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# Press Agent Hoax in Brazil Makes Hero of Wrong Actor

By David Platt

Hollywood press agents in Brazil are circulating fantastic stories down there that Gary Cooper, the Hollywood actor, is "espousing the people's cause against the merchants of war and destruction... defending our common ideals of peace, progress and civilization, the ideals for which Roosevelt and Stalin marched together."



Fantastic is hardly the word for it. Cooper has voted the Republican ticket for years and his name has frequently been linked with undemocratic causes. If he is "espousing" the people's cause, it is news to us. It's like hearing all of a sudden that Robert Taylor, president of the anti-labor Motion Picture Alliance, has joined the movement for a Third Party, or that Cecil B. DeMille, the union-buster, has come out against the Taft-Hartley Bill, or that Walt Disney is making a pro-Negro cartoon.

### TRAGIC JOKE

Gary Cooper—the Simon Bolivar of America—it would be the supreme joke if it were not so tragic.

I can think of only one reason why Hollywood's dollar diplomats south of the border should want to circulate these tall tales about the "strong, silent, lanky" actor who moves in the most exclusive social strata. Of course it is to boost his box-office appeal among people who are deeply concerned with the growth of fascist thinking in the Anglo-American circles since the death of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

That many sincere anti-fascists in the southern hemisphere are being victimized by these scoundrels of the cash register, is shown by the following letter addressed to Gary Cooper and signed by several hundred "workers, intellectuals, students, newspapermen, artists and housewives" of Sao Paulo,

Brazil. (The signatures take up seven legal-size pages). The letter is dated July 13, 1947. It begins "Dear Gary Cooper:

"We want to communicate to you our satisfaction with your participation in the Philadelphia meeting before 30,000 persons, defending our common ideals of peace, progress and civilization, the ideals for which Roosevelt and Stalin marched together.

"In this moment, when weaslings and reactionaries make the most vicious provocations, even pushing back the things they had admired in the past, it is with joy that we see you, Gary Cooper, go further than the remarkable Katharine Hepburn, who gave us enthusiasm with her speech at the Henry Wallace meeting in Hollywood. It is with deep contentment that we see one of the great stars of the U. S. movie, as you are, espouse so bravely the people's cause against the merchants of war and destruction.

"We—workers, intellectuals, students, newspapermen, artists, housewives—want to bring to you in this letter our confidence that you and your comrades in Hollywood, as in the whole country, will know how to carry on the fight to see that the screen does not become entirely a servile instrument of warmongers and monopolists, and will help lead the people further and further until complete victory over Wall Street reaction and all exploiters of mankind is achieved."

### A CHEAP TRICK

The men and women who signed the letter to Gary Cooper should know that they have been tricked. Gary Cooper has never spoken before any progressive group in

Philadelphia or anywhere else. Katharine Hepburn did make a brilliant speech against thought control and red-baiting at the Wallace meeting in Los Angeles. If Cooper had made any speeches, which I doubt, they would most likely be attacks on the things that Hepburn stands for.

Dear friends in Sao Paulo, Brazil

there are many Hollywood stars besides Hepburn who speak up for the ideals and policies for which Franklin Roosevelt is revered throughout the world today. Gary Cooper is not among them. He is not on your side. He never was. Your very fine letter is wasted on

him. This was merely a cheap trick to get you to see his films—to take your money, under false pretenses.

But let not this deceitful stunt of unscrupulous press agents in your country discourage you from continuing to express your feelings about the things that please you and disturb you. For Hollywood movie stars or to anyone else in North America. Only hereafter, instead of writing to a "Roosevelt hater" like Gary Cooper, please please speak your mind to such forward-looking democrats as Charles Chaplin, Bette Davis, Edward G. Robinson, Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Olivia de Havilland, Selena Royle, Katharine Hepburn, Fredric March,

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This is a clipping from page 11 of the DAILY WORKER.

Date 8-10-47

Clipped at the Seat of Government.

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SEP 2

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: August 21, 1947

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: EUGENE JOSEPH KELLY,  
aka Gene Kelly

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

SUMMARY

There is attached a summary of the information appearing in the Bureau's files concerning Eugene Joseph Kelly. This is one of several summaries which have been prepared or are currently being prepared for your information in connection with the inquiry to be reinitiated in September by the House Committee on Un-American Activities relative to the Communist infiltration of the moving picture industry.

It should be specifically noted that our sources are listed in this memorandum and consequently it should not go out of the Bureau in its present form.

JPC:EW

Attachment

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August 23, 1947

HERBIE JOSEPH KELLY  
Also known as  
GENE KELLY

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60291 BEE/MAJ/hjg  
ON 1-14-09  
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I. BACKGROUND

The following information concerning the background of Gene Kelly, the motion picture actor, was obtained from the 1945 volume of "Current Biography":

Kelly, whose occupation was listed as dancer, actor and choreographer, was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on August 23, 1912, under the name Eugene Joseph Kelly. He was one of five children of Catholic parents. His Canadian born father, James Patrick Kelly, was an executive with the Columbia Gramophone Company. His mother, Harriet Kelly, had been an actress. (u)

Gene Kelly entered Pennsylvania State College after his graduation from high school. He left this college because of financial reasons and after a year at work resumed his education at the University of Pittsburgh where he majored in journalism. Kelly was said to have worked his way through college taking such jobs as ditch digger, concrete mixer and carpenter's helper. His parents had sent him to dancing school and he continued to practice dancing while attending school. Kelly was graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1933. As a result of his ability as a dancer he opened the Gene Kelly Studios of the Danco. (u)

In 1936 Kelly went to New York City and took part in several productions on Broadway as a dancer and actor. In 1941 Kelly became Dance Director for Billy Rose's Marmalade Horoscopes in New York City. There he met Betty Blair, a young chorus girl, to whom he was married on September 22, 1941. Also in 1941 Kelly was signed to take part in Hollywood motion pictures by David O. Selznick. Selznick in turn sold Kelly's contract to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios, Culver City, California. Kelly made his motion picture debut in 1942 and continued to work in pictures until November, 1944, when he entered the Navy. He became a Lieutenant, Junior Grade, and in the end of 1945 was stationed in Washington, D. C., in the Naval Photographic Science Laboratory. Kelly was reported to be interested in politics and government and "in his concern for economic security for all, tolerance, and racial understanding, Gene Kelly believes that the actor should play his part as a citizen as well as a performer." (Current Biography 1945, pgs 317, 318 & 319) (u)

Kelly's residential address has been reported to be 536 North Alta Drive, Beverly Hills, California, telephone CRestview 5-1720. (u)  
(100-337793-25; 100-3393-17-2)

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

AGJ:rb

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Active paid informant [redacted] of the Los Angeles Office advised in April, 1947, that M.G.M. Studios had announced that Gene Kelly would soon be made a director for that firm. (100-138754-154, p. 3)

(u) (u)

## II. AFFILIATION WITH COMMUNIST FRONT AND ALLEGED COMMUNIST INFILTRATED ORGANIZATIONS

### Artists' Front to Win the War

The House of Representatives Committee on Un-American Activities for the 78th Congress lists the name of Gene Kelly as a sponsor for the organization known as Artists' Front to Win the War. The House Committee report stated that the Artists' Front to Win the War was a Communist front organization formed in New York City on October 16, 1942. It reportedly included representatives of the theater, literature, science and education who have long and active records in Communist front organizations, such as Canada Lee and Paul Robeson, Negro actors (u) (61-7582-1293 (pg. 574, 576))

A report submitted by Military Intelligence dated January 10, 1947, also states that Gene Kelly had been a sponsor of the Artists' Front to Win the War. (100-7660-4252, pg. 4)

### Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee

A highly confidential and delicate source advised Agents of the Los Angeles Office on April 29, 1945, that it had access to certain personal papers of Laslo Benedek, who is a member of the Executive Committee of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and known to associate with various Communists in the Los Angeles Hollywood area. Among the above-mentioned papers was reportedly a folder labeled "Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee." This folder contained records which in turn were captioned "Monthly Pledges for Committee," which apparently had reference to the JAFRC. The name "Kelly" and the sum of \$10 were indicated on these records, which appeared to be the amount pledged by Kelly to be contributed monthly to the JAFRC. It is believed that the Kelly listed in these records is probably Gene Kelly in view of the fact that the above-mentioned source also made available a copy of a letter dated May 9, 1944, directed to Mr. Gene Kelly, 506 North Alta Drive, Beverly Hills, California, from L. Benedek. This letter was a reminder to Kelly of his pledge to the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. The same source advised that Gene Kelly's name and telephone number CE-5-1720 appeared in Laslo Benedek's address book. It is interesting to note that Benedek is employed by M.G.M. Studios as an Assistant Producer. (100-339317-2; -5)

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The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, it should be noted, is under the influence of individuals known to be in close association with functionaries of the Communist Party. The activities of the JAFRC have been promulgated by the Communist Party and supported by the Communist press. (u)

### Musicians' Congress

The "People's World" newspaper for May 22, 1944, contained an advertisement announcing a symposium entitled "Culture and Democracy" to be sponsored by the Musicians' Congress on May 24 at the Women's Club of Hollywood. Among the speakers listed appeared the name Gene Kelly. (u)

Informants have advised that the Musicians' Congress was instigated by members of the Communist Party and was completely controlled by the Communists. The alleged purpose of this organization as announced in the "People's World" newspaper was to mobilize music and musicians in the war against Fascism, to improve the musician's function in society, and to discuss and act upon the common problems of musicians. (u) (100-343688-1)

### Hollywood Democratic Committee

Reliable active paid informant [redacted] of the Los Angeles Office advised that an election of officers of the Hollywood Democratic Committee took place on July 26, 1944, and that Gene Kelly was elected Vice Chairman. The informant stated that Kelly is considered an ardent follower of the Communist Party line. (100-344437-4; 61-7582-1298) (u) (u)

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The House of Representatives Committee on Un-American Activities in its report on the Hollywood Democratic Committee set out a copy of the ballot used in the HDC election of July 26, 1944. Gene Kelly's name appeared on this ballot as one of the individuals running for the office of Vice Chairman and as one of the individuals running for a position on the Executive Board of the HDC. The House Committee report points out that the Hollywood Democratic Committee disclaims any direct affiliation with the Democratic Party. The report further indicates that the HDC is a Communist front organization which has members of the Communist Party on its Executive Committee. (u) (100-344437-4; 61-7582-1298)

The "People's World" newspaper for July 29, 1944, sets out the results of the Hollywood Democratic Committee's elections and states that Gene Kelly had been elected as one of the "Vice Presidents." A similar announcement concerning Kelly's election was contained in the Daily Worker newspaper for August 7, 1944. (u) ("People's World," July 29, 1944)

It should be noted that in June, 1945, the Hollywood Democratic Committee changed its name to the Hollywood Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions and merged with the national organization known as the Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. The latter organization had its headquarters in New York City. Gene Kelly's affiliation with the ICCASP is set out below in this memorandum. (u)

(100-197270-21)

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Young Voters for Roosevelt Committee

A technical surveillance on the American Youth for Democracy offices in Los Angeles, California, reflected on July 27, 1944, that Elaine Rose, Field Secretary of the Los Angeles County American Youth for Democracy, stated that Gene Kelly was one of the persons who had been obtained to serve in an organization known as the Young Voters for Roosevelt Committee. Rose further stated that the individuals who started the YVFRG were Howard Fast, Norman Corwin and Canada Lee. Howard Fast is an author who has written articles for the Daily Worker and for New Masses, both of which are Communist publications. Norman Corwin is a newspaper reporter and feature writer who has been connected with many Communist front organizations and has associated with known Communists. Canada Lee, the Negro actor, is known to be a member of the Communist Party. Elaine Rose further stated, according to the above source of information, that Fast, Corwin and Lee had asked the American Youth for Democracy to help them in organizing the Young Voters for Roosevelt Committee. (u) (S) 61-777-26-81; 64-319-83-5; 100-327116-9)

National Council for American Soviet Friendship

The Daily Worker for November 21, 1944, reported that Gene Kelly was one of a group of screen stars who had wired greetings to the National Council for American Soviet Friendship meeting at Madison Square Garden, New York City, held on November 16, 1944. The purpose of this meeting was to commemorate the eleventh anniversary of resumption of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Soviet Union. (u)

It should be noted that the NCASF is an organization engaged in activities that propagate the Soviet cause in the United States. The national leaders of the NCASF are known to be in close contact with Soviet diplomatic officials and with national functionaries of the Communist Party, USA. (u) (100-146964-572, pg. 64)

National Citizens' Political Action Committee

The Los Angeles Office obtained an undated circular issued by the National Citizens' Political Action Committee, which circular was believed to have been issued about July, 1945, by the Los Angeles Office of the NCPAC. This circular set out the names of individuals serving on the National Executive Board, the Los Angeles Executive Board, as well as the names of Los Angeles charter members of the NCPAC. The names of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Kelly appeared on the list of Los Angeles charter members. (u) (100-33049-26-34, pgs. 14 & 15)

It should be noted that the NCPAC was an organization which was infiltrated by Communists and Communist sympathizers. The policies of the NCPAC parallel the Communist Party line in many instances. The NCPAC subsequently merged into an organization known as the Progressive Citizens of America. Gene Kelly's affiliation with the last mentioned organization is set out below in this memorandum. (u)

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American Youth for Democracy

A technical surveillance on the offices of the American Youth for Democracy in Los Angeles revealed that on June 2, 1944, Elaine Mendelsohn Rose, a member of the Communist Party and a Field Representative for the Los Angeles County, American Youth for Democracy, contacted Gene Kelly, the movie star, for the purpose of soliciting Kelly's help in obtaining movie starlets to help the AYD's "Sweethearts of Servicemen" program. Rosa said that she had contacted Kelly at the suggestion of John Garfield, the motion picture actor, who is known to be active in many Communist front organizations. (u) (u) (100-237862-10, pg. 3)

The Daily Worker newspaper for December 11, 1945, reported that "Lt. Gene Kelly" would take part in the "Welcome home, Joe" dinner arranged by the American Youth for Democracy on the occasion of that organization's second anniversary. The dinner was to be held at the Hotel Roosevelt in New York City on December 12, 1945. The article further stated that Kelly was to present an award to Jane Froman for the latter's courage and inspiration to wounded soldiers. Jane Froman is a singer and is physically crippled. (u) (61-777-A)

The Military Intelligence Service in its report of the above-mentioned dinner verified the fact that Gene Kelly was one of the speakers listed to participate at that function. This report also indicated that among the other speakers was Benjamin Davis, a New York City Councilman and a well known Communist leader. (100-7660-3608, pg. 5)

Reliable unpaid active informant [redacted] and reliable paid active informant [redacted] also verified the fact that Gene Kelly was among those who participated at the above-mentioned dinner. (u) (u) (61-777-34-182, pgs. 4 & 5)

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Isidore Zack of the New England Regional Office of the Anti-Defamation League of the B'Nai Brith on October 28, 1946, submitted a report to the Boston Office which stated that Gene Kelly was one of the prominent backers of the American Youth for Democracy. (u) (61-777-5, pg. 6)

It should be noted that the American Youth for Democracy is a national Communist youth organization controlled by the Communist Party and is the successor to the Young Communist League. (u)

Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions

A technical surveillance on Julius Heiman, a member of the Communist Party and an alleged Soviet espionage agent, reported that Dr. Elizabeth Kalish had conferred with Mrs. Julius Heiman and that Dr. Kalish had stated that she was an Organizational Director for the Independent Citizens' Committee

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(of the Arts, Sciences and Professions). Kalish stated that she had arranged a meeting on March 10, 1946, and that Gene Kelly, the actor, had contributed one hundred dollars for this meeting. Kalish stated that Canada Lee (the Negro actor and a known member of the Communist Party) had furnished entertainment. The purpose of the meeting, according to Kalish, was apparently to organize the doctors in New York City under the auspices of the ICCASP. Gene Kelly, according to Dr. Kalish, had flown to the meeting from Washington at the request of Dr. Kalish. She said that she had told Kelly that the meeting was to be attended by about four hundred doctors who were organizing to form a national group, and that on her request, Kelly agreed to come to the meeting. (100-338892-45, pgs. 22 & 23; 61-10540-50, pg. 10, and Serial 45)

(u) (S) The Daily Worker for May 9, 1946, carried an article which stated that the Veterans Council of the Independent Citizens' Committee held a press conference at the Hotel Astor in New York City and that Gene Kelly, the dancer, was one of those present. The article further stated that Kelly would speak at a rally to be held by the ICCASP at Madison Square Garden, New York City, on May 16, 1946. (u) (100-338892-A)

Reliable paid active informant [redacted] advised that he had attended a meeting held at Madison Square Garden on May 16, 1946, under the auspices of the Veterans Council of the ICCASP and that Gene Kelly had presided at this function. The informant further advised that Senator Claude Pepper of Florida was one of the speakers at the rally. (u) (S) (100-338892-105, pg. 6)

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Reliable paid active informant [redacted] advised that Gene Kelly, the actor, was a member of the Executive Council of the Hollywood Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. This was the Hollywood branch of the ICCASP. The informant further stated that the Hollywood branch had become the main political and propaganda pressure group of the Communist Party in California and was carrying out the Communist Party line. (u) (100-338892-79)

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It should be noted that the ICCASP is known to have been subjected to considerable infiltration by Communists and Communist sympathizers. It is known that Lionel Berman, reportedly the head of the Cultural Section of the Communist Party, participated in the formation of the ICCASP. The ICCASP in February, 1947, merged with the National Citizens' Political Action Committee and became known as the Progressive Citizens of America. (u)

#### American Crusade to End Lynching

The Daily Worker in its issue for September 8, 1946, announced a "national pilgrimage" to Washington, D. C., to protest a wave of lynchings in the South and to demand action against the "killings". It is said that

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this pilgrimage was planned for September 23, 1946, and would be known as "The American Crusade to End Lynching." The article stated that Paul Robeson had been designated as Chairman of this "Crusade." The article further listed Gene Kelly as one of the individuals supporting this movement. (u)

It has been reported that the American Crusade to End Lynching was under the nominal sponsorship of the National Negro Congress, a well known Communist front organization, but that the American Crusade to End Lynching actually was originated by the Communist Party in New York City. (u)  
(100-346255-18, pg. 2)

The Baltimore Office obtained a pamphlet entitled "American Crusade to End Lynching," which was published by the organization of the same name. The pamphlet stated that the organization's headquarters were at 1015 M Street, N. W., Washington 1, D. C., and 23 West 26th Street, New York 10, New York. The pamphlet contained the name of Gene Kelly as one of the signers of a statement set out in the pamphlet. This statement called on the American people to join in the pilgrimage to Washington, D. C., on September 23, 1946. (u) 100-135-3)

Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade

The Daily Worker for September 20, 1946, listed the name of Gene Kelly among those who were sending congratulatory messages to the National Convention of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. This convention, it was stated, was to be held in New York City on September 21 and 22, 1946. The Daily Worker for September 21, 1946, quoted movie actor Gene Kelly's greeting to the above-mentioned convention as follows: "Please allow me to join in paying tribute to the men who fought Fascism before it was popular to do so. Let us keep insisting that their lives be not given in vain." (u)  
(D. W. 7/21/46 - 100-7060-324)

The "Volunteer for Liberty," which is the official publication of the VALB, in its issue for November, 1946, also set out the greeting sent by Gene Kelly to the above-mentioned convention. (u) 100-7060-352, pg. 15)

Reliable paid active informant [redacted]

[redacted] has reported that the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade had arranged a theatrical program to be held on January 19, 1947, at the Belasco Theater, New York City. This program was entitled "Stars Entertain for Republican Spain." The playbill for this program listed Gene Kelly as one of the sponsors. (u) (100-7060-348; -352, pg. 30)

