



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**WILLIAM J. DONOVAN**

**PART 1 OF 2**

**FILE #: 77-58706**

PREPROCESSED MATERIAL

WILLIAM J. DONOVAN

PART I OF II PARTS

6-15-53

URGENT

SACS BUFFALO  
NEW YORK  
INDIANAPOLIS  
ALBANY  
BALTIMORE  
ST. LOUIS  
RICHMOND  
WFO (100)

2  
1  
WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SPECIAL INQUIRY. BACKGROUND DATA  
CONTAINED IN WHO'S WHO FOR FIFTY TWO DASH FIFTY THREE. GENERAL  
DONOVAN IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR APPOINTMENT AS A CHIEF OF MIS. ICH.  
CONDUCT THOROUGH INVESTIGATION AS TO THE CHARACTER, LOYALTY,  
REPUTATION, AND OCCASIONARY QUALIFICATIONS OF DONOVAN. THIS CASE  
SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO A MATURE, EXPERIENCED AND WELL QUALIFIED  
AGENT AND AFFORDED CONTINUOUS ATTN. TO INSURE THAT THE DEADLINE  
IS MET. SET OUT NECESSARY LEADS BY TELETYPE; ASCERTAIN CREDIT  
AND CRIMINAL OR CCR CONCERNING BACKGROUND. WORK WITH INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION, SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION, BY JUNE TWENTY TWO WITHOUT  
FAIL.

7920  
CC: 2 - WFO (BCH)

K  
SE-32

HOOVER.

MLI:dwl

RECORDED-141

77-58706-1

Request recd. 6-15, by ltr dated 6-12-53, from Secretary of  
State Dulles.

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

JUL 22 1953

JUN 15 1953

TELETYPE

Enclosure

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

JUN 19 1953

TELETYPE

NEW YORK 9 BALTIMORE 1 FROM WASH DC 15 6-1XXX 6-29 PM

SAC URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SPECIAL INQUIRY. BACKGROUND DATA CONTAINED IN WHO-S WHO FOR FIFTY TWO DASH FIFTY THREE. GENERAL DONOVAN IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR APPOINTMENT AS A CHIEF OF MISSION. CONDUCT THOROUGH INVESTIGATION AS TO THE CHARACTER, LOYALTY, REPUTATION, ASSOCIATES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF DONOVAN. THIS CASE SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO A MATURE, EXPERIENCED AND WELL QUALIFIED AGENT AND AFFORDED CONTINUOUS ATTN. TO INSURE THAT THE DEADLINE IS MET. SET OUT NECESSARY LEADS BY TELETYPE, ASCERTAIN CURRENT ADDRESS OF ALL IMMEDIATE RELATIVES AND CONDUCT APPROPRIATE CREDIT AND CRIMINAL CHECKS CONCERNING EACH. SUREP ATTN. INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION, BY JUNE TWENTY TWO WITHOUT FAIL.

HOOVER

WFO BU IP AL SL RH ADVISED

NY WA R 9 NY TM

BA WA R 1 BA LAP

TU DLSC

*Miss. O'Leary - 6/19/53  
Ident. [initials]*

5

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

JUN 15 1953

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC 6-15-53 6-24 PM JG

SAC BUFFALO ALBANY RICHMOND URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SPECIAL INQUIRY. BACKGROUND DATA CONTAINED IN WHO-S WHO FOR FIFTY TWO DASH FIFTY THREE. GENERAL DONOVAN IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR APPOINTMENT AS A CHIEF OF MISSION. CONDUCT THOROUGH INVESTIGATION AS TO THE CHARACTER, LOYALTY, REPUTATION, ASSOCIATES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF DONOVAN. THIS CASE SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO A MATURE, EXPERIENCED AND WELL QUALIFIED AGENT AND AFFORDED CONTINUOUS ATTN. TO INSURE THAT THE DEADLINE IS MET. SET OUT NECESSARY LEADS BY TELETYPE, ASCERTAIN CURRENT ADDRESS OF ALL IMMEDIATE RELATIVES AND CONDUCT APPROPRIATE CREDIT AND CRIMINAL CHECKS CONCERNING EACH. SUREP ATTN. INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION, BY JUNE TWENTY TWO WITHOUT FAIL.

HOOVER

WFO NY IP BA SL ADVISED

BU OK FBI BU/REA

AL OK FBI AL/HLM

RH OK FBI RH/VLC

TU DISC

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 15 1953

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC 6-15-53 5-55 PM MLT

SAC INDIANAPOLIS, ST LOUIS URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SPECIAL INQUIRY. BACKGROUND DATA CONTAINED IN WHO-S WHO FOR FIFTY TWO DASH FIFTY THREE. GENERAL DONOVAN IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR APPOINTMENT AS A CHIEF OF MISSION. CONDUCT THOROUGH INVESTIGATION AS TO THE CHARACTER, LOYALTY, REPUTATION, ASSOCIATES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF DONOVAN. THIS CASE SHOULD BE ASSIGNED TO A MATURE, EXPERIENCED AND WELL QUALIFIED AGENT AND AFFORDED CONTINUOUS ATTN. TO INSURE THAT THE DEADLINE IS MET. SET OUT NECESSARY LEADS BY TELETYPE, ASCERTAIN CURRENT ADDRESS OF ALL IMMEDIATE RELATIVES AND CONDUCT APPROPRIATE CREDIT AND CRIMINAL CHECKS CONCERNING EACH. SHUREP ATTN. INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION, BY JUNE TWENTY TWO WITHOUT FAIL.

HOOVER

WFO BU NY AL EA RH ADVISED

END ACK FOR 2 IN ORDER

IP OK FBI IP NJW

SL OK FBI SL MMK

DISC

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO. 65-1717

REPORT MADE AT <b>CINCINNATI, OHIO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>5/29/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>5/23/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WADE H. ALLEY</b> <span style="float: right;">FSG</span>
TITLE <b>[REDACTED] b7C</b> <b>W. AS., et al</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

General WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, former head OSS, interviewed, and states OSS raid on AMERASIA offices conducted after OSS clerk found identical report in AMERASIA magazine on Siam published. Ten to twelve exhibits seized in OSS raid. DONOVAN personally informed Secretary of State STETTINIUS of raid and finding of State Department papers. DONOVAN believes STETTINIUS telephoned President ROOSEVELT regarding the matter. DONOVAN later informed by FRED LYON of State Department that [REDACTED] was suspected. b7C

- RUC -

**DETAILS:**

AT DAYTON, OHIO

General WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, former head of O.S.S., was interviewed on May 23, 1950, at the offices of the GEORGE H. STAD CORPORATION, Room 350, Talbott Building, First and Ludlow Streets, Dayton, Ohio.

General DONOVAN related that in connection with the AMERASIA case it was his impression that he had just returned from abroad on the day following the raid by Agents of O.S.S. at the New York Office of AMERASIA. However, DONOVAN stated he did not come into his office until the evening of the day he returned from abroad. According to this statement, DONOVAN's return would have been on March 12, 1945; however, he was unable to recall the exact date in March of 1945.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5) - Bureau (A:SD) 2 - New York (65-14461) 2 - Cincinnati		<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">77-58206-✓</div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">NOT RECORDED</div> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">70 OCT 11 1954</div>

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ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-1717-111

DONOVAN stated upon his return to the office he was informed of the AMERASIA raid of the previous evening by Mr. VAN BEUREN, who was at that time Security Officer for O.S.S. DONOVAN stated he was informed at that time that the raid had been conducted by FRANK BIELASKI and other O.S.S. Agents and as he recalls it was not until 1:00 A.M. that the O.S.S. Agents were able to get into the offices of AMERASIA.

Continuing, General DONOVAN related that the Agents seized about ten or twelve exhibits from two suitcases as evidence; however, he stated he has no recollection as to the contents of the exhibits. After being informed by VAN BEUREN of the details of the raid and of the fact that official State Department papers were found in the AMERASIA offices as well as O.S.S. papers, DONOVAN then telephoned Secretary of State EDWARD R. STETTINIUS at his apartment at the Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D. C. General DONOVAN recalls that it was quite late when he made the telephone call and it was necessary to awaken Mr. STETTINIUS, and he informed him that he was on his way over to see him on the matter and suggested that Assistant Secretary of State JULIUS HOLMES be there to hear the facts in the case.

Following this call, DONOVAN, together with VAN BEUREN and J. J. MONIGAN, then legal counsel for O.S.S., proceeded to the Wardman Park Hotel to see Mr. STETTINIUS.

Upon arrival there, Assistant Secretary of State HOLMES was there and DONOVAN proceeded to inform Mr. STETTINIUS of the case. DONOVAN recalls that he stated to Mr. STETTINIUS, "This is your responsibility - we were after our own papers in this office and found some of yours." DONOVAN stated that the case was generally discussed and he was later informed by Mr. MONIGAN that while he, DONOVAN, was talking with Mr. HOLMES, Secretary STETTINIUS left the room for a period of time, presumably for the purpose of telephoning President ROOSEVELT. DONOVAN stated that he has no personal knowledge that this call was made, but he believes that Mr. STETTINIUS did call the President.

General DONOVAN stated that he was informed that O.S.S. first became aware of the case when a "scholarly clerk" in O.S.S., while reviewing an issue of the AMERASIA magazine observed an article therein on Siam which was identical to a report which he had previously prepared on the subject.

DONOVAN stated that in April or 1945, while talking to FRED LYON, Security Officer of the Department of State, he stated "someone in your Department must be responsible for these papers being taken out and you must have some suspects - whom do you suspect?" At this point, DONOVAN could not recall the exact statement of LYON, but he did state that [REDACTED] was suspected. DONOVAN stated that he later told PATRICK MONAGHAN what LYON had said concerning [REDACTED] b7C



CI 65-1717

HURLEY was told of this at the London, England, Airport, by DONOVAN.

Concerning first-hand knowledge of the subjects in this case, DONOVAN stated that he first met JOHN STEWART SERVICE in 1943-1944 in China while on official business and saw him thereafter on several occasions. While in China, PATRICK HURLEY informed him that SERVICE was attempting to sabotage his, HURLEY's, efforts in China and that he had documents to show what SERVICE was doing.

The only other subject of whom DONOVAN had knowledge was LARSON, who, he recalls, was in the U. S. Navy and attempted to secure a job with O.S.S.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

QI 65-1717

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

General DONOVAN was interviewed in Dayton, Ohio, on May 23, 1950,  
upon the telephonic request of the New York Office.

CI 65-1717

NEW YORK OFFICE

Copies of this report are being designated for the  
New York City Office in accordance with their request.

WASH AND WASH FLD 19  
DIRECTOR AND SAC

FROM NEW YORK  
URGENT

17

10-22 PM

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBUTEL JUNE FIFTEEN. GENERAL DONOVAN IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR APPOINTMENT AS A CHIEF OF MISSION. CONDUCT THOROUGH INVESTIGATION AS TO CHARACTER, LOYALTY, REPUTATION, ASSOCIATES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF DONOVAN. BUREAU DESIRES THIS CASE BE ASSIGNED A MATURE, EXPERIENCED AND WELL QUALIFIED AGENT AND AFFORD CONTINUOUS ATTENTION TO INSURE THAT THE DEADLINE OF JUNE TWENTYSECOND IS MET. SET OUT NECESSARY LEADS BY TELETYPE. ASCERTAIN CURRENT ADDRESS OF ALL IMMEDIATE RELATIVES AND CONDUCT APPROPRIATE CREDIT AND CRIMINAL CHECKS CONCERNING EACH. SUREP INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION SI SECTION.

ALBANY DIVISION .....

DONOVAN ADMITTED TO BAR PROBABLY NINETEEN SEVEN. COUNSEL FOR NY STATE FUEL ADMINISTRATION NINETEEN TWENTYFOUR. REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR LT. GOV. NY NINETEEN TWENTYTWO AND CANDIDATE FOR GOV. NINETEEN THIRTYTWO. COUNSEL TO COMMISSION FOR REVISION NY STATE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION LAWS NINETEEN TWENTYNINE. SERVED NY STATE NATIONAL GUARD AS CAPTAIN.

BUFFALO DIVISION .....

DONOVAN BORN JAN. FIRST, EIGHTEEN EIGHTYTHREE IN BUFFALO, PARENTS TIMOTHY P. AND ANNA LENNON DONOVAN. BEGAN LEGAL PRACTICE AT BUFFALO NINETEEN SEVEN. SERVED AS US DA WESTERN DISTRICT NY NINETEEN TWENTY TWO TO TWENTYFOUR.

RECORDED-92

77-58706-2

20 JUL 22 1954

THE COPIES

13

WA 19

PAGE TWO

RICHMOND DIVISION .....

DONOVAN MAINTAINS HOME AT CHAPEL HILL FARM, BERRYVILLE, VA.

WFO .....

DONOVAN MEMBER US DELEGATION TO CUSTOMS REGULATION CONFERENCE BETWEEN US AND CANADA NINETEEN TWENTYTHREE. ASST. ATTORNEY GENERAL US NINETEEN TWENTYFOUR TO TWENTYFIVE. ASST. TO AG TWENTYFIVE TO TWENTYNINE. US COMMISSIONER AND CHAIRMAN RIO GRANDE RIVER COMPACT COMMISSION TWENTYEIGHT TO TWENTYNINE. US COMMISSIONER, CHAIRMAN, COLORADO RIVER COMMISSION SINCE TWENTYNINE. MEMBER BOARD OF ARBITRATION UNDER NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD CONTROVERSY BETWEEN AMERICAN TRAIN DISPATCHERS ASSOCIATION AND B & M RR, COORDINATOR OF INFO FORTYONE. DIRECTOR OF OSS DURING WW TWO AS MAJOR GENERAL, US ARMY. UNOFFICIAL OBSERVER FOR SECRETARY OF NAVY IN GREAT BRITIAN AND SE EUROPE FORTY TO FORTYONE. HANDLE.

BOARDMAN

ALBANY RICHMOND AND BUFFALO ADVISED

HFC

11  
14

14

FBI ALBANY

6-18-53

HLM

SACS BUFFALO AND NEW YORK

U R G E N T

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN - SI. BUDED JUNE TWENTYTWO NEXT- REBUTEL  
JUNE FIFTEEN LAST AND NEW YORK TEL JUNE SEVENTEEN. RECORDS NYS  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION REFLECT GEN. DONOVAN SERVED AS COUNSEL  
TO COMMITTEE ENGAGED IN REVISION THIS COMMISSION'S LAWS NINETEEN  
TWENTYNINE. COMMITTEES REPORT REFLECTS ASSOCIATES OF DONOVAN AS  
FOLLOWS: JOHN KNIGHT - CHAIRMAN - PRESENTLY, FEDERAL JUDGE AT  
BUFFALO; WILLIAM J. HICKEY, RETURNED NYS SUPREME COURT JUSTICE,  
BUFFALO, N.Y. DR. JAMES C. ~~WRIGHT~~ <sup>WRIGHT</sup>, ECONOMICS PROFESSOR AT  
SUNY UNIVERSITY. CONDUCT NECESSARY INTERVIEWS.

KELLY

END

JPH:hlm

77-3597

cc: Director, FBI

77-58706  
NR

26 JUL 22 1953

15

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	

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 12 18 9-17P

DIRECTOR ....U R G E N T....

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REURFILE. DONOVAN-S SON, DAVID MAINTAINS  
RESIDENCE AT CHAPEL HILL FARM, BERRYVILLE, VIRGINIA. HANDLE.

BOARDMAN

RICHMOND ADVISED

RECORDED-92 77-58706-3

END

NY R 12 WA JG

26 JUL 22 1954

1/2



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

June 12, 1953

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The President is considering for appointment as a chief of mission General William J. Donovan. The Foreign Relations Committee of the Senate has requested that such nominations be submitted with my assurance that a full field investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been concluded.

It is requested, therefore, that the Federal Bureau of Investigation conduct a full field investigation of General Donovan and transmit the findings to me through the Office of Security of this Department.

Biographic information on General Donovan is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

*John Foster Dulles*  
John Foster Dulles

Enclosure

The Honorable  
J. Edgar Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation.

RECORDED - 67  
INDEXED - 57

77-58706-4



William Joseph Donovan

(p. 662, WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA, 1952-53)

lawyer; b. at Buffalo, N.Y., Jan. 1, 1883; s. Timothy P. and Anna (Lennon) D.; A.B., Columbia, 1905, LL.B., 1907; LL.D., Niagara U., 1919, U. of Notre Dame, 1929, Syracuse Univ., 1931.

m. Ruth Rumsey July 14, 1914; children -- David Rumsey, Patricia (dec.).

