

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

January 21, 1942

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

ENT:MAL

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD *JLT*

RE: JOSEPH P. LASH
Internal Security-Hatch Act

With reference to the recent newspaper comments to the effect that Lash has obtained a position with the Office of Civilian Defense, a file review reflects a comprehensive memorandum which indicates that he was affiliated with the American Student Union and the American Youth Congress.

In accordance with your instructions no investigation is being instituted at this time but this matter will be brought to your attention at the end of fifteen days for your further consideration.

Respectfully,

E. W. Timm
E. W. Timm

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DATE 11-7-88 BY SP2 [redacted]

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100-50914-10
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
7 FEB 5 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Memorandum
2-3-42
[initials]*

7/10

2 FEB 10 1942

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OTHERWISE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

Washington, D. C.
February 3, 1942

GNW:ML
100-50914

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: JOSEPH P. LASH,
Internal Security - Hatch Act.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Goshorn	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

A review of the Bureau's files reflects that on November 25, 1941, a summary memorandum reflecting all pertinent information concerning the above-captioned subject was made available to Mr. Rhea Whitley, of the Office of Naval Intelligence, for his assistance, as Mr. Lash at that time was being investigated as a result of his application for a commission in the Naval Reserve.

In connection with recent newspaper publicity to the effect that Mr. Lash was employed by the Federal Government, arrangements were made with Mr. R. R. Roach, of the Bureau, to determine from the Office of Naval Intelligence whether any investigation had been made by that Agency. Mr. Roach has advised me that the inquiry conducted by the Office of Naval Intelligence consists of one large report and that most of the material contained therein is a restatement of the information appearing in the Bureau's summary memorandum, together with frequent references made concerning Lash in the various Dies Committee reports on un-American propaganda activities. As only one copy of the report was prepared, Mr. Roach stated it would be impossible to have another one made. On January 20, 1942, however, he did obtain a synopsis of this report, the original of which is attached hereto for inclusion in the Bureau file.

There is also attached a news item appearing in the Washington Daily News for January 22, 1942, advising that Mr. Lash was questioned by the Dies Committee on the night of January 21, 1942, this having been arranged by Mrs. Roosevelt in an effort to have Mr. Lash obtain a commission in the Navy's intelligence service.

RECORDED
100-50914-
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 5 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

As you have indicated, no investigation is being made in this case at this time under the provisions of Public Law No. 135, 77th Congress.

Respectfully,

Galen M. Willis
Galen M. Willis

2 FEB 10 1942

Attachments

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

Section 552

Section 552a

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

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At First Lady's Behest:

Lash, Seeking Commission, Questioned by Dies Group

By DANIEL M. KIDNEY



Mr. Lash

Joseph P. Lash, the seasoned youth leader from New York City, spent several hours in secret session with the Dies Committee last night.

His appearance is said to have been arranged by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who has been trying to get Mr. Lash a commission in the Navy's intelligence service. He is a frequent White House guest.

So far, the Navy has turned him down. The Dies Committee has a long record on his affiliation with and leadership of allegedly Communist and pacifist organizations.

The story, as it leaked from the committee, was that Mrs. Roosevelt

sent for Chairman Martin Dies (D., Tex.) and had a two-hour conference regarding her protege. The purpose of the conference, it is said, was to arrange for Mr. Lash to appear before the committee and correct his record there, in order to facilitate his getting a Navy commission.

OUTCOME UNCERTAIN

After a postponement yesterday afternoon, Chairman Dies had Mr. Lash appear before the committee around dinner-time.

Whether the result will be a whitewashing of his "pink" record has not been learned.

The Office of Naval Intelligence is the Navy's highly confidential counter-espionage service.

Mr. Lash has always denied he ever was a Communist Party member. After the Stalin-Hitler pact he split with the Communist leadership in the American Student Union, of which he was executive secretary.

On Oct. 9, 1939, Oliver Kenneth Goff, an ex-Communist, told the Dies Committee he knew Mr. Lash to be a Communist. He said the latter attended the eighth convention of the Young Communist League in New York City as a member-at-large.

ARTICLE IN EXHIBITS

Dies Committee exhibits include an article Mr. Lash wrote in 1937 for the magazine *Champion*.

"American youth," Mr. Lash wrote, "does not intend to lay down its life in shellholes around Shanghai or Timbuctoo. The program of the ASU states that 'we will not support any war which the United States Government may undertake' for we recognize that such a war would be imperialist in character."

"The ASU means business by that declaration. That is why it carried thru the anti-war strike last spring which enlisted the support of 500,000 students. For the strike against war is a dress rehearsal of what we intend to do in a war crisis."

In *The New Masses*, Communist

monthly, Mr. Lash wrote in 1936 an article urging the use of labor unionism for "achieving a mass struggle against capitalism as a whole."

Between Jan. 11 and May 28, 1938, the Communist Daily Worker reported his activities on at least 12 occasions. Earl Browder cited his leadership in the American League Against War and Fascism, terming him a Socialist. But according to his own testimony before the Dies Committee, during a former appearance unarranged by Mrs. Roosevelt, Mr. Lash resigned from the Socialist Party in 1937 because it was

"subordinating the interest of the people as a whole in the interests of factional considerations within the left."

He was co-author of a book called "War Our Heritage." The book, as advertised in the Communist International of November, 1936, dealt with "the deep-seated anti-war sentiment and activity in the universities today . . ."

Some years ago Mr. Lash took the "Oxford oath," promising not to support the United States in any war.

But now, apparently, he wants a uniform—an officer's uniform.

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DATE 11-7-88 BY SP7 [redacted]

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DATE 11-7-88 BY SP7 [REDACTED]

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Section 552a

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February 3, 1942

COMMUNICATED
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Director of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for your information and whatever consideration deemed appropriate are copies of a Western Union telegram addressed to Honorable Francis Maloney, United States Senator, by Reverend George G. Guinness of West Hartford, Connecticut.

I have informed the Senator of this reference.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

cc - Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department
Washington, D. C.

