



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**JOSEPH McCARTHY**

**PART 1 OF 28**

**BUFILE NUMBERS: 9-24556, 9-25910, 9-27383,  
9-31071, AND 9-43378**

SUBJECT Joseph McCarthy  
FILE NUMBER 9-24556  
SECTION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

28 pages

9-25-54  
CHANGED

47-48398-2

JUN 9 1954

18

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9-24556-3

9-0-881X

JUN 14 1954

*Jr.*

"SNIP" 2  
834 7-22-65"

March 30, 1954

SE 49  
RECORDED 71

9-24556-3X

Honorable Joseph R. McCarthy  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I wish to acknowledge your letter  
of March 24, 1954, with its enclosure.

In view of the possible threat  
contained in the communication dated March 18, 1954, investigation regarding the violation  
of the Federal Extortion Statute has been initiated.  
Meanwhile I have instructed our Washington Field  
Office to alert the Metropolitan Police and the  
Capital Police Force regarding the possible  
threat so that precautions may be taken.

Sincerely yours,  
J. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 2  
MAR 31 1954  
COMM-FB

cc: 2 - San Francisco (copy of enclosure)  
cc: 2 - Washington Field (copy of enclosure)

NOTE:

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT  
Letter postmarked March 18, 1954  
Oakland, California  
SUSPECTED - VICTIM  
EXTORTION

Attention: SAC, San Francisco & Washington Field  
Enclosed are two copies of a letter dated 3-18-54 received by  
the victim in an envelope postmarked 3-18-54.

Oakland 2, California. The envelope was addressed to Senator Joseph McCarthy, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C. In the upper righthand corner is affixed two 2¢ postage stamps bearing the cancellation "California Public Schools Week April 2 Visit Your Schools." The envelope contained no return address. The envelope and anonymous letter were typewritten with a red ribbon.

The original letter and envelope are being retained in the files of the FBI Laboratory. A comparison will be made in an effort to determine the type and make of typewriter used to prepare the communication. You will be advised of results of this comparison and furnished with photographic copies of the letter and envelope. Any further comparison or examination should be requested by you of the FBI Laboratory.

Present immediately to USA for opinion as to whether violation exists and whether prosecution will be instituted. Be guided by his opinion and sutel results this conference. If investigation conducted afford continuous attention until brought to a logical conclusion.

SAC Washington Field Office furnish information to Metropolitan Police and Capitol Police Force as to protection may be afforded. Handle immediately.

9

24556

31

# United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

March 24, 1954

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

I am enclosing herewith letter just received  
in my office from Oakland, California.

This sounds like a screw-ball and I do not  
think the individual would have warned me if he  
had any serious plans. However, I am sending it  
along for your information.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

John F. Kennedy

JFK:dag

SE 49

RECORDED

125

APR 2 1954

EXP. PROC.

MAR 29 1954

24556

March 18, 1954

Senator Joseph McCarthy  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Senator:

I hope this reaches you in time. Tonight  
I leave for Washington with one active in  
mind - your assassination.

I am a God fearing man, but I find it im-  
possible to let myself stand by while you  
arrogantly, ignorantly and self-centeredly  
tear apart those principles of democracy,  
fair play, and civil liberties which America  
has treasured for so long.

Perhaps I will be able to reason before  
I am shot; I doubt it. For months this has  
plagued me. I feel I must do something.

Hoping you will realize the manner of my  
ways, I am

MOST SINCERELY YOURS

TRUE COPY

9

24556

3X

9-24556-3X

~~9-24556-2~~

MAILED 1 MAR 22 1954

*Original letter to Senator McCarthy*





FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON D. C.

To SAC, San Francisco

April 1, 1954

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence which was received in the Laboratory on March 30, 1954.

UNKNOWN SUBJECT,  
LETTER POSTMARKED MARCH 18, 1954,  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
SENATOR JOSEPH P. McCARTHY - VICTIM  
KIDNAPING

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR FILE NO.  
FBI FILE NO.  
LAB. NO.

8-12443 20

Examination requested by: Bureau  
Reference: 3/30/54  
Examination requested: Document - Fingerprint

Specimens:

- Q1 Envelope bearing typewritten address: SENATOR JOSEPH P. McCARTHY, U. S. SENATE, WASHINGTON, D. C. Postmarked OAKLAND, CALIF. MAR 18, 1954 5:30 PM.
- Q2 Accompanying typewritten letter dated March 18, 1954, beginning "I hope this reaches you in time. Sincerely yours."

RESULTS OF EXAMINATION

Specimens Q1 and Q2 were searched through the appropriate sections of the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification. Photographic copies of this material will be added to this file for future reference and comparison.

It was concluded that specimens Q1 and Q2 were prepared on a typewriter equipped with Corona Pica type spaced ten letters to the inch. This style of type was normally used on the Corona Silent, Sterling, Standard and Old Standard models and was the current design of 1941.

Specimen Q1 is a white bond envelope bearing a typewritten address prepared with a Pica ribbon. This ribbon measures approximately 6.5 by 1.65 inches.

Washington Field  
JMJ:JAR

Page One

APR 9 1954

APR 1 1954

APR 2 1954  
132

Continued Next Page

bears no watermark. Specimen Q2 is a sheet of white bond paper bearing a typewritten letter prepared with a red ribbon. This paper measures approximately 8.5 by 11 inches and bears no watermark.

Specimens Q1 and Q2 will be chemically treated for the development of latent fingerprints and you will be separately advised as to the results of this examination.

