approximately 31 Philadelphians left on an excursion to Washington, D.C., on Sunday morning, November 20, 1960, to participate in the National Freedom Appeal being conducted by the CSJMS. The informant advised that the chartered bus from Philadelphia returned during the evening of November 20, 1960. This informant attended and furnished substantially the same information as [redacted] regarding the activities on November 20, 1960. b7D

"The Worker," issue of December 18, 1960, page 12, column 4, under heading "Meeting" announced that the PSC would hold a "Report Back Meeting" on the recent demonstration in Washington on behalf of MORTON SOBELL. According to the announcement, the meeting would be held on December 18, 1960, at the Christian Association Hall, 3601 Locust Street.

"The Worker" is a weekly East Coast Communist publication.

[redacted] advised [redacted] that the PSC sponsored a meeting and exhibition at the Christian Association

b7D

Hall, University of Pennsylvania, 3601 Locust Street, on December 18, 1960. The purpose of this meeting was to hear a report on the events regarding the National Freedom Appeal for MORTON SOBELL. Approximately 27 persons attended this meeting, and Mrs. MILNOR ALEXANDER, a member of the faculty of Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pa., acted as chairman. Mrs. ALEXANDER stated that she attended the rally in Washington, but would let HELEN SOBELL, wife of MORTON SOBELL, furnish the details. She also stated that she had not been associated with the Sobell Committee as long as many of the people in attendance, but upon learning of the facts in this case had become interested and was working toward freedom for MORTON SOBELL. [redacted] advised that HELEN SOBELL, the principal speaker, related that the recent rally in Washington, D.C., included representatives from all areas of the United States. She said that during that weekend (November 19-21, 1960) eight ministers and two lawyers attempted to see President EISENHOWER at the White House to present him with volumes of signatures, including 1500 clergymen, who were requesting freedom for MORTON SOBELL. She said the delegation was unable to see the President, but met with the White House Chaplain who took the volumes of signatures and stated that he would refer them to the Department of Justice. Mrs. SOBELL stated that the crowd at the Washington, D.C., rally was an inspiration to her. She also mentioned that while in Alcatraz Prison her husband had not been permitted to receive Christmas packages, but after being transferred to the Atlanta Penitentiary, he was permitted to receive Christmas packages, a Bible, and other reading matter. She stated that she and her two children planned to visit MORTON SOBELL for two hours on Christmas Day and two hours on New Year's Day. b7D

The informant advised that following Mrs. SOBELL's speech, a collection was made but the amount realized was not announced. During this collection a plea was also made for volunteers to help the PSC in its work, but the informant stated that no one was observed to respond.

[redacted] advised on December 21, 1960, the PSC sponsored a meeting at the Christian Association Hall, University of Pennsylvania, 3601 Locust Street, on December 18, 1960. This informant attended and furnished substantially the same information as [redacted] regarding this affair. b7D

[redacted] the PSC sponsored an exhibit called "Americans' Appeal for Morton Sobell," at 2 p.m. at the Christian Association Building of the University of Pennsylvania, 3601 Locust Street, on December 18, 1960. This exhibit consisted of newspaper and periodical clippings, as well as photostat copies of appeals and letters sent by MORTON SOBELL to members of his family. Informant stated that during the afternoon HELEN SOBELL greeted those entering the auditorium by introducing herself. [redacted] b7D

PUBLICATIONS

[redacted] furnished the following items made available at an exhibit sponsored by the PSC entitled "Americans' Appeal for Morton Sobell" and held at 3601 Locust Street on December 18, 1960: b7D

1. Pamphlet "An Urgent Public Issue: Freedom for Morton Sobell," setting forth an appeal of a number of prominent individuals for the release of MORTON SOBELL.

2. Leaflet "A Prayer for Freedom at the White House," dated November 20, 1960.

3. A press release dated November 20, 1960, "Excerpts From a Talk by Professor Thomas I. Emerson of the Yale Law School scheduled for delivery at a Panel Discussion on the Morton Sobell Case at the Hotel Shoreham on November 20, 1960."

4. Press release dated December 16, 1960, captioned "Text of Appeal for Morton Sobell," signed by 1500 clergymen and a listing of those from Pennsylvania who have participated.

5. A press release dated December 16, 1960, captioned "Text of an Appeal by Pennsylvanians in Behalf of Morton Sobell" and a listing of those who have signed as individuals.

