The above information was volunteered by [redacted] who was not questioned in detail concerning the information as inadequate background is available regarding the subject matter.
NUMEROUS REFERENCES

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Lacey, Joseph

Supervisor __________________________ Room ________
Searcher __________________________ Date 6-3-67 Initial L.A.D.

FILE NUMBER SERIAL NUMBER
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6-3-67

All 39-2731

V 106-50914

5 105-82917

H.E. Crowe, Mr. Kovel 26-4

D. 105-50914-23 (Chat)

SI 138-322-10 P. 7

SI 131-38-04-20

16-7582-1280, P-166

1308 P-166, 1298 P-313, 20-1

404, 411, 515, 518, 532, 545

526, 545, 549, 635, 626

170, 1052, 1160, 1313, 1457, 1763

68-4477-18

61-7582-1380 P-265

61-7559-8259 P. 3, 1211

61-7558-92
To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUNE 9, 1954

AIR-TEL

Transmit the following message to: SAC, NEW YORK

JOSEPH LASH, UN. RE PHILADELPHIA LET DATED MAY 19, 1954, ENTITLED "JOSEPH
LASH, SECURITY MATTER - C," COPY OF WHICH WAS DESIGNATED FOR NEW YORK FILE
100-5076. THIS LET STATES THAT LASH IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED AS A PRESS AGENT
FOR THE UNITED NATIONS. DETERMINE WHETHER THIS INDIVIDUAL'S EMPLOYMENT FALLS
WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 10422, AND IF EMPLOYED, FURNISH COMPLETE
BACKGROUND INFORMATION, JOB DESCRIPTION, AND SO FORTH. HANDLE WITHOUT DELAY.

BOOHER

100-509/4-31

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-58 BY ZP.
L. V. Boardman

A. H. Belmont

ESPIONAGE IN THE WHITE HOUSE,
1934-1942;

Reference is made to my memora

advising that

a White House espionage ring operated from 1934 through 1942, and
that Mrs. Clifford Durr, wife of the former Federal Communications
Commissioner, had full knowledge of the conspiracy.

that this espionage ring was operated by Joseph Galders, The
Reverend Malcolm Dobbs, Howard Lee, Joseph Lash, and Gilbert
Parks.

failed to make any definite espionage allegations, and only spoke
in generalities. Stated that the

gathering of general intelligence information was probably more
descriptive of what he meant than the term espionage as applied
to instant matter. Stated that a Communist
Party (CP) member, while at a social affair at the White House
might have endeavors to influence the attitude of the President
or White House advisors in a manner favorable toward the interests
of the Soviet Union; while at the same time the CP member might
have endeavored to determine what the attitude of the individual
with whom he had contact might be on other questions in which the
Soviet Union might be interested. He also pointed out that such
actions on the part of the Communists did not necessarily mean that
their actions were in violation of the laws of the United States.

Could not furnish the

names of any other persons who could corroborate his original
espionage allegations, but he did suggest several individuals
including

former CP members, as persons who could furnish
information concerning CP activities on the part of the individuals
in the White House ring.
were subsequently interviewed concerning this matter, and none of them could offer any information concerning espionage activities on the persons mentioned nor could they furnish any pertinent information concerning espionage in the White House.

Inasmuch as we have files on all of the individuals mentioned with the exception of, it does not appear warranted at this time to pursue this matter any further.

A copy of this memorandum is being placed in the individual case files so that the individual supervisors may be alert for any information coming to their attention concerning espionage allegations on these individuals. The Internal Security Section of the Domestic Intelligence Division is instituting an investigation to identify

A report incorporating all information in this matter has been furnished to the Department.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the further investigation be conducted under caption of this memorandum.
advised that Mrs. JOSEPH P. LASH purchased some land at Menemsha, Town of Chilmark, above island, about 1950.

During 1954 Mr. and Mrs. LASH have had a summer home built at a cost estimated at about $40,000-$50,000 on their land and during the month of August 1954, Mrs. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT visited for about two weeks with the LASH family in their new home.

It said that there were rumors around the Island of Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts, that Mrs. ROOSEVELT must have loaned the LASH's money to build the house inasmuch as there has been no indication that either JOSEPH P. LASH or his wife could afford to build such an expensive summer home themselves.

The above is being furnished for information purposes.

cc: New York

WHO: RW
October 2, 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Dear

I was glad to receive your note of the twenty-first and deeply appreciate your posing on your observations. I only wish more citizens showed your awareness of the need for continued vigilance.

Your reaction to the material we have been sending you is most encouraging and your keen interest in our activities is indeed reassuring.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Bufife 62-74803

NOTE ON YELLOW:

Correspondent on special correspondence list.

Joseph Lash has never been investigated by Bureau. However, file maintained on him. He is a controversial figure having been mentioned in the past in connection with Communist Party and related activities. Boston and New York offices are aware of Lash’s residence. (100-50914)

Bufife 100-50914 (Joseph Lush) 3 176 Oct 5 1956
NYO indices contain references on name "Lash" which will be reviewed.

Investigation continuing in accordance with Section 105 K, M of I.