Specimens Q1 and Q2 are being retained in the files of the Bureau. Photographs of these specimens are being forwarded to your office and the Washington Field office with copies of this report.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 4/6/54

FROM : SAC, WFO (9-927)

SUBJECT: UNSUB; Letter postmarked 3/18/54, Oakland, California  
Senator JOSEPH R. MC CARTHY - VICTIM  
EXTORTION

Rebulet to Senator JOSEPH R. MC CARTHY 3/30/54.

The contents of the instant letter were furnished to [redacted]  
[redacted] of the Metropolitan Police Department; and to  
[redacted] of the United States Capitol Police. RUC

TJJ:lrb  
2 - San Francisco (AM)

6.1.R-1

RECORDED-11

9-24556-5

2-112

229 24556  
5 APR 12 1954

CHANGED TO

25916-94

JUN 7 1964

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO 4TH DIST.

UNSUB., LETTER POS. MARKED 3-18-54, OAKLAND, CALIF. SENATOR

JOSEPH R. MC CARTHY VIOL. REBULET 4-1-54, SUTEL OPINION  
USA.

RECORDED 19-24556-7

ENH:AM

9 24556  
APR 13 1954

APR 2 1954

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

APR 5 1954

TELETYPE

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

FBI, SAN FRANCISCO  
DIRECTOR, FBI

4-5-54

3-29 PM

U R G E N T

ELR

G.I.R.

RESUB-- LETTER POSTMARKED MARCH EIGHTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY FOUR, OAKLAND,  
CALIFORNIA. SENATOR JOSEPH R. MC CARTHY, VICTIM, EXTORTION. ALICE  
LYNN GILLARD, SAN FRANCISCO, ADVISES HE WILL REFER OPINION REGARDING  
SUBJECT. REQUEST INVESTIGATION IN ATTEMPT TO LOCATE AND INTERVIEW  
SUBJECT. INVESTIGATION CONTINUING IN OAKLAND.

UNCLAS

END AND ACK PLS

4-5-54 PM OK FBI MA NLT

TU DISC

RECORDED

EX-112

9-24556-8

APR 6 1954

Mr. Rosen

52 APR 15 1954

34556

MA Rosen  
Mr. Holloman

4-528

9-24556-9  
**CHANGED TO**  
9-25910-5X

JUN 7 1954



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIRTEL  
Transmit the following ~~11111111~~ message to

FBI SAN FRANCISCO (9-998)

4/8/54

DIRECTOR, FBI

AM

UNSUB: LETTER FOOTMARKH MARCH 18, 1954 OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, SENATOR JOSEPH R. MC CARTHY, VICTIM. EXTORTION. INVESTIGATION THROUGH POSTAL INSPECTORS AND EMPLOYEES U. S. POST OFFICE, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, REFLECTS 2 CENT STAMPS USED ON ENVELOPE CONTAINING INSTANT THREATENING LETTER ARE FROM A COIL OF STAMPS USED IN STAMP MACHINES WHICH ARE INSTALLED IN POST OFFICES, POST OFFICE AND NUMEROUS BUSINESS HOMES IN OAKLAND. LETTERS IN OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA ARE KEPT BY SIXTEEN TRUCKS THROUGHOUT OAKLAND AND DISPATCHED TO THE WEST OAKLAND ANNEX OF THE OAKLAND POST OFFICE. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ASCERTAIN IN WHAT MAIL BOX INSTANT LETTER WAS POSTED. THIS OFFICE IS HAVING WITH SECURITY FILES IN AN ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY CRANK LETTER WRITERS IN OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA AND UNDER PRETEXT IS REVIEWING CRANK LETTERS REGARDING MC CARTHY WHICH HAVE BEEN MAILED TO THE OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA "REHUB". INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

WELAN

RECORDED 51

Approved: WELAN RR  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent            M Per



4-528

9-24556-11  
**CHANGED TO**  
9 25910-9X1

JUN 7 1954

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SAN FRANCISCO**

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAN FRANCISCO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/30/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4/5-7, 13, 15, 26-28/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <span style="float: right;">plp</span>
TITLE <b>UNKNOWN SUBJECT; Letter Postmarked March 18, 1954, Oakland, California; Senator Joseph R. McCarthy - VICTIM</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>EXTORTION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Unknown subject mailed typewritten letter to Senator JOSEPH R. MC CARTHY, Washington, D. C., from Oakland, Calif., 3/18/54. Letter, which was political in nature, contained the statement, "Tonight I leave for Washington with one motive in mind - your assassination." Investigation through postal inspector, Oakland, California, and review of crank letters and political letters to San Francisco office and Oakland, California, "Tribune" in effort to develop logical suspects negative. AUSA, San Francisco, states further investigation unwarranted.

**DETAILS:**

This investigation is based upon information provided by the Bureau on April 2, 1954, to the effect that Senator JOSEPH R. MC CARTHY had received a threatening letter.

The Bureau enclosed a photostatic copy of an envelope and a typewritten letter. The envelope was addressed to Senator JOSEPH MC CARTHY, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C.

EXP. PROC.

