

mes Vernard Burnham

Mr. William F. Buckey, Jr., Editor-in-Chief, 'National Review,' New York, New York, was interviewed by Ravy officials in 1967 are no advised the employee's father, while at Princeton University, had written numerous anticommunist articles for the college newspaper. He said James Burnham, Sr., has served as a senior editor of the "Mational Review" for about twelve years and that he is a confirmed anticommunist.

Mr. Buckley advised that Frank Strauss Meyer also serves as a senior editor with the "National Review." He added that Meyer had extricated himself from the Communist Party in about 1945 or 1946. Mr. Buckley said that Meyer stayed in the "doldrums" for about two or three years, but in approximately 1949 he became extremely anticommunist and continues this philosophy today. (X) (U)

The investigation conducted by the Department of the Navy in 1967 developed no derogatory information concerning the employee. (U)

The central files of the FBI contain no additional portioent information identifiable concerning the employee's father or the employee's listed reference. Frank Strauss Meyer

In view of the extensive investigation conducted by the Department of the Navy, and the excepted nature of the employment, this Bureau contemplates no investigation under the provisions of Section 8(d) EO 10450, in the absence of a future request.

This is not intended as a clearance or disapproval of the captioned individual by this Bureau and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

Muclosures (6)

Enc.: CSC form 257; SF 85; Navy reports (4)



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOI/PA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET FOI/PA# 1546976-000

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 A. S. Department of Justice

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SECTION

DATE! 10-15-2007. ÇLAS\$IFIED BY 60324 auc/baw/rs∤ljm; ECLASSIFY ON: 25X 3.3(1,6). [] page 2.€ CCATION PER OGA LETTER DATED 10-22-2007 MEDIED - 2264 33032 PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL AIR MAIL To: Mr. Glenn H. Bethel C MAR 1 4 1991 CLASSIFIED BY 8123 MEHICE From: Director, FBI JAMES BURNHAM -Subject: SPECIAL INQUIRY Reference is made to your letter dated January 16, 1950, captioned as above. This Bureau has net conducted any independent investigation concerning In connection with another investigation, however, he advised the Bureau in March 1949 that he had been active in the "Trotskyite" Movement in New York City, from 1933 until 1940. The "Trotskyite" Movement is composed of individuals who follow the teachings of Leon Trotsky, one of the leaders of the Russian Revolution who subsequently broke with Stalin and went into exile. He was murdered in Mexico in 1940. Professor Burnham stated he attended a meeting of the Socialist Workers Party at Cleveland, Ohio, in February 1940. The Socialist Workers Party has been designated by the Attorney General as an organization which seeks to alter the form of Government of the United States by unconstitutional means. Reliable informants advised that the meeting of the Socialist Workers Party, which took place in Cleveland, Ohio, in February 1940, was and James Burnham. This group opposed the majority group of the Socialist Workers Party headed group was opposed to the Stalin regime in by James P. Cannon. The the acquisition of new territories in Europe, and they referred to such acquisition, as being primarily imperialistic. The group headed by James P. Cannon, on the other hand, while not favoring the Stalinist regime, contended that, since the Soviet Union was the only motherland of the Proletariat, it was essential that all working elements support the Soviet Union in spite of the leadership of Stalin In April 1940 at a Convention of the Socialist Workers Party,

group was suspended. The expelled group immediately established - Foreign Servit

(decached)

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themselves as a separate organization under Alic same of "The Workers Party"
with Under date of May 21, 1940, Burnham
resigned from the Workers Party, according to the "Supplement to Information
Bulletin No. 8 of the Workers Party (National Office)." The Bureau files do
not reflect any information that would indicate Burnham's current association
with either the Workers Party or the Socialist Workers Party.
aton either the Horkers Larry of the Sociatist Horkers Larry.
The Workers Party has also been cited by the Attorney General as an organization which seeks to alter the form of Government of the United States
by unconstitutional means. (62-60527-15721)
As of possible interest to your sources, there are enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of "Supplement to information Bulletin No. 8 of the Workers Party (National Office)" relative to Burnham's resignation from the Workers Party and a copy of Burnham's biography as it appears on pages 121, 122 and 123 of the 1941 edition of "Current Biography" published by the H. W. Wilson Company, New York. (61-7559-2-1653; "Current Biography, 1941" - Bureau Library)
(Not on original) According to the information appropriate in dated January 12, 1950,
(C) we held fee let dtl 10/22/9/



CURRENT BIOGRAPHY

1961

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED MCHICH

Published By The H. W. Wilson Company New York, New York

BURNHAM, JAMES, Nov. 22, 1905- Author; educator

Address: b. New York University, Washington Sq, New York City; h. 137 E. 73rd St., New York City

Critics reading James Burnham's The Managerial Revolution (1941) couldn't decide exactly what they had there. To Lewis Corey it was "the Olympian defeatism of a doctrinaire radical gone sour," to _______ "one of the best recent books on political and social trends" and probably "the Bible of the next generation of neo-Marxists," to ______ a book "worth reading . . not for the conclusions it imparts but for the disturbance to habitual thought patterns which it will engender." No one at all found the predictions in this book anything but gloomy, but most found it absorbing and with masochistic thoroughness ______ of the New York Times devoted two separate days to reviewing it. His estimate of its importance was apparently shared by others.