It should be noted that the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade consists of individuals who for the most part are either members of the Communist Party or are active Communist sympathizers. The national officers of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade are known to be in close contact with national functionaries of the Communist Party. (u)

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Progressive Citizens of America

The Progressive Citizens of America was founded on December 29, 1946, at a joint national convention of the National Citizens' Political Action Committee and the Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. It should be noted that the organization of the Progressive Citizens of America was dominated by members of the Communist Party. The Progressive Citizens of America was originally headed by Jo Davidson, the noted sculptor, whom Louis Budenz reported to be a Communist. The policies and activities of the PCA have been supported by the Communist press. (u)

According to the Daily Worker for December 30, 1946, Gene Kelly was nominated at the joint national convention of the NCPAC and the IGCASP for the position of Vice Chairman of the Progressive Citizens of America. (u)  
(100-338892-105, pg. 21 & 22)

The "Hollywood Press Times" newspaper, Hollywood, California, on February 1, 1947, reported that the Progressive Citizens of America would hold its first public meeting at the Embassy Auditorium on the evening of February 11, 1947, with Jo Davidson, its co-Chairman, as a speaker. It was indicated that Gene Kelly would be one of those participating in the program. (u)  
(100-338892-129)

A letterhead of the Progressive Citizens of America dated April 17, 1947, under a column captioned "National Officers," carries the name of Gene Kelly as one of the Vice Chairmen. (u)

On May 9, 1947, the Hollywood Progressive Citizens of America, which is a branch of the National PCA, issued a statement printed in "Daily Variety," a Hollywood trade publication, protesting the investigation of alleged Communist activities and propaganda in the motion picture industry, which investigation was to be conducted by the House of Representatives Committee on Un-American Activities. This statement defended the rights of the Communist Party of the USA. In addition the statement protested any censure of the following persons, saying that such a censure would be a "gag" on free speech: Henry Wallace, William Shirer (reportedly a pro-Communist radio commentator), Paul Robeson, Norman Corwin, and Dr. Harlow Shapley. It should be noted that the last three named are known to be very active in Communist front activities. Gene Kelly's name appeared on a list of signers of the above statement. It was indicated that Kelly was a Vice Chairman of the Hollywood PCA. (u) (100-138754-155, pg. 5; Serial 150)

The Office of Naval Intelligence reported that the Young Progressive Citizens of America had initiated a two-day national youth lobby which was scheduled to be held in Washington, D. C. on June 16, 1947. The purpose of the lobby was to secure Senators and Representatives to support Federal aid in education, the 18-year old vote, increased subsistence for veterans, the

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Fair Employment Practice Act, and the East-Sellender-Jagner Housing Program. It was reported that the list of sponsors for the National Youth Lobby included the name of Gene Kelly, said to be the Honorary Chairman of the Young Progressive Citizens of America. It should be noted that the Young Progressive Citizens of America is the youth group of the National FEA. (61-7562-1532)

### III. GENERAL INFORMATION INDICATING COMMUNIST SYMPATHIES

A highly confidential technique known to the Los Angeles Office, advised that in 1942 Gene Kelly of U.S.A. was one of the subscribers to a proposed advertisement calling for the United States to open a "second front" in World War II. Herbert Eilberman, a motion picture director, and at that time a Communist Party functionary, was the instigator of the idea to run such an advertisement. It appeared to the above-mentioned source of information that Kelly had donated a sum of money to help pay for the advertisement and had apparently agreed to permit his name to be used in the advertisement as one of the individuals advocating the opening of a second front. (S) (U) (100-24499-156, pg. 61)

Reliable active paid informant [redacted] of the Los Angeles Office, advised in a report dated November 11, 1942, that Gene Kelly was one of the individuals who had come forward as a defender of various youths of Mexican descent who were at that time on trial in the local courts in Los Angeles for criminal activities. The informant stated that the plans for the defense of the above-mentioned youths were actually the work of the Communist Party, which, it was reported, was seeking to make political capital out of a serious situation. The informant further pointed out that Communists were using their usual formula of defending so-called "oppressed minorities" for the purpose of winning over to the Communist cause those for whom it pretended to fight. (S) (U) (100-159527-3)

A technical surveillance maintained by the Los Angeles Office on the home of Mrs. Charles Glenn, an active Communist leader in the Los Angeles County Communist Party, advised on November 5, 1943, that a meeting of the Citizens Committee for the Defense of American - Mexican Youth was to be held on November 8, 1943, at the home of Bessie Kelly, 506 North Alton Drive, Beverly Hills, California. As indicated above in this memorandum, this is the address of Gene Kelly. It should be further noted that the first name of Kelly's wife is Betsy. The Citizens Committee for the Defense of American - Mexican Youth, which was also known as the Sleepy Ingeon Defense Committee, had many members of the Communist Party in its ranks and was actually dominated by the Communists. (S) (U) (100-337793-25, pg 4)

A highly confidential and delicate source of information known to the New York Office, advised in approximately January, 1945, that Gene Kelly's

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name and telephone number were in the personal effects of Julia Dorn Wood. It should be noted that Wood was known to be a close contact of reported Soviet espionage agents. Wood is the daughter of Julius Heiman, reported to have been the contact between the Communist Party, USA, and the Soviet Union. (S) (u)

(100-337793-8, -5)

The magazine "Salute" in its issue for November, 1946, dedicated its "Salute of the Month" to Gene Kelly. The magazine stated that it was awarding Kelly this designation for his participation in the fight for a square deal for veterans since he was discharged from the Navy. The article pointed out that Kelly had served as Chairman of both the Independent Citizens' Committee rally at Madison Square Garden, New York City, and the American Legion's "Operation Housing" rally. It should be noted that the magazine "Salute" has been under the control of individuals sympathetic to the Communist Party. (u)

(100-344008-11, pg. 20)

In connection with the "Operation Housing" mentioned in the "Salute" magazine, the following information was obtained from reliable active paid informant [redacted]. The informant stated that the "Operation Housing" rally was sponsored by the New York County Department of the American Legion and was held at the 69th Regiment Armory in New York City. The announced purpose of this rally was to secure housing facilities for veterans. Gene Kelly was the presiding official at the rally. According to the informant, the plans for the rally were initiated by the "left wing" Duncan-Paris Post and it was reported the rally was given full support by the Veterans Commission of the Communist Party, and that because of the severe housing shortage facing the veterans, top officials of the American Legion were forced to go along with the rally. (u) (S)

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(100-3-73-103)

On November 22, 1946, an anonymous undated letter prepared on the letterhead of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures was received by the Bureau. The writer of this letter listed Gene Kelly, the actor, as one of the individuals who was "proven Communist." No facts substantiating this allegation were given. (u)

(100-3-1649)

The 1947 Anniversary issue of the "People's Songs" publication reflected that Gene Kelly was one of the individuals who had sent greetings to "People's Songs" on that organization's first anniversary. It should be noted that the organization known as "People's Songs of California, Incorporated," is controlled by Mario Casetta, a member of the Communist Party. The organization conducts group gatherings at which time songs of a Communist nature are composed and sung on a group basis. Entertainers representing "People's Songs" perform at Communist meetings, on strike picket lines, and at gatherings of various Communist front organizations. (u)

(100-346689-5)

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Reliable active but unpaid informant Louis F. Budenz was interviewed by Agents of the New York Office on July 18 and July 21, 1947, in regard to Communist infiltration of the motion picture industry. At this time the informant stated that he had heard Gene Kelly's name mentioned favorably at Communist Party headquarters. However, the informant did not know if Kelly was a member of the Communist Party. (100-138754-174)

(u)

#### IV. MISCELLANEOUS

"Current Biography" in its 1945 edition states that Gene Kelly was a member of the Hollywood Victory Committee. This organization was active during World War II in supplying entertainers for men in the Armed Forces. Information received concerning this organization indicates that it did not enter into propaganda activities or become dominated by any Communist sympathizers. (u) (100-171501)

The Daily Worker in its issue of September 27, 1944, lists Gene Kelly as one of the directors of the American Federation of Labor's Screen Actors Guild. (u) (100-138754-A)

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RECORDED - 64

100-352566  
SAC, Los Angeles

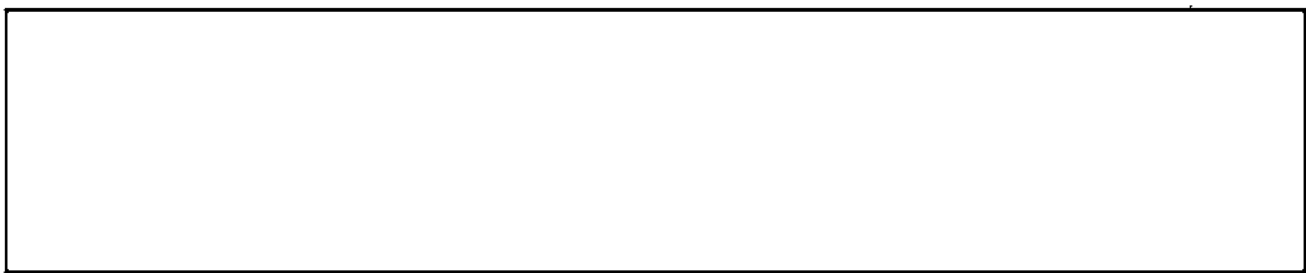
May 20, 1949

Director, FBI

EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, alias Gene Kelly  
SECURITY MATTER - C

11-5812's

Referral/Consult



It is requested that your office review your files concerning any information pertaining to possible Communist Party membership or front activities on the part of Eugene Curran Kelly and submit to the Bureau an investigative report embodying such pertinent information as may be in existence in your files. It is not requested that you conduct an open security investigation concerning this individual in view of his prominence in public life.

If your files reflect that he may be or may have been a member of the Communist Party, it is suggested that you contact your reliable confidential informants for any verification of such information. This information is requested at this time in view of the data submitted by OHI reflecting this individual to be a Reserve Officer, and to enable the Bureau to have the benefit of information presently in your files concerning him. In preparing your report, you should be careful to conceal all confidential sources of information inasmuch as it is contemplated that a copy of this report will be distributed to OHI at the Seat of Government.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-30-80 BY SP-5-RJH/ka

LGD:WMS

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED 11  
MAY 20 1949

*[Handwritten initials/signature]*

60 JUN 7 1949



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 15325

FILE No. 100-30894

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 7/27/49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/9,10,13,14/49	REPORT MADE BY MARCUS M. BRIGHT mt
TITLE EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, aka, GENE KELLY		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

**SUMMARY OF FACTS:**

Also  
40-24740-8

Subject, who is better known as GENE KELLY, is a motion picture actor, currently under contract to MGM. Resides at 725 Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills. U. S. citizen; age 37; born Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1912. Married to screen actress BETSY BLAIR. Became prominent as film actor in Hollywood about 1942 after career on New York stage. During past five or six years KELLY has been affiliated in various degrees with at least a dozen or more organizations reportedly controlled, influenced, or infiltrated by Communist Party elements. He has taken part in various functions in which he has been associated with prominent Communist Party members in Hollywood. Subject has several times denied being pro-Communist and no reliable evidence of actual Communist Party membership is known. However, in 1944 both subject and wife were considered by Communist Party as possible recruit material and subject was once described by a Los Angeles Communist Party functionary as a very favorable person. He has consistently supported causes either knowingly or unknowingly which were backed and often inspired by Communist Party elements. Information furnished by confidential sources considered reliable indicates subject has lent himself to causes which furthered the Communist Party line.

*Handwritten notes:*  
Admission - 8/11/49  
8/2/49

REFERENCE: Bureau file 100-252566.

AGENCY ICC-State  
 REQ. REC'D 1-14-53  
 REP'T FORW. 2-4-53  
 BY JRR-had

**DETAILS:** The following is a summary of pertinent information concerning

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - BUREAU 4 - LOS ANGELES Copy to _____ by routing slip for <input type="checkbox"/> info <input type="checkbox"/> action date <u>10/26/60</u> by <u>[Signature]</u>	ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE	352566-4 RECORDED - 135 INDEXED - 135 CLASS. & EXT. BY <u>SP-5-RD</u> REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 DATE OF DECLASS. <u>4-30-90</u> <u>4-30-90</u>

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the subject which has been received from various confidential sources.

Name:

EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, better known as GENE KELLY.

Address:

725 North Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, California, as of April, 1949, (according to Los Angeles T-1.) (S)(u)

Occupation:

Actor - dancer, presently under contract to METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER STUDIOS, Culver City, California.

Citizenship:

United States, born at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, August 23, 1912, (according to records of Los Angeles T-2.) (S)(u)

Personal History:

According to the 1948 issue of the INTERNATIONAL MOTION PICTURE ALMANAC, data for which is generally furnished by the various individuals themselves whose names appear therein, actor GENE KELLY was born at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, educated at Pennsylvania State University and the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to his entering on his acting career, he had been employed as a brick layer, concrete mixer, soda clerk, and dance instructor before going on the stage. Prior to becoming a motion picture actor, he appeared in stage productions in New York ("LEAVE IT TO ME", "ONE FOR THE MONEY", "THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE", and "PAL JOEY"). He appeared on the motion picture screen in 1942 in "FOR ME AND MY GAL", then "PILOT #5", and "DU BARRY WAS A LADY". In 1943 - 1944, he appeared in such screen productions as "THOUSANDS CHEER", "ANCHORS AWEIGH", and "ZIEGFELD FOLLIES". (u)

Subject is married to screen actress BETSY BLAIR who has appeared in various motion picture productions. (u)

Activities:

The Fourth Report on Communist Front Organizations issued by the California Legislative Committee on Un-American Activities (TENNEY COMMITTEE) in 1948, refers to subject GENE KELLY as having been a member, sponsor, or otherwise active in various organizations designated by the Committee as Communist fronts or dominated groups. According to this report, KELLY has been among the audience sponsors of the Actors Laboratory of Hollywood, which claims to be a non-profit corporation composed of

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Theater Wing and a Workshop Training Program—founded in 1941. (u)

(u) (C) [According to Los Angeles T-28.] the Actors Lab, as it is generally called, is an organization completely dominated by individuals who are members of the Communist Party. (u)

According to the TENNEY REPORT GENE KELLY, along with a great many other motion picture people, was one of the signers in October, 1947, of a full page advertisement in the "Hollywood Reporter", a trade publication, which advertisement was issued by the organization known as COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE 1ST AMENDMENT. The immediate purpose of this group was to create favorable public opinion for the various Hollywood film personalities who had been subpoenaed in the fall of 1947 to testify before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in Washington in connection with that Committee's investigation into the Communist penetration of the motion picture industry. This advertisement states, "We are arranging for radio broadcasts and other steps to protest the conduct of the Washington hearings". (u)

In 1947, according to the TENNEY REPORT, GENE KELLY was an officer of the Southern California Chapter of Progressive Citizens of America. Prior to that he had held an office in the Hollywood Democratic Committee. The report also credits KELLY with having been National Chairman of the Young Progressive Citizens of America in 1947, which had been set up by P. C. A. as a sort of junior subsidiary organization. (u)

Contact has been had with available Los Angeles confidential informants considered to be in the best position to furnish information regarding Communist Party membership matters in this area over a period of the past seven or eight years. (u) (C) [Specifically Los Angeles T-3, T-4, T-5, T-6, T-7, T-8, and T-9 have been contacted] but none was able to furnish information to indicate that subject GENE KELLY is or has actually a member of the local Communist Party, at least under his correct name. (u)

(u) (C) [Los Angeles T-5] advised that GENE and BETSY KELLY were apparently considered as possible recruit material for the Communist Party in 1944. According to this source's information, it was indicated that the KELLYS had been suggested as potential recruits. This informant had no information to indicate that they had ever joined the Communist Party or to what extent the Party had actually made efforts to recruit them. (u)

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(u) (S) In July, 1942, Los Angeles T-29 reported that HERBERT BIBERMAN had thought up an idea of getting certain people to back full page advertisements in trade papers demanding the opening of a second front in Europe. BIBERMAN by way of identification has been identified by Los Angeles T-5 as a Communist Party member for many years. He is a motion picture writer and director who later became one of the so-called "Hollywood 10", cited for Contempt as result of his refusal to answer questions of the House Committee on Un-American Activities in the fall of 1947. (S) (u)

With respect to BIBERMAN's idea of working up sentiment for a second front in Europe, CNDI LA 100 learned that his plan called for getting people to support the full page advertisements whose names carried weight and who could be depended upon for donations. Informant quoted BIBERMAN in discussing the matter as saying, "The time has come to run ads, send telegrams, letters, and so forth, demanding a second front". (S) (u)

BIBERMAN wanted these advertisements to be put out every day or so. According to the informant the plan never did work out successfully. BIBERMAN told informant that a number of motion picture people did contribute, but that they also objected to having their names appear on an advertisement with labor groups. (S) (u)

A partial list of the subscribers to the second front advertisement included a great many motion picture people of whom GENE KELLY of METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER was one. KELLY's name was one of about six or seven people who, according to BIBERMAN, would be the ones to appear as sponsoring the ad as "Representatives of the Movie Industry". (u) (S) (u)

This plan to list only a few names was the result of the failure to obtain a list of representative names from downtown Los Angeles and labor unions as a whole. The ones chosen were well known public figures such as, in addition to GENE KELLY, motion picture stars VIRGINIA BRUCE, ALAN LADD, JOHN GARFIELD, and writer ERSKINE CALDWELL. (S) (u)

According to the February, 1944 issue of the publication "Target for Today", the official bulletin of the Hollywood Democratic Committee, a pageant sponsored by United Citizens Committee was to be staged at the Shrine Auditorium on February 4, 1944. (u)

The pageant included a political skit produced by Hollywood Democratic Committee and written by writer BEN HECHT. The title of this skit was "The Common Man", and was to be put on at the rally for Vice President HENRY WALLACE who was the main speaker at the rally. (u)

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Handwritten notes on the left margin, including "Henry Wallace" and other illegible scribbles.