**COPIES DESTROYED**  
833

JUL 10 1965  
W m 100

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

2-Bureau  
1-USA, San Francisco  
2-San Francisco (9-998)

**68 MAY 14 1954**

24556

12

**RECORDED-67**

PROPERTY OF FBI - THIS REPORT IS LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI, AND NEITHER IT NOR ITS CONTENTS ARE TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE YOUR AGENCY

NY 9-798

It was postmarked 4:10 PM, March 18, at Oakland, California. Inside the postmark was the printed figure 2. The envelope contained two two cent stamps and a cancellation mark with the following wording:

"California Public Schools  
Week April 2  
Visit Your Schools"

The letter which was dated March 18, 1954, contained the following message:

"March 18, 1954"

"Senator Joseph McCarthy  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C."

"My dear Senator:

"I hope this reaches you in time. Tonight I leave for Washington with one notion in my mind - your assassination."

"I am a God fearing man, but I am not willing to let myself be led by while you arrogantly, ignorantly and self-righteously tear apart these principles of democracy, fair play, and civil liberties which America has treasured for so long."

"Perhaps I will be able to re-reason before I arrive; I doubt it. For months this has plagued me. I feel it only fair to warn you."

"Hoping you will realize the message of my words, I am

"MOST SINCERELY YOURS"

24556

12

9-998

The Bureau advised the original envelope and letter had been forwarded to the FBI Laboratory for examination and that the Washington Field Office had been notified to furnish information regarding the letter to the Metropolitan Police and Capital Police forces at Washington, D. C. so that protection could be afforded.

At San Francisco, California:

On April 1, 1954, the Bureau furnished the FBI Laboratory report concerning the examination of the original envelope and letter. The report reflected that both documents had been searched through appropriate sections of the Anonymous Letter File without effecting an identification.

The Laboratory concluded from its examination that the typewriting on the envelope and letter had been prepared on a typewriter equipped with Corona plus type. The type is approximately 12 points the inch. The Laboratory advised that this style of type was normally used on Corona 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Concerning the envelope the Laboratory advised that it was of white bond and contained the typewritten address protected by red ribbon. The envelope measured approximately 6.5 by 1.5 inches and bears no watermark.

According to the Laboratory, the letter was prepared on a piece of white bond paper bearing the typewritten letter prepared with the red ribbon. The paper measures approximately 6.5 by 1.5 inches and bears no watermark.

On the same day, the FBI Laboratory advised that there were no latent impressions on the envelope but that two latent fingerprints and one fragmentary latent palm print had been developed on the letter.

Crank letters and letters of a political nature which appear in the security files of the San Francisco Office were

SF 9-998

reviewed in an attempt to develop logical suspects in this case with negative results.

On April 6, 1954, the Washington Field Office advised that the contents of the instant letter had been furnished to [redacted] of the Metropolitan Police Department and to Captain [redacted] of the United States Capitol Police.

At Oakland, California:

[redacted], United States Post Office, was interviewed in an effort to develop leads from the envelope in which the message was contained. [redacted] advised that the figure 2 appearing in the postmark on the envelope indicated that the envelope had been processed by the No. 2 cancellation machine at the Post Office Annex, Oakland, California. He said that there were five such machines in the Post Office Annex.

[redacted] advised that the 6:30 PM time appearing on the postmark revealed that the envelope had gone through the cancellation machine between 6:00 PM and 6:30 PM. Regarding the collection of letters, [redacted] stated that sixteen post office trucks make pick ups from mailboxes throughout the city of Oakland and all letters are deposited, postmarked and canceled at the Post Office Annex in Oakland. He advised that it was impossible to determine from the cancellation or postmark on the envelope in which section of the city of Oakland the envelope had been mailed.

Regarding the stamps on the envelope, he stated that the two two cent stamps appearing on the envelope were from a coil of stamps rather than a sheet of stamps. He said that this type of stamp is available in stamp machines at the main post office and stamp machines located in drug stores and other business houses throughout Oakland. He further advised that these coils of stamps were sold to numerous business houses throughout Oakland, California, where they are installed in plastic dispensers for use in business mailing. He advised that it was impossible from the nature of the stamps to ascertain from where they were obtained.

[redacted] advised that the cancellation containing the

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44-198

message "California Public Schools Week, etc." was of no significance since all mail from the Oakland Post Office on March 18, 1954, would bear this cancellation notice.

An examination of the content of the threatening letter revealed that it appeared possible that the subject had written prior letters expressing his opinion of Senator McCARTHY. A review was conducted of crank letters written to the Oakland, California, "Tribune" from January 1, 1954 to the present time. No letter that appeared similar to the instant letter in content, form and nature of typing was noted.

San Francisco T-1, of known reliability, was interviewed and was unable to provide any further information of value to this investigation.

At San Francisco, California

The facts of this case were discussed with Assistant United States Attorney LYNN J. GILLARD on April 5, 1954. Mr. GILLARD advised that he would defer an opinion regarding prosecution pending efforts to locate and interview the subject.

On April 15 and 27, 1954, this case was again discussed with Mr. GILLARD and he was advised of the investigative efforts conducted to date. He stated that it was his opinion that all logical investigation had been concluded. He said in view of the fact that there were probably thousands of people in Oakland who might have written instant letter, he felt that additional investigation was unwarranted.

94556

JUN 18 1954

SF 9-998

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

SOURCE:

San Francisco I-1 is [REDACTED] b7D

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated March 30, 1954.

San Francisco Teletype to Bureau dated April 5, 1954.

Washington Field Office letter to Bureau dated April 6, 1954.

San Francisco Air-tel to Bureau dated April 8, 1954.

San Francisco Air-tel to Bureau dated April 15, 1954.

