

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION
AND
PRIVACY ACTS

Subject: Alfred Sarant

File Number: 65-1664

Section: _____

Vol.

32

Serials: 684- 710



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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FILE DESCRIPTION
ALBANY FILE

SUBJECT SARANT

FILE NO. 65-1664

VOLUME NO. 32

SERIALS 684

thru

710

File No: 65-1664Re: ALFRED SARANTDate: 3-78
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
684	1.8.52	RPT. from NY / 3 copies	17 / 51	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
685	1.17.52	LTR. AL to HQ	1	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
686	1.18.52	LTR. AL to HQ	1	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
687	1.17.52	LTR. HQ to AL / 1 copy	1 / 1	0 / 0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
688	1.21.52	RPT. from CG / 2 copies	5 / 10	0 / 0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
689	1.25.52	LTR. HQ to AL / 1 copy	1 / 1	0 / 0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
690	1.30.52	LTR. NH to AL / 1 copy	2 / 2	2 / 2	2
691	7.10.52	CHARGE-OUT SLIP	1	1	
692	2.1.52	LTR. HQ to AL / 1 copy	1 / 1	0 / 0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
693	2.6.52	LTR. SV to AL / 1 copy	1 / 1	1 / 1	1
694	2.7.52	LTR. HQ to AL / 1 copy	1 / 1	0 / 0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
695	2.7.52	LTR. NY to HQ	1	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242

File No: 65-1664Re: ALFRED SARANTDate: 3-78

(month/year)

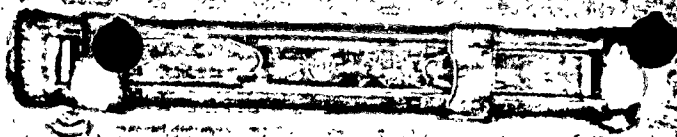
Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
696	2.15.52	TT MM to AL / 1 copy	1	1	1
697	2.15.52	LTR. AL to MM	1	1	
698	2.18.52	LTR. CV to AL / 1 copy	1	1	1
699	2.20.52	RPT. from PH / 1 copy	2	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
700	2.25.52	RPT. from MM / 2 COPIES	7	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
701	2.29.52	RPT. from BS / 2 COPIES	5	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
702	3.4.52	LTR. AL to HQ	1	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
703	2.26.52	LTR. SF to HQ	3	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-58236
704	8.21.51	SIGNED STATEMENT	30	30	
705	3.4.52	LTR. NK to AL	1	1	
706	3.12.52	TT NY to MM, HQ	1	0	SEE BUFILE # 65-59242
707	3.17.52	RPT. NY to AL / 1 copy	1	0	SEE NY # 65-15360

83 36

FBI/DOJ

Date: 3-78
(month/year)

FBI/DOJ



Form No. 1-D. G. P.

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

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See also Nos. _____

65-1664

Serial 684 → 710

Section 52

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, Albany (65-1664)
FROM : *[initials]* SAC, New Haven (65-1359)
SUBJECT: ALFRED EPAMINONDAS SARANT, was, et al
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: January 30, 1952

Re: report of SA STUART M. CONNER dated 12-21-51 at Boston.

Mr. H. E. FISHER, Liaison Officer, Yale University, furnished the following information from the files of Yale University relating to HANS MICHAEL ZACHMANN, popularly known by the students at Yale as "ZOCK". ZACHMANN entered Yale the Freshman year in September 1947, at which time he listed his home address as 187 Main Street, East Northfield, Massachusetts. His date of birth is given as June 28, 1920. His father is listed as WILLIAM ZACHMANN, born in Germany, business, Shaker Heights Service Department, Shaker Heights, Ohio, General City Repairs and Services. His mother is listed as SOPHIE FARR, also born in Germany, and one brother, KURT ZACHMANN.

ZACHMANN'S previous residences were given as Shaker Heights, Ohio, prior to 1943, and residence while in the service was at Venice, Florida, 1944. In 1946 he resided at Savannah, Georgia. ZACHMANN married DORIS LOUISE MILLER, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. CARROLL MILLER, in Americus, Georgia, May 22, 1943. His wife attended Fern College, Cleveland, Ohio, through her Junior year, 1938 to 1942. At Yale ZACHMANN took a course in civil engineering in the School of Engineering. He resided at 91 Hillside Avenue, Branford, Connecticut, and he belonged to the Student Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers at Yale. He received a B.E. degree from Yale, Yale Commencement, 1951. In August of 1951 ZACHMANN furnished the Yale University Alumni Office with his permanent address, as follows:

c/o CARROLL H. MILLER
South Main Street
Northfield, Massachusetts

The Yale University file reflects that ZACHMANN has the following military service record:

*Armed Service Record given in our (Yale University) files is as follows:
Enlisted as Aviation Cadet, Aug. 12, 1942. Called to active duty Feb. 5, 1943. Received pilot training at S.E. Trng. Command, Maxwell Field, Ala.; Americus, Ga.; Macon, Ga.; and Marianna, Florida. Graduated as single engine pilot at Marianna and was commissioned 2nd Lt. Nov. 3, 1943. Took fighter training at Venice, Florida and was instructor Nov. 1943 to June 1944. Overseas Service: Italy, 15th

sfd/al
cc: Cleveland (65-2729)
Miami (65-2378)
Boston (65-3387)
Savannah (

65-1664-690

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
FEB 1 - 1952	
FBI - ALBANY	

Letter to the SAC, Albany
Re: Alfred Epaminondas Sarant, was, et al
Esp. - R

January 30, 1952

"Air Force, 52nd Fighter Sqd., July 1944 to April 1945. Fighter pilot, operations officer, flight leader. 65 Combat Missions, long-range escort and strafing. Received the following decorations: Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with 8 clusters, European Theater with 7 Battle Stars, American Theater ribbon, Unit citation, and the Victory Medal. Was promoted to 1st Lt. Sept. 1944 and to Capt. in Jan. 1945. Upon return from overseas he was stationed at Venice, Florida, Tendall Field, Florida, Savannah, Ga. and Maxwell Field, Ala., with assignments as Air Lift Maintenance Officer, Engineering Officer, Air Corps Supply Officer and Instructor Pilot. Released to inactive duty at Maxwell Field, Nov. 19, 1946."