6. A press release dated December 16, 1960, issued by the CSJMS captioned "Pennsylvania Educators and Clergymen in Two Appeals for Morton Sobell," referring to items 4 and 5, above

7. Flyer and reprints from newspapers captioned "University Students Discuss the Facts in the Case of Scientist Morton Sobell."

8. Reprint from "The New Republic," December 5, 1960, issued by the CSJMS.

[redacted] furnished the following items [redacted] b7D

1. Pamphlet entitled "A National Appeal for Freedom," issued by the CSJMS, 940 Broadway, New York 10, N.Y.

2. A leaflet captioned "A Christmas Miracle--Freedom for Morton Sobell." This leaflet invites recipients to hear HELEN SOBELL on Sunday, December 18, 1960, at the Christian Association, University of Pennsylvania, 3601 Locust Street. This leaflet was issued by the PSC, and the address of the organization was listed as 2708 West Sterner Street.

CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

CPEPD

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] b7D

[redacted] advised that THOMAS NABRIED was, as of this date, Chairman of the CPEPD. b7D

[redacted] b7D

PH T-17 advised on November 1, 1960, that a meeting of the District Executive Committee, CPEPD, was held on November 1, 1960, at 1345 West Susquehanna Avenue. During this meeting it was brought out that the CSJMS had done a good job nationally in reaching people whom they had been unable to reach previously, particularly certain educators. According to the informant, it was also announced that the CSJMS had called a conference to be held in Washington, D.C., November 19-21, 1960, with a banquet to be held on the evening of November 19, 1960. A panel discussion and a march to the White House was scheduled for November 20, 1960, and visits to senators and congressmen would wind up the demonstration on November 21, 1960. According to the informant, it was stated that the New York CP had decided to send people to Washington on November 19, 1960, and the Philadelphia CP had accepted the responsibility of sending delegates to Washington on November 20, 1960. It was further stated that buses were scheduled to leave Philadelphia at 9:30 a.m., November 20, 1960, and the round trip fare would be $6.00 per person.

PH T-17 advised that it was also brought out at this meeting that the PSC was sponsoring an affair to raise funds to help defray expenses for persons travelling to Washington, D.C. This affair was scheduled to be held in Philadelphia on November 5, 1960. PH T-17 added that before the meeting concluded, it was suggested that the CPEPD also sponsor some type of affair to help raise funds for this purpose.

[redacted] advised [redacted] that a meeting of the [redacted] CPEPD, was held [redacted] The informant stated that an announcement at this meeting concerned the freedom campaign for MORTON SOBELL scheduled to be held in Washington, D.C., November 19-21, 1960. Those present were urged to attend and to bring along their friends. b7D

[redacted] reported that the [redacted] CPEPD, met [redacted] THOMAS NABRIED, Chairman, CPEPD, attended this meeting and announced a National Appeal for Freedom would be conducted in Washington, D.C., over the weekend November 19-21, 1960, on behalf of MORTON SOBELL. He stated that Philadelphia will participate in this Appeal on Sunday, November 20, 1960, and the cost per person would be $6.00. NABRIED added that JEAN FRANTJIS was in charge of the arrangements in Philadelphia. [redacted] b7D

[redacted] advised [redacted] that a meeting of the [redacted] CPEPD, was held [redacted] It was announced at this meeting that all CP clubs in Philadelphia have been requested to select at least one person from each club to attend the National Appeal for Freedom in Washington, D.C. The clubs were also requested to pay the member's expenses, if necessary. b7D

[redacted] b7D

"The attitude of 'The Worker' towards the struggle for the freedom of MORTON SOBELL is hard to understand as to explain to many of our friends, sympathizers and comrades: particularly those active in that fight.

"On the week end of November 19-20 and Monday, No. 21st, professionals, liberals, religious leaders, etc.,

"will go to Washington, to seek ways of winning freedom for MORTON SOBELL. More than 1,000 ministers have gone on record to free this victim of the cold war. Their names, as well as those of leading educators, college professors, and prominent Americans who have recently recognized this terrible in justice, will be presented to President EISENHOWER.

"The American Friend Service Committee, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and scores of other organizations have spoken out. As ROGER BALDWIN has placed it - 'It is time to stop calling for justice for MORTON SOBELL, there is no justice in this case - we must demand freedom.'