ROUTING SLIP

FD-4  
(5-12-52)  
19\_\_

Date 5/3/54

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

Title: UNSUB; Letter Postmarked  
3/18/54, Oakland, Calif; Senator  
JOSEPH R. McCARTHY - VICTIM  
EXTORTION

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_  
Agent \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Employee \_\_\_\_\_

File No. SP 9-998

ACTION DESIRED

Assign to _____	Open Case _____
Acknowledge _____	Prepare Tickler _____
Bring File _____	Reassign to _____
Call Me _____	Recharge serials _____
See Me _____	Search and Return _____
Correct _____	Send serials _____
Delinquent _____	to _____
Expedite _____	Submit new charge-out _____
File _____	Submit report by _____
Leads need attention _____	Type _____
Read, Initial and _____	Return Serials _____
Return _____	
Undeveloped leads in your district awaiting attention _____	

Recep SA [redacted] dated 4/30/54 at San Francisco  
Attached are 2 copies of amended page 5 of the above report.

PGB:rap

84556

S.A.C. WILLIAM M. WHELAN  
Office SAN FRANCISCO

(In intra office use return this with notation as to action taken or explanation.)



SAC, San Francisco

April 1, 1954

Director, FBI

LETTER  
LETTER POSTMARKED MARCH 18, 1954  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,  
SENATOR JOSEPH R. CANTY  
VIREX

Re FBI laboratory report dated April 1, 1954, to  
your office in connection with the above-entitled case.

No latent impressions developed on envelope,  
designated Q1. Two latent fingerprints and one fragmentary  
latent palm print developed on letter, designated Q2. Specimens  
being placed in Bureau files.

cc: SAC, WFO

EX-125

9-24556-13

cc: Mr. E. H. Hughes - Room 5722 - Bureau

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet Recorded 3-11-54 3:20 PM

9-24536  
No Lab. File

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJ

Letter postmarked March 18, 1954 Oakland, Calif.

File # 9-24536-3  
Lab. # D-182430 18

SENATOR JOSEPH R. McCARTHY - VICTIM  
EXTORTION

Ans to San Francisco

Examination requested by: Bureau

Date of reference communication: 3-30-54

Date received: 3-30-54

Examination requested: Dec. FBI

Result of Examination:

Examination by: [redacted]

C.E. Wash. Field

E.H. Hughes, Bu. Sup. Rm 5722

Q1 Q2

Specimens submitted for examination

- 1 Envelope bearing to address, SENATOR JOSEPH R. McCARTHY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20540, dated March 18, 1954.
- 2 Corresponding to letter dated March 18, 1954 bearing postmark beginning "I hope this reaches you in time. I am sure you will find it interesting. Sincerely yours, [redacted]"

Exam: no latex devel Q1  
2 lat & pte & 1 fing lat & pte devel Q2

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24536

4/1  
13

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FBI, SAN FRANCISCO (9-998)

1/15/54

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

DIRECTOR, FBI

UNSUB; LETTER POSTMARKED 3/18/54, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, SENATOR JAMES  
R. McCARTHY - VICTIM; EXTORTION. INVESTIGATION THROUGH POSTAL OFFICIALS,  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA; SECURITY FILES, SF OFFICE, AND CRANK LETTERS TO  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA "TRIBUNE" HAS FAILED TO DEVELOP LOGICAL SUSPECTS IN  
THIS CASE. AUSA, SF, ADVISES BECAUSE POLITICAL NATURE OF LETTER INDICATES  
ANYONE OF AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF OPPONENTS OF THE VICTIM MIGHT HAVE WRITTEN  
INSTANT LETTER, FURTHER INVESTIGATION IS UNWARRANTED. CLOSING REPORT WILL  
BE SUBMITTED.

DPH:WAP  
AIRMAIL

J. P. Rosen

CO. A. J. JEN  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

RECORDED-11  
EX-129

9-24556-14

APR 19 1954

9 - 24556 - 14

DEC 13 1954

AIR MAIL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: April 21, 1954

FROM : Mr. Price

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT  
LETTER POSTMARKED  
March 18, 1954  
OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA  
SENATOR JOSEPH W. MC CARTHY - VICTIM  
EXTORTION

The Senator by letter dated March 24, 1954, furnished a letter to the Bureau which he felt contained a threat against him. The Senator's letter was acknowledged on March 30, 1954. He was advised that in view of the possible threat investigation would be instituted. (Photo of letter and envelope attached)

The San Francisco Division contacted the United States Attorney for an opinion and he advised that he deferred opinion regarding prosecution and requested investigation in an attempt to locate and interview the unknown subject. Considerable investigation was conducted by the San Francisco Division without identifying the subject.

By airtel dated April 15, 1954, the San Francisco Division advised investigation thus far was negative and that the U. S. Attorney at San Francisco was recontacted and prosecution was declined. The U. S. Attorney advised that because of the political nature of the letter it indicated anyone of an unlimited number of opponents of the victim might have written the letter. Therefore, further investigation was unwarranted.

The above is for your information. No further action is being taken in this matter and the Senator is not being advised of the results.

cc: Mr. Nichols

EM:js

DEC 13 1954

APR 20 1954

24556

18

19-24556-15

APR 26 1954



SENATOR JOSEPH MCCARTHY  
STATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

W

24556

15

24556

15

March 18, 1954

Senator Joseph McCarthy  
Senate Office Building  
Washington D.C.

My dear Senator:

I hope this reaches you in time. Tonight I leave for Washington with one motive in mind - your assassination.