Classified by: DER 11-7-88
Declassified: Feb 13 1970 14374.15

Bureau (PM)
1-New York (105-5559)
1-New York (105-21821)

RPR ejd (6)

Mr. Belmont

RECORDED 15
6 24 78
64 Nov 5 1956

Approved: Special Agent in Charge
Sent M Per
Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK [(105-21821) (07.1)]
SUBJECT: CHANGED

DATE: 12/10/56

OBSOLETE CASE, was
105-53852-

192

PUBLIC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREBIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

The file reflects that the subject was active in numerous Communist Front Organizations, and followed the CP line until 1939, when he allegedly criticized the Russian attack on Finland. The subject was a reported member of the Young Communist League and National Secretary of the American Students Union in the late 1930s. He testified before the Dies Committee on 12/1/39 and on 1/21/42. He received much newspaper publicity while serving in the US Army, 1942-45, because of his alleged Communist past and because of his personal friendship with Mrs. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT. He was refused a commission in the US Navy. The subject's file fails to reflect any indication of recent Communist or related activity on his part.
Instant file is being consolidated into subject's main file, (NY 100-8029), and the Bureau is requested to advise whether submission of a report in instant case is deemed necessary and advisable. P.
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO:                DIRECTOR, FBI (105-43101)
FROM:              SAC, NEW YORK (65-17059)
SUBJECT:           (c)

DATE: 4/16/57

Remitted 1/18/57, requesting authority to interview [redacted] and Bureau letter, 2/14/57, granting permission to conduct this interview.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADvised IN ROUTING
SLIP (3) OF
DATE

CLASS: BY EST. BY SEC.
DECLASSIFIED ON:
DRAFT 7-285196-1958-955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
SECRET

158 apr 19 1957

53 apr 24 1957
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

☐ (b)(1)
☐ (b)(2)
☐ (b)(3)
☐ (b)(4)
☐ (b)(5)
☐ (b)(6)

Section 552a

☐ (b)(7)(A)
☐ (b)(7)(B)
☐ (b)(7)(C)
☐ (b)(7)(D)
☐ (b)(7)(E)
☐ (b)(7)(F)
☐ (b)(8)
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☐ (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 NR 4/18/57
Office Memo

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-50914)
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-80298)
SUBJECT: JOSEPH P. LASH
SM - C

DATE: 9/30/59

Re WFO letter to Bureau and NY, dated 9/21/59, entitled "JOE NASH (PHONETIC); SM - C";

On 9/14, 16/59, (redacted) reported certain information regarding one JOE NASH (PH) of the "Post", who has a newspaper man had been covering the KHRUSHCHEV visit to Washington, D. C.

Referenced "JOE NASH (PH)" appears to be identical with JOSEPH P. LASH, previously identified to the Bureau as a reporter employed by the "New York Post", NYC daily newspaper.

The 9/25/59 issue of the "New York Post", page 56, contains a political column written by JOSEPH P. LASH, which deals with current activities relating to KHRUSHCHEV.

Referenced WFO letter, dated 9/21/59, regarding JOE NASH (PH) is being added to the NYO file of JOSEPH P. LASH. C.
<table>
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**SEARCH SLIP**

**Subject:** Joe Nash

**Number Searching Unit - Room 6527**

**Service Unit - Room 6524**

**Forward to File Review**

**Attention:**

**Return to:**

**Type of References Requested:**

- Regular Request (Analytical Search)
- All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
- Subversive References Only
- Nonsubversive References Only

**Type of Search Requested:**

- Regular Search

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCORRECTED**

**DATE:** 11-7-58

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On 3/14/59, [redacted] reported that JOSEPH NORTH, a reporter for "The Worker," was in Washington, D. C., to cover the visit of KHRUSHCHEV during the latter's visit in this city and would also travel with the American press corps during KHRUSHCHEV's travels in the U. S. NORTH would also be a house guest at the home of LARCUS and ELIZABETH GOLDBERG during his stay in Washington.
As noted above, the newspaper with which NASH is presently associated was described only as the "Post."

In an effort to determine whether this newspaper was the "Washington Post and Times Herald" and if NASH was employed in Washington, D. C., a telephone call to the switchboard and to the personnel office of this newspaper by SA [redacted] on 9/17/59 without identifying himself determined that no one by the name of NASH was so employed. Similar calls to the Washington "Evening Star" and to the Washington "Daily News" were also negative as well as a check of records and WFO indices.

Since [redacted] resides in New York City and the above newspaper may possibly be the "New York Post," above is being submitted to New York for information and WFO is taking no further action in this matter.
SAC, Washington Field Office

Classification: SECRET

Director, FBI

October 2, 1959

Dear Secretary of State,

In view of the information received that subject was at one time a member of the Communist Party, it is felt that additional investigation is warranted to determine the true identity of subject.

Washington Field Office should contact Secret Service and Department of State in an attempt to determine identity of subject.

Washington Field will continue as office of origin until subject's true identity and residence is determined.

