



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**WALTER G. KRIVITSKY**

**PART 1 OF 4**

**FILE NUMBER : 100-11146**

Walter G. Krivitsky

100-11146 section 1

(163 pages)

Part 1 of 4 parts

570 Total Pages

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York

GJS:JKB  
65-398

February 12, 1941

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP10SKJK

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: WALTER G. KRIVITSKY

Dear Sir:

Information was received on February 10, 1941, by Special Agent [redacted] of this office, from [redacted] New York City, telephone [redacted] that she had met a man who had been one of the owners of the bank in Germany where the money had been deposited in connection with the distribution of counterfeit money, which was described by KRIVITSKY in his published articles. [redacted] said she was not particularly impressed by the man's appearance and had no way of telling whether or not he was telling the truth; that she would endeavor to get his permission to disclose his name and would have him communicate with this office. b7C b7D

In accordance with arrangements made through [redacted] the man communicated with this office and was interviewed by Special Agent [redacted] on February 11, 1941. The man's name is JOSEPH DORN, now residing at the Barbison Plaza Hotel, New York City. He is at present out on parole from the Federal penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, he having been one of the persons convicted in the BOB Case, and his parole will expire in August. b7C

This man states that in 1929 he had been employed to edit a financial newspaper in Germany, the name of which was the "Wirtschaftlicher Ratgeber", which had been acquired by a group of people who were engaging in the business of handling certain financial securities and needed a paper to stimulate interest therein. The paper had been in business for about fifty-seven years as a financial publication. The group was going to engage in a sort of brokerage business in connection with the publishing of the paper. RECORDED & INDEXED 100-11146-1  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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Director

New York, New York  
February 12, 1941

and then found that they would have to have a bank to act as a depository, inasmuch as the German law at that time would not permit them to operate otherwise. The group then bought the Bank Sass, Martini and set it up at 23 Taubenstrasse, Berlin.

One of the persons who went into the venture of purchasing the bank was a Mr. SIMONS (possibly ZIMMONS) who was the editor of the paper. The bank was purchased with money provided by the same group of people that bought the paper and SIMONS was installed as president of the bank.

Another one of the writers on the paper was a man named ECKART. DORN identified him as the man who brought KRIVITSKY into the bank to make the first deposit.

In connection with the purchase of the bank, it should be noted that what was bought was the charter for the bank, the bank itself having been inactive for quite sometime, and after buying the charter the bank was reestablished at the address given above. When the paper was bought by the group, ZICKERT, the owner of the paper, stepped out as the managing head but remained on the board. The office of the paper was not in the same building as the bank, it being located at Bellaissance Flats, Berlin. The negotiations for the purchasing of the paper were handled by a Dr. NEURATH. Whether or not this is the Dr. NEURATH who since became famous, DORN does not know.

DORN was in the premises of the bank one day in December of 1929 in a conference with SIMONS and one or two others, whose names he does not recall, about a trip he was to make to Paris that same day. The bank was not as yet functioning. ECKART walked into the private office of the president, where they were gathered, and stated that he had a potential client of the bank who wanted to cash some American dollars. There was some discussion as to the advisability of taking this business. DORN suggested that the matter be left alone for the time being. ECKART persisted in his desire to have this man as a depositor, saying the man could

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undoubtedly give the bank a lot of business if it would accommodate him in this instance. Someone asked who the man was and ECKART, speaking to DORN, said that it was the man whom DORN would recall having seen ECKART with in the confectionary on Unter den Linden on the previous evening. DORN recalled then that he had seen ECKART with another man in the coffee shop on the previous evening. DORN suggested that ECKART bring in some of the money for them to examine and ECKART went out to speak to the man and, at the same time, DORN stepped out of the door of the private office and took a look at the man, who was possibly fifteen feet away from him, and he says that he is quite certain that the man whom he saw, who was there with the money and who was talking to ECKART at the time, is the same man whom he had seen the night before in ECKART's presence and the same man whom he subsequently saw in the Cirque Hausman, a gambling casino in Paris, and whose picture he still later saw in the Book Review Section of the New York TIMES.

ECKART brought in a bundle which was understood to contain fifty \$100. bills, which were new, small bills. DORN remembers them very vividly because they were the first of the small bills that he had seen, although he had read about the contemplated change in the currency. He looked at one or two of them and he advised against the transaction, principally because it was a type of money that he had never seen before. He then suggested that if they were going to do business with the man, they take the money to the Deutschebank and have it cashed, as that bank was familiar with the money and had men who understood foreign currency and were familiar with the various types. This apparently was done and DORN was subsequently told by someone that they had handled it in this manner. DORN said he cautioned ECKART to warn the Deutschebank to look carefully at the money, because it was a new type of money and he had never seen any of it before. He recalls that the cashier who went to the Deutschebank with the money returned in about half an hour and indicated that the Deutschebank had cashed the money.

DORN left for Paris that same afternoon or evening and was gone for several weeks. When he returned to Berlin he learned from conversation with ECKART that the bank had done some more business with this same man and he seemed to be quite proud of the business they had done. DORN does not remember what the amounts involved

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February 12, 1941

were, but it is his recollection that there was a substantial amount involved. As DORN recalls it, he returned from Paris to Berlin about the middle of January, 1930. During the month of January DORN was at the office of the newspaper one day when he was informed that the Bank Sass, Martini had been raided by the police. He immediately went over to the bank and learned that some of the money involved in the transactions, which are referred to above, had been found to be counterfeit money. If, as has been related by KRIVITSKY, the bills involved in the counterfeiting were the large size, then, according to DORN, it is possible that the first deposit was bonafide, as he is positive that this deposit was made up of the small-size bills. DORN learned that the Deutschebank had been notified by the Federal Reserve Bank that the bills sent in exchange to the United States were counterfeit and the first information the Sass, Martini Bank had of this situation was when the authorities raided the bank.

The Deutschebank subsequently sued the Bank Sass, Martini, but was unable to collect because of some peculiarity in the German law which stated that if money is printed on bonafide paper it is not counterfeit, and the Deutschebank was unable to collect anything in restitution for their loss. The Bank Sass, Martini sued the Deutschebank for the harm done to its reputation, and collected a small amount in settlement. This, incidentally, practically ended the business of the Bank Sass, Martini and the venture connected therewith and, while the bank stayed open, the business eventually passed out of existence.

DORN says he subsequently saw the man who had brought in the original deposit, or at least he is reasonably sure he saw this same man, in the Circle Hausman, the gambling casino in Paris, in March, 1930, on two or three occasions and that the man looked at him in a manner which led him to believe that the man also recognized him. He also recalls that this man at the time was

Director

New York, New York  
February 12, 1941

gambling with substantial-size chips. He also thinks he saw the same man once again in front of the Cafe de la Paix, Paris, and, as indicated previously, when he saw the book review article with the picture of General WALTER G. KRIVITSKY in the New York TIMES Book Review Section, he recognized immediately that it was the same man whom he had seen on the occasions mentioned above.

With reference to the book, "In Stalin's Secret Service", by General WALTER G. KRIVITSKY, the statement appears on page 118, "In Berlin, several years before Dr. Burton's arrest, the private banking firm of Sass & Martini was bought up, in a devious manner, by the Soviet government for the express purpose of exchanging bogus bills in bulk." DORN states that this is absolutely untrue. He refers to a Dr. UBRICHT, an international lawyer in Berlin, who handled the legal phases of the transactions, as an authority who can state that this is absolutely untrue.

On page 119 of the book it states, "It appeared that a group of American promoters, dealing in Canadian mining shares, had acquired in the fall of 1929 the private banking house of Sass & Martini, a firm founded in 1846. The promoters soon stepped out and turned the ownership over to a certain Herr Simons, and he in turn sold it to none other than Paul Roth, formerly Communist member of the Berlin Municipal Council. I knew Roth to be a confidential employee of the Soviet Embassy in Germany." DORN states that the people referred to as the promoters of the Canadian mining shares was the group of which he was a member and that SIMONS came into the venture along with them and, while it is true that he stayed on after they were out of the venture, it is likewise true that the counterfeit incidents occurred while they were all in the venture, commencing with the original transaction, which was about three days after the bank had opened, and actually before the bank was opened for business. PAUL ROTH, mentioned in the book, is not known to DORN and certainly, he states, had absolutely no connection with the bank or the paper or this transaction.



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New York, New York  
February 12, 1941

Again on Page 119 and 120 there is a statement, "Franz Fischer was described as the chief customer of the bank." DORN says that he never saw or heard of any FRANZ FISCHER and, so far as he knows, no such person had an account with the bank.

On page 120 the following statement appears: "Moreover, I recognized in the press reports a familiar Soviet pattern. The acquisition of the old banking firm by an elusive group of 'Canadian American' promoters, who in turn immediately disposed of it to a Mr. Simons, who turned out to be acting for interests represented by Paul Roth—all this was just the kind of window dressing our secret services were in the habit of hanging out. The old Berlin bank had obviously been purchased in order to inspire confidence in the bogus currency to be handled." DORN states that this is absolutely untrue and that the SIMONS referred to had been connected with the financial paper for years before this occurred.

On page 121 the statement occurs, "As the notes were of an old-fashioned large-size type, then no longer issued in America, they aroused some interest upon their arrival at the Federal Reserve Bank in New York." DORN saw only the bills involved in the first transaction and he is positive, beyond any doubt whatsoever, that this package of money consisted exclusively of new, small bills, the first he had ever seen.

On page 121, also appears the statement, "The Berlin police, under Commissioner von Liebermann, promptly swooped down on Sass & Martini, and soon exposed its artificial character." DORN denies the truthfulness of this statement and said that the authorities gave the bank and its management a "clean bill of health."

Questioned as to whether or not there was any possibility that ECKART might have been working with KRIVITSKY, DORN said that he believed that ECKART was deceived. They questioned ECKART at the time and he explained that he had met the man in the confectionary and that the man had known people whom ECKART knew,



Director

New York, New York  
February 12, 1941

or some such thing, and in this way they had developed a speaking acquaintance.

DOEN has met Dr. BURTAN at Lewisburg and said that BURTAN was quite interested in getting information concerning this matter, but never gave him any information about it. DOEN subsequently met NICHOLAS DOZENBERG in the Federal House of Detention, in New York City, and they talked about the KRIVITSKY articles, but no information of any sort was given him by DOZENBERG.

It should be noted that DOEN is now on parole and he earnestly requests that no publicity be given to the information which he has furnished, as he does not want anything to happen which would in any way interfere with the satisfactory termination of his parole, and he fears that any publicity might have a bad effect. He will, however, be quite willing to furnish any additional information which may be requested of him, although he believes that he has told above everything he knows about the matter.

With reference to the man named by KRIVITSKY as General "Ter" TAIROV, whom KRIVITSKY met in Rome, DOEN says he is quite sure that he saw TAIROV on several occasions with ECKART in Berlin. He bases this on the photographs which he has seen of TAIROV, as he, himself, does not know him.

DOEN is positive in his statement that there was no Communist transaction involved in any way in the purchase or operation of the bank, the paper or the brokerage business and it was a strictly financial transaction in which he and several others expected to make a substantial sum of money. He was to receive a salary and a share in the profits and he expected that he would become quite well fixed as a result of this activity.

In connection with the KRIVITSKY matter, [redacted] told Agent [redacted] that, as she recalls it, before KRIVITSKY testified for the Dies Committee or before his articles appeared in

b7c b7D  
b7c

Director

New York, New York  
February 12, 1941

the "Saturday Evening Post", she heard [redacted] (Major, 67C  
N. I. Reserve, U. S. Army) mention KRIVITSKY and the articles and 67D  
he apparently knew what the articles were to be about. [redacted]  
[redacted] also said that the pictures which were used to illustrate  
the articles came from the Spanish (pro-Franco) publicity agent  
here, ECHEGARAY, and she stated that she had the pictures in her  
desk for a time before they were used. [redacted] also furnished  
information to the effect that [redacted] is now being sued by his wife  
on two judgments, totalling \$111,000. and it is believed that there  
was to be a hearing in a supplementary proceedings on February 11,  
1941. It appears that [redacted] after living with his wife for a  
period of time, one day informed her that he was tired of her, was  
going to make a change, and he went to Reno where he secured a  
divorce by publication. However, Mrs. [redacted] contested the divorce  
and, as an outgrowth of this, was awarded two judgments which  
totalled \$111,000. which, however, she has been unable to collect,  
and that the supplementary proceedings now coming up in the courts  
here are in connection with this matter, the law firm being BONNEY  
& SCHWARTZ. There does not appear to be any such law firm in the  
directory. There is, however, a law firm of BONNEY & O'BRIEN,  
364 West 34th Street, New York City, which may possibly be the  
firm referred to.

No further inquiries are being made as to any of  
the information furnished above, but it is being transmitted to  
the Bureau as of possible interest in connection with the KRIVITSKY  
matter.

Very truly yours,

*B. E. Sackett*

B. E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

EAT:DS

February 11, 1941

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

The Bureau is doing absolutely nothing in connection with the death of Krivitsky.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

Walton J. Krivitsky

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DATE 10/6/82 BY SP18S/LJC

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100-11146-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 FEB 11 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

CHC:LL

February 14, 1941

10:00 A. M.

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Forwerth.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Lendon.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Assistant SAC Guerin, New York City, telephonically  
advised concerning an article which appeared in the New York  
Daily Mirror this morning, entitled "FBI Secretly Probing  
Case of Krivitsky."

Respectfully,

*C. H. Carson*  
C. H. Carson

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DATE 10-6-82 BY SP10SKJC

*Guerin has been told to deny  
this*

100-11146-3  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
4 FEB 15 1941  
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TAMM  
NICHOLS  
HARRIS

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

CHC:WGR

February 10, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. Tamm

Mr. Tolson.....  
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....  
Mr. Clegg.....  
Mr. Foxworth.....  
Mr. Nathan.....  
Mr. Ladd.....  
Mr. Glavin.....  
Mr. Nichols.....  
Mr. Rosen.....  
Mr. Tracy.....  
Miss Gandy.....

8:30 P.M.