The files of the New Haven Office contained no information relating to HANS MICHAEL ZACHMANN nor to his wife, DORIS LOUISE MILLER ZACHMANN.

The referenced report requests that offices within whose division ZACHMANN has resided check their indices on ZACHMANN and his wife for any information.

For the information of the Savannah Office, the referenced report reflects that during a permissive search of the Subject's, ALFRED SARANT'S, premises, a Christmas card was located apparently sent by Mr. and Mrs. HANS ZACHMANN of East Northfield, Massachusetts.

Albany origin. Ruc.

SAC, Albany (65-1664)

January 30, 1952

SAC, New Haven (65-1359)

ALFRED EPAMINONDAS SARANT, was, et al
ESPIONAGE - R

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sfd/al

cc: Cleveland (65-2729)
Miami (65-2378)
Boston (65-3367)
Savannah (

65-1664-690

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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FEB 1 - 1952	
FBI - ALBANY	

RZ

Letter to the SAC, Albany

January 30, 1952

Re: Alfred Epaminondas Sarant, was, et al
Esp. - R

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The referenced report requests that offices within whose division ZACHMANN has resided check their indices on ZACHMANN and his wife for any information.

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Albany origin. Ruc.

CHARGE-OUT SLIP

FD-4
(7-10-51)

FILE 63
Class 100

Number 671

Last Serial

Date

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Date

Serials 100 to 100

Date

Serials 100 to 100

Date

Employee: to file 100-11091

per Valery

RECHARGE

To: _____

Date _____

From: _____

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, Albany (65-1664)

FROM : *AF* SAC, Savannah (65-0)

DATE: February 6, 1952

SUBJECT: ALFRED EPAMINONDAS SARANT, was; ETAL
ESPIONAGE - R

Re New Haven letter to Albany dated January 30, 1952.

Indices Savannah Office negative as to MANS MICHAEL ZACHMAN
and his wife DORIS LOUISE MILLER ZACHMAN. RUC.

AEH:AMT

*Info can not
be available in
ref. 1 per*

65-1664-693

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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FEB 8 - 1952	
FBI - ALBANY	

Maxson

SAC, Albany (65-1664)

February 6, 1952

SAC, Savannah (65-0)

ALFRED EPAMINONDAS SARANT, was; ETAL
ESPIONAGE - R

Re New Haven letter to Albany dated January 30, 1952.

Indices Savannah Office negative as to HANS MICHAEL ZACHMAN
and his wife DORIS LOUISE MILLER ZACHMAN. RUC.

AEH:AMT

65-1664-693

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FBI - ALBANY	

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FBI, MIAMI

2-15

2-12 PM EST

ECF

SAC, ALBANY.....U R E N T

ALFRED EPAMINONDAS SARANT, WAS, ETAL, ESP. - R. FOR USE IN
COVERAGE OF SUBJECT LOUISE SARANT, PLEASE FORWARD ANY AVAILABLE
PHOTOS AMSD.

W A L L

END

ACK PLSE

OK FBI AL FLO

65-1664-696

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SAC, ALBANY.....U R G E N T

ALFRED EPAMINONDAS SARANT, WAS, ETAL, ESP. - R. FOR USE IN
COVERAGE OF SUBJECT LOUISE SARANT, PLEASE FORWARD ANY AVAILABLE
PHOTOS AMSD.

W A L L

END

ACK PLSE

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65-1664-696

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SAC, Miami (65-2378)

February 15, 1952

SAC, Albany (65-1664)

ALFRED EPAMINONDAS SARANT, was., ET AL
ESPIONAGE - R

Reurtel 15th instant.

Enclosed herewith are three photographs of LOUISE SARANT.

PFM:bmh *R. M. L.*

Encs. (3)

AMSD

QZY

65-1664-697

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, Albany (65-1664)
FROM : SAC, Cleveland (65-2729)

DATE: February 18, 1952

SUBJECT: ALFRED EPAMINONDAS SARANT, was. ET AL
ESPIONAGE - R

Re New Haven letter 1/30/52.

Please be advised that the only pertinent reference to any members of the ZACHMANN family indicates that one WILLIAM ZACHMANN received the Hindenburg Memorial War Medal from the German Consul in Cleveland in 1936, according to

[REDACTED] b7D

According to the informant, this medal was awarded to all who served in the German armed forces in 'The Great War.'

JBO'D:CGP

*Not pertinent & not
in file in ref. Co.*

65-1664-698

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SAC, Albany (65-1664)

February 18, 1952

SAC, Cleveland (65-2729)

ALFRED EPAMINONDAS SARANT, was. ET AL
ESPIONAGE - R

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JBO'D:CGP

2/27/52
R/S [signature]

65-1664-698

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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[signature]	

August 21, 1951

Newark, New Jersey

I, BEN ALEXANDER, make the following voluntary statement to ROBERT C. BALL and JAMES H. FIGDOW, JR., who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice. I know that I do not have to make a statement and I also realize that this statement may be used in a court of law. I have been advised that I have the right to obtain the advice of counsel. No threats or promises have been made me in connection with this statement.

