

LBN:HBM

June 19, 1944

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62-31615-455

Mr. Walter Winchell  
Beverly Hills Hotel  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Walter:

I wish to acknowledge your letter  
of June 12.

It will be a pleasure indeed to  
prepare one of your columns during your  
vacation in August. I shall forward it to  
you as soon as possible.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

(s) J. Edgar Hoover  
Hailed by the Director

JUN 19 4 29 PM '44  
FBI  
DEPT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 8/31/84 BY SP8 BTJ/GCL

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

734  
3 JUN 30 1944  
hbm

Wm

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California  
June 9, 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

Re: WALTER WINCHELL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Hollywood Democratic Committee is presently the strongest and most active Communist Party front organization in Hollywood and was largely responsible for the recent defeat of Congressman COSTELLO by HAD STYLES, who was strongly backed by most Communist Party members.

JOHN HOWARD LAWSON.

[REDACTED]

LAWSON is the acknowledged leader of all Communist Party activity in the motion picture industry. The Northwest Section comprises the motion picture industry.

[REDACTED]

HANDLED  
TOP DESK

62-31615-4

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OTHERWISE

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Declassify on: OADR 8/31/84

58 JUL 4 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for the Director

June 9, 1944

Re: WALTER WINCHELL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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b-6  
b7C  
b7D

(c)  
The Screen Writers' Guild is composed of writers in the motion picture industry.

[REDACTED]

Respectfully submitted,



R. B. HOOD  
SAC

VIP:ESP

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

To Hoover

April 13, 1944.

Rose:

Why, oh why, can't I get some envelopes?  
This is the third week I am asking----and  
waiting for them.

Love-- but no kisses this week,

b6

[REDACTED]

Walt C. [unclear]

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FBI  
31 JUN 29 1944

Asst. Dir. W  
6-20-44  
Sec. 100-34544

Blue memo  
na. [unclear]  
6-21-44  
JJB

5 JUL 8 1944

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

June 19, 1944

From Walter Winchell

bt

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Personal attention  
Please*

*Beane memo  
Mr. Tamm  
6-21-44  
RBY*

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

June 19, 1944

From Walter Winchell.

bt

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

*W. Winchell*

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DATE 8/31/84 BY SP8 BJS/GCL

-457



TELEPHONE

NEW YORK 22. May 13, 1944

*ack quickly & Ben*

Dear Walter Winchell:

After speaking to you this evening after the broadcast, I called Hugh Scully, the Canadian Consul General here, to see if he had received the latest Hansard from Ottawa so that we might find out exactly what was said about you. He hadn't seen Friday's Hansard but was as indignant as I was that anyone should have attacked you in the Canadian House and shares my determination that an apology be conveyed to you at the earliest possible date.

As a fellow journalist I know the tremendous value that factual column of your about the Canadian war effort really was and I think I'm being entirely factual and objective when I say that it was the most effective single piece of publicity the Canadian war effort has received in this country. Most Canadians would share my opinion, I know. *mm*

The only Bruce in the Canadian House is Dr. Herbert Bruce of Toronto. He was once a great surgeon and was some time Lieutenant Governor of Ontario. I knew him quite well when I lived in Toronto and he was always a very acrid sort of fellow. He is now over 70, a member of the opposition party, and is not taken seriously even by his own party. God alone knows what was in his mind in attacking you but I imagine that it had some devious political slant.

In any case be assured that the attack was made in ignorance and would be repudiated by every Canadian who can read and is not a psychopathic Yankee. Yours has been the most courageous, consistent, fearless voice on this continent against fascism at home and abroad and please don't let an aged, irresponsible politician cause you a moment's thought. The regret and misfortune is not yours but Canadians who have to apologize for the inexcusable yappings of one their own. And don't cancel that trip to Canada. Herbie Bruce is far less representative north of the undefended frontier than Martin Dyes ever was south.

Regards.... *b6*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/31/84 BY SP8 BTJ/KCL

79 JUL 2 1944

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GS:LP.

TO : D. M. Ladd

DATE: June 25, 1944

FROM : Grant Statter

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST  
JUNE 25, 1944

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

There are set forth below the remarks made by Mr. Walter Winchell which appear to be of interest to the Bureau. Where necessary, comment concerning the items mentioned has been set forth immediately following each item.

## I. SEDITION

Re: Gerald L. E. Smith, with aliases, et al; Sedition

"Chicago: Gerald L. E. Smith and two thousand supporters staged a 'sit-down' strike of their own at the Stevens Hotel in Chicago today when they refused to leave a ball-room for which their reservation had been cancelled by the management. They denounced both the Republican and the Democratic leadership."

We had previously received advice that Smith proposed to hold a rally of the America First Party, typical of many rallies his organization has been holding each week, at the same time the Republican Nominating Convention was in session. The investigation of Smith is being continued and reports are received regularly and sent to the Department but, as yet, no indication has been received that prosecution is contemplated.

## II. ALLEGED WIRE TAPPING

"New York: This is a warning to the editors of the new 'Scope' magazine. 'Scope', which publishes a devastating expose about certain Congressmen, notify the FBI that your telephones are being illegally tapped and that your editor, Howard Fast, the author of the book 'Citizen Tom Payne', is being shadowed and wire-tapped by Congressional investigators who ironically are well and unfavorably known to the New York Police Department."

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ENCLOSURE

INDEXED

JUN 27 1944



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[REDACTED]

With reference to "Scope" magazine, you will recall that Winchell mentioned the publication on June 4, 1944, and particularly an article concerning the Dies Committee. [REDACTED]

### III. WINCHELL'S CONGRESSIONAL FEUD

"Los Angeles: The Veterans of Foreign Wars of California, by formal resolution, have castigated Senator Robert R. Reynolds of North Carolina and his new 'American Nationalist Committee'....whatever that is. The war veterans bluntly state that Senator Reynolds' position before Pearl Harbor was vigorously pro-Hitler and his record narrowly isolationist and definitely in favor of racial and religious hatred. The 'Foreign War Veterans' of California have appointed a commission of continuous examination of Senator Reynolds' committee. In short, ladies and gentlemen, the men who fought in the last war do not trust Senator Reynolds in this war to protect his country in the next one. At any rate, in my opinion, there is one consistent feature of Senator Reynolds' record—he invariably commands more attention than respect."

The Bureau files contain no references to the American Nationalist Committee, although Winchell mentioned last week that Senator Reynolds was forming an organization to be based on the principles of America First and sponsored by fifty unnamed backers. With reference to this, you were advised that the newspapers have carried stories concerning Reynolds' plan to start a new America First organization and Gerald L. K. Smith had announced that he and Reynolds would cooperate in making speeches and entering "America First" candidates in the coming election.

### IV. HJALMAR SCHACHT REPORTEDLY IN ARGENTINA

"Washington: Your reporter was told to investigate the tip that Hjalmar Schacht of the Nazi Party and fifty other German-Nazis are now in Argentina completing final arrangements to safeguard various Nazi fortunes."

For some time rumors have been current in South America that representatives of the Nazis were in Argentina trying to arrange a refuge in

the event Germany falls. These rumors have been investigated without substantiation to date and no information is presently available concerning Winchell's allegation that Schacht is now in Argentina. Efforts will be made to substantiate or negate the report.

#### V. SCANDAL INVOLVING NEW YORK JUDGE

"New York: Another sensational scandal is expected to break any day dealing with alleged underworld political backing of the candidate for the New York State Supreme Court."

The New York Field Division has no information about this at present, but will attempt to secure whatever is available and submit it as soon as received. Possibly, Mr. Winchell was referring to Thomas A. Aurelio, who was elected Judge of the New York State Supreme Court in November, 1943. According to the newspapers, during the election campaign, District Attorney Hogan in New York announced he had information that Aurelio had pledged "undying love" for Frank Costello. Costello is an "old-time" slot machine operator and is reputed to be one of New York's notorious racketeers.

#### VI. GENERAL INTEREST

- A. "London: International jurists have raised an interesting question regarding the trial for the war guilty, to wit— are the appeasers, the accomplices of the war criminals, or should they be subpoenaed as character witnesses for the accused or as co-defendants?"
- B. "Oran: The heaviest battle units of the United Nations' Mediterranean squadron are at sea. Tremendous amphibious action is probable west of Rome and east of Barcelona. Strategically, a landing on the South Coast of France would now relieve pressure on both Italy and Normandy."



STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
EAT:DS

DATE: 6-26-44

TO : THE DIRECTOR

FROM : Edw. A. Tamm

SUBJECT:

With reference to Winchell's statement concerning the Dies Committee tapping the telephones of "Scoop" Magazine, the New York office is being instructed that if a complaint of this kind is received, the complainant should be advised that the matter will be referred by the Bureau to the Attorney General for his advice and instructions as to what action the Bureau should take.

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

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STOP DESK

ENCLOSURE 29

Attachment

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DATE 8/31/84 BY SP8BJS/CL

20 JUN 27 1944

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~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~ - AIR COURIER

62-16  
RECORDED

62-1615-459

Date: August 2, 1944

To: Mr. F. E. Crosby  
The American Embassy  
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Classified by ~~SP8 BJS/KCL~~  
Declassify on ~~OADR 8/31/84~~

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Hjalmar Schacht  
Argentina Subversive Activities - C

In a broadcast made June 25, 1944, Walter Winchell made the allegation that the above-captioned individual and fifty other German Nazis were in Argentina completing final arrangements to safeguard Nazi fortunes.

You will recall that this individual is allegedly involved in the recent revolution in Germany. He was formerly a president of the Reich Bank.

There have been persistent rumors that certain German officials are making strenuous efforts to secure their financial status after the war by providing ample funds for themselves in Argentina. It is realized that this presents a difficult investigative problem. However, it is suggested that you make an effort to determine the identity of individuals who might possibly serve as intermediaries for the transfer of funds from Germany to Argentina for possible use by these German officials seeking refuge in Argentina.

In this connection, it might be noted that the Office of Strategic Services is very much interested in developing information outlined above. Since there is only a limited time in which the Office of Strategic Services might utilize this information by spreading propaganda among German sources, it is requested that you expedite the investigation of this matter. It is to be noted that OSS plans to undertake German morale by pointing out that ranking German officials contemplating leaving Germany with sufficient funds to maintain themselves in comfortable living after the fall of the German Government.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 11

AUG 4 1944 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

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INDEXED

SEE REVERSE  
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ACTION

OK to release as is  
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ON 7/22/86

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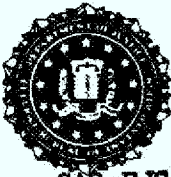
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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



CAG:FJS

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

June 24, 1944

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

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: Walter Winchell

BACKGROUND

At various times it has been noted that Walter Winchell in his column covers various incidents in Latin America in a detailed fashion.

DETAILS

Through the Office of Censorship it has been determined that the writer, [redacted] on May 23, 1944, forwarded information marked "For Walter Winchell," which he dispatched from the Hotel Carrera in Santiago, Chile, and addressed it to Bennett Cerf, Random House, New York City.

[redacted] in his article, treats of a secret council of German industrialists operating in Buenos Aires, mentioning among others, the I. G. Farben and the Siemens interests. He mentioned Alfredo Hermann as being closely linked with the Siemens interests.

The information set forth in the memorandum for Walter Winchell contains nothing new in so far as the Bureau is concerned, but it will probably provide material for Walter Winchell in one of his forthcoming broadcasts inasmuch as it assumes a sensational angle, portraying the German industrialists as a "secret council."

Respectfully,

C. H. Carson

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7 1944

JUL 7 1944

RECEIVED DIRECTLY TO DESK

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd

DATE: July 2, 1944

FROM : Mr. Grant Stetter

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST - JULY 2, 1944

There are quoted below the remarks made by Mr. Winchell which are believed to be of interest to the Bureau. Where necessary, comment has been set forth immediately following his remarks.

Re: Joseph E. McWilliams, was, et al  
Sedition

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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"Washington: The United States Government scored telling points in the Sedition Trial this week, when a witness named William A. Bockhacker of Culver City, California testified that brown-shirted troops had trained with loaded rifles in the California desert. The Government witness testified under oath, that Los Angeles Bund members were told by Defendant Herman Schwinn that they were Hitler's advanced guardmen in America."

Bockhacker did testify generally to the effect stated by Winchell. His testimony was in line with allegations about brown-shirted troops training with loaded rifles we had had before but the allegations never proved to be true. Some of the West Coast units of the Bund did engage in some small bore rifle practice but as you will recall, the Bureau conducted an extensive investigation concerning allegations that the Bund engaged in military training. As a result of the information we furnished to the Attorney General, he subsequently stated that the Bund had not violated any Federal Statutes in this respect. With reference to Schwinn, he was West Coast leader of the Bund and the remark attributed to him is typical of similar remarks made by leaders of the Bund throughout the country.

Re: Axis Plotting in South America

"Rio: The Good Neighbor Policy has failed to stand the test in South America. Argentina's prestige is now at its peak. Colonel Peron (phoenetic) has gotten away with his insults to the United States. Some military observers suspect that Argentina's indifference to Washington demands is based on the plans of the defeated Axis leaders to continue the war over here with some South American support."

Critics of the Administration Policy toward Latin America have bandied these allegations about for some time in this country but little evidence to support the charges can be found in South America.

Re: General Interest

"New York: Although Governor Dewey remains uncommitted, New Yorkers believe that a Republican Secretary of Labor would be Edward G. Corsi of New York."

Corsi was closely associated with a number of individuals who were at one time regarded as possibly

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

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JUL 4 1944

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Memorandum for Mr. Ladd

b6 [REDACTED] He was a member of an Alien-enemy hearing board in New York City and we have had occasion to address memoranda to the Attorney General protesting against his participation in the consideration of cases involving Italian aliens.



copy J.S.

/pk

5:00 P.M.  
DATE: June 24, 1944

TO : MR. E. A. TAMM

FROM : D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: "WITH LOTIONS OF LOVE....  
by JOSEPH P. KAMP

+ 112  
SAC Conroy of New York City telephoned and furnished the following data in reference to a statement appearing in Joseph P. Kamp's pamphlet, "Lotions of Love... to Walter Winchell" which indicated that Winchell has paid out \$1500 to blackmailers to keep out of the newspapers the facts concerning a "skeleton in his closet". No details were given concerning the skeleton but the reader was invited to inspect the blotter at New York's 30th Precinct Police Station for May 23, 1930, or "take a peek" at Magistrate's court File #3592.

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b7D

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Further details are forthcoming from the New York Field Office.

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EX-38

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62-31615-462  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 8 1944  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-31615-462



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. D. M. Ladd

DATE: July 9, 1944

FROM : G. Stettin

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST  
July 9, 1944ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 8/31/84 BY SP8 BTJ/GCL

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Beahm  
Miss Gandy

There are quoted below the remarks made by Mr. Winchell which are believed to be of interest to the Bureau. Comment concerning these remarks follows them when necessary:

## I. SEDITION IN "MOTHERS' GROUPS"

"Mrs. H. Marlowe of Baltimore. There are many reputable patriotic mother organizations. They are given due credit for their loyalty in the expose of phony mother groups in the Woman's Home Companion. It is called 'The Mother Racket' — 'The Mother Racket' (Repeating). It is a wonderful piece by Miss Patricia Lockridge."

The article mentions six mothers' groups, all of which have been subjects of investigation by the Bureau. The author interviewed members and leaders of the organizations, Mothers of Sons Forum — Cincinnati, Ohio; We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America — Chicago, Illinois; The National Blue Star Mothers of America, Incorporated — Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; American Mothers — Detroit, Michigan; Loyal American Mothers — Detroit, Michigan; and Mothers and Daughters of Pennsylvania — Philadelphia. The tenor of the article is that wittingly or unwittingly these mothers' groups are aiding Hitler. It is interesting to note that one of the more prominent of such organizations, United Mothers of America — Cleveland, Ohio, is not mentioned in the article, and it is alleged that the mailing list of We, the Mothers, Mobilize for America, contains 20,000 names when actually our investigation has shown that the list is only one half that size. Three of the groups, American Mothers, Loyal American Mothers, and Mothers and Daughters of Pennsylvania, have been practically disbanded, have no organizational structure, and only meet at very irregular intervals at private homes for social gatherings, card parties, and the like. In view of the possibility that the active groups may be guilty of sedition, we have conducted and are still conducting investigation of their activities. All of the information gathered has been furnished to the Department but there is no evidence of a desire to prosecute. This may be partially attributable to the fact that the people involved are women 65 to 85 years of age which would, of course, make prosecution difficult.