WALTER  
I asked Assistant SAC Guerin while talking with him telephonically, if Krivitsky or his lawyer had ever asked the New York office for protection. Mr. Guerin stated that he did not have any knowledge of the same and Agent [redacted] who had interviewed Krivitsky did not have any recollection of such a request; however, the files of the New York office would be checked to ascertain if such a request was received. b7c

Agent [redacted] advised that he and Agent [redacted] talked to Krivitsky in the latter's lawyer's office and Krivitsky told his story about how he had been accosted by some people who were Soviet Agents. Mr. [redacted] stated that he and Agent [redacted] were not very much impressed after the interview with Krivitsky and they were both of the opinion that he did not seem like a Jew although he was alleged to have been Jewish.

Agent [redacted] advised that a confidential informant of his, [redacted] had informed him that a man came over here from Germany several weeks ago. He had been one of the owners of the bank which handled the deal of the Soviet Agents when they put the counterfeit money in circulation in Europe. Krivitsky described this in his story. The man who came over from Germany saw the story Krivitsky wrote in a copy of the Saturday Evening Post and also Krivitsky's picture. He stated that this was a picture of the man who had brought the money into the bank. b7c b7d

According to [redacted], confidential informant, the newspapers have reported that the FBI is handling the case. Friends of Krivitsky have called Agent [redacted] and told him that no doubt this individual was murdered. b7c

Agent [redacted] is going to attempt to find additional information regarding Krivitsky through confidential informants.

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DATE 10-6-92 BY SP-10/10  
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Respectfully,

C. H. Carson  
C. H. Carson

100-11146-4  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FEB 12 1941  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TRANSLATED FROM THE RUSSIAN

Dear Tonia and dear Alak:

It is very difficult for me to write to you very badly, but it is necessary that I give you my only one.

It is difficult for me to write, but think about me and then you will understand that I must go. Don't tell Alak yet where his father is gone. I believe that in time you will tell him, because it will be best for him. Forgive, it is very hard to write. Take care of him, and be a good mother to him and be always quiet and never get angry at him. He is very good and always very pale. Good people will help you, but not enemies. I think my sins are big. I see you Tonia and Alak. I embrace you,

/s/ Yours Vola

on the farm of Dobartov

I wrote this yesterday, but I did not have any strength in N. Y. I did not have any business in Washington, I went to see Dobartov, because that is the only place I could get the fire arms.

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DATE 10-6-82 BY SP10500

100-11146-4



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

AR:AI

February 11, 1941

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

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DATE 10-6-82 BY SP-1 GSC/C

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I spoke to Louis Waldman, attorney for Krivitsky this morning. He was desirous of obtaining the assistance of the FBI in looking into the homicide of Krivitsky. He furnished me the following information:

Krivitsky had been in Virginia; had been making plans during the past few days to settle down with his wife and family, to legally change his name and to file an application for citizenship. Waldman had seen Krivitsky last week. He showed me a letter which he, Waldman, had written on January 11th to Paul Wohl, 173 Lexington Avenue, New York City. Wohl had some financial arrangements with Krivitsky. In this letter reference was made to one Hans who apparently had been seen by Paul Wohl. Waldman on learning of this information, inquired as to the whereabouts of Hans. According to Waldman, Hans is one of the most brutal killers of the OGPU. He states that he must have come into this country illegally and his present whereabouts is unknown. He told me of no other descriptive characteristics of the individual he referred to as being Hans. He did know because of his conversations with Krivitsky that Hans occupied a very important position with the OGPU in the capacity aforementioned.

With reference to the homicide, Waldman definitely has the opinion that Krivitsky was not a suicide. He is of the opinion that Krivitsky knew his life was in danger. Immediately upon learning that Hans was in this country some time last week, Waldman intended to come to the FBI for a permit which would allow Krivitsky to carry a gun, inasmuch Krivitsky believed his life was in danger. Waldman did not go to the New York Office, nor did he call to the attention of the local police Krivitsky's danger, and he says now that he feels partly responsible for the death of Krivitsky, because Krivitsky was not afforded some protection.

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100-11146-5

With reference to the investigation being conducted by the local authorities, Waldman stated that according to information furnished to him by Inspector Thompson, Krivitsky was

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TOLSON  
TAMM  
NICHOLS  
HENDON  
FELT



was found by a maid at the hotel, at approximately 9:30 a.m. Waldman was also informed that Officer Eckstrom of the local Police Department conducted the investigation and submitted a report to his superiors. Waldman talked to Dr. MacDonald, who, according to Waldman, said that it was entirely possible for Krivitsky to have been killed the previous midnight.

Waldman says Krivitsky wrote three letters. These were his most recent letters. One was written to Louis Waldman in English; one to Susanne LaFollette in German, and one to his wife in Russian. Waldman did not indicate the substance of the letters, but did state that the handwriting in the letter to him did look like Krivitsky's hand; however, he was able to observe that perhaps the substance of the letter was written in a vein indicating that perhaps Krivitsky was under some duress. Another unusual feature, according to Waldman, concerning the letters was that they were written and postmarked at Charlottesville, Virginia.

Waldman stated that he knew that the local police had done a sloppy job of investigating. He says they did not take any fingerprints in the room; they had no control over the room; they did not know who the individual was, except that it was a Samuel Ginsberg who was found dead. Waldman said that he was able to convince the local authorities that the man was Krivitsky.

Waldman states that it is the FBI's function to make inquiries into this case, even though the matter is one of homicide and under the jurisdiction of the local authorities. He makes his appeal on the basis of public policy. He said that in all of his dealings with Krivitsky he knew that he was available to all Federal authorities. He pointed to the Dosenberg case and stated that Krivitsky was the first individual to identify the passport in this case. He said that Krivitsky had furnished considerable information to Federal authorities and to Mr. Murphy of the State Department, and perhaps could have been of invaluable assistance in identifying various functionaries of the Party. He said that Krivitsky lived in fear of his life, and had told him of the fear which existed for himself and his family.

He said that Krivitsky was very fond of his family; had not shown any signs of depression, financially or mentally, and did not appear to be in any state of melancholia, in view of which it is Waldman's opinion that the OGPU knew of the assistance which he might have rendered to this Government, and because of the information which was in the possession of Krivitsky, they decided, according to his opinion, to do away with him. Waldman says there is much more involved in this case than a mere killing. He points out that if this case was not investigated completely, it would prove to the public that agents of the Soviet have a free hand in doing away with individuals whose interest is inimical to the Soviet, and that those individuals who are here and who are in the possession of information which may be furnished to Federal authorities are in constant fear of their lives.

I informed Mr. Waldman that the matter is one within the jurisdiction of the local police, and that inasmuch as it involved a homicide, the Bureau did not have any jurisdiction in this matter. He asked me if that was the decision of the Bureau, and I informed him that it was.

Respectfully,

  
A. Rosen

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

CHC:LL

February 11, 1941

10:00 A. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Re: WALTER G. KRIVITSKY

SAC Hottel, WFO, telephonically advised that his office is still trying to find out whether Krivitsky was murdered or committed suicide.

I asked Mr. Hottel if it had been determined whether the suicide notes were actually in Krivitsky's handwriting, suggesting that specimens of the known handwriting of Krivitsky could undoubtedly be obtained from or through Krivitsky's attorney by Captain Callahan. Mr. Hottel advised that the handwriting in the notes and that on the hotel register are similar.

Mr. Hottel stated that his office had been advised the door to Krivitsky's room was locked from the inside and that it would have been impossible for anyone to have entered the room other than through the door.

I told Mr. Hottel to contact a NPA man and try to ascertain any available information, cautioning the NPA man to keep the matter confidential, and to make any suggestions to the NPA man. Mr. Hottel stated he could call Captain Callahan and suggest what can be done, adding, however, that the matter is probably out of Captain Callahan's hands now and in the hands of the Homicide Squad. Mr. Hottel explained that Callahan is Captain of the No. One Precinct, which covers the Bellevue Hotel.

Mr. Hottel advised that Krivitsky registered at the Bellevue Hotel on February 9th and that it is not known why he was in Washington, D. C. Mr. Hottel stated that the hotel management was not aware of Krivitsky's true identity.

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DATE 10-16-82 BY SP10KJTC

RECORDED  
Respectfully,

C. H. Carson  
C. H. Carson

100-11146-6	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
6	FEB 12 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TAMM	FILE

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Record of Telephone Call or Visitor

February 11th 1941

Time 9:30 a.m.

Name Lee Waldman, tele locally

An attorney in N.Y.C.

Referred to

Details:

When advised the Director was not in the office, he stated he is the attorney for General Krivitsky and wanted to talk to the Director sometime today about this case. It was suggested that he talk to an Assistant about this and the call was transferred to Mr. Rosen.

RECORDED & INDEXED 100-11146-  
Mr. Rosen advised that Mr. Waldman made arrangements to come down and see him at 10:15 this morning.-cd-

Be certain to just listen. Point out case is in hands of local police & FBI has no jurisdiction, that coroner found it to be suicide & even if murder it would still be local matter.

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Glavin ✓  
Mr. Ladd ✓  
Mr. Nichols ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Klein

AR:AI

February 11, 1941

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DATE 10-6-82 BY SP185KJC

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I wish to advise you of a conference which Mr. Rosen of this Bureau had this morning with Mr. Louis Waldman, an attorney representing Walter Q. Krivitsky, the individual who was found dead yesterday in his room at the Bellevue Hotel, in the District. Following the public announcement of the identity and death of Krivitsky, this Bureau has been besieged by numerous press inquiries concerning the Bureau's position in this matter. There have been many conjectural statements with reference to the activities of Krivitsky and his presence in the District of Columbia. Louis Waldman, who identified himself as an attorney of New York City representing Krivitsky's estate, has given a full statement to the press of his opinion concerning the death of Krivitsky, which death he attributes to the operations of the OGPU. The morning newspapers carried a full and complete story of these activities, and Waldman had also apparently advised the newspapers of his intention to visit the headquarters of the FBI, for upon his arrival at our offices this morning he was accompanied by a corps of newsmen and photographers. The information which he furnished to this Bureau, which I thought you might be interested in having, has already been furnished in full to the newspapers by him.

Waldman related that he had spoken to Krivitsky last week; that he was entirely familiar with Krivitsky's personal affairs, and knew that he had been in Virginia preparing to settle down with his wife and family, to legally change his name, and to file an application for citizenship. At that time Krivitsky appeared to be in good health.

During Waldman's conversations with Krivitsky, he learned that an individual known as "Hans" had, according to Krivitsky, recently entered the United States illegally. "Hans" is alleged to be one of the "most brutal killers of the OGPU," and is also supposed to occupy a prominent position in the Stalinist regime. Waldman knew that Krivitsky feared "Hans" alleged

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-11146-8

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum for the  
Attorney General

- 2 -

presence in the United States. Waldman apparently had learned that one Paul Wohl, 173 Lexington Avenue, New York City, a friend of Krivitsky, had apparently seen "Hans" recently. In order to obtain additional information concerning "Hans" presence in the United States, Waldman wrote a letter to Paul Wohl, inquiring of the present whereabouts of "Hans." To lend credence to the statement which Waldman made to the effect that he had written to Paul Wohl, he displayed to Mr. Rosen a copy of the letter which he had written to Paul Wohl under date of January 11, 1941, wherein he had inquired concerning the present whereabouts of "Hans." Waldman advised that he did not receive an answer to this letter.

With reference to the instant alleged homicide, Waldman is of the opinion that Krivitsky's death was not as a result of suicide. He knew that Krivitsky believed his life was in danger, particularly because he had learned that "Hans" was in the United States. According to Waldman, there was some discussion between Krivitsky and himself as to referring the matter to the local authorities in New York City, so that Krivitsky might be afforded police protection. However, this was not reported to the New York City officials. Waldman therefore stated that he felt he was partly responsible for the death of Krivitsky because of his failure to obtain police protection for him.

With reference to the investigation being conducted by the local authorities, Waldman related that he had received information from Inspector Bernard W. Thompson of the District of Columbia Police that Krivitsky was found by a maid at the Bellevue Hotel at approximately 9:30 a.m. on February 10, 1941, and that according to the doctor who conducted the examination of the body, it was entirely possible for Krivitsky to have expired the previous midnight.

According to Waldman, Krivitsky had recently written three letters. These were his most recent communications. One of these letters was written in English to Waldman, one in German to Susanne LaFollette, and one in Russian to Krivitsky's wife. Waldman did not indicate the substance of the letters, but did state that the handwriting of the letter written to him, according to his observation, appeared to be Krivitsky's penmanship. This letter, in Waldman's opinion,



Memorandum for the  
Attorney General

- 3 -

appeared to have been written under duress because of its style and contents. These letters were postmarked at Charlottesville, Virginia.

Waldman expressed his dissatisfaction with the manner in which the local police had been conducting their investigation. After relating his displeasure of the local authorities, he asked that this Bureau conduct an investigation into the case because he believed that this was not a mere homicide, but was a matter involving public policy. He stated that it was the function of the FBI to make inquiries into this case because he knew that Krivitsky had made available to Federal authorities information on various occasions. With reference to this statement of Waldman, I wish to point out that Krivitsky has never furnished any information of value to this Bureau. He has never been used as an informant, and, according to information available to this Bureau, it is not known whether he had given information to other Federal agencies. He further related that Krivitsky had been the first to identify the passport in the Nicholas Dozenberg case, and that Krivitsky had furnished information to Mr. Murphy of the State Department. This Bureau has no knowledge of any information or assistance which Krivitsky may have furnished to the State Department with reference to the Dozenberg case. Waldman related that Krivitsky could have been of invaluable assistance in identifying various functionaries of the Party. He stated that Krivitsky lived in constant fear of his life and knew that even though this fear existed, it was Krivitsky's desire to continue to be of assistance to those persons with whom he had previously dealt. According to Waldman, Krivitsky was very fond of his family, had not shown any signs of depression, mentally or otherwise, and did not appear to be in any state of melancholia. It was also Waldman's conclusive opinion that the OGPU were aware of the assistance which Krivitsky may have rendered to this Government, and that because of his excellent fund of information Waldman states that the OGPU decided to do away with him and that therefore Krivitsky's death was a matter of vital importance to our Government. If this case was not completely solved, it would prove to the public, according to Waldman's statement, that agents of the Soviet had a free hand in this country; that they would be able to do away with individuals whose interest was inimical to the Soviet, and that those individuals who are here and who are in possession of information which may be furnished to Federal authorities would be in constant fear for their lives.