I am a God fearing man, but I find it impossible to let myself stand by while you arrogantly, ignorantly and self-centeredly tear apart those principles of democracy, fair play, and civil liberties which America has treasured for so long.

Perhaps I will be able to re-reason before I arrive; I doubt it. For months this has plagued me. I feel it only fair to warn you.

Hoping you will recognize the necessity of your ways, I am

MOST SINCERELY YOURS

SUBJECT Joseph McCarthy  
FILE NUMBER 9-25910  
SECTION NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

*38 pages*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: April 13, 1954

TIME: 2:11:10 PM

TO: SAC, NEW YORK  
FROM: SAC, BOSTON  
SUBJECT: EXTORTION

SAC, [redacted], Boston, advised that a reporter of the "Sunday Evening Star", a Boston paper, inquired concerning an article in the Sunday edition of the "Boston Post" to the effect that Senator McCarthy, who was in Boston to address the Beacon Associates at Algonquin Club received a threatening letter in which sender made a threat to kill McCarthy with a shotgun if he appeared for the talk. The "Boston Post" article stated that the letter was in the possession of a [redacted] Secretary of the Beacon Associates. [redacted] stated that if approved, Boston would reply to the inquiry that they were investigating to determine if a Federal violation existed.

Inspector J. J. [redacted] was contacted and being informed of the foregoing by [redacted] instructed that no comment be made at this time.

[redacted] said that Agents were contacted Graham to obtain the letter and ascertain the facts. Boston is to keep the Bureau currently informed of developments.

Very truly yours,  
SAC, Boston

cc: [redacted]

SEP 11 1954

25910-

19-25910

APR 14 1954



Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Kater	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Just before Mr. [unclear] was given the  
shot by his Dr. Wednesday, sorry they were  
not the right shots. He will get the  
real shot if he reaches as far as the  
Algonquin Club.

Beware you members of the  
Beacon Society.

He is trying to reach our President for  
he can boast of been the first  
Catholic President of the United States  
An American

9 25910-A

Vol. of Spanish American War

THREATENING LETTER—Copy of original letter which threatened that Senator Joseph  
McCarthy "will get the real shot if he reaches as far as the Algonquin Club." A  
police guard was posted at the club while McCarthy addressed the Beacon Society.

File  
copy

Incub, Letter from [unclear] 4/1/40  
LYNN, W. and

Senator Joseph McCarthy  
Ly T.

RECEIVED PER THE [unclear]

DATE

30 MAY 1940

MAILED FROM LYNN — Envelope mailed from LYNN, Mass.  
at 11:20 A. M. which contained threat on the life of Sen.  
Joseph E. McCarthy in connection with his appearance before  
the Senate Select Committee.

4-528

1-3-11  
**CHANGED TO**

9-24-56

JUN 7 1954  
164

APR 4 1954

TELETYPE

WASH- 6 AND BOSTON 2 FROM NEW YORK  
DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

2-50 P

SENATOR JOSEPH MC CARTHY - VICTIM, DISTORTION. RE BOSTON  
APRIL FOUR, NINETEEN FIFTYFOUR.  
SENATOR WAS CONTACTED AT TWO TWENTY FIVE PM THIS DATE  
ADVISED THAT HE HAD TURNED INSTANT LETTER OVER TO THE PILOT  
PLACE. IS THE OWNER OF THE BOSTON POST AND  
WOULD BE IN POSSESSION. HE SAID THE SENATOR DID  
THE LETTER MADE PUBLIC BUT THAT AS WAS GOING TO PUBLISH  
ARTICLE ABOUT MC CARTHY HE WANTED TO SEE THE LETTER IN REAR  
HE SAID THAT THE SENATOR THOUGHT THE LETTER OF  
WAS A CRANK. ADVISED THAT WHEN THE BOSTON OFFICE  
TELL HIM THAT HAD TALKED WITH  
THE LETTER TO THE  
TWELVE FIFTYFIVE PM AND  
HOLDING THE LETTER  
OUTSIDE LETTER  
LETTER OF THE  
IN ORDER  
NY R & H 10  
NY R & H 10  
DILLON

1954

TELETYPE



WASHINGTON 1 NEW YORK 1 FROM BOSTON  
DIRECTOR AND SAC  
UNSUB SENATOR JOSEPH MCCARTHY  
RENYTEL CALL TO BUREAU APRIL 3 LAST. INVESTIGATION SHOWS  
POSTHUMOUS LYNN, MASS DATE NOT KNOWN. ADDRESS TO BOSTON  
CLUB, BEACON SOCIETY, BOSTON HAS LEAD PHOTO RECEIVED AT  
EARLY MORNING OF APRIL THIRD, ON INSTRUCTIONS OF PHOENIX  
CONTACT BY BEACON ASSOCIATES, SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR AT  
AND BEACON ASSOCIATES OVER PHONE TO SENATOR'S BEST OPERATOR  
STATED GAVE MESSAGE MCCARTHY, YOU GOT SHOT FROM BOSTON  
YOU WILL GET ANSWER SHOT BEFORE REACHING THE CLUB  
STATED GAVE AN AMERICAN VETERAN SPEECH IN BOSTON  
ON THE NIGHT OF APRIL TWO BEACON SOCIETY CLUB AND  
IN HIS POCKET AND BEACON SOCIETY CLUB AND BEACON SOCIETY CLUB  
IN NEWSPAPER RELATIVE TO THREAT ON MCCARTHY LIFE.  
LETTER TO SENATOR MCCARTHY WAS PASSED IT TO HIS CLERK  
FORWARDED IT OVER TO SENATOR, WITH PERSONAL REPRESENTATION  
END PAGE ONE