## II. ESCAPED PRISONERS OF WAR

"Grand Rapids, Michigan. A police and Federal Bureau of Investigation dragnet is out in Michigan for eight escaped Nazi prisoners of war. State Police and FBI Agents are combing Michigan and the neighboring states for the men who escaped from two Western Michigan encampments last night."

Five prisoners of war escaped from a camp at Lake Odessa, Michigan, between 11:00 P.M., Saturday night and 4:00 A.M., Sunday morning. Three others

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escaped from a camp at Fremont, Michigan, between 9:30 P.M., Saturday night and daylight Sunday morning. The latter three effected their escape by cutting a fence. Local press and police agencies have been notified about these escapes.

### III. ARMY HANDLING OF PRISONERS OF WAR

"A reporter's report to the nation. Hoopeston, Illinois. In a talk to newspapermen here, the Army's Public Relations Department at Camp Ellis and the Commanding Officer before a Rotary Club stated that reporters should not print everything they hear, such as the sort of silly stuff Walter Winchell broadcasts about war prisoners having very special privileges including very special visitors. Then on June the 5th three German prisoners of war escaped in a stolen car. The prisoners were eventually recaptured and confessions were made by two enlisted men that they had taken the German war prisoners on parties. And so I warn the newspapermen of that area not to pay any attention to the silly stuff about war prisoners handed out by the Commanding Officer at Camp Ellis or his Public Relations Staff. Illinois newspapers wishing to check this fact are recommended to Mr. Allan Flory (phonetic), the Editor of the Chronicle Herald at Hoopeston, Illinois."

We have had no information concerning this particular incident as it is primarily a matter of Army concern. It may be of interest to note that some time ago, following several allegations by Mr. Winchell that German prisoners of war were given unwarranted privileges, we received advice from the Army that pressure had been brought to bear on them and that they had been forced to prohibit German prisoners of war from singing the Horst Wessel and other German military songs and have also been forced to restrict certain other activities by these prisoners. This immediately resulted in retaliation on the part of the Germans in handling American prisoners of war, who were retrained from singing the Star Spangled Banner and were otherwise restricted in an identical fashion to the German prisoners in this country.

### IV. ~~KU~~ KLUX KLAN

"Los Angeles. On April the 30th last this reporter predicted that the Ku Klux Klan would dissolve to avoid payment of overdue income taxes. Five weeks later on June the 4th, the Atlanta, Georgia, newspapers confirmed the Klan's alleged dissolution. I also said at the time that the Klan would continue under a new name which it has. Right now at this very moment members are meeting in the Walker auditorium in downtown Los Angeles. It is being presided over by the Grand Kleagle who attended that secret meeting in Atlanta

As there has been no evidence that the Klan engaged in subversive activities the Bureau discontinued active investigation. We have followed the Klan from an intelligence standpoint, reporting whatever information is voluntarily provided to the Bureau's Field Offices. The Los Angeles and Atlanta Field Divisions are being requested to check on this report of Mr. Winchell's and you will be advised of the results.



## V. GENERAL INTEREST

"Albany, New York. Speculation on Governor Dewey's Presidential Cabinet, if elected, is ripe among newspapermen. Here is the general guess based on the opinions of newspapermen covering Governor Dewey: General Marshal is Secretary of War; John Dellis (phonetic), Secretary of State; Admiral Halsey, Secretary of the Navy. Rumored deals with two new posts if Dewey wins, one will be Secretary of Aviation with that appointment going to California's wizard plane maker Donald Douglas. The other may be Secretary of Education with Nobel prize winner Scientist Compton (phonetic) getting that job, or it might go to President Conant of Harvard."

"Los Angeles. Two navy men are the objects of a man hunt tonight by the Sheriff in Los Angeles County. Mary Walker, the wife of a sailor who entertained two of his pals at an all-night party last night, was found slain this morning. The wanted men include a Navy First Class Electrician, first name Don. His last name is not yet known. The other wanted man is Chief Petty Officer Jack Maloney."

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

New York 7, New York

RRG:MMcG

June 26, 1944

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. Jones	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Director, FBI

ATTENTION: Assistant Director D. M. Ladd

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my telephone conversation with Assistant Director D. M. Ladd on June 24, 1944.

I am transmitting herewith a report which was furnished by [REDACTED] concerning [REDACTED]

As was pointed out to Mr. Ladd, it is of the utmost importance that [REDACTED] identity be treated as strictly confidential in connection with this matter.

The information set forth in the enclosure, with the exception of the last two sentences which are general comments of [REDACTED] was obtained from [REDACTED]

Very truly yours

*E. E. Conroy*

E. E. CONROY  
SAC

DECLASSIFIED BY SP8 BTJ/GCL  
ON 8/31/84

DEFERRED RECORDING

Enclosure



54 JUL 14 1944

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

162-31615-46  
FBI  
30 JUL 10 1944



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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) b7C, b7D & b-6 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: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



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 X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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CT:DSS

July 13, 1944

Miss Rose ~~Sigman~~  
New York Mirror  
235 East 45th Street  
New York, New York

Dear Miss Sigman:

I am enclosing a copy of the draft of  
the guest column for Mr. Winchell which  
he recently asked me to prepare.

I sent the original to Mr. <sup>Walter</sup> Winchell  
in California but thought that by sending  
you a copy in New York it might save him  
the trouble of forwarding the original  
on to you there.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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DATE 8/31/84 BY SP8 BTJ/GCL

Enclosure

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 12  
★ JUL 14 1944 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62-31615-465  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
JUL 15 1944  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson  
E. A. Tamm  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Harbo  
Quinn Tamm  
Nease  
Gandy

53 JUL 17 1944

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
B I  
RECEIVED



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JBB:ET

TO :

MR. NICHOLS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: July 12, 1944

FROM :

M. A. JONES

SUBJECT:

Reference is made to the attached suggested guest column to be published under the Director's by-line in space generally occupied by Walter Winchell's column. The following background information is set out as justification for the statements contained in the column:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

PAGE ONE

Paragraph one is a general statement.

Paragraph two is largely general in nature. The statement that the Fifth Column's back was broken "once we were freed of peacetime restraints" is based upon the fact that the FBI was able to proceed against Axis sympathizers and alien enemies as soon as war began.

Paragraph three states that "over 15,750 suspected Fifth Columnists have been arrested." This is based on arrests of alien enemies which totaled 15,764 as of June 30, 1944. The remainder of the paragraph is general in nature.

In paragraph four, the statement that other saboteurs were trained to take the places of the eight men who came over by submarine two years ago is based upon information received by the Bureau to the effect that Walter Koppe, Joseph Schmidt and Rethhold Rudolf Barth had been given extensive training and had been ordered by the Germans to come to the United States. A Bureau press release dated July 24, 1942, was issued on the basis of a wanted circular in connection with lookouts for these men, none of whom has yet appeared.

PAGE TWO

Classified by SP8 BTJ/6cc

Declassify on: OADR 9/4/84

RECORDED

162-31615-4  
F B I  
29 JUL 17 1944

Paragraph one is general in nature.

Paragraph two recites the fact that no enemy directed sabotage has yet occurred in the United States and our records bear out this assertion.

Paragraph three: [REDACTED] 23, born in Massachusetts, cut 21 electric wires in two bombing planes at [REDACTED]

COPIES DESTROYED

JUL 14 1964

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

58 JUL 19 1944



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for Mr. Nichols --

Inglewood, California, June 16 and 17, 1942. He said he had seen Special Agents in training at Quantico and wondered if they were as efficient as had been reported. He was convicted February 28, 1943, by a Federal Court Jury at Los Angeles and was sentenced to serve six months in jail. (98-11249)

In paragraph four, the reference is to the Duquesne espionage ring. Its radio station was built and operated by Special Agents of the FBI. The Germans supplied \$21,005 for the espionage ring's purposes. We spent \$4,637.10 and delivered \$16,367.90 to the Treasury. This can be referred to as "profit" in view of the fact that, while much of the expense was covered with Bureau funds, the money used was from regular sources and was spent in connection with our regular operations. The figure \$17,000 is, of course, a "round" figure. (65-8946)

In paragraph five, the arrest of Kunze referred to occurred at Boca Del Rio, Vera Cruz, Mexico. He was using the name Alfonso Graf Cabiedes and had provisioned a 25-foot boat for what he hoped would be a trip to Germany. He was arrested by Mexican military authorities on June 30, 1942, was returned to the United States and delivered to the custody of the FBI after which he was convicted and sentenced. (65-1675)

In the last paragraph, beginning on page two and concluded on page three, certain detail set forth in the espionage letters prepared by Lehmitz is given. Lehmitz also wrote that he had been to Switzerland and Portugal a year previously in the spring. This information brought the first real "break" when a baggage check containing writing like that in the spy letters was discovered. It was Lehmitz's writing, and other details given in the letters also were checked with reference to him and were found to be true reports. He confessed and De Spretter's connection was revealed. (65-40282)

PAGE THREE

First full paragraph: Heinz Luning had a number of canaries in the room where his short wave radio transmitter was located. He had never operated the set but had planned to do so. The canaries not only were to be used to drown out the noise of the radio transmitter but they also gave Luning an excellent excuse for failing to open the room containing the radio to anyone.