Began practice at Buffalo, 1907; counsel for N.Y. State Fuel Administration, 1924; Republican candidate for lieut. gov. of New York, 1922; U.S. dist. atty., Western District of N.Y., 1922-24; mem. U.S. delegation to customs regulations conf. between U.S. and Can., 1923; asst. atty. gen. of U.S., 1924-25; the asst. to the atty. gen., Mar. 1925-29; U.S. commr. and chmn. Rio Grande River Compact Commn., 1928-29; U.S. commr., chmn. Colo. River Commn. since 1929; mem. Donovan, Leisure, Newton, Lombard & Irvine; counsel for Assn. Bar City New York and New York and Bronx County bar assns. in bankruptcy investigation, 1929; counsel to com. for revision New York state pub. service commn. laws, 1929. Mem. Bd. Arbitration, under Nat. Mediation Bd., controversy between Am. Train Dispatchers Assn., and B. & M. RR. Rep. candidate for Governor of N.Y., 1932. Served as capt. Troop I, 1st Cav., N.Y. Nat. Guard; Asst Chief of Staff, 27th Div., A.E.F., World War; maj., brigade, adj., 51st Brigade; maj., 165 Inf. (old 69th N.Y.) advancing to rank of col., wounded three times; unofficial observer for sec. of navy, Great Britain, July-Aug. 1940, southeastern Europe, Dec. 1940-Mar. 1941; apptd. coordinator of Information, July 1941; dir., Office of Strategic Services, June 1942; rank of maj. gen., U.S. Army.

Decorated (World War I) Congressional Medal of Honor for conduct in action near Landres and St. Georges, France, Oct. 14-15, 1918; D.S.C. for conduct in crossing River Ourcq, July 28-31, 1918, D.S.M. for services in Bacarat sector, July 28-31, and Meuse-Argonne Offensive, Oct. 1918 (U.S.), Legion of Honor, Croix de Guerre with palm and silver star (France), Croci di Guerra (Italy); (World War II) Oak leaf cluster on D.S.M. for services as dir. of strategic services (U.S.), Order of Crown (Italy), Knight Comdr. Order of British Empire (Great Britain), Comdr. Legion of Honor (France), Grand officer Order of Leopold with plam (Belgium), Papal Lateran medal, Order St. Sylvester (Papal), Comdr.'s Cross with star of Polonia Restituta (Poland), 1st Class of Most Exalted Order of White Elephant, Santi Mala medal (Siam), Comdr. Cross with star Royal Order of St. Olav (Norway); Alexander Hamilton medal Assn., Alumni Columbia Coll. Mem. Assn. Bar City New York (exec. com. 1931), Phi Kappa Psi, Phi Delta Phi. Republican. Catholic.

Clubs: Buffalo (Buffalo); University, Metropolitan, Chevy Chase (Washington); River, University, Cedar Creek (New York).

Home: 1 Sutton Pl. S., New York, N.Y.; also Chapel Hill Farm, Berryville, Va.  
Office: 2 Wall Street, New York City, 5.

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77-58706-4

June 18, 1953

RECORDED-02

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL  
BY MESSENGER

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

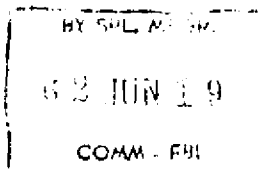
I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 12, 1953, in which you requested investigation of General William J. Donovan, whom the President is considering for appointment as a chief of mission.

Please be advised that this investigation has been ordered and upon completion a summary of the results will be forwarded to you in accordance with your request.

With expressions of my highest esteem and best regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover



WMM:amb

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

26 JUL 30 1953

William Joseph Donovan

(p. 662, WHO'S WHO IN AMERICA, 1952-53)

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Home: 1 Sutton Pl. S., New York, N.Y.; also Chapel Hill Farm, Berryville, Va.  
Office: 2 Wall Street, New York City, 5.

23

6-18-53

URGENT

SAC NEW YORK

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBUTEL JUNE FIFTEEN, FIFTY THREE.  
 REFER TO FOLLOWING REFERENCES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS INVESTIGATION:  
 URFILE ONE HUNDRED DASH TWO FIVE NINE ZERO FOUR, JAY LOUISIANA,  
 URLET DATED APRIL SEVEN FIFTY THREE; URFILE ONE HUNDRED DASH NINE  
 SIX SIX THREE ZERO, DUNCAN LEE, REPORT OF SA GALLAGHER DATED  
 JANUARY TWENTY, FIFTY THREE, PAGE THREE; URFILE ONE HUNDRED DASH  
 ONE ZERO NINE SEVEN SEVEN FOUR, WILLIAM EDWIN PRICE, SM DASH C,  
 REPORT OF SA JOHN L. FAGAN DATED FEBRUARY SEVENTEEN FIFTY THREE,  
 PAGE EIGHT.

HOOVER

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 MLI:d1j

TELETYPE

RECORDED-92

77-58706-5

JUN 22 1953

21

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 18 1953

TELETYPE

NEW YORK 15 FROM WASH DC 13 6-36 PM MLT

SAC URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBUTEL JUNE FIFTEEN, FIFTY THREE. REFER  
TO FOLLOWING REFERENCES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS INVESTIGATION, URFILE  
ONE HUNDRED DASH TWO FIVE NINE ZERO FOUR, JAY LOVESTONE, URLET DATED  
APRIL SEVEN FIFTY THREE, URFILE ONE HUNDRED DASH NINE SIX SIX THREE  
ZERO, DUNCAN LEE, REPORT OF SA GALLAGHER DATED JANUARY TWENTY, FIFTY  
THREE, PAGE THREE, URFILE ONE HUNDRED DASH ONE ZERO NINE SEVEN SEVEN  
FOUR, WILLIAM ADDISON PRICE, SM DASH C, REPORT OF SA JOHN L. FACAN  
DATED FEBRUARY SEVENTEEN FIFTY THREE, PAGE EIGHT.

HOOVER

END

WA R 15 NY TM

DISC

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 18 1956

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Mr. Winterrowd  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Holloman  
Miss Gandy

WASH AND WASH FLD 14 FROM NEW YORK 18 10-40 PM  
DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBUTEL JUNE FIFTEEN, LAST TO WFO. A REVIEW OF THE INDICES OF THE NYO WITH REFERENCE TO APPOINTEE, REFLECTS THE FOLLOWING-~~IN~~ FORTYFIVE, ELIZABETH BENTLEY ADMITTED THAT SHE OPERATED AS A COURIER IN A SOVIET ESPIONAGE NETWORK BETWEEN FORTYONE TO FORTYFIVE. BENTLEY TESTIFIED BEFORE THE HCUA THAT DUNCAN C. LEE, A LEGAL ADVISOR TO THE APPOINTEE, WAS HER FIRST CONTACT IN THE OSS, OF WHICH DONOVAN WAS THE DIRECTOR. LEE WAS FORMERLY EMPLOYED BY DONOVAN-S LAW FIRM, DONOVAN, LEISURE, LUMBARD, NEWTON, AND IRVINE. ANOTHER CONTACT OF BENTLEY IN OSS WAS MAURICE HALPERIN, WITH REGARD TO DUNCAN C. LEE, YOUR ATTENTION IS INVITED TO THE REPORT OF SA FLOYD L. JONES, DATED JAN. TWENTYEIGHT, FORTYSIX, AT WASHINGTON, PAGE SIXTYEIGHT, IN THE GREGORY MATTER, YOUR FILE ONE HUNDRED DASH ONE SEVEN FOUR NINE THREE. WFO IS ORIGIN IN THE LEE CASE. IN REGARD TO HALPERIN, SEE REPORT OF SA EDWARD W. DOOLEY DATED FEB. ELEVEN, FORTYSIX AT NYC, PAGE FORTYFOUR, IN GREGORY CASE, AND WFO LET TO DIRECTOR UNDER SAME CAPTION DATED DEC. ELEVEN, FORTYFIVE, ON PAGE TWO, WHERE HALPERIN-S NAME IS MENTIONED, ALONG WITH THE NAME OF APPOINTEE.

26 JUL 22 1956  
END OF PAGE ONE

RECORDED-92 77-58706-6

WA 14

PAGE TWO

ALSO SEE REPORT OF SA JONES DATED JAN. ELEVEN, FORTYSIX, AT WASH  
IN THE GREGORY MATTER, PAGE ONE THREE FIVE, CONCERNING DONALD NIVEN  
WHEELER, AN OSS EMPLOYEE, INVESTIGATED UNDER THE HATCH ACT. THE  
APPOINTEE ADVISED THE BUREAU HE WOULD TAKE NO ACTION IN THIS MATTER.  
WFO AS ORIGIN IN THE GREGORY CASE, IN REQUESTED TO FURNISH A SUITABLE  
DOCUMENTATION OF BENTLEY-S ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING HER CONTACTS AT  
OSS. FURNISH APPROPRIATE SKETCHES OF DUNCAN LEE, MAURICE HALPERIN,  
AND DONALD NIVEN WHEELER FROM BENTLEY-S TESTIMONY RE OSS, IF POSSIBLE,  
AND THEIR ASSOCIATION WITH THE APPOINTEE AT THAT TIME. BOSTON,  
HOWEVER, IS ORIGIN IN THE HALPERIN CASE. NH DIVISION. REFERENCE IS  
MADE TO YOUR FILE SIXTYFIVE DASH ONE TWO EIGHT EIGHT, ENTITLED  
[REDACTED] WAS, ESP - R." AS ORIGIN, YOUR OFFICE  
WILL REVIEW FILE AND REPORT ANY PERTINENT INFO CONCERNING THE MANSFIELDS  
AND THE APPOINTEE AND HIS LAW FIRM. FOR THE INFO OF THE NH OFFICE,  
GENERAL DONOVAN IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR APPOINTMENT AS A CHIEF OF  
MISSION. THE BUREAU DESIRES THIS CASE BE ASSIGNED TO A MATURE,  
EXPERIENCED, WELL QUALIFIED AGENT, AND AFFORDED CONTINUOUS ATTENTION  
TO INSURE THAT THE DEADLINE IS MET. SET NECESSARY LEADS BY TELETYPE.  
SUREP ATTN- INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SI SECTION, BY JUNE TWENTYTWO,  
NEXT, WITHOUT FAIL.

BOARDMAN

NEW HAVEN ADVISED HLD

TWO COPIES WFO

44

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

JUN 19 1953

TELETYPE

FBI, ST. LOUIS 6-19-53 225 PM WJE

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD ..... URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBUTEL JUNE FIFTEEN, LAST. ARMY RECORD  
NOT LOCATED SL. WFO HANDLE.

THORNTON

END AND ACK

3-25 PM OK FBI WA SW

VT

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77-58706-7

26 JUN 23 1953



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO.

rvk

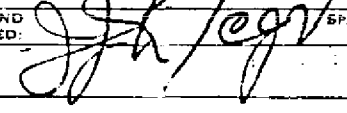
REPORT MADE AT <b>ALBANY, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6-19-53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6-16,17,18, 19-53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JAMES P. HENDRICK, JR.</b>
TITLE <b>WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

DONOVAN Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor, New York State, 1922; Republican candidate for Governor, New York State, 1932. Served as counsel to Commission for Revision of New York State Public Service Commission Laws, 1929. New York State Department of Audit and Control records reflect DONOVAN Chief Counsel to New York State Fuel Commission, 1922. Records, New York State Board of Law Examiners, reflect WILLIAM J. DONOVAN applied to take New York State bar examination, March, 1907. Graduate of Columbia University, 1905. Attended Columbia Law School two years. Took bar examination October 22, 1907, passed and certified to Fourth Judicial Department, Rochester, New York, November, 1907. Records, New York State Court of Appeals, reflect WILLIAM J. DONOVAN admitted New York State Supreme Court, Fourth Judicial Department, Rochester, New York, November, 1907. Filed oath to practice as attorney in New York State December, 1907. Membership in New York State National Guard and New York State Bar Association verified. Record clear. DONOVAN was granted honorary LL.D. degree by Syracuse University in 1930. Dr. FINLA G. CRAWFORD, Syracuse University, highly recommends applicant as to character, loyalty and associates.

- RUC -

REFERENCES: Bureau teletype dated 6-15-53.  
New York City teletype dated 6-17-53.  
Albany teletype dated 6-18-53.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT  2 Bureau (AMSD) 1 Albany (77-3597) <b>26 JUL 22 1953</b>		<b>77-58706-8</b>	<b>JUL 22 1953</b>

AL 77-3597

DETAILS:

AT ALBANY, NEW YORK

Mrs. G. RYAN, Principal File Clerk, New York State Public Service Commission, advised that there would be no record in their Personnel Department of General DONOVAN having served as Counsel to the Commission to Revise the New York State Public Service Commission Laws. She suggested that Mr. BLEECKER H. BAKER of their Legal Division might be of help in this matter.

Mr. BLEECKER H. BAKER, Legal Division, New York State Public Service Commission, made available the report of this Commission's work in 1929. The report reflected that WILLIAM J. DONOVAN had served as Counsel to the Legislative Commission to Revise the Laws of New York State Public Service Commission. This report further reflected that associated with DONOVAN on this Commission were Dr. JAMES C. BONBRIGHT, Economics Professor at New York University, Senator JOHN KNIGHT of Buffalo, New York, and WILLIAM J. HICKEY, also of Buffalo, New York. Listed on the Research Staff of this Commission was FINLA H. CRAWFORD, presently Vice-Chancellor of Syracuse University.

Mr. EARL FRANCIS, Director, Election Board, New York State Department of State, advised that his records reflected that WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was the Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor of New York State in the election of 1922, but was defeated by GEORGE LUNN. The records further reflected that WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was the Republican candidate for Governor in 1932 and was defeated by HERBERT H. LEHMAN. Mr. FRANCIS advised that he did not know General DONOVAN personally, but knew of his tremendously fine reputation. He further stated that he did not recall that General DONOVAN ever resided in Albany. Mr. FRANCIS suggested that the writer contact Mr. WILLIAM KING, Secretary of the New York State Senate, for information concerning General DONOVAN.

✓ Mr. WILLIAM KING, Secretary of the New York State Senate, advised that he had met General DONOVAN on only one occasion in Buffalo and could not say that he knew him personally. He advised, however, that his reputation speaks well for him and that he knew that General DONOVAN had made a great name for himself both in New York State and in the service of his country.

AL 77-3597

Mr. WILLIAM E. DOUGHERTY, Executive Deputy Comptroller, New York State Department of Audit and Control, advised that his records showed WILLIAM J. DONOVAN as Chief Counsel for the New York State Fuel Administration. The records further indicated that this capacity was served from September 7, 1922 to December 31, 1922. The records indicated that Mr. DONOVAN received a flat fee of \$5000.00.

AT SYRACUSE, NEW YORK

The following investigation was conducted by SA PETER G. ROTH.

Records of the Registrar of Syracuse University reflect that applicant was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws in 1930.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Employee  
RAYMOND F. MOHR:

AT ALBANY, NEW YORK

Miss BETTY CONNORS, Clerk, New York State Board of Law  
Examiners, advised that her records reflected WILLIAM J. DONOVAN,  
New York City and Buffalo, New York, applied to take the New York  
State Bar Examination on March 23, 1907. Education background at  
that time consisted of graduate from Columbia University 1905 and  
two years attendance at Columbia Law School. No other information  
was available. He took the New York State Bar Examination October  
22, 1907, passed and was certified to the Fourth Judicial Depart-  
ment, Rochester, New York, November 7, 1907.

Mr. FLOYD MELIUS, Clerk, New York State Court of Appeals, ad-  
vised that his records reflected WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was admitted  
to the Supreme Court, Fourth Judicial Department, Rochester, New  
York, during the November Term 1907 and that he filed oath to  
practice as an attorney in New York State on December 24, 1907.

Colonel EDWIN C. GORE, New York State Adjutant General's Office,  
advised that his records reflected WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was born  
January 1, 1883; that he enlisted in the New York State National  
Guard as Private, Troop I, First Cavalry, on May 7, 1912; and that  
on October 11, 1912 he was made a Captain in the same unit. The  
records further indicated that WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was a Captain,  
Troop I, First Cavalry, Mexican Border, June 30, 1916 through March  
30, 1917. On May 15, 1917, while holding the rank of Captain, he  
was likewise appointed Assistant Chief of Staff of the New York  
Division. On July 7, 1917, he was made Major in the Adjutant  
General's Department, First Brigade. DONOVAN was transferred to the  
69th Infantry Branch of the First Brigade (The Fighting Irish) on  
August 15, 1917. This organization was redesignated the 165th  
Infantry on the same date. DONOVAN was appointed a Lt. Colonel on  
September 3, 1918 and a Colonel on March 3, 1919 and served in the  
American Expeditionary Forces from March 26, 1917 through April 22,  
1919. He was wounded twice in action on July 31, 1918 and October  
15, 1918.

Miss ISABELLE THROWBRIDGE, Secretary, New York State Bar  
Association, advised that WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, 2 Wall Street, New  
York City, has been a member of the New York State Bar Association

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since 1914 and has continued his membership to the present time and is in good standing.

There was no derogatory information contained in the files of the New York State Board of Law Examiners, New York State Adjutant General's Office and/or the New York State Bar Association regarding WILLIAM J. DONOVAN.

The following investigation was conducted by SA WILLIAM C. PIPER.