Burnham says he has excluded "all moral and emotional considerations" when he writes that the trend of the times is toward an economy ruled by the technical and managerial middle classes, more efficient but far more ruthless than capitalism, and just as much an exploiting economy. He sees its fullest development in the Soviet Union; he sees it in Germany, which to him is a "young, new, rising social order"; he sees it foreshadowed in the New Deal, whose "historical direction....as a whole runs entirely counter to the ideals and aims of liberalism." He is equally clairvoyant about the War. The United States will enter it in 1941, too late to save Britain but in time to seize much of the British Empire, will be gradually transformed by the crisis into one of the managerial states described, and will swallow most of the rest of the western hemisphere. By this time the rest of the world will consist of two superstates, with their centers of industry in western Europe and eastern Asia, respectively: There can follow only a series of endless wars between the three superstates in their bids for world power.

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comments that some of Mr.	Burnham's ideas sould like
Hitler's, but that Hitler didn't invent them	
nand it is proved every time an acorn sprouts	
in a forest." Burnham's ideas are related to	
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James Burnham was born in Chicago, Illinois on November 22, 1905, the son of Claude George Burnham, British-born executive vice-president of the Burlington Railroad at the time of his death in 1928, and of Mary May (Gillis) Burnham. When he took his B.A. at Princeton in 1927 he was the Latin Salutatorian (the equivalent of "first scholar") of his class. He continued his education at Oxford University in England, where he received a B.A. in 1929. Since that time he has been a member of the Department of Philosophy at Washington Square College of New York University, where he is now an assistant professor.

For four years, from 1930 to the end of 1933, he was co-editor with

of The Symposium, a critical review published quarterly.

In 1932, the year he received his M. A. from Oxford, he and
published Introduction to Philosophical Analysis, a textbook for college
students which, according to S. K. Langer, writing in the Journal of Philosophy,
was a book "written in the spirit of modernity — a book with an unacademic
metropolitan atmosphere; alive, rapid, colloquial... On the whole, the Introduction
to Philosophical Analysis, despite many shortcomings due to the extreme
difficulty of its task, is a full and right-minded book; could the detailed
elaboration of the work only have equalled in excellence the general conception,
it would have been a pedagogical masterpiece."

It was in 1933 that Burnham first became associated with the political group known as "Tretskyists" or "Fourth Internationalists." As he himself puts it: "The official names of the group changed frequently; and the changes would hardly be intelligible without a supplementary history of radical politics during those years." Between 1933 and 1940 he was a frequent contributor to the Partisan Review and to "labor and radical" publications; at one time he was co-editor of The New International, the theoretical magazine of the United States Trotskyists; and in 1937 he was author of a pamphlet entitled Peoples! Front; the New Betrayal, attacking the Communist conception of a "peoples! front against Fascism."

But his quarrels with Trotsky himself soon became almost as bitter. In 1939 he was carrying on a bitter polemical struggle with Trotsky, then still alive and in Mexico, and early in 1940 he broke definitively with the Trotskyists. "The basic reason for the break," he says, "was my conclusion that Marxism is false, and that Marxist politics in practice lead not to their alleged goal of democratic socialism but to one or mother form of totalitarian despotism." (In his book, however, he expresses his certainty that socialism is impossible "of achievement or even of approximation," and that in any case the particular form of totalitarian despotism which he calls the managerial society is more than probable.) Since the break with Trotsky, he says, "I have had no politics."

Mr. Burnham contributed one of the ten essays which comprise the book, Whose Revolution?, published in 1941, and in November of that year an article

	by him called The Coming Rulers of the United States appeared in Fortune. Away	an d
	spend as much time as they possibly can	
٠	in the country, where they raise flowers and vegetables.	
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References
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WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

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CONFIDENTIAL AIRMAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

as early a date as poss:

January 16, 1950.

•	Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C. Re: James Burnham SPECIAL INQUIRY Dear Sir:	5-1
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L	DEFERRABING CE	TERE
r	I have been assured that any brief summary the	
	if the matter could be handled urgently.	J
	It would be helpful if any information the Bures	iu at

letter 17/50 En 12. Glenn H. Beth

Glenn H. Bethel

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10-15-2007 BY 60324 auc/baw/rs/ljm MENORANDUM

31 January 1950

From: LCDR To: Captain

OP-552M1

1. Relative to our telephone conversation of this date, I list below the biographic material that I have on JAMES BURNHAM.

a. Author; b. Chicago, Illinois, Movember 22, 1905; s. Claude George and Mary May (Gillis) B. : B.A. Princeton, 1927; B.A., Oxford (Eng.) U., 1929; M.A., 1932;

Mem. Dept. Philos.

Washington Sq. Coll. N.T.U., since 1929. Editori the Symposium, 1930-33. Author: (with

Introduction to Philosophical Analysis, 1931; The Managerial Revolution, 1941: The Machiavallians, 1943; The Struggle for the World. 1947. Home - 4419 47th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., phone - Ordway 5992.