Memorandum for the  
Attorney General

- 4 -

Mr. Waldman was informed that the death of Krivitsky was a matter coming within the jurisdiction of the local authorities; that the local authorities had at the very outset assumed jurisdiction of the inquiry into his death; that the Coroner had returned a finding of death caused by suicide and that in the event it was later determined death was caused by murder, the jurisdiction would still remain in the hands of the local authorities.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECEIVED  
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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

February 10, 1941

CHC:FR:AA

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

6:20 P. M.

Assistant SAC Guerin of the New York Office telephonically advised that the New York Office had received information from a newspaper man with regard to the death of Colonel Walker G. Krivitsky. Krivitsky was found shot in a room of the Bellevue Hotel in Washington, D. C., where he had registered as Schmelha Ginsburg. This information was submitted to Krivitsky's attorney in New York City, one Louis Waldman.

I told Mr. Guerin that the Bureau had already received this information; however, it was desired that additional information be obtained regarding his death.

Mr. Guerin is going to attempt to find additional information either through a confidential informant or some other source. He is going to talk with Agent [redacted] regarding the possible use of an informant who can discreetly obtain the information desired. Mr. Guerin will telephonically advise the Bureau if any additional information is received by the New York Office.

Respectfully,

*C. H. Carson*

C. H. Carson

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-6-82 BY [signature]

RECORDED  
&  
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100-11146-9  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
6 FEB 12 1941  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TAMM  
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Rec  
2/28-1941

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET3

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

- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ 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):

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☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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

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JEF:HCE

February 23, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I noticed in the press reports of today that Congressman J. Parnell Thomas, a member of the Dies Committee, gave out a statement in New Jersey relative to the Krivitsky case, about which I wrote you in a memorandum on February 11, 1941. Congressman Thomas stated, among other things, that he intended to have the Director of the FBI subpoenaed to appear before the Dies Committee sometime this week, together with the Chief of Police of Washington, D. C. and the Chief of Detectives of the Washington, D. C. Police Department, for the purpose of finding out why this case was not investigated by the FBI and also why it was so poorly handled by the local police, as Congressman Thomas stated.

I do not know whether this is merely a publicity stunt upon the part of Congressman Thomas or whether he does intend to have such a subpoena issued, but I thought I should call this matter to your attention and also remind you of the contents of the memorandum which I addressed to you under date of February 11th and which referred to an interview which was had by a representative of this Bureau with Mr. Louis Waldman, the attorney for Krivitsky, at which time Mr. Waldman was informed that this Bureau does not have any jurisdiction in the matter; that the case was entirely a local case; and that whatever investigative action was to be taken would have to be taken by the local authorities. The local authorities did investigate the matter, I am informed, and did find that it was a suicide. At that time, if I recall correctly, Congressman Thomas viewed the body of the deceased man at the morgue and stated that it was Krivitsky. In his statement in New Jersey yesterday, he stated that now he has some doubt as to whether the man was Krivitsky. He did not state what had caused the doubt to arise in his mind.

I, of course, do not see what jurisdiction the FBI would have in a matter of this kind, and it would seem that the sole purpose of Congressman Thomas in voicing these statements to the press in New Jersey yesterday was to again gain some headlines for the Dies Committee. This Bureau has not and will not take any action in the Krivitsky matter unless it is directed to do so by you.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP1GSK  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

100-11146-11  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ANONYMOUS  
KEEP ENVELOPE UNOPENED

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington D C

Gentlemen -

*Handwritten: 0. 10/6/82*

You undoubtedly know a million times more of this Krivitsky case than any other people but I cannot forbear to make a suggestion. It seems to me that the Dobert of Virginia is the one to look after. He admits buying the gun. He is mentioned in one of the letters. At the end as an afterthought. Why? To make him seem to be no party to the affair. His writing should be carefully checked with the notes. His movements in Charlottesville should be looked into. Was the bullet surely from the gun that was found. Perhaps he had a gun with a silencer, same caliber as the one found. Why would he do it. To please Stalin might be Hitler's aim and Dobert may be simply following instructions. Why under the sun do we allow this Nazi to settle here.

*Handwritten: ✓*  
Citizen

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DATE 10/6/82 DISPIGSKJc

100-11146-12

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FBI		

*Handwritten: no action see file.*

*Handwritten: EYE*

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington,



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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/16/83 BY SP135KJ/c

D O

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

CC-160

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

SJT:MLG

Mr. Tolson ☒  
Mr. E. A. Tamm ☒  
Mr. Clegg ☒  
Mr. Glavin ☒  
Mr. Ladd ☒  
Mr. Nichols ☒  
Mr. Rosen ☒  
Mr. Tracy ☒  
Mr. Carson ☐  
Mr. Coffey ☐  
Mr. Glavin ☐  
Mr. Harbo ☐  
Mr. Mohr ☐  
Mr. Pennington ☐  
Mr. Quinn Tamm ☐  
Tele. Room ☐  
Mr. Nease ☐  
Miss Gandy ☐

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

Date February 12, 1941

FILE 10-6-82 BY [signature]

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

11:39 AM

Carroll Peeke of the Washington Times-Herald telephoned and stated that in view of the additional information developed in the Krivitsky case including the identity of Eitel Wolfe Robert, a confessed Nazi storm trooper who broke with Hitler in 1933 and of the identification of Mrs. Robert as the person who drove Krivitsky to his hotel, he wanted to know if the FBI is now investigating.

I told him the Bureau is not investigating this case.

He stated that in view of the new angles, he would be of the opinion that the FBI would investigate the murder in view of the fact that it appears a conspiracy was entered into resulting in the murder. I told him that the FBI has jurisdiction as to crimes including murder committed on Government reservations or on the high seas and that the local police have jurisdiction over murders in the District of Columbia occurring on other than Government reservations.

Mr. Peeke stated that the death weapon bears serial number 43907 and reporters of the Times-Herald have ascertained the gun was purchased in Charlottesville, Virginia; that it was taken in trade in connection with the purchase of another gun. The reporters are working on this angle at the present time.

Mr. Peeke also stated that Kerensky, the well-known Russian in New York, insists with Waldman that it is a murder and not a suicide; that Kerensky further states that "Hans" is the killer. I made no comment to this statement.

Mr. Peeke also advised that Attorney Waldman said to Times-Herald reporters that the Department of Justice in New York asked Waldman to produce Kerensky before the Grand Jury. He asked

100-11146-13

FEB 13 1941

We are not in this case & are not going to be baited in to it by newspaper promotion tactics. N.

Signature

TOLSON  
TAMM  
NICHOLS  
ROSEN  
[signature]



Memorandum for the Director

-2-

February 12, 1941

what was known about that. I informed him that his inquiry should be made of Mr. Allen in the Department of Justice; that the FBI has nothing to do with Grand Jury proceedings.

Mr. Peeke stated that Waldman informed Times-Herald reporters that the FBI agents in New York promised Krivitsky protection and that when Krivitsky left New York, Waldman instructed him to contact Mr. Hoover at the FBI and demand protection.

I informed Mr. Peeke that the statement is not true; further, that the FBI does not furnish protection and that agents do not act as guards.

Respectfully,

  
S. J. Tracy

34

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

MRG:CS  
61-507

New York, N. Y.  
February 20, 1941

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE  
UNITED STATES

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED] advised this office on February 11, 1941 that General WALTER G. KRIVITSKY was very free with an individual, BORIS HERZ, an employee of the OGPU. According to [REDACTED] HERZ has covered every move of General KRAVITSKY in this country. b7c b7D

Later in the day [REDACTED] again communicated with the office and stated that he had learned through a confidential informant that the individual previously referred to him was actually one ALFRED HERZ BORIS. He stated that BORIS is actually GEORGE MINK who was supposed to make arrangements for all the killings in the Communist Party. MINK is a brother-in-law of ARNOLD LOZOVSKY who is the head of the Red International Labor Union in Russia. MINK'S assistant is HERMAN NICHOLAS SHERMAN who authorized the assassination of the Italian leader in Barcelona namely CARMILLO BERNERI on a date unknown.

Very truly yours,

*B. E. Sackett*  
B. E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-6-82 BY SPICER JR

RECORDED  
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100-11146-14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
2 FEB 21 1941
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Rec  
2/20 17W

W. J. [unclear]

PJW:AJ

September 13, 1941

Assistant Director E. J. Connelley  
New York, New York

RE: WALTER G. KRIVITSKY;  
ESPIONAGE - R.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the telephonic conversation between Special Agent [REDACTED] of the New York Field Office and Supervisor P. J. Wacks of the Bureau regarding the obtaining of information concerning the present whereabouts of Mrs. Walter G. Krivitsky and her son. b7c

The Bureau desires Special Agent [REDACTED] to interview Mr. Berman Zimels, Vice President of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of Brooklyn, New York, to obtain whatever information that company has in its possession regarding Mrs. Krivitsky and her present whereabouts. It should be impressed upon Mr. Zimels that this particular inquiry is made in the strictest confidence. b7c

A teletype summary of the information obtained should be submitted to the Bureau not later than September 19, 1941.

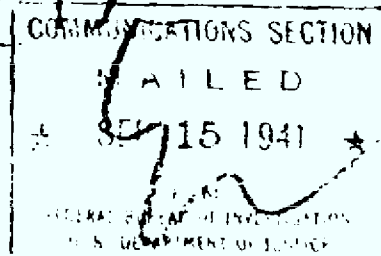
Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 10-6-82 BY SP1SS/KJC

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Drayton \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



RECORDED

100-11146-14X

30  
684

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Foxworth	
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Miss Gandy	

The following telegram was received today sent to the same party as those furnished to you yesterday and sent by the same sender:

"Will you check WALDMAN, Hotel Willard, on today's Journal story that revolver found was .38 calibre while ROBERT says KRIVITSKY bought .32. Also WALDMAN yesterday telephoned Washingtonian in on the know (confidentially Dies Committee Investigator) letting him think he was talking to LOUIS WALDMAN, said emphatically that it was a suicide. You might press WALDMAN on that. Also you might build up a new lead on the statement from WALDMAN that whether suicide or murder what he wants is a Federal inquiry into the activities of the OGPU here."

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DATE 10-6-82 BY SP8SKJC

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-11146-15	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
6	FEB 18
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	

ROSEN

TAMM

FIVE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

93502

PJW:MAL

February 14, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

RE: GENERAL WALTER G. KRIVITSKY,  
with aliases: Samuel Ginsberg,  
Shmelka Ginsberg, Walter Krokef.

Reference is made to the recent death of General Walter G. Krivitsky who was found dead at his hotel room in the Bellevue Hotel, 15 E Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., on February 10, 1941.

Reference is also made to the various newspaper articles commenting on the death of General Krivitsky and especially to the alleged statements made by Louis Waldman, Attorney, 302 Broadway, New York City, who represented Krivitsky prior to the latter's death. Waldman maintained that Krivitsky met his death at the hands of OGPU Agents. He stated to newspaper representatives that he had furnished the FBI with documentary proof that one Hans Bruesse, "a notorious OGPU killer" was assigned to liquidate the former co-workers of the Soviet Secret Service in New York City.

A review of the Bureau files indicated that neither Waldman or Krivitsky ever furnished information to the Bureau regarding the above-mentioned Hans Bruesse. The only information appearing in the files of the Bureau regarding Hans Bruesse is a passing reference made by Krivitsky regarding him in an article written by Krivitsky which appeared in the August 5, 1939 issue of the Saturday Evening Post. The excerpt of that article, wherein the name of Hans Bruesse is mentioned, is set forth in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated August 19, 1939 in the case entitled, "Serge Bassoff; John Antoney; William Goraway; Espionage", Bureau file #65-2839. b7c

RECORDED & INDEXED 100-11146-16

It may be noted that at the time General Krivitsky was interviewed by Special Agent [REDACTED] of the New York City Field Office on October 6, 1939, in connection with the above-mentioned case, and in the presence of Waldman, neither Waldman nor Krivitsky mentioned the name of Hans Bruesse or supplied any information concerning his identity or activities. b7c

COPIES DESTROYED 4-29-52

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY SP-1000-JC

Memo for Tamm

- 2 -

Pursuant to instructions from Supervisor C. H. Carson, the New York City Field Office has been requested to make appropriate inquiries of the Confidential Informants of that Office to determine the identity and affiliations of Hans Bruesse as well as the identity and activities of Colonel Boris Bykov and Gertrude Schilbach, individuals also mentioned in the above-mentioned article by Krivitsky.

The Richmond Field Division has been requested to institute a preliminary investigation regarding the background, reputation and activities of Mr. and Mrs. Eithel W. Dobert, residing near Charlottesville, Virginia, with whom Krivitsky spent the week end preceding his death.

Both the New York City and Richmond Field Divisions were instructed to conduct the requested investigations in a highly discreet and confidential manner in view of the recent publicity given to Krivitsky.

Respectfully,

  
P. J. Wacks

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.  
February 12, 1941

LAT:EL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

1 Although we have every reason to believe that Casimer P. Palmer is completely and entirely unreliable, I don't believe we can overlook the possibility of there being something to the story outlined in the attached telegram from Henry Paynter.

Of course, everything that we have ever obtained from Palmer, who you will recall is frequently contacted by Bob M, has been without factual foundation. I believe, however, we have nothing to lose by at least interviewing Palmer, and if you approve, I will instruct the New York office to do this.

Respectfully,

Edward A. Tamm

Attachment

OK. but see that it is handled by an experienced man.

D.

RECORDED

100-11146-17
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 FEB 19 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-6-82 BY SP1GSK/EJC

Let Paynter

Ent 2/14/41

TOLSON



EAT:HA

February 14, 1941

100-11146-17

Mr. Henry Paynter  
Assistant Editor  
"PM" Magazine  
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Paynter:

I appreciate your courtesy in furnishing the information concerning Casimer Filinas Palmer contained in your telegram of February 11, 1941. Upon receiving these data I instructed the Special Agent in Charge of my New York Office to have an Agent call upon you at once in order that the Bureau might have the benefit of this information. In the event there is any indication of a violation of a Federal statute within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau you may be assured appropriate action will be taken.