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(u) (u) (Los Angeles T-10) was active in connection with the rehearsals of the skit and furnished considerable information regarding the identities of the individuals who actually had charge of preparing it. According to this informant, the stage director was DAVE HELLWEL and the writer was BEN HECHT as already stated. In charge of artists was RALPH SMITH. EVERETT WELLS was the stage assistant and the orchestration was handled by MISCHA ALTMAN. Informant advised that GENE KELLY was also active in the production. GEORGE PEPPER of the Hollywood Democratic Committee seemed to the informant to be "the power behind the throne" in connection with the rehearsals, and PEPPER watched all rehearsals closely and told the informant that his, PEPPER's, job was to see that there were "no political mistakes made in the script". (u) (u)

(u) (u) Of the above individuals, it may be noted that RALPH SMITH has been identified as a Communist Party member by (Los Angeles T-4) (u) (u) while MISCHA ALTMAN and GEORGE PEPPER were both known to (Los Angeles T-5) (u) members of the Communist Party in Hollywood during the period 1944-1945. (u)

The "People's World" for May 22, 1944, advertised a symposium entitled "CULTURE AND DEMOCRACY" which would be held at the Hollywood Women's Club on May 24, 1944. Speakers were to be screen writer DALTON TRUMBO, actress LENA HORNE, actor GENE KELLY, writer GEORGE ANTHELL, and Dr. WALTER RUBSAMEN. (u)

(u) (u) (Los Angeles T-5) identified screen writer DALTON TRUMBO as a member of the Communist Party's cultural groups in Hollywood during this period. (u)

(u) (u) In June, 1944, information was received from Los Angeles T-11 (u) that WILLIAM (BILL) YOUNG, Communist Party functionary of the so-called Bay City Club, 16th Congressional District Section, had told the informant that he, YOUNG, had an appointment to see GENE KELLY, the movie star, in regard to getting financial support for the new Communist book store to be opened in Santa Monica, California. KELLY was characterized by YOUNG as a very favorable person. (u)

In the summer of 1944, the American Youth for Democracy at Los Angeles was active in organizing a "Young Voters for Roosevelt Committee". Los Angeles T-30 advised that ELAINE ROSE, American Youth for Democracy functionary, had told the informant that A.Y.D. already had on the committee for the new group HOWARD FAST, OLIVIA DEHAVILLAND, CANADA LEE, NORMAN CORWIN and GENE KELLY. The idea for the new committee had, according to ROSE, originated with FAST, LEE, and CORWIN, who had requested American Youth for Democracy to undertake its organization inasmuch as it was a national organization. (u) (u)

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By way of identification, HOWARD FAST is the well known writer who was cited for contempt by the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1947 for refusal to answer questions regarding the organization known as the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. (u)

OLIVIA DeHAVILAND is a Hollywood motion picture actress and NORMAN CORWIN is a well known radio writer. CANADA LEE is a Negro motion picture actor. (u)

In connection with American Youth for Democracy's efforts in behalf of the new committee, Los Angeles T-31 reported that MEYER FREIDEN, head of the American Youth for Democracy in Los Angeles, had called on screen writer JOHN HOWARD LAWSON for help in getting various Hollywood people to lend their names for the committee. (u)

Los Angeles T-31 further advised in June, 1944 that AYD expected to get financial contributions from Hollywood actors JOHN GARFIELD, PAUL HENREID, and GENE KELLY; that efforts were also being made to contact CHARLES CHAPLIN, ORSON WELLES, JAMES CAGNEY, and DANNY KAYE, all Hollywood screen personalities, for contributions. Informant advised that AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY was badly in need of funds, at that time being about \$650 in debt. (u)

[According to Los Angeles T-32, the HOLLYWOOD DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE (H.D.C.) held a meeting on July 26, 1944 at the Hollywood Women's Club to hear a report on what took place at the National Democratic Convention on that year and also to receive the results of the balloting for H.D.C. officers and Board of Directors. (u)

The H.D.C. election ballots had been previously issued and the results were announced by screen actor REX INGRAM. INGRAM, it may be noted, has been identified as a Communist Party member in Hollywood by [Los Angeles T-5. (u)]

As result of the balloting, GENE KELLY was elected Vice Chairman of H.D.C. as well as a member of an Executive Board of 87 individuals. Among the board members so elected, who have been identified by [Los Angeles T-5] as Communist Party members, were HENRY BLANKFORT, writer; SIDNEY BUCHMAN, producer, NORVAL CRUTCHER, labor organizer; EDWARD DMYTRYK, director; LOUIS HARRIS, writer; REX INGRAM, actor; JOHN HOWARD LAWSON, writer; ROBERT ROSSEN, writer-director; and FRANK TUTTLE, director. (u)

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The "Los Angeles Daily News" for August 26, 1944, carried GENE KELLY'S photograph as one of "The large group of picture personalities and entertainers who will appear at the Democratic fund raising garden party sponsored by the Beverly-Westwood Democratic Committee". (u)

It may be noted that the Beverly Westwood Democratic Committee, according to Los Angeles T-11, was later called the Beverly-Westwood Citizens Committee and still later became a chapter of the Progressive Citizens of America in 1947. According to this informant, the Beverly-Westwood Citizens Committee was heavily infiltrated by Communist Party members. (u)

In September, 1944, MEYER FREIDEN of the American Youth for Democracy, was working on an American Youth for Democracy activity called "Young American's for Roosevelt". According to Los Angeles T-30, FREIDEN conferred with screen writer HENRY BLANKFORT in regard to the matter. FREIDEN wanted someone who could get to the stars in Hollywood. He wanted some screen star to release an article entitled "WHY I AM FOR ROOSEVELT". (S) X (Q) (u)

BLANKFORT told FREIDEN he would get in touch with GEORGE PEPPER at the Hollywood Democratic Committee with reference to getting the desired stars. BLANKFORT later told FREIDEN he thought he could get GENE KELLY as Chairman for "Young American's for Roosevelt". (S) X (Q) (u)

In regard to the above article on "WHY I AM FOR ROOSEVELT", or "WHY YOUTH SHOULD VOTE FOR F.D.R.", informant stated there was some indication that GEORGE PEPPER of H.D.C. had agreed to have some Hollywood writer draft the article, and would get some well-known person to sign it. (S) X (Q) (u)

BLANKFORT and PEPPER have already been identified as Communist Party members of that period. (u)

[In October, 1944, Los Angeles T-30 reported that he had overheard someone at AYD Headquarters remark that GENE KELLY was going to be drafted into the Armed Service.] The same information was furnished at about this same time by Los Angeles T-33, who advised that it was his understanding that GENE KELLY had been called up in the draft. (S) X (Q) (u)

A letterhead of the Beverly Westwood Democratic Committee (BWDC), heretofore mentioned, which was furnished Los Angeles (T-34), reflects that GENE KELLY was a member of the Executive Board of this organization. (u)

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The particular letter in question was one put out by the Committee in 1945 containing suggestions on "How to keep active". One such suggestion revealed by the letter was to "Wire Congressman ELLIS E. PATTERSON in Washington to see that all California Congressmen joined the non-partisan committee now being formed to call on President ROOSEVELT to propose dismissal of charges against HARRY BRIDGES". (u)

An article in "Political Reporter" of January 20, 1945, which was a news sheet published monthly by the Beverly Westwood Democratic Committee, noted that a new BWDC Executive Board rule had established a special category for board members called to the Armed Services. This ruling permitted the retention of GENE KELLY's name on the board as an inactive member, according to this article. (u)

Mr. and Mrs. ~~GENE KELLY~~ were listed among the Los Angeles Charter Members of the organization called National Citizens Political Action Committee (NCPAC) according to a circular put out by this organization in September, 1945. It may be noted that NCPAC was one of several organizations which merged to form the Progressive Citizens of America (PCA) in December, 1946, as referred to subsequently hereafter. (u)

(u) Information received from Los Angeles T-12 and T-13 of the New York Office, advised that the NATIONAL AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY held its second "Salute To Young America" dinner at the Roosevelt Hotel, New York, on December 12, 1945. The attendance was about 725 and the purpose of the rally was to "Welcome Home Joe", that is, the returning Service Veterans on occasion of AYD's second anniversary. An added purpose for the dinner was to "dramatize post-war problems of youth". A number of awards were given out during the dinner and among the presenting the awards were GENE KELLY and DANNY KAYE, Hollywood actors. (u)

The national organization called INDEPENDENT CITIZENS COMMITTEE OF ARTS, SCIENCES, AND PROFESSIONS (ICCASP) was formed in New York in December of 1944 as a non-partisan organization of artists, scientists, and professionals for the purpose of supporting the economic and social policies of FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT. (u)

(u) At the annual of ICCASP held in New York on February 1946, the officers and Board of Directors of the organization were elected. Los Angeles T-14 reported that as a result of this election, GENE KELLY became a member of the Board of Directors of ICCASP. (u)

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Informant reports that GEORGE PEPPER, already mentioned and identified heretofore, was elected to a committee of nine to "re-draft the by-laws and Constitution to meet the new needs consequent upon our rapid organizational expansion". (u)

A circular issued by ICCASP in May, 1946, announced that this organization would sponsor a "Call for Action" on jobs, housing, price control, peace, and discrimination. This rally was to be held at Madison Square Gardens in New York on May 16, 1946, and according to the circular, the speakers would be Senator CLAUDE D. PEPPER, GENE KELLY, FRANK SINATRA, OLIVIA DeHAVILLAND, MARION HARGROVE, and FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, JR. (u)

According to Los Angeles T-32, GENE KELLY was also added to the Executive Council of the Hollywood Chapter of ICCASP at Los Angeles in 1946. (u)

In August, 1946, Los Angeles T-31 reported that screen writers DALTON TRUMBO and JOHN HOWARD LAWSON of the Hollywood ICCASP conferred regarding suggested names for the nominating committee meeting which was to be held on August 9, 1946. TRUMBO suggested ROBERT KENNY, ANNE REVERE, GENE KELLY, and NORVAL CRUTCHER. (u)

By way of identification, ROBERT KENNY was the former Attorney General of the State of California, former State Legislator, and an officer in ICCASP. More recently KENNY has been the chief defense counsel for the so-called "Hollywood 10" film writers cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities for Contempt. (u)

ANNE REVERE is a Hollywood screen actress who has been identified by Los Angeles T-5 as a member of the Communist Party's cultural groups in Hollywood. (u)

NORVAL CRUTCHER in the past has been a labor union organizer in Hollywood and also a Communist Party member according to Los Angeles T-5. (u)

DALTON TRUMBO and JOHN HOWARD LAWSON are both motion picture writers, members of the "Hollywood 10", and also Communist Party members according to Los Angeles T-5. (u)

In 1946 the Hollywood motion picture industry was torn by a motion picture strike situation which flared at intervals over a period of about two years and involved considerable violence and the necessity for police action. (u)

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(u)(s) C During the motion picture strike situation in October, 1946, Los Angeles T-35 reported that LOUISE LOCEY, a member of the Strike Strategy Committee, had told informant that they were getting up a delegation to protest alleged police brutality and that this committee was to consist of Mrs. GENE KELLY, Mrs. ALEXANDER KNOX, who is the wife of screen actor ALEXANDER KNOX; and Mrs. JOHN GARFIELD, wife of the actor. It appeared also that actor HOWARD Da SILVA was also working on the matter. (u)

(u)(s) C By way of identification, LOUISE LOCEY is the wife of JOE LOCEY, motion picture director. (Both the LOCEYS are strongly suspected by Los Angeles T-3 of being members of the Communist Party's cultural groups, although this informant does not have positive information as to their Party membership. (u)

Actor HOWARD Da SILVA, however, has been identified by Los Angeles T-5 as a member of the Communist Party who came to Hollywood from New York a few years ago. (u)

In October, 1946, a rally at the Olympic Auditorium in Los Angeles was sponsored jointly by the Hollywood ICCASP, the Los Angeles CIO Political Action Committee, the National Citizens Political Action Committee, and several other organizations. This rally was to hear HENRY WALLACE speak at the auditorium on October 24, 1946. Circulars, put out to advertise the affair called attention to the fact that motion picture actor EDWARD G. ROBINSON would be present as Chairman and that an added attraction would be GENE KELLY and other Hollywood stars in a presentation called "Living Newspaper". (u)

[Information was furnished by CNDI LA RD-28 in December, 1946 that the organization known as AMERICAN RUSSIAN INSTITUTE (ARI) was sponsoring the showing of a Russian film entitled "TURNING POINT" which had been obtained by ARTKINO, an agency in the United States for the distribution of Russian made films. According to informant, ARI was trying to get a number of Hollywood film figures to attend the West Coast premiere of the film showing. (u)

(u) (s) C Screen writer ALVAH BESSIE was working with ARI in this effort and he suggested that they contact such people as GENE KELLY, EDWARD G. ROBINSON, DORE SCHARY, ADRIAN SCOTT, GREGORY PECK, ANNE REVERE, ALBERT MALTZ, EDWARD DMYTRYK, and ROBERT ROSSEN. It may be noted that of the above individuals, BESSIE, DMYTRYK, ROSSEN, SCOTT, REVERE, and MALTZ were all members of the Communist Party in Hollywood, according to Los Angeles T-5. (u)

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aka. Jackson

(u) (s) (u)

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(u) (S) [Los Angeles T-36] reported that SHIRLEY KOPLÖY of the ARI Office felt that the premiere of the picture would stand much more chance of success if various motion picture people attended it, and considerable time was spent in working out this matter. (u)

On December 29, 1946, the organizations heretofore identified as ICCASP and NCPAC held a joint convention in New York City in which it was decided to merge these two organizations and form the PROGRESSIVE CITIZENS OF AMERICA (PCA). (u)

[Confidential informant Los Angeles T-15 of the New York Office] furnished considerable information concerning this merger and the origin of PCA. (u)

The "Daily Worker", Communist news organ for the East Coast on December 30, 1946, announced the officers of the newly formed PCA. GENE KELLY from ICCASP was listed as having been elected one of the Vice Chairmen of PCA. (u)

(u) (S) [In February, 1947, Los Angeles T-16,] whose reliability and accuracy are not known, volunteered the information that on February 10, 1947, she was present at the home of Mrs. MILTON SPERLING, wife of the motion picture producer at 667 Ledo Way, Beverly Hills, where a party for about fifty motion picture people was taking place. Informant said that the invitations read "Communist Rally", and informant was of the opinion that most of those who were present were either members of the Communist Party or Communist sympathizers. She recalled that actor GENE KELLY was among those present; however, informant had no evidence other than her suspicions that these people were Communists or Communist sympathizers. (u)

A benefit to raise money for the strikers during the Hollywood motion picture strike situation, mentioned previously, was held at the Philharmonic Auditorium, Los Angeles, on February 6, 1947. [Los Angeles T-32] described a number of those entertainers appearing or sponsoring the benefit as being suspected Communist Party members or sympathizers. (u)

Special Agent JAMES G. FINDLAY, who attended the benefit, reported that the program consisted of songs, dances, dialogue, jokes, and skits of various sorts. Interspersed in the program were several strike scenes where the police were shown beating up strikers. In the

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skits the police, usually several in number, would arrive on the scene and charge the pickets with conspiracy and proceed to "beat up the pickets". At no time would the pickets resist but meekly submitted to the pretended beatings. (u)

(u) Among the entertainers appearing or sponsoring the benefit the following were identified: ABE BURROWS, radio writer - actor; actor HOWARD Da SILVA; and actor STANLEY PRAGER, all of whom have been identified by Los Angeles T-3 as members of the Communist Party in Hollywood. GENE KELLY was also present among the motion picture figures who took part in the benefit. (u)

(u) Los Angeles T-32 reported that about \$6,000 was raised at the benefit for the motion picture strikers. (u)

In further connection with the Hollywood strike situation, on February 2, 1947, a mass meeting of the CONFERENCE OF STUDIO UNIONS, (CSU) which largely made up the striking elements, was held at the Legion Stadium in Hollywood. According to Los Angeles T-37, leaflets were distributed in advance of this mass meeting, advertising an "All Star Hollywood Welfare Show" at the Philharmonic Auditorium on February 6, 1947. This was the benefit for the strikers already mentioned. Listed in the leaflet as scheduled to participate in the benefit at the Philharmonic were GENE KELLY, HOWARD Da SILVA, JOHN GARFIELD, ABE BURROWS, and about twenty others. (u)

The organization known as the ~~JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE (JAIFRC)~~ was particularly active in the Los Angeles area during 1946 and 1947. This organization has since been designated by the Attorney General of the United States as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835, as a Communist organization. (u)

The first major meeting of JAIFRC in 1947 at Los Angeles was one for the purpose of raising funds in the form of a dinner at the Biltmore Hotel on February 21, 1947. According to Los Angeles T-38, O. JOHN ROGGE, former Special Assistant to the Attorney General was scheduled to speak at the Biltmore meeting. ROGGE did not arrive in Los Angeles in time, however, but he forwarded his speech which, according to informant, was to be read at the dinner by GENE KELLY. As it turned out, however, KELLY himself was sick and unable to appear and ROGGE's speech was eventually read at the dinner by Mrs. GENE KELLY. (u)

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(u)(c) [According to Los Angeles T-39.] pamphlets distributed by PCA at a rally at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, March 28, 1947, reflected that GENE KELLY was a Vice Chairman of the National PCA Organization. These pamphlets contain an article by HENRY A. WALLACE entitled "Must we have a century of fear?" and consisted of an attack upon the United States policy of affording material help to Greece and Turkey. (u)

(u)(c) (Los Angeles T-40 advised in April, 1947,) that the American Youth for Democracy was planning a function at the Fremont School in Los Angeles. Informant advised that VICKI LANDISH, AYD functionary, was one of those responsible for making arrangements for the function and she conferred with screen writer HENRY BLANKFORT regarding some Hollywood people who might appear at the function as speakers. (u)

Informant advised that LANDISH had already sent telegrams in this regard to JOHN GARFIELD, GENE KELLY, and GREGORY PECK, but had not heard from them up to that time. Informant subsequently advised, however, that the Fremont School meeting did not materialize and AYD finally called it off because of adverse publicity in the press. Informant did not know whether GENE KELLY had ever actually accepted the speakers invitation for the affair. (u)

(u)(c) [In April, 1947, Los Angeles T-17.] a member of the SCREEN ACTORS GUILD, was discussing with Special Agent FRED G. DUPUIS and RICHARD AUERBACH the extent of Communist infiltration into the SCREEN ACTORS GUILD. Informant commented that two cliques or groups had developed within the GUILD, one headed by ANNE REVERE and the other by actress KAREN MORELY, both of which groups, in informant's opinion, followed the Communist Party line on all matters of GUILD policy. Whenever a case arose to appoint a committee or to fill a vacancy in one of the offices, both of these groups seemed to support or nominate the same individual. Both MORELY and REVERE appeared to informant to be merely repeating someone else's orders in their maneuvers within the GUILD. (u)

Informant pointed out, for instance, that both MORELY and REVERE wanted to put the SCREEN ACTORS GUILD on record as sympathizing with the side of the strikers in the motion picture strike situation of that period. Informant indicated that actor GENE KELLY always seemed to support the REVERE group in these matters. It may be noted that Los Angeles T-5 has identified both ANNE REVERE and KAREN MORELY as members of the Communist Party's Hollywood Section. (u)

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(u)(c) [Los Angeles T-28,] who was in close touch with the CSU strike situation during 1946 and 1947, has identified it as Communist supported and Communist led throughout. (u)

(u)(c) [According to a mimeographed announcement furnished by Los Angeles T-9,] a meeting was held on February 11, 1947 at the Embassy Auditorium in Los Angeles, the purpose of which was to "form a Southern California Chapter of Progressive Citizens of America" (PCA). Speakers were to be ~~JO DAVIDSON~~, National Co-Chairman of PCA, ~~ROBERT KENNY~~; Dr. ~~LINUS PAULING~~ of California Institute of Technology; ~~GENE KELLY~~, Hollywood actor; and ~~BARTLEY CRUM~~, Chairman. (u)

The Third Report of the Joint Fact-Finding Committee investigating un-American Activities in California, contains a report on the original PCA meeting wherein it is reflected that ~~EDWARD MOSK~~, Chairman for the evening, introduced ~~GENE KELLY~~ who delivered a short harangue on the reasons why people should join PCA. ~~KELLY~~ thereafter presented ~~EDWARD MOSK~~ and ~~JOHN CROMWELL~~ with a scroll in appreciation of the work they had accomplished for their respective organizations, NCPAC and the Hollywood ICCASP, both of which were then merging into PCA. (u)

On May 8, 1947, the "California Sentinel", local Negro newspaper, published a list of 100 persons which purported to be the official list of officers and directors of the newly formed PCA. Actor ~~GENE KELLY~~ was listed as a board member as well as a vice chairman. (u)

The California Eagle, a Negro newspaper in Los Angeles, in its issue of May 15, 1947, reported that six hundred prominent Los Angeles citizens had sent joint telegrams to California Senators in Washington urging them to "vote against taking America along the Fascist path", by opposing the TAFT - ~~HARTLEY~~ Labor Bill in Congress. ~~GENE KELLY~~ was listed as one such signer along with screen actor ~~HOWARD DA SILVA~~, screen writer ~~RING LARDNER JR.~~, actress ~~KAREN MORELY~~, film director ~~JOHN CROMWELL~~, and writer ~~HOWARD KOCH~~. (u)

