

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

Mr. Tolson *V. per 105*DATE: October 8, 1955 *10/10*

Tolson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Boardman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Harbo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mohr	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Parsons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tamm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sizoo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Winterrowd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Holloman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

FROM :

L. B. Nichols *N.Y. 100*

SUBJECT:

JULIUS AND ETHEL ROSENBERG *Briggs*

Cu

Judge Irving Kaufman informed me that Oliver Pilot, formerly a Washington correspondent of the New York Post and who is now connected with the New York Comptroller's Office, recently came in to see him. Pilot had read the Wexley book on the Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg and has been asked by the Yale Law Journal to review the book for the Yale Law Journal and he wanted to do an extended review and cover the legal points involved. Irving stated he was inclined to call on his two former law clerks who wrote an article on the Rosenberg case in the December, 1954, issue of the American Bar Journal to do some research and pick out the pertinent points and refer Pilot to the record. Irving wondered if I saw anything wrong with this.

I told him that I did not, but that, of course, he was the best judge. I told him that our experience with Pilot has not been too good, but that if his former law clerks would guide Pilot to the pertinent portions of the Rosenberg record some good might come out of it. Irving thought if he could accomplish nothing more than to draw attention to the statement by Emanuel Block in open court commending the fairness of the judge and commending the prosecutive staff, that this would be more than worthwhile.

cc - Mr. Boardman

cc - Mr. Belmont

LBN:ptm
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/3/76 BY 3042 PWS/HAS

RECORDED - 4

INDEXED - 4

65-58236-2227
20 OCT 14 1955

66 OCT 14 1955

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/5/86 BY 3042PWS/02

TELETYPE

OCT 14 1953

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

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

WASH 14 FROM NEW YORK 14 8-54 P

DIRECTOR U R G E N T

JULIUS ROSENBERG., ESP - R. JUDGE IRVING R. KAUFMAN ADVISED TODAY
THAT HE AND HIS WIFE RECENTLY HAD DINNER WITH CARDINAL SPELLMAN.
THE CARDINAL ADVISED JUDGE KAUFMAN THAT HE WOULD GIVE A TALK
BEFORE A LARGE AUDIENCE ON OCTOBER TWENTYFOUR NEXT IN BELGIUM
AND THAT HE INTENDED TO MENTION THE ROSENBERG CASE AND WOULD
COMMEND JUDGE KAUFMAN FOR HIS COURAGE. IT IS NOTED THAT CARDINAL
SPELLMAN LEFT FOR ROME ON THE ELEVENTH LAST. FOR INFO.

HOLD PLS

BOARDMAN

RECORDED - 115

25 OCT 20 1953

768
58 OCT 27 1953

Mr. Belmont

DEC 12 1955

SAC, New York (65-15348) (orig and one)

November 18, 1955

Director, FBI (65-58236)

JULIUS ROSENBERG, was., et al
ESPIONAGE - R

Open 2730

A copy of the book entitled "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg" by John Wexley was sent to the Director in an envelope bearing the return address of "Room D, 940 Broadway, New York 10, New York." You are instructed to ascertain the identity of the occupant of the above address and advise the Bureau of the same.

NY foll 1-6-56 WMBE, NY 6-1-12 RWBS 1-11-56

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/5/86 BY 3042 PUK/HOS

RECORDED - 97

EX-118

65-58236-2228

16 NOV 21 1955

JPL:rmf
(4)

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

52 NOV 28 1955

MAILED 8

NOV 18 1955

COMM - FBI

WAF 21

F233

Mr. Lee
Mr. Nichols

SAC, Kansas City (Orig. & 1)

December 12, 1955

Director, FBI (65-58236)

PERSONAL ATTENTION

JULIUS ROSENBERG, was., et al
ESPIONAGE - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/86 BY 3042 PUL/HAS

Reference is made to the editorial which appeared in the "St. Joseph News Press," St. Joseph, Missouri, on November 13, 1955, entitled "Timely Observations." It is noted that this editorial sets forth the editor's comments on his puzzled state of mind after reading the book entitled "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg" by John Wexley.