The statement in paragraph two is based on the following information appearing on Page Two, Volume Four, of the Bureau History: During June, 1940, information was received by the

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for Mr. Nichols --

Bureau from a confidential source to the effect that the German espionage system in the United States was allegedly operating on the theory that agitation through organized labor in this country would materially hinder the national defense program. The information was to the effect that the German plan of action called for continuous work in the field of organizing labor, urging labor to stand up for its rights, and to demand everything conceivable.

It was reported that the following cities were to be focal points of this disruptive activity: Detroit and Monroe, Michigan; suburban Chicago; Kenosha, Wisconsin; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and surrounding area; Seattle, Washington; Sparrow Point, Maryland; and Wheeling, West Virginia. Also included were the states of Alabama, New Jersey, and all New England states as well as oil field areas. These allegations have not been verified by investigation.

bl [REDACTED]

(C)

In paragraph three, the Nazi official who was jilted by his fiance was Heribert Von Strempel who served as First Secretary of the German Embassy. According to information received by the Bureau from the aunt of the American young woman involved, Von Strempel was engaged to be married when his American-born sweetheart learned that he planned to come to the United States and do work similar to that which he had been handling for the Gestapo in Germany. She promptly broke the engagement. (Bureau History, Volume Four, Page Six)

In the same paragraph, the Nazi official who offered to pay \$500 for proof of anti-semitic statements by Franklin is identified as Ulrich Freiherr Von Gienanth, who served as Second Secretary of the German Embassy and who is said to have expressed to a confidential source his interest in anti-Jewish propaganda, remarking that the German government would pay \$500 for documentary proof of the alleged "prophecy" of Benjamin Franklin that if the Jews were not forever excluded from America, the people of the United States would one day live to regret it. (Bureau History, Volume Four, Page Nine)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for Mr. Nichols --

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The next sentence in this paragraph is based upon information in Serial 1887 of File 65-7267 which reflects that 10,200 individuals purchased Ruckwanderer Marks from May 22, 1936, to June 14, 1941, the date of the Presidential Freezing Order. These purchases resulted in making available to the German government in the United States a sum in excess of \$21,100,000.

b-6  
b7C  
1  
The next sentence in this paragraph might be based on a number of incidents. For instance, [redacted] testified before the Dies Committee in October, 1939, that Dr. George Gyssling, Consul at Los Angeles, gave the Bund financial support, attended Bund meetings, and was particularly close to Hermann Schwinn, Bund leader in 1936. (Bureau History, Volume Four, Page 36)

Paragraph four is partially substantiated by the following statement which appeared in the 1937 Yearbook of the German-American Bund: "We stand here as the heralds of the Third Reich, as preachers of the German world--viewpoint of National Socialism which has displayed before the eyes of the world the incomparable German miracle, the miracle of National Socialism."

This paragraph is also substantiated by a news account appearing in the New York Times of April 21, 1938, following a riot in the Yorkville area of New York City April 20, 1938. The newspaper reported that seven men were injured when fighting broke out during a celebration of Adolf Hitler's 49th birthday. Four were arrested. Witnesses reported, according to the newspaper, that Bundsmen used blackjacks and their Sam Browne belts as weapons.

The next paragraph, continuing on page four, is based on a dispatch dated June 15, 1940, at New Orleans, Louisiana, and carried by the Associated Press. This dispatch was published in a number of newspapers and quoted German Consul General Baron Von Spiegel as saying that his government "will not forget that when she was fighting virtually for her life, the United States gave every material aid to her enemies." The Associated Press story, based on an account appearing in "The States" at New Orleans, intimated that Germany would repay the United States by withholding its trade.

b-6  
b7C  
1  
The last sentence in this paragraph which appears at the top of page four is based upon information reported October 4, 1939, by [redacted] the Allison Engineering Company, Indianapolis, Indiana, that an individual had been observed taking photographs of the Allison Plant. When guards sought to question him, he drove away in a taxi but was contacted and questioned by

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memorandum for Mr. Nichols --

Indianapolis police whereupon he produced credentials identifying himself as Herbert Diel, Honorary Consul at the German Consulate, St. Louis, Missouri. The same individual took photographs of the Naval Armory at Indianapolis on the same date. (Bureau History, Volume Four, Page 105)

PAGE FOUR

b-6  
b7C  
1  
The first full paragraph is based upon finding of a small black notebook in a telephone booth in New York by a citizen who turned it over to the FBI. It contained the name of [REDACTED] as well as numerous other names and addresses and it assisted in the ultimate identification of an individual whose correct name and address had not previously been known. This individual was [REDACTED] (65-33780)

The next paragraph is largely general in nature. It might be observed, however, that three Axis ~~prisoners~~ have been successful in remaining free for approximately three months each but all three were captured and none has been free at present sufficiently long to have reached Germany under existing travel conditions. A review of the circumstances of the capture of escaped prisoners of war indicates that they are generally back in custody within a few hours and in many cases guards have not known of their escape until we advised that the fugitives were in custody.

The final paragraph is general in nature.

Attachment

*WJZ*  
*son*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CT:DSS

July 13, 1944

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INDEXED  
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Mr. Walter Winchell  
Beverly Hills Hotel  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Walter:

In line with your recent request, I am indeed pleased to enclose the draft of an article entitled "They Tried - And Failed." I hope that you will feel this is satisfactory.

I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of the column to Miss Bigman in New York, which I thought might save you the trouble of sending on the original to her there.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

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DATE 9/4/84 BY SP8 BTJ/6CL

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Benton
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 12  
JUL 14 1944 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

58 JUL 19 1944



The Nazi rats must not be underestimated. Try cornering a rat and see how he bares his teeth and strikes back. We can expect the same from the Germans until the last vestige of Nazism is crushed by our Armed Forces.

America has a perfect score in combatting the experts in doom and destruction. No act of enemy-directed sabotage has yet occurred in the United States.

I am sorry to say that even native-born Americans have tried; I am happy to say that they, too, have failed. One 23 year old <sup>worker</sup> unknown in an aircraft plant cut 21 wires in two bombers just to see how the FBI handled a sabotage investigation. He found out.

The "Blunder Bund," which once scoffed at American faith in human nature, was set back when its chief espionage ring was penetrated by the FBI. We built a radio station with their funds, gave them misleading information, sold them fictitious plans, and at the conclusion of the case turned over a profit of \$17,000 to the U. S. Treasury to buy bullets to shoot back at the "super race."

Gerhard Wilhelm Runze, convicted leader of the German-American Bund, fled to Mexico. He was tripped up when the alert Mexican military authorities became suspicious after he stacked a 25-foot fishing boat with 200 pounds of food, 450 liters of drinking water, and 50 packages of cigarettes.

Ernst Fritz Lehmitz was caught as the result of some of his newsy letters designed to conceal reports in secret

writing on convey movements. He wrote that his dog was sick, he was busy with a victory garden and as an air raid warden. These jig-saw bits of information were pieced together and after some additional hard work he and his associate, Erwin Harry De Spretter, were arrested.

The Nazi spy, Helmar August Luning, arrested and executed in Cuba, kept canaries in his room to conceal the noise of his short wave radio transmitter.

Before Pearl Harbor, the Nazi Embassy in Washington had detailed plans to foment strikes and incite domestic strife.