AT SYRACUSE, NEW YORK:

Dr. FINIA G. CRAWFORD, Vice-Chancellor, Syracuse University, advised that in 1929 he and other members of Syracuse University served on a committee appointed by the then Governor, FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, to revise the New York State Public Service Commission laws. Dr. CRAWFORD said that the applicant was the legal representative for the committee and had his headquarters in New York City at that time. Dr. CRAWFORD said he was well acquainted with the applicant at that time and has had occasional contact with him since then. He described the applicant as a person of the highest character, reputation, and habits, and one who was highly regarded by his friends and associates. He stated the applicant was completely dependable and trustworthy. Dr. CRAWFORD stated further that during World War II, the applicant headed the Office of Strategic Services in Washington, D. C. He also said that during the time he has been acquainted with the applicant, he has never heard him say anything nor has he ever heard anyone say anything about the applicant which would indicate that he was not a loyal or patriotic citizen. Dr. CRAWFORD stated that he would highly recommend the applicant for a position of trust and confidence. He also stated that to his knowledge there was no one presently at Syracuse University who was acquainted with the applicant.

- RUC -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

bjg

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/19/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/17,18,19/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>THOMAS J. LARDNER</b>
TITLE <b>CHANGED WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, aka: "Wild Bill" Donovan</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Background from "Who's Who" set forth. Education and association with Columbia University verified. No derogatory information. Appointee not admitted to Bar in First Judicial Department. No record of action by Bar of City of New York or Committee on Grievances. Association with own law firm verified. Appointee highly recommended. No record at Republican State Committee. Acting Secretary recommends. No record at 69th Regiment Armory. Neighborhood favorable. Associates recommend. ELIZABETH BENTLEY, admitted Soviet agent, advises OSS infiltrated by individuals aiding USSR. No derogatory credit information NYC. No criminal record for appointee and family.

- RUC -

**REFERENCES:**

Bureau teletype to New York, 6/16/53.  
Albany teletype to New York, 6/18/53.

**DETAILS:** The title of this case is being marked changed to reflect the additional name for the appointee as "WILD BILL" DONOVAN, as noted during the course of the interview with United States Attorney J. EDWARD LUMBARD.

**BACKGROUND**

The following background information was obtained from "Who's Who in America," 1952 - 1953.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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		JUN 22 1953	<b>RECORDED-20 INDEXED - 20</b>

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50225-2

NY 77-16713

DONOVAN, WILLIAM JOSEPH, lawyer; born at Buffalo, New York, January 1, 1883; son of TIMOTHY P. and ANNA (LENNON) DONOVAN; A. B. Degree, Columbia University, 1905; LLB Degree, 1907; LL.D. Degree, Niagara University, 1919; University of Notre Dame, 1929; Syracuse University, 1931; married RUTH RAMSEY, July 14, 1914; Children - DAVID RAMSEY, PATRICIA (Deceased). Began practice at Buffalo, 1907; Counsel for New York State Fuel Administration, 1924; Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor of New York, 1922; United States District Attorney, Western District of New York, 1922 - 1924; Member United States Delegation to Customs Regulations Conference between United States and Canada, 1923; Assistant Attorney General of United States, 1924 - 1925; the Assistant to the Attorney General, March 1924 - 1929; United States Commissioner and Chairman, Rio Grande River Compact Commission, 1928 - 1929; United States Commissioner, Chairman, Colorado River Commission Service, 1929; Member, Donovan, Leisure, Newton, Lombard and Irvine; Counsel for Bar Association, City of New York and New York and Bronx County Bar Associations in bankruptcy investigations, 1929; Counsel to Commission for Revision New York State Public Service Commission Laws, 1929; Member Board of Arbitration under National Mediation Board, controversy between American Train Dispatchers Association, and Boston & Maine Railroad; Republican candidate for Governor of New York, 1922; served as Captain, Troop I, First Cavalry, New York National Guard; Assistant Chief of Staff, 27th Division, AEF, World War, Major, Brigade, Adjutant, 51st Brigade; Major, 165th Infantry (Old 69th New York), advancing to rank of Colonel; wounded three times; unofficial observer for Secretary of Navy, Great Britain, July - August, 1940, Southeastern Europe, December, 1920 - March 1941.

Mr. DONOVAN was appointed Co-ordinator of Information, July, 1941; Director, Office of Strategic Services, June, 1942; rank of Major General, United States Army. Decorated (World War I) Congressional Medal of Honor for conduct in action near Landres and St. Georges, France, October 14 - 15, 1918; Distinguished Service Cross for conduct in crossing River Ourcq, July 28 - 31, 1918; D.S.M. for services in Bacarat Sector, July 28 - 31, and Meuse - Argonne Offensive, October, 1918 (United States); Order of Crown (Italy); Knight Commander, Order of British Empire (Great Britain); Commander, Legion of Honor (France); Grand Officer, Order of Leopold with Palm (Belgium), Papal



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Lateran Medal, Order St. Sylvester; (Papal); Commander's Cross with Star of Polonia Restituta (Poland), First Class of most exalted order of White Elephant; Santi Mala Medal (Siam); Commander Cross with Star, Royal Order of St. Olav (Norway); Alexander Hamilton Medal Association Alumni; Columbia College Memorial Association; Bar, City of New York (Executive Committee, 1931); Phi Kappa Psi; Phi Delta Phi; Republican, Catholic Clubs: Buffalo (Buffalo); University Metropolitan, Chevy Chase (Washington); River University, Cedar Creek (New York). Home: 1 Sutton Place, South, New York, New York; also, Chapel Hill Farm, Berryville, Virginia. Office: 2 Wall Street, New York City.

#### Education

Columbia University  
116 Street and Broadway  
New York, New York

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES J. DALY.

Miss MARY LEE, Clerk, Professional Schools, advised that the appointee entered Columbia Law School on September 25, 1905, and received an LLB Degree on May 27, 1908. There was nothing of a derogatory nature noted in the appointee's scholastic record.

Miss BERTHA SECOR, Clerk, Columbia College, advised that the appointee entered Columbia College in September, 1903, and received an AB Degree in June, 1905. The appointee's residence at that time was Buffalo, New York, and his date of birth was listed as January 1, 1883 at Buffalo. There was nothing of a derogatory nature noted in the appointee's scholastic record and none of his former professors were available for interview.

#### Association With Columbia University

Alumni Federation of Columbia University, Incorporated  
Morningside Heights, New York City

Mrs. DOROTHY DOYLE, Clerk, advised that the Federation records reflected that the appointee is a resident of 4 Sutton Place, South, and has been a member of the Columbia College Alumni since 1922 and Columbia Law School Alumni since 1928. Mrs. DOYLE stated that her records further reflected appointee's business address was 2 Wall Street.

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Council On The Committee Of Development  
And Research Of Columbia University  
Morningside Heights, New York City

*Edwin*  
Mr. ~~THEODORE~~ S. RUGGLES, Assistant Director, advised that the appointee is presently the Chairman of the above-mentioned council. He stated that the appointee had been a Special Advisor to President Eisenhower when he was President of Columbia University. Mr. RUGGLES stated that the appointee had been appointed to these positions by President Eisenhower. Mr. RUGGLES stated further that the appointee has been very active in the above council and has been largely responsible for its success and effectiveness. He stated that on occasion he has worked closely with the appointee in the functioning of this organization and has found that the appointee is an outstanding administrator, possessing excellent character and reputation. Mr. RUGGLES recommended the appointee most highly and stated that he is a loyal American citizen whom he would recommend for a position of trust.

Admission To The New York State Bar

First Judicial Department, Appellate Division  
New York State Supreme Court  
25 Street and Madison Avenue

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES F. MC'CONNELL.

*Pro*  
HARRY STANTON, Assistant Clerk, advised their records reflected that the appointee was not admitted to the New York State Bar through the First Department. Mr. STANTON advised further there was no record of any action taken against the appointee by that Department.

Association Of The Bar, City of New York  
42 West 44 Street

*Pro*  
Miss GEORGIA MEYER, Clerk, Treasurer's Office, advised that the appointee was elected to the membership in the above organization on February 2, 1922.

Mr. GERALD MacDONAGH, Office of the Secretary, advised that the appointee held the following offices in the above association: 1931 to 1934 on the Executive Committee; 1934 on the Nominating Committee. Mr. MacDONAGH also advised that the appointee has been a sustaining member of the Association since 1922.

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*out*  
Mr. PETHUEL WEBSTER, President of the Association of the Bar, of the City of New York, and a senior partner in the firm of Webster, Sheffield and Chrystie, 17 Broad Street, advised that he has known the appointee since 1927. At that time he was the appointee's personal assistant in the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice, the appointee at that time being an Assistant to the Attorney General. Mr. WEBSTER stated that the appointee remained in that position until 1929 when HERBERT HOOVER became President and the appointee returned to New York to found his law firm. In 1930 Mr. WEBSTER came to New York and joined the appointee's firm and remained until 1934. Mr. WEBSTER advised that since 1934 he has seen the appointee intermittently. Mr. WEBSTER stated that the appointee has a wonderful record as a soldier, public official and a lawyer. Mr. WEBSTER recommended the appointee most highly as to his character, reputation and loyalty to the United States Government. He knows nothing derogatory concerning him and recommended him for a position of trust.

New York County Lawyers' Association  
14 Vesey Street

*in*  
Mr. MATRICE OPPENHEIM, Membership Secretary, advised that the appointee became a member of the Association in 1928 and is presently a sustaining member in good standing.

Committee on Discipline  
14 Vesey Street

*in*  
Mr. GEORGE R. ADAMS, Attorney for the above committee, advised that they possessed no record of any action taken against the appointee.

Committee On Grievances Of The Association  
Of The Bar For The City Of New York  
14 Vesey Street

*in*  
Mr. LEWIS E. REYNOLDS, Assistant Attorney for the above committee, advised they possessed no record of any action taken against the appointee.

EMPLOYMENT

Donovan, Leisure, Lumbard, Newton and Irvine  
2 Wall Street

*in*  
The following investigation was conducted by SA GEORGE F. LUECKENHOFF.

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RALSTON R. IRVINE, Senior Partner, advised that he has been associated with the appointee since 1926 when both were in the Department of Justice. The appointee founded the firm, which bears his name, in approximately 1929, when he returned from Washington. Mr. IRVINE advised that he has been associated both professionally and socially with the appointee and recommended him most highly as to his character, reputation, loyalty to the United States Government and his associates.

Mr. IRVINE stated that the appointee is one of the greatest living Americans from the point of service that he has rendered to the United States. Mr. IRVINE advised that he knows nothing derogatory concerning the appointee and recommended him most highly for a position of trust.

The following partners in the firm who have been associated with the appointee since 1927 and 1929 respectively, both professionally and socially furnished substantially the same remarks as Mr. IRVINE and recommended the appointee and his family most highly: BRECK P. McALLISTER, OTTO C. DERING, JR.

Republican State Committee  
41 East 42 Street

The following investigation was conducted by the reporting agent.

*Political*  
✓  
COLONEL WALTER BLIGH, Acting Secretary, advised that there is no record maintained of the appointee's connection with the Republican Party at the above address. Colonel BLIGH stated that he has known the appointee professionally since World War I. Colonel BLIGH stated that the appointee has a record of loyalty for the United States which cannot be surpassed by any other individual in this country. He stated that during both World Wars and in the interim between them he has handled all types of classified and confidential material. He stated that the appointee is not only a patriotic and loyal American citizen but he is an outstanding attorney as well. Colonel BLIGH stated that the appointee has both a high civilian and military record. He knows nothing derogatory concerning him and recommends him most highly for a position of trust with the United States Government

69th Regiment Armory  
25th and Lexington Avenue

BIAGIO NUCCIO, Clerk, advised the above Armory possessed no record of the appointee's association with the 16th Regiment. b7C

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NEIGHBORHOOD

The following investigation was conducted by SA HARVARD S. KISSIAH.

1 Sutton Place, South,  
New York City

✓ Mr. HARRY HOPKINS, Doorman, advised that the appointee and his wife leased an apartment at the above address during the summer months approximately two or three years ago. Mr. HOPKINS advised that they were excellent tenants and recommended them most highly as to their character, reputation and loyalty to the United States Government. He knows nothing derogatory concerning them and recommends the appointee for a position of trust.

✓ HARRY SMITH, Superintendent, advised that the appointee and his wife leased an apartment during the summer months from 1946 to approximately 1949. He stated that they were excellent tenants who caused no trouble in the apartment house and he recommended them most highly as to their character, reputation and loyalty to the United States Government. Mr. SMITH knew nothing derogatory concerning them and stated the appointee is a man well qualified for a position of trust with the United States Government.

4 Sutton Place, South  
New York City

✓ HARRY ROBBINS, Rental Agent for the HENRY PHIPPS Estate, advised that the appointee and his wife have resided at the above address since May of 1948. He stated that his association with the family has been of a professional nature and that from this association he would recommend them most highly as to their character, reputation and loyalty to the United States Government. He stated that the appointee's son resides at Berryville, Virginia, at the appointee's country estate.

Mr. ROBBINS advised that he knew nothing derogatory concerning the appointee or his family and recommended him most highly for a position of trust.

✓ Mr. HENRY DE FOREST ALEXANDER, a tenant, and Captain PAUL HAMMOND, 230 Park Avenue, who subleased the above apartment to the appointee, both furnished substantially the same remarks concerning the appointee and his family background as did Mr. ROBBINS.

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ASSOCIATES

✓ LUCIUS D. CLAY, Chairman of the Board, Continental Can Company, 100 East 42 Street, advised SA GEORGE F. LUECKENHOFF that he had been acquainted with the appointee for approximately ten to twelve years. He stated that he had worked closely with the appointee while in Washington during the war and had visited with him both in Germany and New York on numerous occasions. He stated that he had the highest regard for the appointee's character, reputation, associates and considers him to be an outstanding citizen of the United States, whose loyalty is beyond question. He stated that due to the appointee's many successful associations with the United States Government he would highly recommend him for any top Government position.

The following investigation was conducted by the reporting agent.

✓ J. EDWARD LUMBARD, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and a law partner of the appointee, advised that he joined the appointee's firm on November 11, 1945, and has been both professionally and socially related to him since that time. Mr. LUMBARD stated that the appointee is the greatest patriot in the United States, and the most decorated American civilian. During his association with the United States Government, the appointee has been entrusted with responsible and confidential positions by every President since WOODROW WILSON. Mr. LUMBARD stated that the appointee would be the best representative that the United States could send abroad as he has better contacts in foreign countries than any person in the United States with the possible exception of the President himself. Mr. LUMBARD stated that the appointee has great qualities of imagination and resourcefulness. He stated further that the appointee has an enormous amount of energy for a man seventy years old. Mr. LUMBARD recommended the appointee unqualifiedly as to his character, reputation and loyalty to the United States Government. He stated that the appointee is known to his intimates as "Wild Bill" DONOVAN. He stated that his son DAVID resides at their country estate in Virginia and his wife resides with the appointee here in New York.

✓ JAMES M. ACKELL, Confidential Assistant to Mr. LUMBARD, advised that he had been associated with the appointee's law firm since 1947. He stated that he has known the appointee since that time in a professional relationship. He recommended the appointee unqualifiedly as to his character, reputation and loyalty to the United States Government. He knows nothing derogatory concerning him and recommends him for a position of trust.

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Dr. JAMES C. BONBRIGHT, Professor of Economics, Columbia University, advised that he first met the appointee when he (DONOVAN) was serving as a Counsel to the Committee Engaged in the Revision of the Public Service Commission Laws for New York State. Dr. BONBRIGHT stated that his association with the appointee has not been a close one and he last saw him during World War II in Washington, D. C. Dr. BONBRIGHT stated that the appointee is an outstanding lawyer who has a high public record. He recommended him as to his character, ability, reputation and loyalty to the United States Government. He knows nothing derogatory concerning him and recommends him for a responsible government position.

MISCELLANEOUS

ELIZABETH TERRILL BENTLEY, an admitted Soviet espionage agent, has advised to the following:

From 1941 to 1945 she had operated as a courier in a Soviet espionage network which was concerned with the recruiting of highly-placed government employees, and the obtaining of information from them to which they had access. JACOB GOLOS was her Soviet superior. In 1942 GOLOS was advised that EUMEN HAPLIN LEE was going to Washington, D. C. with General DONOVAN in the Office of OSS. Thereafter, some material was obtained through LEE which was not very valuable and GOLOS ordered BENTLEY to handle LEE directly. BENTLEY contacted LEE in Washington and from her conversation with him learned what type of material he could furnish, and also learned that LEE himself realized that the information he was giving was destined for Russian intelligence. LEE later was shifted to the Japanese Division of OSS, and was furnishing information about Japanese agents in China, and miscellaneous data, the exact nature of which BENTLEY could not recall. LEE furnished the information either orally or written. BENTLEY stated that LEE through his intimate association with General DONOVAN in OSS, had learned of a proposal by General DONOVAN to have some NKVD representatives come to the United States in exchange for an OSS mission to Russia. This proposal was looked upon unfavorably by the President and Fleet Admiral HARRY. LEE had become frightened and excited over the prospect of such a mission, as he had visions of this group visiting him at his home and thanking him for his cooperation.