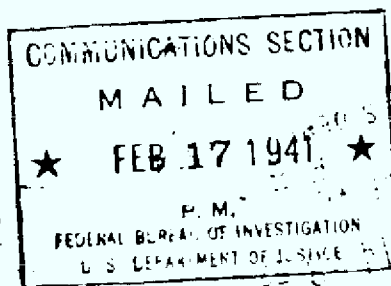
Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY SP13SKTSC

CC - New York

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



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

FEB 11 1941

WESTERN UNION

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-6-82 BY SP1 BSK/JC

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PEEKSKILL NY FEB 11 840A

J EDGAR HOOVER F B I

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE MEN WHO KILLED KRIVITSKY TRIED TO HIRE CASIMER PILINAS PALMER  
TWO MONTHS AGO TO PERFORM A KIDNAPPING JOB IN THIS COUNTRY  
FOR STALIN. PALMER WANTED TO WORK ON THE MATTER FOR US  
AND THE ONLY REASON HE DIDNT IS THAT WE RAN OUT OF DOUGH.  
I BELIEVE PALMER TO BE ENTIRELY RELIABLE AND TO KNOW THE WHOLE  
INSIDE STORY SOME OF YOUR PEOPLE KNOW HIM IF YOU DONT  
HAPPEN TO YOURSELF. PLEASE LET ME KNOW ANYTIME I CAN EVER BE  
OF SERVICE TO YOU. BEST WISHES

HENRY PAYNTER.

911A FEB 11.

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-11146-17  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
6 FEB 19 1941  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TOLSON  
FIVE

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

CHC:LL

February 10, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. Tamm

Re: WALTER G. KRIVITSKY

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

I called SAC Hottel of the Washington Field Office with regard to the attached news items of the Washington City News Service dated February 10th, and told him that the Bureau wants a very discreet check into the matter of Krivitsky's death, particularly as to whether the individual found dead in the Bellevue Hotel at Washington, D. C., today is actually Walter G. Krivitsky and, if so, whether he was murdered, and, if possible, by whom. It was explained to Mr. Hottel that this matter must be handled very discreetly so as to preclude the possibility of the Bureau's getting publicity in connection therewith.

Mr. Hottel was told that the Bureau is denying to the press that an investigation is being conducted. It was pointed out to him, however, that if Krivitsky was actually slain, there is an excellent possibility the job was done by OGPU agents under orders from the OGPU organization in Russia, for which reason the Bureau is vitally interested, although we must conceal our interest.

Mr. Hottel stated that he would get hold of [REDACTED] the NPA man, who probably handled the police investigation for homicide, and will arrange to get the facts in detail. b7c

Mr. Hottel subsequently called back and advised that Krivitsky's body is at the Morgue and that he does not consider it advisable to send an Agent there to see the body tonight. I pointed out to Mr. Hottel that this would probably not do a great deal of good, inasmuch as none of the Agents of the WFO could readily identify Krivitsky, except from a magazine photograph, Mr. Hottel being advised that Krivitsky wrote a series of articles for the Saturday Evening Post about May or June, 1940, and that his photograph appeared in the Saturday Evening Post at that time. Mr. Hottel advised he has heard newspaper reports

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100-11146-18	
5	
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
TAMM	ROSEN

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY SP-10 JTC

Memorandum for  
Mr. E. A. Tamm

- 2 -

February 10, 1941

to the effect that Krivitsky, who testified before the Dies Committee during the past summer, will be viewed by representatives of the Dies Committee tomorrow in an effort to effect a positive identification.

Respectfully,

*C. H. Carson*  
C. H. Carson

Attachment

Addendum:

Agent [REDACTED] of the Washington Field Office subsequently advised that he had received information from a member of the Metropolitan Police, Washington, that Mr. Matthews, an investigator for the Dies Committee, has positively identified the body as being that of Krivitsky. b7c

Agent [REDACTED] stated that newspaper reporters are so thick around the Police Department tonight and are showing so much interest in this case it will be virtually impossible to obtain any definite information one way or another. He did not know whether the police have recovered the bullet and taken steps to compare it with the gun found near Krivitsky's hand. (The report is that Krivitsky was found dead by a chambermaid in the Bellevue Hotel, with a bullet wound through his head and a .38 automatic pistol by his hand.) Agent [REDACTED] does not know what, if any, clues the police have indicating possible murder, suicide, or just what the story actually was.

Some letters written in Russian were found on Krivitsky, and Agent [REDACTED] is having these translated at the Bureau tonight.

C. H. C.

*CHC*

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ 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.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies): \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

100 - 11146 - 19

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

PJW: MAL

RECORDED

100 - 11146 - 19

February 18, 1941

INDEXED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

Classified by 2833

Page

Date 11-28-77

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

For your information I wish to advise that Walter G. Krivitsky was found dead in his hotel room in the Bellevue Hotel, 15 E Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C., on February 10, 1941. Krivitsky left New York City on or about February 5, 1941 and proceeded to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ethel W. Dobert who reside on a farm near Charlottesville, Virginia. On Sunday, February 9, 1941, Krivitsky and Mrs. Dobert left Charlottesville and motored to Washington, D. C. Krivitsky registered at the Bellevue Hotel under the name of Walter Prokef.

While at the Dobert residence Krivitsky purchased a .38 calibre automatic revolver which was found in his room.

The Medical Examiner for the District of Columbia, after reviewing all the facts pertaining to this particular matter, rendered an official opinion that Krivitsky committed suicide with the above-mentioned .38 calibre revolver. A death certificate to that effect has been officially filed.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Prior to his death Krivitsky wrote three different notes which indicated suicidal intentions. These notes together with the location and physical surroundings of Krivitsky's hotel room precluded any opinion that Krivitsky was murdered.

CLASSIFIED BY 100135130

DATE RECLASSIFIED

10-6-82

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

C b1  
CONFIDENTIAL - 2 -

It may be of interest to you to know that Louis Waldman, an Attorney with offices at 302 Broadway, New York City, represented Krivitsky prior to the latter's death and was of the opinion that Krivitsky was murdered by OGPU Agents. Waldman has stated that he furnished this Bureau with information concerning one Hans Bruesse allegedly a "notorious OGPU killer" who had been assigned to "liquidate" former Agents of the Soviet Secret Police Organisation.

For your information the only data appearing in the files of this Bureau pertaining to Hans Bruesse is a passing reference to him by Krivitsky in the latter's article which appeared in the August 5, 1939 issue of the Saturday Evening Post entitled, "My Flight From Stalin". In this same article Krivitsky mentioned the names of Colonel Boris Bykov and Gertrude Schilbachh allegedly members of the OGPU Organisation.

For your confidential information this Bureau is presently conducting a confidential inquiry regarding the identity and whereabouts of Hans Bruesse, Colonel Boris Bykov and Gertrude Schilbachh.

I would appreciate any information appearing in your files regarding these three individuals.

In the event our investigation reveals anything which may be of interest, the same will be promptly transmitted to you for your information.

I assure you that I desire to cooperate in all matters of mutual interest,

Sincerely yours,



Krivit is ky's death may  
be traced to radical  
opponents of the leave-  
and bill.

Ty Steptoe  
W.S.H.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY SP10SKJF

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8 FIVE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 12 1941

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Foxworth  
Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

*W. Mark*

FBI MIAMI 2-12-41 12-18 PM EC

DIRECTOR ✓

GENERAL WALTER G KRIVITSKY INFORMATION CONCERNING

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT ADVISES INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM BOSTON THAT  
THREE EIGHT SAVAGE REVOLVER USED IN DEATH OF KRIVITSKY REGISTERED IN  
NAME OF FRANK MCCORT WHO IS AT WILHOLM COTTAGE, HOLLYWOOD FLORIDA.  
ADVISE IF MCCORT SHOULD BE INTERVIEWED.

WYLY

END

OK FBI WASH DC TK

V

*I don't think we should.  
I assume Wyly's "C.F." is a  
newspaper and of course  
publicity would ensue.*

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY DP/IGSK/jk

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100-11146-215  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
5 FEB 12 1941  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TOLSON TAMM ROSEN FIVE

COPY

HVT

PJW:MAL

February 14, 1941

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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DATE 10-6-82 BY SP10SIC/PC

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL  
AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE: HANS BRUESSE;  
EITHEL W. DOBERT;  
MARGUERITE DOBERT;  
ESPIONAGE R.

Declassified by  
2333 *bag: g*  
H-29-77

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the recent death of General Walter G. Krivitsky, former head of the Soviet Military Intelligence in Western Europe. Krivitsky was found dead in his hotel room at the Bellevue Hotel, 15 E Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., on February 10, 1941.

Krivitsky had registered at the Bellevue Hotel on Sunday, February 9, 1941 after spending the preceding few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eithel W. Dobert who reside on a farm near Charlottesville, Virginia, with their son Stephen, two and one-half years of age. Dobert has been described in various newspaper articles as a former Nazi Army Officer, author and lecturer.

According to an article appearing in the February 11, 1940 issue of the Washington Times-Herald, Louis Waldman, 302 Broadway, New York City, an Attorney who formerly represented Krivitsky, stated that Krivitsky left New York City about a week prior to the latter's death and had failed to return to New York City; that Krivitsky was scheduled to appear before the Coudert-Rapp Committee investigating subversive activities in the New York City Schools.

According to information appearing in the various newspaper articles, Waldman is of the opinion that Krivitsky's death was caused by Agents of the OGPU, the Russian Secret police. Waldman in an interview with newspaper representatives stated that he, Waldman, furnished the Bureau with documentary evidence concerning Hans Bruesse whom he identified as "a notorious OGPU killer who cast a deep spell of fear on the General", and who allegedly was assigned to "liquidate" former co-workers of the Soviet Secret Police Organization. The February 12,

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF *Classification*  
100-11146-22

100-11146-22
FEB 24 1941
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

1941 issue of the Washington Times-Herald newspaper contained a reproduction of a letter allegedly found among Krivitsky's personal effects. This letter was dated January 7, 1941 and bore the signature of Paul Wohl, 173 Lexington Avenue, New York City. The letter read as follows:

New York January 7, 1941  
173 Lexington Avenue.

My dear Miss La Follette,

Will you please inform your honorable friend K. that an ominous person is in New York: Hans

This letter is addressed to you since K. hides from me. Obviously, to escape the serving of a summons for the remaining \$200 which he owes me in virtue of a formal arbitration award to which I submitted at his request.

His devious practices hardly justify this warning. I hesitate to send it. It may be better to let the rats devour each other.

Yours truly

(s) PAUL WOHL

Paul Wohl

Miss Suzanne LaFollette,  
22 West 23rd Street,  
New York City.

For your information, Miss LaFollette is an alleged writer residing in New York City and was a close friend of General Krivitsky.

An examination of the Bureau files indicated that the only information pertaining to Hans Bruesse appears in the article written by Krivitsky and published in the August 5, 1939 issue of the Saturday Evening Post. The excerpt of that article, wherein the name of

Hans Bruesse is mentioned, is set forth in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated August 19, 1939 in the case entitled, "Serge Bassoff; John Antoney; William Gorway; - Espionage." b7c  
Your attention is called to that particular excerpt of Krivitsky's article wherein the names of Colonel Boris Bykov and Gertrude Schildbach are mentioned. ✓

For your additional information, Confidential Informant [REDACTED], of the New York City Field Office, reported on August 16, 1939, that Dr. Paul Wohl, a German refugee affiliated with the International Press and Literary Bureau, 171 Madison Avenue, New York City, informed him, [REDACTED], that Krivitsky was extremely nervous because he was being "hounded" by Communists; that Krivitsky was under the impression that Stalin intended to do away with him and had appropriated \$100,000. to "get him". It is believed that Paul Wohl, mentioned by Confidential Informant [REDACTED] is identical with the individual whose names appears in the letter addressed to Miss Suzanne La Follette, as above set forth. It is very possible that Paul Wohl may be in possession of information bearing upon the identity of Hans Bruesse. b7D

The New York City Field Division is requested to immediately attempt to ascertain through its Confidential Informants the identity, reputation, background and activities of Hans Bruesse, Boris Bykov and Gertrude Schildbach to determine whether these individuals are presently in the United States and affiliated with the OGPU Organization. ✓

It is suggested that this investigation be assigned to SA [REDACTED] who at one time interviewed General Walter Krivitsky and who is familiar with the background of Russian Communistic activities in New York City. b7c

Your attention is called to the delinquent status of the case entitled, "Serge Bassoff, et al;" mentioned above. You were requested on January 22, 1941 to review this particular case and submit a report concerning the same. The Bureau desires that you give this matter your immediate attention and place it in line for investigative activity. You are instructed to advise the Bureau regarding the present status of the case and when a report may be expected by the Bureau.

The Richmond Field Division is requested to institute a preliminary investigation regarding the identity, background and activities of Mr. and Mrs. Eithel W. Dobert residing near Charlottesville, Virginia.

SAC, New York

- 4 -

The investigation requested in the New York City and Richmond Field Divisions must of necessity be conducted in a highly discreet and confidential manner. You are requested to give this matter your immediate attention.

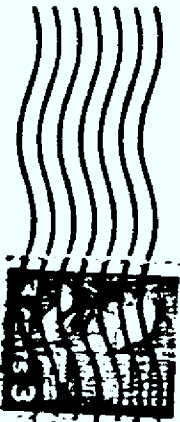
The New York City Field Office will be considered the office of origin in this matter.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc Richmond

Dept of Justice  
Washington D.C.



Dept of Justice  
 Washington D.C.  
 Dear Sir:  
 In the case of Robert was  
 It appeared that on 07 Feb.  
 Robert was reported  
 in a car arrested with  
 another individual  
 went to the office of the  
 FBI in the  
 with a copy of the report  
 FEB 18 3 40 PM '41  
 RECEIVED  
 WITH DISPATCH  
 J. Edgar Hoover  
 TON BRUCE  
 100-11146-23

100-11146-23
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
8 FEB 28 1941
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE



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DIVISION SEVEN

FEB 28 11 52 AM '41

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 10-6-82 BY 60322

Feb. 22 - 1941  
To the F. B. I.  
RECORDED  
INDEXED

At 1749 Broadway St. N. W.  
lived a wife Raymond R.  
Thompson, who has lived in  
New Orleans, Switzerland  
for the past 10 years up to  
June 1940 when she moved  
with her home in a great  
apartment just a few miles  
outside in a small handbag.  
She was lecturing for a good  
salary and seemed always  
to have plenty of money. She  
and me  
employed at this address for  
two days. At the  
the corporation  
we are under the  
not just any insurance  
to it until 1941  
FEB 25 1941  
RECORDED & INDEXED  
100-111467-24  
FEB 25 1941  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

deore you. The day after  
Union Station Plaza, then she  
went to a hotel for the night,  
the next day she (Mrs Robert)  
had dinner with Mrs Morgan  
at the Concord St address.  
Now I do not know a single  
thing, but why? would Mrs  
Morgan be friendly enough  
with Mrs Robert to entertain  
her at dinner

b7c

Please, leave my name out  
of this if any investigation is  
made.