An important Nazi official in this country was discarded by his fiancée when she learned of his scheming against the United States. Another Nazi official offered to pay \$500 for documentary proof of the canard and lie that Benjamin Franklin was anti-semitic. The Germans built up a dollar balance of over twenty-one million dollars by selling Reichsmark marks in this country prior to the war to be redeemed in Germany. Practically all the German consulates in the United States were active in promoting the German-American Bund.

Bundists who swallowed the "master race" tummyrot tried to develop power and prepare the way for Hitler's triumphal entry. They blackjacked patriotic Americans who

opposed them; swung their Sam Browns belts as weapons.

Nazi brassiness reached its height when Baron von Spiegel, the German Consul in New Orleans, boasted that the

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



United States would be repaid when the Reich completed its conquest in Europe. A Midwest consular attache was greatly embarrassed when he was caught making pictures in a factory area.

A notable Nazi failure occurred when, through carelessness, a Nazi official before the outbreak of war permitted the FBI to copy his little black book containing the names of all of his contacts.

Heavily populated prisoner of war camps in the United States hold thousands of frustrated Germans. Occasionally, some try to get away. Sometimes they succeed -- for a time. But no prisoner has yet been able to get back to Germany, and their periods of freedom generally are limited to a few hours.

These setbacks for our enemies should give us courage. But we must not be foolish enough to grow lax or drop our guard. Their best efforts to penetrate our home defenses must continue to be miserable failures.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GS:vj

TO : D. W. LADD *DL*  
 FROM : Grant Stetter  
 SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST  
 July 16, 1944

DATE: July 16, 1944

Mr. Tolson ✓  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm  
 Mr. Clegg  
 Mr. Coffey  
 Mr. Glavin  
 Mr. Ladd  
 Mr. Nichols  
 Mr. Tracy  
 Mr. Mohr  
 Mr. Carson  
 Mr. Hendon  
 Mr. Mumford  
 Mr. Jones  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm  
 Tele. Room  
 Mr. Nease  
 Miss Gandy

There are set forth below the remarks made by Mr. Walter Winchell which appear to be of interest to the Bureau. Where necessary, comment concerning the items mentioned has been set forth immediately following each item.

## I. FBI ALLEGEDLY DENIED ACCESS TO CONGRESSIONAL REPORTS

"A reporter's department of missing investigations! Washington, D. C.: More than a year ago a resolution was introduced in the House of Representatives at the request of the FBI, to re-open the ten year old sealed records of the McCormack Congressional Committee which started the great work the Dies Committee fumbled. These McCormack Congressional records are dynamite. They were sealed about ten years ago because diplomatic fuddy duddies were afraid to offend Japan and Germany at that time. The most shocking parts of this sealed evidence are the revelations regarding the pro-Jap and pro-Nazi activities of some of our permanent Americans over here, many of whom were working with our present enemies to set up similar forms of government here at home. But those records were sealed and the FBI can't get at them, and the resolution in Congress to re-open these sealed records was pigeon-holed with the hopes that newspaper men, such as Walter Winchell, would forget about them."

The resolution introduced in the House of Representatives was not requested by the Bureau but was requested by the Criminal Division in order to obtain access to the records of the McCormack-Dickstein Committee which investigated subversive activities in 1934 and 1935. At the time, there were numerous rumors to the effect that these records contained information which would be of value in prosecuting George Sylvester Veireck. Access to the records was gained by representatives of the Criminal Division who found that the material which had been segregated and sealed by the Committee had been handled in this fashion because it consisted almost entirely of unsubstantiated allegations made by persons the Committee felt were not entirely responsible. Mr. Winchell, you will note, says that the records "are dynamite" and sealed because "diplomatic fuddy duddies were afraid to offend Japan and Germany". As just pointed out, this is not the case. Mr. Winchell concludes with "The FBI can't get at them", which does not appear to be well founded as first the information does not appear to be of interest to the Bureau, and secondly if the Criminal Division can obtain access to them, the Bureau certainly should be able to do so.

RECORDED

INDEXED

162-91615-462  
 FBI  
 31 JUL 18 1944

51 AUG 3 1944

JUL 28 1944

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 DATE 9/4/84 BY SP8 BJS/bcl



## II. SEDITION IN "MOTHERS' GROUPS"

"Mrs. G. Royale of New York: The Woman's Home Companion has been threatened with all sorts of things by the groups exposed in its July number. It will, however, continue these exposes. A similar expose on peculiar mother organizations appears in Liberty magazine out on the 19th".

Reference was made by Mr. Winchell last week to the article which appeared in the Woman's Home Companion entitled "The Mother Racket". The article mentioned six mothers groups whose members and leaders had been interviewed by the author of the article, Miss Patricia Lockridge. She indicated that wittingly or unwittingly, these mothers groups are aiding Hitler. As you were advised last week the Bureau has investigated all of the organizations she mentioned, three of which are presently inactive and in addition, we have investigated another group of the same type, the United Mothers of America, which is one of the most notorious in the country but was not mentioned by Miss Lockridge. The evidence we have gathered has been furnished to the Criminal Division but so far the Criminal Division has made no move to take action against them.

## III. REGISTRATION ACT MATTERS

- A. [REDACTED] as  
Denaturalization proceedings - G  
Individual Exclusion Order  
Registration Act

b-6  
b7C  
"New York: About two years ago the newspapers spot lighted the expose of some executive connected with a certain caviar company in New York City. This firm, ladies and gentlemen, in my opinion, sold more tripe than caviar. It was revealed then that these men associated with various persons convicted of sedition and that they helped spread Nazi propaganda. These officials of the caviar company in New York were also palsy-walsy with Congressman Hamilton Fish, according to newspaper clippings. Some newspapers reported that these persons were expected to be indicted. Suddenly the whole case vanished from the newspapers and the courts. Why?"

[REDACTED]

b-6  
b7C

[REDACTED]

B. Joseph P. Kamp  
The Constitutional Educational League  
Registration Act

"Mrs. A. E. Macon of Macon: The Constitutional Educational League was named in a Federal list of indictments as being in service of Nazi agents. Joseph Kamp, you know, is the head of that so-called League. For the low down on Joe Kamp, read low down, read "Under Cover", read "Under Cover", still a best seller after a whole year. Read "Under Cover", pages 467 and 468."

[REDACTED]

The Constitutional Educational League was not indicted but was merely mentioned as one of the organizations engaged in distributing literature put out by the persons who were indicted in the first sedition conspiracy indictment. The organization was not mentioned or indicted in the current indictment.

#### IV. ITALIAN WAR PRISONERS

"Bayonne, New Jersey: Then there is the matter of investigating conditions in a certain war prison camp over here. This reporter has tried to summon attention to a few of them only to be met with rebuffs by some agrieved editors in the places where these camps are located. A probe was promised by some Congressmen and then promptly forgotten. This is to report now that there are several hundred Italian war prisoners near Bayonne. They are housed not far from shipping yards and Naval reservations. These war prisoners are allowed to wander about the town without guards. They are allowed to be overnight guests in nearby homes and they are treated as though they were returned heroes. Only last week one father complained about his daughters being molested by them on the streets of Bayonne, New Jersey. The Provost Marshal may check these statements with Mr. Michael Young, an editor of Bayonne, New Jersey."

Apparently these are some of the selected Italian war prisoners who have been organized into labor battalions and placed in camps without guards and with special privileges. There are numerous such groups throughout the country. We have had occasion to locate a few of these Italian war prisoners who have escaped but generally speaking those who leave the reservations to which they are assigned voluntarily return. Inquiry is being made of the War Department to secure further information about the incident mentioned by Mr. Finchell.

"In a clash between Boston police and Italian war internees, three policemen and one internee were injured today. It started while

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There is no information available concerning this incident and it appears to be the responsibility of the War Department. These are very likely the Italian prisoners of war being handled as mentioned in the comment just above, though Mr. Winchell refers to them in one sentence as war internees and in another as war prisoners. The conclusion would seem justified that they are war prisoners since the internees have been moved to camps in the Southwest.

#### V. SOUTH AMERICAN MATTERS

"George ~~W~~elton of Miami Beach: The latest low down on why we are having so much trouble with Argentina may be found in the brand new book called 'Argentine Diary' - a corker!"

"Argentine Diary" was written by a newspaper correspondent named Ray Josephs who has been down in South America for some time. His articles which have come to our attention were found to be inaccurate on several occasions. "Argentine Diary" is a new book scheduled to go on sale Monday. You will be advised of anything it contains which is of interest to the Bureau as soon as a copy can be obtained.

