

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT HELEN SOBELL

FILE NO. 100-404849

SECTION NO. SUB A

SERIALS \_\_\_\_\_

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File No: 100-404847-4Date: 6/78  
(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	
NR	7-1-59	NATIONAL GUARDIAN NEWS ARTICLE	1	1	
NR	10-2-59	CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE	1	1	
NR	6-5-61	NATIONAL GUARDIAN NEWS ARTICLE	1	1	
NR	10-10-61	WASHINGTON DAILY NEWS	1	1	
NR	3-5-62	NATIONAL GUARDIAN NEWS ARTICLE	2	2	
NR	3-9-62	EVENING STAR NEWS ARTICLE	1	1	
NR	3-12-62	NATIONAL GUARDIAN NEWS ARTICLE	1	1	
UNK	3-17-62	PEOPLE'S WORLD	1	1	
NR	3-17-62	NATIONAL GUARDIAN NEWS ARTICLE	1	1	
NR	4-7-62	NEW YORK JOURNAL AMERICAN	1	1	
NR	10-9-62	EVENING STAR NEWS ARTICLE	1	1	
NR	10-9-62	EVENING STAR NEWS ARTICLE	1	1	



## NOTICE

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 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**JUSTICE**  
 We've prepared a menu to match our  
 pleasure in welcoming HELEN SOBELL  
 to the Valley.  
 Sat., Sept. 5th from 8 p.m. on - at 3227  
 Lamona, Van Nuys. \$2.50 lets you in  
 for a wonderful evening!  
 Annap: Valley Sobell Committee

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**POOLSIDE COFFEE HOUR**  
 You are cordially invited to an informal  
 coffee hour by the pool with HELEN  
 SOBELL at her first gathering in  
 Altadena

---

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 6, 8 p.m.**  
 at 2128 No. Altadena Drive, Altadena.  
 Contribution, \$1.

*O. C. [unclear]*

*File 100-404849  
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The Washington Post and \_\_\_\_\_  
 Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
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 The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_  
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 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
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 National Guardian \_\_\_\_\_  
 Page 7

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**100-404849-A**  
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 149 SEP 1 1955

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UNRECORDED COPIES FILED IN

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 Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

V.  
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G. G. G. G.

BRANTIGAN

S. J. J.

*attent a Pen.*

**WPI-71**

**(SOBELL)**

THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HAS TURNED DOWN A PETITION BY MRS. MORTON SOBELL, WIFE OF THE CONVICTED ATOM SPY, TO LIVE WITH HER HUSBAND IN ALCATRAZ PRISON LONG ENOUGH TO CONCEIVE A CHILD.

THE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY THAT MRS. SOBELL SENT HER PETITION TO FEDERAL PRISON DIRECTOR JAMES V. BENNETT LAST APRIL. BENNETT REPLIED THAT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WAS AGAINST PRISON POLICY AND REGULATIONS.

9/29--TS1211P

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*LT 10-1*

**Who'll mind the store?**  
**NEW YORK, N.Y.**  
 As many of you in the Washington Heights area know, there is a Sobell rummage store at 1553 St. Nicholas Ave., between 187th and 188th Sts. This store has been run by volunteer-help and with contributed merchandise. It has been a source of income for efforts to free Morton Sobell. We are badly in need of volunteer help to keep this project working. Even a few hours a week would be most welcome. Please call us at ALgonquin 4-9983. You will find this most congenial and productive way to spend your leisure hours.  
 Helen Sobell

*Blair*  
*W. J. Smith*

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_  
 New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_  
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**1100-404849-A**  
**NOT RECORDED**  
**191 JUN 13 1961**

*file*

Date June 5, 1961  
*National Guardian*  
 Page 2

**57 JUN 16 1961**



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**SOBELL FAMILY PICKETS WHITE HOUSE**

**'Please Free My Father'**

The family of Morton Sobell yesterday picketed the White House after failing to see President Kennedy about freeing Sobell, now serving his 12th year of a 30-year conspiracy sentence in the Julius and Ethel Rosenberg atomic spy case.

Mrs. Sobell, dressed in black, said a White House aide told her no appointment with the President had been made, and that he was "helpless" to do anything.

Also on the picket line were the Sobells' married daughter, Sydney Prindle, 22, her husband, and the Sobells' son, Mark, 12.