100-11146-24  
EWY:VEA

RECORDED

March 8, 1941

[REDACTED] b7c  
Washington, D. C.

Dear [REDACTED] b7c

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated February 22, 1941.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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DATE 10-6-82 BY SPICSKJC

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
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MAILED  
★ MAR 10 1941  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Wachs

Rec  
3/13/41

any  
K. H. P.  
L. J.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

RPK:EL  
1:30 P.M.

February 17, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. Tamm

RE: GENERAL KRIVITSKY

Assistant Special Agent in Charge Guerin called from New York on another matter and advised that he had been informed previously by [REDACTED] that Krivitsky had been friendly with a man named Alfred Herz/Boris. Mr. Guerin stated that [REDACTED] again communicated with him today and advised that Alfred Herz Boris was identical with George Minck, who, according to [REDACTED] is the Communist leader who is in charge of "executions" in the United States. He also stated that Minck is a brother-in-law of Arnold Lazovsky, the head of the Red International Labor Union in Russia. [REDACTED] suggested that Krivitsky's friendship with Boris, alias Minck, might have some bearing on the death of Krivitsky in Washington, D. C.

Mr. Guerin stated that it is further reported that Herman Nicholas Sherman has acted as Minck's assistant and that Sherman authorized the killing of Carmillo Berneri in Barcelona, Spain, some time ago. This incident is reported only as a matter of information incidental to Minck's supposed connection with the death of Krivitsky.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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DATE 10-6-82 BY 04135KJC

Respectfully,

*R. P. Kramer*  
R. P. Kramer

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100 - 11146 - 25	
FEB 27 1941	
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE	
TAMM	ROSEN
FIVE	

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

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

February 24, 1941

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Foran	
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Tracy	

AR:DMP

Time 1:05 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

With reference to the matter involving E. O. McAnney's statement that he had information from a Bureau Agent whom he had found previously to be reliable that Krivitsky had committed suicide because the Bureau did not accept his offer to be of assistance, Mr. Connelley advised during telephonic conversation that he is having Special Agent [redacted] maintain contact with former Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] to see if he can ascertain who talked with McAnney. [redacted] has also contacted a reporter by the name of Irwin in this regard but nothing definite has been ascertained as yet.

Respectfully,

A. ROSEN

*This relates to  
memo from Connelley  
date 2/21/41 which  
is attached re  
Krivitsky.*

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DATE 10-10-82 BY SP-1355JC

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100-11146-26

FEB 27 1941

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

53

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

February 19, 1941

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10-6-82 BY SP1/GSK/TC

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

RE: W. G. KRIVITSKI;  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Declassified by  
2333 SP1/GSK/TC  
11-25-87

Dear Sir:

Mr. C. W. SAUNDERS, Chief of the Shipping Service, Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, Department of Commerce, informed Agent [redacted] that on the evening of February 17, 1940 he received a long-distance telephone call from Captain RYLANDER, U. S. Shipping Commissioner, Old Mint Building, San Francisco, California, wherein Captain RYLANDER stated that he had reasons to believe that RICHARD KREBS and W. J. FRANSWOIR, two seamen, had something to do with the recent murder of General KRIVITSKI. b7c

He stated that RICHARD KREBS, born in Darmstadt, Germany on December 17, 1904, held old Able Seaman's Ticket #135,053 issued him January 3, 1924 at Los Angeles, at which time he gave his address as 532 - 5th Street, San Pedro, California; that KREBS who was six feet, one inch tall, weighed 185 pounds, hair brown, eyes brown, had either lost or sold his Seaman's Ticket, and a duplicate ticket #141,678 was issued him at Los Angeles, California on August 28, 1925, at which time he gave his residence address as the Blaize Hotel, San Pedro, California.

Mr. SAUNDERS stated that W. J. FRANSWOIR held Seaman's Identification Ticket #31 issued him by the American Consulate at Hamburg, Germany on November 10, 1923, at which time he gave his residence address as 532 - 5th Street, San Pedro, California.

Mr. SAUNDERS informed Agent [redacted] that the files of his Division reflect no record on W. J. FRANSWOIR, and

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RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

100-11146-27

3	MAR 5 1941
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
FILE	

100-370-67

Director  
W. G. KRIVITSKI  
February 19, 1941

that the file on RICHARD KREBS reflects no information other than that given in the foregoing.

Mr. SAUNDERS also informed Agent [REDACTED] that b7c  
Captain RYLANDER will be glad to furnish to an Agent of the Bureau any further information if he has any, but that he expressed his wish that the matter be treated confidentially as he, Captain RYLANDER, would not want to have his name disclosed in connection with this information.

The above information is furnished the Bureau for any consideration it merits.

Very truly yours,



GUY HOTTEL  
Special Agent in Charge

LL:MEW  
65-0



PJW:MAL

February 11, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: GENERAL WALTER KRIVITSKY,  
with aliases: Samuel  
Ginsberg, Shmelka Ginsberg,  
Walter Prokef.

Pursuant to your request there is  
attached hereto a memorandum containing all  
the information in the Bureau files relative  
to the above-captioned individual.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY DP/BSK/jc

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDED  
INDEXED

100-11146-28  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
1 MAR 4 1941  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
TOLSON  
NICHOLS  
FIVE

3/4/41  
67

February 11, 1941

GENERAL WALTER KRIVITSKY, with aliases:  
Samuel Ginsberg, Shmolska Ginsberg, Walter Prokof.

Walter Krivitsky, former European head of the Soviet Military Intelligence was found dead on February 10, 1941 in his room at the Bellevue Hotel, 15 E Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Krivitsky entered the United States during the latter part of 1938, accompanied by his wife and child.

During January, 1939, he visited the Department of State where he discussed certain aspects of the OGPU Organization. During the course of the conference he advised that he feared that some member of the OGPU Organization would make an attack upon him or members of his family while in the United States. He advised that he was living quietly and endeavoring not to attract attention. At that time he was asked by the Department of State officials if he desired police protection. He replied that he did not intend to make that request but intended to leave New York City and live quietly in some remote place.

On June 30, 1939, the Washington News carried an article indicating that Krivitsky was the Director of the Soviet War Industry Institute in 1933 and 1934. It further stated that he was Chief of the Soviet Military Intelligence in Western Europe from 1935 to 1937; that his original admission into the United States was expedited by a letter to the U. S. Embassy in Paris from Leon Blum former Socialist Premier of France.

Krivitsky was given nation-wide publicity when he published a series of articles in the Saturday Evening Post beginning April 15, 1939. The first issue of that series bore the caption, "STALIN'S HAND IN SPAIN", wherein Krivitsky claimed to have been one of the principal Espionage Agents of the Soviet Government in Central Europe and engaged in OGPU activities during the Spanish Civil War. In the same article he commented on the fact that passports used by the American Volunteers of the Loyalist Army were taken from them upon their arrival in Spain to be used by individuals sent to the United States by the Soviet Government for the purpose of engaging in Espionage activities.

In another article of the above particular series entitled, "MY FLIGHT FROM STALIN", Krivitsky wrote that he had seen a member

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100-11146-28  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
1 MAR 4 1941  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FIVE

73 classified  
for Dept. of State letter  
dated 2/3/78 LRS/gd.

RECEIVED-DIVISION 4  
MAR 11 3 54 PM '41

of the Communist Party since 1919, having joined at the age of twenty; that he was entrusted on special missions of a special-military character and that as a member of the OGPU he spent most of his time in various countries throughout Europe. He further stated that from 1935 to 1937 he was in charge of the Russia Military Intelligence Organization in the Western part of Europe. Krivitsky in these articles revealed various activities of the OGPU Organization throughout the world as well as in the United States. In 1937 he severed his connections with the Russian Government because of "the purge" which took place in that country during that year.

In the May 6, 1939 issue of the "New Masses" it was stated that Krivitsky's correct name was Shmelka Ginsberg, an Austrian born in the border-town of Podvalchishka. The article accused Krivitsky as being an imposter.

The August 5, 1939 issue of the Saturday Evening Post carried Krivitsky's article, "MY FLIGHT FROM STALIN". He pointed out that on March 7, 1938 while having lunch with one of the Editors of a New York paper in a restaurant on 42nd Street in New York City, he, Krivitsky, was contacted by three men; that one of these men was Serge Bassoff, a veteran Agent of the Soviet Military Intelligence; that at the time of this particular meeting Krivitsky asked Bassoff if they had come to "shoot" him. At that time Bassoff denied any such intentions. Krivitsky further stated in his article that a conversation followed concerning mutual friends in Moscow and in the Foreign Service. At that time Krivitsky advised Bassoff that the latter should leave the United States, to which Bassoff replied, "a year or two is the most I'd receive if they ever got me. They haven't got a thing on me." An investigation concerning the activities of Serge Bassoff was instituted and is continuing. Krivitsky was interviewed by Bureau Agents in the office of Krivitsky's Attorney, Louis Waldman, 302 Broadway, New York City on October 6, 1939. At that time Krivitsky advised that Bassoff was a member of the OGPU Organization in Russia and was undoubtedly in the United States acting on behalf of the OGPU Organization. Krivitsky recounted his meeting with Bassoff in New York City. Mr. D. Shub of the "Jewish Daily Forward" newspaper who was with Krivitsky on the evening the latter was contacted by Bassoff, was also interviewed and substantiated Krivitsky's story.

It may be noted that at no time did Agents of this Bureau offer to supply police protection to Krivitsky nor did he make a request for

the same during the time he was interviewed by the Bureau Agents.

The investigation as to Basoff is presently continuing and the New York City Field Office is attempting to ascertain his present connections with the OGPU.

On August 16, 1939, [REDACTED] a Confidential informant of the New York City Office reported that Dr. Paul Nohl, a German refugee affiliated with the International Press and Literary Bureau, 171 Madison Avenue, New York City, had informed him, [REDACTED], that Krivitsky was extremely nervous because he, Krivitsky, was being constantly "hounded" by Communists and that Krivitsky was under the impression that Stalin intended to do away with him and had appropriated \$100,000 to "get him". b7 D

During October, 1939, Krivitsky testified before the Dies Committee on OGPU matters and stated, among other things, that undoubtedly Russian Agents were members of the U. S. Army and Navy; that the OGPU spies not only on foreign Governments and foreign Diplomats but on citizens of other countries who express displeasure of Moscow.

The New York Evening Journal American, October 12, 1939 issue, indicated that General Krivitsky the former Head of the Soviet Military Intelligence in Western Europe had disappeared after testifying before the Dies Committee to await another appearance before that particular Committee to testify concerning Americans who are affiliated with the OGPU in the United States. The article also indicated that Krivitsky was of the opinion that he was a "marked man" by the Soviet Government.

The Washington Post in the October 18, 1939 issue indicated that Representative Samuel Dickstein of New York denounced Krivitsky as one of the Dies Committee star witnesses as "nothing but a phony".

In November, 1939, Krivitsky published a book entitled, "IN STALIN'S SECRET SERVICE" which was an expose of the Russian Secret Police. He discussed various individuals in the book whom he claimed to be OGPU Agents in Europe, particularly Margaret Browder, sister of Earl Browder, who according to Krivitsky was one of his operatives and had in her possession a United States passport which had been issued to Jean Montgomery.

On December 27, 1939, Mr. Adolf A. Berle, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State, telephonically contacted Assistant Director E. A. Tamm and advised him that on Mass Eve, Mr. Henderson in charge of

Reice

the Russian desk of the State Department, received a telephone call from Krivitsky. The latter stated at that time that he could not discuss what he had on his mind as he was afraid an attempt would be made on his life inasmuch as he, Krivitsky, thought he had observed a couple of Soviet Agents watching his residence. Mr. Henderson at the time referred Krivitsky to the New York City Police and suggested that he contact Assistant United States Attorney Dumigan of New York City. Mr. Munley, Secretary to Mr. Serle, telephonically advised that Krivitsky had contacted the Radical Squad of the New York City Police Department where he had obtained adequate protection and crossed the border into Canada. It may be noted that the Bureau did not make any offer whatsoever to provide him with police protection.

The February 11, 1941 issue of the Washington Post, commenting upon the death of Walter Krivitsky, published the text of three letters which according to the article had been identified as in Krivitsky's handwriting. These letters were addressed to Krivitsky's Attorney, Louis Waldman; to Tonia Ginsberg his wife and his son Alex, age seven; and to Miss Suzanne LaPollette. While the notes do not expressly state that Krivitsky intended to commit suicide they strongly indicate the same.

It may be noted that the above-mentioned Suzanne LaPollette is a cousin of Senator Robert W. LaPollette of Wisconsin and a magazine writer, according to Attorney Waldman who left New York City for Washington to personally conduct an investigation of the facts surrounding Krivitsky's death. Waldman is of the opinion that Krivitsky was murdered by OGPU Agents. According to the same article, Coroner A. Magruder MacDonald issued a certificate of suicide but recalled it after acquaintances of Krivitsky expressed belief that his death was the result of OGPU activities.

At no time did Krivitsky or any one on his behalf request the Bureau for any protection and of course the Bureau never offered or authorized the same.

The examination of the Bureau files failed to indicate that Krivitsky had any transactions or other connections with the Bureau with the exception of the above-mentioned interview.

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, N. Y.

NP:FKT

March 4, 1941

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: General Walter Krivitsky

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY SP10SKJC

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED] New York City, who had been contacted in the investigation of New York Office case entitled [REDACTED] FUGITIVE, called Special Agent [REDACTED] today and advised that he had been talking with a man who said he knew who killed General Walter Krivitsky.

This man's name was given as Lee Y. Chertek, and was said to be presently employed by Crewell, Roberts & Co., 50 Broad Street, Room 1711, telephone WHitchall 4-0214, New York City. Chertek was said to be a Russian who has traveled all over the world and has recently returned from Mexico on a trip for some newspaper. Chertek was said to have had several fortunes and run through them, and would probably do anything for money. He is presently living in the Bronx and is married, has one child, according to [REDACTED]

Chertek told [REDACTED] that if the information got out that Chertek told who killed Krivitsky, the same people would kill him, but he was willing to divulge the information to the proper authorities, if done in confidence.