- b. His mest recent book. The Struggle for the World, was a huge success and was condensed in "Life" magazins. His new book, The Goming Defeat of Communica, will appear next month. One chapter of it is the leading article in this month's "American Mercury". It has been selected for distribution by the Catholic Book Club and will have the leading review in the New York Times Dook review section, written by its first string Washington correspondent.
- The lecture that he gave impressed both myself and a number of Reserve ACIO's in attendance at the Commirlant ACI Symposium from 26-27 January of this year as being strictly in accordance with the party line. BURNHAM admitted that he had extensive knowledge of Communism due to the fact that he had been a Communist for a great many years (Trotekyite). He saw the light in 1940 and became a good American citizen ridding himself of the party.
- Might be of interest to note that included in the equipment that He was able to see while aboard the FDR was the "Davis Barrier".

Respectfully.

lb7C

March 28, 1951 HEMORANDUM

JANES BURNHAM

This Bureau bes not conducted any independent investigation concerning Burnham. In connection with another investigation, however, he advised the Bureau in March 1949 that he had been ective in the "Trotakyite" Movement in New York City, from 1933 until 1940.

The "Trotakyite" powerent is composed of individuals who follow the teachings of Leon moteky, one of the leaders of the Russian Revolution who subsequently broke with Stalin and went into exile. He was murdered in Nexteo in 1940.

Professor Burnham stated he strended a meeting of the Socialist Workers Party at Cleveland, to February 1940.

The Socialist Workers Party has been designated by the Attorney General as an organization which seeks to alter the form of Government of the United States by unconstitutional means.

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The Workers Party has also been cited by the Attorney ideneral as an organization which seeks to alter the form of dovernment of the United States by unconstitutional means. (62-60527-15721)

An article concerning Burnham appears on Pages 121, 122 and 128 of the 1941 edition of "Current Biography" published by the H. W. Wilson Company, New York, New York. ("Current Biography, 1941" - Bureau Library)

An article under the heading "Author Says Political Offensive Can Turn Tide of Communism" appeared in the column entitled "Reading and Writing" in the "Sunday Star" newspaper, Washington, D. E., on February 19, 1950.

An article entitled "Thy Communism Will Fail," by James Burnham, appeared in "This News Magazine" on February 19, 1950.

A book review by entitled "James Burnham Plots a Strategic Campaign Against Communism," which was a review of the book "The Coming Defeat of Communism," by James Burnham, appeared in the "Sunday Star" newspaper, Washington, D. C., on February 26, 1950.

An article entitled "Jones Burnham's Fantastic but Dangerous Anti-Soviet Tirade," appeared in the "Daily Worker," an East Coast Communist newspaper, on March 1, 1950. This was a critical review of Burnham's book "The Coming Defeat of Communism."

An article entitled "Foe of Reas To Speak at Post Lunch" appeared in the "Washington Post" newspaper, Washington, D. C., on March 17, 1950. This article reflected that Burnham would be one of the speakers at the Washington Post's Book and Author luncheon at the Statler Hotel on March 24, 1950. (64-33032)

The foregoing information is furnished as the result of a request for an FBI file check only, and is not to be considered as a elearance or nonclearance of the installual involved. It is for your confidential use only, and is not to be disseminated outside of your agency.

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TO	:	THE	DIRECTOR
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SUBJECT:

FROM

"THE WEB OF SUBVERSION" by ALL I
JAMES BURNHAM HERE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE AR 1 A 1991 BY 2133 MC

DATE: March 17

The syndicated column by Fulton Lewis, Jr., which appeared in the March 16, 1954, issue of the "New York Journal American" called attention to the captioned book which was recently published. You inquired whether or it had been reviewed by the Bureau.

The Central Research Unit keeps abreast of all books dealing with Communism by carefully following the book reviews in the leading newspapers and periodicals and through receipt each month of copies of the Library of Congress catalog cards on all such books. No indication of the publication of the captioned book was obtained through these means, and it has, therefore, not been reviewed. In this connection, Lewis noted in his column that this book "is receiving the cold-shoulder treatment at the hands of most leading reviewers."

Arrangements have been made to obtain a copy of this book and it will be reviewed immediately on receipt to determine whether or not it includes any information of interest to the Bureau.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

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TO Service	THE DIRECTOR	DATE: March 29, 1954	13
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SUBJECT:	REVIEW OF THE WEB OF SUBVE	RSION # SOLL SOLL SOLL SOLL SOLL SOLL SOLL SO	
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At the Director's request captioned book was reviewed by Central Research Unit. Based on official hearings and reports of Congressional investigating committees and writings of Whittaker Chambers and Elizabeth Bentley, Burnham reviews extent of Communist infiltration into U. S. Government from 1930's to present time. He outlines how Communist infiltration began in 1930's with formation of various agencies under the New Deal; how Communists moved to wartime agencies in early 1940's and to postwar and international agencies at end of World War II. points out that through this infiltration Communists engaged in military, political, economic, and atomic energy espionage; sabotage and terrorism (although no facts are cited to prove this allegation); and were able to influence U. S. Government policy in favor of the Soviet Union. Burnham recommends extending statute of limitations, admission of evidence obtained through wire tapping, and granting legal immunity to witnesses who refuse to testify on the grounds of the Fifth Amendment. He also claims that the full extent of Communist infiltration into U. S. Government has not yet been determined and suggests that "sleeper" groups, presently inactive, are still in U. S. Government agencies. Frequent references to FBI by name in book are all favorable and Director's testimony before Senate Internal Security Committee 11-17-53 in connection with Harry Dexter White case quoted in part. the Bureau is not mentioned by name, Burnham alleges that the fact that was seen passing U. S. Government information to a Soviet espionage agent was a piece of "unusual luck." 575

RECOMMENDATION:

Communism.