I - New York

Note on yellow:

A person by the name of Joe Nash of the "Post" has been determined that no one by this name is employed by the "Washington Post." It could possibly be the New York Post. It is also felt that if subject was a newspaperman covering the Khrushchev visit, a record of this individual would be in possession of Secret Service.

MAILED 19

OCT 2 1959

COMM-FBI

(5)
REMMELT 9/21/59, entitled "JOE NASH (phonetic), SM-C", concerning information that [Redacted] had seen JOE NASH (ph) on 9/15/59. REMMELT 9/30/59, advising that JOE NASH appeared to be JOSEPH P. LASH. REMMELT 10/2/59, entitled "JOE NASH" (phonetic) instructing WFO to check Secret Service and Dept. of State in an attempt to determine identity of JOE NASH.

On 11/5/59, [Redacted] Protective Research Section, U.S. Secret Service, advised that list of accredited correspondents on file at his office did not list any JOSEPH NASH. The only NASH listed was [Redacted] further advised that JOSEPH LASH likewise was not accredited. However, correspondents may be accredited for a special occasion, but on those occasions only [Redacted] would know.

Washington Field Office, Secret Service, advised on 11/5/59, that the only records that could be checked for this information could be those of [Redacted], advised however, that he personally knew a lot of the correspondents but he did not know of a JOE NASH.

[Redacted] furnished the information to SA.

A lead is still outstanding to check State Department records. State Department can give no date when this check of their security files will be completed.

The Bureau and New York will be advised when State Department information available.

Bureau

1- New York (100-80298) (RM)

1- WFO

CEG: mrr
(4) EX 100

EX 100

REC-34
Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-50914)
DATE: 12/14/59

FROM: SAC, WFO (100-19444)

SUBJECT: JOSEPH P. LASH
SM - C
(00: NY)

Remleyt 11/24/59 setting forth lead for WFO to check State Department records.

State Department records checked 12/11/59 at the request of SA contained no record that any JOSEPH NASH was a correspondent accredited to cover the KHRUSHCHEV visit.

\(\text{CEG:pjt} \quad (4)\)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-7-59 BY SP2
The deadline in this case has passed and the Bureau has not received a report. You are instructed to submit a report immediately. In the event a report has been submitted, you should make a notation of the date on which it was submitted on this letter and return it to the Bureau, Room No. 1264.

Report will be submitted immediately.

Reason for delay: ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.

2. Advise Bureau re status of this case.

3. Advise Bureau when report may be expected.

4. Surep immediately.

(Place your reply on this form and return to the Bureau. Note on the top serial in the case file the receipt and acknowledgment of this communication.)
Enclosed are six copies of a letterhead memorandum containing information furnished by a source.
Joseph Lash is a feature writer and reporter on United Nations matters for the New York Post, a daily New York City newspaper.

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.
September 16, 1964

JOSEPH P. LASH

The following information pertains to an individual named Joseph P. Lash, who was born in New York City on December 2, 1909. He has been an employee of the "New York Post" for a number of years as a feature writer and a reporter on United Nations matters.

Our files reveal that this Joseph P. Lash reportedly joined the Socialist Party of the United States in 1929 and remained a member until 1937. Subsequent thereto, he became associated with a number of known communist front organizations and reportedly followed the Communist Party line until 1939, at which time he criticized the Russian attack on Finland. He was, according to an informant who has furnished reliable information in the past, a member of the Young Communist League and a national secretary of the American Student Union during the late 1930's.

Our inquiry revealed that since 1939 or 1940, he has been anticommunist.

(100-50914)

Original - White House per request of Hayes Redmon.
November 19, 1974

Mr. Clarence M. Kelley
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am a writer whose most recent book was a biography of Eleanor Roosevelt, ELEANOR AND FRANKLIN. I am now at work on a book about Roosevelt and Churchill and it is in connection with that that I am addressing this query to the Bureau.

In the biographies of John L. Lewis, the leader of the United Mine Workers, it is asserted that in an interview between Lewis and Roosevelt on October 17, 1940, when the President solicited Lewis's support, the latter asked why the FBI was tapping his phone. The President said that was "a damn lie," but Lewis replied that Frank Murphy, the former Attorney General had told him, and that he, Murphy, had seen FDR's order to the FBI to do so.

My questions are: was there such an order from FDR? If so, did it grow out of Lewis's contacts with William Rhodes Davis, an oilman in touch with Goering who had floated a Goering peace balloon in late 1939?

Your help in establishing the historical facts will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Joseph P. Lash
20 East 9th Street
New York, New York 10003

REC 68

[Stamp: 10-0-50874-39]

[Stamp: NOV 50 1974]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11-7-68 BY
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Section

Date: 4-22 (Rev. 6-30-73)
Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
Service Unit - Room 6524
Forward to File Review
Attention
Return to
Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:
- Regular Request (Analytical Search)
- All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
- Subversive References Only
- Nonsubversive References Only
- Main References Only

Type of Search Requested:
- Restricted to Locality of
- Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
- Buildup
- Variations

Subject: Frank Murphy
Birthdate & Place: 5-21-24, N.Y.
Address
Localities
Ref. Date Searcher Initials
Prod.