I was born on October 21, 1919 in Brooklyn, New York under the name BENJAMIN PHILIP ALEXANDER, JR. Since about 1938 I have used the name BEN ALEXANDER as my full name, although this change has not been established in court.

My father is BENJAMIN PHILIP ALEXANDER, SR. and my mother IDA A. ALEXANDER nee AMDUR. Both parents were born in the vicinity of New York City. My father is a retired lawyer and real estate agent and presently is a part owner of a liquor store known as Miles Liquor Store, Court Street, Brooklyn, New York. My mother has been a school teacher for many years and is presently teaching at a public elementary school at 22nd Street and Avenue T, Brooklyn, New York.

- 1 -

65-1664-204

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I have one brother, LEON J. ALEXANDER, who was born at Brooklyn, New York on November 11, 1924. He is a practicing attorney in San Francisco at the present time. He is presently residing at 325 Day Street, San Francisco, California. I have no sisters.

I attended the Brooklyn Ethical Culture School and entered the Abraham Lincoln High School in Brooklyn, New York in 1932. I was graduated from this school in June of 1936.

During my first year in high school at the suggestion of one of my teachers, whose name I no longer recall, I joined a "Peace Club" which was organized as a school activity to further the ideals of the League of Nations. As I recall it, the "Peace Club" was promoted or sponsored by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Shortly thereafter, a group of new members joined the club. They were more experienced than the rest of us and seemed to know just what they wanted to do. When any officers were elected, these newcomers took the major posts and some of the older members, including me, were elected to the minor posts.

At executive board meetings we were fed the "Communist Party line" and we were also invited to visit the local unit of the Young Communist League in Brooklyn. Among the persons that I have referred to above as "new members" I recall JULIUS STON, who graduated from the Abraham Lincoln High School in Brooklyn about 1936 and a girl whose first name was SEMAH but whose last

name I do not recall. It is my recollection at this time that these persons were both members of the Young Communist League in Brooklyn during the least part of their attendance at the Abraham Lincoln High School. I believe there were between 15 and 25 members of the YCL at said high school while I was in attendance.

As was noted above, the members of the "Peace Club", including me, were invited to visit the local unit of the Young Communist League. It was very glamorous and conspiratorial. Here, they explained, was a unit of the International Army that would end wars and depressions and would bring brotherhood to the world. I went to a number of meetings of the Young Communist League and joined in some of this organization's activities.

During the time that I attended these meetings (in the fall of 1933 and early in 1934) we met several times in a basement clubroom somewhere in Coney Island. For the most part, however, meetings of the Young Communist League were held in a building known as the Workers Center. This building was located on Coney Island Avenue and possibly Stillwell Avenue in Brooklyn, New York.

On October 20, 1933 the day before my fourteenth birthday I took part in a money collection for one of the many causes of the Young Communist League and was arrested for soliciting without a license. We were soliciting funds for the YCL on the boardwalk in Coney Island. I do not at this time recall if we were soliciting funds for the Second U. S. Congress against War and Fascism.

Outraged at the casual "case dismissed" and my father's "If I ever catch you mixed up with that bunch of Reds...", I joined the YCL.

Almost from the first I grew to be a bad YCL member. Many teachers and the principal of the Abraham Lincoln High School who seemed intelligent, understanding, and sympathetic to me were "Fascists" to my comrades in the YCL. The "Peace Club" was so manhandled by the YCL that pretty soon everyone but the YCL members left.

LEONARD JAFFEE (phonetic), a classmate of mine who had shared my step by step descent into Communism discussed our membership in the YCL with his father. The latter explained that the Communists were interested in nothing but Russia. He suggested we ask the "comrades" about the Russian famines, about the Communists' disruption of the Socialists and the non-Communist labor unions in Germany and here in America. We asked our comrades in the YCL about these matters and were told that Socialists and Liberals were objectively worse than Fascists and that the hope of the future lay in Russia.

We, JAFFEE and I, did not hide our dissatisfaction with these ideas and attitudes and six months after joining the YCL, LEONARD JAFFEE and I were expelled from the YCL for "Right Wing deviationism".

LEONARD JAFFEE was primarily interested at that time and I believe subsequently in mathematical and scientific matters. After leaving high school he attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology, receiving his doctorate from either MIT or Harvard University about 1942. He is a highly specialized metallurgist. To the best of my knowledge, he is now and has for at least five years been employed by the United States Government in a professional capacity at the Watertown Arsenal, located near Boston, Massachusetts.

I do not recall whether JAFFEE continued having associations with Left Wing movements immediately subsequent to our expulsion from the YCL. It is my definite recollection, however, that shortly thereafter he lost interest in Left Wing political movements and concentrated all his attentions and enthusiasms on his technical studies.

I continued to see JAFFEE from time to time up until the war and have seen him twice since the war. I strongly feel that there is no doubt of JAFFEE'S loyalty to the United States of America.

To return to my story, in the fall of 1934 a new organization appeared at the Abraham Lincoln High School which was known as the "National Students League" (NSL). In my opinion the NSL was planned and organized by the YCL as a front organization.

I joined the NSL at the high school and consistently acted to reduce the influence of the YCL group. I remember a debate that was organized by the membership of the NSL between the aforementioned JULIUS SIPSON (representing the Communist point of view) and myself (representing the non-Communist point of view). The meeting ended with SIPSON and the Communists walking out of the meeting, saying such debate was fruitless. Included in the people who more or less followed me, there was a number of Socialists, Pacifists, and Liberals of various types. Our attitude was that peace, progress, and freedom are inseparable; and Communists (who support Russia) could not be sincere.