"The ROSENBERG - SOBELL frame up was a barbaric signal for unleasing MC CARTHYITE terror throughout the country. The continued incarceration of SOBELL keep alive the bestial threat of Mc Carthyism.

"The winning of freedom for MORTON SOBELL would be a smashing blow to the most reactionary fascist elements and would immeasurably advance the cause of freedom for all other political prisoners, precisely because of this it is difficult to comprehend the indifference by 'The Worker.' Not even an announcement of this week end's activities has been printed in our paper. Other papers, such as the 'Guardian,' 'The Militant,' etc., have had lengthy articles and called for support. While Communists have played a most important role in keeping the struggle alive - have devoted their energies in mobilizing broad sections of support - this is not reflected in 'The Worker.'

"I sincerely hope that 'The Worker' staff will examine it role in this struggle and help give stimulus to broadening the fight. While broad support has been won on certain levels, it is mass action that is needed to push this fight forward. We could well have helped make this week end a real mass demonstration with far greater impact.

"I hope that I do not sould unduly critical for in many ways our paper has been doing an excellent job and is indispensible to us in our work. We are bringing in $100 and will supplement it with more this coming week.

[redacted]

b7d

The "Militant" is the weekly publication of the SWP.

The "National Guardian" is characterized in the Appendix section of this report.

[redacted] advised [redacted] CPEPD, met [redacted] At this meeting THOMAS NABRIED discussed the Freedom Appeal held in Washington, D.C., November 19-21, 1960, under the auspices of the CSJMS. NABRIED mentioned that approximately 250 attended this weekend demonstration. He also said the activities in connection with the SOBELL case were good, but the only way anything productive can be done in this case is through pressure from the masses.

b7D

[redacted] At this meeting JEAN MANTIJIS announced that she and "others" managed to secure the Christian Association Hall at the University of Pennsylvania to help plead the MORTON SOBELL case. She said that a meeting in this regard would be held on December 18, 1960, at 2 p.m. She urged all present to attend this affair.

b7D

Philadelphia Jewish Cultural Clubs (PJCC)

The Sholem Aleichem Club, which is affiliated with the PJCC, is characterized in the appendix section of this report.

[redacted] advised on October 17, 1960, a meeting of the Sholem Aleichem Club was held on October 15, 1960, at the Germantown Jewish Community Center, Lincoln Drive and Ellet Street. Approximately 200 persons attended this affair. The

b7D

informant advised that before the affair concluded, it was announced that the PSC would conduct a meeting in Philadelphia on November 5, 1960, which would feature HELEN SOBELL, the wife of MORTON SOBELL. Those present were urged to attend this meeting.

Philadelphia Social Science Forum Committee (PSSFC)

The PSSFC is characterized in the appendix section of this report.

[redacted] advised on [redacted], the PSSFC sponsored an affair on November 18, 1960, at the Adelphia Hotel, 13th and Chestnut Streets. Approximately 40 persons attended this affair which featured CLAUDE LIGHTFOOT, Vice Chairman of the CPUSA. The informant advised that at this meeting JEAN FRANTJIS also spoke on a mass appeal to be conducted in Washington, D.C., over the weekend of November 19-21, 1960, demanding the release of MORTON SOBELL from federal detention. FRANTJIS stated that Philadelphia's participation in this Appeal would be on Sunday, November 20, 1960, and she urged those present to attend. FRANTJIS also mentioned that the round trip to Washington, D.C., via bus and other expenses would be $6.00 per person. b7D

[redacted] advised on [redacted] the PSSFC sponsored a meeting at the Adelphia Hotel in Philadelphia on November 18, 1960. This informant attended and furnished substantially the same information as reflected in the preceding paragraph. b7D

PH 100 37667

PH

Chec

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June 1953, the Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered around Morton Sobell,' the Rosenbergs' codefendent. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case - a communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and taken as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case' . . . "

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 60.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The 1959-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York.

NATIONAL GUARDIAN

The "Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications," revised and published as of January 2, 1957, by the Committee on Un-American Activities, U. S. House of Representatives, documents the organization "National Guardian" as follows:

> "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).