RECORDED-61

Bureau files reflect Burnham was Trotskyite from 1933 until 1940.

Since that time he has written and lectured extensively on

None. For your information COPIES DESTROYED

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(Book retained in

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· Attachment

APR 1 2 1934

DETAILS:

At the Director's request the Central Research Unit reviewed the recently published book, "The Web of Subversion" by James Burnham. This book is based on the reports and hearings of various Congressional investigating committees and the writings of Whittaker Chambers and Elizabeth Bentley, all of which are quoted extensively. Burnham stated that during the 1930's and 1940's underground members of the Communist Party infiltrated many agencies of the Executive Department of the Government, the United States Armed Forces, the White House, and some of the Committees of Congress. He limits this book to an analysis of former United States Government employees who have either been identified under oath as members of the Communist Party or Soviet espionage agents; those identified as having collaborated with Communist or espionage agents; and those who, when questioned under oath, refused to answer on the grounds of self-incrimination in accordance with the Fifth Amendment.

According to Burnham seven distinct Communist underground cells have been identified as operating within the United States Government in the past:

1. The Ware Cell (Harold Ware, John Abt, Nathan Witt, Lee Pressman, Alger Hiss, Henry Collins, and Victor Perlo).	
2. The Silvermaster Cell (Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Frank Coe, Lauchlin Currie. Bela Gold. Sonia Gold. Abraham Silverman,	b6 b7c
3. The Perlo Cell (Victor Perlo, Edward J. Fitzgerald, Harold Glasser.	
4. The Chambers Cell (Whittaker Chambers, Alger Hiss,	
5. Bureau of Naval Ordnance Cell	-

6. Government Printing Office Cell

7. Fort Monmouth Cell (Julius Rosenberg). (pp. 36-38,61,67)

Burnham points out that Communist infiltration into the United States Government began around 1933 when Communist Party members infiltrated the various agencies organized in the early years of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt's first term of office. He then notes that beginning around 1940, Communist Party members employed in those agencies transferred to the numerous agencies which were organized to promote the war effort of the United States during the Second World War. Following the end of the Second World War, Burnham outlines how these individuals again transferred to the postwar United States Government agencies, as well as the postwar international agencies, particularly the United Nations and its subsidiary organizations. (pp. 95-138)

Burnham suggests the following factors to help explain why underground members of the Communist Party were able to infiltrate the United States Government successfully during the early 1930's:

- 1. The Government agencies organized in connection with the New Deal were lax in checking the backgrounds of those whom they hired.
- 2. Stalin had consolidated his position in the Soviet Union by this time and Russia could therefore direct her energies to subverting non-Communist Governments through local Communist Parties.
- 3. It was during this period that the world Communist movement dropped its outright advocacy of the revolutionary overthrow of non-Communist Governments and entered the period of the "popular front."

Memo to THE DIRECTOR REVIEW OF "THE WEB Re:OF SUBVERSION" 4. American public and official opinion changed at this time from anti-Russian to pro-Soviet and pro-Communist, a factor which was symbolized by the official recognition of the Communist Government in Russia by the United States. 5. The Communist Party in the United States was no longer torn by the internal factionalism which characterized its early years from 1919 until 1929. 6. There had been a gradual breakdown in the United States of the traditional values of patriotism, religion, and family ties, accompanied by Communist infiltration into the educational field, as well as considerable disillusionment with the capitalist system, as a result of the depression in the 1930's. 7. The organized, trained, disciplined apparatus of the world Communist movement. (pp. 95-99) Burnham also cites the following "non-governmental institutions" which contributed to the successful infiltration of the United States Government: 1. The Communist dominated United Public Workers of America which was finally expelled from the CIO in 1950. 2. The Institute of Pacific Relations, which was able to influence policy at the State Department. 3. Harvard University, Columbia University, the College of the City of New York, the University of California, and the University of North Carolina (because the majority of the underground Communists in the United States Government attended these universities.).