During the year 1934 a girl, whose name I no longer recall who was a member of the NSL at the high school, introduced me to her boy friend, OSCAR SHOWNFIELD, who was a "Trotskyite". SHOWNFIELD convinced me that communism divorced from Russian influence was what I really supported. After some months, in the winter of 1934-1935 I joined the Trotskyite Youth Group (which was known as the Spartacus Youth League) in Brooklyn. The Spartacus Youth League was the youth counterpart of the Workers Party of the United States (Trotskyites) which later became known as the Workers Party.

For the next five years I was a Trotskyite. In 1935

the Spartacus Youth League bodily joined the Young Peoples' Socialist League (YPSL) which was the youth counterpart of the Socialist Party. At that time I became a member of the YPSL in Brooklyn. During the year 1937-1938 I was an alternate member of the national executive board of the YPSL. In the summer of 1937 I was appointed an Upstate New York organizer for the YPSL. Both of these positions were honorary and did not include any financial remuneration.

Among the members of the national executive board of the YPSL during my term of membership were the following people: VINCENT FREYER (I believe, national president); HAROLD DRAPER (HAROLD DRAPER, who for many years was a vigorously anti-Russian Left Winger, should not be confused with his brother THEODORE also known as THEODORE REPARD who was a Communist Party follower); ANN FRACI (phonetic), DRAPER'S wife; CHARLES BLACKWELL; ELANORA DERTIN; NATHAN GOULD (GOLDSTEIN).

The following people most probably were members of the national executive board at that time although I do not recall positively: HURBERT PASSIN (phonetic) who I knew in Chicago when I was in Midshipmen's School there and who at that time had thoroughly divorced himself from Left Wing activity; IRVING HOYT. In addition there were 10 to 15 other members of the national executive board whose names I do not recall at this time.

It is my belief that all these names were published in the YPSL newspaper, the name of which I do not recall. The elements of the YPSL which supported the milder Socialism of the Socialist Party lost control of the YPSL at the YPSL convention (held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 1937) at which I was elected an alternate member of the national executive board and the YPSL was thereafter largely controlled by the Trotskyite element. This control lasted at least until 1939 or 1940 when I lost touch with the YPSL.

During my high school days I was an active anti-Communist Left Winger and was widely known as such to my classmates and to members of the faculty. When I entered Cornell University, Ithaca, New York in the fall of 1936 I continued in the same role. I helped lead a group of about 20 Socialists, Quakers, and Liberals in activities to keep the American Student Union (known as the ASU and the successor to the NSL) out of Communist hands.

Other leading anti-Communist figures in the ASU were: ROBERT HUFFCUT (deceased) and MILTON TSMAN. I knew both of these men to be anti-Communist Liberals and not members of any Left Wing organizations.

I attended ASU conventions at the University of Chicago 1938 and at Vassar College, Poughkeepsie 1939 as a representative of such a group. At these conventions I took part in anti-Communist factions and spoke frequently from the floor against the proteges

of Russia. I organized Socialist and anti-Communist activity in and around Ithaca, including Syracuse and Elmira.

While I was a student at Cornell University from the fall of 1936 until May 1941 the ASU Chapter at Cornell was not controlled by the Communists. Generally in elections the vote would be three to two against the Communist faction in the ASU Chapter. The Communists were defeated through the alliance of the Socialists, Quakers, and Liberals, of which I was one of the leaders.

During my freshman and sophomore years at Cornell I was unshaken in my faith. Thereafter, seeds of doubt began to grow. Instead of spending most of my free time in political and quasi-political activity, I became increasingly interested in more general intellectual matters, in girls, in sports, and in a more mature group of friends I had met. These friends, while not opposed to my Socialism in principal, believed that progress would come in small pieces; and large changes would, like the Russian Revolution, result in war and totalitarianism. My junior year at Cornell passed without apparent changes in my point of view but with much doubt and soul searching on my part.

The YPSL (Trotskyite) group that I organized at Cornell was essentially an informal association of students at Cornell and in the nearby vicinity who were interested in the same idea.

*Young People's Socialist League -
Cornell University*

X

This group never consisted of more than six persons and at times our membership was down to one or two members. When I ceased activity in this group (early in the 1939-1940 school year) the group ceased to exist.

The following persons are the students that I recall as members at one time or another of the YPSL group at Cornell University between the fall of 1936 and 1939-1940: ~~EDWARD SCHLES~~ I (phonetic) - ~~SCHLES~~ I was in the class of 1941 or 1942 and was a student in the Agricultural Department. He was a member of the group for about one year during the school year 1937-1938. At that time he dropped out of school and was no longer a member of the group. ~~HOWARD J. MILLER~~ - He was in the class of 1940 and was a member of the group for about six months in 1938. He dropped out of the group at that time and had no association with the YPSL after that time, to my knowledge. I believe ~~HOWARD~~ to be a loyal, patriotic American; and I believe that he is in no way associated with any subversive or un-American group. ~~LEONARD MILLER~~ resides at the present time in New York City and is employed by his father in the Miller Advertising Agency West 5th Street, New York City. ~~LESLIE TICKNER~~ (phonetic) - He was a member of the group for about one year during the school year 1937-1938. He was a student at Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York where he studied either music

or dramatics. He came from the vicinity of either Auburn or Aurora, New York. I had no contact with him after he dropped out of the group in 1937. I believe he had reconsidered his point of view during the summer preceding the school year 1937-38. Thereafter he showed no interest in the YSL. ~~HARRY SWERDLOW~~ - SWERDLOW was a graduate student in English literature at Cornell about 1939. He was a member of the YPSL at Cornell during 1938-39 when he roomed with EDWARD SPYER and myself. I met SWERDLOW in New York City about 1936 when he was a member of the YPSL while a student at the College of the City of New York. I saw SWERDLOW perhaps two or three times between 1939 and 1941 and then once or twice in 1945 or 1946. While I had no other contact with SWERDLOW, from our talks on the few occasions we did meet, I gathered that he had lost all interest in the Socialist or Trotskyite movements.