(u)(c) [According to information furnished by Los Angeles T-18 in December, 1946,] when PCA was formed by a merger of ~~ICCASP~~ and ~~NCPAC~~, in New York, PCA also set up ~~Young Progressive Citizens of America (YPCA)~~ which began recruiting large numbers of students in colleges and universities throughout the country. As of May, 1947, YPCA was reported to have some 40 chapters. ~~GENE KELLY~~ was Honorary Chairman of the newly formed YPCA. (u)

In the "Hollywood Citizens News" for September 6, 1947, there was an account of a JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE meeting held at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on September 5, 1947. ~~PAUL~~

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PAUL X ROBESON was the featured speaker at the rally. It was announced that a reception honoring ROBESON would be held on the evening of September 6, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. JULIAN MIEROTY in Beverly Hills. The announcement of the reception listed Mr. and Mrs. GENE KELLY on the Sponsoring Committee among a long list of Hollywood personalities. (u)

A mass meeting sponsored by PCA was held at the South Gate Arena, South Gate California, in October, 1947. According to a circular put out by that organization, among the featured speakers at the rally were GENE KELLY, actress KAREN MORELY, and EARL X ROBINSON from Hollywood. It is noted that KAREN MORELY has already been identified heretofore as a Communist Party member and Los Angeles T-5 has also furnished reliable information that EARL ROBINSON was a member of the Communist Party in Hollywood during 1944 and 1945. (u)

In September, 1947, nineteen Hollywood motion picture writers, actors, and directors, were served with subpoenas issued by the House Un-American Activities in Washington in connection with the investigation by the Committee to the extent of Communist penetration into the motion picture industry. A number of organizations in the Los Angeles area as well as elsewhere began to be active in defense of the subpoenaed witnesses in an effort to work up popular support in their behalf and against the inquiry by the Congressional Committee. (u)

[Information furnished by Los Angeles T-17 and T-20] (u) (u) instance, revealed that a representative of the PCA organization in Washington D.C. suggested organizing a super mass meeting in Washington about the time of the so-called Hollywood hearings before the House Committee which were scheduled to start on October 20, 1947. It was suggested that CHARLES CHAPLIN and other Hollywood celebrities be invited to rally around and that such people as CHARLES CHAPLIN and GENE KELLY could make a special appearance at the rally and make a colossal thing out of it. (u)

Meanwhile in Hollywood, screen writer WALDO X SALT and GEORGE PEPPER of the ARTS, SCIENCES, AND PROFESSIONS COUNCIL, division of the PCA, held a number of meetings and discussions in regard to the House Committee hearings. PEPPER has already been identified as a Communist Party member, while SALT has likewise been identified by Los Angeles T-5 as an active Communist Party member in Hollywood during 1944 - 1945. (u) (u)

According to Los Angeles T-41, PEPPER in particular was active in rallying available sources in defense of the subpoenaed film personalities. Informant advised that PEPPER had arranged for a preliminary meeting and discussion on October 2, 1947, at the home of screen actor EDWARD G. ROBINSON, and PEPPER had already contacted GENE KELLY, CHARLES CHAPLIN, and KATHERINE X NEPURN and thought it possible that they all might attend. (u) (u)

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In working up popular support for the "Unfriendly 19", as the subpoenaed witnesses were subsequently known, the ARTS, SCIENCES, AND PROFESSIONS division of PCA was particularly active, according to Los Angeles T-41. (S)(u)

This informant reported on October 6, 1947 that WALDO SALT was scheduled to attend an executive meeting on the following day at GENE KELLY'S place, 725 North Rodeo Drive in Beverly Hills. Informant indicated that KELLY was probably on the Executive Board of the ASP division of PCA at that time. (S)(u)

Informant subsequently furnished information that HERBERT BIBERMAN also attended a meeting at GENE KELLY'S home on October 9, 1947, at which some discussion was had regarding various activities in behalf of the subpoenaed witnesses. Apparently it was desired, if possible, to arrange for a mass meeting in Chicago for the "Unfriendly 19" on their way to Washington. However, it appeared that the Chicago mass meeting could not be worked up in time for lack of a suitable place to hold it. However, Chicago had advised that a reception of from five to six hundred important people would be held for the "Unfriendly 19" and that they would try to make a big event of it. (S)(u)

At Los Angeles, prior to the departure of the "Unfriendly 19" for Washington, plans were made by PCA to hold a gigantic rally at the Shrine Auditorium. From information furnished by Los Angeles T-41 and T-31, plans for this rally were the subject of discussion between GEORGE PEPPER, JOHN HOWARD LAWSON, and others. PEPPER announced that GENE KELLY would chair the big rally at the Shrine Auditorium and that in addition to KELLY, speakers would be radio writer NORMAN CORMAN and screen actress MARSHAL HUNT. (S)(u)

On October 15, 1947, the testimonial rally for the "Unfriendly 19" was held at the Shrine Auditorium just prior to their leaving for Washington. Circulars put out by PCA who sponsored the rally announced that the purposes of the rally were:

1. To honor the screen personalities subpoenaed by the House Un-American Activities Committee.
2. Defend the film industry.
3. Abolish the Un-American Activities Committee. (u)

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Special Agents LESLIE WARREN and EMMETT McGAUGHEY, who attended the rally, identified GENE KELLY as Chairman of the meeting. He also served as Master of Ceremonies. KELLY, in introducing actor LARRY PARKS, one of the subpoenaed witnesses, placed considerable emphasis on the fact that out of thousands of members of the SCREEN ACTORS GUILD, only one actor had been subpoenaed, and after emphasizing this statement again, KELLY asked the audience why. "Can it be", he said, "that they feel he is afraid or can be intimidated because he is on the threshold of his career; if so, I believe they are in for a surprise, and you will agree with me after listening to LARRY PARKS". (u) (u)

It may be noted that [Los Angeles T-5] has identified both LARRY PARKS and his actress wife BETTY GARRETT as members of the Communist Party in Hollywood. (u) ~~PARKS~~

The "Los Angeles Examiner" on October 25, 1947, featured an article which gave an account of a group of Hollywood actors who would fly to Washington by way of chartered plane on October 26, 1947, among whom were HUMPHREY BOGART and his wife LAUREN BACALL, film director JOHN HUSTON, actress EVELYN KEYES, actress AVE GARDNER, actor GENE KELLY, and others. (u)

The article quoted HUMPHREY BOGART as saying in connection with the purpose of this trip, "We are against Communism but we feel the present investigation is a screen to obtain censorship in motion pictures and in newspapers". (u)

The Philadelphia Office reported that on November 3, 1947, after the hearings by the House Un-American Activities Committee, actor HUMPHREY BOGART and party of about twenty-five, made a temporary stop at the Philadelphia Airport en route back to Hollywood. BOGART's group called themselves "The Committee for the Defense of the 1st Amendment". (u)

(u) (u) [Los Angeles T-2] advised that BOGART had previously notified the INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER contacts in Philadelphia of the plane's arrival there and his desire for an opportunity to explain what he and his party were striving for on the plane's arrival at Philadelphia. (u)

A local radio station interviewed a number of the "Committee" including BOGART, LAUREN BACALL, GENE KELLY, DANNY KAYE, and others. KELLY during his interview was quoted as stating, "Like another song and dance man, a much greater song and dance man years ago said, 'I wonder what all the shootin's fer'. As Mr. KAYE has remarked, it's pretty hard

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*Mr. [unclear] [unclear]*



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to find any propaganda in pictures, mainly because the motion picture industry is such a large one and the needs to make pictures which are box office successes. You can't make a picture for entertainment that the American public will accept and inject propaganda into it. So far I think we are pretty safe". (u)

(u) (K) [In November, 1947, Los Angeles T-22] advised that the Wilshire Fairfax Chapter of PCA had mailed out invitations to attend a meeting to hear (by transcription) GENE KELLY, JUDY GARLAND, LAWREN BACALL, HUMPHREY BOGART, ANNE REVERE, and MARSHA HUNT, and others denounce the threats to our fundamental rights. The title of this program was "Hollywood Fights Back". This meeting apparently was part of the activity by PCA to work up popular support in defense of the "Hollywood 10", the film writers and directors, who as result of the Washington hearings and their refusal to answer Committee questions, had been cited for Contempt. (u)

(u) (K) [Los Angeles T-42 on November 19, 1947.] advised that the [redacted] was apparently considering getting up a petition to abolish the [redacted] Committee on Un-American Activities and that during a recent [redacted] on of the matter, it had been suggested that no organization's [redacted] Among [redacted] on the petition so that it would not actually be sponsored might be amenable [redacted] HUNT, RICHARD COMTE, NORMAN [redacted]

[redacted] of motion picture and radio people who [redacted] such a petition were GENE KELLY, MARSHA [redacted] Informant advised that during [redacted] it was suggested that if these prospective signers should be inquisitive about the petition, the [redacted] by M.A. TITENOPPER, one of the defense [redacted] should be told it [redacted] should become too [redacted] the lawyers for the "Un-American [redacted] was being sponsored [redacted] friendly 19". (u)

Informant later advised [redacted] PAUL HENREID would sign such a petition that according to HERBERT [redacted] HUNT and GENE KELLY also intended to sign when he found out [redacted] that MARSHA [redacted]

(u) (K) [On December 2, 1947, Los Angeles T-23] advised [redacted] reporting [redacted] ENNETT G. McGAUGHEY [redacted] GENE KELLY had recently [redacted] expressed himself as somewhat worried over future [redacted] House [redacted] Committee on Un-American Activities might take. [redacted] appeared to be [redacted] concerned over what effect it might have on his own career. (u)

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(u)(S) [In March, 1948, Los Angeles T-43] reported that the AMERICAN RUSSIAN INSTITUTE (ARI) at Los Angeles was planning a reception to be held the following month for ANNA LOUISE STRONG. STRONG was to be in Los Angeles to speak on "World Peace and the Russians". Informant said that ARI was trying to obtain someone's home for the reception and that among those considered to be contacted for the purpose were radio writer SAM MOORE, and screen actor GENE KELLY. It was subsequently learned, however, that the reception was held at the KELLY residence. (u)

(u)(S) [According to Los Angeles T-44] in 1948 GENE KELLY of 725 North Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, was one of a long list of names of individuals maintained by the PEOPLE'S EDUCATIONAL CENTER at Los Angeles under the caption "Theater School Sponsors List". (u)

Informant noted that among others on the list were JOHN HOWARD LAWSON, GORDON KAHN, GUY ENDORE, EDWARD DMYTRYK, RICHARD COLLINS, LESTER COLE, HUGO BUTLER, HERBERT BIBERMAN, and ALVAH BESSIE. All of these individuals are writers or directors in the motion picture industry and all have been identified by Los Angeles T-5 as having been affiliated with the Communist Party in Hollywood. LAWSON, DMYTRYK, COLLINS, COLE, BIBERMAN, and BESSIE are among the so-called "Hollywood 10". (u)

(u)(S) [In August, 1948, it was learned from Los Angeles T-7] that GENE KELLY'S name was among a large number of names of Hollywood personalities recorded at AYD Headquarters in Los Angeles, including a number of people apparently considered by AYD as contacts, sponsors, or sustainers. Informant was unable to learn specifically in which category KELLY was considered to be. (u)

(u)(S) [In the latter part of August, 1948, Los Angeles T-43] furnished the information that Dr. HOLLAND ROBERTS of the AMERICAN RUSSIAN INSTITUTE in San Francisco was scheduled to be in Los Angeles area in September of that year and the Los Angeles Chapter of AMERICAN RUSSIAN INSTITUTE was working up a schedule for him while he was here. An ARI representative told the informant she intended to take Dr. ROBERTS out to see GENE KELLY and that afterward they were going to have lunch with JOHN HOWARD LAWSON, the motion picture film writer. Informant indicated that it was the ARI representative and Dr. ROBERTS who were to lunch with JOHN HOWARD LAWSON, and that this did not necessarily include GENE KELLY. (u)

(u)(S) [In September, 1948, Los Angeles T-41 learned wife of screen writer WILDO SALT, intended to attend some other function at the home of GENE KELLY, 725 North Beverly Hills, on September 13, 1948. Both MARY SALT

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John Howard Lawson  
Gordon Kahn  
Guy Endore  
Edward Dmytryk  
Richard Collins  
Lester Cole  
Hugo Butler  
Herbert Biberman  
Alvah Bessie

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WALDO SALT, have been identified by [Los Angeles T-5] as Communist Party members in Hollywood. (u)

MARY SALT has been connected with the Actors Laboratory in Hollywood while her husband, in addition to being active in the Communist Party, has been one of the main stays in the ARTS, SCIENCES, AND PROFESSIONS COUNCIL in Hollywood. (u)

In the latter part of September, 1948, the local office of the AMERICAN RUSSIAN INSTITUTE was planning for the visit to Los Angeles of the Rev. HEWLITT JOHNSON, the Dean of Canterbury, from England, whose scheduled visit to Los Angeles on December 9, 1948, was sponsored by ARI. According to Los Angeles T-43, ARI was at that particular time somewhat short of funds and REVA MUCHA of the ARI Office had consulted with Mrs. GENE KELLY in regard to the matter. According to informant, Mrs. KELLY told MUCHA that she would contribute something and would also try to raise \$100 or so from her friends. (u)

(u) In early October, 1948, Los Angeles T-24 advised that GENE KELLY had indicated he was trying to raise a little money for the candidacy of HENRY A. WALLACE and the Third Party Ticket; that he was doing this "off the record" in such a way that no "pitch" for funds would be necessary. It was KELLY's idea that he would get about twenty people to contribute \$100 each at a comparatively small affair to be held at his, KELLY's home, although not on an officially political basis. (u)

According to informant, EDWARD G. ROBINSON, the well-known screen actor, had let it be known that he could be counted in on the KELLY party. (u)

In 1948, GORDON KAHN, the Hollywood screen writer and one of the "Unfriendly 19" witnesses subpoenaed before the House Un-American Activities hearings in Washington in the fall of 1947, authored a book called HOLLYWOOD ON TRIAL, which purported to be "The story of the ten who were indicted". It may be noted that in addition to being a Hollywood screen writer, KAHN has also been a member of the Communist Party in Hollywood, [according to Los Angeles T-5]. The last ten pages or so of KAHN'S book quotes statements contributed by various individuals, one of whom was GENE KELLY, who said, "The House Un-American Activities Committee has called on the carpet some of the people who have been making your favorite movies. Did you happen to see 'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES', the picture that won seven academy awards? Did you like it?" (u)

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Were you subverted by it? Did it make you un-American? Did you come out of the movie with the desire to over-throw the Government?" (u)

According to information furnished by [Los Angeles T-32, (u)] an organization called ~~Hollywood~~ Motion Picture Film Council was set up during 1948 after the House Un-American Activities Committee hearings in Washington, the purpose of which was to create better public relations for the Hollywood motion picture industry. The council was made up of various individuals and executives representing the producers, writers, directors, and unions. Mr. DORE SCHARY of METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER was the original Chairman of the council. Informant reports that at a meeting of the organization on January 25, 1949, the entire meeting was given over to the subject on Communism in Hollywood. SCHARY presented the question at some length stating that FRANK FAY, stage actor and member of ACTORS EQUITY in New York, had attacked Communism in the motion picture industry at a recent public meeting in Boston and at which FAY had specifically named actors GENE KELLY and FRANK SINATRA as being Communists or Communist fellow travellers. (u)

In commenting on FAY's remarks, SCHARY characterized FAY as a drunken bum, a crack-pot, and so forth, and SCHARY told the Council that all such things are hurting the industry, and that the Council should come to the defense of KELLY and SINATRA. Others present at the Council meeting took issue with SCHARY, one important motion picture studio executive saying, that everyone knew that Hollywood was badly infiltrated with Communism and that it did not make any difference whether certain persons were actual members of the Communist Party or not—one was just as dangerous and subversive as the other and should be cleaned out of the industry. This executive said he was opposed to the Council's defending them as SCHARY had suggested. Informants report that others at the meeting likewise opposed SCHARY's suggestion and no action was taken on it. (u)

In February, 1949, Los Angeles T-25 [X(u)] learned that BETSY KELLY, wife of GENE KELLY, was scheduled to attend some sort of meeting or function at the home of PAUL JARRICO on February 7. Informant was not present at the meeting itself, however, and had no information as to the nature of it. (u)

PAUL JARRICO, by way of identification, is a Hollywood writer within the film industry who is very active in the ARTS, SCIENCES, AND PROFESSIONS COUNCIL, (u) and according to Los Angeles T-5, (u) was a member of the cultural groups of the Communist Party in Hollywood in 1945. (u)

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[Los Angeles T-25] <sup>(u)</sup> also reported in February, 1949, that ALBERT MALTZ, one of the "Hollywood 10", had drafted a letter in behalf of "the 10" which was to be sent out to various people seeking funds with which to finance the appeal of the conviction of "the 10" for contempt of Congress. Certain people were suggested by the ASP Council in Hollywood, in which ALBERT MALTZ and "the 10" are active, who it was believed should receive the MALTZ letter appeal for funds. These suggested names were GENE KELLY, PAUL HENREID, JOHN GARFIELD, and others. (S)u

In each case it was suggested that the salutation of the letter be set out as "Dear GENE", "Dear PAUL", "Dear JOHN", and so forth. (S)u

In April, 1949, a farewell dinner for PHILIP M. CONNELLY of the C.I.O. by the LOS ANGELES INDUSTRIAL UNION COUNCIL was held. CONNELLY, it may be noted, has been identified by Los Angeles T-26 as an important Communist Party member within the labor circles for a number of years. CONNELLY had been ousted from his post as Secretary of the Los Angeles Industrial Union Council which he had held for ten years. [For this farewell dinner, it was desired to obtain the attendance of representatives from Hollywood and the ASP Council in Hollywood furnished the names of suggested Hollywood people to the CIO representative handling the arrangements. Among those suggested were the names of the "Hollywood 10" along with names of BETSY BLAIR (Mrs. GENE KELLY), ABE BURROWS, radio actor; J. ALLEN FRANKEL, labor attorney, and others.] Both BURROWS and FRANKEL are known to Los Angeles T-57 (u) as having been members of the Communist Party. (S)u

(u) (S) [In January, 1949, Los Angeles T-27, considered a very reliable source, stated that he had noted that the name Mr. and Mrs. GENE KELLY of Beverly Hills, California, were among a long list of several hundred names in the possession of one SIDNEY BENSON who claims to be some sort of writer in Hollywood and who apparently has something to do with the ACTORS LABORATORY. (u)

Informant did not know the exact nature of this list of names but believed it to be some sort of mailing list; otherwise he could attach no particular significance to it. (u)

Concerning the above-mentioned SIDNEY BENSON, however, it may be noted that investigation by the Los Angeles and New York Offices have identified him as SIDNEY BERNSTEIN, alias SIDNEY BENSON, who came to Los Angeles from New York in the spring of 1948. BERNSTEIN,

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or BENSON, which is the name he generally uses, has been a Communist Party member with some fifteen years activity in various Communist posts as teacher, organizer, and writer. (u)

In June, 1949, the latest report by the California Un-American Activities Committee (TENNEY COMMITTEE) was issued in which a number of Hollywood personalities were referred to as pro-Communist or pro-Russian in varying degrees. A number of these people, of whom GENE KELLY was one, immediately issued denials to the press (u)

GENE KELLY is quoted in the "Los Angeles Daily News" of June 9, 1949 as stating:

"I don't know what Mr. Tenny's talking about. I am not a Communist, never was, and have no sympathy with Communist activities. The only line I know how to follow is the American line". (u)

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

- Los Angeles T-1: CNDI LA CD-60
- Los Angeles T-2: Records of the Bureau of Naval Personnel, according to Bureau letter to Los Angeles dated May 20, 1949, Bureau file 100-352566.
- Los Angeles T-3: CNDI LA 2722
- Los Angeles T-4: [CNDI LA 3200] (S) U
- Los Angeles T-5: CNDI LA 2900
- Los Angeles T-6: [CNDI LA 2550] (S) U
- Los Angeles T-7: [CNDI LA 3220] (S) U
- Los Angeles T-8: [CNDI LA 2529] (S) U
- Los Angeles T-9: [redacted] (S) U
- Los Angeles T-10: [redacted] (S) U
- Los Angeles T-11: [redacted] (S) U
- Los Angeles T-12: [CNDI New York Informant T-328] (S) U
- Los Angeles T-13: [redacted] (S) U
- Los Angeles T-14: New York report of Special Agent EDWARD F. HUMMER dated 4/10/46, re: ICC/SP, INTERNAL SECURITY - C.
- Los Angeles T-15: [redacted]
- Los Angeles T-16: [redacted]
- Los Angeles T-17: [redacted] and [redacted]

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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

Los Angeles T-18: New York report of Special Agent JOHN DENNIS O'CONNELL, dated 7/11/47 RE: P.C.A., INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Los Angeles T-19: Washington Field Office Informant C-516.