RECORDED

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
42 FEB 7 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ FEB 5 1942 ★
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Holloman _____

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W

JOE LASH

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DATE 11-7-88 BY SP [redacted]

New York City, Jan. 19, 1942

The statements which have appeared in recent months and weeks about Mr. Joseph P. Lash, general secretary of the United States Committee of International Student Service, are a matter of deep concern to this committee. These statements involve not only Mr. Lash but, by implication, the general position of the committee.

The International Student Service, founded in 1920, embarked on its present program two years ago. The purpose of this program has been to acquaint students, through free discussion, with the traditions and needs of democratic society and thereby to strengthen their devotion to our governmental system. In November, 1940, Mr. Lash was elected to be general secretary. At the time of his election the members of the executive committee were aware of his former political affiliations. They also knew that he had separated from his former associates because he had become convinced that their beliefs were not compatible with the preservation of the American way of life.

In our association with Mr. Lash we have every reason to know that he subscribes whole-heartedly to the traditions and beliefs of our democratic society. Our success with a large number of students has been in great measure owing to their confidence in him. We consider the attacks on Mr. Lash not only unjust to him but detrimental to the movement which he serves.

- Dr. Alvin Johnson, Chairman
- Mrs. Henry Goddard Leach
- Mrs. Eliot Pratt
- Algernon D. Black
- Dr. Alfred E. Cohn
- Dr. Clyde Eagleton
- Dr. William Fletcher
- Dr. Harry Gideonse
- Dr. Edgar J. Fisher

- Joseph Kruger
- Dr. Max Lerner
- Mrs. David M. Levy
- Mrs. Dwight Morrow
- Dr. William A. Neilson
- Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr
- Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
- Dr. George Shuster
- Robert G. Spivak

100-50914-1
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 FEB 11 19 42
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

New York, Jan. 16, 1942

31708

1942

- ___ Mr. E. A. Tamm
- ___ Mr. Ladd
- ___ Mr. Carson
- ___ Mr. Alden
- ___ Mr. Cunningham
- ___ Mr. Fitch
- ___ Mr. Holloman
- ___ Mr. Kimball
- ___ Mr. Strickland
- ___ Mr. Timm

- ___ Mechanical Division
- ___ Identification Division
- ___ Technical Laboratory
- ___ Crime Statistics

- ___ MR. R. P. KRAMER
- ___ MR. J. K. MUMFORD

___ Mr. _____

SUPERVISORS

- ___ W. H. Alexander
- ___ O. D. Anderson
- ___ T. N. Berry
- ___ R. W. Black
- ___ G. C. Burton
- ___ J. A. Cimperman
- ___ W. S. Crawford
- ___ D. A. Flinn
- ___ J. P. Hyland
- ___ P. F. Kriethe
- ___ R. E. Lanctot

- ___ H. B. Long
- ___ C. C. MacCartee
- ___ K. R. McIntire
- ___ E. P. Morgan
- ___ J. C. Neely
- ___ R. E. Roach
- ___ F. J. Smith
- ___ C. G. Stetter
- ___ D. L. Traynor
- ___ L. Whitson
- ___ E. H. Winterrowd

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- ___ Indicate index references

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8 FEB 17 1942

E. H. WINTERROWD
SUPERVISOR

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

February 12, 1942

RBY:mas

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: JOSEPH P. LASH
INTERNAL SECURITY
HATCH ACT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY SP-1

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

The Washington Post for Thursday, February 12, 1942 carried an article entitled "Fair Enough" by Westbrook Pegler, carrying the subhead, "Mrs. Roosevelt's Private Life". This article was a direct attack upon Mrs. Roosevelt, the wife of the President and accused her of meddling in The Newspaper Guild, which Pegler stated was a Communist organization.

He then stated that Mrs. Roosevelt, in commercializing her office as wife of the President had forfeited the respect people are accustomed to giving one of her position and in so doing she had left herself open for the same criticism he would give any other private citizen.

He further stated Mrs. Roosevelt had been placing her personal friends in Government employ for some time and that the Dies Committee had commented concerning this but had to speak softly lest Mrs. Roosevelt exert her influence to have its appropriation discontinued.

He then commented upon the fact that Mrs. Roosevelt had named one actor, one dancer, and one secretary from her private payroll, to paid positions in the Office of Civilian Defense. He also accused her of appointing one unnamed youth, who was formerly associated in the Communist front. This person was formerly married to "a young campus cutie who had been infected with the Moscow principles" and who celebrated her marriage with a piece in a Muscovite paper entitled, "My Father Was a Liar". He was also stated to be on Mrs. Roosevelt's private payroll of monies derived from her commercialization of the Presidential Office. It is presumed that this person referred to was Joseph P. Lash.

A clipping of this article is being attached to this memorandum for your information.

Respectfully,

RBY
R. B. Yadon, Jr., Special Agent

100-50911-16

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
18 FEB 12 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

February 12, 1942

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

It should be advised that an examination of the Congressional Records of February 6 and February 9, 1942, reveals that the following individuals were charged therein as being members of the Communist, Nazi, or Fascist parties, or previous allegations of membership in such parties are denied:

Record Page	Name	Subversive Organization	Place of Employment	Address (if given)	Allegation	Denial
1134	Justine Wise Polier	Communist	Office of Civ. Defense	-	X	
	Mary Dublin	"	"	-	X	
	Norman Corwin	"	"	-	X	
	George Saunders ✓ <i>on hand list</i>	"	"	-	X	
	Joseph P. Gash ✓ <i>OK</i>	"	"	-	X	
1135	Paul Kellogg	"	"	-	X	
1136	Goodwin Watson ✓ <i>State list case pending</i>	"	Federal Communications Commission	-	X	
	Peter Rhodes	"	"	-	X	
	William E. Dodd, Jr.	"	"	-	X	
1137	Charles A. Gauld ✓ <i>State list case</i>	"	"	-	X	
	Mary Johnson	"	"	-	X	
A-498 (2-9-42)	Melvyn Douglas ✓ <i>on hand list</i>	"	Office of Civ. Defense	-	X	

(Note: The above allegations are from lists furnished by Dies Committee.)

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
W. R. Glavin

10-3044-17

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEB 14 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 11-7-88 BY SP7 [REDACTED]

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____

DML:WGR
Call: 4:35 P.M.
Transcribed: 5:00 P.M.