FILE NUMBER SERIAL
A6-1979

All Information Contained Herein Is Unclassified
Date: 11-7-88

Date: 4-22 (Rev. 6-30-73)
Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
Service Unit - Room 6524
Forward to File Review
Attention
Return to
Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:
- Regular Request (Analytical Search)
- All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
- Subversive References Only
- Nonsubversive References Only
- Main References Only

Type of Search Requested:
- Restricted to Locality of
- Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
- Buildup
- Variations

Subject: Joseph P. Lash
Birthdate & Place: 5-21-24, N.Y.
Address
Localities
Ref. Date Searcher Initials
Prod.

FILE NUMBER SERIAL
ident 100-5614 dec
52-5600
28-081 not ident
32-166 not ident
F.C. 10:35

All Information Contained Herein Is Unclassified
Date: 11-7-88
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.

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<th>Section 552</th>
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- 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 (search slips)
Mr. Joseph P. Lash
20 East 9 Street
New York, New York 10003

Dear Mr. Lash:

A review of our files for information concerning
the questions you raised in your letter of November 19th
failed to reveal that President Franklin D. Roosevelt ordered
a wiretap to be placed on John L. Lewis' telephone.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: Records in Bufile6 concerning the Lewis and Roosevelt
conference specified in correspondent's letter reveal that
Lewis told Roosevelt he had been "under surveillance" for some
time by the Secret Service of the FBI. When the Director was
informed of this allegation, he denied it in a letter to
Stephen Early, Secretary to the President, dated 10-31-40,
stating that "this Bureau never has and is not now making
any investigation of John L. Lewis." (62-28488-3,4). In
1949, the "Chicago Daily News" printed a version of the con-
versation similar to that of the correspondent's which had
been excerpted from a biography of Lewis by Saul D. Alinsky.
Mr. Joseph P. Lash

(62-26488-188). Frank Murphy, Attorney General in 1939-40 and a Supreme Court Justice thereafter, was on friendly terms with the Bureau and Mr. Hoover up until the time of his death in 1949 (62-56748, 94-40536). File 100-50914 reflects that correspondent was refused a Navy commission probably because of his previous membership in Communist front organizations and also that he was a friend and protege of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. "Who's Who In America" states Lash is a writer who formerly wrote for the "New York Post," serving as an assistant editor for editorials from 1961-66. In 1972, he received the Pulitzer Prize for biography.
February 21, 1975

SULLIVAN MEMORANDA TO JOHN DEAN
(PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S ADMINISTRATION - ALLEGED INFLUENCE OF CERTAIN FBI INVESTIGATIONS - DON LASH AND SUMNER WELLES)

Reference is made to my memorandum captioned as above dated January 31, 1975. That memorandum stated the FBI had conducted no investigation concerning Welles.

It has been subsequently determined that a folder on Welles was formerly maintained in the "Official - Confidential" files in former Director Hoover's office. This folder, which is presently maintained in the office of Associate Director N. P. Callahan, was not indexed in general Bureau indices and, therefore, was not discovered in the previous review of Bureau files concerning Welles.

This folder contains the results of an extensive investigation conducted in 1941 concerning allegations of homosexual activity of Welles. The investigation was conducted at the request of the President of the United States and the results were furnished to him.

1 - Messrs. Adams, Moore, Mintz (Sent Separately)
JTSmjw
(7) JTS

NOTE: Based on memo H. N. Bassett to Mr. Callahan captioned "Sullivan Memoranda to John Dean (President Roosevelt's Administration - Alleged Influence of Certain FBI Investigations - Don Lash and Sumner Welles)" dated 2/19/75, JTSmjw.

MAIL ROOM
TELETYPE UNIT
Memorandum

To: MR. CALLARAN

From: H. N. BASSETT

Date: 2/19/75

Subject: SULLIVAN MEMORANDA TO JOHN DEAN
(President Roosevelt's Administration - Alleged Influence of Certain FBI Investigations - Don Lash and Sumner Welles)

My memorandum dated 1/31/75 captioned as above set forth results of inquiry by Inspection Division concerning the allegations in the "Sullivan Memoranda" captioned "Re: President Johnson, Politics in the FBI." In the Sullivan Memoranda, page 2, last paragraph, it states in part that the Roosevelt administration used the FBI for political purposes... It was alleged President and Mrs. Roosevelt... would indicate to they were not interested in FBI pushing certain investigations too far if the subjects were ones the Roosevelts did not want derogatory information developed on for they liked them or wanted them to avail themselves of their services. Two examples of this are Don Lash and Sumner Welles when the latter was Under-Secretary of State and information had been received that he was a homosexual...

A review of Bureau files disclosed that no investigation had ever been conducted concerning Welles; however, there was information in Bureau files indicating he was a homosexual. A letterhead memorandum was furnished to the Department setting forth the results of the review of Bureau files and stating that the FBI had conducted no investigation concerning Welles.