Los Angeles T-20: [Redacted] Informant

Los Angeles T-21: Philadelphia Informant PA T-4, according to Bureau letter dated 11/3/47 RE: COMPIC.

Los Angeles T-22: EARL CHANCE, Assistant Post Office Inspector in Charge, San Francisco.

Los Angeles T-23:

Los Angeles T-24:

CNDI [Redacted]

Los Angeles T-25:

CNDI LA CD-60

Los Angeles T-26:

[Redacted] (u)

Los Angeles T-27:

A highly confidential source known to Special Agents MARCUS M. BRIGHT and BERNARR M. PTACEK on January 4, 1949; RE: SIDNEY BERNSTEIN, was., INTERNAL SECURITY - C, Bureau File 100-31075.

Los Angeles T-28:

[Redacted]

Los Angeles T-29:

(CNDI LA 100)

Los Angeles T-30:

(CNDI LA CB-2)

Los Angeles T-31:

[Redacted] (u)



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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

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Los Angeles T-32:	[REDACTED]
Los Angeles T-33:	CNDI LA CAP-17
Los Angeles T-34:	[REDACTED] (u)
Los Angeles T-35:	CNDI LA RD-15
Los Angeles T-36:	(CNDI LA RD-5) (u)
Los Angeles T-37:	[REDACTED] (u)
Los Angeles T-38:	CNDI LA RD-34
Los Angeles T-39:	[REDACTED] (u) (S) 4
Los Angeles T-40:	(CNDI LA CD-7) (u)
Los Angeles T-41:	(CNDI LA CD-26)
Los Angeles T-42:	CNDI LA CD-38
Los Angeles T-43:	(CNDI LA RD-28) (u)
Los Angeles T-44:	CNDI LI 3243

Symbol numbers are being used for the above confidential sources either at their request or for obvious security reasons. (u)

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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DATE: July 28, 1950

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: RE: GENE KELLY (LOUIS BUDENZ 400)  
SECURITY MATTER - C

~~CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5-RD  
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 4-30-98  
4-30-2002~~

LOUIS F. BUDENZ, formerly managing editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary until he broke with the Party in October, 1945 has been interviewed during the past few months concerning the concealed Communists whom he knew. The person named above as the subject of this case, was one of those individuals whom BUDENZ described as a concealed Communist. BUDENZ describes a concealed Communist as one who does not hold himself out as a Communist and who would deny membership in the Party. (u)

BUDENZ advised SA WILLIAM J. MC CARTHY, JR. on June 20, 1950 of all he knew concerning the subject, that he felt was pertinent, and he dictated this information to a stenographer of this office, who was present during the interview. (u)

He used, in order to bring out all he knew about the subject, the following set of questions. He considered all questions in connection with this subject. Where he did not comment on some particular question as to the activity of the subject, then it is because he had no knowledge. If he recalled anything about the subject as a result of those questions he dictated what he knew. The questions are as follows:

1. Identify individual
  - a. If observed a description and other identifying data;
  - b. If not seen, enough descriptive data about individual to positively identify him or her;
  - c. Any aliases
2. Narrate how he knows individual as a Communist
  - a. If seen at a closed meeting get date, place and persons present at meeting
  - b. If told officially that individual was a Communist, who said it, what were the circumstances, and who was present;
  - c. Relate all occasions when he met or heard of individual as Communist.

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 6029 BCG/MLT/gja  
ON 1-14-04

(u)  
(u)

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY SLIP(S) BY DATE  
cc 62-8988  
62-238

Memo for [unclear]  
2-5-50

RECORDED - 39

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

100-352566-5

AUG 25 1950

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

59 DEC 1950

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Letter to Director

4 Fronts

Was individual active in front organizations.

- a. Which organizations
- b. How active was individual

5. Espionage

Was individual ever involved in secret work;  
What work;  
Who knew it;  
Did individual ever do any special work for party.

6. Is individual still active or sympathetic toward Party.

7. Can you recall any trips abroad particularly to Russia and the approximate date of the trips? Can you recall the nature of the trips.

8. Did you ever hear that he had attended any of the training schools in Russia?

9. Did this subject appear to have entree to the Russian Consulate or did he receive special consideration and attention from known Russian Agents or Communist Officials in U.S.?

10. Is the subject working for the U.S. Government or is he affiliated in any way in Confidential Government work at this time?

11. Did this individual have military training, Abraham Lincoln Brigade, U.S. Army, other service?

12. Was this individual employed in vital industry?

13. Do you know any other members of his family who are Communists?

14. Do you know of any other activity on the part of the individual which would indicate that the individual is a concealed Communist?

Additional questions were asked as a result of his answers to the above questions in order to fully develop his information.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Letter to Director

Attached is a blind memorandum dictated by LOUIS F. BUDENZ and containing all the pertinent information concerning the subject which BUDENZ could presently recollect. (u)

The original of each memo has been reviewed by Mr. BUDENZ and he has made any necessary corrections and he has signed the original. The signed original of each memo is being retained in the confidential informant file of LOUIS F. BUDENZ, NY file 62-8988. (u)

Since the individuals such as the subject of this case are, according to BUDENZ, concealed Communists and since they are, in most instances, persons of some prominence, it is suggested that if the information appearing in the attached blind memo is reported, then Mr. BUDENZ should be given a temporary confidential informant symbol. (u)

For the information of the Bureau the subject is one of the 400 concealed Communists whom BUDENZ stated he knew. The names of these concealed Communists were sent to the Bureau in the case captioned "Communist Party, USA, Internal Security - C". (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

GENE KELLY

Motion picture actor and dancer.

In the early 1940's V. J. JEROME advised me that GENE KELLY was a member of the Communist Party. This information was repeated to me by JEROME, ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG, and eventually by JACK STACHEL in 1944 or 1945.

KELLY has been a member of a number of Communist fronts.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-30-80 BY SP-5 R0/bia

100 - 352019 - 5  
ENCLOSURE

100-352566

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
REGISTERED MAIL

RECORDED - 15

Date: September 2, 1949

To: Director of Naval Intelligence  
Department of the Navy  
The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D. C.

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

Subject: EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, also known as  
Gene Kelly  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference is made to the memorandum from the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations dated March 16, 1949, concerning the captioned individual.

In accordance with the request contained in this memorandum, you are being furnished herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent Marcus M. Bright, dated July 27, 1949, at Los Angeles, California.

The information contained in this report is strictly confidential and should not be disseminated to anyone outside of your department.

Enclosure

EBR:esb

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) BY  
DATE 6/23/80

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-5-RJM  
ON 4-30-80

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
SPEC MESS  
RECEIVED  
SEP 2 1949 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9/4/85 BY SP-2/PLD  
6-24-87 SP-1 AB/PLD

SEP 21 1949

10256582

*Handwritten initials*

*Handwritten date: 10/15/72*

*Handwritten initials: EBR*

Spout No. 1234567

I have been told that the following items are not to be classified as Confidential or Secret or Restricted but I do know to be authentic. There is a lack of order to the items' reliability by any agency.

1. Jerry Martin  
(Case # 1234567)

provided and that certain information - very reliable and accurate.

2. John Kelly

John Kelly, born 1915, (Maine) is a well known person in the area of the city.

3. Arthur Jones

Arthur Jones

4. Richard Smith

Richard Smith

A large group of items listed in this

- 1. Jerry Martin - 1915
- 2. John Kelly - 1915
- 3. Arthur Jones - 1915
- 4. Richard Smith - 1915
- 5. John Kelly - 1915
- 6. Arthur Jones - 1915

John Kelly - 1915  
Arthur Jones - 1915  
Richard Smith - 1915  
John Kelly - 1915  
Arthur Jones - 1915

See attached

Jerry Martin  
John Kelly  
Arthur Jones

Spout's end - subject of various items - highly sensitive

Various items are the property of friends and family members who are not to be classified as Confidential or Secret or Restricted. There is a lack of order to the items' reliability by any agency. There is a lack of order to the items' reliability by any agency.

100-352566-6

NOT RECORDED  
145 AUG 25 1950

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-30-80 BY SP-5 RJA/Bia

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-1234567-6

SAC, Los Angeles

November 2, 1950

Director, FBI

EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, aka Gene Kelly  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Your file: 100-30894

Enclosed for your information is one copy of a letter dated July 28, 1950, received from the New York Field Division regarding the subject. The enclosed letter contains a statement by Louis Budenz that he had been advised in the early 1940's that Gene Kelly was a member of the Communist Party.

You are requested to reopen the security investigation on Eugene Curran Kelly and determine whether or not his present activities warrant making him the subject of a Security Index Card.

*Ed J. ...*  
Enclosure  
100-352566

*Full ...*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-30-80 BY SP-5-RJG/bia

RECORDED

100-352566-7  
NOV 9 1950

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Harbo
- Mohr
- Tele. Rm.
- Nease
- Gandy

JDJ:edd  
NOV 3 1950

NOV 2 3 02 PM '50  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

NOV 3 1950



San Gabriel

August 25, 1950

Director, FBI

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN THE UNITED STATES SECURITY MATTERS - C

*Continued*  
100-382366-12

Enclosed for your information are copies of an anonymous letter postmarked July 26, 1950, at Culver City, California, setting forth allegations regarding persons in connection with the subject.

*100-382366-12*  
*100-382366-12*

The following names are listed in your office, specific references made to individual by name only: *KELLY* Sile 200-25000; Frank's name; Sile 200-25000; Sile 200-25000; Larry name, Sile 200-25000; Sile 200-25000; Sile 200-25000; Sile 200-25000.

*AR 2-1*  
*100-382366-12*

- 100-382366 (1 to Kelly)
- 100-382366 (March)
- 100-382366 (Norma)
- 100-382366 (Pastor)
- 100-382366 (Harriet)
- 100-382366 (Christina)

*Kelly, [unclear]*

INDEXED - 60

VHB:jbc

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-30-80 BY SP-5-RJA/b/a

NOT RECORDED  
145 AUG 24 1950

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-137754-626

DUPLICATE YELLOW

- Olson
- And
- Case
- Arvin
- Choir
- son
- acy
- erbo
- er
- to. Room
- ss
- ay

52 SEP 5 1950

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DR  
ONE

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE NO. 100-30894

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1/27/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/13/50; 1/12, 16, 18, 20, 23/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>MARCUS M. BRIGHT</b> <span style="float: right;">MJS</span>
TITLE <b>EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, aka Gene Kelly</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject, who is better known by his professional name of **GENE KELLY**, still resides at 725 N. Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, and is currently under contract to MGM Studios. In early forties, **LOUIS J. BUDENZ** was told by high Communist Party functionary in New York that **KELLY** was a member of the CP. Los Angeles informants have no information that Subject was ever so affiliated, although one informant reported that in 1944 both Subject and his actress wife, **BETSY KELLY**, were regarded favorably by local CP.

*1cc - NY  
CWA - PTV  
2/24/53*

*1-cc- [unclear]  
1-cc- [unclear]  
2-15-51  
[unclear]*

**DETAILS:** At Los Angeles, California: Confidential sources for whom "T" symbols have been designated hereinafter are of known reliability unless otherwise stated. (u)

**Name:** **EUGENE CURRAN KELLY**, better known professionally as **GENE KELLY**. (u)

**Address:** Subject's current residence address is still 725 N. Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, California, (according to T-1) (u)

**Occupation:** **KELLY** is an actor-dancer by training and profession, is rated as a star in the motion picture industry, and (according to T-1) is currently under contract to Metro-Goldwyn Mayer Studios, Culver City, California. (u)

**Activities:** On June 20, 1950, Mr. **LOUIS J. BUDENZ**, formerly Managing Editor of the Daily Worker and a Communist Party (CP) functionary prior to October, 1945, characterized **GENE KELLY** as having been a concealed Communist.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>RBX [unclear]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<b>COPY IN FILE</b>		SE 2418
Copy to <i>C. I. R. (Photostat?)</i> by routing slip for <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> info <input type="checkbox"/> action date <i>10/22/50</i> by <i>[unclear]</i>		CLASS. BY <i>5 [unclear]</i> REASON FOR <i>1-2.4.2</i> DATE OF REVIEW <i>4-20-50</i>
5 - Bureau (100-352566) 3 - Los Angeles <i>11 363</i>		RECORDED EX-10706

COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY EMPLOYED BY (EMPL. CARD)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Specifically, Mr. BUDENZ advised SA WILLIAM J. MCCARTHY, JR., of the New York Office that KELLY was a motion picture actor and dancer, that in the early forties V. J. JEROME had told BUDENZ that GENE KELLY was a member of the CP; that this information had been repeated to BUDENZ by JEROME, ALEXANDER TRACHTENBERG and eventually by JACK STACHEL in 1944 or 1945. Mr. BUDENZ also stated that KELLY had been a member of a number of Communist fronts. (u)

T-2, for some ten years a member of the Hollywood CP prior to 1948, has advised that GENE KELLY was never a member of the CP within the knowledge and experience of this informant; that KELLY's wife, screen actress BETSY BLAIR, may have been what informant called "a little closer" to the Party, but informant knows nothing positive which would link either KELLY or his wife to the Party as actual members. (u)

T-3, for a number of years a member of the local CP in a functionary capacity, prior to 1946, has advised that he never knew GENE KELLY to be a member of the Party; that there was a period a few years ago when KELLY was regarded as one who would "go along" with the Party program, such as taking part in a public meeting or sponsoring a function of an organization in which the Party may have been interested. Whether or not KELLY was aware of the Party's interest in such functions during this period, informant could not say. T-3 added that it was his understanding that KELLY's actress wife was probably much closer to Party activity than was her husband; however, neither KELLY nor his wife was ever personally known to informant and he had no information to indicate that either was ever actually affiliated with the Party. (u)

T-4, a former member of a professional branch of the CP for several years prior to 1942 and who still maintains a number of contacts with the local CP, advises that he never knew GENE KELLY except by reputation as a motion picture personality. This informant had no information that KELLY has ever actually been affiliated with the CP. (u)

(u) (T-5) a former member of one of the so-called cultural branches of the CP in Hollywood, prior to 1948, advises that he has never been personally acquainted with GENE KELLY; that while KELLY in the past has had the reputation of being a very liberal individual, he was never known to be a member of the CP within the knowledge or experience of this informant. (u)

(u) (T-6 and T-7) who together were generally familiar with the membership of the Communist Party of Los Angeles, which includes Hollywood, between the years 1943 and 1946, advised that GENE KELLY has never been a member of the CP in this area as far as these informants are aware. (u)

In regard to Subject's wife, actress BETSY BLAIR, it is noted that (T-8) has advised that in November, 1950, BETSY BLAIR took part as one of (u)

100-352566-8

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

the speakers in a public meeting sponsored by the organization known as the Hollywood Arts, Sciences and Professions Council. This meeting took place at the New Globe Theater, 7165 Beverly Boulevard, Los Angeles, on November 10, 1950, and had been announced by the Hollywood ASP organization as a "protest rally" against the recent publication of "Red Channels," which was compiled and issued by the organization known as "Counterattack" in New York City. This publication purports to be a compilation of the affiliations on the part of a long list of radio and television artists with alleged past or present Communist front activities and organizations. The Hollywood ASP Council attacked "Red Channels" as a scheme to blacklist professionals and intellectuals. (u)

The Hollywood ASP Council has been characterized by T-8 as a Communist-dominated organization for professionals and intellectuals, the principal policy-making offices of which have been consistently held by individuals affiliated with the CP, although, as informant points out, membership in the Hollywood ASP does not of itself connote affiliation with the CP on the part of an individual. (u)

At the ASP-sponsored protest rally on November 10, 1950, BETSY BLAIR was one of the speakers, along with screen writer WALDO SALT and actress GALE SONDERGAARD, among others. (u)

Both SALT and SONDERGAARD have been identified by T-2 as having been members of the CP in Hollywood within this informant's own knowledge and experience as a Party member. (u) (u)

(u) (u) As reported by T-8, who was present at the protest rally, BETSY BLAIR directed her talk on this occasion chiefly against the adoption of a proposed loyalty oath for the motion picture industry. In discussing a loyalty oath that had been advanced by an organization identified with the motion picture industry, Miss BLAIR made reference to that part of the proposed oath which contained a reference to the proposition that the war in Korea had been engineered by JOSEF STALIN. At this point, Miss BLAIR burst into laughter and was joined by a majority of the audience. She characterized any such proposed loyalty oath for the motion picture industry as the first step of a disease that would plague the entire industry, and she added that the Hollywood ASP would take a definite stand against such a loyalty oath. (u)

(u) (u) (T-8) advises that he has no evidence that either BETSY BLAIR or her husband, actor GENE KELLY, has ever been actually affiliated with the CP. (u)

(u) (u) (T-9) has advised that he is personally acquainted with both GENE KELLY and BETSY BLAIR. This informant has furnished the following information concerning a recent episode pertaining to both which resulted from the participation of BETSY BLAIR in the above-mentioned protest rally on November 10, 1950:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

According to this informant, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Studios at this time is considerably concerned and anxious that they do not hire any members of the CP or Communist sympathizers in connection with any MGM film production. He related that recently BETSY BLAIR had been selected by MGM for a small part in a picture currently being produced. Prior to this selection, GENE KELLY had personally assured Mr. DORE SCHARY, the Managing Director of MGM, that his wife, BETSY BLAIR, entertained no Communist sympathies whatever. After the studio had chosen her for the part, however, information came to the studio that she had participated in a meeting sponsored by the ASP Council in Hollywood to protest the publication, "Red Channels." (u)

According to informant's information, BETSY BLAIR was promptly notified by the studio that she was being released from her motion picture commitment. Shortly thereafter, GENE KELLY came to see DORE SCHARY at MGM and protested concerning the studio's action. At that time, KELLY told the studio executive that his wife had not realized the political nature of the ASP meeting at which she had spoken and that she was willing to sign an oath concerning her loyalty. After making certain inquiry of its own and taking a loyalty affidavit from BETSY BLAIR, the studio reinstated her in the production. (u)

It should be noted that T-10, a current member of Hollywood ASP Council, has advised that while BETSY BLAIR is considered friendly to the Hollywood ASP, her husband, GENE KELLY, is not so considered by that organization. (u) (s) (a)

(u) (s) (a) In 1944, T-6 reported that GENE and BETSY KELLY were considered favorably by the local CP even to the point of being possible recruit material. However, informant had no information to indicate that any attempt to recruit them had actually been made or that either of the KELLYS ever became affiliated with the CP as members. (u)

- C L O S E D -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

With reference to the statement of Mr. LOUIS J. BUDENZ that GENE KELLY has in the past been a member of a number of Communist fronts, reference is made to reference report of the Los Angeles Office dated 7/27/49 which sets forth the past activity on the part of GENE KELLY in connection with a number of organizations reportedly controlled, influenced or infiltrated by CP elements. It will be noted from that report that in past years he has taken part in various functions in which he has been associated with prominent CP members in Hollywood, and that he has in the past supported causes either knowingly or unknowingly which were backed and often inspired by CP elements. (u)