NY 77-16713

BENTLEY advised further that LEE, while on duty with OSS in Washington, and furnishing her confidential data, knew her to be a Communist and later suspected her of being a Soviet agent. LEE also paid her Communist Party membership dues.

In an interview with the Federal Bureau of Investigation in 1947, in a hearing before a New York Federal Grand Jury in 1948, and in testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1948, LEE denied that he had ever furnished any confidential data to BENTLEY or any other unauthorized individuals, or that he had ever engaged in any Communist Party activities.

In testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on July 31, 1948, BENTLEY stated that LEE, a legal advisor to General DONOVAN in OSS, was her first contact in that agency, and there were, however, a number of individuals employed by OSS who were supplying information to her which she turned over to her Russian superior. In addition to LEE, BENTLEY also operated as a courier for other employees of the OSS who were apparently operating independently of each other. One such individual was MAURICE HALPERIN.

During the investigation of the activities of LEE, noted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation the following was noted.

T-1, an informant of unknown reliability, who has access to information concerning the activities and individuals connected with the appointee's law firm, advised in the early part of 1953 that he was well acquainted with PUNCAN LEE when LEE was employed with the appointee's law firm. T-1 stated that LEE was an extremely nervous and timid individual who he believed lacked the personal courage to have been a Communist or to have engaged in espionage activities. T-1 stated that LEE had been active in the affairs of Russian War Relief because he had been assigned by the firm to assist in the corporate organization of this group. This assignment came about because of the interest of WILLIAM DONOVAN and others in the law firm in the establishment of Russian War Relief.

T-1 stated that he and others in the office had "tensed" LEE because of his connection with Russian War Relief. However, T-1 stated that they did not attribute his connection with this organization to any particular interest in Communism or Soviet Russia. T-1 stated that he did not recall any instance in which he and LEE had ever engaged in the discussion of politics during his association with him at the Donovan law firm.



NY 77-16713

In regard to Russian War Relief the following is to be noted:

The Fourth Report of the Senate Fact-finding Committee on Un-American Activities, California State Legislature, lists the Russian War Relief, Inc., as a Communist front organization and states on page 358 as follows: "While it is undoubtedly true that many well-intentioned loyal Americans were tricked into believing that the Russian War Relief was a bona fide American agency, the hard core of Communist influence and direction is evident."

CREDIT

SE RICHARD J. O'HARA caused a search to be made of the credit records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York in regard to the appointee and his family. Nothing of a derogatory nature was noted.

CRIMINAL

SA AUGUST J. NISEK caused a search to be made of the arrest records of the New York Police Department in regard to the appointee and his family. No record was found.

- RUC -

NY 77-16713

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

IDENTITY OF INFORMANT

T-1

Is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
of DONOVAN, LEISURE, LUMBARD, NEWTON  
and IRVINE, 2 Wall Street. Due to  
the type of information furnished  
by this informant [REDACTED] is  
protected by the use of a T symbol.  
The above information attributed  
to T-1 was previously furnished to  
the Bureau by the report of SA  
LESTER O. CALLEER, 1/20/53; New York,  
entitled [REDACTED] was;  
Espionage - R, Internal Security Act,  
of 1950".

b7C

b7D

FBI WASH FIELD

6/20/53

10:15 P.M.

DIRECTOR AND SAC ST. LOUIS

URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI., REBUTEL SIX FIFTEEN FIFTY-THREE  
AND FIFTY-TWO, FIFTY-THREE EDITION OF WHO'S WHO. NO OFFICIAL  
RECORDS FOR VARIOUS FEDERAL APPOINTMENTS AS YET LOCATED BY WFO.  
CHECK SL SOURCES.

HOOD

WFF/lmb

WFO 77-44319

RECORDED-92

77-58706-10

RECORDED  
JUL 20 1953

RECEIVED  
JUL 21 1953

RECEIVED  
JUL 22 1953

26 JUL 22 1953

R.B. Hood  
EHW

New Haven 10, Connecticut  
June 20, 1953

SAC, NEW YORK

URGENT:

WILLIAM JOSEPH DOLOVAN, SI. REURTEL SIX EIGHTEEN LAST REQUESTING  
NH SUREP RE ~~RES.~~ WALTER R. HANFIELD, WAS. IN CONNECTION WITH THE  
FOREGOING. NY REQUESTED TO SUBMIT A SUPPLEMENTARY ADMINISTRATIVE  
PAGE ON CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT T-TWO REFERRED TO IN REPORT OF SA  
JOHN J. WARD DATED AT NEW HAVEN SIX TWENTY FIFTY THREE IN CAPTIONED  
CASE. THIS REFERENCE TO PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE OF [REDACTED] b7C  
ON JAN. TWENTY NINE, FORTY SIX AS SET FORTH IN THE REPORT OF SA  
F. V. ZAROFF AUGUST TWENTY-FIVE, FORTY-NINE, UR FILE SIX FIVE  
DASH ONE FIVE EIGHT THREE EIGHT, ENTITLED [REDACTED] b7C  
SUPPLY NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION INCLUDING NAMES OF AGENCIES PARTICI-  
PATING IN THAT SURVEILLANCE.

CASPER

JJW:acb  
62-1740

cc: 1- Bureau  
REGISTERED MAIL

(ATTN: SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION,  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION)

77-58706

NR

26 JUL 22 1953

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW HAVEN, CONN.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6-20-53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6-19,20-53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JOHN J. WARD</b> <span style="float: right;">ach</span>
TITLE <b>WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b>

ATTN: INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**



(S)

-RUC-

REFERENCE: Teletype dated June 18, 1953 from New York entitled "WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI".

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT ① - Bureau (REGISTERED MAIL) 2 - New York (info) (REGISTERED MAIL) 2 - New Haven 1 - 62-1740 1 - 65-1288 65-111 221054		<b>77-58706-11</b>	JUN 20 1953
		INDEXED-42	

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

NH 62-1780

DETAILS:

b7C

[REDACTED]

As will be set forth below, Mrs. WALTER R. MANFIELD of Birchside Road, Norwalk, Conn., was formerly employed by the Office of Strategic Services and by the law firm of Donovan, Leisure, Newton, Lombard and Irving. Her husband, WALTER R. MANFIELD, as of April, 1951, was an attorney with the same law firm.

[REDACTED]

b-1

(S)

b-1

(S)

ADMINISTRATIVE

The Confidential Informants utilized in the report of Special Agent JOHN J. WARD dated June 20, 1953 at New Haven, Connecticut and entitled "WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SPECIAL INQUIRY" are as follows:

T-1 is Confidential Informant [REDACTED] location of original as set forth in the report of Special Agent FRANCIS W. ZANGLE August 25, 1949 at New York, entitled [REDACTED] b7d.

T-2 is a physical surveillance on January 29, 1949 conducted by SA F. D. O'BRIEN and SA LAWRENCE W. SPILLANE in New York City. Location of original as set forth in surveillance log of [REDACTED] in the Gregory Matter, New York file 65-14603. The information attributed to this source was previously reported in the report entitled [REDACTED] was., ESPIONAGE - R" dated August 25, 1949 at New York City by SA FRANCIS W. ZANGLE. b7c

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

FILE NO.

PIC

<b>REPORT MADE AT</b> BUFFALO, NEW YORK	<b>DATE WHEN MADE</b> 6/20/53	<b>PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE</b> 6/16-26/53	<b>REPORT MADE BY</b> LEO J. KENNEDY
<b>TITLE</b> WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN			<b>CHARACTER OF CASE</b> SPECIAL INQUIRY

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN born at Buffalo, New York, 1/1/83. Admitted to practice in U.S. District Court, WDNY, Buffalo, 4/22/13. Served as U.S. Attorney, WDNY, 1922-1924. Record satisfactory. Engaged in general practice of law in Buffalo until 1929. Thereafter, practice confined to New York City. Maintained residence in Buffalo until 1941 but was rarely in city subsequent to 1929. Status in Erie County Bar Association, Buffalo, excellent. Former partner and associate, Federal and state judges and acquaintances recommend DONOVAN's appointment describing him as highly patriotic citizen and capable lawyer of unimpeachable character, reputation and associations. Credit rating satisfactory. No record in files of local law enforcement agencies. Nothing derogatory concerning any member of immediate family developed.

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:** Bureau teletype dated 6/15/53.  
 New York teletype dated 6/17/53.  
 Albany teletype dated 6/18/53.

**DETAILS:** AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

The 1952-1953 edition of Who's Who in America reflects the following information:

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN was born at Buffalo, New York, on January 1, 1883, the son of TIMOTHY P. and ANNA (LANNON) DONOVAN. On July 14, 1914, he married RUTH RUMSEY and two children, DAVID RUMSEY and PATRICIA DONOVAN (deceased), were born of the marriage. Mr. DONOVAN entered the practice of law at Buffalo in 1907 and was United States Attorney for the Western District of New York from 1922 to 1924. He is presently a member of the Buffalo Club.

<b>APPROVED AND FORWARDED</b> <i>[Signature]</i> <b>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</b>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b> 2 - Bureau (AMSD) 1 - Buffalo (62-1041) JUN 22 1953	<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">77-58706-12</div>	INDEXED-92



BIRTH DATA

The records of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York pertaining to Mr. DONOVAN's admission to practice reflect his birth at Buffalo on January 1, 1883.

ADMISSION TO FEDERAL BAR

The records of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York reflect that WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was admitted to practice in this court on April 22, 1913.

STATUS IN LOCAL BAR ASSOCIATION

Mrs. IRENE TATU, Assistant Secretary of Erie County Bar Association, advised from records of the Association that WILLIAM J. DONOVAN has been continually a member in good standing since September of 1909. No grievances have ever been filed against Mr. DONOVAN.

Mrs. TATU, who has been an attorney in Buffalo since 1915, stated that she has known Mr. DONOVAN only by reputation as a highly capable attorney of excellent character and associates. He is generally regarded as an outstanding patriot.

Mr. DONOVAN's former partners, BRADLEY GOODYEAR, GANSON DEPEW, Jr., JULES RANDALL and FRANK G. RAICHLE, were known casually to Mrs. TATU as highly regarded lawyers of excellent character and reputation. She has heard nothing which might reflect unfavorably upon their loyalty to the United States.

EMPLOYMENT

City Directories disclose that Mr. DONOVAN was a member of the following legal firms:

1917 to 1919 - O'Brian, Donovan and Goodyear  
1920 - Donovan and Goodyear  
1924 to 1925 - Donovan, Raichle and Depew  
1926 to 1931 - Donovan and Raichle  
1933 - Donovan, Raichle and Randall  
1934 to 1940 - Donovan and Raichle

Mr. FRANK G. RAICHLE, Jr., Genesee Building, stated that he made the acquaintance of Mr. DONOVAN shortly after World War I and that several years later they formed a partnership which continued until 1941 when Mr. DONOVAN became Director of the Office of Strategic Services. However, from 1929 until the termination of the partnership, Mr. DONOVAN took practically no part in firm affairs, his only interest being in fees on pending matters of minor character.

While associated with Mr. RAICHLE, DONOVAN became United States Attorney for the Western District of New York. Mr. RAICHLE vaguely recalls, however, that prior to the expiration of his term, Mr. DONOVAN became Assistant Attorney General of the United States. The last several years were spent by Mr. DONOVAN in Washington, D.C., and thereafter, he was almost continually a resident of New York City although maintaining a residence at the home of his mother-in-law in Buffalo at 742 Delaware Avenue.

Continuing, Mr. RAICHLE advised that Mr. DONOVAN's present firm, DONOVAN, LEISURE, NEWTON and IRVINE, 2 Wall Street, New York City, was formed in 1929. The firm has a very large and lucrative practice representing a number of large corporations. Mr. NEWTON was formerly President of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad while EDWARD LOMBARD, a former member of this firm, is now United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York. Previously, Mr. LOMBARD was a justice of the New York State Supreme Court. Mr. DONOVAN's firm occupies a high status in legal circles and has an irreproachable reputation.

Prior to his association with Mr. RAICHLE, Mr. DONOVAN had been in partnership with BRADLEY GOODYEAR and GANSON DEPEW, Jr., the latter of whom has been deceased since 1924. Mr. GOODYEAR, now retired, is a resident of Cooperstown, New York. One JULES RANDALL was an associate of the firm for a few years in the 1930's, but died in New York City about ten years ago while associated with one UNTERMEYER. Another former partner of Mr. DONOVAN, EMORY TUCKER, during the period of Mr. DONOVAN's inactive connection with the firm, died about a year ago.

All of these former partners were described by Mr. RAICHLE as reputable attorneys and loyal citizens of good character and associates.

With regard to Mr. DONOVAN's family, RAICHLE stated that his parents have been dead since at least the early 1920's. His father was a laborer and although Mr. RAICHLE does not know for certain, he has heard that the family was in the lower income levels.

Further, Mr. RAICHLE advised that Mr. DONOVAN's wife, RUTH RUMSEY DONOVAN, was a member of a wealthy and socially prominent family. Her brother, DEXTER RUMSEY, is President of the Erie County Savings Bank, Buffalo. Mrs. DONOVAN is well known to Mr. RAICHLE through frequent contacts at various times over a period of approximately 30 years. He considers her a loyal citizen of excellent character, reputation and associates.

According to Mr. RAICHLE, DONOVAN had two children, DAVID RUMSEY DONOVAN, age 35, who is believed to be the operator of a

large experimental farm in Virginia, and PATRICIA DONOVAN who was killed in an automobile accident about 11 years ago while attending college. Mr. RAICHLE had little contact with the children but, to the best of his information and belief, they were of good character and reputation. There was no indication of disloyalty to the United States on the part of either.

*Relationships*  
Mr. DONOVAN's brother, TIMOTHY, who died about 12 years ago, was an outstanding Buffalo citizen, Mr. RAICHLE said. His other brother, VINCENT, is a Catholic Priest attached to an order who, for many years, was assigned to New York City. An only sister of Mr. DONOVAN, LORETTA, lived for several years in Ohio, but Mr. RAICHLE vaguely recalls that she later moved to the far west. Mr. RAICHLE has a faint recollection that LORETTA's first husband died and that she remarried.

Nothing derogatory is known to Mr. RAICHLE concerning the loyalty, reputation, character or associates of Mr. DONOVAN's immediate family.

Mr. RAICHLE recommends Mr. DONOVAN's appointment in the most laudatory terms. He said it is difficult to find words to adequately describe the excellent character of Mr. DONOVAN. In Mr. RAICHLE's opinion, DONOVAN is a man of "impeccable honesty in his professional and personal relations." His habits are exemplary and he is a true patriot in fact as well as by reputation. With regard to specific traits of character, Mr. RAICHLE described DONOVAN as "indomitable, aggressive and intelligent." Mr. DONOVAN's personality is "charming and magnetic" and he is an exceedingly capable attorney. In the latter regard, Mr. RAICHLE pointed out that while the United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, Mr. DONOVAN successfully tried a number of highly publicized cases and has been outstanding in appellate work. Further, Mr. RAICHLE stated that Mr. DONOVAN is versatile in all phases of legal practice.

Dr. CARLOS C. ALDEN, Dean emeritus of the University of Buffalo School of Law who for several years in the 1930's was counsel for the firm of DONOVAN and RAICHLE, said that at the time of this association Mr. DONOVAN spent practically all of his time in New York City and as a consequence, Dr. ALDEN had little contact with him. However, Dr. ALDEN has known Mr. DONOVAN as an acquaintance over a period of time dating back to approximately 1920.

In Dr. ALDEN's opinion, Mr. DONOVAN is an outstanding American of respectable associations, honest, reliable and capable. As United States Attorney in Buffalo, Mr. DONOVAN rarely engaged in the trial of cases presumably because he had no liking for this phase of the law.

However, he was an excellent administrator and his devotion to duty was unquestionable. In connection with the latter, Dr. ALDEN referred to the fact that DONOVAN, while United States Attorney, had sanctioned a raid upon the Saturn Club of which DONOVAN was then a member. A number of members were charged with violation of the Federal Prohibition Act and as a consequence, DONOVAN lost the friendship of many wealthy and influential men who were members of the club. However, Mr. DONOVAN's action in making no distinction between the various clubs, which at that time were being raided by the Alcohol Tax Unit, was generally applauded by Buffalo citizens. In Dr. ALDEN's opinion, notwithstanding criticism to the contrary, Mr. DONOVAN was perfectly justified in sponsoring the raid.

Speaking of Mr. DONOVAN's former legal associates and partners, Dr. ALDEN described BRADLEY GOODYEAR and GANSON DEPEW, Jr. as respectable citizens who were known to him to be attorneys of good character, reputation and associates. Similar comments were made by Dr. ALDEN relative to EMORY TUCKER, now deceased. JULES RANDALL, former associate of DONOVAN and RAICHLE, was known to Dr. ALDEN only casually as a loyal citizen of good reputation.