#### VI. CHARTER WITHDRAWN FROM "THE GENTILE LEAGUE"

"Mrs. Mabel Dearing of Chicago: The Associated Press this week reported that the charter for the Gentile League of Watertown, Wisconsin has been revoked."

In January, the Milwaukee Field Division advised that considerable newspaper publicity had been given to the formation of a so-called Gentile League in Watertown, Wisconsin. The purpose of the organization was stated to be "to give instruction in the American way of life and to combat certain classes of people". The incorporators were Arthur Friede, Gust C. Wolf, a former alderman in Watertown, and William Patterson. Friede informed newspapers that the greatest numerical strength for the movement was to be found in Milwaukee. The first organizational meeting took place on January 23, 1944, when Friede was elected president; Wolf, vice president; and Patterson, secretary treasurer.

b-6  
b7C  
The formation of the League met with widespread opposition throughout the State. Many church, fraternal, civic and labor organizations of all types protested its formation and the protests finally resulted in instructions being given by the Governor to the Attorney General of the State to institute quo warranto proceedings to dissolve the League. Foremost in protest against the League was the Communist Party of Wisconsin. The Bureau files contain several references to the organization and we have a main file on it though no active investigation is being conducted. Information is being submitted to keep the Bureau advised from an intelligence standpoint but no reason for conducting an active investigation has become apparent so far.

#### VII. GENERAL INTEREST

- A. "I remain your New York correspondent, Walter Winchell, who passes along G-Man Hoover's latest report that America had 1736 cases of sabotage last year. That of course does not include the speeches of the Isolationists."

B. "A linotyper of Chicago: The new Los Angeles newspaper I spoke about several weeks ago will appear on September 19. The name of it will be the ~~Free~~ Press". It expects to start with a run of a half million copies. A democratic weekly, standard size. They hope to continue it after election. The editor will be Kay Williams of Los Angeles."



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

GS:ELC

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: JULY 23, 1944

FROM : GRANT STETTER

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST,  
JULY 23, 1944.

Mr. Tolson ✓  
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓  
Mr. Clegg ✓  
Mr. Coffey ✓  
Mr. Glavin ✓  
Mr. Ladd ✓  
Mr. Nichols ✓  
Mr. Rosen ✓  
Mr. Tracy ✓  
Mr. Harbo ✓  
Mr. Carson ✓  
Mr. Hendon ✓  
Mr. Mumford ✓  
Mr. Jones ✓  
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓  
Tele. Room ✓  
Mr. Nease ✓  
Miss Gandy ✓

There are noted below the remarks made by Mr. Winchell which appear to be of interest to the Bureau. Comment concerning these remarks is set forth immediately following them, wherever necessary.

## I. Re: Helmut Haerberlein, Escaped Prisoner of War

"Washington, D. C. The FBI is making a nationwide search for a dangerous German prisoner of war who escaped from a prisoner camp at Wilmington, North Carolina. He is 31, five feet six, weight, 142, brown hair, grey brown eyes."

Mr. Winchell probably is referring to Helmut Haerberlein, who escaped from the prisoner of war camp, Camp Davis, Wilmington, North Carolina, on July 3, 1944. A "Wanted" notice was recently circulated, and on July 20, 1944, a press release was made in an effort to effect the apprehension of this individual. The description of Haerberlein is exactly the same as the description of the escaped prisoner of war given by Mr. Winchell.

## II. "Blackmail" - A New Expose

"New York - The most amazing expose since 'Under Cover' is a new sizzler that will sweep the nation. The name of this new book, which sells for only \$1.00, so that everyone can buy a copy, and please do, is called 'Blackmail' - 'Blackmail'. It is the inside story of the campaign to destruct America, how it was planned, how it operates, and what it is doing now. It indicts by name many prominent Americans who cooperated with organizations linked to Berlin, Germany. Please read this important new book, and know the names of your enemies abroad and right here at home. It only costs \$1.00. The title - 'Blackmail'. Read page 51, by the way, of 'Blackmail', which exposes the organization and the man leading it, who, in his puny attempt to stop me from stopping him, is stripped in his very ugly nakedness."

No information is presently available concerning this publication, but the New York Field Division has been requested to attempt to secure a copy and to submit it to the Bureau. You will be advised as soon as this is accomplished.

## III. Handling of Prisoners of War by Army 42

"A Reporter's Report to the Nation: Washington. Attention: Bayonne, New Jersey. Following the broadcast last Sunday night in which I told of a situation in Bayonne where Italian prisoners of war were enjoying unusual privileges, the New York Sun, the New York Journal American and other newspapers the very next morning confirmed matters on their

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DATE 9/4/94 BY SP8 BJS/for

74 AUG 5 1944

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40 SEP 14 1964

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front pages, with some New Jersey newspapers dissenting angrily. However, this is to state that your reporter's broadcast aroused the general counsel for the Committee of Military Affairs of the House of Representatives in Washington, D. C. He ordered an investigation and assigned John H. Weiner to probe conditions in the Bayonne camp and similar camps of the United States, including Camp Ellis in Illinois. It was at Camp Ellis, you will recall, that newspapermen recently were told by the Public Relations Staff not to believe Walter Winchell's silly stuff. Huh."

You will recall that last week Mr. Winchell reported that Italian war prisoners encamped near Bayonne were allowed to wander about that city without guards, allowed to be over-night guests in nearby homes, and on one occasion a complaint was made regarding these prisoners molesting girls. As you were advised, these are apparently some of the selected Italian war prisoners who were organized into labor battalions and placed in camps throughout the country, being given special privileges. Inquiry is being made of the Office of the Provost Marshal General to secure more information about these prisoners.

#### IV. General Interest

"Hollywood. One of the major Hollywood movie studios is on the verge of releasing a moving picture made by the Nazis. The name of it is 'Goy-essen'. It stars Imperial Argentina and was produced in Spain with German money. The money came from the Bank of Biscay, which is the Spanish branch of the Nazi Reichsbank. This Nazi-made film, ladies and gentlemen, was supervised by German technicians and it is quite obviously the product of the 100% Nazi UFA, that's U.F.A., Hispano set-up, although, for no good reason, this famous European trademark does not appear anywhere on the movie print. This Nazi-made moving picture came to this country on the official exchange deal between Spain and the United States. The Hollywood studio releasing this picture, which will give Dictator Franco American dollars to help kill Americans, is deleted - unless it was cut off. Was it cut off? - The Cowards."



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JJH:hbm

DATE July 19, 1944

TO : MR. TOLSON

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT:

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. Mumford  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

There is no indication in the Bureau's files that such a story was submitted to the Bureau by the Army. I have checked with Mr. Ladd and the Liaison Section as well as with Crime Records, and no one has any record or recollection of this matter.

Mr. Province, who handles supervision of Italian war prisoners, has no recollection of the matter.

Mr. Stetter, who covered the Walter Winchell broadcast, referred to this item on page 3 of his memorandum, a copy of which is attached, indicating we had no advice on the incidents referred to. The Liaison Section has not yet received the lead to contact the War Department to gather the details mentioned by Winchell.

A letter to Mr. Speed is attached.

Attachment

1-ENCL.  
14

RECORDED & INDEXED

✓ 62 31615-469

14 JUL 29 1944

34  
53 AUG 24 1944

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DATE 1/4/84 BY SP8 BTJ/k

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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.
- ☐ 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.

5 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
duplicate pages of serial 467

☐ For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

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

62-31615-469

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



GLC:mr

August 5, 1944

Mr. Walter Winchell  
The New York Mirror  
235 East 45th Street  
New York, New York

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DATE 9/4/84 BY SP8 BTJ/GCL

Dear Walter:

I wish to acknowledge the receipt on August 2,  
1944, of the several communications which you forwarded to  
me.