As noted on page 3 of reference report, GENE KELLY and his wife were apparently considered as possible recruit material for the CP in 1944. However, the informant had no information to indicate that they had ever actually joined the CP or to what extent the Party had actually made efforts to recruit them. (u)

Available local informants on CP matters in Hollywood and Los Angeles have to date been unable to furnish any information of a reliable nature to show actual membership in the CP on the part of either KELLY or his wife. (u)

Inasmuch as there has been no admissible evidence adduced to date to show that GENE KELLY has ever been an actual member of the CP, and inasmuch as he is not currently connected with an industry vital to the national defense, no recommendation is being made that a Security Index card be issued on him at this time. (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- T-1: [redacted] Screen Actors Guild, Hollywood, California; to SA MARCUS M. BRIGHT on 1/18/51.
- T-2: [redacted] to SA MARCUS M. BRIGHT on 7/26/50 and 1/12/51.
- T-3: [redacted] to SA ROMNEY STEWART on 1/22/51.
- T-4: [redacted] to SA MARCUS M. BRIGHT on 1/12/51.
- T-5: [redacted] to SAs MARCUS M. BRIGHT and ROY ANDREW PETERS on 1/16/51.
- T-6: CI LA 2900 to SA JOHN VICARS, et al., on 8/31/43, 6/30/44, 1/8/45, 2/26/45 and 5/19/45.
- T-7: CI LA 3200, to SA MARCUS M. BRIGHT, et al., in May, 1947.
- T-8: [redacted] to SA MARCUS M. BRIGHT on 3/14/50 and 1/23/51; to SA WILLIAM JOHN NOLAN, JR., on 11/15/50.
- T-9: [redacted] MGM Studios, to SAC RICHARD B. HOOD and SA GEORGE D. THOMSON on 12/12/50.
- T-10: [redacted] to SA IRVING WEEKS on 9/13/50.

b6  
b7C  
b7D

b7D

(u)  
(S)

REFERENCE: Report of SA MARCUS M. BRIGHT, Los Angeles, dated 7/27/49. (4)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES

NY FILE NO. 100-99598

FO

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/9/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/26, 28, 29, 30, 31; 4/3/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>ARTHUR S. BENNETT</b>
TITLE <b>GENE KELLY, aka: Eugene Joseph Kelly</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject born 8/23/12, Pittsburgh, Pa. Resides Beverly Hills, Calif. Employed MGM, Hollywood, Calif. Informants advise subject member of C.P. and member of a number of Communist fronts. No recent activities noted in New York. Background information set out. (u)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

PHOTO...  
CO TO: U.S. I.A. ....  
REQ. REC'D... 7/5/51  
APR 15 1965  
INS. BY: [Signature]

- R U C -

AGENCY 100 - State (Passport)  
REQ. REC'D 11-14-53  
REP'T FORW. 2-4-53  
BY [Signature]

DETAILS:

At New York, New York.

Citizenship

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60790 REC/MUT/98  
ON 1-14-04

"Who's Who in the Theatre," Tenth Edition, revised 1947 by JOHN PARKER, reflects that the subject was born at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on August 23, 1912, the son of JAMES PATRICK JOSEPH KELLY and his wife, HARRIET (CURRAN) KELLY. (u)

The "Current Biography of 1945" reflects the subject was born EUGENE JOSEPH KELLY, August 23, 1912, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. (u)

Employment

"Who's Who in the Theatre" also reflects the subject

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) BY [Signature] DATE 6/28/50

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

Edward Schmitt

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

RECORDED - 78

COPY IN FILE

100-5521366

INDEXED - 73

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

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- 3 - Los Angeles
- 2 - New York

APR 11 1961

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-5/LL  
REASON - FCIM II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW 10-4-80

Copy to [Signature]  
by [Signature] for [Signature]  
 info  
date 10/28/69  
by [Signature]

MAY 4 1951



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

resides care of M. C. A., Beverly Hills, California, and has appeared exclusively in films since 1942. (u)

(u)(u) [Confidential Informant T-1] of known reliability, advised that the subject presently resides at 725 North Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, California, and is about to start on a film produced by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, entitled "Ghost of a Chance." (u)

(u) Communist Activities

(u)(u) [Confidential Informant T-2] of known reliability, advised that in the early 1940's he was informed that the subject, a motion picture actor and dancer, was a member of the Communist Party. Informant stated he was again informed in 1944 or 1945 by JACK STACHEL that the subject was a Communist Party member. Informant also advised that KELLY was a member of a number of Communist front organizations and that his name had been mentioned at Communist Party Headquarters, 35 East 12th Street, New York City. (u)

Informant further advised and made available a letter dated December 6, 1946, which requested support for the National Committee to oust BILBO. Informant stated that the Committee was sponsored by the Civil Rights Congress and that GENE KELLY's name appeared on the letterhead as a member of the Committee. (u)

It is to be noted that JACK STACHEL was one of the eleven Communist Party leaders who was convicted in 1949 at New York for violation of the Smith Act. It is also to be noted that the Civil Rights Congress has been designated by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of the Executive Order 9835. (u)

The "Daily Worker, an East Coast Communist newspaper, of November 21, 1944, reported that GENE KELLY was one of approximately nineteen screen stars who had wired greetings to the National Council of American Soviet Friendship meeting, held at Madison Square Garden on November 16, 1944. (u)

It is to be noted that the National Council of American Soviet Friendship was designated by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-99598

Confidential Informant T-3 and Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, advised that the American Youth For Democracy held its Second Annual Salute to Young Americans at a dinner to "Welcome Home Joe" on the occasion of the second anniversary of the American Youth For Democracy. This dinner was held on December 12, 1945 at the Hotel Roosevelt, New York City. (S)(u)

American Youth For Democracy awards were given to several people and GENE KELLY, movie actor, was among those presenting the American Youth For Democracy awards. (S)(u)

It is to be noted that the American Youth For Democracy has been designated by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of the Executive Order 9835. (u)

Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised on May 16, 1946 that the Veterans Council of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions, sponsored a rally at Madison Square Garden, New York City. GENE KELLY, actor, presided. The informant did not report any comments made by KELLY, but stated that the rally had to do with veterans' housing, retention of price and rent controls, and the steps that should be taken to prevent the outbreak of World War III. (S)(u)

It is to be noted that the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions has been cited as a Communist front by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report number 1954, April 26, 1950. (u)

The "New York Herald Tribune," a daily New York newspaper, published March 19, 1946, contained an article concerning a rally which was sponsored by the National Council of American Soviet Friendship. This rally was held on March 18, 1946, and accused WINSTON CHURCHILL of war-mongering, and called upon President TRUMAN to keep peace. (u)

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Mrs. GENE KELLY, the wife of the subject, was one of the speakers at this rally. *Sponsored by National Council for the Abolition of Communism*

Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised on May 3, 1946, that GENE KELLY, movie actor, as well as PAUL ROBESON and ADA JACKSON were speakers at a meeting of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions. (u) (c) (u)

Confidential Informant T-2, advised in June of 1950, that PAUL ROBESON was known to him to be a Communist in the years prior to 1945. (u)

Confidential Informants T-18 and T-19, of known reliability, advised that ADA JACKSON has been a Communist Party candidate for political office from Brooklyn, New York. (u) (c)

The "Hollywood Citizens News," published September 6, 1947, page 1, announced that GENE KELLY was one of the sponsors of a rally held under the auspices of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, at the Shriners Auditorium in Hollywood, California, on September 5, 1947. (u)

It is to be noted that the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has been designated by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. (u)

A news release issued by the Progressive Citizens of America, 205 East 42nd Street, New York City, dated May 16, 1947, announced the National Youth Lobby was to be held in Washington, D.C., on June 15 and 16, 1947. One of the sponsors of the Lobby was actor GENE KELLY, Honorary Chairman, Young Progressive Citizens of America. (u)

The California Committee on Un-American Activities Report 1947, Page 369, and Report 1948, Page 354, cited the Progressive Citizens of America as a "new and broader Communist front for the entire United States." (u)

Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, advised that a fund-raising meeting was held for the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee on February 21, 1947, at the Biltmore Hotel, Los Angeles. Mr. O. JOHN ROGGE,

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who was formerly connected with the United States Department of Justice, was scheduled to give the main speech. ROGGE cancelled his appearance at the last minute due to other commitments, and GENE KELLY was then scheduled to read ROGGE'S speech. Informant stated that KELLY was unable to attend because of illness and that his wife read the speech. (u) (C)

According to Confidential Informant T-8, of known reliability, on September 25, 1947 LUKE WILSON, Washington representative of the Progressive Citizens of America, suggested a "super duper mass meeting" to be held in Washington, D.C. at Turners Arena. (C) (u)

In connection with the investigation of individuals from Hollywood, which had been conducted by the House Un-American Activities Committee, it was suggested that GENE KELLY might appear at this mass meeting. (C) (u)

On January 3, 1947 Confidential Informant T-9, of known reliability, advised that the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade had arranged for a theatrical program to be held January 19, 1947 at the Belasco Theatre, New York City. This program was to be titled "Stars Entertain For Republic Spain" and GENE KELLY was listed as a sponsor. (C) (u)

It is to be noted that the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade has been designated by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of the Executive Order 9835. (u)

The "New York Journal American," a New York daily newspaper, published an article by HOWARD RUSHMORE on September 20, 1946, which commented on greetings received by the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade from GENE KELLY and others. (u)

The "Volunteer For Liberty", official publication of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade issue of November 1947, listed greetings received from several persons including GENE KELLY, who sent the following greeting:

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"Please allow me to join in paying tribute to the men who fought Fascism before it was popular to do so. Let us keep insisting that their lives be not given in vain." (u)

SA LESLIE F. WARREN attended a rally held at the Shriners Auditorium, Los Angeles, California, on October 15, 1949. This rally was sponsored by the Progressive Citizens of America to protest the fact that a number of screen personalities had been subpoenaed to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee in Washington, D. C. Agent WARREN advised that GENE KELLY introduced the guest speakers. (u)

The New York "Daily Compass," a New York daily newspaper, on May 18, 1949 carried an article which listed 128 prominent writers, lecturers, musicians, actors, playwrights, artists, and educators, who were labeled by the American Legion, Americanism Division, as persons "whose past activities make them unsuitable or in-appropriate for Legion sponsorship." Among the 120 names was listed GENE KELLY. (u)

(u) (s) [Confidential Informant T-10.] of unknown reliability, but who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 23, 1949 that GENE KELLY was connected with the Civil Rights Congress and a number of other front organizations. (u)

Confidential Informants T-11, T-12, T-13, T-14, T-15, and T-16, all of known reliability, advised that they had no information concerning the activities of the subject in the New York area. (s) (u)

(u) (s) [Confidential Informant T-17.] of known reliability, advised that GENE KELLY acted as Chairman at a Veterans Emergency Rally, held at Madison Square Garden, New York City, on May 16, 1946, under the auspices of the Veterans Council, the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions. Informant also advised that KELLY was elected Vice Chairman of the Progressive Citizens of America in 1947. (u) (u)

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Background.

The "Current Biography of 1945" lists the following background information concerning the subject GENE KELLY:

He attended St. Raphael's Grammar School and Peabody High School in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He attended the Pennsylvania State College and the University of Pittsburgh, from which he graduated in 1933. He currently owns the Gene Kelly Studio of the Dance in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Johnstown, Ohio, which is operated by his family. (u)

"Who's Who in the Theatre", Tenth Edition, Revised 1947 by JOHN PARKER, reflected that the subject married BETSY BLAIR, and that he had appeared in the following Broadway plays: Kelly

"Leave It to Me" - 1938

"One For the Money" - February 1939

"The Time of Your Life" - October 1939

"Pat Joey" - December 1940. (u)

During 1940 he directed the dancers at the Diamond Horseshoe Restaurant, New York City. He then went to Hollywood and appeared in "For Me and My Gal" in 1942, and since that time has appeared exclusively in films. (u)

The "New York Times", a New York daily newspaper, on September 22, 1941, carried an article which reflected that GENE KELLY married BETSY BLAIR on September 21, 1941, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, at the Church of St. John the Evangelist. (u)

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

The title of this report is not marked changed inasmuch as it is not known whether the Office of Origin has ever carried the full name of the subject in the title.

(4)

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LEADS

LOS ANGELES

At Los Angeles, California

Will verify subject's residence and employment. (4)

Will conduct investigation to ascertain subject's present activities. (4)

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NY 100-99598

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA ARTHUR S. BENNETT, New York, April 9, 1951, are identified as follows:

- T-1 [redacted]
- T-2 LOUIS F. BUDENZ, self-professed Communist Party member and former editor of the "Daily Worker."
- T-3 NYT-328
- T-4 [redacted]
- T-5 [redacted]
- T-6 NYT-356
- T-7 [redacted]
- T-8 [redacted]
- T-9 [redacted]
- T-10 [redacted] contacted by SA ALBERT J. KLEIN.
- T-11 [redacted] contacted by SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY.
- T-12 [redacted] contacted by SA EDWARD W. BUCKLEY.
- T-13 [redacted] contacted by SA RICHARD T. CLANCY.
- T-14 [redacted] contacted by SA RICHARD T. CLANCY.

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(u)  
(S)

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

T-15

[redacted] contacted by SA  
RICHARD T. CLANCY.

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T-16

[redacted] contacted by SA  
RICHARD T. CLANCY.

T-17

Bureau of Special Services  
and Investigation, New York  
City Police Department,  
contacted by SA AUGUST J.  
MICEK.

(u)  
(K)

T-18

[redacted]

T-19

REFERENCE:

New York letter to the Director,  
dated July 28, 1950. (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, New York

March 20, 1951

Director, FBI

DETROIT OFFICE  
and General Kelly  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bufile 100-352563

Carleton subject was reported by Louis Budenz as a "con-  
ceded Communist". For the information of the New York Office, Los  
Angeles, which is office of origin in this case, has included the  
Budenz information in an investigative report.

cc: Los Angeles (100-30004)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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EX-56

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*BBK*

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES

DATE: 4/20/51

SUBJECT: EUGENE CURRAN KELLY  
aka, Gene Kelly  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
(Bufile 100-352566)

*10-1*

Rerep SA ARTHUR S. BENNETT, New York, 4/9/51, which contains a lead for Los Angeles to verify Subject's residence and employment and to conduct investigation to ascertain his present activities.

Considerable information has been previously reported by Los Angeles concerning Subject's past and present affiliations as set out in the reports of SA MARCUS M. BRIGHT at Los Angeles, dated 7/27/49 and 1/27/51, one copy of each of which is being enclosed herewith to the New York Office for the completion of its file on GENE KELLY.

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In view of these reports, it is not believed necessary to complete the undeveloped leads set out by New York and no additional investigation is being made at Los Angeles unless the Bureau so instructs.

MMB:WAB  
100-30894  
cc: New York (100-99598) (Encls. 2)

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DIRECTOR, FBI (100-33007)

March 3, 1952

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-22730)

MAX NATHAN BENOFF, wa.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

115813

*Gene Kelly*

Re: Romylet February 21 last captioned JOHN GARFIELD, was. SECURITY MATTER - C, PERJURY (Bufile 100-335703), a copy of which was designated for the Bureau's file on MAX NATHAN BENOFF. Referenced letter sets out the results of an interview with BENOFF regarding GARFIELD, as well as BENOFF's own Communist Party connections which he denied.

On February 28, 1952, Dr. C. RUSSELL ANDERSON, 416 North Bedford Drive, Beverly Hills, California, was interviewed pursuant to information received that he had some information which he desired to furnish the Bureau pertaining to Communist matters.

One of several unassociated matters which Dr. ANDERSON mentioned was the fact that about 1945 MAX NATHAN BENOFF was a patient of his. BENOFF had some rash which appeared to be caused by nervousness. ANDERSON eventually sent BENOFF to Dr. JOHN B. DOYLE, psychiatrist, inasmuch as BENOFF's nervousness appeared to be caused by mental stress.

While BENOFF was a patient of ANDERSON, however, he admitted to ANDERSON that he was a member of the Communist Party. BENOFF at that time was the writer of the popular radio show "Baby Snooks." He admitted that his membership in the Communist Party took a great deal of his time; that he had to attend Party meetings regularly and frequently which, in addition to his writing work for radio, continually overworked him.

Approximately six months ago in 1951 BENOFF was again in contact with Dr. ANDERSON, although not professionally. He told ANDERSON then that he had quit the Communist Party a few months prior thereto. ANDERSON suggested that if he had disassociated himself from the Party, BENOFF should seek an interview with the FBI and make his position known to the Bureau. However, while BENOFF indicated he would like to talk to Bureau representatives about himself, he had decided not to do so because he felt he would be obliged to name others he knew to be connected with the Communist Party. BENOFF told ANDERSON that while he

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Air Mail

cc: Bureau file 100-335707 (JOHN GARFIELD)  
Bureau file 100-352566 (GENE KELLY)  
LA 100-22503 (GARFIELD)  
LA 100-20891 (KELLY)

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thinks that basically Communism is all right, he did not like the conspiracy angle of it, which was one of the reasons he had withdrawn from it.

According to ANDERSON, the only person that BENOFF named as a Communist, other than himself, was the film actor, GENE KELLY, whom BENOFF greatly admires. It was ANDERSON's recollection that BENOFF named KELLY as a Party member when he first admitted his own membership to ANDERSON in 1945. ANDERSON says that it has been generally believed around Beverly Hills that KELLY is or has been a Communist, although no one has any proof other than KELLY's associations, past and present. ANDERSON also remarked that KELLY apparently has not been named by any of the witnesses before the House Committee on Un-American Activities to date.

ANDERSON stated that when BENOFF went into the armed services sometime in 1945 he, ANDERSON, recommended BENOFF as a radio writer to the Commander of the Navy's Armed Service Radio Unit at Santa Monica, and BENOFF was transferred to that unit from basic training. It appears the Unit Commander had been a patient of ANDERSON and was known to him personally.

ANDERSON was asked if at the time of this recommendation he was aware of BENOFF's affiliation with the Communist Party. ANDERSON said he was aware of it at the time; but that if he had known then what he knows now about Communism and the Communist Party, he would never have recommended BENOFF.

Because of the matter of medical ethics ANDERSON was not asked why he had not reported his information regarding BENOFF until now, and ANDERSON did not raise the point. ANDERSON indicated that he rather likes BENOFF as an individual, although he in no way approves of his past connections with the Communist Party. Although he did not say so directly, ANDERSON indicated that should BENOFF be subpoenaed and his Communist Party affiliations disclosed publicly, his career as a top radio writer would be seriously jeopardized; and apparently BENOFF himself fears this too.

In this connection, it should be noted that at no time was ANDERSON advised that BENOFF had been contacted previously by agents of this office as set out in mylet of February 21st last in the JOHN GARFIELD, SECURITY MATTER - C, PERJURY case.

There is a possibility that BENOFF may have been in touch with Dr. ANDERSON since BENOFF was interviewed by Bureau agents last February 18th. Although through certain questions Dr. ANDERSON was given an opportunity to confirm this, he did not do so, and he indicated that he had not had any contact with BENOFF for some months either professionally or socially.

It was made clear to Dr. ANDERSON that the Bureau would afford Mr. BENOFF an interview at any time he may care to contact the Los Angeles office; that, however, the FBI has nothing to do with the procedure or policy of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and has no information relative to whom HCUA may or may not subpoena.

For the Bureau's information, nothing of a derogatory nature concerning Dr. G. RUSSELL ANDERSON appears in the Los Angeles indices. In addition to the information concerning BENOFF, Dr. ANDERSON furnished information of a hearsay nature which may prove pertinent in other matters.