Burnham also cites the following as factors which help explain why these individuals were able to remain in Government employment:

- 1. During the 1930's and early 1940's the Civil Service Commission disregarded the problem of loyalty in approving individuals for Government employment.
- 2. The Ramspeck Act granted "formidable" job protection to Communists employed by the Government.
- 3. The merger of a number of temporary wartime agencies into the State Department. (pp. 75-83)

The author devotes a separate chapter to the Communist infiltration into the Department of State and the Department of the Treasury. He claims that the full extent of Communist infiltration into the US State Department will never be entirely known because State Department officials have attempted to conceal its extent and have frequently permitted individuals to Iresign for reasons other than security even though security was a factor in their case. In passing, the author notes that a considerable number of employees of the temporary wartime emergency Government agencies transferred to CIA, which has never been thoroughly investigated to determine the actual extent of Communist infiltration into this agency. Burnham cites the incorporation of a number of temporary wartime agencies into the State Department as the factor which largely explains the success of Communists in infiltrating the Department of State. In connection with the Department of the Treasury, Burnham claims that the Communist underground achieved "startling success" in its attempt to infiltrate this agency. (139-158)

A separate chapter is also devoted to Communist infiltration into the White House and the Armed Forces of the United States. Burnham concludes that "at times and temporarily" the White House was successfully infiltrated by Communists and

he claims that the Armed Forces "have been - and still are - heavily penetrated." He also states that the technical auxiliary branches of the Armed Services, notably Aberdeen Proving Ground, the Bureau of Naval Ordnance, and the U. S. Army Signal Corps at Fort Monmouth, have been infiltrated by secret Communists. (pp.159-178)

In a separate chapter devoted to Communist infiltration of Congress, Burnham cites the following Congressional committees into which Communist infiltration has been exposed:

- 1. Senate Committee Investigating the Munitions Industry (Nye Committee).
- 2. Senate Committee on Education and Labor (LaFollette . Committee).
- 3. Senate Committee on Interstate Migration of Destitute Citizens (Tolan Committee).
- 4. Senate Special Committee to Study the Problems of American Small Business (Murray Committee).
- 5. Senate Military Affairs Committee (Pepper Committee). (pp. 179-187)

With reference to the Atomic Energy Commission, Burnham, in a separate chapter, points out that Communists were able to infiltrate the Manhattan Engineering District, the radiation laboratory of the University of California, the atomic energy installation at Los Alamos, New Mexico, Columbia University, and the metallurgical laboratory at the University of Chicago. (pp. 189-202)

After reviewing the extent of Communist infiltration into the United States Government in the past, Burnham points out that there is no reason to believe that Communist infiltration has been eliminated and suggests that in all probability there are additional Communist cells which he describes as "sleepers," whose members are presently employed by the U.S. Government and whose purpose it is to maintain their employment awaiting future orders. (pp. 203-213)

Burnham outlines three major advantages obtained by the Soviet Union from this Communist infiltration into the U. S. Government:

- 1. The Soviet Union obtained the results of military, political, and atomic energy espionage performed by American Communists.
- 2. In many cases these individuals were able to influence U. S. policy in a way favorable to the Soviet Union, e. g., in Yugoslavia during World War II and in postwar China.
- 3. These individuals were able to steal material used in atomic energy, proximity fuses, bomb sights, radar and antisubmarine devices, which eventually were turned over to the Soviet Union. In this connection, the author also claims that the "non-governmental" section of the Communist underground has carried out sabotage and acts of terrorism in the United States but he cites no facts to support this allegation. (pp. 214-221)

The author recommends the following measures to prevent further Communist infiltration into the United States Government:

- 1. Extending the statute of limitations to permit prosecutions after a three-year period for activities against the internal security of the United States.
- 2. More relevant legal definitions of such terms as "political conspiracy," "espionage," "sabotage," etc.
- 3. The admission in court of evidence secured through wire tapping.
- 4. Granting legal immunity to witnesses in order to prevent the Fifth Amendment from being distorted.
- 5. The establishment of a business organization which would guarantee employment for former Communists who testified against the Communist Party.

- 6. Increasing public knowledge regarding the menace of Communism.
- 7. The discontinuance of the practice of describing former Communists who have furnished information about the Communist conspiracy as "informers," "stool pigeons, "renegades," etc. (pp. 222-236)

All references to the Bureau in Burnham's book are favorable and, on page forty-five, he quotes a portion of the Director's testimony before the Senate Internal Security Committee in connection with the Harry Dexter White case. The author points out that the Bureau had no investigative jurisdiction prior to 1940 and that "since then its record is remarkably good." (p. 230)

Burnham, however, claims (page four) that he noted FBI "observers" at a hearing of the Senate Internal Security Committee on May 1, 1953, and he describes the fact that was seen passing information to a Soviet espionage agent as a piece of "unusual luck."

Bureau files reflect that Burnham was a Trotskyite from 1933 until 1940 when he broke with the Marxist movement. Since then he has written and lectured extensively throughout the country on the subject of Communism.

During the course of his book, Burnham mentions the names of approximately 150 individuals whose activities he treats in varying degrees of detail. Since all his information is admittedly derived from the writings of Whittaker Chambers and Elizabeth Bentley, together with the hearings and reports of the various Congressional investigating committees, all of which have already been reviewed by the Bureau, no attempt was made to check each individual file to determine whether or not there was any factual information in Burnham's book, which is not already available in Bureau files.

Burnham's book is attached.

etained in Sulin

MAILED APR 3 0 1959

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April 29, 1959

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JAMES SURMHAM
Born; November 22, 1905

Reference is made to your request that you be furnished the results of any investigation conducted concerning the captioned person, wherein information of a subversive derogatory nature was developed. In response, you are advised that no such investigation which could be identified with the captioned person was located in a review of FBI files, however, you are referred to a memorandum entitled "James Burnham" which was previously furnished to the Department of State in December, 1950. (62-60527-20189)

Orig and one to STATE (SCA/ORM)
Req. rec'd 11/211/59
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE # 334,834

NOTE: State advised subject to be invited to White House Conference on Refugees, May 21-22. In view of very limited background data furnished, State advised and concurred a name check could be limited to a "main security file search" only.