This information is being reported to the Bureau for any value it might have, and in the absence of specific instructions no action is being taken by this office.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Very truly yours,

B. E. Sackett

B. E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

100-11146-29
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 7 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Charge

BN  
File

RECORDED

100-11146-29  
PJH:AJ

March 15, 1941

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY SP10SKJS

RE: WALTER O. KRIVITSKY;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated March 4, 1941, regarding the above-named individual and information contained therein concerning Lee Y. Chertek, employed by Crowell, Roberts and Company, 50 Broad Street, Room 1711, New York City.

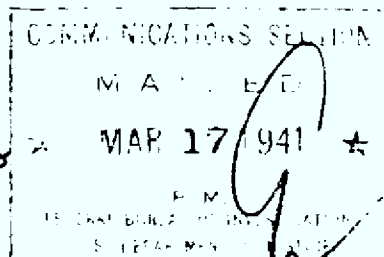
The Bureau desires that you immediately conduct a discreet preliminary investigation regarding the identity, background, reputation, and activities of Chertek. As you undoubtedly know, the Bureau is not interested in determining whether Krivitsky was murdered or whether he committed suicide. That question is primarily a local matter within the District of Columbia over which the Bureau exercises no jurisdiction. The Bureau, however, is interested in any individual or group of individuals affiliated with the OGPU organization who may be directly or indirectly responsible for Krivitsky's death. It is with this thought in mind that the preliminary investigation as to Chertek is desired. Upon completion of that investigation the facts should be immediately forwarded to the Bureau and you will be advised at that time whether an open interview with Chertek is desirable.

You are instructed to give this matter your immediate and prompt attention.

An examination of the Bureau files failed to reflect any information whatsoever concerning Chertek.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director





FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated at: NEW YORK, NEW YORK

File No. 65-1046

Report Made at:	Date When Made:	Period for Which made:	Report Made by:
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA	2-21-41	2-17,18-41	[REDACTED] b7c JEL:CL
Title:			Character of Case:
HANS BRUESSE; EITEL WOLF DOBERT, alias, EITHEL W. DOBERT; MARGARITA DOBERT, alias, MARGUERITE DOBERT			ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

EITEL WOLF DOBERT, a German trained in a Prussian Military Academy, being too young to see action in World War I, was converted to Nazism and rose to leadership as a Hitler Storm Trooper. After visiting Switzerland and France dropped the tenets of ADOLPH HITLER for those of democracy prior to 1933. Fled Germany on the night the German Reichstag was burned in 1933. Arriving at his log cabin 18 miles from Charlottesville, Va., in August, 1940, with his wife and son via Switzerland, France, England, and New York, DOBERT is running a poultry farm on a 90 acre tract of land at Gilbert, Virginia, and is engaged in writing and lecturing. DOBERT met [REDACTED] KRIVITSKY two years ago in New York City. KRIVITSKY visited DOBERT'S log cabin 2-6,7,8-41. Mrs. DOBERT drove KRIVITSKY to Union Station, Washington, D. C. 2-9-41. [REDACTED] b7D b7E

- P -

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter to New York Office dated 2-14-41.

DET ILS:

The title of this investigation is being changed to reflect the true name of subject DOBERT as EITEL WOLF DOBERT as well as the true name of his wife MARGARITA DOBERT.

AT EURNLEY, VIRGINIA

[REDACTED] stated upon interview b7c

Approved and Forwarded:	100-11146-30	MAR 1 1941
Special Agent in Charge		
Copies of this Report:		
5 - Bureau	2 - Richmond	
2 - New York		
2 - Washington Field		

FEB 21 1941

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that the DOBERTS lived on a farm near Gilbert, Virginia, and that while [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that he was not personally acquainted with the DOBERTS but that he would suggest that [REDACTED] be interviewed, [REDACTED] being a disabled veteran of the last World War and an individual in whom confidence could be imposed.

[REDACTED] stated upon interview that he had on several occasions met the DOBERTS in a casual manner and that while Mr. DOBERT could not speak English very plainly, his wife had a more fluent command of the English language. He stated that the DOBERTS were residing on a farm near Gilbert, Virginia, and were engaged in raising chickens. He stated that Mrs. DOBERT performed most of the manual labor on the farm and that Mr. DOBERT spent most of his time in writing and in preparing lectures. He stated that his aunt, [REDACTED] who was one of the nearest neighbors to the DOBERTS was personally acquainted with the activities of the DOBERTS and could furnish more pertinent information concerning the activities of the DOBERTS. [REDACTED] stated that his aunt was living off of a pension she receives from the Government, in view of the fact that she lost one of her sons during the last World War, and that her patriotism was unquestioned. [REDACTED] further related that his aunt was an individual in whom confidence could be imposed.

#### AT GILBERT, VIRGINIA

[REDACTED] stated upon interview that the DOBERTS had purchased the 90 acre tract of land [REDACTED] in the summer of 1940 from the Wheeler and King Realty Company of Charlottesville, Virginia. [REDACTED] stated that the DOBERTS had a small three room log cabin on this tract of land and that they raised chickens and conducted a poultry farm on this tract of land. [REDACTED] related that Mr. DOBERT was an author and lecturer; that he from time to time gave lectures in New York and Philadelphia and that she on one occasion observed a \$30 check which he had received from one of his lectures. She was unable to give any descriptive data relative to this check. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] informed that the LOBERTS had been very good neighbors to her and that Mr. LOBERT had related on one occasion that he had left Germany in 1933 at the time HITLER came into power, in view of the fact that he had written a book which was not in harmony with the ideology of ADOLPH HITLER. She stated that Mr. DOBERT had further advised that he had been trained in a Prussian military academy and was too young to see action in World War I; that due to the oppression brought about as a result of the Versailles Treaty he was converted to Nazism and rose to a leading position as one of HITLER'S Storm Troopers; that in order to be of more importance to the National Socialist Party he decided to visit Switzerland and France and convert others to the tenets of ADOLPH HITLER. He related that after observing democracy as it existed in Switzerland and France, he dropped the tenets of ADOLPH HITLER and was converted to the tenets of democracy. He arrived at his log cabin near Gilbert, Virginia, with his wife and son after departing from Germany in 1933 at the time HITLER came into power. Prior to arriving at Gilbert, Virginia, he lectured in Switzerland, France, England, and spent 4 years in New York City. Mr. LOBERT explained to Mrs. [REDACTED] after the death of WALTER KRIVITSKY that he, DOBERT, had met WALTER KRIVITSKY 2 years ago in New York City. KRIVITSKY visited the DOBERT log cabin at Gilbert Virginia on February 6, 1941, and had planned to remain there for one evening; however, he became enamored with the country air and remained there February 7th and 8th. Mrs. LOBERT drove KRIVITSKY in their Buick automobile from Gilbert, Virginia, to Union Station, Washington, D. C. on February 9, 1941. [REDACTED] stated that Mrs. LOBERT had related to her identical information relative to the taking of WALTER KRIVITSKY from her home to Union Station, Washington, D. C.; that she arrived with KRIVITSKY at the Union Station at approximately 5:00 P.M. on the afternoon of February 9, 1941. Mrs. LOBERT advised that KRIVITSKY was in the best of humor and as he alighted from her car at Union Station said "If anything should happen to me, would you take care of my wife and child?" Mrs. LOBERT related that she made a joke of this statement and thought no more of it until she read of the death of WALTER KRIVITSKY. [REDACTED] stated that Mrs. DOBERT was proceeding to Washington for the purpose of completing arrangements relative to the translation of certain books, and that Mrs. LOBERT had told [REDACTED] previously that she had translated certain books for the professors at the University of Virginia. [REDACTED] stated that Mrs.

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65-1046

DOBERT advised her that they had been visited from time to time by certain professors at the University of Virginia. In view of the discreet nature of this investigation, no overtures are being made at this time to ascertain the names of those professors at the University of Virginia.

[REDACTED] had in her possession a flyer which is entitled in bold cap letters "EITEL WOLF DOBERT", Author of: "CONVERT TO FREEDOM". Immediately under this is the photograph of DOBERT taken by the Blackstone Studio. Under the photograph is contained the following information;

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"Lecture Subjects:

"Convert to Freedom"  
(... National Socialist Discovers Democracy)

"The New Middle Ages"

"Life Without Freedom"

"The Church in Nazi Germany"

"A vivid and fascinating lecturer. In England he has addressed audiences of varying types, and has given evidence of his power in holding the attention and stimulating the interest of his hearers. His material is original, his style cultivated, and his manner so sincere as to exercise the strongest appeal."

- WILLIAM INGLIS THOMAS, University of London.

Exclusive Management  
WILLIAM B. PEAKES, INC.

500 Fifth Avenue  
New York

Vista Del Arroyo  
Pasadena

On the reverse side of this flyer is contained the following information:

"Prussia, Potsdam, the Imperial Army, these were the heritage of Eitel Wolf Dobert. Too young to fight in the World War, he was not too young to take his place in the Prussian Kadettencorps in 1918. With 250 comrades, he prepared himself for a military career, the only career, to his mind, of vital importance in the State.

Not too young to eat the bitter bread of Germany's

65-1046

"humiliation after Versailles, he shared in the annihilation of all that was best in the German social system by the catastrophic inflation. Along with tens of thousands of others, he was filled with a burning, searing resentment.

Into the midst of this Gethsemane of a people came the emissaries of the Brown Prophet of Munich. For Dobert, with his narrow patriotic upbringing, there was only one way possible, the way that led to Hitler. Here he found once more the soldierly virtues, obedience, loyalty, self-sacrifice and - what was lacking in the other parties of the Nationalist Right - keen activity and a boundless will to victory.

Young though he was, superior intelligence and zeal soon made Eitel Dobert the "perfect" storm trooper. Then came a fateful decision: he would go into the strongholds of democracy, the better to learn how to destroy the effete ideology of a dying order. He went to Switzerland and saw the simple faith of humble people in the dignity of the common man. He went to France and found the peasants without rancor or bitterness toward the invaders who had twice in their lives ruined their land. Bit by bit Dobert began to question and ponder. He referred his growing doubts to Hitler in a letter, but the Leader had no answer.

Soon these doubts crystallized into certainty and he became a convert to freedom. In spite of scathing rebukes by his comrades, his family, and his caste, he hurried home on the eve of Hitler's advent to power and published an appeal to his countrymen to reconsider their false hatreds. Every remaining liberal element hailed his book, "A Nazi Discovers France," but with Hitler's rise to power the book was burned and Dobert fled for his life on the night of the Reichstag fire.

He spent three months in Yugoslavia, a year in Italy. His odyssey of exile took him to North Africa, Malta, France, the Saar, Hungary, Austria, Bulgaria, and Greece. In Geneva he studied at the Institute of International Political Affairs with the purpose of gaining a scientific basis for his theories. Mr. Dobert worked as a journalist for the League of Nations and in 1935 published a book intended to warn the democratic countries that the totalitarian states would act toward them exactly as they acted toward all democratic elements within their own borders.

"After the annexations of Austria and the Sudetenland, his situation in Switzerland became untenable. The authorities forbade him to speak in public or write. But speech and pen and ink are a writer's weapons. So Mr. Dobert has come to the United States, which he considers the last bastion of democracy, and has taken out his first citizenship papers. In the spring of 1940 Putnam's published his autobiography, "Convert to Freedom."

"Dobert's 'Convert to Freedom' is a moving story that gives more insight into the Nazi revolution in Germany than a whole library of statistics and law books." - Dr. Charles F. Beard.

"'The Revolution of Nihilism,' as which Rauschning gave us such a penetrating and acute bird's-eye view from the perspective of the general and the politician, here is presented from the inside, in the embryonic stage, as it appears to the 'unknown S.D. man.' This story of the decline of a democracy 'unable to set limits to its own freedom' is told with a passion to will for justice. Americans can only profit by reading these confessions by one who has nursed himself back to sanity." - Thomas Mann.

"'Convert to Freedom' is easy to read and hard to forget. It lives. It deserves to be widely read, not only for its intrinsic worth but because the more widely it is read the better we shall understand Nazi Germany and the Germans . . . . I have known this witness during much of his exile. He is the kind of man on whom depends the hope for a free and peaceful Germany, and a free and peaceful world. I feel sure that we have now only begun to hear of this young man." - Clarence K. Streit."

A photostatic copy of this flyer is being made for inclusion in the Richmond Office file, the original of which is being returned to [REDACTED] at her request.

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T BURNLEY, VIRGINIA

[REDACTED]

He stated that the DOBERTS had a 1936 Buick automobile bearing New York licenses. He was unable to inform whether these were 1940 or 1941 licenses. He stated that he would endeavor to

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obtain the number of this license and furnish this office with the same. [REDACTED]

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AT BARBOURSVILLE, VIRGINIA

AT CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA

Mr. R. R. KING of the Wheeler and King Realty Company stated upon interview that in the early summer of 1940 Mrs. DOBERT, together with a Mrs. ELIEN E STILN and Mr. MAX E STILN, approached him relative to the purchase of a farm in the surrounding country of Charlottesville, Virginia. He stated that he showed these individuals the 90 acre tract of land upon which they are presently residing and offered to sell this land to them for \$1,500. A short time thereafter, Mrs. DOBERT stated that she would offer him \$1,250 for this tract of land. Mr. KING related that after conferring with the owner of the property, he made a deal with Mrs. DOBERT for the sale of this 90 acre tract of land near Gilbert, Virginia, where they are presently residing. He stated that he believes that either Mr. or Mrs. E STILN gave him a check of \$125 in good faith and a short time thereafter he received a check from Mr. DOBERT in the amount of \$125. Those two checks were good faith payments. Mr. KING was unable to give the writer any further identifying data as to these two checks. Mr. KING advised that \$1,000 more had been obtained from DOBERT on the tract of land.

Mr. KING stated that he did not know the exact date of the purchase of the place. Mr. KING, however, related after consulting his notebook that at the time he was negotiating the deal with the DOBERTS, Mrs. DOBERT gave as her address Coldsprings-on-the-Hudson and that Mrs. ELIEN E STILN gave as her address Groton-on-Hudson. Mr. KING advised that after he had completed the deal with the DOBERTS, Mrs. DOBERT wrote him a letter and stated that she had a friend who was also interested in purchasing a tract of land similar



to that which she had bought from him. Mr. KING related that he believed the friend indicated by Mrs. DOBERT was in all possibility WALTER KRIVITSKY. Mr. KING was unable to give the writer any additional information concerning this matter.