In regard to film actor GENE KELLY (Bufile 100-352566,) whom BENOFF named to Dr. ANDERSON as a member of the Communist Party, you will note that BENOFF's identification, if true, is the first concrete indication that KELLY was or is actually a member of the Communist Party. Past investigation of KELLY has not established actual membership on his part, although he was apparently very close to and well regarded by the Party in the past.

For your information, it has been learned from House Committee on Un-American Activities investigator, WILLIAM WHEELER, subsequent to the interview with BENOFF on February 18 last, that HCUA is considering issuing a subpoena for BENOFF's appearance at the forthcoming hearings in Los Angeles to be held probably about May next. It is not known exactly who HCUA's sources are or who may have named BENOFF. The fact that someone did name him is indicated by the fact that HCUA is considering a subpoena for him, probably subsequent to an interview with him by an HCUA representative. WHEELER, of course, is not aware that BENOFF has been interviewed by the Bureau.

Los Angeles feels that if BENOFF can put GENE KELLY in the Communist Party, he might also put JOHN GARFIELD in,

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if in fact GARFIELD was a Party member. KELLY and GARFIELD, if they were actual members, would normally be afforded the utmost protection by the Communist Party reserved for film stars of their stature. BENOFF apparently was close to both.

For this reason the Bureau is requested to review the information set out in referenced letter of February 21, 1952, in the GARFIELD case, and advise whether it is not considered worthwhile to recontact BENOFF and give him another opportunity to cooperate by furnishing information to the Bureau.



RECORDED - 73

SAC, Los Angeles (100-30894)

January 4, 1952

Director, FBI (100-352566)

EUGENE CURRAN KELLY  
Security Matter - C

Reurlet dated December 4, 1951.

A review of this file reflects that Kelly was identified by Louis F. Budenz as a member of the Communist Party in the early 1940's and another informant of unknown reliability advised that Kelly attended classes in Leninism in 1946. These classes were described as primarily intended for new contacts and potential Communist Party recruit material.

Your extensive investigation and contacts with security informants have not verified Kelly's Communist Party membership. In addition, the numerous so-called "friendly witnesses" who testified before the HCUA investigating Communist infiltration into the Hollywood Motion Picture Industry did not identify Kelly as a Communist Party member.

In view of the above, the Bureau does not consider an interview warranted and no authorization is granted.

NOTE ON YELLOW ONLY:

Subject is commonly known as Gene Kelly, actor and dancer. He is not included in the Security Index. No CP membership reported other than above. During 1940's Kelly was affiliated in various degrees with approximately a dozen organizations which were reportedly controlled, influenced, or infiltrated by Communist Party elements. Kelly has several times publicly denied being pro-Communist and no concrete evidence of CP membership is known. In view of this, it is not felt an interview would be productive.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-352566)

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles (100-30894)

SUBJECT: <sup>0</sup> EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, wa.  
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: December 4, 1951

*W. J. [unclear]*  
*W. J. [unclear]*  
*W. J. [unclear]*

*100-352566-12*  
*encl*

Rerep of Special Agent MARCUS M. BRIGHT dated December 4, 1951, at Los Angeles, five copies of which are enclosed herewith.

Although no Security Index Card is recommended for this subject at this time, you will note from the information furnished by T-4 as set out in referenced report that GENE KELLY, in 1946, attended classes in Leninism in New York at the apartment of actor LLOYD GOUGH, the latter being characterized by the informant as a high level recruiter for the Party; further, that these classes were primarily intended for new contacts and potential recruits into the Communist Party. Although T-4 did not know if KELLY was ever actually recruited, he does recall that GOUGH was a good friend of GENE KELLY.

**G.I.R.-6**

It is suggested that the Bureau may desire to authorize an interview with GENE KELLY for information concerning such classes and those associated with them, as well as KELLY's own reported connection with various organizations and functions in which the Communist Party was interested in Hollywood in subsequent years.

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Enclosures - 5

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SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12/4/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>11/26/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>MARCUS M. BRIGHT</b>
TITLE <b>CHANGED</b> <b>EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, wa.</b> <b>Eugene Joseph Kelly</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Additional confidential sources, T-1, T-2 and T-3, at Los Angeles, California, have no information that subject has been a Communist Party member. T-4, former Communist Party member in New York, 1937 to 1947, recalls that in 1946, GENE KELLY and his wife, BETSY BLAIR, attended certain classes in Leninism held in New York; but T-4 does not know if subject ever actually joined the Communist Party. Subject has not been named by any of the friendly witnesses before the House Committee on Un-American Activities as having been affiliated with the Communist Party.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) BY **DO** DATE **100-352566-15**  
**100-352566-15**  
**CW 1/2/53**

- P\* - DECLASSIFIED BY **SP-5-RD** ON **4-30-80**

### DETAILS:

The title of this case is being changed to include the name **EUGENE JOSEPH KELLY**, under which name it is reported that the subject is recorded in the publication "Current Biography of 1945."

**100-352566-15**  
**12/21/51**  
**gob**

Confidential sources for whom "T" symbols are designated hereinafter are of known reliability unless otherwise stated.

T-1 was a member of the Communist Party in Hollywood, California, in what was commonly referred to as the Party's Cultural or Motion Picture Section between 1938 and 1945. T-1 states that she has no

Copy to State, CIA  
by routing slip  
info on  
date 10/26/60  
by [signature]

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ENCLOSURE

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>C. H. Carson</b> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT ⑤ - Bureau (100-352566) 3 - Los Angeles (100-30894)	<b>100-352566-15</b> <b>DEC 11 1951</b> <b>RECORDED - 13</b> <b>INDEXED - 13</b>

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

personal or direct information that either GENE KELLY or his wife, actress BETSY BLAIR, was ever actually affiliated with the Communist Party. The informant recalls that about two years ago she made a nominal donation to the Harry Bridges Defense Fund and that this donation was given to an individual, not now recalled but who was from San Francisco, California, soliciting such funds. The solicitor told T-1 that the informant's name had been suggested to her by actress BETSY BLAIR (Mrs. GENE KELLY). With respect to BETSY BLAIR, T-1 states that based on her knowledge and association with her, she would characterize her as "radical," but the informant has never known her to be an actual Party member nor has she heard of her spoken of as such by anyone in the Communist Party.

T-2, a member of the Communist Party in Hollywood from 1937 to 1943 and who has had personal knowledge of a great many people in the Hollywood motion picture industry who were also members of the Party during that period, advises that he never had any personal or direct knowledge that GENE KELLY was affiliated with the Party either in Hollywood or in New York.

T-3, a member of the Cultural Section of the Los Angeles County Communist Party in Hollywood from 1937 to 1948, advises that GENE KELLY was never in the Party so far as she knows. T-3 states that, as a matter of fact, KELLY was considered somewhat of a problem by the Party and actually was probably more anti-Party than he was pro. KELLY has disapproved, particularly in recent years since the war, of what little activity his wife, BETSY, did in appearing or taking part in public functions and organizations in which the Communist Party was interested. Although KELLY and his wife may have at one time been favorably considered by the Party, T-3 states she has no information whatever that either of them ever actually became affiliated with it.

T-4, of unknown reliability, was a member of the Communist Party in New York City between 1938 or 1939 and 1947, during which period he was personally acquainted and associated with a number of prominent theatrical people who were affiliated with the Party in one way or another. T-4 recalls GENE KELLY as the well-known stage and screen dancer. The informant states that in 1946, KELLY, together with his wife, BETSY BLAIR, attended classes in Leninism, which were conducted one night a week at the apartment of actor LLOYD GOUGH in New York City. T-4 recalls that these classes were primarily intended for new contacts and potential recruit material into the Communist Party. T-4 does not know, however, if KELLY was ever actually recruited into the Communist Party.

T-4 identifies LLOYD GOUGH as an actor who is now in the motion picture industry in Hollywood. Prior to going to Hollywood, GOUGH had been an established stage actor in New York. He was a member of the Party and close to persons on the section and division level, as well as being considered a high level recruiter for the Party. In 1946, GOUGH resided in

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an apartment at the Wentworth Hotel in New York where the above-mentioned classes in Leninism were held once a week. T-4 recalls that GOUGH was a good friend of GENE KELLY.

During the year 1951, the House Committee on Un-American Activities held hearings in both Washington, D. C., and New York on the question of the extent of Communist infiltration into the Hollywood motion picture industry. It is noted that at these hearings, some seventeen so-called friendly witnesses testified before the committee and named approximately three hundred individuals as having been identified or affiliated with the Communist Party. The big majority of these individuals were connected with the motion picture industry; however, GENE KELLY was not named by any of the witnesses who co-operated with the committee.

- P E N D I N G -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

No recommendation for a Security Index Card for this subject is being made at this time inasmuch as he is not employed in a vital industry and no evidence of actual Party membership on his part has been found; however, request for authority to interview the subject is being made by separate communication.

LEAD

THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE:

At Los Angeles, California:

Will interview GENE KELLY if authorized by the Bureau.

INFORMANTS

SOURCE: T-1 [redacted] who furnished information to Special Agent MARCUS M. BRIGHT on April 24, 1951.

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T-2 [redacted] who furnished information to Special Agents ANDREW JOSEPH DECKER, JR. and WILLIS G. WILSON on October 10, 1951.

T-3 [redacted] who furnished information to Special Agent MARCUS M. BRIGHT on November 26, 1951.

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T-4 [redacted] who furnished a statement concerning his past Communist Party affiliation to Army security officers on June 18, 1951. A copy of this statement was furnished the Los Angeles office by letter dated August 30, 1951.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent ARTHUR S. BENNETT dated April 9, 1951, at New York.

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[Large redacted area]

RECORDED-39

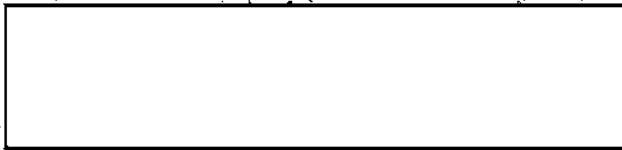
100-352566-13

101-19

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: January 14, 1953

TO:



Referral/Consult

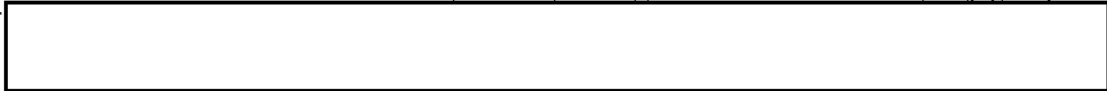
*pw 6*

FROM: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: EUGENE CURRAN KELLY  
aka. Gene Kelly  
SECURITY MATTER - C

*GIR-3*

101



Please be advised that this Bureau has furnished to you all information that Mr. Louis J. Budenz has in his possession. However, if you have any specific questions concerning Kelly's activities, we will be glad to reinterview Budenz concerning these matters.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) BY OO  
DATE 7-1-8

EWN: jal *jal*

NOTE ON YELLOW ONLY:

Subject, movie actor Gene Kelly, is not on the Security Index.

RECEIVED  
JAN 14 9 27 PM '53

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

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-5.RJ  
ON 4-30-88

COMM-FBI  
JAN 15 1953

*713 7832*  
*Eu/gw*

SAC, New York (100-99598)

February 26, 1953

Director, FBI (100-352566)

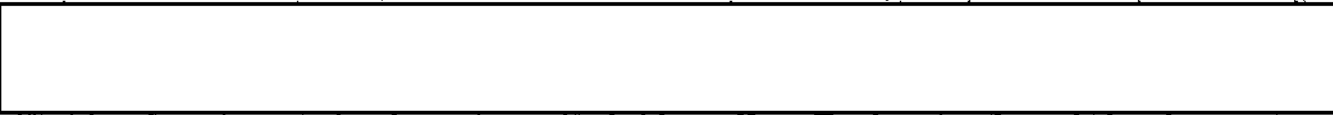
EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, aka  
Gene Kelly  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Referral/Consult

Enclosed for the information of the New York Office is



contacted concerning information he had furnished about the subject, and a copy of the report of Special Agent Marcus W. Bright dated January 27, 1951, at Los Angeles.



at Los Angeles. It is requested that New York comply with the request set forth under Item No. 2 of the enclosed letter from the Office of Naval Intelligence and that this matter be handled at an early date for immediate referral to that agency.

Enclosure

2cc-Los Angeles (100-30894)

NOTE ONNYELLOW:

Subject not on the SI. Is movie actor Gene Kelly.

EWN:bjb

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-30-80 BY SP-5 JED/bk

AK B2  
78 B2  
LW

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

COMM - FBI  
FEB 27 1953  
MAILED 26

50 MAR 4 1953

REC'D  
FEB 27 5 41 PM '53



RECORDED - 90

15

115917

DATE: April 16, 1953

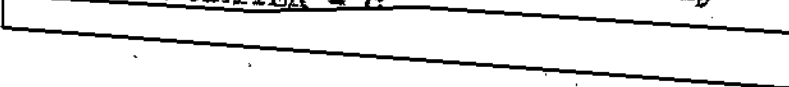
TO:



Referral/Consult

FROM: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, aka. Gene Kelly  
SECURITY MATTER - C



Reference is made to your letter dated January 29, 1953.

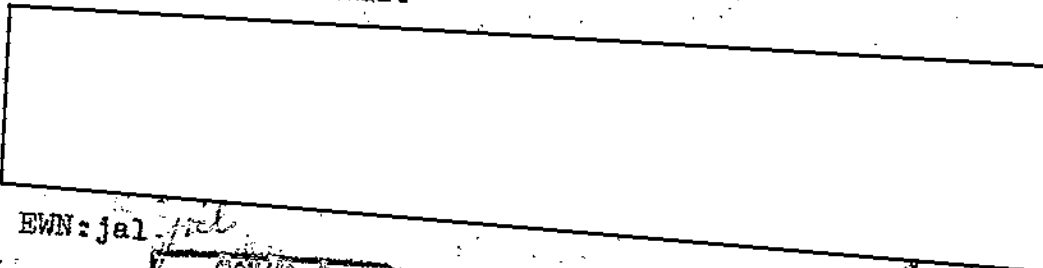
In compliance with your request, there is enclosed an original typewritten statement furnished by Louis F. Budenz on March 20, 1953, relating to the subject.

Enclosure

2 cc - Los Angeles (100-30894) (w/enclosure)

For your information, there is enclosed a Photostat of the above-described statement.

NOTE ON YELLOW ONLY:



EWN: jal

APR 16 1953

SP-5-RB  
100-3-30894

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF THIS MATTER

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

APR 27 1953

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-352566)

DATE: 3/31/53

FROM : SAC, New York (100-99598)

SUBJECT: EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, aka:  
Gene Kelly  
SM - C

Referral/Consult

Rebulet 2/26/53 requesting that statement concerning  
subject be secured from [redacted]

There is enclosed an original typewritten statement  
furnished to the New York Office by BUDENZ on 3/20/53 relating  
to the Communist affiliation of the subject. A photostatic  
copy is being placed in subject's file in the New York Office.

This matter is considered RUC in the New York Office.

*Enc. no  
cc: LA  
4-16-53  
E. J. [unclear]  
ENCL. [unclear]*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6-3-80 BY Sp-5-n0/b/a

Enc. (1)

1 - Los Angeles (100-30894)

RECORDED - 18  
INDEXED

100-352566-15

APR 1 1953

SEARCHED

*[Handwritten signature]*

RSP:JR

Enclosure (1) to the Bureau (100-352566)  
New York file 100-99508

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6-3-80 BY SP-5-RU/b, a

ENCLOSURE

100

100-352566-15

March 20, 1953

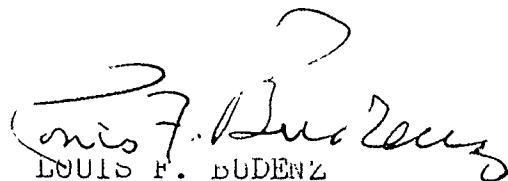
I, Louis F. Budenz, furnish the following voluntary statement to Robert S. Plantz, who has identified himself to me as a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I give this statement of my own free will.

I was a member of the Communist Party from 1935 to 1945. I became president of the Freedom of the Press Company, Inc., in 1940 and managing editor of the Daily Worker in 1941. The Freedom of the Press Corporation, Inc., was established by the Communist Party in 1940 to control and conduct the Daily Worker.

In order to carry on my duties, I was from time to time advised officially by leaders of the Communist Party as to who were or were not concealed Communists. In the early 1940's, V.J. Jerome, editor of the official theoretical organ of the Communist Party, then called the Communist, and a leading member of the Cultural Commission of the Communist Party, told me that Gene Kelly, a motion picture actor and dancer, was a concealed member of the Communist Party. In 1944 or 1945, this same information was repeated to me by Jerome, Alexander Trachtenberg, who was charged with supervision of all cultural activities of the Party, and eventually by Jack Stachel, the leading member of the Politburo of the American Communist Party. At that time, Stachel was the liaison man between the Politburo and the Daily Worker.

These statements concerning Kelly's concealed membership in the Party were made partially as the result of discussions connected with his association with a number of Communist fronts. I am not able at this time to recall the identity of these fronts.

I have read the foregoing typewritten statement consisting of approximately one-half page and I declare it to be true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
LOUIS F. BUDENZ

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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

DATE: February 10, 1954

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

FROM : MR. V. P. KEATY *VPK*

SUBJECT: EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, aka.,  
GENE KELLY

Referral/Consult

*56-1*



It will be recalled that, during the 1940's, Kelly was affiliated in various degrees with approximately a dozen organizations which were reportedly controlled, influenced or infiltrated by Communist Party elements. Kelly has several times publicly denied being pro-Communist and no concrete evidence of Communist Party membership is known. He is not included in the Security Index.

*U. I. R. -10*

ACTION:

None. For information.

WFW:mpm *mpm*

100-352566

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6-3-80 BY SP-5-RJ/bia

*cy*

RECORDED-27

EX-127

*100-352566-16*  
FEB 12 1954

*P414*  
55 FEB 17 1954

*MANSON*  
*LET*

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

*Gene Kelly*

# Inside LABOR By VICTOR RIESÉL

The sickle is finally losing its glamor. And just when the Soviets need it most. Right when it's smack in the middle of what Secty. of State Dulles and Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther reveal is Russia's "major effort to isolate the U.S. from its allies" in Europe.

At this moment, our AFL Hollywood stars, producers, directors and technical craftsmen, working through the AFL's Paris office, have whipped together a new crusade in Europe with the specific approval of the man who sparked the last one—Gen. Eisenhower.



Victor Riesel

Working in flying squads with such European friends of America as producer Roberto Rossellini and the venerable anti-fascist novelist, Ignace Silone, are such filmland celebrities as Gene Kelly, Humphrey Bogart, John (Moulin Rouge) Huston, and others now shooting on the Continent.

Aim of their flight is to smash the seething but subtle Soviet campaign to seduce our military allies and cultural forces in Europe into an era of good feeling in which the past will be forgotten.

**JUST AS** the Russians hope their peace lures will stall the NATO army, so they seek to prevent us from crystalizing pro-American sentiment through such units in Europe as the AFL's Free Trade Union Committee and the Friends of Freedom. Our nation's entire diplomatic offensive now is aimed at holding our lines in the face of the seemingly receding military threat. This means a continued propaganda war. The Communists are maintaining their anti-American press, fronts and other apparatus, while sweet-talking our European

friends into believing it is no longer necessary to keep similar pro-American units alive.

But for the first time the pro-U.S. intellectual and cultural forces are on the offensive—since, for the first time, they have a central headquarters in Paris—the one supplied by the AFL. This was fully described to President Eisenhower last Thursday by its representative, Irving Brown.