May 18, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

[Handwritten signature]

Assistant SAC Drayton of the New York Office telephonically advised that [redacted] has been in New York, and he advised Mr. Drayton that he had received information to the effect that Mrs. Roosevelt had thrown a party for Joseph P. Lash at the time he was to enter the Army. The party was apparently held in New York City and Mrs. Roosevelt reportedly supplied an orchestra which cost her \$2,500. [redacted] did not recall the name of the orchestra, but he thought the name was Meyer (phonetic). He further advised Mr. Drayton that he had written the orchestra leader, and the latter had replied that he had been paid \$2,500. [redacted] told Mr. Drayton that when he returned to [redacted] he would get the name of this orchestra leader and furnish the name to [redacted].

[redacted] advised Mr. Drayton that he had given this information to Westbrook Pegler, and Pegler is going to make a "blast" of it and suggest that the \$2,500 could have been spent by buying defense bonds rather than by throwing a party for a young Communist about ready to enter the armed services.

Mr. Drayton stated, in response to my inquiry, that so far he has been unable to find any orchestra leader by the name of Meyer in New York with the exception of some of Meyer Davis's orchestras. Drayton stated that [redacted] has returned to [redacted] and he, Drayton, will call him and ascertain the name of this orchestra leader and then attempt to find where this party was held. Mr. Drayton will advise the Bureau of all information he receives regarding this matter.

Respectfully,

[Handwritten signature]
D. M. Ladd

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FOR DEFENSE



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11-50914-19
MAY 20 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

May 19, 1942

DL:WCR
Call: 4:50 P.M.
Transcribed: 6:00 P.M.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

RE: JOSEPH P. LASH

Handwritten initials: EW

Reference is made to my memorandum to you dated May 19, 1942, concerning a call I received from Acting SAC Drayton of the New York Office, at which time he advised of a conversation he had with [redacted] who informed that Mrs. Roosevelt had thrown a party for Joseph P. Lash prior to the time he was to enter the Army, at which party Mrs. Roosevelt had reportedly supplied an orchestra which cost her \$2,500.

Mr. Drayton telephonically informed me on the afternoon of May 19, 1942, that [redacted] has now informed him that the orchestra at this party was the Meyer Davis Society Orchestra and that the party was held at the Lafayette Hotel on April 25, 1942.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature: D. M. Ladd
D. M. Ladd

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5 MAY 27 1942

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1 MAY 21 1942

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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100-50914-21

September 23, 1942

RECORDED

[REDACTED]
Military Intelligence Division G-2
War Department General Staff
War Department
Washington, D.C.

b7c

Dear **[REDACTED]**

Upon my return to the city, your letter of September 12, 1942 was brought to my attention. The patriotic interest which motivated you to write me in this regard is indeed appreciated.

I want you to know that the content of your letter, which has been carefully noted, is being afforded appropriate consideration by the FBI. In the event that you secure any additional information which you deem to be of interest to us in our work of safeguarding the internal security of our country, I hope you will again communicate with us.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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DATE 11-7-88 BY SP7 **[REDACTED]**

311

SEP 30 1942

WAS:JC
65-1626

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington Field Division, 1435 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

October 27, 1942

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Kramer	.....
Mr. McGuire	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Files	.....

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASSIFIED BY: SP2 [redacted] b7c
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR 11-7-88

Re: SERGEANT JOE LASH
[redacted] b1

Dear Sir:

[Large redacted block]

It is considered possible that this individual may be identical with JOSEPH LASH who has formerly been active in alleged Communist front organizations in New York City and elsewhere.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF
DATE 9/21/78

Very truly yours,

S. K. McKEE
Special Agent in Charge

Classified by 1259
Exempt from GDS Category 2/3
Date of Declassification Indefinite
6-24-78

100-50914-21X

RECORDED & INDEXED
m/68



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
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OTHERWISE

COPY IN FILE EX-10
COPIES DESTROYED 10-15-58

JOSEPH LASH

gjo
f

~~SECRET~~

November 3, 1942

CCM:MTP
100-153593-1

100-50914-211

THE DIRECTOR

RE: SERGEANT JOSEPH LASH
[REDACTED] 415 61

It is felt that the following will be of interest to you.

[REDACTED]

You will recall that Joseph Lash is the individual in whom Mrs. Roosevelt showed extreme interest at the time he was attempting to obtain a commission in the Navy.

Respectfully,

D. H. Ladd

CLASSIFIED BY: SP7 [REDACTED] b7c
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
11-7-88

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

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Classified by 1259
Exempt from GDS Category 2, 3
Date of Declassification Indefinite

6-24-78 [REDACTED] b7c

~~SECRET~~

277
NOV 23 1942

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

November 3, 1942

CCM:MIP
100-153593-1

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. E.A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols ✓
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Kramer
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: SERGEANT JOSEPH LASH

[REDACTED] b1

It is felt that the following will be of interest to you.

[REDACTED] b1

You will recall that Joseph Lash is the individual in whom Mrs. Roosevelt showed extreme interest at the time he was attempting to obtain a commission in the Navy.

Respectfully,

[Signature]
D. M. Ladd

CLASSIFIED BY: *SP3*
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
11-7-88 b2c

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Classified by *1259*
Exempt from GDS, Category *2,3*
Date of Declassification Indefinite



51 NOV 20 1942

100-50914-121x

100-153593-2

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8	NOV 7	1942

RECORDED & INDEXED

FIVE

[Handwritten mark] 9-13

CCM:LVO
100-153593
11/12/42

~~SECRET~~
20

CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Brigadier General Hayes A. Kroner
General Staff
Chief, Military Intelligence Service
War Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Kroner:

CLASSIFIED BY: [redacted]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR 11-7-88

[Large redacted block]

In view of the nature of the above information the same is being made available to you for your attention. It is assumed that the matter will be considered of an extremely confidential nature.