Mrs. Sobell, who wore a sign reading, "Leaders of the World - Please Use Your Influence to Free My Innocent Husband," said she was tired of using "conventional channels" to have Sobell freed from Atlanta penitentiary.

"I thought if I came here and the children came here, it might have some effect in influencing more people to help us," she said.

She said she had visited her husband an average of two hours a month since he was imprisoned.

She watched Mark parade

past with a sign that read, "Please Free My Father," and said, "We have to do this to make life meaningful. We'll keep trying to get him out until he comes home."

*W.C.S.*  
 W.C. Sullivan

*Rosen*

*APPROX 1939*  
*SEE SOBELL*  
*W. A. ...*  
*...*

The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_  
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 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date 10/10/61

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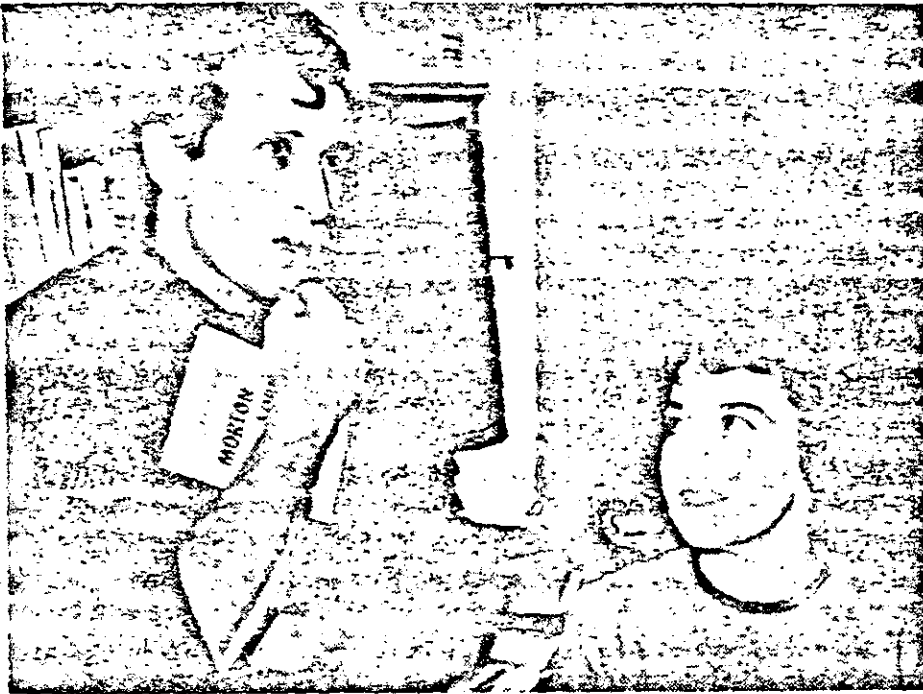
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66 OCT 16 1961



HELEN SOBELL TALKS TO BRITISH PLAYWRIGHT ARNOLD WESKER  
He was interested in plans for a film about Morton Sobell

Photo by Joe Balcombe

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*L-10-1*

*Krupp/Katzenbach*

*B. L. P.*

*J. P.*

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*S.H.*

- The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
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- New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_
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- The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_
- The Worker \_\_\_\_\_
- The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_

The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
Date 3-5-62  
*National Guardian*

*Page 3*  
*100-407849-A*

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46 MAR 12 1962

CAMPAIGN FOR RELEASE OF HER HUSBAND

# London welcomes Helen Sobell, Paris refuses to admit her

By Gordon Schaffer

**M**R. MORTON SOBELL won the support of many prominent persons in her campaign for the release of her imprisoned husband during her stay in London on the first leg of her European visit. She departed for Amsterdam on Feb. 11, and from there goes on to Brussels, Paris, Rome and Stockholm, then returning to London. Sobell is serving 30 years on a conviction of conspiracy to commit espionage in wartime.

"I have been able to do a great deal in a very short time," Mrs. Sobell said, "because so many people know about the unjust imprisonment of my husband and are anxious to help. In other cities friends will be waiting for me and arrangements have been made for me to see leading people."

Mrs. Sobell received sympathetic publicity in the newspapers, including the Times, the Daily Telegraph and the Daily Herald.

**MP PETITION:** Mrs. Sobell had tea at the House of Lords with Lord Chorley and also met a group of Labor MPs who plan to get signatures of other MPs to a letter calling for Sobell's release.