PR 16 1054

9-25

PAGE TWO

THE POSSESSION OF IT. MCCARTHY SPOKE AT BANQUET WHICH TERMINATED  
APPROXIMATELY TEN THIRTY PM AND THEN BOARDED ELEVEN SEVEN  
EAST BOSTON AIRPORT FOR NYC. [REDACTED] ACCOMPANIED THE AIRCRAFT  
TEAM TO STAY AT ST. REGIS HOTEL, NYC. UNO, NY CONTACT [REDACTED]  
ST. REGIS HOTEL AND DETERMINE IF LEAD CONTAINS VIOLATION OF  
RESTRICTION STATE AND THEREAFTER APPROPRIATE CONTACT CAN BE  
MADE FOR PROSECUTION OPINION. FOR INFO NYC, BOSTON [REDACTED]  
ARE ADVISED BY HQ OFFICE RELATIVE TO ACTION TAKEN. [REDACTED]  
AND REQUEST ONE NEWSPAPER PLAN TO GIVE INCIDENT [REDACTED]  
TO BE KEPT TO SWELL RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION.

ROSEN

Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

*Re*

DATE: April 4, 1954

FROM : Mr. Rice

*7/10/54*

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT, *Letter to Mr. L. L. ...*, NN, MISC 4/10/54  
SEN. JOSEPH MC CARTHY - R - CALIF.  
EXTORTION

With reference to teletype from Boston dated August 4, 1954, in the captioned case, after checking with Mr. Winterrowd and Mr. McGuire, Supervisor of the New York Office, [redacted] was telephonically contacted and he was told that [redacted] should be contacted today and the alleged extortion letter examined. Thereafter the Boston Office should be advised by teletype of the contents in order that appropriate discussion can be had with the United States Attorney. [redacted] was advised that the Bureau should be kept fully informed in this matter.

*See*

25910- 5

*9-25/10/54*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: April 5, 1954

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: Mr. [redacted] *gib*

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;  
SENATOR JOSEPH P. MC CARTHY - VIOLENCE  
EXTORTION

By memorandum of April 4, 1954, [redacted] advised you the Boston office had called stating that an inquiry had been received from a local newspaper reporter concerning an article in a second Boston newspaper to the effect that Senator McCarthy had been threatened in a letter addressed to the Algonquin Club, Boston Society, Boston, Massachusetts. Boston instructed by [redacted] that his office no comment was to be made to the newspapers at the time.

By teletype of April 4, 1954, [redacted] advised [redacted] received instant updated letter from above-mentioned club, [redacted] and kept it until Boston postmarked Lynn, Massachusetts, April 4, 1954. He then gave it to newspapers made inquiry of him concerning it. He then gave it to McCarthy who passed it off as a frank and turned it over to [redacted] personal representative of McCarthy. McCarthy made speech above-mentioned club and departed for New York 11 p.m., April 4, 1954.

By memorandum of April 4, 1954, [redacted] advised you New York was instructed to obtain this letter and thereafter advise Boston of contents for presentation to USA.

By teletype of April 4, 1954, New York advised instant letter turned over by [redacted] to [redacted] former Boston Post. Nichols instructed Boston through New York Office to contact [redacted] former agent and assistant to [redacted] to obtain this letter and present matter to USA.

25910-6

## ACTION TAKEN:

On this date Supervisor [redacted] telephonically contacted [redacted], acting Boston Office, who advised one [redacted] agent was attempting to obtain instant letter which is reportedly locked in Fox's desk. Fox unavailable at present but Boston agreed to obtain letter today. Boston instructed to expedite matter and advise Bureau at once following presentation to USA.

## RECOMMENDATION:

This is for your current information.

cc: Mr. Nichols  
REG:jg

58 APR 21 1954

RECEIVED 8

APR 8 1954

**Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

TO : Mr. Rosen

DATE: April 5, 1954

FROM : Mr. L. Price

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT;  
SENATOR JOSEPH MCCARTHY - VICTIM;  
EXTORTION

Call: 4:28 p.m.

ASAC Hargett of the Boston Office advised that the threatening letter to Senator McCarthy had been obtained from the "Boston Post," to whom it had been turned over, and that the letter had been exhibited to Assistant United States Attorney James J. Sullivan, Jr. Sullivan stated that in his opinion the letter constituted a violation of the Extortion Statute and that he would authorize prosecution in the event the author is identified. Hargett said that accordingly investigation is being instituted and that the original letter is being submitted to the FBI Laboratory for appropriate examination.

Hargett stated that he had received press inquiries regarding this matter, which you will recall from my prior memorandum today involved a letter to Senator McCarthy received at the Algonquin Club, Boston, Massachusetts, threatening to shoot him.

**ACTION:**

ASAC Hargett was transferred to Mr. McGuire in Mr. Nichols's office with regard to the handling of press inquiries, and the above is set out for your current information and for record purposes.

cc - Mr. Nichols

APR 13 1954

65-940-1

APR 13 1954



**Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

**TO :** Mr. Tolson

**FROM :** L. B. Nichols

**SUBJECT:** SENATOR JOSEPH R. MCCARTHY  
VICTIM  
EXTORTION

**DATE:** April 5, 1954

ASAC Hargett of Boston telephonically contacted my office at 4:30 p. m. and spoke to DeLoach. He referred to the extortion note which had been sent to the Algonquin Club, Boston, relative to McCarthy in which statements were made relative to the fact that the Senator "will get some real shots." Hargett stated that Senator McCarthy has given this letter to [redacted] of the Boston Post and the letter had later been turned over to the Boston Office of the FBI.