PH 100 8764

JEWISH PROGRAM SERVICE COMMITTEE
formerly the Jewish Publication and
Cultural Committee, Jewish Publication
and Research Committee (and affiliated
clubs and societies), known locally as
Philadelphia Jewish Cultural Clubs;
Jewish Cultural Clubs of Philadelphia

A source on 7/30/57 advised as follows:

The Philadelphia Jewish Cultural Clubs (PJCC), aka Jewish Cultural Clu of Philadelphia, were formed in the spring months of 1954. Actually, the basis the formation of the PJCC was laid in the fall months of 1953 when it appeared certain that the International Workers Order (IWO) would be dissolved pursuant t an order of liquidation by the New York state courts.

SOL ROTENBERG, former Executive Director, Philadelphia Jewish People's Fraternal Order (JPFO), IWO, in late 1953 laid the groundwork for the formation the PJCC, using as a nucleus former JPFO, IWO members. In early 1954, he provid leadership in the establishment of the PJCC and also set up the Co-ordinating Committee, PJCC, composed of delegates from the Culture Clubs of the PJCC. The purpose of this committee was to provide leadership, long-range planning and co-ordination of the activities of the various culture clubs.

A second source on 6/21/54, advised that SOL ROTENBERG was a member of the Philadelphia City Committee, CPEPD, as of June 1954. On 4/1/57, this source advised that as of March 1957, ROTENBERG was a member of the District Committee, CPEPD.

A third source advised on 5/27/60, that the PJCC continues to be activ in Philadelphia with the Sholem Aleichem Club being the largest, most active and aggressive in the PJCC with a membership of more than 125 people. The source further advised that the following cultural clubs are also active in Philadelphi but do not have the large membership of the Sholem Aleichem Club:

Wynnefield Jewish Culture Club
Uptown Mutual Aid Society
North East Culture Club

The Strawberry Mansion Culture Club is presently inactive.

The IWO and the Jewish People's Fraternal Order have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

PH

PHILADELPHIA SOBELL COMMITTEE

On 1/23/53 [redacted] to [redacted] Philadelphia Police Department, advised that by letter dated 10/10/52, the Philadelphia Police Department had received notification of a meeting under the sponsorship of the Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case to be held in Philadelphia on 10/14/52. b7d

On 4/14/53, [redacted] Division of Solicitations, Department of Public Instructions, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, 812 Blackstone Building, Harrisburg, Pa., advised that by letter dated 2/17/53, JEAN D. FRANTJIS, as Executive Secretary of the Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa., had advised the Division of Solicitations that the Philadelphia Committee was an affiliate of the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, and that the purpose of the local committee was to solicit money to be used to meet expenses in carrying on appeals in the Rosenberg Case and maintaining the Rosenberg children.

Literature issued by the Committee on the dates indicated reflects the following variations of the names of the Philadelphia Committee which have been utilized:

2/11/53	Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa.
10/14/53	Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg-Sobell Case, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa.
10/19/53	Philadelphia Rosenberg-Sobell Committee, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa.
7/8/54	Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case, Post Office Box 805, Philadelphia, Pa.

PH

On 3/14/56, a source advised that the Philadelphia Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case was being disbanded because of a lack of funds and a lack of activity on the part of the Committee.

On [redacted] source advised that on 4/7/58, a meeting was held in Philadelphia to re-establish this Committee in Philadelphia, and that the Committee would be called the Philadelphia Sobell Committee. b7d

Another source advised on 5/29/60, that the Philadelphia Sobell Committee continues to operate as a local affiliate of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. It is a non-membership organization which conducts its activities through a Planning Committee consisting of no set number of people, usually eight to twelve individuals. PEARL CHERTOV is the Chairman of the Philadelphia Sobell Committee, and JEAN D. FRANTJIS takes a leading role in the Planning Committee activities.

A third source advised on 5/26/60, that as of that date PEARL CHERTOV was the Organizer of the Philadelphia Branch of the Socialist Workers Party.

The fourth source advised on 11/30/59, that JEAN D. FRANTJIS attended the two-day District Convention of the CPEPD held at Philadelphia, Pa., on 11/28-29/59.