#### ACQUAINTANCES

Mr. JAMES W. PERSONS, Official Referee in Bankruptcy, Western District of New York, for more than 30 years, stated that he has known Mr. DONOVAN through frequent contacts as a lawyer until approximately 20 years ago when DONOVAN became inactive in his Buffalo practice. According to Mr. PERSONS, DONOVAN is a man of "great integrity" whose word is his bond and who has a high sense of responsibility as evidenced from the fact that while United States Attorney, he has caused a raid to be made upon lockers of fellow members of the Saturn Club. As a result, DONOVAN was bitterly criticized by a number of prominent citizens and their animosity has continued to the present date. In Mr. PERSONS' opinion, DONOVAN's character is unimpeachable and his associates of the very best. At no time has there ever been any suspicion that Mr. DONOVAN is not the true patriot that he is generally reported to be. Further, Mr. PERSONS stated that Mr. DONOVAN, while practicing in Buffalo, was regarded as a very capable attorney and a very likeable personality. No members of Mr. DONOVAN's immediate family are known to Mr. PERSONS, but with regard to his former partners, BRADLEY GOODYEAR and GANSON DEPEW, Jr., Mr. PERSONS said that these attorneys were men of high repute, excellent character and reputation. Mr. GOODYEAR, a resident of Cooperstown, New York, is now retired and GANSON DEPEW, Jr. has been dead for many years. The latter was the son of a leading citizen of Buffalo.

Included in his remarks Mr. PERSONS said that he would be very happy to recommend Mr. DONOVAN's appointment to any position in the

Federal Government wherein devotion to the welfare of the United States is of prime importance.

Honorable CARLTON A. FISHER, Justice of New York State Supreme Court, Eighth Judicial Division, stated that Mr. DONOVAN prior to leaving Buffalo was very well known to him through professional contacts. On several occasions during DONOVAN's tenure as United States Attorney, Judge FISHER, who was then a practicing attorney, was in frequent contact with Mr. DONOVAN in the handling of cases involving the New York Central Railroad. These contacts with Mr. DONOVAN were highly satisfactory and Judge FISHER had observed that Mr. DONOVAN was undoubtedly a very capable attorney. At that time, DONOVAN was not considered an outstanding trial attorney but in all other respects, his professional status was excellent. In Judge FISHER's opinion, Mr. DONOVAN is a "go getter", ambitious, absolutely trustworthy and exceptionally personable. There is every reason to believe that DONOVAN merited the various honors accorded him by reason of his brilliant war record, Judge FISHER added.

Little is known to Judge FISHER about Mr. DONOVAN's wife other than the fact that her family was socially well established, wealthy and very respectable.

Other members of Mr. DONOVAN's immediate family, excepting his deceased brother, Dr. TIMOTHY DONOVAN, were unknown to Judge FISHER. Concerning Dr. TIMOTHY DONOVAN, Judge FISHER recalled that his brother was an outstanding surgeon of excellent reputation.

As to Mr. DONOVAN's former partners, Judge FISHER said that BRADLEY GOODYEAR and GANSON DEPEW, Jr. were loyal citizens of excellent families, reputable and considered capable. JULES RANDALL, a former associate of the firm DONOVAN and RAICHLE, was unknown to Judge FISHER.

With regard to the Saturn Club incident, Judge FISHER expressed the opinion that Mr. DONOVAN's raid upon this club while United States Attorney was indicative of strong regard for his oath. There was a violation of the law and DONOVAN was willing to risk the possibility that influential members of the Club would resent his action notwithstanding that they had been warned before hand to discontinue the practice of having liquor in the Club.

DONOVAN's appointment was enthusiastically endorsed by Judge FISHER.

Honorable JOHN KNIGHT, U.S. District Court Judge, Western District of New York, stated that while serving as Republican leader of the N.Y. State Assembly at Albany in the 1920's, he had appointed Mr. .

DONOVAN counsel to the Commission for the Revision of the New York State Public Service Commission. For several months thereafter, Judge KNIGHT had worked in close collaboration with Mr. DONOVAN on affairs of the Commission. Judge KNIGHT had occasional contact with Mr. DONOVAN while both were engaged in general practice of the law and, in addition, Judge KNIGHT had occasion to discuss several cases with Mr. DONOVAN while the latter was United States Attorney.

Judge KNIGHT has a high regard for Mr. DONOVAN as an attorney and as a man. He described DONOVAN as an outstanding patriot of high principles, dependable and of excellent associates and reputation. Reference was made by Judge KNIGHT to the Saturn Club incident and he expressed approval of the action taken by Mr. DONOVAN.

Concerning Mr. DONOVAN's former partners, GOODYEAR and DEPEW, Judge KNIGHT stated that these attorneys were known to him in a casual way as respectable attorneys of good character and reputation. Nothing which might reflect unfavorably upon their patriotism could be recalled by Judge KNIGHT.

Mr. DONOVAN's immediate family is unknown to Judge KNIGHT.

Mr. DAVID W. SOWERS, Campanile Apartments, who has been a member of the Buffalo Club for approximately 30 years, stated that he has known DONOVAN as a fellow member of this club and also through social contacts since DONOVAN's youth. However, during the past 20 years, Mr. SOWERS has rarely seen Mr. DONOVAN by reason of the fact that the latter has been a resident of Washington, D.C., and New York City. Mr. SOWERS is also well acquainted with the family of Mr. DONOVAN's wife and with his former partner, BRADLEY GOODYEAR. GANSON DEPEW, Jr., now deceased, was known to Mr. SOWERS in only a casual way.

In Mr. SOWERS' opinion, Mr. DONOVAN is "very ambitious" and a "go getter." His reputation in Buffalo is excellent and while practicing here, he was regarded as a leading attorney. DONOVAN's patriotism was never subject to question and he fraternized with the best citizens of Buffalo.

Reference was made by Mr. SOWERS to the Saturn Club incident as an indication of DONOVAN's respectability. His action in this case was very unpopular with a large segment of important people in Buffalo because of their belief that Mr. DONOVAN had betrayed their friendship.

The belief was expressed by Mr. SOWERS that Mr. DONOVAN is well qualified for any position involving complete loyalty to the United States, character and ability.

Concerning DONOVAN's former partners, GOODYEAR and DEPEW, Mr. SOWERS stated that these men were unquestionably loyal citizens of excellent character, reputation and associates. Similar comments were made by Mr. SOWERS with regard to DONOVAN's wife who has been known to Mr. SOWERS since she was a young girl. According to Mr. SOWERS, Mrs. DONOVAN's family was very wealthy and leaders in Buffalo society. No other members of Mr. DONOVAN's immediate family are known to Mr. SOWERS.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD

City Directories list Mr. DONOVAN as a resident of the following addresses:

1917 to 1919 - 826 West Delavan Avenue  
1924 to 1926 - 810 West Ferry Street  
1927 to 1928 -  
and 1939 - New York City  
1929 to 1938  
and 1940 - 742 Delaware Avenue

Mr. DONOVAN has not been listed in City Directories since 1940.

It is noted that his former residence at 742 Delaware Avenue is now occupied by the University Post, Veterans of Foreign Wars and that all former residences in the immediate vicinity have been occupied for the past several years by business establishments.

Attention is called to the statement of Mr. DONOVAN's former partner, FRANK G. RAICHLE, Jr. that Mr. DONOVAN was rarely in Buffalo during the years 1929 to 1940 and that he has not maintained a residence in this city since the latter year.

#### CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

The following investigation was conducted by SE  
TERENCE W. KELLEY:

The records of the Buffalo Retail Merchants Credit Association reflect that Mr. DONOVAN has always maintained a satisfactory credit rating and, further, that on September 6, 1941, following his appointment as United States Coordinator of Information, he withdrew from his partnership with FRANK G. RAICHLE, Jr.

According to the above records, the credit ratings of Mr. DONOVAN's wife and son were also satisfactory.

BU 62-1041

There is no reference to Mr. DONOVAN or any member of his immediate family in the records of the Buffalo Police Department or Erie County Sheriff's Office.

- RUC -



ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Continued)

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With reference to the lead set out in referenced Albany teletype dated June 18, 1953, to interview Mr. WILLIAM J. HICKEY, retired justice of the New York State Supreme Court, who was referred to in reports of the New York State Committee for the Revision of the Public Service Commission as an associate of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, it is stated that the various persons whose interviews are related in the details of this report, have advised that to their personal knowledge, Mr. DONOVAN was not closely associated with Mr. HICKEY. They explained that HICKEY prior to becoming a Supreme Court Judge was a member of the New York State Assembly and thereafter, Erie County Chairman of the Republican Party, and that DONOVAN's relations with HICKEY were casual and political only in character. By reason of this information, no effort was made to interview Mr. HICKEY in accordance with the aforesaid lead.

WASHINGTON, BOSTON AND CHICAGO FROM WASH FIELD 22

DIRECTOR AND SAC'S

U R G E N T

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. ARBITRATION HEARINGS UNDER NATIONAL MEDIATION BOARD IN THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE AMERICAN TRAIN DISPATCHER'S ASSOCIATION AND THE BOSTON AND MAINE RR BEGAN AUG TWELVE NINETEEN THIRTYFIVE OVER THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE CENTRALIZATION TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEM FROM THE RR TOWER WOULD BE HANDLED BY TRAIN DIRECTORS OR TRAIN DISPATCHERS. HEARING BOARD WAS MADE UP OF COL. WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, NY ATTORNEY, S. E. MILLER, ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER, BOSTON AND MAINE RR AND O. H. BRAESE, VICE PRESIDENT, AMERICAN TRAIN DISPATCHERS ASSOCIATION. ARBITRATION BOARD DECIDED IN AWARD MEETING NOV NINETEEN THIRTYFIVE TRAIN DISPATCHERS WOULD HANDLE. AWARD FILED WITH U.S. DISTRICT COURT, CLERK, DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS. FOR INFO OF BOSTON AND CHICAGO DONOVAN UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT AS A CHIEF OF MISSION. NEWSPAPERS INDICATE HE IS TO BE AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND. BUREAU CONDUCTING THOROUGH INVESTIGATION AS TO CHARACTER, LOYALTY, REPUTATION, ASSOCIATES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF DONOVAN. CASE MUST BE ASSIGNED TO A MATURE, EXPERIENCED AND WELL QUALIFIED AGENT AND AFFORDED CONTINUOUS ATTENTION TO INSURE THAT JUNE TWENTYTWO DEADLINE IS MET WITHOUT FAIL. BOSTON INTERVIEW MILLER, CHICAGO INTERVIEW BRAESE. SUREP ATTENTION INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SI SECTION.

RECORDED-92  
HOOD

WEF:el  
77-44319

26 JUL 22 1935

77-58706-13

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 22 1953

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

FBI, ST. LOUIS 6-22-53 4-25 PM MMK

DIRECTOR, FBI AND SAC, WASHINGTON FIELD URGENT

ATTENTION SI SECTION, INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBUTEL JUNE FIFTEEN, LAST. PERSONNEL,

FRC ADVISED RECORD OF APPOINTEE-S SERVICE WITH OFFICE OF STRATEGIC

SERVICES ARE LOCATED CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, WASH., DC. WFO HANDLE.

THORNTON

END AND ACK PLS

RECORDED-92

77-58706-14

5-24 PM OK FBI WA SW

TU DISCTVT

20 JUN 22 1953

NO COPIES

60

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

6/22/53

WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK FROM WASH FIELD 22 1:45P

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. DEPT OF JUSTICE REGISTER REFLECTS DONOVAN APPOINTED ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ON AUGUST FOURTEEN, TWENTYEIGHT, CHARGED WITH THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANTI TRUST LAWS. APPARENTLY SO SERVED UNTIL NINETEEN TWENTYNINE. WILLIAM D. MITCHELL SERVED AS SOLICITOR GENERAL. CHARLES D. LAWRENCE SERVED AS ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GEN. NY INTERVIEW FORMER AG MITCHELL, TWENTY EXCHANGE PLACE AND LAWRENCE, NOW JUDGE U.S. CUSTOMS COURT, TWO NAUGHT ONE VARICK ST., BOTH NYC.

HOOD

WEF:el

77-44319

RECORDED-92

77-58706-15

RECEIVED 8 1

26 JUL 22 1953

~~CONFIDENTIAL - SECRET~~  
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
~~SECURITY INFORMATION - SECRET~~

Form No. 1  
 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BALTIMORE</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/22/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/16, 19/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>THOMAS L. LAMB, JR./rjb</b>
TITLE <b>WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

*Army  
release*

Files of T-1 were reviewed without locating any derogatory information concerning the captioned individual ~~(S)~~

-RUC-

**REFERENCE:**

**DETAILS:**

AT BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

The files of Baltimore Confidential Informant T-1, another government agency conducting personnel and intelligence investigations, reflect that the captioned individual was the subject of a (X) National Agency check, ( ) partial background investigation, ( ) complete background investigation completed on March 26, 1952, during which no information was developed reflecting adversely upon the character, reputation or loyalty of this individual ~~(S)~~

- RUC -

Class. Marked by **3832**  
 Exempt from GDS, Category **2**  
 Date of Review **8/18/11**

**LS/dbc 4-27-78**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i> <b>mhl</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>77-58706-16</b>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT <b>2 - Bureau</b> <b>1 - Baltimore (77-7241)</b>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>77-58706-16</b> </div>	

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

BA 77-724

T-1 is G-2, Central Records Facility, Fort Holabird, Baltimore, Maryland, the files of which were made available to SA THOMAS L. LAMB, JR., by Commanding Officer of the Facility.

The information contained in the attached report was obtained from G-2 file bearing dossier number X8215744.

The contents of the attached report is being marked SECURITY INFORMATION-~~SECRET~~ as the G-2 file is so classified.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

1204  
1.2  
JUN 23 1953  
TELETYPE

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

I

FBI INDIANAPOLIS

6-23-53

4-45 PM CDST

RGM

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBUTEL TODAY. REPORT SUBMITTED TODAY BY  
SA HAROLD BERGER.

BLAYLOCK

END AND ACK PLS

5-45 PM OK FBI WA JG

TU DISC PLS

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77-58706-17

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26 JUL 23 1953

JUN 23 1953

TELETYPE

17  
FBI, RICHMOND 6-23-53 9-11 PM NSH  
DIRECTOR, FBI ATTN - SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION ... URGENT ...

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBURADIOGRAM DATED JUNE  
TWENTYTHREE INSTANT. REPORT OF SA WILLIAM H. PRYOR  
SUBMITTED JUNE TWENTYTHREE INSTANT. RUC.

JOHNSON

END ACK 2 MESSAGES

E 10-14PM OK FBI WSH DC CCW

OK R 2

TU DISC

RECORDED-92

77-58706-18

26 JUL 22 1953

65



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

JUN 24

TELETYPE

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	

4742

WASHINGTON 4 FROM BOSTON

23

9-14 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. BUDED JUNE TWENTYTWO FIFTYTHREE. RUC REPORT  
SUBMITTED BOSTON JUNE TWENTYTHREE FIFTYTHREE BY SA DENNIS M. CONDON.

MARCHESSAULT

END ACK PLS

BS R 4 WA JG

DIS

RECORDED-52

77-58706-19

26 JUL 22 1953

URGENT

6-23-53

RADIOGRAM

SAC NEW YORK  
INDIANAPOLIS  
ALBANY  
BALTIMORE  
ST. LOUIS

RICHMOND  
BOSTON  
CHICAGO  
BUFFALO  
WFO (BSM)

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. BUDED JUNE TWENTY TWO, FIFTY THREE.

REBUILT JUNE FIFTEEN, FIFTY THREE. ADVISE DATE REPORT

SUBMITTED AND IDENTITY OF REPORTING AGENT. NR. 231520

HOOVER ENCL 194-1-1-1 BY

CC 2 WFO (BSM)

OK BY

MLI:dij

APPROVED BY

TYPED BY

FILED BY

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RADIO

JUN 23 1953

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

3:57 P.M.

77-58706-20

RECORDED-22

505171

36 JUL 22 1953

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

JUN 23 1953

TELETYPE

NEW YORK <sup>9</sup> 8 BOSTON 1 FROM WASH DC 23 5-05 PM

SAC URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. BUDED JUNE TWENTY TWO, FIFTY THREE.  
REBUTEL JUNE FIFTEEN, FIFTY THREE. ADVISE DATE REPORT  
SUBMITTED AND IDENTITY OF REPORTING AGENT.

HOOVER

NY IP AL BA SL RH BS CG BU WFO ADVISED

END

NY WA R 9 NY JLW

BS WA R 1 BS PAC

TU DISC

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT <b>RICHMOND</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/23/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/16, 22/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WILLIAM H. PRYOR</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>MEW</b></span>
TITLE <b>WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Neighbors at Berryville, Va. report that Gen. DONOVAN has owned Chapel Hill Farm for about 15 years but has never lived there, although his wife and son and daughter-in-law reside on farm. Their reputation, character and loyalty unquestioned. No credit bureau Berryville. No criminal record on Gen. DONOVAN

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:** New York City teletype to Richmond dated 6/17/53.