Hargett stated that the letter in question had been shown to the U. S. Attorney, Boston, and that after consideration of this matter the U. S. Attorney had requested [redacted] investigation looking towards prosecution in the matter. Hargett desired to answer press inquiries by stating "at the request of the U. S. Attorney we are making inquiries into the matter." He pointed out that the Boston Post, to whom the letter had first been referred, had full knowledge of the contents of the letter and that the Post, of course, knew that the FBI was considering the matter and would naturally present the facts of the case to the U. S. Attorney's Office.

Hargett was advised that he should proceed as planned; however, no additional facts should be released to the press in view of the pending investigation.

**ACTION:**

For information.

cc - Mr. Boardman

cc - Mr. Rosen

CED:jam

✓ 9 25910-8

RECORDED 7

9-25910-8

FX 12

5 APR 22

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

APR 5 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

URGENT 2 FROM BOSTON

URGENT

RE BOSTON TELETYPE APRIL FOUR LAST AND BUREAU TELETYPE APRIL FIVE LAST. ORIGINAL LETTER OBTAINED FROM BOSTON LAST THROUGH FORMER SA [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] ADVISED LETTER IS RECOGNIZABLE AS VIOLATION OF [REDACTED] AND IS SUFFICIENTLY SPELLED OUT IN [REDACTED] FOR PROSECUTION IF SUBJECT IDENTIFIED. [REDACTED] BEING FORWARDED DATE DATE TO BUREAU.

85916

April 13, 1954

SAC, Boston (9-810)

Director, FBI

RECORDED-11

EX-123

UNSUB, WA. "AM AMERICAN"  
SENATOR JOSEPH MC CARTHY  
VIKEI

Further reurlet April 5, 1954, submitting an envelope and accompanying letter, designated in the laboratory report as Q1 and Q2, for examination.

No latent impressions of value developed on Q1 or Q2, which are enclosed.

Laboratory report separate.

Enclosures (2)

APR 13 1954

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT, wa. "An American"  
Senator JOSEPH McCarthy - VICTIM  
EXTORTION

Lab file

File # 9-255-  
Lab. # D-182922 28

Examination requested by: Boston (9-410)

Date of reference communication: 4-5-54

Date received: 4-8-54

Examination requested: Doc. Forg.

Result of Examination:

Examination by:

Specimens submitted for examination

Q1 Envelope bearing hv. address, "The Algonquin Club", Boston.  
Mass. Rescue Society" postmarked BOSTON, MASS. APR. 8 11:00 AM  
1954.

Q2 Accompanying hv letter beginning "I am 'Boston Mercury'  
the given two checks by me....." signed "An American".

The latent impressions of rubber developed on Q1 & Q2  
Q1 & Q2 returned to Boston  
Lab. reg. copy

60 APR 26 1954

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE **Apr 11 5, 1950**

ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

FROM : SAC, BOSTON (9-510)

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN SUBJECT, wa. "An American";  
Senator JOSEPH McCARTHY - Victim  
EXTORTION

ReBostels 4/4/54 and 4/5/54 and Boston telephone call to Bureau 4/5/54 and New York Tel 4/4/54.

The Algonquin Club of Boston, Massachusetts, received the following on April 3, 1954, the original and photostat copy attached hereto:

- 1:- Envelope addressed "To 'Algonquin Club', Boston, Mass. Beacon Society" postmarked "Lynn, Mass. April 2, 1954, 11:30 A.M." G. R.
- 2:- Accompanying note beginning "I see Gestapo McCarthy... .." signed "An American".

This letter was handled by numerous individuals including the switchboard operator at the Algonquin Club, the secretary of the Algonquin Club, [REDACTED] Senator McCARTHY's personal representative, editors, newspaper reporters, and photographers of the Boston Post. If the Laboratory should obtain latent consideration will be given at that time to obtaining elimination prints.

The Laboratory is also requested to send 5 9-1 6 letter through the Anonymous Letter File.

The original letter was obtained from the Boston Post through former Special Agent [redacted] Assistant to [redacted], who is the owner of the above newspaper. It is noted that the Boston Post on April 4, 1954, published a feature article concerning McCARTHY's visit to Boston on April 3, 1954, at which time McCARTHY spoke before the Kiwanis Society at the Algonquin Club, Boston, Massachusetts.

The Boston Post also carried an item referring to the receipt of the attached extortion letter on April 4, 1954. On April 5, 1954, the Boston Post printed a facsimile of the original extortion letter.

JMC:EFL  
Encl. (2)  
REGISTERED MAIL

58 APR 20 1950

LEAD

BSA-810

The facts of this case were discussed with Assistant United States Attorney JAMES J. BULLIAN, Jr., Boston, Massachusetts, who stated that the letter is recognizable as a violation of the Extortion Statute and the threat is sufficiently spelled out in the letter. He stated he will authorize prosecution if the Subject is identified.