PHILADELPHIA SOCIAL SCIENCE FORUM COMMITTEE (PSSFC)

[redacted] The source stated the PSSFC was merely a paper organization, and this series of forums was organized by the District Education Commission (CPEPD) and had to be approved by the District Committee, CPEPD, before being put into effect. b7d

This source advised [redacted] that the PSSFC remained under the control of the District Education Commission, CPEPD. [redacted] b7d

[redacted] advised [redacted] that a new series of PSSFC forums would be held on the second Friday of each month, beginning 11/13/59, and running through May 1960, at the Adelphia Hotel, Philadelphia. [redacted] b7d

This source further advised on 5/24/60, that the final forum of the current series is scheduled for May 27, 1960. Interest has waned, and no plans exist at the present time for resumption of the forum series in the fall of 1960. The source reported that DANIEL RUBIN, who was largely responsible for the success of the PSSFC, in January 1960, was appointed National Youth Secretary, CPUSA, and no one has shown the same interest in promoting the PSSFC.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

100-37667

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

February 28, 1961

Title	COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL
Character	INTERNAL SECURITY - C; INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950
Reference	Report of SA [redacted] dated February 28, 1961, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

b7c

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

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835) 3/1/61

SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111)

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR
MORTON SOBELL
IS-C
ISA-50
(OO: NY)

ReBulet, 2/8/61, which requested information concerning the effectiveness of a photographic surveillance conducted 11/19/60, by the NYO, on the National Headquarters of captioned organization.

On 11/19/60, a photographic surveillance was maintained on the headquarters of the Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL (CSJMS), 940 Broadway, NYC, in order to determine the identities of those individuals traveling via chartered bus to Washington, D.C., to participate in a "clergy rally". 116 photographs were obtained [redacted] b7E

Informants of the NYO, active in the affairs of the CSJMS, have identified 14 individuals in these photographs as being identical with persons known to them. It is to be noted all 14 persons were previously the subject of case files in the NYO. [redacted] b7D

2 - Bureau (100-387835)
1 - New York (100-107111)

PHS:mcc
(3)

Searched
Serialized
Indexed
Filed

RPM

100-107111-437

It is not felt that the photographic surveillance was of great effectiveness since this investigative technique resulted in the direct identification of 2 individuals, has having attended the Washington, D.C. rally, which 2 individuals would not have been otherwise identified as having attended.

It is to be noted that the album containing the photographs is currently being exhibited to all logical informants of the NYO who are active in the CP and other Communist front groups in order to determine if any of the individuals photographed as participating is active in the affairs of the CP or other Communist front groups, but not previously connected with the CSJMS. Since the above conclusion is based on an incomplete survey, if it is felt upon completion of this canvassing of the remaining informants that the results indicate greater effectiveness of this investigative technique, the Bureau will be so advised.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4380 DATE 3-1-61

CONSISTING OF 2 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant to Executive Order 11652 as it contains information which would disclose an intelligence source. This serial bears the Classification Officers number [redacted].

3/1/61

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
IS-C;
ISA, 1950
(OO: NY)

[redacted] b1

[redacted] b1

NY Indices reflect a [redacted] on one FREDERICK LUDWIG HOLBORN aka Fred Holborn [redacted] No derogatory information therein. b2c

The letterhead memorandum is being classified confidential inasmuch as unauthorized disclosure of the information contained therein would jeopardize the position of the informant and such could have an adverse effect upon the national defense interests of the country.

100-107111-4381

[redacted] (RM) b1

SEARCHED ___ INDEXED ___
SERIALIZED ___ FILED ___
MAR 1 1961
FBI, NEW YORK

[redacted] b2c

JAH:[illegible]
(7)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CONFIDENTIAL

1 - Supervisor #41

NY 100-107111

EXEMPT FROM GDS, CATEGORY 3
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4384 DATE 3-2-61

CONSISTING OF 7 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant to Executive Order 11652 as it contains information which would disclose an intelligence source. This serial bears the Classification Officers number [redacted].

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4386 DATE 3-6-61

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has bern given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

SAC, NEW YORK (97-169) 3/6/61

SA [redacted] b7c

PUBLISHERS NEW PRESS, INC.
IS-C; ISA-50

Identity of Informant	NY 2471-S* (Conceal and paraphrase)
Characterization	Who has furnished reliable information in the past
Date	2/28/61

According to the informant, an unidentified woman contacted offices of "The Worker" on 2/28/61, to advise that she had been holding items for "The Worker" bazaar for several weeks and no one has picked them up. She was told that the bazaar has been held and that all the material not sold, has been turned over to the Sobel Committee, which Committee is now organizing a bazaar.

1-NY (100-107111) (SOBEL COMMITTEE) (41)
1-NY (97-169) (415)

HGO:rmv
(2)

100-107111-4388

[redacted]
b7c

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

New York, New York
March 6, 1961

Bufile 100-387835

[redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

Re: Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell

[redacted]

b1

[redacted]

b1

A characterization of the CSJMS is attached hereto.