It is my belief that SWERDLOW is a completely loyal and patriotic American and not associated with any subversive groups. To the best of my knowledge, SWERDLOW now resides in Los Angeles. SWERDLOW is now an attorney, practicing in California, a member of a firm which I believe is called Loeb and Swardlow or perhaps just Loeb. I believe that SWERDLOW worked as an attorney for the Department of Justice in California for a number of years.

~~PAUL ROSENTHAL~~ - ROSENTHAL was more or less a member of the group for some months in 1938-39. He left Cornell shortly afterward.

ROSENTHAL never really was interested in politics but was more or less high pressured by SPEYER and myself into joining. ROSENTHAL comes originally from the vicinity of New York City. I do not know whether ROSENTHAL was a regularly matriculated student or not. I believe that ROSENTHAL could be reached through a brother-in-law named EDWARD COONEY who was a publisher of small artistic magazines which carried the literary works of little-known authors. The name of the magazine was at one time "The Phoenix". COONEY through his writing and ROSENTHAL through personal contact appeared to me unsubversive, they were fairly typical "all for art" Bohemians. EDWARD M. SPEYER (this is his complete name). SPEYER is my wife's (ELIZABETH SPEYER ALEXANDER) only brother. He now resides at 221-19 Braddock Avenue, Bellerose, Queens, New York. He was born in New York City April 25, 1918. He is now employed by the Freed Radio Corporation, 200 Hudson Street, New York City as an optical engineer. SPEYER was my roommate for two years at Cornell.

During the school year 1937-38 SPEYER, I, and HAROLD ELISHAVITZ (phonetic) lived together in an apartment in a large building, the address of which I do not remember, near Cornell University. This building was more or less an unofficial dormitory associated with Cornell.

ELISHAVITZ is an entomologist and never expressed the slightest interest in the political activity of either SPEYER

or myself. My last word of FLIEHARTZ was approximately two years ago when he was in Venezuela working for a large oil company. During the school year 1938-39 SPIYER, I, and SUTRLOW, mentioned above, lived together in an apartment in a rooming house at 717 East Buffalo Street, Ithaca, New York. Sneyer was introduced to the YPSL by me in the spring of 1937. He was a member of the YPSL group at Cornell from 1937 until he graduated in 1939.

Subsequent to his graduation, SPIYER, to my knowledge, remained a member of the YPSL for approximately two or three years. About that time he either became a formal or informal member of the adult Trotskyite group. When the split between the Cannon group (JAMES P. CANNON) and the Shachtman group (MAX SHACHTMAN) occurred in 1940, SPIYER went with SHACHTMAN. I believe this is the group known as the Workers Party and the Cannon group became known as the Socialist Workers Party.

Subsequent to this, to my knowledge SPEYER split from the Workers Party, then split from this splinter group, the name of which I do not remember, and then split from this splinter group again. I do not know the names of any of these later groups.

In all cases it is my belief that SPIYER split from these groups because he recognized the impotence of their activity and the low caliber of their membership; i.e.

mentality, character, integrity.

From many discussions I have had with SPEYER over the years, it is my understanding that he was genuinely and acutely disturbed by the troubled state of the world and believed in an immature manner that the only solution to the world's problems was Socialism. His history in organizations can be understood as a process of shopping around to find some organization somewhere that could bring the world to Socialism. His beliefs were vehemently anti-Russian and anti-totalitarian. He believed that Socialism was equivalent to a peaceful, rational, brotherly organization of mankind. This type of thinking which rejects all partial solutions to problems and concentrates on a chosen ultimate blueprint reflected SPEYER'S disturbed emotional situation. Throughout this time from 1939 on, I have attempted with success only fairly recently to shake SPEYER loose from his absolute way of thinking.

SPEYER was married about 1947 to SYLVIA SPEYER, whose maiden name I do not know. A son was born early in 1950. SPEYER studied physics at Cornell and had a succession of jobs as an optical engineer in the New York vicinity. These jobs, however, were almost entirely short ones and involved getting some small gadget into production.

About 1947 he became associated with the Farand Optical Company in the Bronx, New York where he held a responsible

position. He subsequently left Farand to go to the Freed Corporation with even a better job. About the time he joined Farand, SPEYER began taking courses at night leading toward his doctorate in physics at the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn where I understand he is doing exceedingly well.

It is my belief that these facts indicate that about 1948 SPEYER finally outgrew the immaturity which had plagued him through and after his college years and sustained him in the various splinter groups, above mentioned. His successful marriage, his re-introduction into education, his holding down responsible positions in his field, all have tended to temper his extremist views of the world. In discussions with SPEYER over the past few years, I have found him much more mellow and reasonable and I have at this time no doubt as to his loyalty and patriotism to the United States. Previously, however, I might have questioned his reliability as a security risk, although I would not have questioned his basic loyalty.

In my opinion SPEYER at no time was engaged in any activity which would in any way harm the security of the United States Government.

My wife, ELIZABETH SPEYER ALEXANDER, was born in New York City on March 30, 1921 to JESSE J. and RITA BLOCH SPEYER, both natives of the United States. JESSE J. SPEYER is now married to MADELINE SPEYER. They reside at the Beelman

Hotel on Park Avenue, New York. RITA B. BACH (previously RITA SPEYER) was married in 1934 or 1935 to LESEY BACH and they now reside at 1 West 85 Street, New York City where they have resided since at least 1939. ELIZABETH and EDWARD are the only children to RITA and JESSE.