A subsequent review of material previously maintained in Director Hoover's office revealed that an investigation was conducted at the request of the President of the U.S. in 1941 on allegations that Welles had made improper proposals involving perversion to employees of the Southern Railway Company while on a trip. Extensive investigation was conducted and the results were furnished to the President. This information concerning Welles was maintained in the "Official - Confidential" files in the Director's office and was not indexed to general Bureau indices.

 ACTION:

A letterhead memorandum is attached for dissemination to the Department setting forth information concerning the investigation of Welles.

Enclosure: A letterhead memorandum dated 2/26/75.

1 - Messrs. Adams, Moore, Mintz

JTS: njw
SULLIVAN MEMORANDA TO JOHN DEAN
(PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S ADMINISTRATION -
ALLEGED INFLUENCE OF CERTAIN FBI INVESTIGATIONS - DON LASH AND SUMNER WELLES)

The Sullivan Memoranda, page two, last paragraph, states in part, that the Roosevelt and Johnson Administrations used the FBI for political purposes. It was alleged President and Mrs. Roosevelt "...would indicate to FBI they were not interested in FBI pushing certain investigations too far if the subjects were ones the Roosevelts did not want derogatory information developed on for they liked them or wanted to avail themselves of their services. Two examples of this are Don Lash and Sumner Welles when the latter was Under-Secretary of State and information has been received that he was a homosexual..."

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11-2-42

Bureau files, based on information available, disclosed no information that a Don Lash was associated with the Roosevelt Administrations.

It appears that Sullivan was, in fact, referring to Joseph Lash who apparently did have a close relationship with Eleanor Roosevelt and was a frequent guest at the White House. Bureau files disclose that Joseph P. Lash, aka Joe Lash, was born in New York City November 2, 1909. He reportedly joined the Socialist Party of the United States in 1929 and resigned from that party in September, 1937. Lash was inducted into the United States Army April 29, 1942, commissioned a Second Lieutenant on May 18, 1945, and discharged on October 2, 1945.

Prior to Lash's induction into the United States Army, he unsuccessfully applied for a commission in the Naval Intelligence Service. In connection with his failure to receive a commission, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt directed a letter dated January 9, 1942, to Attorney General Francis Biddle requesting him "...to run down for me through the Federal Bureau of Investigation..."
Colonel Donovan's Naval Inspectors, and the Dies Committee, what they really have on Joe Lash..." Mrs. Roosevelt stated that Lash told the Navy the absolute truth on all his former connections—that he had never signed a Communist Party card; however, he had been very close to the Party and he told them that he had made a break with them at the time of the Nazi-Russian Pact. Mrs. Roosevelt indicated that she was seriously worried not what will be done to Lash but the effect it would have on the groups with which he has been working. She indicated she would stake everything she had on Lash and so would her son, Franklin, Jr., who offered to write a letter to the Navy saying that Lash is a highly idealistic man who perhaps was too radical when he was young, but would always work for the good of the majority.

Mrs. Roosevelt's letter was forwarded to FBI Director Hoover by Attorney General memorandum dated January 10, 1942. The Attorney General requested the Bureau to furnish him with information contained in Bureau files concerning Joe Lash and was to ascertain what Colonel Donovan and the Dies Committee may have.

By memorandum to the Attorney General dated January 14, 1942, Mr. Hoover furnished a five-page summary of information contained in the files of the Dies Committee concerning Joseph P. Lash. A review of those files was made by a representative of the FBI.

Mr. Hoover further advised the Attorney General that the files in the office of Colonel Donovan failed to disclose any information concerning Joseph P. Lash. Based on the fact Lash was a member of the United States Army, and because of his past subversive activities, an investigation of him was conducted by the Counterintelligence Corps, G-2, sometime prior to December, 1943, at which time it was learned that Lash's relationship with Mrs. Roosevelt was an intimate one. The results of this investigation were subsequently made known to President Roosevelt by the military.

Joseph P. Lash was not the subject of an FBI investigation during this period.

Sumner Welles

A review of Bureau files disclosed that Sumner Welles was born October 14, 1892, at New York, New York, served as Assistant Secretary of State from 1933 to 1937 and as Under-Secretary of State from May, 1937,
By letter dated December 20, 1945, the Bureau furnished to the Chief, Division of Foreign Activity Correlation, Department of State, as of possible interest a translation of an anonymous letter dated November 15, 1945, originally written in Spanish and postmarked Dominican Republic. The letter was originally received by [redacted] and states in part: "... the relations that exist between the Committee for Pan American Democracy and Mr. Sumner Welles are known. It is suggested that you check to ascertain if it is certain that the true cause for which President Roosevelt expelled Sumner Welles from the Department of State was because he maintained abnormal sexual relations with Negro servants who worked in the Department of State. . . ."

The Bureau file does not state specifically why the above information was disseminated to the Department of State; however, it is now speculated the Department of State would be interested because of the reference to abnormal sexual relations with Mr. Welles on the part of Negro servants who worked in the Department of State.

After leaving the State Department in 1943, Mr. Welles lectured, wrote for various newspapers and authored several books on foreign affairs.

The FBI had conducted no investigation concerning Welles; however, other sources reported that he was a homosexual. He died in 1961.
Dear Mr. Attorney General:

I am an established writer, the author of *Eleanor and Franklin,* among other books.