[redacted] BY 4913 AP/GHH 2-24-78
[redacted]
[redacted] OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

[redacted]

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

CONFIDENTIAL

[redacted] 100-107111-4389

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell,' the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg case - a communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case' ....

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 60.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The 1959-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York.

3/6/61

AIRTEL

CO[redacted]

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835) CO[redacted]TIAL

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
IS-C
ISA-50
(00:NY)

[redacted] b1

The letterhead memorandum is being classified "Confidential" inasmuch as unauthorized disclosure of the information contained therein would jeopardize the position of the informant and such could have an adverse effect upon the national defense interests of the country.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASSIFIED BY 4913 AP/[illegible]
EXEMPT [illegible]
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

CO[redacted]TIAL

[redacted] b1

PHS:[illegible]
(6)

Searched
Serialized
Indexed
Filed

1-Supervisor #41

100-107111-4390

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104-01

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111) DATE: 3/8/61

FROM : SA [redacted] b7c

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR
MORTON SOBELL
IS-C

On [redacted] viewed an album of photographs of individuals which photographs were secured on 11/19/60, of individuals attending a bus ride to Washington, D.C. to participate in activities of captioned organization. b7d

At this time the informant identified the following photographs to SA [redacted] b7c

Photo #	Individual
50	KURT SCHNEIDER
68B	KURT SCHNEIDER
84C	KURT SCHNEIDER
118	REBECCA LERNER
207	KURT SCHNEIDER

Information furnished by [redacted] b7c

[redacted] b7c,d

1-NY 100-107111 (41)

PHS:ume
(4)

100-107111-4391

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
MAR 8 1961
FBI - NEW YORK

SAC, NEW YORK (100-118948) 3/10/61

SA [redacted] b7c

MAX SEBORER, aka
IS-R

Source	NY 1671-S*
Reliability	Who has furnished reliable info in the past
Date of Activity	3/3/61
Date Received	3/3/61

BIRDIE IRVING told the subject that she had been interviewed that day for a job on a research project in pharmacology at the Downstate Medical Center, Kings County Hospital. This job would pay $125 per week and BIRDIE'S interview was arranged through CELIA'S brother in law (Dr. [illegible] SHAPIRO). IRVING is working at this time as a secretary in the law firm of [illegible]din, Cohn and Glickstein where she is assigned to a "bright young attorney who is very good in his views...." CELIA invited IRVING to the SEBORER apartment on Saturday night (3/11/61) at 6:00 P.M., for a light supper after which IRVING would accompany the subject and his wife to the party which the Sobell Committee in Sunnyside is giving at the home of HERK DANSKY. IRVING lives at 41-[illegible] 40th St., LIC, NY.

CELIA said that everyone turns out for this affair and assured IRVING that she would meet a lot of her friends there. IRVING accepted.

[redacted]

1 - NEW YORK (100-107111) (COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR WASHINGTON SOBELL (CSJ))

[redacted]

1 - NEW YORK (100-118948)

JFD:vf
(5)

b7c

100-107111-4393

MAR 10, 1961

[redacted]

41

FEDERAL FORM NO. 10

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111) DATE: 3/13/61

FROM : SA [redacted] b7c

SUBJECT: SOBELL COMMITTEE
IS-C

On 2/24/61, [redacted] Chemical Bank New York Trust Company, 5th Avenue and 20th Street, NYC, made available to the writer on a confidential basis the bank records concerning the above captioned account [redacted] A review of the above captioned account reflected no pertinent activity and the balance as of 2/24/61 $763.22. b7D

[redacted] b7D

The above information is not to be made public except in a usual proceeding following the issuance of a subpoena.

The officer to be subpoenaed is [redacted] Chemical Bank New York Trust Company, 5th Avenue and 20th Street, NYC. b7D

[redacted]

1 - New York (100-107111) (41)

AEC:mcc
(2)

b7c

100 - 107111-4394

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
MAR 13 1961
FBI - NEW YORK

41 [redacted]

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
5010-104-01

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111) DATE: 3/15/61

FROM : SAC, ATLANTA (100-4953)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL
IS - C
(OO:NY)

On 2/3/61 [redacted] made available to SA [redacted] the following described items: b7d

(1) Letter dated 1/3/60 from MADALYN MURRAY of Baltimore, Md., which letter was posted 1/5/61. Correspondence was directed to MORTON SOBELL, an inmate at the USP, Atlanta.