**DETAILS:** AT BERRYVILLE, CLARKE COUNTY, VA.

## NEIGHBORHOOD

Mr. T. M. HOOKER, Mr. CYRUS PINE and Mr. GARIAND M. CARTER, all residing near Berryville and businessmen in the community, informed that Gen. WILLIAM DONOVAN has owned Chapel Hill Farm for about 15 years but has never personally lived there to their knowledge, although he visits his wife, son DAVID, and his daughter-in-law, MARY GRANDIN DONOVAN, who do live on the farm, occasionally on weekends. They reported that the reputation, character and loyalty of Mrs. DONOVAN and Mr. and Mrs. DAVID DONOVAN are above question so far as they know. They also disclosed that DAVID is the owner and operator of the Battletown Transfer Company of Berryville and at the same time operates his father's farm known as Chapel Hill.

## CREDIT

There is no credit bureau in Clarke County, Va.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (2) - Bureau 1 - Richmond (62-993)		<b>77-58706-21</b>	32

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT <b>BOSTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/23/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/23/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>DENNIS M. CONDON</b> <span style="float: right;">JFH</span>
TITLE <b>WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b>
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p><i>WJ</i> Mr. SAMUEL E. MILLER, 25 Dyer Avenue, Melrose, Massachusetts, advises he is not well enough acquainted with WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN to comment upon fitness for responsible government position.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>RUC</u></p> <p>REFERENCE:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Washington Field teletype to Boston dated June 22, 1953.</p> <p>DETAILS:</p> <p><u>ACQUAINTANCES:</u></p> <p>Mr. SAMUEL E. MILLER, 25 Dyer Avenue, Melrose, Massachusetts, former Assistant General Manager, Boston &amp; Maine Railroad, advised that he met WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN on two occasions while conducting arbitration hearings, but does not feel qualified to comment on his fitness for a position of responsibility with the U. S. Government. He added that DONOVAN impressed him as a person of good character and he personally liked him.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>RUC</u></p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT  2-Bureau <b>AMSD</b> 1-Boston (62-3265)		<b>77-58706-22</b>	

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT <b>INDIANAPOLIS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/23/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/19/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>HAROLD A. BERGER (A) Law</b>
TITLE <b>WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>Records Notre Dame University, South Bend, Indiana, indicate WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN never attended the University. DONOVAN, at the 85th Annual Commencement 6/2/29 at Notre Dame, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. Records, Prefect of Discipline, Notre Dame and credit and criminal, South Bend, Indiana, negative.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">R U C</p> <p><b>REFERENCE:</b> Bureau teletype dated June 15, 1953.</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b> <u>At South Bend, Indiana</u></p> <p>Mrs. SHARON PALKOVIC, Receptionist, Academic Affairs Office, Notre Dame University, advised after searching their active and inactive records, bulletins, and micro-film, that they had no record of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN attending the University. The University Bulletins did reflect, however, that WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN at the 85th Annual Commencement on June 2, 1929 at Notre Dame University did receive the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. The citation read as follows:</p> <p>"A lawyer and soldier, who has served his country well in high civil position and with rare international distinction in the World War as leader of the famous 69th Regiment - Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN of Buffalo, New York."</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT  (2) - Bureau  1 - Indianapolis (77-2589)		<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">77-58706-23</p> <p>JUN 25 1953</p> <p>24</p>	

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IP  
77-2589

Mrs. PALEOVIC advised there would be no additional available information concerning WILLIAM J. DONOVAN.

Miss DONNA SCHIACAPASSE, Secretary, Prefect of Discipline's Office, Notre Dame University, advised they had no record on WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN.

JAMES ARMSTRONG, Secretary, Alumni Association, Notre Dame University, advised there would be no additional available information concerning WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN at Notre Dame. He added that Reverend CHARLES O'DONNELL was the president of Notre Dame during this period and is now deceased. He could recall no one at the University that could furnish any pertinent information concerning DONOVAN.

#### CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

Mrs. BIANCHE MONTINE, Clerk, Credit Bureau of South Bend, 510 National Bank Building, advised they had no information on the name of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN.

Mrs. WILHELM GORDON, Clerk, Records Section, South Bend Police Department, advised they had no information of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN.

R U C

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUN 21 1953

TELETYPE UNIT

I

*Handwritten signature*  
KMY

WA 3 FROM BA 6-24-53 6-05 PM

DIRECTOR, FBI URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBUTEL TODAY. REPORT OF SA THOMAS L. LAMB, JR., IN CAPTIONED MATTER, SUBMITTED JUNE TWENTYTWO LAST.

ALDEN

END

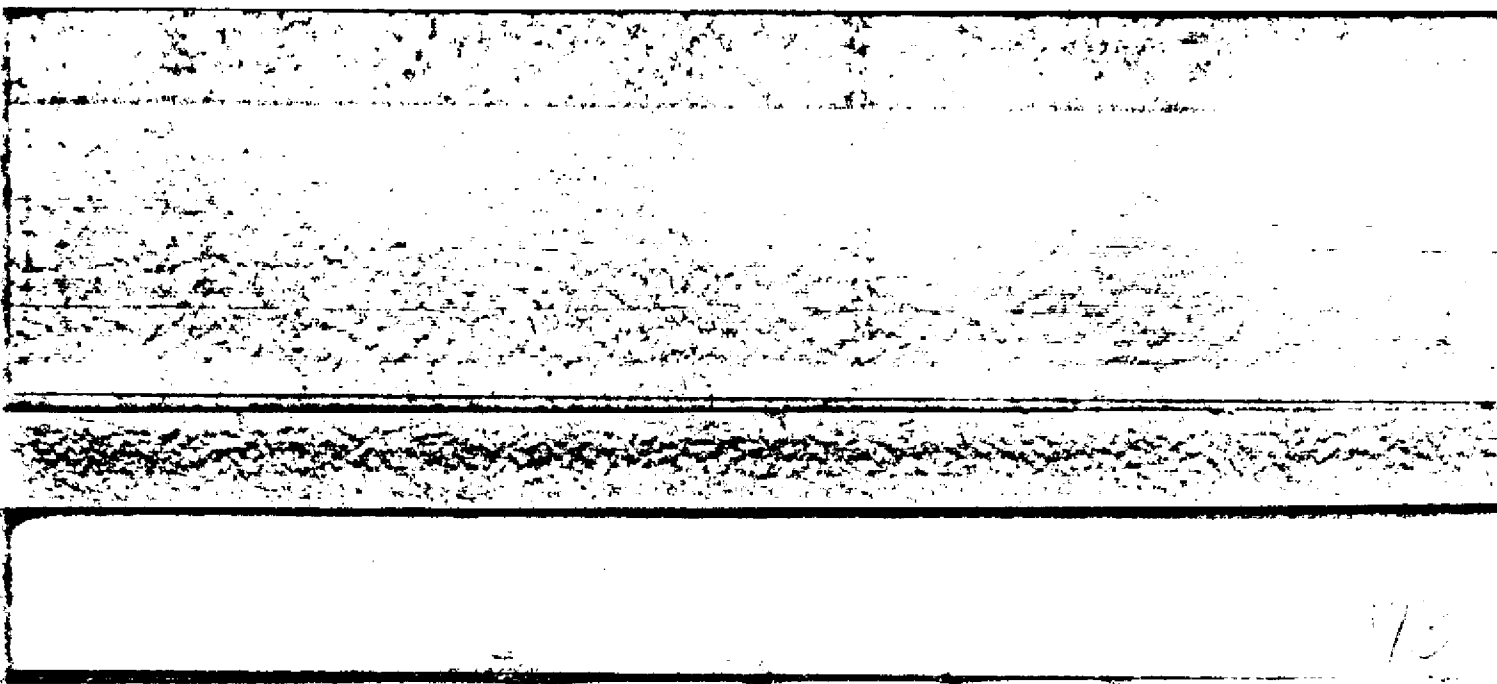
ACK PLS

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BA R 3 WA NB

77-58706-24

20 JUL 22 1953





WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 17

24

10-22P

DIRECTOR

....U R G E N T....

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, AKA, SI. ATTENTION -- INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SI SECTION. RE WFO TEL TO NY JUNE TWENTY TWO, FIFTY THREE. LETTERS BEING FURNISHED BUREAU CONTAINING INFO CONCERNING APPOINTEE. DUE TO NATURE OF MATERIAL NOT BEING INCLUDED IN DETAILS OF REPORT. WILLIAM D. MITCHELL ADVISED APPOINTEE HAS DETESTED HIM SINCE HERBERT HOOVER APPOINTED MITCHELL AG IN NINETEEN TWENTY EIGHT. APPOINTEE BELIEVED THAT HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN AG BUT MITCHELL QUOTE UNDERCUT UNQUOTE HIM TO GET JOB. MITCHELL STATES THIS WAS UNTRUE AS HE DID NOT DESIRE POSITION. HOWEVER, MITCHELL CONSIDERS APPOINTEE VERY CAPABLE AND BRILLIANT AND KNOWS OF NO REASON WHY HE SHOULD NOT HAVE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT POSITION, WHICH HE BELIEVES TO BE AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND. STATES, HOWEVER, THAT FRANK G. REICHLE, NOW A PRACTICING ATTORNEY IN BUFFALO AND APPOINTEE-S FIRST LAW PARTNER, WAS INDICTED-BY FGJ IN WASHINGTON DURING LATE NINETEEN TWENTIES AS A RESULT OF A WORTHLESS BOND DEAL. APPOINTEE ASKED MITCHELL TO INTERVENE AND HAVE INDICTMENT QUASHED. MITCHELL WROTE A LETTER TO FGJ POINTING OUT SPOTLESS CHARACTER AND REPUTATION OF REICHLE. AS A RESULT NO COURT ACTION

END PAGE ONE

RECORDED-92

77-58706-25

16 JUL 22 1953

74

PAGE TWO

TAKEN AGAINST REICHLE. HOWEVER, IN NINETEEN THIRTY ONE OR THIRTY TWO, RIECHLE RE-INDICTED AND ONCE AGAIN THE APPOINTEE ASKED MITCHELL TO INTERVENE. DONOVAN AT THIS TIME WAS CAMPAIGNING FOR GOVERNOR OF NY. MITCHELL REFUSED, TELLING APPOINTEE TO LET COURT ACTION TAKE ITS COURSE. REICHLE TRIED AND ACQUITTED. MITCHELL STATES CRIMINAL DIVISION, D OF J, WOULD HAVE RECORDS OF THIS COURT ACTION IF NECESSARY FOR REVIEW. JUDGE LAWRENCE, U.S. CUSTOMS COURT, NYC, RECOMMENDS APPOINTEE HIGHLY AS MAN OF HIGH CHARACTER, REPUTATION AND LOYALTY. HIS ASSOCIATION, HOWEVER, WAS NOT A CLOSE ONE. ATTEMPTING TO INTERVIEW FORMER PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER THIS DATE. REPORT WILL FOLLOW.

BOARDMAN

HOLD

75

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIR-TEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

BUREAU

FBI BUFFALO

6-24-53

5-10 PM EDST

DIRECTOR

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. BUDED JUNE TWENTYTWO LAST. RE BU RADIOGRAM  
THIS DATE. REPORT SA LEO J. KENNEDY SUBMITTED JUNE TWENTY LAST.

BOSWELL

END

RTC:MKC

62-1041

AIR MAIL

RECORDED-92

77-58706-26

Approved: H.C.B. *TC*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

23 JUL 22 1953

76

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 15

24

10-19

P

DIRECTOR

.....U R G E N T.....

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, AKA, SI. ATTENTION -- INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION,  
SI SECTION. REURTEL JUNE TWENTY THREE, FIFTY THREE. REPORT OF  
SA THOMAS J. LARDNER SUBMITTED JUNE NINETEEN LAST. CASE REOPENED  
AS RESULT OF JUNE TWENTY TWO WFO TEL. TELETYPE SUMMARY BEING  
SUBMITTED REFERENCE THIS TEL. REPORT WILL FOLLOW.

HOLD

RECORDED-92

BOARDMAN

77-58706-27

77

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT <b>CHICAGO, ILLINOIS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/24/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/23/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JESSE W. SYME</b> <div style="text-align: right;">MAF</div>
TITLE <b>WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>O. HUGH BRAESE comments favorably concerning DONOVAN and recommends him as of good character and loyal to the United States.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p><b>REFERENCE:</b> Washington Field Teletype dated June 22, 1953.</p> <p><b>DETAILS: <u>ACQUAINTANCE</u></b></p> <p>MR. O. HUGH BRAESE, President, American Train Dispatchers Association, 10 East Huron Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, advised that in 1935 he served for three months on a National Mediation Board with DONOVAN. During this time he sat daily at hearings with DONOVAN, but had no contact with him outside of working hours. MR. BRAESE stated that DONOVAN impressed him as a man of excellent character, fair minded, honest and an extremely loyal and patriotic American citizen. MR. BRAESE recommended DONOVAN for employment in a position of trust.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="text-align: center;"><i>[Signature]</i></div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (2 - Bureau (AM)) 1 - Chicago (77-6320) <i>26 JUL 20 1953</i>		<div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">77-58706-28</div> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">JUN 25 1953</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em;">25</div>	

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

-----  
AIRTEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

✓ FBI, CHICAGO

DIRECTOR, FBI

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REURADIO JUNE TWENTYNINE LAST  
THREE. REURADIO REPORT SA JOSEPH W. SMITH, CO, JUNE TWENTYNINE.  
FILE FIVE.

WATSONFOLD.

DAL:unt  
77-6300

RECORDED-92

77-58706-29

Approved: [Signature]  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

72

FBI WASH FIELD

6/25/53

DIRECTOR

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, ST. WFO INVESTIGATION TO DATE HAS FAILED TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH DONOVAN SINCE NINETEEN FORTY OTHER THAN ALLEN DULLES, PRESENT CIA DIRECTOR. DULLES IN OSS DURING SAME PERIOD AS DONOVAN. BUREAU MAY DESIRE TO INTERVIEW DULLES THROUGH LIAISON CHANNELS. IDENTITY OF THOSE WHO WERE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH DONOVAN AS OBTAINED FROM DULLES, SHOULD BE FURNISHED INTERESTED OFFICES SO THAT THEY MAY BE INTERVIEWED.

HOOD

WEF:el

77-44319

RECORDED-92

77-58706-30

26 JUL 22 1953

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 22 1954

TELETYPE

WASH 14  
DIRECTOR

FROM NEW YORK  
URGENT

25 11-02 PM

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, AKA, SI. ATTN- INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SI  
SECTION. HERBERT HOOVER RECOMMENDS MOST HIGHLY. KNOWS NONE OF  
CIRCUMSTANCES CONCERNING INDICTMENTS RETURNED AGAINST REICHLIF OR  
APPOINTEE-S INTERVENTION IN AFFAIR. REPORT BEING EXPEDITED.

BOAREMAN

HLD

77-58706-31

26 JUL 22 1954

RECORDED-92

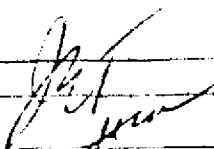
81



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT <b>ST. LOUIS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6-25-53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6-22-53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JAMES E. REILLY</b> <span style="float: right;">deb</span>
TITLE  <b>WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>SPECIAL INQUIRY</b>
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>Records FRC, GSA, SLMO indicate WILLIAM J. DONOVAN employed by Dept. of Justice, Office of the Atty. Gen. from 8-14-24 to 3-2-29 as Asst. Atty. Gen. and Asst. to the Atty. Gen. Terminated by reason of his resignation. No record located of employment with Office of Coordinator of Information. Born - none indicated.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p><b>REFERENCE:</b> WFO teletype dated 6-15-53</p> <p><b>DETAILS:</b> <u>AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:</u></p> <p>A review of the personnel records, Federal Records Center, General Services Administration, for WILLIAM J. DONOVAN indicates that he was employed on August 14, 1924 with the Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General as an Assistant Attorney General at Washington, D.C. This employment was terminated on March 23, 1925 as an Assistant Attorney General by reason of appointment as Assistant to the Attorney General. He was employed as Assistant to the Attorney General March 23, 1925 at Washington, D.C. This employment was terminated March 2, 1929 as Assistant to the Attorney General by reason of his resignation.</p> <p>(No record of civilian employment for WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN with the Office of Coordinator of Information could be located).</p> <p>The date and place of birth were shown as - no date or place indicated.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 - Bureau (AMSD)  1 - St. Louis (77-12216)  26 JUN 22 1953		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 0;">77-58706-32</p> <p style="margin: 0;">37 JUN 26 1953</p> </div> <p style="text-align: right; margin-top: 0;">RECORDED-02</p>	

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-2

8

## Office Memorandum • UNITED

GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT *AB*

FROM : V. P. Keay *VPK*

SUBJECT: WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN  
SPECIAL INQUIRY

DATE: June 26, 1953

Tolson  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Harbo  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Gearty  
Mohr  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

*John*

Reference is made to Washington Field Office teletype dated June 25, 1953, wherein it was suggested that Allen Dulles of the CIA be interviewed concerning the captioned individual. This interview was conducted by Liaison Agent Papich on June 26, 1953.