The manuscript of a book I have been working on for three years, *Roosevelt and Churchill: The Partners Saved the West,* is about to go to the printer. A book has recently been published, *A Man Called Intrepid,* by William Stevenson, detailing the operations of British Intelligence in the United States during World War II, especially in the period before Pearl Harbor, including the cooperation extended to it by the FBI. The book makes some rather startling claims about the exploits of British Intelligence in the United States, which appear to me to be seriously inflated, to say the least.

There is almost nothing in the Roosevelt files at Hyde Park to substantiate the claims made in this book. The one agency that might have material in its files that would shed light on its claims is the FBI. I telephoned Director Kelley’s office and talked with a [redacted] telling him my plight and asking whether I could come down to Washington and talk with someone in the FBI familiar with the relevant files who might be able to answer my questions. He seemed to understand my problem and told me to write to Director Kelley, which I promptly did. That was three weeks ago and I have heard nothing.

My previous experience with the Bureau in trying to obtain material relating to what Roosevelt asked of the Bureau in regard to America First and what he obtained, was not encouraging in terms of the time it took and the material finally provided. So I turn to you and hope that you can assist me.
Attorney General Edward H. Levi
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

I am an established writer, the author of
Eleanor and Franklin, among other books.

The manuscript of a book I have been working on for three years, Roosevelt and Churchill: The Partnership that Saved the West is about to go to the printer. A book has appeared recently, A Man Called Intrepid, by William Stevenson, dealing with the operations of British Intelligence in the United States during World War II, especially in the period before Pearl Harbor, including the cooperation extended to it by the FBI. The book makes some rather startling claims about the exploits of British Intelligence in the United States, which appear to me to be seriously inflated, to say the least.

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My previous experience with the Bureau in trying to obtain material relating to what Roosevelt asked of the Bureau in regard to America First and what he obtained, was not encouraging in terms of the time it took and the material finally provided. So I turn to you and hope that you can assist me.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
March 7, 1976

Director Clarence M. Kelley
Federal Bureau of Investigation
9th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Director Kelley:

In connection with my book, ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL: The Partnership that Saved the West, a new problem has arisen just as my manuscript is on the point of being sent to the printer.

It has to do with the book A MAN CALLED INTREPID by William Stevenson and deals with the operations of British Intelligence in the United States, chiefly in the period 1940-1941 and alleges that INTREPID-Stephenson was the covert link between Roosevelt and Churchill.

There is no material at the Roosevelt Library to confirm this claim. That, of course, is by no means conclusive. It is, of course, known that Roosevelt ordered Mr. Hoover and the FBI to cooperate with Stephenson and the organization, British Security Coordination, but it has been generally assumed that that cooperation related to combating Nazi and, for a time, communist subversion in the western hemisphere.

But this new book claims much more. Would it be possible to examine FBI files dealing with the Agency's cooperation with the British operation? My primary and exclusive interest is in establishing the reliability of the Stevenson book.

Since time has now become a pressing matter for me, perhaps, if one of your people is familiar with this material, I could come down and talk with him - or her.

I would greatly appreciate your assistance in this matter. My telephone number is 212 475 3527.

Sincerely,

All information contained herewith is unclassified.

Date: 1-7-76

By Sp2
Memorandum

TO: MR. CALLAHAN

FROM: H. N. BASSETT!

DATE: January 31, 1975

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE: 11-7-88 BY SP2MCMCD

SUBJECT: SULLIVAN MEMORANDA TO JOHN DEAN
(PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S ADMINISTRATION - ALLEGED INFLUENCE OF CERTAIN FBI INVESTIGATIONS - DON LASH AND SUMNER WELLES)

Reference is made to my memorandum 1/30/75 captioned "Special Squad at Democratic National Convention, Atlantic City, New Jersey, 8/22-26

This is to advise the results of an inquiry by the Inspection Division concerning the allegations in the "Sullivan Memoranda" captioned "Re: President Johnson, Politics in the FBI." In the Sullivan Memoranda, page 2, last paragraph, it states in part that the Roosevelt and Johnson administration used the FBI for political purposes. It was alleged President and Mrs. Roosevelt would indicate to FBI they were not interested in FBI pushing certain investigations too far if the subjects were ones the Roosevelts did not want derogatory information developed on for they liked them or wanted them to avail themselves of their services. Two examples of this are Don Lash and Sumner Welles when the latter was Under-Secretary of State and information had been received that he was a homosexual.

A review of Bureau files, based on information available, discloses no information that a Don Lash was associated with the White House during the Roosevelt Administration. Bureau files do not reveal that...

From a review of Bureau files it appears that Sullivan was in fact referring to Joseph P. Lash who did have close connections with the White House, specifically Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, and was reported to be a frequent White House guest. Lash was being considered for a commission with the Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI). That agency conducted an investigation in this regard; however, Lash was not offered a commission. He was inducted into the U. S. Army on 4/29/42 and was discharged on 10/2/45.