(2) Undated letter from V. C. BAIRD, 602 East Fair, Independence, Mo., which was addressed to MORTON SOBELL and posted 1/5/61.

(3) A greeting and note from Rev. JOHN P. JONES, Ashfield, Mass., which was posted at New York City, 1/27/61.

The above items were furnished to the Atlanta Office inasmuch as the above individuals directed correspondence to the subject at the USP, Atlanta, and are not on his approved correspondence list.

The USP does not desire that these items be returned to them and they are enclosed herewith for the respective offices.

2 - New York (RM)
2 - Baltimore (100-15241)(Enc. 1)(RM)
2 - Boston (100-27290)(Enc. 1)(RM)
2 - Kansas City (Enc. 1)(RM)
1 - Atlanta

100 - 107111-4397

AFM/aab
(9)

[redacted]

b7c

Form
-243 (Rev. 5-22-55)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
PORTLAND	NEW YORK	3/15/61	3/20-13/61

TITLE OF CASE	REPORT MADE BY	TYPED BY
COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL	[redacted] b7c	msr

CHARACTER OF CASE

IS - C;
ISA of 1950

SYNOPSIS:

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] 9/15/60, at b7c
Portland.

- P* -

ADMINISTRATIVE

This report is classified confidential since data reported from [redacted] could reasonably result in the identification of confidential informants who are of continuing value and compromise future effectiveness thereof. b2

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

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE: 5 - Bureau (100-387835)(RM) 2 - New York (100-107111)(RM) [illegible] - [illegible], Portland (RM) 1 - ONI, Seattle (RM) 1 - OSI, Seattle (RM) 2 - Portland (100-9004)	[redacted] b7c	100-107111 - 4399

Converted 3/30/61
per O-17 dated 3/25/61

FD 200-9004

INFORMANTS

Identity	Location
ID T-1 is [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
ID T-2 is [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
ID T-3 is [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
ID T-4 is [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
ID T-5 is [redacted] b7D	[redacted]
[redacted] b1	b1 [redacted]

CHARACTERIZATION

[redacted] Portland Sobell Committee Characterization

LEAD [redacted] b2

PORTLAND

AT PORTLAND, OREGON Will continue to follow the activities of instant committee in the Portland area.

FD-204 (Rev. 3-3-59)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Copy to: 2 - G-2, Portland (RM)
1 - ONI, Seattle (RM)
1 - OSI, Seattle (RM)

Report of: [redacted] b7C Office: PORTLAND, OREGON
Date: 3/15/61

Field Office File #: 100-9004 Bureau File #: 100-387835

Title: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character: INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT of 1950

Synopsis: JOHN HOWARD LAWSON, Hollywood writer and active member of CP, addressed meeting sponsored by Sobell Committee in Portland 10/14/60.

- P* -

DETAILS:

[redacted] said that Mrs. ROSE LEOPOLD was distributing a leaflet which announced that JOHN HOWARD LAWSON would address a meeting sponsored by the Sobell Committee in Portland on Friday night, October 14, 1960, at her home, 2033 SE Ash Street, Portland. The leaflet stated that LAWSON would speak on the subject of "Contemporary Drama at Home and Abroad." The leaflet described LAWSON as a noted author, lecturer, and drama critic, and it noted at the bottom that the meeting was sponsored by the Oregon Committee for Sobell. It likewise pointed out that a contribution of $1 was expected. b7D

It will be recalled that [redacted] Mrs. LEOPOLD [redacted] identified herself as chairman of the Committee for Sobell in Portland and that further Mrs. LEOPOLD has been virtually a one man committee for some years. In addition, it likewise will be recalled that [redacted] a letter was mailed out in Oregon in the summer of 1960 over the name of ROSE LEOPOLD as chairman. b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF classification
DATE 2/25/78 GH/

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

On [redacted] identified JOHN HOWARD LAWSON as a Hollywood writer and an active member of the Communist Party in Los Angeles. b7D

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

[redacted] said that the above meeting was held as scheduled on October 14, 1960, at Mrs. LEOPOLD's home with about 30 persons in attendance. Each paid an admission of $1. Informant noted however, that at no time during the remarks of LAWSON or throughout the meeting was any mention made of MORTON SOBELL, the Sobell Committee, the purpose of the meeting and fund raising, or the meeting's sponsors. ROSE LEOPOLD introduced LAWSON and announced the title of his talk, "Contemporary Drama at Home and Abroad." b7D

In his remarks LAWSON confined himself to a review of several plays by various writers. He gave his evaluation of the plays as he described them. He compared the plays and their writers, classing them as to reactionary types and to those that favored the labor movement of their time.