Sincerely yours,

100-50914-21X60

RECORDED

100-153593-73

- Tolson _____
- E. A. Tamm _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Carson _____
- Coffey _____
- Hendon _____
- Kramer _____
- McGuire _____
- Quinn Tamm _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
NOV 16 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 18 1942
RECEIVED ROOM 5648
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED ROOM 5648
NOV 14 11 25 AM '42
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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NOV 23 1942

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287



CWS:NJJ

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
April 6, 1943

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: JOSEPH LASH

On April 4, 1943, Major Calvert of CIG telephonically requested information on a reported conference of the American Youth Congress which was reportedly held in the District of Columbia some time in 1938 or 1939. He stated that at this time it was his understanding that Joseph Lash was the Executive Secretary of this organization and that he had attempted to quarter representatives of the American Youth Congress at Fort Meyer, Virginia. He also indicated that it was his understanding that Mrs. Roosevelt had interceded on behalf of Mr. Lash.

The writer informed him that our files fail to reflect any definite information with reference to the above matter, but that apparently Mr. Lash was personally acquainted with Mrs. Roosevelt. He was informed that a search would be made of the files with reference to the American Youth Congress in order to determine any additional information we may have. Supervisor [redacted] subsequently searched the files and in the absence of Major Calvert, telephonically advised Captain Osgood that our files contained no additional information.

Major Calvert advised that General Strong had requested the above information.

Respectfully,

C. W. Smith
C. W. Smith

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY [redacted]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

100-50917-22



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OTHERWISE

APR 15 1943

58 APR 26 1943

COPIES DESTROYED 1215-58

b7c

b7c

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22
B

JHh:vj

Time of call: 10:50 a.m.

TO : MR. D. H. LADD

DATE: November 9, 1944

FROM : J. C. Strickland

SUBJECT: TRUDE PRATT;
SERGEANT JOE LASH;
SECURITY MATTER - C

b7c
b7D

At this time [redacted] called from New York to bring the Bureau's attention to a comment which appeared in Leonard Lyon's column ("The Lion's Den" - the New York papers) today to the effect that Trude Pratt and Sergeant Joe Lash will be married in the near future and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt will attend as a matron of honor.

You will recall that both Pratt and Lash are well known to us, Pratt having been a particularly close associate for some time of Gertrude Truslow Adams, the writer. Both of these persons have often been mentioned in connection with Communist activities as has Sergeant Joe Lash, and furthermore, Adams and Pratt have been instrumental in furthering agitation for the Nationalist Party of Puerto Rico.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY Sp7 [redacted]

b7c

100-50914-20

~~100-50914-4~~

RECORDED

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OTHERWISE

EX-6

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 23 1944
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

357

Joseph Lash
Jan. 1940 issue of
National Republic
p. 27

LASH, Joseph

100-50914-33
NOT RECORDED
14 JAN 1944

COPIES DESTROYED

27 DEC 18 1973

INDEXED

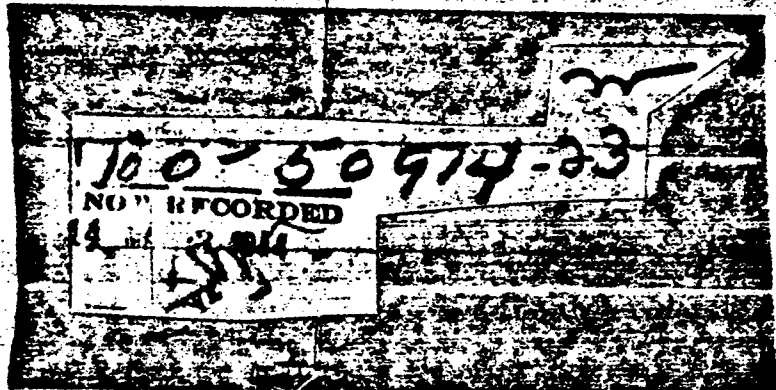
Photo of Joseph Lash



b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY SP2

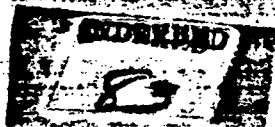
LASH, Joseph



ENCLOSURE

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27 DEC 18 1973

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

New York 7, New York

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-5 [redacted]
5-3-84

January 17, 1946

Director, FBI

CONFIDENTIAL # 289429

Re: JOSEPH P. LASH
Security Matter - C

Dear Sir:

CLASSIFIED BY SP-5 [redacted]
DECLASSIFY ON [redacted]
11-7-88

b7c

This is to advise that on November 13, 1945, this office received two intelligence files from Col. S. V. Constant, Director Security & Intelligence Division, Second Service Command, U.S. Army on the above individual, who was formerly executive secretary of the International Students' Service and nationally known as a leader of the youth movement in the United States, and who publicly admitted Communist beliefs prior to 1939, although claiming to have become anti-Communist subsequent to that time. He is apparently a personal friend of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The two above mentioned files reflect that LASH was inducted into the United States Army by Local Board 19, at 250 Eighth Avenue, New York City, on April 29, 1942; that on approximately May 7, 1942, he arrived at the 579th Technical School Squadron, Training Squadron 55, Air Corps Replacement Training Center, Miami Beach, Florida, as a private under ASN 32326519; that in a letter dated May 10, 1945, from the Adjutant General's office at Washington, D.C., to the Commanding General, Army Service Forces, Washington, D.C., it was stated that, based on a careful investigation by agencies of the War Department, LASH was restricted to non-sensitive duties under the provisions of War Department regulations; that he was placed under surveillance at that center; and that he received telegrams and letters from Mrs. Roosevelt both at that center and at other posts.

The files furnished by Col. Constant also reflected that on May 21, 1942, LASH was assigned to Patterson Field, Ohio; also that according to a UNITED PRESS dispatch from Washington, believed dated May 30, 1945, Assistant Secretary of War JOHN J. McCLOY revealed to a House Military Affairs Subcommittee that LASH served in the South Pacific as a weather observer and forecaster between May, 1943, and November, 1944; that after participating in eighteen operational flights he was returned to the United States to attend an Army course at Lexington, Virginia, in the orientation of troops. After finishing the course he applied for officer candidate school and was rejected. Mr. McCLOY is quoted as stating that on December 29, 1944, the Commander-in-Chief desired orders to be dispatched sending LASH to OCS, unless there were objections other than those arising from his civilian activities; that accordingly LASH was ordered to the Quartermaster Corps OCS;

also that early in 1945 he completed his training and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant at Camp Lee, Virginia. (It should be noted that elsewhere in Col. Constant's file it was indicated that LASH was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on May 18, 1945)