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Tolson
Belmont
DeLoach
McGuire
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
Trotter
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W.C. Sullivan ...

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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. This is in answer to your request for a check of FBI files.

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Mr. Nichols

April 26, 1954

M. A. Jones

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READER'S DIGEST - MAY, 1954
"THE WEB OF SUBVERSION" BY JAMES BURNHAM
"JUST USE MY NAME"
The

The Book "The Web of Subversion" by James Burnham appears in condensed version on the May, 1954, issue of Reader's Digest. For your information, it was recommended in my memorandum to you dated April 14, 1954, that this book be purchased for the Bureau Library and a purchase order was issued dated April 21, 1954.

In the same issue of the Reader's Digest there appears an article entitled "Just Use My Name" which originally appeared in the magazine "Carnival" dated September, 1951. This article was reviewed in Crime Records when it originally appeared and it was suggested that time that no action be taken regarding the article. This was set forth in my memorandum to you dated October 3, 1951, which is attached.

No additional pertinent information regarding
or the individual known as
who allegedly uses name as a reference,
was located in Bureau files.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. For information.

Attachments

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JAMES BURNHAM
Born: Royember 22,
Chicage, Illinois

Jam & & Burnham

This Bureau has not conducted any independent investigation concerning James Burnham. In connection with another investigation, however, Burnham advised an Agent of this Bureau in March, 1949, that he had been active in the "Trotskyite" movement in New York City from 1933 to 1940.

The "Trotskyite" mevement was composed of individuals who followed the teachings of Leon Trotsky, one of the leaders of the Russian Revolution who embasquently broke with Stalin and went into exile. Trotsky was murdered in Mexico in 1940.

Burnham also stated that he attended a meeting of the Socialist Workers Party at Cleveland, Ohio, in February, 1940. Confidential informants who have furnished reliable information in the past advised that the meeting of the Socialist Workers Party which took place in Cleveland. Ohio. in February, 1940, was headed 🦖 and James Burnham. This group, opposed the majority group of the Socialist Workers Party led by James P. group was opposed to the Stalin regime Cannon. in the acquisition of new territories in Europe, and they referred to such acquisition as being primarily imperialistic. The group headed by James P. Cannon, on the other hand, while not favoring the Stalinist regime, contended that, since the Soviet Union was the only motherland of the Proletarist, it was essential that all working elements support the Soviet Union in spite of the leadership of Stalin.

In April, 1940, at a convention of the Socialist
Workers Party, group was suspended. The expelled
group immediately established themselves as a separate organisation

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b6 b70 James Burnham

under the name of "The Workers Party," with

Under date of May 21, 1940, Burnham
resigned from the Workers Party, according to the "Supplement
to Information Bulletin Number 8 of the Workers Party
(National Office)." FBI files do not reveal any information
that would indicate Burnham's current association with either
the Workers Party or the Socialist Werkers Party.

The Workers Party and the Socialist Workers Party have been designated by the Atterney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

An article concerning Burnham which indicates some of his ideas appears on page 121, 122, and 123 of the 1941 edition of "Current Biegraphy," published by the H. W. Wilson Company, New York, New York.

An article entitled, "Why Communism Will Fail," by James Burnham, appeared in "This Week Magazine" on February 29, 1950.

A book review entitled,
"James Burnham Plots a Strategic Campaign Against Communism,"
which was a review of the book, "The Coming Defeat of Communism,"
by James Burnham, appeared in the "Sunday Star" newspaper,
Washington, D. C., on February 26, 1950.

An article entitled, "James Burnham's Fantastic but Dangerous Anti-Soviet Tirade," appeared in the "Daily Worker," on March 1, 1950. This was a critical review of Burnham's book, "The Coming Defeat of Communism."

An article entitled, "Fee of Reds to Speak at Pest Lunch," appeared in the "Washington Pest," Washington, D.C., on March 17, 1950. This article revealed that Eurnham would be one of the speakers at the Washington Post's Book and Author Luncheon at the Statler Hotel on March 24, 1950. (64-33032-1/

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hearings and reports of Congressional investigating committees
and writings of Whittaker Chambers and Elizabeth Bentley,
was a review of communist infiltration into the U. S. Government

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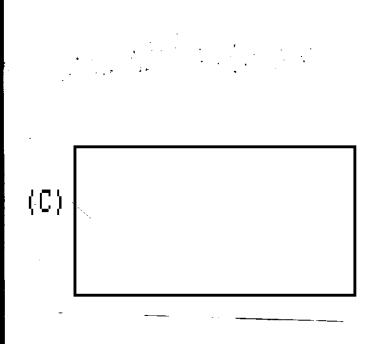
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JAMES BURNHAM Born: November 22, 1905 Chicago, Illinois