1. Messrs. Adams, McDermott, Mintz

SSC:wmj (5)
Re: Sullivan Memoranda to John Ban

The FBI conducted no active investigation regarding Lash, however, in October, 1941, Bureau disseminated information contained in our files to the Office of Naval Intelligence concerning Lash, including the fact that Lash joined the Socialist Party of the United States in 1929 and resigned from same in September, 1937.

Bureau files indicate that Lash was involved in other subversive activities until 1939. Butiles also disclose a memorandum from Francis Biddle, then Attorney General, dated 1/10/42, enclosing a letter directed to him dated 1/9/42 by Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Assistant Director, Office of Civilian Defense. She requested the Attorney General to obtain information for her through the FBI as to what Colonel Donovan's Naval Inspectors and the Dies Committee really have concerning Joe Lash.

By memorandum dated 1/14/42 Bureau furnished the Attorney General the information contained in the Dies Committee file and advised the Attorney General that the files in the office of Colonel Donovan contained no information concerning Lash.

A folder which was maintained in Mr. Hoover's Office captioned "Joseph P. Lash," discloses information obtained by this Bureau in 1943 from Counterintelligence Corps of G-2 (CIC) concerning the intimate relationship between Joseph P. Lash and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt. The intimacy of their relationship as told by and is supported by CIC report and by letters addressed to Lash while he was in the Army, from Mrs. Roosevelt, copies of which were furnished to the Bureau by CIC and are also part of this folder. President Roosevelt was briefed by the military concerning this relationship between Lash and Mrs. Roosevelt. This folder shows no dissemination outside the Bureau and was extremely guarded and restricted to a few officials close to the Director.

Sumner Welles was Assistant Secretary of State 1933 - 1937, and Under-Secretary of State from May, 1937, to July or August, 1943.

By letter dated 11/20/45, SAC, Denver, furnished Bureau a letter written in Spanish dated 11/15/45 and postmarked Dominican Republic. This letter was received by The letter makes reference to the relations that existed between the Committee for Pan American Democracy and Sumner Welles and suggests that the true cause why President Roosevelt expelled Welles from the Department of State was because he maintained abnormal sexual relations with Negro servants who work in the Department of State.

- 2 - CONTINUED - OVER
Memo for Mr. Callahan

Re: Sullivan Memoranda to John Dean

Upon receipt of the above-mentioned letter, it was channelled to the FBI Division, Section Chief Crawford H. Carson. No reason is noted on Bureau copy why this information was disseminated to the State Department on 12/20/45; however, it is speculated the information was disseminated to the Division of Foreign Activity Correlation, Department of State, since it made reference to the Committee for Pan American Democracy and because it was alleged Welles maintained abnormal sexual relations with employees who worked in the Department of State.

A review of Bureau files disclosed that no investigation had ever been conducted concerning Welles; however, other sources indicated he was a homosexual.

ACTION:

A separate letterhead memorandum is being prepared for dissemination to the Deputy Attorney General.

[Signature]
Mr. Joseph P. Lash
20 East 9th Street
New York, New York 10003

Dear Mr. Lash:

This is to acknowledge your letter of April 5, 1976, with enclosure, directed to Attorney General Edward H. Levi, which was referred to the FBI and received on April 8, 1976.

I have been informed you were contacted telephonically by Special Agent Thomas H. Bresson of our Freedom of Information/Privacy Acts (FOI/PA) Section and you were notified that your request would be handled under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. As you were advised, the information within the scope of your request is not subject to retrieval from our records without conducting considerable research. I regret our backlog of thousands of FOI/PA requests preclude the handling of your request within the short time your publishing deadline would allow; however, I am sure you can appreciate the fairness of our handling these matters in chronological order according to the date of receipt.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley, Director

Clarence M. Kelley

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure

Attention: [redacted]

Note: During referenced telephone conversation of 4/20/76, Lash acknowledged difficulty in describing the records he sought, but understood the backlog situation in the FOI/PA Section. He hoped to be able to converse with an FBI representative to obtain a refutation of information contained in Mr. Stevenson's book which apparently conflicts with Lash's book. He was advised that because of the age of the information, no FBI representative would be able to comment with out supporting record data, and this would involve research time. Lash's book is already scheduled for publication and he is therefore withdrawing his request.
November 4, 1975

1 - Mr. Walsh (Encl.)
Attn: (Deputy)

Mr. Joseph P. Lash
20 East 9th Street
New York, New York 10003

Dear Mr. Lash:

This is in reference to your letter dated July 11, 1975, with enclosed check in the amount of $80, and your letter of September 22, 1975, concerning your Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request.

An exceedingly heavy volume of FOIPA requests has been received these past few months. Additionally, court deadlines involving certain historical cases of considerable scope have been imposed upon the FBI. Despite successive expansions of our staff responsible for FOIPA matters, substantial delays in processing requests continue.

In an effort to deal fairly with any request requiring the retrieval, processing and duplication of documents, each request is being handled in chronological order based on the date of receipt. Please be assured that your request is being handled as equitably as possible.

We have made a search of a considerable number of files concerning the America First movement and have located material which appears pertinent to your request.