BW:VJA
100-

RECORDED & INDEXED

JAN 17 1946



59 JAN 25 1946 COPIES DESTROYED 10-15-58

CONFIDENTIAL

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) DATE 1/13/84

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Classified by 1257
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite
6-24-88

Army Information is declassified per Army let DTD 10-2-89 by SP-5 [redacted]

(S)XO

5794-24

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Letter - Director
1/9/46
NY 100-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Army
Information
is

Declass. filed
per
Army LTR
DTD 10-18-88
S-3-89
282429

[Col. Constant's files reflected that on July 18, 1945, LASH was transferred to the Station Compliment, Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, in the Quartermaster Corps, and arrived at that station on July 27, 1945, as Second Lieutenant under ASN 01582853. At about the time he was transferred an article appeared in the Chattanooga Times dated July 19, 1945, in which he was referred to as President of the AMERICAN STUDENT UNION in 1938, which has been exposed as a Communist Front by the testimony of LASH himself before the Special Committee on Un-American activities on January 21, 1942.

(S) (S)

b7c

Col. Constant advised that on September 28, 1945, LASH was discharged from the Army in accordance with demobilisation procedure and that he reverted to an inactive status on October 2, 1945. LASH'S last address was shown as 245 West 11 Street, New York City. Col. Constant stated that it is believed that additional information and reports regarding LASH'S activities before January 1, 1945, are contained in the files of the War Department. (S) (S)

The two files have been returned to Col. Constant in accordance with his request, after having been reviewed by this office.

Although LASH has not been the subject of an investigation in the New York office (however, there are numerous references, mostly newspaper clippings, on file on him in this office), and there is nothing in the above-mentioned files to warrant an investigation of him at the present time, the information is being forwarded to the Bureau only for informational purposes, in view of LASH'S past prominence in the public press.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy

E. E. CONROY
SAC

BW:VJA
100-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

(b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

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

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

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

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

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

For your information:

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

100-50914-25

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

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(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

(b)(7)(E)

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(k)(4)

(b)(4)

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(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

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

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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): _____

For your information: _____

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

100-50914-26

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7c

SAC, New York

Director, FBI

JOSEPH LASH, with aliases
SECURITY MATTER - C

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
NOTICE

EX-9

RECORDED
For your information, there is attached a photostatic copy of a report dated October 9, 1947, which the Bureau has received from the Military Intelligence Division of the Department of the Army. According to the information appearing in the Bureau's files, the subject's address when he was discharged was given as 245 West 11th Street, New York 14, New York.

CLASSIFIED BY: SR [redacted] b7c
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR 11-7-88

Enclosure

JEM:esb
100-50914

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-17-88 BY SP7 [redacted]

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
★ DEC 2 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

2 DEC 10 1947 18

5010-109

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

5/9/51

TO: FBI		FROM: DCR		PD - W. E. Duggan	
FULL NAME OF PERSON OR FIRM OLASH, Joseph P.		DATE OF BIRTH Dec 2, 1909		PLACE OF BIRTH NYC	
ALIASES AND NICKNAMES None known to Dept		RACE White		SEX Male	
ADDRESS 245 West 11th St., NYC 14.		OCCUPATION Journalist		EMPLOYER New York Post	
TYPE OF INFORMATION DESIRED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All Information <input type="checkbox"/> Derogatory		CITIZENSHIP STATUS		MAT. CERT. NO.	
			MARITAL STATUS Married		
NAME OF ORGANIZATION			HEADQUARTERS ADDRESS		
REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> Material Attached <input type="checkbox"/> No Record <input type="checkbox"/> No Derogatory Information <input type="checkbox"/> Other		OSTENSIBLE PURPOSE Passport-security			
			NAMES OF LEADERS OR SPONSORS OR AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION <i>NYC</i>		
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION <p style="text-align: right;"><i>R</i></p>					
DATE		CHECKED BY			

Joseph P. Olash - Summary

INDEXED 100-50914-27

NOT RECORDED
10 JUN 28 1951

MAY 11 1951 *[Signature]*

JUL 2 1951

June 14, 1951

A review of the records of this Bureau failed to disclose that any investigation has been conducted by the FBI pertinent to your inquiry. But it has revealed that Joseph P. Lash was at one time associated with the American Student Union. The American Student Union was established at Columbus, Ohio on December 28, and December 29, 1935. It is an amalgamation of two groups: The Student League for Industrial Democracy which was founded in 1905 as the Intercollegiate Socialist Societies and the National Students League which was founded in 1932. In attendance at this convention were 427 delegates of which 362 had voting privileges. It was reported that campus clubs and liberal groups sent 116 delegates while the Communist themselves sent 141 delegates. Among the officers elected was Joseph P. Lash, National Secretary. The second annual convention of the American Student Union was held in Chicago, Illinois on December 28, 1936. The Union reaffirmed its adherence to the so-called Oxford Pledge commonly referred to as the slacker's oath in which they pledged themselves to refrain from bearing even in the defense of the United States against invasion. Among the officers of the American Student Union elected at this convention was Joseph P. Lash of New York, National Secretary. The official publication of the American Student Union was "The Student Advocate" published six times a year at 112 East 19th Street, New York City. Among the officers for 1937 was Joseph P. Lash, Associate Editor. It appears that Joseph P. Lash authored pamphlets such as "The Meaning of the Oxford Pledge" and "War Our Heritage". He apparently collaborated with a James A. Wechsler in the latter pamphlet.

The American Student Union held its Third Annual Convention at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York, on December 27, 1937. Among those elected was Joseph P. Lash, National Secretary. The 1938 officers of the Student Advocate, the official organ of the American Student Union, listed Joseph P. Lash as an associate editor.

Joseph P. Lash was elected National Executive Secretary at the Fourth Annual Convention and the American Student Union held on December 26, 1938. Apparently at the Fourth Annual Convention, Joseph P. Lash made efforts to clarify the position.