[redacted] b1

[redacted] b1

According to [redacted] "WIDGE" NEWMAN was the organizer of the Sobell Committee in Los Angeles, described by the informant as an affiliate of the national organization. b2

Characterizations of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, nationally and locally, are contained in the appendix attached hereto.

PRIORITY

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL
- SUBVERSIVE ORGANIZATION CHARACTERIZATION

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell,' the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case - a Communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case' ...."

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 60.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The 1959-1960 Borough of Manhattan telephone directory lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York.

PD 100-9058

PORTLAND SOBELL COMMITTEE

During May, 1960, sources familiar with the Portland Sobell Committee reported that since 1952 this group remains unorganized, has no official membership, and its activities are centered around Mrs. ROSE LEOPOLD, Portland, Oregon. LEOPOLD is known to these sources as a member of the Communist Party (CP). The Portland Sobell Committee, according to these sources, becomes active only on the occasion of appearances in the Portland area of visiting Sobell Committee functionaries.

A source has advised that a September, 1959, report on a western regional tour made by HELEN SOBELL, wife of MORTON SOBELL, disclosed the Portland Sobell Committee is included in the Western Region of the Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL.

F.D. 323 (3-28-60)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Portland, Oregon
March 15, 1961

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Title COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

Character INTERNAL SECURITY - C; INTERNAL SECURITY ACT of 1950

Reference Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 15, 1961, at Portland. b7c

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

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4401 DATE 3-15-61

CONSISTING OF 3 PAGES

OF WHICH PAGES 1-2 ARE

[redacted] exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(1) as it has been classified pursuant to Executive Order 11652 as it contains information which would disclose an intelligence source. This serial bears the Classification Officers number [redacted].

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in June 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell,' the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg case - a communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October 1953 and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg case' ...."

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated January 2, 1957, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 50.)

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100-107111-4401

3/15/61

AIRTEL REGISTERED

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835)

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-107111)(41)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR
MORTON SOBELL
IS - C; ISA-1950
(OO: NY)

[redacted] b1

One copy of this airtel and letterhead memorandum is being furnished to the Philadelphia Office in view of the addressee.

[redacted] b1

[redacted] b1

JARsfd (41)
(7)

100-107111-4402

SEARCHED ____ INDEXED ____
SERIALIZED ____ FILED ____
MAR 15 1961

[redacted] b2c

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4403 DATE 3-16-61

CONSISTING OF 9 PAGES

is exempt from disclosure, in its entirety, under (b)(7)(D) as information contained in this serial would identify an informant to whom an expressed promise of confidentiality has been given. This information includes dates and places of meetings which were attended by a limited number of people known to the informant and/or information from these meetings and situations in which an informant was in close contact with members of these organizations, disclosure of which would reveal his identity.

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387,853) 3/16/61

SAC, PHOENIX (100-4333)

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR
MORTON SOBELL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Re report of SA [redacted] dated 9/16/60, b7C
at Phoenix.

On [redacted] advised SA [redacted] that b7C
there has been no known activities by or on the part of the b7D
SOBELL Committee in Tucson, Arizona, during the past six months.

On [redacted] advised SA [redacted] b7C
and on [redacted] advised SA [redacted] b7D
that there have been no known activities by or on the part of
the SOBELL Committee in Phoenix, Arizona, during the past six
months.

In view of the above no report is being submitted and the Phoenix file is being placed in a pending inactive status for the next six months. Close contact will be maintained with confidential informants of the Phoenix Division so that future activities on the part of the SOBELL Committee can be followed.

2 - Bureau (RM)
2 - New York (100-107111)(RM)
1 - Phoenix

CWE/vlc
(5)

100-107111-4404

[redacted]

b7c

FILE # 100-107111

SUBJECT ROSENBERG/SOBELL COMMITTEE

SERIAL 4405 DATE 3-16-61

CONSISTING OF 1 PAGES

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