For the first time we're actually taking from the Communist side the glamorous actors, writers and cultural leaders who

*File 4*

- Times-Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- Wash. Post \_\_\_\_\_
- Wash. News \_\_\_\_\_
- Wash. Star \_\_\_\_\_
- N.Y. Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_
- N.Y. Mirror \_\_\_\_\_ *4*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *6-3-80* BY *SP-5 RAB/bw*

*100-352566-A*

NOT RECORDED

145 APR 9 1953

392

56 APR 14 1953

Date: APR 6 1953

are really a military force since they can swing a nation towards, or away from, a preparedness psychology. And to have our continental friends believe the time has come for all good men to minimize the menace of the Communist Party could be militarily disastrous some day.

**SO THE FIRST** move in the pro-U. S. group's counteroffensive will be a big Parisian demonstration featuring John Huston, Gene Kelly (who has been taking to the air with assaults on Soviet anti-Semitism) and Humphrey Bogart among others. To this rally will be invited French movie stars and writers who have innocently been caught up in covert Communist maneuvers just as some of our Hollywood artists were snared in the 30's.

These French creative people will, for the first time, get a new slant on America from their own kind of professional talent, talking to them as members of trade unions (which the continentals respect highly) on the fight against the Comies in Hollywood. This task has been assigned to hooper-director Gene Kelly.

The rally was planned recently at a luncheon called by the AFL people in Europe. Gathered around the table were John Huston, Ignace Silone and the AFL officials. Later they took Huston to a parley with the General Secretary of the pro-American Friends of Freedom. There they started a second project—a European premiere of "Moulin Rouge,"

to which virtually the entire continental cultural world will be asked.

**THE POINT** is to show that we Americans aren't the vacuous idiots the Russian propagandists try to paint us—and to establish a personal relationship with the hitherto doubting Europeans.

At the same time there is parallel activity here. All U. S. unions having anything to do with the movies or the theatre are being approached by labor men who want to start an International Alliance of Film Labor. These will include the teamsters, the musicians, the movie projectionists and all other studio talent and craft unions. Then, when ready, they will organize an international conference—out of which may come, along with other stratagems, a world boycott of Communist films.

Once the European artists and intellectuals are convinced the Communist movie unions abroad can no longer terrorize them by keeping them from working, the back of one of the Soviet's most costly and valuable propaganda machines will be broken.

**WITHOUT** its glamor, the sickle will have no hammer with which to beat our allies into intellectual submission. And that's worthy 50' army divisions to America in this war of nerves.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

*W/T*

*7/10/24*

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-352566)

DATE: 10/14/60

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*weg/lee*

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-30894)

CC TO *U.S. 1A*...  
REQ. REC'D...  
APR 15 1965  
ANS *W.L.D.*

SUBJECT: EUGENE CURRAN KELLY, aka  
Gene Kelly  
SM - C

OO: Los Angeles

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP6/29/60/6/1/7/1999*  
ON *1-14-04*

*ph*  
*ell*  
*11*

The Passport Office of the State Department, by memo to FBI Liaison, dated 9/22/60, copy of which was furnished Los Angeles for information, indicated KELLY contemplated travel abroad for three months beginning September, 1960.

Although KELLY is known to have been connected with various Communist Party front or influenced organizations in past years, no reliable evidence of membership in the CP has been reported and he has never been on the Security Index at Los Angeles. *(u)*

Based on a review of the files at Los Angeles, there are forwarded herewith eight copies of a letterhead memorandum regarding KELLY. Sources utilized were:

Records of Naval Personnel, according to Bureau letter to Los Angeles dated 5/20/49.

- Former [redacted]
- CSLA 2722-S
- Former [redacted]
- CSLA 3200-S
- [redacted]
- CSLA 2900-S
- CSLA 2529-S
- CSLA 2550-S
- CSLA 3220-S
- NY T-328 (\*)
- [redacted]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) BY *DD*  
DATE *6-24-80*

REC-77

*100-352566-18*

OCT 19 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE.

*(u)*  
*(S)*  
b7D

2 Bureau (Enc *REGISTERED*) (AIRMAIL)  
1 Los Angeles

MMB: pmb  
(3) Copy to *State, Civ, Paris & London*  
by routing slip for  
 info  action  
date *10/28/60*  
by *wmp/mat*

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP-5-RJ*  
REASON-FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2  
DATE OF REVIEW *10-14-80*  
*6-3-80 b/a*

62 OCT 28 1960

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*7-165*



LA 100-30894

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Former [redacted]  
Former CSLA CB-2 (\*)  
Former CSLA RD-34 (\*)  
Former CSLA CD-38 (\*)  
Former CSLA RD-28 (\*)

(u)  
(S)

b7D

[redacted] Current informants checked negatively were  
and [redacted]. (S)(u)

No investigation is being conducted at Los Angeles  
and this case is in closed status. (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

Los Angeles, California  
October 14, 1960

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6-3-80 BY SP-5-RD/bis

EUGENE CURRAN KELLY  
SECURITY MATTER - C

KELLY, who is better known under his professional name of GENE KELLY, is a motion picture film actor and dancer. In recent years he has also been an independent producer. He is a U. S. citizen, born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on August 23, 1912. He has resided at 725 Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, California for a number of years. He became prominent as a Hollywood film actor about 1942 after a career on the New York stage.

He was issued U. S. Passport No. 2375800 on August 29, 1960 at Los Angeles for contemplated travel to England and France. His application indicated the purpose of the trip as business for a duration of about three months. He expected to depart via Pan American Airways from New York City in September, 1960.

*u.s.* { In the early 1940's, LOUIS BUDENZ, former Communist Party member and onetime Managing Editor of the "Daily Worker", a Communist Party newspaper, New York, was told by V. J. ~~BEROME~~ and JACK ~~STACHEL~~, national ~~functionaries~~ of the Communist Party, that GENE KELLY was a member of the Communist Party; however, BUDENZ had no first-hand knowledge of such membership himself, and no reliable evidence of actual membership in the Communist Party on KELLY'S part has been developed from available informants in a position to have known of it.

~~BETSY KELLY~~ ~~MRS. EUGENE CURRAN KELLY~~

*1944* In 1944, both KELLY and his then wife, actress ~~BETSY BLAIR~~, from whom he is reportedly now divorced, were both considered by the Communist Party as possible recruit material, and KELLY was once described by a Communist Party functionary at Los Angeles as a very favorable person.

CALLIE

100-352566-18

ENCLOSURE

EUGENE CURRAN KELLY

During the 1940's, KELLY was affiliated in various degrees with a number of organizations which were reportedly controlled, influenced or infiltrated by Communist Party elements, and in past years he has taken part in various functions in which he has been associated with individuals who were reported as prominent in the Communist Party movement in Hollywood. However, KELLY has on several occasions denied being a Communist or sympathetic to the Party. Although in the past, KELLY has either knowingly or unwittingly supported causes which were backed by Communist Party elements and has lent himself to causes which furthered the Communist Party line of the moment, current informants have no information to indicate he is connected with or sympathetic to the Communist Party.

Referral/Consult



Above was obtained from confidential sources who have furnished reliable information in the past.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 6-3-80 BY SP-5-RV/bia

March 6, 1968

Mrs. Mildred Stegall  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

BY LIAISON  
*Photo - Encl*  
CC TO: White House  
REQ. REC'D 9-19-75  
SEP 23 1975  
ANS.  
BY: ETK/Berl

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

Reference is made to your name check request concerning Richard Adler and other individuals.

The central files of the FBI contain no identifiable pertinent information concerning the following individuals:

- ✓ Bing Crosby
- ✓ Peter Gennaro
- ✓ Bob Mathias
- Helen Willis Moody
- ✓ Lennie Moore
- ✓ Donald O'Connor
- Nancy Olson

The fingerprint files of the Identification Division of the FBI contain no arrest data identifiable with the above individuals based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

Attached are separate memoranda regarding the following individuals:

- Richard Adler
- ✓ Leonard Bernstein
- ✓ Eddie Fisher
- ✓ James Garner
- ✓ Gene Kelly
- Anthony Mann
- ✓ Mercedes McCambridge
- ✓ Edmond O'Brien
- Jan Sterling
- ✓ Jim Taylor
- Philip Wylie

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ENCLOSURE

A copy of this communication has not been sent to the Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

- Enclosures (13)
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (sent direct) - Enclosures
  - 1 - Mr. Gale (sent direct) - Enclosures

DEC:smg (7)

66 MAR 19 1968

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

REC-35

NOT RECORDED

MAR 8 1968

ADD. DISSEMINATION

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-5-30389

March 5, 1968

GENE KELLY

*- Summary*  
Captioned individual may be identical with one Eugene Curran Kelly, who was born on August 23, 1912, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and who has been described as a well-known movie actor. By communication dated June 11, 1965, the results of a name check were furnished the White House concerning Mr. Kelly. The central files of the FBI contain the following information concerning Mr. Kelly which has been received since that time.

In August, 1967, it was reported that the August 13, 1967, issue of the "Morning Star," London, England, which is published by the Communist Party of Great Britain, contained an article concerning a [redacted] who was identified as the [redacted] of American dancer and film star Gene Kelly. According to this article, [redacted] presented three Vietnamese students at London Airport with ten U. S. military draft cards as a "symbolic gesture." It was further reported that [redacted] actions coincided with the activities of a group of Americans residing in England, who were opposing U. S. intervention in Vietnam, and the U. S. Selective Service Act. (100-448053-2)

b6  
b7c

The fingerprint files of the Identification Division of the FBI contain no arrest data identifiable with captioned individual based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

NOTE: Per request of Mrs. Mildred Stegall, White House Staff.

JCF:emt (7) *emt*

*[Handwritten signature]* ✓ TCB

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6-3-80 BY SP-5-RD/ai

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
ADD. DISSEMINATION

*et*

ENCLOSURE

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

100-352566-19

MAILED

OCT 01 1975

NAME CHECK

September 29, 1975

*Gene Kelly*

*725 North Rodeo Drive  
Beverly Hills, Calif*

MR. AND MRS. GENE KELLY

The current Mrs. Kelly, who is identified in public sources as the former Jeanne Come, is not known to have been the subject of an investigation conducted by the FBI.

Mr. Kelly, who you advised resides at 725 North Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, California, was the subject of a White House name check in 1968. A copy of the FBI memorandum dated March 5, 1968, and a copy of the referenced FBI communication dated June 11, 1965, concerning Mr. Kelly, are attached. (100-352566-18, 19)

The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning captioned individuals based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

Enclosures (2)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6-3-80 BY SP-5-NB/bja

DELIVERED BY LIAISON  
ON 9/30/75

100-352566-20

OCT 3 1975

- Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD-Adm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD-Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Asst. Dir.:
- Admin. Serv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_
- Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_
- Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ident. \_\_\_\_\_
- Inspection \_\_\_\_\_
- Intell. \_\_\_\_\_
- Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_
- Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_
- Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Training \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Director Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

EJK:ysc (4)

NOTE: Per request of [redacted] (Security), the White House.

Staff Assistant

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
ADD. DISSEMINATION

*Handwritten initials*

OCT 30 1975

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

b6  
b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Section

9-12, 1975

Name Searching Unit, 4543 JEH-FBI Bldg.  
 Service Unit, 4654 JEH-FBI Bldg.  
 Forward to File Rev   
 Attention 5224 JWB  
 Return to \_\_\_\_\_

b6  
b7c

Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
 All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
 Subversive References Only  
 Nonsubversive References Only  
 Main files References Only  $\phi$

next in 105-144424 only

Type of Search Requested:

Restricted to Locality of CA, DC, PA, Kenya, NY  
 Exact Name Only (On the Nose) Eng; France;  
 Buildup  Variations Spain; Italy; Mex; MD, VA

Subject Kelly, Gene  
 Birthdate & Place 8-23-12 PA;  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

Localities \_\_\_\_\_

R# 604 Date 9-12 Searcher Initials 444

Prod. \_\_\_\_\_

	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
<del>IV</del>	100-352566	F
<del>NI</del>	87-77753	7/10/64
<del>NR</del>	42-115740	MF
<del>NR</del>	42-4051	MF
NR	25-256331	
	Gene Curran (AKA)	
	NR	
	Eugene Curran (AKA)	
	SI	
	Eugene C. (AKA)	
	SI	
	Eugene (AKA)	
<del>NR</del>	42-48840	MF
NI	87-96020	3/12/68
NI	94-44538	
<del>NR</del>	47-39363	MF
<del>NR</del>	75-136A	MF

INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-14-04 BY 60329 BIR/MLJ/MLJ  
983928

SEP 16 1975

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Records Branch

2

2, 19\_\_

Name Searching Unit - Room 6527  
 Service Unit - Room 6524  
 Forward to File Review  
 Attention \_\_\_\_\_  
 Return to \_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_ Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

(6-11-65)

Type of References Requested:

Regular Request (Analytical Search)  
 All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)  
 Subversive References Only  
 Nonsubversive References Only  
 Main \_\_\_\_\_ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

Restricted to locality of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exact Name Only (On the Nose)  
 Buildup  Variations

LTD 100-352566 - SUM 6/11/65

1965  
LTD

Subject Kelly, Gene  
 Birthdate & Place JAN-23, 1912 PA  
 Address GENE CURRAN KELLY (TRUE NAME)  
 Localities NR

R# 349 Date 2-7-68 Searcher Initials Law

	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	100-352566 +	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	105-168041-27	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	100-443988-9	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	100-448053-2	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	100-448297-3	(NR)
	EUGENE CURRAN KELLY	
	SI	(see)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MRS EUGENE CURRAN KELLY	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	100-448297-3	

with name check sent  
6/11/65

FEES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-14-04 BY 60202 [signature]



Photo Encl  
CC TO: White House  
REQ. REC'D 9-19-75  
SEP 23 1975  
ANS.  
BY: E.S.K./BOK

June 11, 1965

BY LIAISON

cc: Gene Kelly

Honorable Marvin Watson  
Special Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6-3-80 BY SP-5-R01/bd

JUN 11 6 19 PM '65  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
FBI

Dear Mr. Watson:

Reference is made to the request from  
Mrs. Stegall for a check of FBI files relative to approximately  
130 individuals in connection with a seminar which is to be held  
on Monday, June 14, 1965.

Attached is a memorandum listing an additional  
18 individuals concerning whom the FBI has no identifiable deroga-  
tory information in the central files or the files of the Identification  
Division. Also enclosed are 36 memoranda regarding individuals  
included in this name check. Information concerning these  
individuals has orally been furnished to Mrs. Stegall and the  
enclosed confirming memoranda complete. the list of names in  
connection with this request.

Sincerely yours,

12 JUN 21 1965

ENCLOSURE  
ENCLOSURE

Enclosures (37)

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ELC:par  
(10)

NOTE: To be delivered by liaison by  
Mr. DeLoach's Office.

100-352566  
NOT RECORDED  
170 JUN 22 1965

K. T. ...  
G.A. ...  
P. ...  
F. ...  
H. ...

69 JUL 19 1965 MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

ORIGINAL FILED IN

June 11, 1965

**GENE KELLY**

On September 1, 1961, in response to a name check request involving the Advisory Committee on the Arts, Mr. P. Kenneth O'Donnell, the then Special Assistant to the President, was sent a memorandum concerning Gene Kelly which stated as follows:

"Gene Kelly, whose true name is Eugene Curran Kelly, was investigated by this Bureau beginning in 1949 for a period of several years based on his reported activities in communist front organizations and membership in the Communist Party.

"The investigation revealed that from approximately 1944 Kelly was affiliated with at least twelve organizations which have been cited as communist front groups by the Attorney General or congressional committees.

"In June, 1950, Louis Budenz, former managing editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary prior to October, 1945, characterized Gene Kelly as having been a concealed communist. Budenz stated that V. J. Jerome, Alexander Trachtenberg and Jack Stachel, all former top Communist Party officials, advised him that Gene Kelly was a member of the Communist Party. Budenz also confirmed the fact that Kelly had been a member of numerous communist front groups.

" Kelly has on several occasions denied being procommunist or a Communist Party member.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

GWG:sas (10)

*pas*  
*rw*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 6-3-80 BY SP-CAJ/68

continued

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT  ENCLOSURE

100-352566

Gene Kelly

"Informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past and who are in a position to know, have reported no activity on the part of Gene Kelly in connection with subversive groups or the Communist Party for the past several years." (100-352566)

Fingerprint files of the FBI Identification Division contain no arrest data identifiable with captioned individual based on the background submitted in connection with this name check request.

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Name Check Section
- 1 - Mr. Brown

September 1, 1961  
 BY COURIER SERVICE

Honorable P. Kenneth O'Donnell  
 Special Assistant to the President  
 The White House  
 Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 6-3-80 BY sp-sml/bic

My dear Mr. O'Donnell:

Reference is made to your letter of August 25, 1961, requesting name checks concerning eighty individuals in connection with the Advisory Committee on the Arts. By letters dated August 30 and August 31, 1961, there were furnished to you the results of reviews of the files of this Bureau concerning fifty-one of these persons. The following additional results are now available.

The FBI has not conducted investigations of and our files contain no information which would be pertinent to your inquiry concerning the following persons:

- Reginald Allen
- Warner Lawson
- Dr. Howard Mitchell
- The Very Reverend Francis B. Sayre, Jr.
- Earl V. Moore
- Huntington Cairns
- John White

Frank Stanton was the subject of an applicant-type investigation conducted by this Bureau in 1956. This investigation developed no information which would be pertinent to your inquiry and our files contain no pertinent information received since that time. (77-15981)

William Walton was the subject of an applicant-type investigation conducted by the FBI, the results of which were summarized and furnished to you by letter dated January 25, 1961. Our files contain no additional pertinent information concerning this person. (161-89)

BY COURIER SVC.  
 5 4 SEP - 7  
 COMM - FBI

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100-352566 -  
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 126 SEP 7 1961

SEP 1 1 55 PM '61  
 F. B. I.  
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ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-5-9089

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DRR: fjb (7)

SEP 13 1961

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SEP 7 1961

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*[Handwritten initials: CAS, DER]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten signature]*

XEROX

Honorable P. Kenneth O'Donnell

There are enclosed for your information memoranda concerning the following individuals:

Sol Hurok  
Howard Lindsay  
Walter E. Disney  
Richard J. Gray  
Leonard Bernstein  
John Crosby  
Gene Kelly  
Ralph E. McGill  
Robert Penn Warren

The reviews of our files concerning the remaining eleven individuals are being continued and you will be advised separately of the results.

Sincerely yours,

J. EDGAR HOOVER

Enclosures (9)

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Rosen
- 1 - Name Check Section

August 31, 1961

- 1 - Mr. Brown

0  
GENE KELLY

Gene Kelly, whose true name is Eugene Curran Kelly, was investigated by this Bureau beginning in 1949 for a period of several years based on his reported activities in communist front organizations and membership in the Communist Party.

The investigation revealed that from approximately 1944 Kelly was affiliated with at least twelve organizations which have been cited as communist front groups by the Attorney General or congressional committees.

In June, 1950, Louis Budenz, former managing editor of the "Daily Worker" and a Communist Party functionary prior to October, 1945, characterized Gene Kelly as having been a concealed communist. Budenz stated that V. J. Jerome, Alexander Trachtenberg and Jack Stachel, all former top Communist Party officials, advised him that Gene Kelly was a member of the Communist Party. Budenz also confirmed the fact that Kelly had been a member of numerous communist front groups.

Kelly has on several occasions denied being pro-communist or a Communist Party member.

Informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past and who are in a position to know, have reported no activity on the part of Gene Kelly in connection with subversive groups or the Communist Party for the past several years. (100-352566)

Enclosure to letter to White House 9-1-61 DRR:fjb.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*JWB:fjb*  
*(7)*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 6-3-80 BY SP-5-R 016/a

100-352566-

MAIL ROOM

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ENCLOSURE