A lawyers organization, the Halday Society, called a meeting for Mrs. Sobell at the London School of Economics. The Bishop of Woolwich has expressed his desire to help and many clergymen are interested in the case. Scientists have also indicated readiness to aid, and Bertrand Russell told the Daily Herald, "I have investigated the case and I consider Sobell's trial was a complete miscarriage of justice."

Mrs. Sobell also talked to trade union leaders and to writers, including Arnold Wesker. Before leaving for Amsterdam she wrote to Winston Churchill, asking him to back her appeal.

When Mrs. Sobell returns to London a number of groups will be ready for action. The first step will be an appeal for Sobell's immediate release through executive clemency.

Arguing on a motion for a new trial, Sobell's counsel told the U.S. District Court in New York City on Feb. 14 that Sobell was unjustly convicted in violation of his constitutional rights. The lawyer, Marshall Perlin, told Judge McGohey that the trial judge, Irving R. Kaufman, had failed in his charge to the jury to define the term "wartime" and erred in imposing a sentence permissible in wartime. Sobell was tried in 1951. The government cited that the U.S.-Japanese peace treaty was not concluded until 1952. McGohey reserved decision.

*314*  
MAR 12 1962

The following communication was received from Helen Sobell. It was dated Feb. 15.

#### BRUSSELS

**Y**ESTERDAY I left Brussels encouraged by the knowledge that the Belgium League for the Rights of Man had decided to address a letter to the American ambassador to be conveyed to President Kennedy asking that my husband, Morton Sobell, be freed. Other Belgian organizations too were following with similar requests.

I alighted from the plane in Paris almost gaily, carrying gifts of fine Belgian lace and an exquisite little gold box of chocolates. As I handed my passport and embarkation card to the officer I saw him become agitated. He quickly reported to his superior at the other desk, and I was told to stand aside. I was not alarmed, thinking that my friends in Paris had perhaps made some special arrangements with regard to gaining public support.

**NO ENTRY:** The officer led me to a small room and through an interpreter told me that I was not to be permitted entry into Paris but must purchase another ticket and return to Brussels on London. I asked the reason and was told that there was none, only an order from the Prime Minister. I asked to be permitted to speak to my friend in Paris, but this was refused, as were my requests to call Brussels or London to make arrangements. Nor could I be permitted to go on to Rome, a procedure which would at least have saved me the expense of a return trip I had not anticipated.

When I realized I would be permitted no choice in the matter, I refused to have anything further to do with it. The officer took my handbag when he saw I had no intention of assisting him in carrying out these decisions, and he proceeded to rummage through my letters from my husband.

**CRADLE OF LIBERTY:** They then proceeded first to coax and then command me to leave, but I felt this was not my responsibility, and so they then carried me in the chair on which I was sitting out to the airplane. I waved and called to my waiting friends, "Goodby, I'm sorry I can not come to you. Please help me free my innocent husband."

They lifted me out of the chair and carried me feet first up the steps of the plane, and with a great sigh of relief deposited my 100 pounds on the last seat in the cabin. I almost laughed at the entire incident as we rose over beautiful Paris, the cradle of liberty, but it was a heartsick laugh, full of sorrow at what had happen in a once proud city.

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*11/18*  
*M. A. Sobell*

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- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**New appeals for Sobell  
submitted to President**

**M**RS. MORTON SOBELL has submitted new appeals to President Kennedy urging the release of her husband, now serving his 14th year in prison on a charge of conspiracy to commit espionage. One appeal for clemency, from London Chief Rabbi Israel Brodie, asks Kennedy to "exercise your prerogative of mercy and consider favorably his request for parole." Mrs. Sobell recently returned after trip overseas to obtain support for her husband, who has always asserted his innocence.

*[Handwritten signature]*

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- \_\_\_\_\_ The Washington Post and \_\_\_\_\_  
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- The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
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  - The Worker \_\_\_\_\_
  - The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_
  - The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
  - The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_
  - People's World \_\_\_\_\_
  - Date 10/17/63
  - National Guardian \_\_\_\_\_
  - Page 3

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**France Expels  
Mrs. Sobell A 7**

PARIS, July 17 (UPI)—Mrs. Morton Sobell, whose husband was sentenced to 30 years in prison in the United States for spying for the Soviet Union, was expelled from France July 7, police sources said today.

It was said to be the second time she has been asked to leave the country in the last few months.