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In April. 1940, at a convention of the Socialist rty. ______ reup was suspended. The expelled Workers Party, group immediately established themselves as a separate organization Tolson ORIG AND ONE TO WASA? 1810 NOTE: Above information -Mohr. previously furnished USIA and G-2. Request Received: 2-16-6] Persons Belmont Callehan BVG:ems f DeLoach Malone McGuire document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of Rosen . Tamm Trotter the FBI, and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your W.C. Sullivan agency. This is in answer to your request for a check of FBI files. Ingram

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James Burnham

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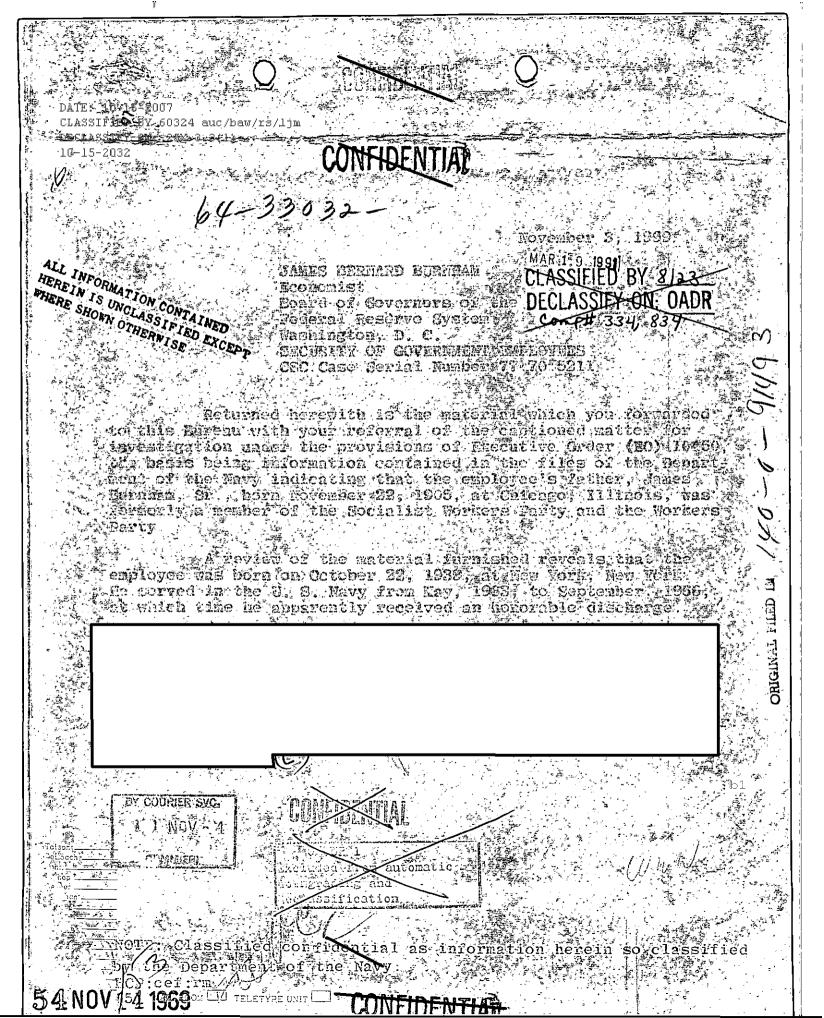
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(64-33032-4)

In 1954, a book, "The Web of Subversion," by James Burnham was published. This book, based on official hearings and reports of Congressional investigating committees and writings of Whittaker Chambers and Elizabeth Bentley, was a review of communist infiltration into the U.S. Government.

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In view of the extensive investigation conducted by the Department of the Navy, and the excepted nature of the employment, this Bureau contemplates no investigation underthe provisions of Section 8(d) HO 10450, in the absence of a future request.

This is not intended as a clearance or disapproval of the captioned individual by this Bureau and should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

Emplosures (6)

Enc.: CSC form 257; SF 85; Navy reports (4)



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то:	AGENCY: Economist SENS Bd of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Wash, DC/
Director Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D. C. 20535	Atomic Energy Act of 1954, 83rd Congress, 2nd Session Other Public Laws Executi e Order 10422 as Amended Executive Order 10450 as Amended
This case is referred to you for investigation in vier ferral specified below. Please furnish copies of you manner. BASIS FOR REFERRAL:	ur reports of investigation to this office in the regular
House Committee on Un-American Activities Fil Office of No. al Intelligence Files Department of Army Files Department of Air Force Files Coast Guard Intelligence Files Application Form, Personnel Security Questions Confidential Inquiry Form(s) Report of previous investigation. Copies attack	DECLASSIFIED BY DOJ Blanket Authority 2/11/76 ON 10-15-2007 maire, or Standard Form 86 med as indicated under enclosures. The reviewed at the Bureau of Personnel Investigations. The rephoning Authority Exercises (CSC EXT 26192) When the standard property of the standa
Form 136, C O _ R momo, Finite ion, Form 85, Veries, L M _ Record to F B 1 Km ENCLOSURES: CSC Form 257 with attachments Application Form, 2 copies of PSQ, or Standard Form, 2 copies of previous investigation Form IN-17, IN-17A, or IN-34	