[REDACTED] stated upon interview that the records in the office of the Clerk of Court at Charlottesville, Virginia, reflected that the tract of land on which the DOBERTS are presently residing was purchased by MAX EASTLIN and EITEL WOLF DOBERT for \$1,250 in August of 1940. [REDACTED] was unable to furnish the writer with any additional information concerning this matter.

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The following is a description of subject DOBERT as obtained during the course of this investigation:

- 9 -

Height	5'9" to 10"
Weight	150 to 160
Hair	Black
Eyes	Dark
Complexion	Dark
Marital status	Married; one son, STEPHEN
Occupation	Author and lecturer
Nationality	German, having taken out first citizen papers, U.S.
Speech	Broken English

The following is a description of Mrs. DOBERT as obtained during the course of the investigation:

Name	MARGARITA DOBERT, alias, M. RUEERITE DOBERT
Age	30 (exact place of birth not known)
Height	5'7"
Weight	125
Hair	Dark
Eyes	Dark
Complexion	Dark
Appearance	Grecian
Marital status	Married
Occupation	Housewife
Nationality	Unknown; believed to be Grecian

For the information of the Albany and Washington Field Offices the following information is set forth:

The Bureau letter of February 14, 1941, made reference to the recent death of General WALTER G. KRIVITSKY, former head of the Soviet Military Intelligence in Western Europe. KRIVITSKY was found dead in his hotel room at the Bellevue Hotel, 15 E Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., on February 10, 1941.

KRIVITSKY had registered at the Bellevue Hotel on Sunday, February 9, 1941, after spending the preceding few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. EITHEL M. DOBERT who reside on a farm near Charlottesville, Virginia, with their son

65-1046

Stephen, two and one-half years of age. DOBERT has been described in various newspaper articles as a former Nazi Army Officer, author and lecturer.

The Richmond Field Division was requested to institute a preliminary investigation regarding the identity, background and activities of Mr. and Mrs. EITEL M. DOBERT residing near Charlottesville, Virginia. The investigation requested according to the instructions of the Bureau must of necessity be conducted in a highly discreet and confidential manner. This Office was requested to give this matter immediate attention.

- PENDING -

- 11 -

- UNDEVELOPED LEADS -

THE ALBANY OFFICEAT ALBANY, NEW YORK

Will check the name of EITEL L. DOBERT against the State auto registrations for the years 1940 and 1941 for the purpose of obtaining any information contained in these files relative to this subject.

THE NEW YORK OFFICEAT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

[REDACTED] b7D

Will discreetly obtain any information concerning subject DOBERT from WILLIAM B. FRANKS, INC., bearing in mind that this individual is indicated as having exclusive management as reflected in the flyer set forth herein.

AT COLDSPRINGS-ON-THE-HUDSON

Will conduct an investigation as to the background and activities of Mr. and Mrs. EITEL L. DOBERT, bearing in mind that Mrs. DOBERT gave this as her address at the time she was purchasing the 90 acre tract of land upon which they are presently residing.

AT GROTON-ON-HUDSON

Will conduct an investigation as to the identity, background, and reputation of ELIENA EASTMAN and MAX EASTMAN, bearing in mind that these two individuals assisted Mrs. DOBERT in securing the tract of land upon which they are presently residing. The Clerk records indicate that MAX EASTMAN was one of the purchasers of this land.

65-1046

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Will ascertain the identity and background of the following individuals: Mrs. JAMES PAFFER MORGAN, LARRY B. REY, ANNE H. DAVIS, CLARENCE S. STRAIG, and LULIQ H. HAMBURGER, [REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] It is suggested that efforts be made to ascertain any connections that these individuals may have with the subjects DOBERT.

THE RICHMOND OFFICE

AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

Will report the results of [REDACTED] b7E

- PETTING -

PJW:MAL

February 19, 1941

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

*Declassified by*  
*2333 BFG: g*  
*11-25-79*

Special Agent in Charge  
Washington, D. C.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 10-6-82 BY SP-1 BSK

RE: HANS BRUESSE:  
EITHEL W. DOBERT:  
MARGUERITE DOBERT:  
ESPIONAGE - R.

Dear Sir:

Your attention is called to the recent newspaper publicity concerning the death of the late Walter G. Krivitsky who was found dead in his hotel room in the Bellevue Hotel, 15 E. Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., on February 10, 1941.

You undoubtedly have noted from the newspaper articles that Louis Waldman, an attorney with offices at 302 Broadway, New York City, who represented Krivitsky prior to the latter's death was of the opinion that Krivitsky was murdered by OGPU Agents. Waldman, during a conference with press representatives, stated that he had furnished the Bureau with information concerning one Hans Bruesse, allegedly a "notorious OGPU killer" who had been assigned to "liquidate" former Agents of the Soviet Secret Police Organization. For your information, neither Waldman nor Krivitsky ever furnished the Bureau with any information concerning Hans Bruesse.

A review of the Bureau files indicates that the only data appearing therein pertaining to Hans Bruesse is a passing reference made by Krivitsky in the latter's article which appeared in the August 5, 1939 issue of the Saturday Evening Post entitled, "My Flight From Stalin". In the same article Krivitsky mentioned the names of Colonel Boris Bykov and Gertrude Schilbach, allegedly members of the OGPU Organization. The New York City Field Division has been requested to conduct a discreet and confidential investigation to ascertain the identity and present whereabouts of Bruesse, Bykov and Schilbach.

The Bureau desires that you immediately examine the indices of the Department of State and ascertain whether there is any information therein concerning any of these individuals.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF Classification  
DATE 1/21/83 CNS/PLD

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

100-11146-31  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FEB 20 1941  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
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COPY  
hvw

SAC, Washington

-2-

It is requested that you conduct this investigation in a highly confidential manner in view of the nature and background of this particular case.

The New York City Field Division is the Office of Origin in this matter.

The Bureau desires that you give this matter your immediate attention and submit a report concerning the same in the very near future.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

CC - New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY SP1BSK/TC

MAR 26 1942

100-11146-32

Cancelled

Original recd. & co. rec  
Classified

March 5, 1941

WALTER O. KRIVITSKY, with aliases:  
Samuel Ginsberg; Smelika Ginsberg;  
Walter Prokof.

Walter O. Krivitsky, former European head of the Soviet Military Intelligence, was found dead on February 10, 1941, in his room at the Bellevue Hotel, 15 E Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Krivitsky entered the United States during the later part of 1938 accompanied by his wife and child. During January, 1939, it was confidentially reported that Krivitsky made statements to the effect that he feared some member of the OGPU organization would make an attack upon him or upon members of his family while in the United States.

On June 30, 1939, the Washington News carried an article indicating that Krivitsky was the Director of the Soviet War Industry Institute in 1933 and 1934; that he was Chief of the Soviet Military Intelligence in Western Europe from 1935 to 1937 and his original admission into the United States was expedited by the efforts of Leon Blum, former Socialist Premier of France. Krivitsky was given nation-wide publicity when he published a series of articles in the Saturday Evening Post beginning April 13, 1939, wherein he exposed certain activities of the OGPU organization, particularly those concerning the Spanish Civil War. He particularly indicated that passports used by the American volunteers of the Loyalists Army were taken from them upon their arrival in Spain by individuals connected with the OGPU.

Krivitsky in another article entitled, "My Flight from Stalin" indicated that he was a member of the Communist Party since 1919 having joined at the age of twenty; that he was entrusted on special missions of a military character and as a member of the OGPU he spent most of his time in various countries throughout Europe; that he was in charge of the Russian Military Intelligence organization in the western part of Europe from 1935 to 1937 at which time he severed his connections with the Russian Government because of the purge which took place in that Country during that year.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDED &amp; INDEXED

100-11146-33

MAR 20 1941

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

In the May 6, 1939, issue of the New Masses it was stated that Krivitsky's correct name was Shmalka Ginsberg. The article accused him as being an impostor. In the May 5, 1939, issue of the Saturday Evening Post, Krivitsky published an article "My Flight from Stalin" in which he set forth the details concerning an occasion when he met three individuals in a restaurant on 42nd Street, New York City. He indicated in his article that one of these individuals was Sarge Bassoff, a veteran agent of the Soviet Military Intelligence Service. Mr. D. Shub, affiliated with the "Jewish Daily Forward", a Jewish newspaper in New York City, was with Krivitsky on the evening the latter met Bassoff and Shub corroborated Krivitsky's story regarding that meeting. Sarge Bassoff is presently residing in New York City.

During August, 1939, it was confidentially ascertained that Krivitsky was extremely concerned over the fact that he was constantly being "hounded" by Communists and was under the impression that Stalin intended to do away with him through the efforts of OGPU agents. It may be noted, however, that during October, 1939, Krivitsky testified before the Dies Committee on Un-American Activities concerning OGPU matters.

In November, 1939, Krivitsky published a book "In Stalin's Secret Service" which was an expose of the Russian Secret Police and its activities.

Krivitsky spent the week end prior to his death at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ethel W. Robert, who reside on a farm near Charlottesville, Virginia, with their son Stephen, two and one-half years of age. Robert allegedly was a former officer in the German Army. He is described as being an author and lecturer. During Krivitsky's visit at their home he purchased a .38 caliber automatic revolver which was found in his room subsequent to his death.

Prior to his death, Krivitsky wrote three letters addressed to his attorney, Louis Waldman, to his wife, Mrs. Rosa Ginsberg, and to Miss Suzanne LaFollette. While the letters did not express his intentions to commit suicide, they strongly indicated the same.

No information is available regarding the existence of any autobiography concerning Krivitsky.

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

FILE NO. **65-6807**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-19-41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2-17-41 to 3-21-41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; display: inline-block;"></div> <b>b7c</b>
TITLE <b>HANS BASSOFF EITHEL W. DOBERT MAROU-RITZ DOBERT</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

DR. PAUL WOHL interviewed says first met WALTER G. KRIVITSKY in 1925 or 1926 in Paris. Collaborated with him on articles published in Europe and worked with him for a time in the United States from November 15, 1938 until December 1939. Arranged KRIVITSKY'S escape from possible G.P.U. action in Europe. WOHL says KRIVITSKY was afraid and accused most everyone of being a G. P. U. agent or spy. His married life was not entirely happy—there were "terrific scenes" between him and his wife. Says knew HANS as chauffeur and general handy man for KRIVITSKY; also as an expert lock picker. KRIVITSKY tried to get HANS and his wife NEPA to break away from STALIN. They indicated they had followed his suggestion but KRIVITSKY did not trust them. WOHL and KRIVITSKY had difficulty about payment of money to WOHL for his collaboration on articles published in Europe and later used in part here. Was paid \$1500.00 but question of payment of balance of \$1,000.00 had to be arbitrated and KRIVITSKY, after signing up for the arbitration was very slow in complying with the decision. KRIVITSKY met DOBERTS through WOHL. They used to visit KRIVITSKY'S at CARROLL, NEW YORK. In published article, manuscript of which photostatic copies are attached, WOHL quotes BASSOFF as saying to KRIVITSKY that he would break down under the weight; that he would not be able to live by himself in a world to which he never belonged. WOHL does not know COLONEL BORIS BYKOV, says GERTRUDE SCHILDBACH, a German Communist. Saw HANS on street in New York City about two days before he wrote to SUZANNE LA FOLLETTE. Personal history of WOHL submitted.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-6-82 BY SP/CS/KTC

**REFERENCE:** Bureau letter of February 14, 1941.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (3 - Bureau (7 encls.) 2 - New York 2 - Richmond		100-11146-34	MAR 9 1941
		APR 24 1941	
		FBI	

DETAILS: Of the three persons mentioned on page 3 of the Bureau letter, namely HANS BRUESSE, BORIS EYKOV, and GERTRUDE SCHILDBACH, only one, a man named HANS and believed to be HANS BRUESSE, was known to DR. PAUL WOHL who is likewise mentioned on page 3 of the Bureau letter. DR. PAUL WOHL lives at 173 Lexington Avenue and was interviewed at his residence at that address; telephone LExington 2-9772. DR. WOHL says that the only one he knew was the man referred to as HANS whom he knew as the chauffeur for WALTER G. KRIVITSKY also as the operator of the motor boat and a general handy man around the place. The description furnished by DR. WOHL of BRUESSE is as follows:

Name: HANS \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age: 19 years  
 Height: About six feet  
 Build: Broad and plump  
 Face: Fat, oval, rather childish looking  
 Eyes: Small, brown  
 Hair: Dark blond, smooth.

This man was definitely of the Dutch type. On the last occasion when DR. WOHL saw him HANS was wearing a grayish-green raglan type European made overcoat and was carrying a dark brown leather briefcase. DR. WOHL saw this same man whom he knew as HANS twice in Holland and once in Paris. He says that MRS. KRIVITSKY should know all about him as she had mentioned to WOHL that this man was frequently at their house. DR. WOHL does not know BORIS EYKOV mentioned in the Bureau letter of February 14, 1941. With reference to SERGE BASSOFF mentioned in the Bureau letter, Dr. WOHL says his name is actually BARUCH, according to what KRIVITSKY had told him. He said that KRIVITSKY mentioned that the man known as SERGE BASSOFF was Jewish. GERTRUDE SCHILDBACH was a German Communist, according to DR. PAUL WOHL. There is a man named JULIUS EPSTEIN who is now in New York City who broke with the Communist Party in 1926 in Europe. This man studied with DR. PAUL WOHL in JENA. DR. WOHL does not know that EPSTEIN is actually a member of the Communist Party but says that he was definitely very friendly as a writer. EPSTEIN now resides at 7 West 108 Street, New York City. DR. WOHL thinks that EPSTEIN mentioned the name of GERTRUDE SCHILDBACH to him on one occasion. He believes that EPSTEIN mentioned that the girl had been "purged". EPSTEIN is very definitely anti-Communist and anti-Stalinite at the present time, according to DR. WOHL.

DR. WOHL relates that the first time he called on KRIVITSKY at The HAGUE, Holland, he saw HANS there. He did not know just what position HANS was filling at the time. He did mention, however, that HANS was the most expert locksmith he had ever come across. He had invented or manufactured some special small electric light which he used in connection with such work. He is married and his wife's name is MORA. She, incidentally, is said to be very beautiful.

At this time WOHL saw the man whom he knows as HANS for a period of two days at the Hague. He saw him again in Paris when KRIVITSKY called on him. The time DR. WOHL saw him at the Hague was in the Summer of 1936, and the second time he saw him was in the Spring of 1937.