JEFo:men

of the American Student Union with reference to the Reserve Officers Training Corps declaring that "Our criticism has been directed, not at the membership of the ROTC but at the anti-labor, anti-democratic bias which the ROTC manuals instructors and exercises have demoted at times. In our effort to safeguard democracy we believe that the members of the ROTC will accept their responsibility along with that of the whole campus". Joseph P. Lash has been described as the former National Secretary of the Student League for Industrial Democracy and a member of the National Student Strike Committee. He has also been described as a member of the Administrative Committee of the American Youth Congress and as a member of the Board of Directors of the American League for Industrial Democracy. He reportedly authored a publication entitled "Toward A 'Close Shop' On the Campus". Reportedly too, he was a member of the Advisory Committee of the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy. He has also been described as a member of the Board of Directors of the Publication entitled "New Frontiers" which was issued by the League for Industrial Democracy. (61-7497-8)

The American Student Union has been cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities.

not to be included { ~~A review of the records of this Bureau disclose that the Department of State has been furnished with a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 6-1-44 at New York, New York, in the case entitled [redacted] was., etc; Security Matter-C" (100-143868-4)~~ } *b2*

The American Student Union was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in its reports of January 3, 1939, at page 80; January 3, 1940, at page 9; June 25, 1942, at page 16; and March 29, 1944, at page 159. It has also been cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its report of 1943, at page 115, by the Massachusetts House Committee on Un-American Activities, in its report of 1938, at pages 77 and 539, and by the Rapp-Coudert Committee in its report of December 1, 1941, at pages 14 and 107, and by the Special Sub-Committee of the House Committee on Appropriations in its report of April 21, 1943, at page 3, the aforementioned North American Committee to aid Spanish Democracy has also been cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in its reports of January 3, 1940, at page 9; and March 29, 1944, at page 146. It has likewise been cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities in its report of 1948, at page 310; and by the Massachusetts House Committee on Un-American Activities in its report of 1938, at pages 395, 562 and 563. A further review of the records of this

Bureau indicated that Joseph Lash, the National Secretary of the American Students Union, testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, on December 1, 1939,

(61-7497-160)

The "Daily Mirror" in New York City for February 13, 1945, carried an article indicating that Mrs. Joseph P. Lash was the former Gertrude Wenzel of Germany, who was once married to Elliott D. Pratt, allegedly, she has been affiliated with liberal if not left winged persons and organizations.

(100-95348-5k)

The above information is furnished for your confidential use only, and is not to be distributed outside of your agency.

Office Memorandum • UNIT : GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 10/2/52

FROM : SAC, New York (100-80298)

SUBJECT: JOSEPH LASH, wa.
SM-C

Re: Bulet to Seattle, 4/1/52, captioned [redacted] aka.; SM-C" (Bufile 100-355330).

In her sworn statement to INS, Seattle, [redacted] identified JOE LASH as National Secretary of the American Students Union in the late 1930's. This individual is identical with captioned subject on whom a closed case file is maintained by the New York office and the Bureau (Bufile number not known).

A review of captioned matter reflects no indication of recent Communist or related activity on the part of LASH and it is not believed that further investigation is warranted under existing Bureau instructions relative to conducting Security investigations as reiterated in Bulet to New York dated 6/10/52 entitled "SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS OF INDIVIDUALS".

Accordingly and UACB no further investigation will be conducted by New York in captioned matter.

In accordance with Bureau instructions in ReBulet, a copy of this letter is designated for San Diego.

- 1 - Bureau (100-355330 - [redacted])
- 1 - San Diego (100-7560)

GHL:KBC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY SP7 [redacted]

RECORDED - 96

100-50914-28
OCT 6 1952
[Handwritten initials]

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OTHERWISE

7-56

NOV 10 1952

67c

Director, FBI

10/2/52

SAC, New York (100-80298)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

JOSEPH LASH, wa.
SM-C

DATE 4-7-88 BY SP7

Re: Bulet to Seattle, 4/1/52, captioned
"aka.; SM-C" (Bufile 100-355330).

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In accordance with Bureau instructions in ReBulet, a copy of this letter is designated for San Diego.

- 1 - Bureau (100-355330 - [redacted])
- 1 - San Diego (100-7560)

GHL:KBC

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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

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

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

(b)(7)(D)

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(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

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

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

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

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

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

- For your information: _____

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

100-50914-29

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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

CONFIDENTIAL

Commissioner
Immigration and Naturalization Service
Director, FBI

May 29, 1953

100-50914-29

JOSEPH LASH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

CLASSIFIED BY: [redacted]
DECLASSIFIED ON: [redacted]

RECORDED 102

Reference is made to the communication of April 29, 1953, from Mr. Raymond F. Farrell, Assistant Commissioner, which contained a request for information as to the citizenship status of the captioned individual, your file # 56324/NSA (3) [redacted]

A review of the records of this Bureau failed to disclose that any investigation has been conducted by the FBI of the individual inquired about. It appears, however, that Joseph Lash is identical with Joseph P. Lash, who was born on December 2, 1909, in New York City. Lash reportedly joined the Socialist Party of the United States in 1929, and resigned therefrom in September, 1937. In his testimony before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 76th Congress, 1st Session, on December 1, 1939, Lash admitted being a member of the Socialist Party during the above years. It further appears that Lash also admitted that he went to Spain in May, 1937, to voluntarily fight for the Loyalist cause. When questioned as to whether his resignation from the Socialist Party crystallized in his mind during his experiences and observations in Spain, Lash stated that it was one of the things that helped crystallize the issue in his mind. He also stated that on his decision of his visit to Spain, he actually did no fighting and returned from Spain in September, 1937. He was not able to advise as to the name of the organization which paid his expenses on the occasion of his visit. In view of the foregoing, however, you may desire to consult the files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities for information relating to Joseph P. Lash.

A further review of the records of this Bureau has indicated that you may desire to consult the files of the Department for information relating to him.

Attached hereto is your file # 29.

This is the result of a request for an FBI file check and is not to be considered as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. It is for your confidential use only and is not to be disseminated to unauthorized individuals.

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

Request received 4-30-53; J.E.F.: [redacted]
94
63 JUN 17 1953

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted] ON 6-24-78

COMM - FBI
MAY 29 1953
MAILED 26

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OTHERWISE

ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) [redacted]

SEE REVERSE
SIDE FOR
CLASSIFICATION
ACTION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-50914

(a review of the records has disclosed a summary of information concerning Joseph P. Lash, which has not been set forth in detail, in view of the fact that he is a native-born citizen. Only so much of that summary is set out above as would indicate that he may have expatriated himself.)