ELIZABETH and her parents in no way at any time associated with Left Wing political activity. ELIZABETH was a very pretty and vivacious girl who spent her formative years actively in social activities. ELIZABETH went to college at Stephens College, Columbia, Missouri, subsequently at Leland Power's School of the Theater (approximate name), Boston, Massachusetts. and finally at New York University, New York. She graduated from New York University in June 1943. I met ELIZABETH SPEYER in a casual manner through her brother three or four times during the period he was at Cornell. When I was at Midshipmen's School at Abbott Hall, Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois I corresponded with EDWARD SPEYER. He relayed an invitation from his sister (who was enthusiastic about servicemen in those days) to attend a party at her home when I was in New York for the Christmas holidays of the Midshipmen's School December 1941.

At this party ELIZABETH and I became interested in one another and I saw her whenever I came to New York for the next year. We were married in South Mills, North Carolina on

February 22, 1943. I have two children PETER TODD born in Annapolis, Maryland on October 15, 1944 and SUSAN JANE born in New York City September 28, 1946.

It is my opinion that my wife has at no time taken a particular interest in politics of any variety. Due to information recently given me, I have reason to believe that in 1945 when we resided at 410 East 57th Street, New York City, my wife registered as a voter in the American Labor Party. While I do not recall the details of this event, I generally recall that this act was accidental on her part in thinking that she was registering for the Liberal Party and as I believed I registered at that time.

It is my recollection that I never registered at any time for the American Labor Party and believe it would have been completely inconsistent with my very well established political thinking. This is true because at the time I believed that the American Labor Party was a Communist front organization and have had no reason to change my opinion subsequently.

I believe that my wife (assuming that she did register for the American Labor Party, which I now believe she did) did it without any understanding of the political significance of her act.

To return to the main thread of my story, in 1939-1940 (my senior year at Cornell) I openly broke with the YPSL. Initially, I stopped participating in left wing activities altogether, although I formally remained a member of the YPSL.

During this period a small group of ex-Socialists and Liberals who like me were growing up and were uncertain met weekly for coffee and talk, trying to mutually resolve our ideas. There was no question about our distaste for the Russian system. We were generally concerned with the problem of freedom versus security. As Americans we believed in freedom, as children of the Depression of the 1930's we valued security. Together we studied and discussed a number of contemporary books that treated the subject.

Among these books were: JOHN DEWEY'S "Freedom and Culture"; KARL MARX'S "Ideology and Utopia"; ANNE LINDBERGH'S "The Wave of the Future"; PETER DRUCKER'S "The End of Economic Man"; and others. The latter book made such an impression on us that we invited Mr. DRUCKER to come up from New York to spend an evening with us, which he did. No one in that group reached any definite conclusions. However, whatever parts of Marxian Socialism that I still believed in were unable to stand the light of these discussions. By this time my opinions were those fairly representative of the American University Liberals

who were for the most part enthusiastic supporters of England and France in the war against both Russia and Germany and who on domestic policy supported the New Deal. I differed slightly in that I supported Willie in the 1940 election campaign.

I would like to furnish the following names of persons that were associated more or less in the informal discussion group mentioned above: NELSON FOOTE and his wife MARION FOOTE, NELSON was a graduate student at Cornell. Within the last three years I have heard that NELSON FOOTE is employed either by the United Automobile Workers-CIO or the magazine "Detroit". I believe he resides somewhere near Detroit, Michigan. I believe that NELSON FOOTE told me that he had been a member of the YPSL before the Trotskyites entered that organization but he was not a member, to my knowledge, when he was at Cornell. ALEXANDER INKILS and his wife BERNADETTE KANE INKILS - I believe INKILS is employed in the Russian Institute at Harvard University. TODD SIMON, who presently resides at 3818 Bainbridge Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio. AUSTIN KIPLINGER, who I believe is a correspondent or writer for the "Kiplinger News Letter", Washington, D.C. PHILIP WEINTRAUB, a German refugee who was a teacher at Cornell University at one time. I do not know where WEINTRAUB is today.

None of these persons (with the exception of ~~NELSON~~ ~~FOOTE~~ who had been a member of the YPSL) were, to my knowledge,

member of any Communist, Socialist, subversive, or Left Wing organizations while I was at Cornell University. I believe that these persons can give a true picture of the way I felt in 1939-40.

I wish to emphatically state that I was not a member of the YCL at Cornell University at any time. I would also like to state that I was not associated with the Communist faction of the ASU or for that matter with any Communist groups or persons while at Cornell University. It is true that I was considered by many a "Left Winger" at Cornell, and the Communists were also so considered; but all people who had more than a superficial knowledge of my beliefs could easily distinguish between myself and the Communists. I had no association with the Communists and was violently opposed to most of the ideas expressed by them.

In the following paragraph I will discuss the Communist affiliation of a number of people who were contemporary with me at Cornell:

LEON MARSH was a non-Communist liberal during the year 1936-37. During that year I attempted to convert MARSH to the YPSL (Trotskyite) point of view. ALBERT LEISINGER attempted to convert MARSH to the Communist point of view; and in my opinion, he was successful. Subsequent to this time, I had no personal relations with MARSH; but as I recall, he

was an active member of the pro-Communist faction at Cornell. At the time I believed him to be a member of the Young Communist League. ALBERT LEISINGER and his wife, whose name I do not recall, were, in my opinion, at the time the leading members of the YCL on the Cornell campus. While I had no personal contact with either LEISINGER or his wife, from their attitudes and behavior I had at that time little doubt that they were active Communists.