The International Federation of the Rights of Man, headquartered in Paris, has asked President Kennedy to pardon Sobell, who has served 13 years of his sentence.

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- The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_
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- The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
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- Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Helen Sobell

(100-67)

UP-44

(SOBELL)  
 MORTON SOBELL, WHOSE HUSBAND WAS SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS  
 IN PRISON IN THE UNITED STATES FOR GOING FOR THE SOVIET UNION, WAS  
 EXPELLED FROM FRANCE JULY 7. POLICE SOURCES SAID TODAY.  
 IT WAS SAID TO BE THE SECOND TIME SHE HAS BEEN ASKED TO LEAVE  
 THE COUNTRY IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS.  
 THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE RIGHTS OF MAN, HEADQUARTERS  
 IN PARIS, HAS ASKED PRESIDENT KENNEDY TO PARDON SOBELL WHO HAS SERVED  
 13 YEARS OF HIS SENTENCE.

Mr. [unclear]  
Mr. Sullivan

[Handwritten initials]

7-17--CENTRIC 11981

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191 JUL 18 1963

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Washington Capital News Service

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UPI-69

(SOBELL)

PARIS--MRS. MORTON SOBELL, WHOSE HUSBAND WAS SENTENCED TO 30 YEARS IN PRISON IN THE UNITED STATES FOR SPYING FOR THE SOVIET UNION, WAS EXPELLED FROM FRANCE JULY 7, POLICE SOURCES SAID TODAY.

IT WAS SAID TO BE THE SECOND TIME SHE HAS BEEN ASKED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS.

THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE RIGHTS OF MAN, HEADQUARTERED IN PARIS, HAS ASKED PRESIDENT KENNEDY TO PARDON SOBELL WHO HAS SERVED 13 YEARS OF HIS SENTENCE.

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### Mrs. Sobell Asks Mate's Release

BERLIN, July 15 (UPD) Helen Sobell, wife of convicted atom spy Morton Sobell, appeared at an East Berlin news conference today to call for her husband's release.

She claimed her husband, sentenced to 30 years' imprisonment in 1951 for wartime espionage, was wrongly imprisoned and was entitled to a new trial.

Mrs. Sobell, who was accompanied by her 14-year-old son, said American legal authorities "cyncially declared it was too late from a juridical point of view" for her husband to be given a new trial.

RE: HELEN SOBELL  
SM-C

FROM: THE WASHINGTON POST  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
PAGE 1  
JULY 16, 1963

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Full file  
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5 JUL 17 1963

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*Brayton*  
*Beland*  
*Russell*

**SOBELL FAMILY PICKETS**

Relatives of Morton Sobell, convicted atomic secrets spy, picket the White House yesterday, protesting Sobell's confinement. From left,

Mrs. Rose Sobell, his mother; Sydney, his daughter; Mrs. Helen Sobell, his wife, and Mark, his son.—AP Photo

- Boston Post and Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- Chicago Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- The Evening Star A-6
- New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Post \_\_\_\_\_
- The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_
- The Worker \_\_\_\_\_
- The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_
- The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
- The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_
- Date 10-9-62

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**SOBELL FAMILY PICKETS**

Relatives of Morton Sobell, convicted atomic secrets spy, picket the White House yesterday, protesting Sobell's confinement. From left, Mrs. Rose Sobell, his mother; Sydney, his daughter; Mrs. Helen Sobell, his wife, and Mark, his son.—AP Photo.

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

- Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_
- York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_
- York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_
- York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_
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- The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_
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54 OCT 15 1962

OCT 9 1962  
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On Your Guard:

# Proceeds on the March 11

By JACK LOTTO

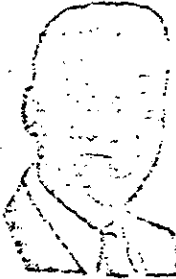
TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP, the boys and girls are marching—but for what?

Ask some questions and you get the answer that they want "Justice" for Morton Sobell.

Just who are these walkers? Who is behind their widely-publicized "Walks for Justice"?

Their picket signs read, "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell."

They are a pro-Communist group dedicated to giving American institutions a black eye internationally, and also putting the bite on unknowing Mr. and Mrs. Average American.



LOTTO

Sobell was the co-defendant of the executed atomic spies, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. He is serving the 12th year of a 30-year prison term in Atlanta Penitentiary.