b6 lb7C October 27, 1966 64-33032-I have received your letter of October 22nd and appropiale the interest which prompted you to write. While I cortainly wish it were possible for me to be of mulistance to you, I must advise the FBI does not have the data you are seeking available for distribution; therefore, I cannot be of help to you in this instance. DRIGINAL FILED IN Sincerely yours, J. Edgar Hoover TIAILEO)是 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED BATE 3-12-21 BY 8123 MCH # 334, 834 last outgoing NOTE: Bufiles disclose prior correspondence with 2-11-35. He has previously been furnished reprints on matters pertaining is identified as a source of the to communism. Philadelphia Office and Bufiles contain no derogatory information concerning him. James Burnham is known as an individual who has affiliated with Communist Party members in the past and has published material concerning is well communist infiltration in the Government. BE U.C 118 known for his left-wing activities. Dellooch . Mohr Wick Osi sg Casper. Callchan . Contod 1966 MAN MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

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22 October 1966

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Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director The Federal Bureau of Investigation Washington, D. C. 20535 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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BATE # 384, 834

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I have been working on a manual on Communism, the context of which is to be directed to the benefit of American Youth.

Thus far, I have compiled a simple and straightforward and understandable discussion of the Philosophy of Communism, based on the writings of such scholars as and James of Burnham -- and a veritable host of historians whose collected writings paint a sinister picture of the total socialist-communist movement down through the generations.

Included in the work, up to this point, I've compiled a chronology of the progress of theoretical Communism, covering the 1800's -- and, at this stage of my treatment, I am in need of information on two particular features of the chronology of practical Communism covering the 1900's, namely:

- An account of the atrocities perpetrated by the Communists in the separate nations that have fallon under the domination of the Kremlin -- both the satellites and the soviet republics -- including statistics on mass murder and exile, with dates of occurrence.
- 2. An account of the fallacies and heresies of so-called "Christian Socialism" as perpetrated by Rev. Reinhold Niebuhr and his kind -- such information being of utmost importance in combatting the coexistentialism and aggiornamento with which the Liberal Christian Intellect is permeated.

I would greatly appreciate what cooperation and assistance you might grant to my efforts in the characteristic and assistance.

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Mr. Conrad Mr. Maline b7C Mr. Rogen all information contained 2.0 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED August 8, 1961 Tele, 1 DATEAR 1 4 1991 By 8 3 3 MC # 334,834 By Certified Mail Return Receipt Requested The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D. C. Dear Mr. Hoover: Recently I wrote the Charleston News and Courier that their sources of information were seriously open to question when on the one hand they reviled Owen Lattimore as a "notorious" leftist and extolled James Burnham, editor of the National Review, as a conservative. I then added: "Burnham enjoys his role as an Ex-Communist. May he enjoy it in good health. As for Lattimore, may he be Iforgiven for the sins he never committed. I did not expect any reply from James Burnham, except perhaps a reference to the excusable indiscretions of a man whose x political beliefs are chameleon-like, but which, for along period, were not only Communist, but top-drawer Communist. To this -- knowing full well the penalties of prjury - I am willing to testify under oath. But such an occasion will -neer arise. I am telling the truth, and James Burnham is lying. He wrote the Newsand Courier /a, most pious denial, calling my letter false amilibellous. REC 491CT - 10 NOT RECORDE To protect my good name IV then collected 128 AUG tre 1261 and affidavits. Discarding those from various shady characters, who may still be Communists and just mad at Burnham for his defection, I culled those from men and women who have known Burnham 50 years - intimately. These are friends and neighbors about whose character there is no question. Among them are Percy BernardEckhart, 84, dean of the do Tawyers, a Republican leader of profound integrity; of Harvard University and prominent Vassar alumnus, and of the Westinghouse Corporation. ______cautiously refrained from stating that he knew Burnham was a Communist, remarking only "Linever did know at any given time what ideology Jim was adhering to." The others are more explicit. Burnham told me, and hetold all his friends, that he was a Communist; he was proud of it. He preached it. He wrote about it. Now he denies it, and proclaims his position 323 36 / tra-conservative. to AUG 16 1961 <u>General Kennedy has a file on this matter if you</u>

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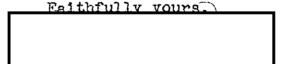
Mr. Hoover - p. 2

On a personal note, I should like to thank you again, as I thanked you once before, for your efficient work in the Lattimore case. When McCarthy was charging - on the Senate floor, but not away from it, where his immunity did not protect him - that he would resign from the Senate if he couldn't prove that Lattimore was the No.1 Soviet agent, I told all my friends: "Let Mr. Hoover handle this. If there is anything against Lattimore, he and his men will track it down."

When the Federal court dismissed the Lattimpe case the news was buried with the obituaries in the News and Courier.

is a nice guy, and I still call him a friend, but I really think he believes McCarthy was a martyr, just as he believe the John Birch Society is a sacred institution. I'm sure nothing I can say will ever change his mind.

On a lighternote, I'm sending you a copy of a burlesque I wrote of the News and Courier's editorial policy. The President found it amusing, as did many of my Republican friends, like



P. S. - Please excuse this bad typing. My machine has developed trouble.