Dulles advised that he was not in possession of any derogatory information concerning the morals and character of Donovan. He stated that he was closely associated with Donovan during World War II and he found him to be a very aggressive, industrious, and capable individual. Dulles admitted that from time to time he has had differences of opinion with Donovan but as far as he was concerned, these differences certainly would not have any bearing in connection with any position the Government might have in mind for him. He emphasized that Donovan was intensely patriotic and there was no doubt in his mind concerning Donovan's absolute loyalty to the U. S. Government.

Dulles stated that it was his understanding that Donovan was being considered for the position of U. S. Ambassador to Thailand. Dulles personally feels that Donovan has the necessary background, intelligence, and ability to handle the job in a very capable manner.

With regard to individuals who have known Donovan over the years, Dulles suggested the following persons, pointing out that he was suggesting these names because he felt they would give very objective accounts concerning Donovan.

Charles Steele Cheston  
Residence: Lothian Farm, Whitemarsh, Pennsylvania  
Business Address: National Bank Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

Robert Jackson  
Supreme Court Justice, Washington, D. C.

General John McGruder, retired  
Residence: Thomas Jefferson Street (number unknown)  
Washington, D. C.

ACTION: The above information is being referred to the Special Inquiry Section of the Investigative Division.

SJP:lw

1 - Mr. Innes

JUN 27 1953

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# F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

4-42

DECODED COPY

FROM ALBANY

6-26-53

NR 251600

12:59 PM

DIRECTOR

DEFERRED

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. RE BUREAU RADIOGRAM JUNE 23  
LAST. REPORT SUBMITTED JUNE 19 LAST BY SA JAMES P.  
HENDRICK.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED:

6-26-53

1:11 PM

RECORDED-92

77-58706-34

26 JUL 22 1953

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated  
outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in  
order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

<b>REPORT MADE AT</b> WASHINGTON, D. C.	<b>DATE WHEN MADE</b> 6/26/53	<b>PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE</b> 6/16-25/53	<b>REPORT MADE BY</b> WILLIAM E. FENIMORE <span style="float: right;">cas/mfb</span>
<b>TITLE</b> WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN			<b>CHARACTER OF CASE</b> SPECIAL INQUIRY

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

DONOVAN appointed United States Attorney, Western District of New York, on 2/7/22. Appointed Assistant to the Attorney General, Washington, D.C. on 8/14/24. Charged with enforcement of Antitrust Laws. Held in high esteem by former associates who comment regarding his exceptional administrative ability, well directed energies and sound judgment. Reportedly participated in conferences concerning customs regulations between Canada and the United States in 1923. Served as United States Commissioner and Chairman, Rio Grande River Compact Commission, 1928-1929; also as United States Representative and Chairman, Colorado River Commission, 1929-30. Was "neutral" member of Arbitration Board which mediated dispute between American Train Dispatchers Association and Boston & Maine Railroad in 1935. Served as observer for Secretary of Navy KNOX in 1940-41. Was "Coordinator of Information" and Director, OSS, during 1941-1945. Military history and passport data set forth. Held 1st rank of Major General. Awarded Congressional Medal of Honor and others. No credit or arrest record. No record at Investigations Division, CSC. No unfavorable information in security files of the Central Intelligence Agency. No additional pertinent information at Security Division, Department of State.

- P -

**REFERENCE:** Bureau teletypes dated June 15, and June 23, 1953.  
 New York teletype dated June 17, 1953  
 St. Louis teletype dated June 19, and June 22, 1953.

<b>APPROVED AND FORWARDED</b> 	<b>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</b>	<b>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</b> <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">35</div>	
<b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b> 2 - Bureau 1 - Washington Field 2 (77-11319)		<div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">6/27/53</div>	

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DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

EMPLOYMENT:

United States Attorney, Western District of New York

The Thirtieth Edition of the "Register of the Department of Justice and the Courts of the United States", an official publication compiled under the direction of the Attorney General and released April 25, 1924, reflects WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was appointed United States Attorney, Western District of New York, Buffalo, on February 7, 1922.

Assistant to the Attorney General, Washington, D. C.

The Thirty-first edition of the above publication, released September 1, 1926, reflects WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was appointed Assistant to the Attorney General, Washington, D. C., on August 14, 1924. The Senate confirmed the appointment on March 18, 1925. WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was charged with the enforcement of the Anti-Trust laws. The Thirty-fourth edition of the "Register" (1929) lists JOHN LORD O'BRIEN as the Assistant to the Attorney General charged with the enforcement of Anti-Trust laws. His appointment was confirmed on June 3, 1929.

WILLIAM D. MITCHELL, whose current address is 20 Exchange Place, New York City, and CHARLES D. LAWRENCE, now Judge of the United States Customs Court, New York City, served as Solicitor General and Assistant Attorney General respectively during this period.

Miss ANNA C. DENNEAN, Department of Justice, was unable to locate any personnel files reflecting the above and was of the opinion same would have been forwarded to the Federal Records Center, St. Louis.

Judge ALEXANDER HOLTZOFF, United States District Court, District of Columbia, informed SA JAMES D. HUPPERT that he served in the Department of Justice between 1924

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and 1945. Judge HOLTZOFF recalled he was a Special Assistant to the Attorney General in 1924 when Attorney General HARLAN F. STONE brought DONOVAN into the Department. DONOVAN had been a student under STONE at Columbia University. DONOVAN was made Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Anti-Trust Division not too long after coming to the Department.

In commenting that DONOVAN was and still is a very dynamic person possessed of an abundance of well-controlled and well directed energy, Judge HOLTZOFF noted DONOVAN has a fine mind and is known as a very capable organizer. Judge HOLTZOFF related he has followed DONOVAN'S career and is of the opinion that DONOVAN is a very outstanding American citizen. There is not the slightest doubt as to DONOVAN'S loyalty or patriotism. Judge HOLTZOFF summed up his comments by stating he would highly recommend DONOVAN for any position for which the United States Government might consider him.

Mr. UGO CARUSI, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the United States, maintains his offices at No. 1025 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Suite 802. CARUSI advised SA JAMES D. HUPPERT he was with the Justice Department between 1925 and 1945. He recalled DONOVAN was with the Department between 1924 and 1929. Originally he was assigned to the Criminal Division but later was appointed Assistant Attorney General to head the Anti-Trust Division. This was under Attorney General SARGENT. CARUSI, at this time, was Attorney General SARGENT'S personal secretary, and, for this reason, he states he was in a good position to observe what type of person DONOVAN was.

CARUSI states DONOVAN impressed everyone in those days as being a "live wire". He was unusually energetic and showed remarkably good judgment in administering the affairs of his Division. He was never, to MR. CARUSI'S knowledge, swayed by the elements of personal friendships and would, in fact, "bend over backwards" to place performance of duty before any other consideration. He gained the reputation of being an extremely capable

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individual and was greatly admired by all those who knew him. Based upon his contact and knowledge of DONOVAN, Mr. CARUSI stated he recommended him wholeheartedly as a 100% American and completely suited for any position of trust in which the government might desire to use him.

Mr. CARUSI recalled that in 1929 President HERBERT HOOVER knew DONOVAN well and held him in high esteem. Mr. CARUSI believes President HOOVER strongly considered appointing DONOVAN as Attorney General in 1929.

Attorney RUSSELL HARDY, 1820 Jefferson Place, N.W., advised SA JAMES D. HUPPERT he was in the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice between 1914 and 1938. He recalled DONOVAN was first assigned to the Criminal Division when coming into the Department of Justice at Washington, D.C. in 1924, but later became Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Anti-Trust Division. HARDY noted he was DONOVAN'S immediate assistant during the last three years of DONOVAN'S stay in the Anti-Trust Division. He has had only slight business contact with DONOVAN since DONOVAN left the Department.

Mr. HARDY advised he has the highest possible opinion of DONOVAN. Describing him as a man of extraordinary ability, HARDY emphasizes that DONOVAN was the best administrator in the Anti-Trust Division during the time HARDY was employed there. DONOVAN'S executive ability was almost beyond compare and his other qualifications were on a very high level. HARDY said that DONOVAN was totally devoid of "bureaucratic jealousy" and never stood in the way of those employed under him. Neither did he try to gain credit which belonged to others. He thus developed strong loyalties and personal affection for himself among those in his Division, all of which was completely deserved.

MR. HARDY was positive there is no one more loyal to this country than DONOVAN and he said DONOVAN will distinguish himself in any position to which he might be appointed.

Attorney NORMAN J. MORRISON, 1632 K Street, N.W., advised SA JAMES D. HUPPERT he was in the Department of Justice,

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Tax Prohibition Division, between 1926 and 1934. He stated he was acquainted with DONOVAN while DONOVAN was head of the Anti-Trust Division but has had no intimate professional contact with him. MORRISSON recalled DONOVAN had been United States Attorney in Buffalo, New York, before joining the Department in Washington, D. C. and was one of the best in the country. MORRISSON stated he has never heard anything unfavorable with regard to DONOVAN'S government service and his reputation was of the highest caliber. MORRISSON stated that from his knowledge of DONOVAN'S subsequent activity, after leaving the Department, he feels DONOVAN is a very good American and is well qualified to fill a position of trust with the federal government.

United States Delegation to Customs Regulations Conference  
Between United States and Canada, 1923.

The 1952-53 edition of "Who's Who" indicates DONOVAN was a member of the United States Delegation to the Customs Regulations Conference Between United States and Canada in 1923.

ANDREY EDMUNDS, Personnel Office, Bureau of Customs, was unable to locate any specific official record of these conferences. She noted there is no index to their files for the 1902-38 period and any information concerning the conferences would be filed in the general activity files. Miss EDMUNDS made appropriate inquiry among others in the Bureau without locating anyone who recalled the conferences.

JOSEPH O'DONNELL, a File Searcher in the Bureau of Customs, Section of National Archives, was also unable to locate any records.

The "Annual Report of the Secretary of Treasury" for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, has one section devoted to "Customs Relations with Canada", under the caption "Customs Service". A pertinent reference reads "Conferences held between officers of the Department and Canadian customs authorities during the year resulted in mutual benefit and the general facilitation of the customs business between the two countries".



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United States Commissioner and Chairman, Rio Grande River  
Compact Commission.

In the late 1920's, according to the official records now maintained at National Archives, the States of Colorado, New Mexico and Texas resolved to conclude a compact which would remove all causes of controversy among these states and between citizens of one and citizens of another over the use of Rio Grande waters above Fort Quitman, Texas. To this end the respective governors named commissioners; DELPH E. CARPENTER (Colorado), FRANCIS C. WILSON (New Mexico), and T. H. MCGREGOR (Texas). On December 5, 1928, WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was appointed by President CALVIN COOLIDGE to act as Commissioner representing the United States in the matter. He journeyed to Santa Fe, New Mexico, and on December 19, 1928, at the original three day meeting, was elected Chairman of the Commission. The Commission reconvened on January 22, 1929, and subsequently reached an agreement which was signed as a compact on February 12, 1929.

United States Representative and Chairman, Colorado River  
Commission

Again, according to official records maintained at National Archives, DONOVAN was appointed United States Representative by President COOLIDGE on February 7, 1929, and was to participate in negotiations contemplated between the States of Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming under an Act of Congress known as the "Boulder Canyon Project Act" approved December 21, 1928.

Footnotes appearing in House Document #717, a publication of the 80th Congress, 2nd Session, entitled "The Hoover Dam Documents" by RAY LYMAN WILBUR and NORTHCUTT ELY, 1948, disclose a formal conference was held at Santa Fe, New Mexico, February 14 - March 5, 1929, between the representatives of the "lower-basin" states.

Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, as representative of the Federal Government, presided. Representatives of the "upper-basin" states were attached as observers. During the period, April-July 1929, informal conferences between

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California and Arizona were held at Los Angeles. Representatives of Arizona, California, Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming met on August 28, 1929, at Salt Lake City with primary reference to power matters.

On January 21, 1930, the "lower basin" commissioners resumed formal conferences at Reno, Nevada, under the Chairmanship of DONOVAN. At the suggestion of the Secretary of the Interior, advisors were added by each State; Senator CARL HAYDEN for Arizona, Senator PITTMAN and THOMAS COLE for Nevada, and W. J. CARR for California. Having recessed at Reno, the Commission met at Phoenix, February 6-9, 1930, but failed to reach an agreement.

Reference to a report of WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, Federal Representative in tri-State negotiations, to Secretary of the Interior WILBUR dated February 14, 1930, is made in one footnote but appropriate searches by Bureau of Reclamation Chief File Room Clerk, HUGO DUNN, Department of Interior Chief File Room Clerk, MERLE OWENS, National Archive searchers, CHARLES E. DEWING and JULIA CARROLL, and Department of State file searchers, CHARLES PATTERSON and ALICE COLLINS, failed to locate this report.

It is noted the Colorado River Compact became an actuality in November 1922 and the "Boulder Canyon Project Act" was an outgrowth of it.

GUY W. NUMBERS, head of the Personnel Section, Department of Interior, was unable to locate any record of DONOVAN having been a Department employee.

T. W. MERMEL, Assistant to Commissioner - Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, made available House Document #717 referred to above. He could add no further pertinent information.

#### National Mediation Board

The "Second Annual Report of the National Mediation Board for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1936" reflects arbitration hearings began August 12, 1935, in the dispute between the American Train Dispatchers' Association and the Boston and Maine Railroad over the question "Shall train directors handle centralized traffic control system from AR tower or shall such system be handled by train dispatchers?".

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Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, New York attorney, was the "central member" of the Board which was also made up of S. E. MILLER, Assistant General Manager, Boston and Maine Railroad, and O. H. DRAESE, Vice-President, American Train Dispatchers' Association. The arbitration board decided the centralized traffic control system from the AR tower would be handled by the train dispatchers. The award was made on November 19, 1935, and was filed in the Office of the Clerk United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

EUGENE C. THOMPSON, Secretary, National Mediation Board, was unable to furnish further pertinent information.

Unofficial Observer for Secretary of the Navy, Great Britain, July - August 1940; South East Europe, December 1940 - March 1941.

The 1952-53 edition of "Who's Who" indicates DONOVAN was an unofficial observer for the Secretary of the Navy in Great Britain during July and August 1940, and in south east Europe, December 1940 - March 1941.

Mr. J. S. DAVITT, Administrative Officer, Administrative Office of the Navy Department, advised SA DESMOND J. BRIDGES he was unable to locate any record of this among Naval files. Mr. DAVITT also made appropriate inquiry among officials of the Department of Navy without locating anyone who specifically recalled or was closely associated with DONOVAN during this period.

Files of the Department of State contain a telegram dated July 11, 1940, directed by the Department of State to the Ambassador at London informing him that Colonel KNOX (then Secretary of the Navy) desired to send Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN to England for a brief survey and report on certain aspects of the British defense situation. DONOVAN intended to depart New York via clipper on July 14, and was to report to the Ambassador upon arrival in London.

Department of State files also contain a telegram dated November 30, 1940, directed by the Department to the American Legation at Lisbon, Portugal, informing the Legation

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Secretary of the Navy KNOX had arranged for Colonel DONOVAN to make an observation trip through the Mediterranean and North Africa. DONOVAN was to fly to Lisbon at an early date and was to be met there by a British officer, Commodore SLESSER. Thereafter, he was to be flown to Gibraltar and Malta and as far east as Alexandria and Cairo. Upon his return journey Colonel DONOVAN was to travel by commercial or such other transportation available as a representative of the "Chicago Daily News" and was to visit North and West African ports as far south as Dakar.

Files of the Special Investigations Squad Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., contain a notation that the "Washington Daily News" carried a series of articles in August 1940 on "Nazi Germany Fifth Column Activities in England". The authors of this series were Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN and EDGAR ANSEL MOWRER, veteran foreign correspondent. The articles reported Colonel DONOVAN had gone to London at the request of Secretary of the Navy, FRANK KNOX, for the purpose of developing information regarding fifth column activities.

In a foreward to this series, Secretary KNOX wrote: "These two men, on the behalf of the United States, made the most thoroughgoing survey of German fifth column methods used in weakening resistance of possible enemies and undermining the morale of countries they proposed to attack. The results ... are designed to make Americans fully conscious of methods used by totalitarian powers, so that if or when such methods are used here they will instantly be recognized for what they are and their effect nullified."

No other pertinent information was located in these Special Investigations Squad files by SA DESMOND J. BRIDGES.

#### Coordinator of Information

According to the "United States Government Organizational Manual, 1952-53", referred to previously, the Coordinator of Information was established by Presidential order dated July 11, 1941, to collect, analyze and correlate

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information and data bearing on national security. This data was to be made available to the President and such other officials as determined by him. Related supplementary activities were also to be performed. Exclusive of foreign information activities, the unit was transferred by military order of June 13, 1942, to the jurisdiction of the Joint United States Chiefs of Staff and designated the Office of Strategic Services.