The third time that DR. WOHL saw HANS was while the latter was standing with his wife MORA on the street in Paris waiting for a bus. This was after KRIVITSKY had already broken with the Soviet Union probably along about October 5, 1937. After this break KRIVITSKY tried to get HANS and his wife to break away from the Soviet Union but DR. WOHL has no knowledge that KRIVITSKY was successful in doing that.

The next time he saw HANS was in New York City on Fifth Avenue near 26th Street and about two days before the date of the letter which he wrote to SUZANNE LAFOUILLETTE. HANS at that time was waiting for a bus and was alone. HANS was standing near the cafeteria at the vicinity mentioned and apparently was waiting for a bus. He was alone at the time. At that time WOHL wrote to Miss LAFOUILLETTE about having seen HANS. The letter to Miss LAFOUILLETTE was dated probably about two days after the incident. Dr. WOHL did not know whether or not HANS saw him at the time.

Dr. WOHL said he first met KRIVITSKY in Berlin where he was introduced to him by MARTIN HALL. He had been told that KRIVITSKY was an important Russian of interest whom he should meet. He met him several times after he was introduced to him and had him to his house for dinner saying that as a newspaper man he was interested in talking with KRIVITSKY. In 1926 he saw KRIVITSKY in the Soviet Embassy. He did not see him again until around 1927. During the period of approximately December of 1925 until August of 1926 he saw him possibly four times. Towards the end of 1927 he received a telephone call from KRIVITSKY in Paris and thereafter saw him quite frequently. According to DR. WOHL, KRIVITSKY broke with the Russians on October 5, 1937. He had first spoken about breaking with them in August of 1937. And it had been in June of 1937 that he first told Dr. WOHL of the position he occupied with the GPU. Dr. WOHL inquired of him, as near as he can now recall, as follows:

"Are you the representative of Stalin?"

KRIVITSKY said he had been commandeered to the work by the Commissariat. WOHL asked him which Commissariat and KRIVITSKY said the NKVD (The People's Commissariat for Interior Affairs). At about the end of 1936 or the beginning of 1937, the friendship between KRIVITSKY and DR. WOHL had developed to the point where



they in their conversation, which incidentally were conducted in German, had changed from the formal "sie" to the more intimate "du". Dr. WOHL says that they actually spoke about this change and agreed on so addressing one another.

After meeting KRIVITSKY in 1926 or 1926, WOHL saw him during that year also, during 1927 and 1928. In 1929 KRIVITSKY left and said he was going to Russia and he in fact later sent WOHL a postcard from Leningrad. As near as WOHL can recall, the next time he saw him was possibly in January of 1936 in Paris. WOHL explained that at Christmas in 1935 he was invited to dinner by a Mrs. HALLGARDEN in Paris and among those present was LEON KISCH and a few days later he received a telephone call from KRIVITSKY who said that he had gotten the address from KISCH and at that time KRIVITSKY indicated he was still connected with the Soviet Government. WOHL quotes him as saying, "I am now in charge of the whole representation of the Soviet Union in Central Europe".

At that same time WOHL was active in connection with a small organization which was interested in combatting the spread of Nazism.

When KRIVITSKY went to Russia, he recommended a man to WOHL as a contact. This man recommended a girl to WOHL as a teacher of Russian and this girl came once to give him a lesson and started asking questions about the general situation and she showed WOHL a questionnaire which was of a definitely military nature. This aroused WOHL'S suspicions that there was some attempt to obtain information for intelligence of a military nature involved in some way in the activities. When KRIVITSKY called on WOHL in Paris he told him that he had a very important position, that he was in charge of work against the Nazis.

After they met in Paris in 1937, KRIVITSKY called WOHL and said he wanted to talk to him about an important matter and he came up to WOHL'S room and in a conversation told him that he had been called back to Russia and that he did not want to go. Then he finally communicated with WOHL and said he was going. In about six or eight days he again telephoned to WOHL and made an appointment and met and what he then told WOHL is all set out in his book and thereafter WOHL organized his flight and had him go into hiding in the south of France. Shortly thereafter KRIVITSKY showed up again in Paris and said he could not stay in the place where he was hiding. There had been an Indian there at the point where he was hiding and KRIVITSKY said that this Indian was in the OGPU. By that time he was calling everyone a GPU agent. In this same connection WOHL relates that when KRIVITSKY met SEDOV, the son of LEON TROTSKY, he wanted WOHL to call him every twenty minutes because, KRIVITSKY SAID, SEDOV might be an OGPU agent.

With reference to KRIVITSKY'S arrival in this country, WOHL says that he came here ahead of KRIVITSKY who arrived on November 15, 1938. WOHL went to meet the boat and KRIVITSKY was taken to Ellis Island but eventually through the cooperation of CARMELO OFFER, Vice-Consul and secretary to Ambassador BULLITT the release of KRIVITSKY from Ellis Island was arranged and he went to live with WOHL in a room which had been taken at 600 West 40 Street, New York City. They worked together and during the time that they were working together, WOHL made three trips to Washington with him. They separated on August 7th or 8th, 1939. After that KRIVITSKY and his family rented a small house at Carmel, New York. WOHL visited KRIVITSKY on several occasions at Carmel and he says that KRIVITSKY was terribly afraid when he was alone. According to WOHL, a man named JULIUS EPSTEIN would be familiar with all of the details of this period.

WOHL said that after August 8th he saw KRIVITSKY probably ten or twelve times and did some work with him on the book. The \$200.00 which was mentioned in the letter sent by WOHL to SUZANNE LaFOLLETTE was the balance of the remaining \$1000.00 which had been awarded through an arbitration to which KRIVITSKY had agreed. The first \$300.00 of this \$1000.00 had been paid by KRIVITSKY but there had been some trouble about getting the other payments. After KRIVITSKY returned to the United States and got his permanent visa he simply refused to pay and said that if WOHL wanted something he should come to see KRIVITSKY and he would, "put my finger on him". When WOHL saw HANS on the street he received quite a shock and he felt that he still owed a duty to KRIVITSKY to inform him that he had seen HANS in this country.

Reverting to the matter of the money, WOHL said that he and KRIVITSKY had had a community of interest and his part of the payment was to be ten percent approximately and he had received \$1500.00 and the other \$1000.00 was involved in arbitration and KRIVITSKY had signed an agreement and paid the first three instalments but it became necessary to write letters to get the rest of it paid. It appears that WOHL, according to his own statement, had collaborated with KRIVITSKY on the articles which had been published in Europe which later on served for much of the articles in the Saturday Evening Post and according to WOHL he wrote most of the material in the articles and it was as he states a common literary venture between the two of them.

The last time WOHL saw KRIVITSKY was a few days before Christmas 1939.

With reference to EITHEL W. DOBERT mentioned in a Bureau letter, WOHL says that he is the author of the book "Convert to Freedom". DOBERT comes from an aristocratic German family and had attended a cadet school in Germany and then became a Nazi. In 1932 he went to France. He wrote a book "A Nazi Discovers France". After that he lived in Switzerland and made a living as a writer and lecturer and eventually migrated to the United States. DOBERT called on WOHL when they were living on 140 Street in New York City and that was when KRIVITSKY met him. KRIVITSKY insisted that WOHL talk with DOBERT and ascertain whether or not he was a GPU agent. When KRIVITSKY moved to Carmel, the DOBERTS also moved to that vicinity having a home about fifty or sixty miles from there. They used to occasionally visit the KRIVITSKYS at Carmel spending a few hours with them on a visit. It is possible according to WOHL that the DOBERTS may have moved in with MRS. KRIVITSKY at Carmel after KRIVITSKY came to New York City to work on his book with SHUB.

According to WOHL, KRIVITSKY was terribly worried at night; on one occasion he even told WOHL that he distrusted him. He distrusted almost everyone, according to WOHL. He mentioned the entrance of a girl, a White Russian, who had come to Paris at the age of about eleven years and who came to see WOHL here with very good recommendations. KRIVITSKY said that this girl was a GPU spy.

According to WOHL, KRIVITSKY'S married life was not very happy and there were terrific scenes between KRIVITSKY and his wife. MRS. KRIVITSKY was pretty much of a nervous wreck. According to WOHL when KRIVITSKY was getting along happily with his wife he did not appear to be so much afraid. The fear seemed to occur in waves. WOHL mentions that as late as November of 1939 KRIVITSKY told EPSTEIN that a war against Finland was a good war.

WOHL said that when KRIVITSKY was in the south of France in hiding he wrote a letter to HANS and his wife MORA and suggested that they break away from Stalin. These letters were mailed by WOHL in Paris. HANS and MORA answered the letter and told KRIVITSKY that they were following his suggestion but KRIVITSKY never quite trusted them.

In answer to a direct inquiry WOHL said that he had no knowledge whatsoever of the counterfeit money transactions which had been mentioned in the book by KRIVITSKY and had learned of it only from the mention that occurs in the book.

WOHL turned over to this agent the manuscript of an article "The Last Trial" which was written as a memorandum for WALTER G. KRIVITSKY by WOHL and published in "The Commonwealth". Inasmuch as this manuscript shows the corrections which were made in the article, it is being submitted in preference to a copy of the magazine. Photostatic copies of the manuscript are attached to this report and the original is being retained at the New York Office.

In connection with this manuscript, WOHL prepared a brief story about himself for "The Commonwealth". In this he says that he was born in Berlin on November 20, 1900 and came to the United States in June 1938 as a correspondent for Czechoslovak newspapers, preceding WALTER G. KRIVITSKY for the purpose of securing an affidavit for him. He states that in December of 1939 they severed relations and that the literary collaboration which they had contemplated continuing in America had become impossible; that there was no longer any agreement between them either on principles or on methods and that KRIVITSKY had been drawn into new associations. He relates that from January 1936 on he met KRIVITSKY frequently having first known him in 1925 in Germany. He mentions that in 1936 when KRIVITSKY on his return from Russia called on him in Paris he, WOHL, was on the board of The Committee for Freedom in Germany, of which HEINRICH MANN was the chairman. The group with which WOHL became active in the fight against Nazism accepted KRIVITSKY'S assistance and collaboration and he explains that while a few of the younger members of the group had been connected with the revolutionary movement in central Europe in post-war years, there was at that time not one Communist among the group. WOHL'S association with KRIVITSKY, he says, was based solely on their one common purpose namely, action against Nazism and Fascism, for effective action by men in responsible positions rather than public oratory. He relates that in October 1937 he helped to organize KRIVITSKY'S flight and to identify him to the French authorities. That in 1937 - 1938 they collaborated on the first series of articles which were published in social democratic newspapers in Europe and the same material was later included in the American articles which were written in collaboration with ISAAC DON LEVINE.

PAUL WOHL has had prepared what he describes as a "Summary of Vita" which sets forth his experience and qualifications. To this are attached three appendices; one, covering the period of 1919-1926, another covering the period 1927-1934, and the third one covering the period of 1934-1940, all of these being described as appendix one. There is then an appendix two which furnishes personal references and international associations. One set of these documents is being forwarded to the Bureau with this report while the other set is being retained in the files of the New York office. There is also forwarded to the Bureau with this report a page from the 2/21/41 issue of "The Commonwealth" which has an editorial "Has the OGPU Settled Hathaway, Too?".

**ENCLOSURES FOR THE BUREAU -**

- 5 photostatic copies of manuscript of article by Dr. PAUL WOHL for "The Commonwealth".
- 1 printed "Summary of Vita" with three appendices and one appendix of personal references. 7
- 1 page from "The Commonwealth" dated 2/21/41.

857-L  
65-6807

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK OFFICE will interview JULIUS EPSTEIN of 7 West 108 Street, New York City, for any information he may have concerning the life of WALTER G. KRIVITSKY and the circumstances leading up to his death.

Will interview SUZANNE LaFOLLETTE whose address has been furnished in confidence as The Chelsea Hotel, New York City, for information concerning the affairs of KRIVITSKY and any information she may have concerning the circumstances leading up to his death.

Will interview LUDWIG LORE of 243 - 55 Street, Brooklyn, New York, telephone Windsor 9-6275 for any information which he may have concerning the circumstances leading up to the death of WALTER G. KRIVITSKY.

Will await specific instructions from the Bureau as to the advisability of interviewing the widow of WALTER G. KRIVITSKY and also LOUIS WALDMAN, an attorney of 302 Broadway as to their knowledge of the circumstances leading up to the death of KRIVITSKY.

In connection with all of these inquiries, it will be noted by the investigating agent that the purpose of the inquiry is to ascertain whether or not agents of the Soviet GPU, or as it is now known NKVD are operating in this Country,

PENDING

KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

Walter Kuntz

# The New Leader

7 EAST 15TH STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

328

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6-6-82 BY SP1GK/STC

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RECORDED & INDEXED

APR 27 1941  
B. I.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

5 MAY 26 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

100-11146-35

FILED



# Krivitsky Slain by GPU to C

/State Dept. and FBI Is  
Active Red Espionage



Hacker of the N. Y. Daily Mirror.

HE TOLD ON STALIN!

THE details concerning Walter Krivitsky's death remain information given to the public by the police in Washington. A great, a very great deal remains to be investigated in such matters than the capital police. We hope the attitude of the F. B. I. of refusing to inquire into the case, found to obtain a thorough investigation.

Krivitsky's death—and we say this advice, too—the security of this nation and of the safety of integrity.

It is too early to say whether Krivitsky was murdered or was compelled by them to end his life in a bid to spare certain: he did not die voluntarily; his death was a cost.

The case bears many grave earmarks of being into a trap from which there was no escape. He was ordered knowing that his wife and son would share the command of the G.P.U. to kill himself, in the hope that he would be spared.

As in every crime, the first thing to do is for Krivitsky's death, Stalin had two motives: one motive—vengeance, vengeance for Krivitsky's exposure of the crimes of the G.P.U.—is typical of Stalin's a leading role in the assassination of Trotsky. Stalin's death was specific and more immediate.

Krivitsky was the one man residing in the city who to the Moscow conspiracy that has been in the city since soil in recent months as part of the deal concluded in August 1939—the pact which Krivitsky forced upon the world.

For many months there has been an infiltration of the United States by desperate and experienced agents of the Comintern.

(Continued on Page 1)

# New Le

NEW YORK, N. Y., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1939

Vol. XXIV—No. 7