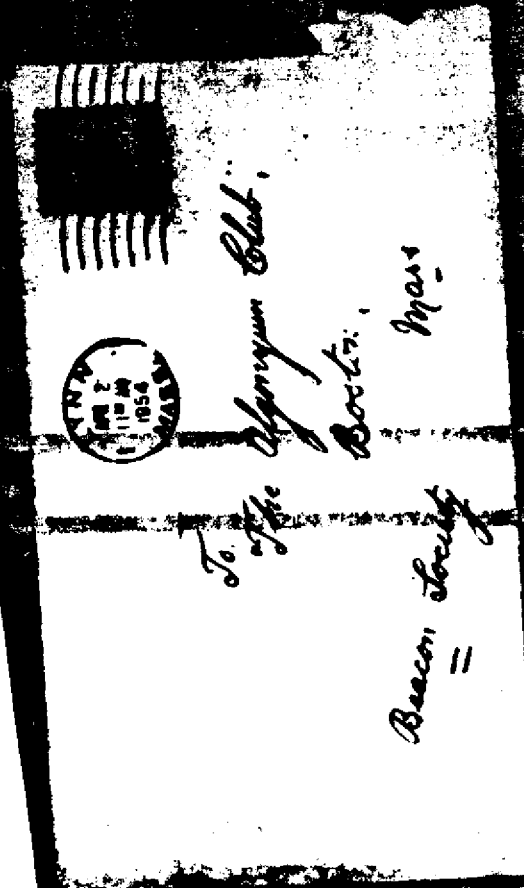
9 25910- 9X

I see yesterday Mr. Carthy was given two  
shots by his Dr. Wednesday, saying they were  
not the right shots. He will get the  
right shot if he reaches as far as the  
Algonquin Club.

Beware you members of the  
Beacon Society

He is trying to reach our President's job  
so he can boast of been the first  
Catholic President of the United States.  
An American.

Vet of Spanish, Mexican, & World war. 1.



To The Algonquin Club,  
Boston, Mass.  
Beacon Society

REPORT  
of the

LABORATORY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON D. C.

To:  
SAC, Boston

April 9, 1954

FROM: WASH., D.C.,  
"An American"  
Senator JOSEPH MCCARTHY  
VIXEN

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR FILE NO. 9-230  
FBI FILE NO.  
LAB. NO. B-182922

Examination requested by: Boston  
Reference: Letter 4-5-54  
Examination requested: Document and Fingerprint

- 1. Envelope bearing handwritten address, "The Algonquin Club, Boston, Mass. Beacon Society" postmarked APR. 9 11:30 AM 1954.
- 2. Accompanying handwritten letter beginning "I am enclosing..." was given two checks by the sender.

Results of examination:

The handwriting appearing on the envelope listed above was examined in the appropriate sections of the Laboratory files without effecting an identification. These results copies will be added to this file for future reference and identification.

The physical characteristics of the envelope have been recorded in the Laboratory files.

A separate report will be made by the latent fingerprint examination.

The evidence will be returned to you with the report on the fingerprint examination.

25910-971

5 APR 1954  
FBI

COMM-FBI  
APR-8 1954  
MAILED

RECORDED - 51  
EX-12  
APR 12 1954



9-25-11  
CHANGED TO

9-24556-1514

JUN 7 1954

Blind

C

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BOSTON**

NEWPORT NEWS, VA

BOSTON, MASS.

DATE WHEN MADE  
5/11/54

PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE  
4/3-6, 9, 12, 19,  
22, 24

REPORT MADE BY

974

PHENOWA SUBJECT, wa. "An American;"  
SENATOR JOSEPH McCARTHY - Victim

CHARACTER OF CASE

## EXTORTION

#### SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

Senator JOSEPH McCARTHY received a threatening letter postmarked April 2, 1954 at Lynn, Mass., while he was present in Boston on a speaking engagement on April 3, 1954, at the Algonquin Club. Original letter obtained and forwarded to the FBI Laboratory unable to make identification or develop leads. Representatives of V.A., Spanish American War Veterans and the Post Office unable to furnish any information which would identify author. AUSA, Boston, Mass., will authorize if subject identified.

### DETAILS:

This investigation was predicated on the fact that Senator JAMES  
McCARNEY received a letter containing a threat to kill him if he  
appeared on April 3, 1964, to address the Boston Association of the  
Sikhs at Club, 217 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts.

Senator McGowan was scheduled to speak at a banquet at 7:00 P.M.

5910-

3 Bureau (9-25930)

1 - [REDACTED]

5-11-47

NOTICE OF THE  
OF THE BOARD

On April 3, 1954, held by the Beacon Society of Boston, at which approximately two hundred people were in attendance. He stated that early in the afternoon of April 3, 1954, he called the Allington Club to determine if there were any last minute messages for him, at which time the switchboard operator advised him that there was a letter addressed to the Club and he requested that she read it to him. She read the first few lines which indicated a threat to McCAHILL and he advised that he would be in shortly and pick up the letter at that time. He arrived at the Club between 4:00 and 5:00 P.M., at which time he picked up the letter and placed it in his pocket. He stated that in the presence of last minute details concerning this dinner that he forgot about it and it was not until at 7:00 P.M. when he received a query from the Boston Post concerning a threatening letter that it was again brought to his attention.

He immediately turned it over to the Boston Post.

He immediately turned the letter over to [redacted] representative of Senator McCARTHY, who in turn advised the Senator. He stated that the Senator said little attention to it and passed it off as a crank letter. [redacted] he last saw the letter, it was in the possession of either [redacted] the Senator. [redacted] advised that [redacted]

[illegible][illegible]