~~INOCH BLUESTONE~~ and his older brother, whose name I do not recall, may have been Communists during that period. I had very little contact with those men but at the time believed they were very sympathetic to the Communist point of view. This judgment of mine in this case may have been unfounded, and their behavior may have represented merely personal likes and dislikes.

~~JAMES MOORE~~ (whose name was brought up by Agent HIGDON) was in my opinion working fairly closely with Communist elements. He was elected president of the ASU Chapter about 1939-40 (when I had already reduced the intensity of my participation in that organization) and was to the best of my recollection, actively supported by LEON MARSH and other Communists. I recall that I attempted conversations with MOORE a number of times but that they were fruitless. As in the case of the BLUESTONE brothers, this may have represented merely a personal distaste

or may have indicated a very sympathetic attitude toward the Communist point of view. I have had no knowledge of MOORE since I left Cornell.

FRIDRICH BYRD (FYRD'S name was introduced to me by Agent FIGDON) was in my opinion not a Communist or fellow traveler when I knew him at Cornell. He was a roommate of MOORE'S, I believe, and a member of the ASU; but I did not associate him with the Communist faction in any way.

MINA ROSS and her husband VICTOR ROSS were residents of Ithaca. VICTOR ROSS was a practicing attorney in Ithaca. I do not believe I met either VICTOR or MINA before 1938. I had no personal contact with the ROSS', partly because as a Trotskyite (even though largely ex) it was prohibited that Communists have any personal relation whatsoever with me. I strongly got the impression that the ROSS' were the guiding lights in Communist activity in the Ithaca area as a result of references made by other people and the apparent character of their friendship with Marsh and LEISINGER. I do not recall the names of the people who indicated that the ROSS' were Communists. I do recall, however, there was a strike at a restaurant near Cornell and the ROSS' appeared to be very active in assisting the strike. Shortly afterward, one of the strike leaders, a girl, whose name I do not recall, was seen very much with MARSH and the ROSS'S and accepted generally

to be a convert to Communism.

PUSS ROSS was the daughter of MINA and VICTOR ROSS and believed by many people, including myself, to be an active Communist in the Ithaca area. She was a close friend of LEON MARSH. I recall LEON MARSH escorted her from time to time.

ELEANOR TRUAX was the daughter of the landlady at the rooming house at 717 East Buffalo Street, Ithaca, New York, mentioned above. It is my recollection that she and PUSS ROSS became very friendly in high school in Ithaca, and it was my impression subsequent to the time I lived in her mother's rooming house that ELEANOR had been brought into the Communist group. I have heard that ~~ELEANOR TRUAX~~ now lives in New York City.

In the fall of 1940 I sought admission to the Air Cadet Training Program, USAAF, but my application was refused because of a then recent skull fracture.

In May, 1941 I enlisted in the V-12 Training Program of the United States Naval Reserve and was scheduled for active training duty at the end of September 1941. During May, June, and July 1941 I was employed on South Acre Farm, Venice Center, New York about 20 miles from Ithaca. This farm was owned by WALTER REWALD, a German refugee who had left Germany in 1933, spent the period from 1933 to 1936 in England, and came here in 1936. He bought a small rundown dairy farm which he and

his wife worked with the aid of usually one hired hand.
WALTER REWALD'S wife is RONI REWALD nee WARMBRUNN. I met
the REWALDS through Mr. STEVEN LUDWIG WERNER who lived in
Ithaca and who I have known casually since I met him in 1937
or 1938. It is my opinion that the REWALDS and Mr. WERNER
are completely loyal and patriotic citizens of the United
States and as far as I know have never at any time been at-
tached to or members of any Nazi or Communist organizations.

For six weeks in August and September in 1941 I was
employed as a subprofessional in the Binghamton, New York office
of the Old Age and Survivors Insurance Division of the Federal
Security Agency. During this time I spent my weekends at South
Acre Farm. Since that time I have had little contact with the
REWALDS.

I was placed on active duty in the United States Naval
Reserve late in September 1941. I took a four-months training
course at Abbott Hall, Northwestern University, Evanston,
Illinois. I was commissioned an ensign in the United States
Naval Reserve on or about January 20, 1942. From January 1942
until I was placed on inactive duty as a lieutenant, USNR in
September 1945 I served approximately 20 months overseas in
the Atlantic and Pacific Theaters of Operation and eight months
on coastal vessels on the United States East Coast.

On October 1, 1945 I commenced employment as an assistant engineer at the Federal Telecommunications Laboratories, Inc., 67 Broad Street, New York City. Since that time the Laboratory has moved to 500 Washington Avenue, Nutley, New Jersey where I am presently employed. In June 1946 I was promoted to the position of engineer and in January 1947 I was promoted to the position of senior engineer. In November 1948 I was promoted to the position of project engineer which position I hold at the present time. I am employed in Department R-16 of the Navigation Division of the Laboratories.

My parents have resided at 423 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn, New York from 1932 to the present. My brother lived with them continuously until his Naval service 1942-1946 and thereafter except while attending Yale Law School, New Haven, Connecticut. He now resides in San Francisco, as indicated above.

I resided with my parents sporadically after 1936 until I entered the Naval service in 1941. After my marriage I maintained my local residence at the home of my wife's parents, 1 West 85th Street, New York City until 1944. In 1944 my wife and I lived for one year at 30 Maryland Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland. After I returned to sea, my wife resided on Hillspoint Road, Westport, Connecticut in a home bought by my wife's parents and subsequently sold. From September 1945 until August 1946

my wife and I resided at 410 East 57th Street, New York, New York. Since that time we have resided at 193 Whitford Avenue, Nutley, New Jersey.