Many thanks for sending along these matters and  
each will, of course, be given prompt consideration.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Cordially,

J. Edgar Hoover

RECORDED

EX-50

62-31615-470
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 11 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AUG 5 1 01 PM '44  
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
F B I  
U. S. DEPT. 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. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 1  
AUG 9 1944 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
AUG 12 1944  
17

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
AUG 5 1 21 PM '44  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

AUG 5 9 21 AM '44  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
Jky

-470

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. Ladd

FROM : Mr. S. W. Reynolds

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST  
July 30, 1944

DATE: August 4, 1944

SWR:ed

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

Reference is made to a memorandum to you from Mr. Grant Stetter dated July 30, 1944, in the above-captioned matter. The referenced memorandum contained an item under the heading of "V. General Interest, A." as follows: "To the editors of 'The Stars and Stripes' and 'Yank' -- I will appreciate it, Gentlemen, if you will assure the brave men of our 29th Division, that they have been the targets of obviously planted enemy propaganda trying to depress them. At no time has anyone on the radio or in print criticized them or anyone in uniform, for that matter." The referenced memorandum indicated that the Liaison Section had been requested to check with the War Department to endeavor to find out what Winchell was talking about and particularly whether the alleged propaganda activity took place in this country or abroad.

This is to advise that this matter has been discussed with Lieutenant Colonel G. D. Dorroh, MID, who has subsequently advised that an exhaustive search has been made of all available sources at the War Department, and he was unable to determine what Winchell was talking about. He stated that it is entirely possible that some individual in uniform addressed a letter to Winchell criticizing him for remarks made either on the radio or in a column and that Winchell was attempting to disclaim that he or any other commentator criticized the 29th Division.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that this be forwarded to the Internal Security Section for their information.

WPS 3 AUG 28 1944

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&  
INDEXED

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162-316-15-47  
AUG 10  
SEE REVERSE  
SIDE FOR  
CLASSIFICATION  
ACTION



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

FROM : GRANT STETTER

SUBJECT: WALTER WINCHELL BROADCAST  
July 30, 1944

DATE: July 30, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 9/4/84 BY SP8 BTJ/GCL

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	

There are quoted below the remarks made by Mr. Winchell which are believed to be of interest to the Bureau. Comment has been set forth immediately following each of these remarks where necessary.

I. JOSEPH E. McWILLIAMS, with aliases, et al  
SEDITION

- A. "Washington: United States Senator Gerald P. Nye is the winner of the national championship for eating your own words. On several occasions Senator Nye, according to newspapers, stated publicly that the persons prosecuted for alleged sedition were, to quote Senator Nye, 'They are no more guilty than I am, exclamation mark.' The other day a lawyer for some defendants in the current sedition trial in Washington tried to subpoena Senator Nye to testify to that in open court. What do you think happened? ~~Hammering~~ Senator Nye telegraphed His Honor that he had no evidence, get that, he had no evidence 'to support the innocence, or the guilt, of the defense.'"

The defendants in the Sedition Trial have been trying to subpoena Senator Nye as a witness. The matter was presented to the Judge who took it under consideration and decided that he should not be called.

II. War Department's Handling of Prisoners of War

- A. "A Reporters Report to the Nation: Washington, D. C.: Your reporter's recent story concerning the unusual privileges extended to prisoners of war over here have been criticized in some places and confirmed in many others. This week the Associated Press and the Washington Star reported from Newport News, Virginia that Crafts, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, had complained to the Secretary of War. The complaint to Mr. Stimson reads as follows in part: 'Picnics and entertainment arranged for prisoners of war are an affront to the memory of American fighting men killed in Sicily, and Italy. This socializing,' adds the complaint to Mr. Stimson, 'is a sorry reward for those who went through the campaigns, to come home to find that the prisoners receive better treatment than the returned veterans.'"

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Numerous organizations have made protests to the War Department concerning the handling of prisoners of war and, last week, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the American Legion in New York complained about the too fine treatment given these

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& 91  
INDEXED

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62-1615-470  
H. J. Fine

prisoners. As you have previously been advised, the prisoners involved are not prisoners of war in the ordinary sense but are the members of Italian Service Units. The Provost Marshal General of the War Department is not handling these Italian Service Units as they are administered by a special office in New York City. All of these men are volunteers who cannot be forced to work under the Geneva Convention. It has been learned from representatives of the War Department that their volunteering to work has helped to alleviate the manpower shortage and, consequently, the men in charge of them feel that they are entitled to certain special considerations, both for what they have done and also because such treatment tends to encourage others to volunteer for these Service Units. It has been suggested in comments concerning them that they are individually entertained by persons who have become friendly with them. This is not the case, though there is some group entertainment given them.

- B. "San Antonio: Texans have requested me to check the following unconfirmed stories which I herewith pass along to the newspaper editors in the State of Texas:...That at one of the war prisoner camps an orchestra made up of Nazi prisoners of war was scheduled to play at an Officers Club. The date was the night of July 4th. These Nazi prisoners are said to have refused to play until the American flag in the dance hall was removed. The scene ~~at~~ Camp Hearne, Texas."

This incident actually took place. The dance was held in an Army Officers Club and the prisoners of war orchestra refused to play unless an American flag was removed and a swastika put up in its place. The Officer in Charge of the prisoners of war decided they would continue the dance without any flag. Under the Geneva Convention, prisoners of war are entitled to display their own flags and emblems in their quarters and it would appear that since the prisoners were under no obligation to play at the dance, the Officer in Charge took the only step which would permit the affair to continue.

### III. NEW EXPOSE ~~"~~BLACK MAIL~~"~~

- A. "To all the bookstores in the land--The publication date for the new sensational expose "Black Mail" is July 31. Nearly twenty-five thousand copies were sold in advance last Monday, following Sunday night's premature announcement. The publishers are printing 100,000 copies to meet the nation-wide demand for "Black Mail!"

This book by Henry Hoke, publisher of "The Reporter of Direct Mail Advertising," is an expose of use of the mails by native pro-Fascist, anti-Semitic and anti-Communist propagandists. A complete summary of it will be furnished to you this morning.

### IV. CONGRESSMAN ~~A~~HAMILTON ~~F~~FISH

- A. "Many of the sensational statements about Congressman Fish which appear in the new book 'Black Mail' will be reprinted in tomorrow's issue of PM, the New York newspaper. Congressman Fish is said to have warned the editors of PM that if they dare to publish anything about him from 'Black Mail', he would sue them for a million dollars. You can depend that it will appear in PM tomorrow."



"Black Mail" describes the assistance received by George Sylvester Viereck from George Hill, Secretary to Congressman Fish. This consisted of securing insertions in the Congressional Record, having them reprinted by the Government Printing Office and obtaining the franked envelopes of several Congressmen which were used to distribute these articles. Congressman Fish is also criticized for speeches he gave and for permitting the use of his Congressional frank in this activity and also for permitting Hill to operate in his office. Hoke also describes, at length, the efforts of Fish's opponents to defeat him and cites Fish's voting record and speeches on Neutrality and National Defense matters and his participation in the anti-intervention bloc.

- B. "Newburgh, New York: Congressman Hamilton Fish promised to throw his third libel suit in almost as many days against persons who signed a petition against his re-election. If you ask me, the Constitution of the United States should sue Congressman Hamilton Fish for non-support."

V. GENERAL INTEREST

- A. "To the editors of 'The Stars and Stripes' and 'Yank' — I will appreciate it, Gentlemen, if you will assure the brave men of our 29th Division, that they have been the targets of obviously planted enemy propaganda trying to depress them. At no time has anyone on the radio or in print criticized them or anyone in uniform, for that matter."

Liaison Section has been requested to check with the War Department in an effort to find out what it is Mr. Winchell is talking about and, particularly, whether the alleged propaganda activity took place in this country or abroad.

- B. "Mrs. Jessica Upright of Baltimore — I was not cut off the air last Sunday night. I was kidding the crowd in the control room who were making faces at me. The Blue Net Work, in my opinion, is the most liberal of them all."

It is believed that the incident Mr. Winchell referred to took place three weeks ago when he made an aside indicating that the engineer was threatening to cut him off the air if he mentioned Congressman Dies' name. This was written up in the New York newspapers and was probably what he was talking about as there was nothing of this kind which took place on his program last week which could be noticed.

- C. "Albany, New York: The reports persist that during tour this week, Governor Dewey may see labor leader, John L. Lewis. This reporter suggests that Governor Dewey, before seeing labor leader Lewis, read a brand new book called "Labor Baron." Among other surprising things, "Labor Baron" shows how many coal miners' votes Mr. Lewis does not control."