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11-7-89 BY SP7 [REDACTED]

MARCH 25, 1954

SAC, PHILADELPHIA AIR-TEL URGENT

ESPIONAGE IN THE WHITE HOUSE 1934-1942; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE BUREAU IS IN RECEIPT OF A NEWS RELEASE DATED MARCH 20 LAST WHICH STATES THAT PAUL CROUCH, IN A HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE INTERNAL SECURITY SUBCOMMITTEE AT NEW ORLEANS, STATED THAT A WHITE HOUSE ESPIONAGE RING OPERATED FROM 1934 THROUGH 1942 AND THAT MRS. CLIFFORD DURR, WIFE OF THE FORMER FCC COMMISSIONER HAD FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE CONSPIRACY. CROUCH STATED THAT THIS ESPIONAGE RING WAS OPERATED BY JOSEPH GELDERS, ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE NOW DEFUNCT SOUTHERN CONFERENCE FOR HUMAN WELFARE; THE REVEREND MALCOLM DOBBS, ONE TIME OFFICIAL FOR THE CONFERENCE; HOWARD LEE, AN ATTORNEY; JOSEPH LASH, YCL MEMBER; AND GILBERT PARKS, A BUSINESS MANAGER FOR MRS. ROOSEVELT'S MAGAZINE IN 1933. CROUCH STATED THAT THESE PERSONS GAINED ACCESS TO TOP GOVERNMENT INFORMATION FROM VARIOUS OFFICIALS INCLUDING THE PRESIDENT [REDACTED] SAID IF THE PRESIDENT AND HIS WIFE HAD SUSPECTED THE FIVE WERE COMMUNISTS THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN IMMEDIATELY DENIED ACCESS TO THE WHITE HOUSE. [REDACTED]

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Mohr _____
- Trotter _____
- Waterrow _____
- Nease _____

WTW:jdb
65-New
cc - 61-6547
cc - 100-50914
cc - 100-44777
cc - 61-9512
cc - 100-61714
cc - 100-38295

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

YELLOW
DUPLICATE
MAR 25 1954
MAILED

100-50914-
NOT RECORDED
194 MAR 30 1954

b7c, b7d

[REDACTED]

HOOVER

b7c
b7D

L. V. Boardman

A. E. Belmont

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY SP2 [redacted]

ESPIONAGE IN THE WHITE HOUSE, 1944-1948;

[redacted]

Joseph P. Lash

TM

[redacted]

[redacted]

The Bureau has security investigations pending on
a file on Joseph Lash. However, no investigation has ever been
conducted regarding Lash.

[redacted]

Telex Attachment

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

[redacted] Joseph P. Lash

100-50914-1

NOT RECORDED
158 APR 7 1954

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

File

58 APR 12 1954

b7c
b7d

[REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATIONS:

[REDACTED]

(1) [REDACTED] be instructed to reinterview him in this matter for the purpose of pinning him down on his facts and whether or not there is anyone else who could back up his story. In the event that you agree, attached is an airtel to [REDACTED]

(2) That Assistant Director L. E. Nichols obtain [REDACTED]

(3) That Liaison check with IES to see if [REDACTED] has previously furnished this information to them.

b7c
b7D

L. V. Boardman

A. E. Belmont

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY SP2 [redacted]

April 1, 1954

ESPIONAGE IN THE WHITE HOUSE, 1904-1968

[redacted]

JOSEPH P. LASH

MS 6-1

[redacted]

[redacted]

The Bureau has security investigations pending on [redacted]
a file on Joseph Lash. However, no investigation has ever been
conducted regarding Lash.

[redacted]

Attachment

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

100-30914 (Lash)

[redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY SP2 [redacted]

100-30914-✓

NOT RECORDED
126 APR 23 1954

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

79 APR 26 1954

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATIONS:

[REDACTED]

(1) [REDACTED] be instructed to reinterview him in this matter for the purpose of pinning him down on his facts and whether or not there is anyone else who could back up his story. In the event that you agree, attached is an airtel to [REDACTED]

(2) That Assistant Director L. E. Nichols obtain

[REDACTED]

(3) That Liaison check with IRS to see if [REDACTED] has previously furnished this information to them.

b7c
b7d

SAC, Philadelphia

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY [redacted]

Director, FBI

ESPIONAGE IN THE WHITE HOUSE, 1934-1942;

[redacted]

2070
[redacted]

ReBuairtel 4-2-54.

Joseph LASH

The following is a transcript of Paul Crouch's testimony before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on 3-20-54:

Mr. Arens. Mr. Crouch, you have previously been sworn and identified on this record?

Mr. Crouch. Yes, sir.

Mr. Arens. In the course of your testimony yesterday, there were two items which we did not get to complete. One of the items was your testimony with reference to Mr. Gelders and I believe you said four other individuals who had some kind of an intelligence apparatus. Would you tell us about that now so that we can get that clear in the record?

Mr. Crouch. I had personal knowledge of five individual Communists who were assigned by the Communist Party to obtain intelligence information from the White House for the benefit of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government.

Mr. Arens. Could you identify those five first?

Mr. Crouch. Those five were, first, Joseph S. Gelders; second, Reverend Malcolm Cotton Dobbs, who was the head of the Youth Section of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and who boasted to me that his position as a minister helped prevent any possibility of any suspicion by either President or Mrs. Roosevelt of the fact that he was a top Communist leader. I have been in many small closed Party meetings with Reverend Malcolm Cotton Dobbs. Number three was

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

CC: 61-6547
100-50914
100-44777

CC: 61-9512
100-61714
100-38295

100-50914-7
YELLOW
DUPLICATE
APR 27 1954
NOT RECORDED
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OTHERWISE

60 MAY 4 1954

Howard Lee, a young attorney, who was also one of the founders and a member of the Steering Committee of the original conference of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare at Birmingham, Alabama, and a member of the Communist Party, Steering Committee at its second conference at Chattanooga, Tennessee, in 1940.