My parents and brother, to the best of my knowledge, have never been members of any Communist or subversive organization and have continuously manifested patriotic American and anti-Communist points of view. My parents and brother were never in sympathy with my political activity or beliefs in the 1930's.

It is accurate to state that since 1940 I have had no organizational connections with any Left Wing political groups of any variety. Since 1939-40 my convictions have been opposed to Marxism of all forms. From 1935 on I believed and do now believe that there is nothing morally wrong with Socialism of the form I advocated during my years as a Socialist, 1935-1939. At that time I believed that an internationally democratic planned society was the only answer to the problems confronting the world. This view of Socialism should be clearly distinguished from the Communist or totalitarian view of Socialism which believes that Socialism entails violence and dictatorships. Since 1940, however, I have been convinced that Socialism is an ideologized blueprint of one possible solution to the problems confronting the world and not necessarily the best.

I have been and am convinced that the best hope for the world lies in the normal workings of the democratic process as best exemplified by the Constitution of the United States. I can truthfully state that since 1939-1940 I have maintained no ideas of Socialism as a likely form of government in the United States during my lifetime or the foreseeable future and I am in full accordance with the democratic form of government in the United States. Moreover, since 1935 I have been convinced that one of the most horrible threats to morality, freedom, and dignity of men ever to appear on earth is the Red imperialism of Soviet Russia.

I wish to slightly qualify my statement regarding connection with Left Wing groups since 1939-40, to state that I was a member of Local 231, United Office and Professional Workers of America-CIO during 1946-48. Local 231, UOPWA was formerly known as Local 231, Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists, and Technicians. In my opinion, Local 231, UOPWA was a local of a Communist-dominated trade union during the period of my membership.

In my opinion the leadership of the Federal Telecommunications Laboratories Sublocal 231 followed the policy of the parent organization and was largely pro-Communist. As an example, this group supported Henry Wallace for president in 1948 which in my opinion closely paralleled the Communist

Party line and at one time voted that the sublocal march in a Communist led May Day parade in New York City. This latter decision was later revoked as a result of the protest of myself and other members. The sublocal did not officially support Wallace because of the result of a vote at a meeting at which objections to this policy were strenuously raised by myself and other members.

In my opinion, ERNEST PATAI, HARRY HYMAN, and PETER GRAGIS who were leaders of FTL, Sublocal 231 were Communist Party members or close Communist sympathizers. I believe that ALBERT SHADOWITZ, another of the leaders, behaved as a Communist sympathizer, although I cannot be certain of his convictions. I gleaned this opinion of these men partly from personal conversations but largely from their behavior in connection with the union.

Local 231, UOPWA. was the bargaining agent for me by contract with Federal Telecommunications Laboratories throughout the period of my membership in Local 231, UOPWA. I believe it improper and unwise not to participate in the decisions of a group that represents your interests in important matters. It was for this reason largely that I was a member of Local 231 during 1946-48. During this time it should be mentioned that I made numerous attempts to dislodge the Communist control of the organization.

It is significant to point out that my efforts and the efforts of others resulted in the defeat of UOPWA as bargaining agent in 1951 largely on the issue of Communist domination. In November 1948 when I was promoted to the position of project engineer I was no longer eligible for membership in the union in view of the fact that I was considered to be in a supervisory position in the Laboratory. I resigned my membership at that time.

I wish to state emphatically that I have always and do now consider myself a loyal and patriotic American citizen. At the same time I realize, however, that my activities in Left Wing groups during the 1930's would have given serious question to others regarding my loyalty to the United States Government. Notwithstanding this legitimate conclusion, I nevertheless would have at no time engaged in any activities which would have in any way attempted to overthrow the government of the United States through force or violence. I would state emphatically without reservation whatsoever that if there were ever a question of loyalty to the United States or any foreign power, I would have been completely and wholly loyal to the United States.

All the information contained in the preceding pages is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I would be

willing to repeat this information and any other relevant information that I can recall, under oath, at hearings either public or private.

As used in this statement, the term "left-wing" signifies a point of view which closely follows MARXIAN Socialism, although not necessarily of the "LENINIST" variety..

This statement of 30 pages was dictated by me to a stenographer at the offices of the F.B.I., Newark, N.J. in the presence Agents BALL and HIGDON on Aug. 21, 1951.

I have initialed all corrections and have also initialed each page. The last three paragraphs of this statement are in my handwriting.

Signed at Nutley, N.J. this 27 Aug. 1951

/s/ BEN ALEXANDER

Witnesses:

/s/ JAMES H. HIGDON, JR., Special Agent, F.B.I., Newark, N.J. 8/27/51.

/s/ ROBERT C. BALL, Special Agent, F.B.I., Newark, N.J. 8/27/51.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, Albany (65-1664)

FROM : SAC, Newark (100-33827)

SUBJECT: PUSS ROSS (Mr. and Mrs.
Alfred Epaminandos Sarant)
SECURITY MATTER - C
Bufile 65-59242

DATE: 3/4/52

BEN ALEXANDER was interviewed on August 21, 1951, and furnished a signed statement concerning himself and his connections with subversive groups. ALEXANDER furnished information concerning individuals located in your field division; therefore, copies of his statement are being furnished for those person's subject files. In the event that further information is desired concerning these individuals, it is requested that specific requests be made since ALEXANDER will be available for further interviews.

When reporting information contained in this signed statement, ALEXANDER'S identity should be protected at all times. It is permissible to state that this information was furnished by a reliable source.

ENC. *see 104*

WJ:jed

65-1664-205

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 6 1952	
<i>Malone</i>	