- D. "The following statement was handed to me a few minutes ago: To those men who have announced that Mr. Wilkie will support Governor Dewey -- I am advised to report definitely and categorically that Mr. Wilkie, as of tonight, has not made up his mind who will get his support. He is watching Dewey developments."
- E. "Moscow: The Russian troops are now over seven miles inside East Prussia.... the first Russian to step foot onto Nazi territory is a thirty-seven year old Jewish general - Oh that's wonderful!"
- F. "Attention please! Tonight marks the start of a one month's furlough for this reporter. Beginning next Sunday evening the Jergen's Journal will be edited by Louella Parsons, from Hollywood and Fulton Oursler and Quentin Reynolds from New York City. Until I return the first Sunday night in September for my thirteenth consecutive year for Jergens (the gem of the lotions), I remain your New York Correspondent, Walter Winchell, who leaves you with this touching and profound observation: The chip on Hitler's shoulder has become a splinter in the seat of his blown-off pants."

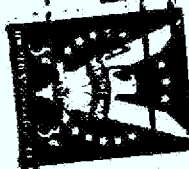


Mr. J. E. Hoover  
F B I  
Dept. of Justice  
Washington, D. C.



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GRAND CENTRAL  
ANNEX



162-31615-473  
F B I  
29 SEP 5 1944

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9/1/44

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6-6

# Walter Winchell

## In New York

### Notes of a Newspaperman

If Congresswoman Clare Luce were a New Dealer, perhaps she would feature this in her speeches... If it ever saw print outside the June 13th Cong. Record, it eluded all of us... Republican Senator Vandenberg in the U. S. Senate: "I remind the able Senator from New Mexico that it is exceedingly dangerous to go back into the yesterdays and take ancient words from their place in history and give them isolated interpretation as of today. He may quote former platforms of the Republican Party which in his view were never validated. But, I give him a very pointed example of the danger and perhaps the utter injustice in any such process. I give him the example of the statement made by President Roosevelt on the eve of the 1940 election, 'I tell you fathers and mothers of America again and again and again that your sons will not be sent into foreign war.'"

"I have never thrown that statement back in the President's teeth. I am not doing so now. Circumstances alter cases. Pearl Harbor created a challenge which no President and no citizen could ignore."

Damon Runyon and the Associated Press apparently disagree on the hobby of some Americans who enjoy telling quips on well-knowns... Mr. Runyon, in his column, complained: "It is always bad taste for people to sit around and make odious remarks about any national leaders of respectability and integrity"... The same morning a respectable New York newspaper featured an AP report (in a box) quoting a Washington columnist... The story dealt with the argument: "Who Was the Strongest President?"... One arguer said Lincoln—because he split rails. Another said Washington—because he tossed a dollar across the Potomac. But FDR was declared the strongest. "He threw the U. S. Treasury across both oceans!"

Now that is a pretty good gag. But it is also pretty stale, too... It was used often during the second campaign of Woodrow Wilson in the war debt issue... The quips and barbs about Mrs. Roosevelt are still being swapped by anti-4th Termers, and the President is often the butt of devastating jokes... We do not recall hearing that they complained... Mr. Runyon probably will admit that it isn't so bad to tell a joke as it is to elect one.

Governor Dewey isn't immune from the jokesmiths these days... The current quip has him suffering from fierce insomnia which "keeps him up all night pacing up and down under his bed!"... The New Dealers go into spasms over that one. But it was funnier 20 years ago when Al Jolson told it after an overnight trip from Boston... "I didn't sleep a wink," he groaned. "One of Singer's Midgets drank some coffee and paced up and down his upper berth!"

It happened in the White House not long ago. Two statesmen were working on a paper F.D.R. was to see and approve. One of them (not Mr. Hull) was a proved enemy of Sumner Welles, whose removal from office he had helped engineer. The President corrected the paper and signed it. Then addressing both men he said: "I would like to be St. Peter just long enough to receive two people. The first would be Sumner Welles. I should say to him: 'You are sometimes an awful fool and you make silly mistakes, but you have great ability and you have served our country well. Come on in!'"

To the other man F.D.R. continued: "You were born with money and talent. You have used some of your money and a lot of your talent destroying a better man than yourself. You can go to hell!"

Mr. E.  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
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

*[Handwritten signature]*

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BY SP8 BTZ/GCL

ST. CLOSURE

62-31615-473



*Cel. Carlos Romulo*, who helped MacArthur and Quezon escape to Australia, didn't know that persons addressing Congress must not do so in uniform. He has been in his army uniform for years... An hour before he spoke in the House the other day Romulo was informed that he must wear civvies for the event... His staff hastily borrowed civilian apparel... On the way to the Capitol he realized he was wearing his army sox... He paled... "I am wearing the wrong sox!" he exclaimed. "Oh my goodness, wot'll I do?"... His Girl Friday solved matters right there on the Capitol steps... He wore her bobby sox!

*Mae West* agreed to take care of a friend's four-year-old girl one hot week-end recently... It was a humid afternoon and the star took a second bath to cool off... As she was in the tub the tot came in... "Auntie Mae," said the child, "may I get in the tub with you?"... Mae invited her in... The little girl kept staring at her... "What's the matter?" asked Mae.

"I was just wondering," said the child, "why is it that I am so plain and you are so fancy?"

*The current Life* is embellished by a picture of a lovely girl in a bathing suit. Mike Leveille was the photogger... She will get the biggest build-up since Chili Williams was introduced to the nation in a polka-dotted swimsuit... The newcomer is Frances Vorne of New York. She is Ukranian. Her friends, who call her The Shape, would have you believe Frances has never been in a night club or stayed up after midnight... Her bathing trunks and bra were made from a captured Nazi parachute sent by her sweetheart.

*A New Yorker* just back from Argentina alleges that the majority of the people there are not anti-U. S. or pro-Nazi... Most of the people, said our informant, do not even take the government leaders seriously and openly quip: "If I thought my son would ever grow up to be President of Argentina, I'd have sent him to school!"

*Frank Fay* bested another heckler again at the Copacabana last night... A pest in the rear interrupted Fay's act with a flippancy... "I don't expect my critic," said Frank, "to demonstrate his courage by standing up and letting us all see him. And so I request that you folks seated near him take a very good, long look at him"... The heads of those in the vicinity turned and stared at the heckler, tipping off his location.

"Now that you have seen him," continued Fay, "you all have a very good idea why we have birth control!"

*Our favorite newspaper story* deals with the new gazette in a metropolitan city, which offered \$5,000 in cash to help name the new daily... The contestants had to send along a 50-word reason why the name should be used... One man suggested the new paper be called *The Truth*... "Because," he pointed out, "every time anyone came to buy a paper, the newsboy would say: 'Whaddaya want? The Truth or The Tribune?'"

36 1 25 11 AM MICHAEL

MILLS HOTEL NO. 3  
161 WEST 88TH STREET  
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

Sept. 11, 1944.

Dear Sir:

It is probable that  
WALTER WINCHELL  
your friend Walter Winchell,  
is connected with the sneer  
band which is becoming quite a  
strong organization in New York City.  
It would be advisable to check  
this gentleman's career as soon as possible.  
He is a journalist for the Hearst newspapers  
& also is a radio commentator.

Sincerely

b-6  
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DATE 9/4/84 BY SP8 BTJ/KCL

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INDEXED

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POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT  
BUREAU OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR  
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR

G. E. Doran,  
INSPECTOR  
AMZ.

CASE NO.

Syracuse 1, New York, August 8, 1944.

*ack & Honor*

Walter Winchell,  
Beverly Hills Hotel and Bungalows,  
Beverly Hills, California.

Dear Sir:

b-6 The enclosed letter, addressed to [REDACTED] was recovered from mail stolen at Syracuse, New York, recently by a person who has since been apprehended.

The letter was in opened condition when recovered. It was forwarded under official cover to the addressee, but has been returned to this office with information that the addressee is unknown.

Under the circumstances, it is necessary to return the letter to you.

Very truly yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9/4/84 BY SP-8 BJS/CL

G. E. DORAN,  
Post Office Inspector

RECORDED & INDEXED

27 SEP 13 1944

77 SEP 15 1944

BEVERLY HILLS HOTEL AND BUNGALOWS • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA

July 7, 1944

b-6  
[REDACTED]  
Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for your letter of June 30. It reached me here on the coast, with an abundance of other mail--and I just got around to answering it.

I am sending it on for investigation by J. Edgar Hoover.

Good wishes,

*Walter Winchell*

Walter Winchell