Howard Lee, like the other, had free access to the White House or Hyde Park and was a frequent guest of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

The fourth was Joseph Lash, a leading member of the Young Communist League and of the Communist Party. The fifth was Gilbert L. Parks, who had once been a business manager for Eleanor Roosevelt's magazine "Babies - Just Babies" and had been Assistant Resettlement Director to Tex Fugwell in the government and who later was a member of the District Bureau of the Communist Party in the Carolinas and who was a member of the Steering Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, Birmingham, Alabama, in November of 1938 and who stayed at my home during the time he was there serving on this Steering Committee.

These are the five top Communists I know who carried on espionage activities at the White House, reporting for the benefit of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government and enabling Earl Browder -- this information together with other information -- enabling Earl Browder to make reports on what went on at cabinet meetings, at top level meetings of the Communist Party I attended.

Mr. Arens. Would you tell us the source of your information?

Mr. Crouch. First, I have been in closed Communist Party meetings with all of the five people and with the exception of Joseph F. Lash, all of those people have stated to me personally their assignments by the Communist Party and have discussed their espionage activities in behalf of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government. I received information regarding Joe Lash's work from Earl Browder and from J. Peters and I have seen him in closed meetings of the Communist Party, and my wife, Sylvia Crouch, was in many top level meetings with Gil Green, Henry Winston, and Joe Lash of the Young Communist League.

Mr. Arens. Over what period of time did this espionage apparatus exist?

Mr. Crouch. From about 1934 approximately until I left the Communist Party.

Mr. Arens. And that again was when?

Mr. Crouch. I left the Communist Party in 1942, and I have no reason to believe that this espionage activity ceased when I left the Communist Party.

Mr. Arens. What did these five people do? What specifically did they do?

Mr. Crouch. They reported to J. Peters, or to assistants of J. Peters regularly on all information that they could gather on visits to the White House, from conversations with top government officials that they met there, and what deductions they could draw on government policy from their personal conversations with Mrs. Roosevelt and with the President.

Mr. Arens. How did they have access to the White House ever and above that of any other citizen?

Mr. Crouch. Howard Lee, Malcolm Cotton Debbs, and Joseph Gelders, Parks, all that I mentioned, were personal friends of the President.

For example, Gilbert L. Parks had been business manager for Mrs. Roosevelt's magazine from November of 1932 until about July of 1933 and the fact that he had this close business acquaintance, he developed a personal acquaintance with her and with the President --

Senator Eastland. Wait a minute, Mr. Crouch.

Mr. Arens. What has this to do with the scope of this investigation?

Mr. Arens. As I understand, Mr. Crouch said yesterday Gelders was identified as an associate who had dealings with people who are in the Southern Conference Educational Fund.

Mr. Crouch. Yes, sir; Mr. Gelders, Bob Hall, and I were the three people who originally planned and conceived the idea of the Southern Conference and its real success would not have been possible if he had not had access to the White House and Hyde Park, if he had not been able to spend a weekend at Hyde Park as a guest of the President and Mrs. Roosevelt and convinced them that this represented a worthwhile undertaking, persuaded Mrs. Roosevelt to be a speaker and persuaded the President of the United States to write a letter of greetings to open this conference, and through his acquaintance and his relationship with Mrs. Virginia Foster Burr to a United States Supreme Court Justice as the second featured speaker for the opening of this Conference.

Mr. Arens. You are not suggesting, of course, that either the former President or the First Lady was cognizant of the contacts there that these Communist agents were making?

Mr. Crouch. Quite the contrary. All of the people except Joe Lash, with whom I did not discuss the matter, I have discussed the matter all told me that the President and Mrs. Roosevelt in no way suspected them of being Communists and, of course, if they had they would have immediately have had no longer access to the White House, and nothing I have said is to indicate that Justice Black had any knowledge of the Communist conspiracy that used him at Southern Conference for Human Welfare and none of my testimony should be indicated as reflecting in any way whatsoever upon the integrity or sincerity of the United States Supreme Court, but his sister-in-law, Mrs. Virginia Foster Burr, had full knowledge of the conspiratorial nature according to the detailed reports that were given by Joseph S. Gelders after his return from conferences with her.

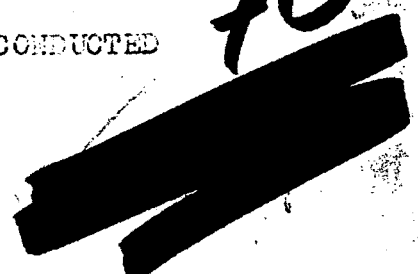
The above is submitted for your information in connection with your interviews with Crouch in this matter.

R-TEL
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
NEW YORK, 6/18/54

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

REFER TO EMPLOY
SECTION

Transmit the following Teletype message to: BUREAU
JOSEPH LASH, UN. REBUAIRTEL TO NY, 6/9/54. FRANK M.
BEGLEY, DIRECTOR, BUILDING MANAGEMENT SERVICES, UN,
AND FREDERICK ABBOTT, PRESS ACCREDITATIONS OFFICER,
UN, BOTH ADVISED THAT LASH IS NOT A UN EMPLOYEE,
BUT IS AN ACCREDITED CORRESPONDENT FOR THE "NY POST"
TO THE UN. NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION BEING CONDUCTED
BY THIS OFFICE. RUC.

7C


KELLY

3 - BUREAU
1 - NY 100-80298

EX-125

100-50914-30

RECORDED - 86

16 JUN 21 1954

7C


JJM:EMS (#13)
NY 138-2163

Approved JJM
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

NY 138-2163
JJM

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

6-1

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: MAY 19 1954

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia (100-0)

b7c b7D

(y)

WD NO 83, Jan 6-1

SUBJECT: JOSEPH LASH
SECURITY MATTER - C

[REDACTED] when con-
tacted at the local office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service
on another matter voluntarily furnished the following information:

JOSEPH LASH is currently employed as a press agent for the UN.
[REDACTED] felt this information should be brought to the attention of the
Bureau in the event it was not already known because of LASH's background.

* * * * *

[REDACTED]

EXP. PROC.

AR:sjh
Registered Mail

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-88 BY SP3 [REDACTED]

4 - New York (RM)

RECORDED - 125
ED - 86

MAY 20 1954

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60 JUL 7 1954

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10-15-58
1732

B/G
G.M.