The chief public figurehead of the Sobell Committee is Mrs. Helen Sobell, wife of Morton. She is the former membership secretary of the Communist Party in the nation's capital.

The "Walks for Justice" must be paying off—in dollars. The committee, listed in the Congressional Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications, is spending heavily, and has been for years, to spread its endless lies.

Well-organized coast to coast lecture tours, brochures, leaflets, picketing, advertising, breakfasts, dinners, testimonials, etc., are all part of the propaganda "smearfest."

Every action of the committee is

dedicated to getting stories in the general press and on television.

Thus, with increasing frequency, we see pictures in the non-Communist press of Mrs. Sobell picketing the White House with her children; ministers praying for Sobell at the White House gate; "silent vigils" in front of government buildings; picketing of Attorney General Robert Kennedy, and marches in front of Federal buildings and at the United Nations.

It is well to remember that every Federal court, up to the U.S. Supreme Court, upheld Sobell's conviction and repeatedly rejected legal contentions of alleged "frame-up," "perjured testimony" and "new evidence."

Mrs. Sobell recently returned from a tour of England, Italy, Sweden, Belgium and Holland, where she solicited international figures to support the campaign to win freedom for her husband. France refused to allow her to enter the country.

She headed protest demonstrations and "Justice Walks" last week on the West Coast. On March 23, she was in Berkeley, Calif. The next day, a meeting was held in San Francisco. The Los Angeles Federal Building was picketed on March 26. The Philadelphia Sobell Committee walked on March 31.

Today, Mrs. Sobell was scheduled to head a walking delegation going from Midtown Manhattan to the headquarters of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations.

It would have been simpler for Mrs. Sobell's group to mail their latest prison release petition to President Kennedy. But, of course, propaganda purposes are better served by doing the job the long way around.

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- The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_
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- The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
- The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_

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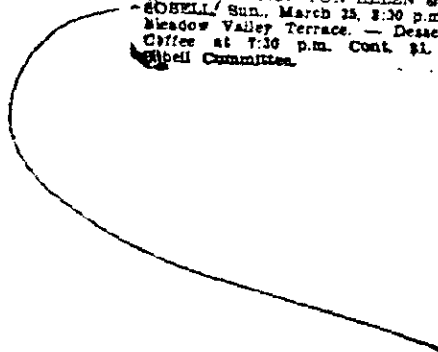
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*JS*

LOS ANGELES

HER ONLY L.A. APPEARANCE!  
 Hear HELEN SOBELL's European Re-  
 port. RECEPTION FOR HELEN & ROSE  
 SOBELL, Sun., March 25, 8:30 p.m., 2211  
 Meadow Valley Terrace. — Dessert and  
 Coffee at 7:30 p.m. Cont. pt. Ansp.  
 Sobell Committee.



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*Robinson*  
*K. Rappaport*  
*John*

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 The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Page 11

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# Mrs. Sobell to report on mission to Europe

SAN FRANCISCO — Just back from a European tour, Helen Sobell will now carry the fight for the freedom of her imprisoned husband, Morton, to the Pacific Coast.

She was sympathetically received in Britain, Belgium and other European lands, but not in France — the De Gaulle government denied her entry.

She will relate her European experiences, as well as the latest steps to secure her husband's freedom, to Pacific Coast audiences. Among her appearances is one Saturday, March 24, 8 p. m., at the Sir Francis Drake hotel here.

In line with her practice of carrying her appeal directly to President Kennedy, Mrs. Sobell will lead a picket line Friday, March 23, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the University of California's Memorial Stadium where the President is scheduled to speak. Pickets will form at Bancroft Way and Piedmont, Berkeley.

Sobell, convicted along with the executed Rosenbergs, is serving the 13th year of a 30



HELEN SOBELL  
De Gaulle said No . . .

year prison sentence. Like the Rosenbergs, he was charged with conspiracy to commit espionage, and like them he has not faltered in affirming his innocence.

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*  
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LEE...  
BLAND...  
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- Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_
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- New York Post \_\_\_\_\_
- The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_
- The Worker \_\_\_\_\_
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- The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
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**TO SAN FRANCISCO**

HILLEN SOBELL will report on her European trip Sat. March 14, at the Francis Drake Hotel, Dessert and call Tel. 42. Reservations MO 4-0663.

*Robinson*

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- The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_
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- The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_
- The Worker \_\_\_\_\_
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- The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
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- National Guardian \_\_\_\_\_
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