#### Office of Strategic Services

Subsequent to its redesignation, the functions of Office of Strategic Services were modified by Executive Order 9312, March 9, 1943, so that the agency was responsible for the collection and analysis of such strategic information as required by the Joint Chiefs of Staff for military operations and planning. The agency was also responsible for conducting special operations not assigned other government agencies. Executive Order 9621 of September 20, 1945, provided for the termination of the Office of Strategic Services effective October 1, 1945, and for the distribution of its functions to the Department of State and the War Department.

Contact officer [redacted] Central Intelligence Agency, advised SA ROBERT J. MCKENNA that Central Intelligence Agency personnel records reflect DONOVAN was appointed Coordinator of Information by President ROOSEVELT on July 7, 1941. On April 2, 1943, while Director of Office of Strategic Services, he was officially recalled to active duty in the Army as a Colonel. On October 1, 1945, he was relieved as Director of Office of Strategic Services. At that time he held the rank of Major General. [redacted] stated nothing of an unfavorable nature was contained in the file. b-3

[redacted] further stated he was unable to advise the identity of anyone who might have been closely associated with DONOVAN during this period other than ALLEN DULLES, present Central Intelligence Agency Director.

#### Military Service

In reviewing that portion of DONOVAN'S military file which is located at the Pentagon, SE JOHN J. LANDERS noted a "Statement of Service" certified by the Adjutant.

Army  
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General on July 15, 1913, which reflects DONOVAN served as an enlisted man in the New York National Guard between October 1911 and October 16, 1912. He attained the rank of Sergeant. On October 17, 1912, he was commissioned a Captain in the New York National Guard and subsequently mustered into Federal Service at Governors Island, New York, on July 19, 1916, for duty on the Mexican border.

A brief resume of DONOVAN'S career, drawn up in November 1926, in connection with his position as Assistant Attorney General, reflects he was a Captain in Troop I, First Cavalry, New York National Guard, when mustered into Federal service. After the mustering he commanded the Third Squadron at McAllen, Texas, until October 15, 1916, when he became Judge Advocate. He commanded Troop I until mustered out of Federal Service at Buffalo, New York, on March 15, 1917.

DONOVAN again reported for duty on July 15, 1917. He held the rank of Major and was Adjutant of the 21st Infantry Brigade, 6th Division, New York National Guard. In August 1917, he was assigned to the 69th New York Infantry. This unit later became the 165th Infantry, 42nd Division. At Camp Miller DONOVAN was placed in command of the 1st Battalion as the unit prepared for foreign service and departure from the United States.

Commanding his 1st Battalion, DONOVAN entered the front lines in February 1918, serving in defense of the Lunéville sector (Lorraine); Baccarat sector (Lorraine); Esperance Sovain sector (Champagne); Champagne Marne Defensive; Aisne Marne Offensive; St. Mihiel Offensive; Essey - Pannes sector (Lorraine); and Meuse Argonne sector until severely wounded on October 15, 1918, and vacated to a hospital. DONOVAN had also been wounded on July 29, 1918, but was not treated in a hospital until late August 1918.

DONOVAN was subsequently promoted to Colonel, Infantry, on March 9, 1919, and placed in command of a regiment stationed with the American Expeditionary Forces, Germany. He served as Inspector and instructor in the Provost Marshal General's Department, Paris; returned to the United States on April 21, 1919, and was demobilized at Hoboken, New Jersey on May 14, 1919.

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ARMY

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DONOVAN was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty near Landres and St. George, France, October 14-15, 1918.

For extraordinary heroism in action, July 28-31, 1918, DONOVAN was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. "He led his Battalion across the River Ourcq and captured important enemy strongholds near Villers-sur Fere, France, on July 28-31, 1918. In advance of his Division for four days under shell and machine gun fire from the enemy who were on three sides of him, he repeatedly and persistently counter-attacked and was wounded twice. His coolness, courage and efficient leadership rendered possible the maintenance of the position."

The Distinguished Service Medal was awarded DONOVAN for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service. As Battalion Commander, 165th Infantry during operations in the Baccarat sector, July 28-31, 1918, he demonstrated high professional attainments and marked ability. He displayed conspicuous energy and efficient leadership in advance of his Battalion across the OURCQ River. In October 1918, as a Lieutenant Colonel he commanded the same regiment with marked success in the Meuse - Argonne Offensive. From January 1, 1919, to March 3, 1919, as Inspector - Instructor, Provost Marshal General's Department, he rendered service of great value to the A.E.F.

The brief prepared notes DONOVAN is the only member of the Army awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Medal and Distinguished Service Cross - the Nation's three highest awards - for service performed during World War I.

DONOVAN accepted appointment as a Colonel, Infantry, Officers Reserve Corps on May 14, 1921, according to official records and was transferred to Cavalry, ORC, on February 4, 1922.

Official records further reflect DONOVAN, Army Serial Number O-102 383, became a Brigadier General on March 24, 1943, and was recalled to active duty on April 24, 1943, as Director, Office of Strategic Services. On December 7, 1944, he was promoted to Major General, the rank he held upon his

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release from active duty.

DONOVAN is now carried on the Army rolls as a Major General, Honorary Reserve.

DONOVAN, according to the military records, has been awarded:

Medal of Honor  
Distinguished Service Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster  
Distinguished Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster  
Order of Crown - Italy  
Italian War Cross.  
Knight Commander, Order of J.K.B.E. - Britain  
Legion of Honor, Degree of Commander - France  
Grand Officer, Order of Leopold with Palm - Belgium  
Croix de Guerre, 1940 with Palm  
French Croix de Guerre with Star (W.W.I)  
French Croix de Guerre with Palm (W.W.I)  
Purple Heart with one Oak Leaf Cluster  
Grand Cross - Crown of Italy  
Commander Cross with Star, J. J. Royal Order of  
Saint Olav - Norway  
Special Collar Order Yun Hui - China  
Czechoslovak War Cross

No further pertinent information was noted by SE JOHN J. LANDERS.

Passport Data

In reviewing appropriate records at the Passport Office, Department of State, SA JAMES D. HUPPERT noted numerous passports have been issued DONOVAN. Pertinent data regarding that is set forth below.



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PASSPORT NUMBER	DATE ISSUED	PURPOSE	COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED
Special 3060	May 9, 1928	Official business, Department of Justice	France, Holland, and Germany
204011	April 19, 1930	(Not specified)	Europe
204011 (renewed)	June 28, 1932	Travel	Europe
128942	June 26, 1934	Business	England, France, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland
128942 (renewed)	April 20, 1937	(Not specified)	(Not specified)
543075	May 31, 1938	Business	England, France, Germany, Italy. (Also valid for Spain)
Special 8190 (Lost or stolen in Sofia Bulgaria, January 22, 1941)	July 11, 1940	Official business (United States) Navy	Portugal, Spain, France and England. Later validated for additional countries.
Substitute for above issued at American Consulate, Belgrade - Special No. 227	January 24, 1941	Official business (United States) Navy	Portugal, Spain, France and England. Later validated for additional countries.
Special 16357	June 8, 1942	Official business, Office of the Coordinator of Information. (Director, Office of Strategic Services)	British Isles
Above renewed. Renewal Series No. 1684	December 8, 1942	-----	-----

PASSPORT

WFO (77-44519)  
WFF:mfb

PASSPORT NUMBER	DATE ISSUED	PURPOSE	COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED
Above renewed, Renewal Series No. 1018	June 15, 1943	-----	-----
Above renewed	March 30, 1944	-----	-----
Diplomatic No. 526	June 22, 1945	As Associate Chief of Counsel for Prosecution of War Crimes and as Di- rector, Office of Strategic Services	Various European and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
New York Series No. 5132	October 16, 1946	Legal Business	England and France
(The above passport was accompanied by a military permit #17636, issued by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It granted DONOVAN permission to enter the United States Zone of Germany and Austria for the purpose of visiting General CLAY. Issued June 10, 1947, it expired August 10, 1947.)			
New York Series No. 5132 - renewal Series No. 393	September 3, 1946	Legal Business	Europe
Above passport ex- tended to expire October 15, 1950	May 18, 1950	(Not specified)	(Not specified)
322968	July 10, 1950	Business and pleasure	England, France, Germany, Belgium and Italy.
Above renewed - re- newal Series No. 24166. Expires July 9, 1954	May 14, 1953 MAY 14, 1952	Business	France and England.

PASSPORT

PASSPORT advised  
by letter dated 6-4-50  
above date should be  
5-14-52 rather than  
5-14-53

WFO 77-44319  
JEF:CAS

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

SE JAMES A. ROBERTS determined there is no record of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN in the files of the Washington, D.C. Credit Bureau.

No arrest record of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN was located in the files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C., by SE EDWARD J. EIDEN.

SE WALTER JAMES TOLSON determined there is no record of DONOVAN in the files of the United States Park Police, Washington, D.C.

MISCELLANEOUS

At the Investigations Division, Civil Service Commission, SA FRANK P. HOLMAN was advised there is no record of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN in their indices.

Contact Officer [REDACTED] advised SA ROBERT J. McKENNA 6-3  
there is no derogatory information concerning WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN in the Security Files, Central Intelligence Agency.

SE HILBERT ARPS determined there is no additional pertinent information in the files of the Security Division, Department of State.

The 1952-1953 edition of "Who's Who in America" reflects DONOVAN was married to RUTH RIMSEY on July 14, 1944. Two children, DAVID RIMSEY DONOVAN and PATRICIA DONOVAN (now deceased) were born to this union.

WFO 77-44319  
JEF: CAS

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

LEADS

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.:

Will report results of the House Committee on  
Un-American Activities agency check.

Will report results of ONI check.

Will report result of file reviews, principally  
HCUA, based upon New York teletype dated June 18,  
1953.

Will contact EDGAR ANSEL MOWRER, 3301 Garfield  
Street, N. W., if he is in this country at this  
time for the purpose of determining nature of  
DONOVAN's mission for Secretary of the Navy  
KNOX, now deceased, in 1940-41, and any comment  
he may have regarding DONOVAN.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIRTEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI, ST. LOUIS

6-30-53

HMA:mbs

DIRECTOR, FBI

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBU RADIOGRAM DATED JUNE TWENTYTHREE, LAST.

RUC REPORT OF SA JAMES E. REILLY SUBMITTED JUNE TWENTYFIVE, LAST.

RUC.

THORNTON

END

77-12216

AIR-TEL

RECORDED 92

77-58706-36

20 JUL 22 1953

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

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

JUN 30 1953

TELETYPE

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK XX 15

30

11-16P

DIRECTOR

....U R G E N T....

ATTENTION - INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION.

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, AKA, SI. THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO DESIRE  
THEIR IDENTITIES KEPT CONFIDENTIAL FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING  
INFORMATION. [REDACTED] b7d

ADVISED HIS EXPERIENCES WITH APPOINTEE HAVE NEVER BEEN FAVORABLE.  
APPOINTEE HAS ALWAYS BEEN QUOTE SOFT AND MUSHY UNQUOTE IN HIS  
TREATMENT OF COMMUNISTS AND COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF ORGANIZATIONS  
UNDER HIS CONTROL. [REDACTED] STATED THAT APPOINTEE WOULD NEVER TAKE A  
FIRM STAND AGAINST COMMUNISTS IN GOVERNMENT, UNIONS, OR THE UN.  
HE CONSIDERS APPOINTEE AN QUOTE ANTI ANTI COMMUNIST UNQUOTE.

[REDACTED] STATED THAT HIS COMMENTS WERE NOT BASED ON SPECIFIC INCIDENTS  
BUT ON GENERAL IMPRESSION AND OBSERVATION. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] STATED THAT HE MADE INQUIRY RE APPOINTEE FOR OWN USE.  
APPOINTEE-S LAW FIRM REPRESENTS A PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRM, ALLIED  
SYNDICATE, WHOSE CLIENTS ARE FRANK COSTELLO, JOHN L. LEWIS, AND  
LAUCHLIN CURRIE. THE APPOINTEE WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE HEADED A RECENT  
END PAGE ONE

77-58706-37

JUL 22 1953

RECORDED-92

103

PAGE TWO

COMMITTEE WHICH WAS TO ASK PRESIDENT EISENHOWER TO OUST SENATOR  
MC CARTHY. THE APPOINTEE-S LAW FIRM ALSO WAS ALLEGED TO REPRESENT  
THE CHINESE GENERALS WHO ABSCOUNDED WITH MILLIONS OF NATIONALIST  
CHINA-S FUNDS. [REDACTED] b7D  
CONSIDERS APPOINTEE A QUOTE BUBBLEHEAD  
UNQUOTE, WHO NEVER GOT TOUGH WITH COMMUNISTS IN OSS. BOTH INDIVIDUALS  
WOULD NOT RECOMMEND. REPORT WILL FOLLOW.

BOARDMAN

HOLD

104

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

JUN 30 1953

TELETYPE

NEW YORK 10 FROM WASH DC 30 7-00 PM

SAC URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. ADVISE DATE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT  
SUBMITTED AND IDENTITY OF REPORTING AGENT.

HOOVER

WFO ADVISED

END

WA R 10 NY TM

TU DISC



This reference is a letter dated 5/13/40, Dallas, Texas, signed, "A Disgruntled Stockholder". This letter stated that the innocent stockholder could do nothing about it when the federal government knew what was going on and did not take adequate steps to correct the condition. This letter continued that the amount of money paid William J. Donovan and Irving Trust Company totaled more than one million dollars. Enclosed with this letter was a document pertaining to the amount of fees paid to the receiver and trustee, together with other interested parties in the Radio - Keith - Orpheum Corporation Bankrupt Case.

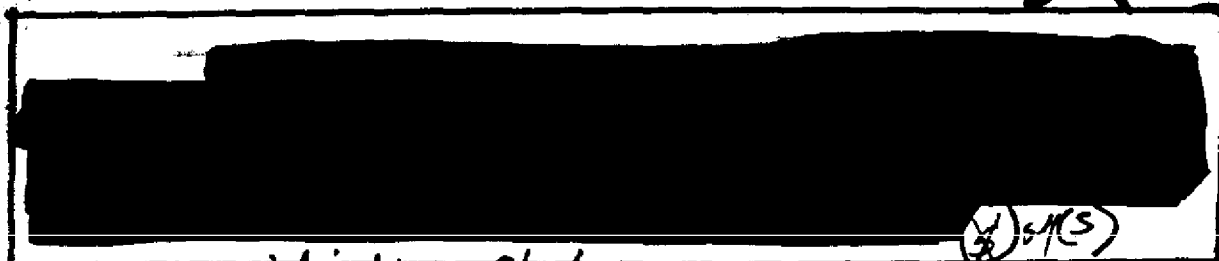
62-108-3075  
(76)

On 6/13/40 [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] NYC, allowed a Bureau Agent to examine the credit file of Topkin and Farley entitled, "Transfers from German Estates to American Beneficiaries." On 3/25/33 of the above credit file under the heading "Donovan, Leisure, Newton and Lombard", it was stated that both Mr. Topkin and Mr. Farley were introduced to the German consulate by Col. Donovan. Col. Donovan was identified as Col. William J. Donovan, former Assistant Attorney General under former Attorney General John Sargent, with law offices at 2 Wall St., NYC.

NY Rpt., 6/18/40  
Re: German Funds;  
Miscellaneous, Information concerning  
65-7267-155 pg. 16  
(94)  
SI 65-7267-168  
(94)

~~TOP SECRET~~



*classified  
per CIA ltr 7/15/82  
SP4 elw/ahr  
10-28-83*

Memo from Mr. Hoover  
dated 8/6/40  
No caption given  
64-5004-X2  
(112)✓

This reference is a letter dated 8/8/40 from William J. Donovan, 2 Wall St., NYC, enclosing a letter which he had received from Dr. Gerhardt Alois Westrick, Waldorf - Astoria Hotel, NYC, concerning pro-German allegations which had been made against Dr. Westrick. Letter of acknowledgment sent to Col. Donovan 8/22/40.

65-10325-76X  
(96)✓

On 8/13/40 the Publication Section Mailing List contained a change of address for Col. William J. Donovan from 41 Broad St., NYC, to 2 Wall St., NYC.

Memo for Mr. Renneberger  
8/13/40  
No caption given  
94-6-5953  
(94)✓

~~TOP SECRET~~

On 8/19/40 Mr. James Allen of the Department of Justice called regarding a series of five articles prepared by Col. William J. Donovan at the request of Secretary of War Knox which were to appear in the Washington "News" concerning Fifth Column activities. Mr. Allen felt that a sixth article should be written to explain the part the Department of Justice took in combating Fifth Column activities.

Memo to Director from  
Mr. Tamm, 8/19/40  
No caption given  
94-8-64-31  
(93)

The Washington "Daily News" for 8/29/40 carried an article entitled "Fifth Column Dangers Traitor's Vital Factor in Many Nazi Victories" which was the second of four articles made public by Navy Secretary Knox as part of the National Defense program. Col. William J. Donovan having just returned from a mission abroad, on behalf of Secretary Knox, wrote these articles in collaboration with Edgar Mowrer, foreign correspondent.

61-7560-A  
(87)