It will be necessary at the time these documents are processed to consult with a representative for White House FOIPA matters to assist in making a final determination as to what may or may not be released.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Bufiles 100-4712 and 62-43818.

m. 6: mjh (6)
Mr. Clarence M. Kelley, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535  

Dear Mr. Kelley:

I have your letter of June 17, 1975, stating that the material I desire relating to the America First Movement will, under Department of Justice regulations, cost me approximately $317. In accordance with your requirement I am enclosing a check of $80 as a deposit on that amount.

I will be here at Menemsha, Mass. until Labor Day. If the material can be processed before then I would like to have it sent to me here; after that date it should be mailed to me at 20 East 9th Street, New York City, 10003.

I appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

July 11, 1975

Menemsha, Mass. 02552

[Handwritten note]:

(Handwritten: 7-11-75)

[Handwritten: ENCLOSURE]

[Handwritten: ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED]

[Handwritten: DATE: 7-11-75]
Mr. Clarence M. Kelley, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20035

September 22, 1975

Dear Mr. Kelley:

Would it be possible to speed up the delivery of the material I requested relating to the America First movement in my letter of July 11, 1975? I now need it badly if I am to progress with my book on the Roosevelt-Churchill relationship. Anything that you may be able to do to expedite matters will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

All information contained herein is unclassified.

DATE: 4-7-56
BY: [Signature]

EX-110

[Redacted]

SEP 26 1975

K.

[Redacted]
November 4, 1975

Mr. Joseph P. Lash
20 East 9th Street
New York, New York 10003

Dear Mr. Lash:

This is in reference to your letter dated July 11, 1975, with enclosed check in the amount of $80, and your letter of September 22, 1975, concerning your Freedom of Information-People's Acts (FOIPA) request.

An exceedingly heavy volume of FOIPA requests has been received these past few months. Additionally, court deadlines involving certain historical cases of considerable scope have been imposed upon the FBI. Despite successive expansions of our staff responsible for FOIPA matters, substantial delays in processing requests continue.

In an effort to deal fairly with any request requiring the retrieval, processing and duplication of documents, each request is being handled in chronological order based on the date of receipt. Please be assured that your request is being handled as equitably as possible.

We have made a search of a considerable number of files concerning the America First movement and have located material which appears pertinent to your request.

It will be necessary at the time these documents are processed to consult with a representative for White House FOIPA matters to assist in making a final determination as to what may or may not be released.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Bufiles 100-4712 and 62-43818.
Mr. Joseph P. Lash

It is anticipated your costs will not exceed the $80 deposit which you have made since it is not necessary to search all references to the America First movement.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley
Clarence M. Kelley
Director
Joseph P. Lash  
20 East 9th Street  
New York, New York 10003

30Jan76

Mr. Clarence M. Kelley, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Kelley:

On November 4, 1975 you wrote me in regard to my request under the FOIPA for material relating to the America First movement. You indicated that the material had been located pertinent to my request.

As I wrote you in my initial letter dated May 17, 1975, I desired to examine this material in relation to a book that I am doing on the Roosevelt-Churchill partnership.

The manuscript of the book has now been completed. If the material is to be of any use to me, I must obtain it in the next few weeks. I do not want to burden you unduly with a scholar’s requests when there are more pressing matters for you to be concerned with, but surely it should have been possible for the Bureau to have made this better than 35-year old data available more expeditiously.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph P. Lash
March 1, 1976

Mr. Joseph P. Lash
20 East 9th Street
New York, New York 10003

Dear Mr. Lash:

This is in reference to your letter dated January 30, 1976, concerning your Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request.

We have completed processing your request, and those documents proposed for release are currently being reviewed by a representative for White House FOIPA matters as explained in my earlier letter.

We expect to have the results of this review within two weeks. You will be advised at that time as to what can be released and a final determination of the charges incurred for processing.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley
Clarence M. Kelley
Director

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure

Attention: [Redacted]

NOTE: Mr. Lash has requested reports that went to the White House concerning the American First movement. They are currently being reviewed by the Intelligence Division and its White House liaison section. Buffles 100-4712, 100-81322 and 62-43818.
March 8, 1976

REGISTERED

Mr. Joseph P. Lash
20 East 9th Street
New York, New York 10003

Dear Mr. Lash:

Reference is made to my letter of March 1, 1976. The records which you requested have been processed, and documents available for release consist of 167 pages.

Since it was not necessary to search all of the numerous references to the America First movement, I am returning your deposit check of $80. You are being charged only for the duplication fees incurred at the rate of 10 cents per page, pursuant to Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, Sections 16.9 and 16.46.

Upon receipt of your check or money order, payable to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in the amount of $16.70, these documents will be forwarded to you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

EX-110
Clarence M. Kelley
Director

Enclosure

1 - The Deputy Attorney General
Attention: [Redacted]

NOTE: The deposit was based on the more than 1400 references to the America First movement. The material for release was located in 3 main files without having to search the references. It has been reviewed by the White House through liaison section of our Intelligence Division.Bufiles (100-81322, 62-43818 and 100-4712.)