The Bureau does not desire you to contact Mr. Burrowes relative to this editorial. However, in the event this matter is brought up by Burrowes during one of your contacts, the Bureau wants you to have the facts necessary to refute this editorial. In any discussion with Burrowes concerning this editorial, the questions should be handled firmly and forthrightly and the facts given to him. You should advise him that it is not true that the Rosenbergs were framed by the FBI or by anyone else. The Rosenbergs received a trial before a judge and jury, were represented by able counsel and had appeals to the highest court in the United States as well as appeals to the President of the United States for clemency before they were executed. He should be reminded many persons in the United States and abroad were approached by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case (NCSJRC) to sign appeals for clemency for the Rosenbergs which appeals were based on the question of the death penalty alone. Many persons who are not, as Mr. Burrowes says, "Red propagandists" sincerely oppose the use of the death penalty and, accordingly, lent their names to such appeals only to discover their names were being used to protest the innocence of the Rosenbergs.

Pope Pius XII did not plead for review and leniency for the Rosenbergs. The Pope did refer to the United States Government the pleas for leniency which were received at the Vatican, but he, himself, made no comment and did not ask for leniency. The statement that he did ask for leniency is a deliberate distortion of fact used by the NCSJRC.

COMM - FBI

EC 13 1955

MAILED 20

Tolson
Boardman
Nichols
Belmont
Harbo
Mohr
Parsons
Rosen
Tamm
 Sizoo
 Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

RECORDED - 14

65-58236-20

EX-107

DEC 20 1955

DEC 15 1955

SEE NOTE PAGE 3

WAB

Letter to SAC, Kansas City

Mr. Burrows should be reminded that the last chapter of this book dealing with "love chants of Julius and Ethel, loudly applauded by fellow prisoners" is a highly fictionalized version of what Wexley would like people to believe happened during the last hours of the Rosenbergs. Mr. Burrows should be reminded of Judge Kaufman's statement made on the day of sentencing that the crime of the Rosenbergs was worse than murder.

Regarding the question of anti-Semitism raised in the book, (it is noted Dr. S. Anshil Pineberg, a rabbi, prominent in Jewish cultural and social affairs, has written a book entitled "The Rosenberg Case - Fact and Fiction," published by Oceana Publications Incorporated, New York City. This book cites many facts ignored by Wexley, such as the fact that six members of the jury panel with "identifiable Jewish names" asked to be excused and a seventh was originally chosen as juror number eleven but was removed through the peremptory challenge of Defense Attorney Bloch. Dr. Pineberg also cited opinion of the American Civil Liberties Union that no civil rights were violated in this case. He also quotes from a letter of April 26, 1953, sent by Dr. Urey to the NCSJRC, stating it was probable Greenglass could reproduce drawings in a rough form and considerable information could have been acquired this way.

Wexley's completely biased comments on the trial testimony should be pointed out to Mr. Burrows. Wexley finds the Rosenberg testimony "plain, true and simple," yet the testimony of Greenglass is described as "crooked, intricate, inconstant and a various thing." Wexley overlooks the fact that the jury observed all the witnesses while they testified and had the benefit of noting their actions and hearing as well as hearing their words for a period of several weeks. At the end of this time and after due deliberation, the jury decided who was testifying truthfully and who was testifying falsely.

Letter to SAC, Kansas City

For your confidential information, Judge Irving Kaufman, trial judge in the Rosenberg case, advised the Bureau on May 9, 1955, he learned this book contained civil and criminal libel which had been inserted deliberately in order to provoke a court test.

NOTE: Galley proofs of this book were obtained by the New York office and Photostats of the same were furnished to Assistant Attorney General Tompkins and book was reviewed in memoranda from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Boardman dated May 17, May 20, and May 31, 1955. The Bureau has had cordial correspondence with Mr. Burrowes since 1942. On October 9, 1953, his paper published a very unfavorable editorial concerning the Bureau's handling of the Greenlease case. Burrowes was removed from the mailing list and the SAC, Kansas City instructed to make no contact with him unless necessitated by official business. Burrowes continued to display a co-operative attitude and has, since, written a number of favorable editorials. The SAC was advised that he could resume contact with Burrowes in May, 1954.

Timely Observations

NEVER EVER has the famous F. B. I. been held up to such satire and ridicule as in a book just published. Never has the orderly processes of our federal judiciary been held up to such withering scorn as in this volume that has come to this desk. Never in all our life have we read such denunciation of a United States federal judge. The book is "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg." The author is John Wexley. The publishing house is Cameron & Kahn of New York and the distributors listed in the book are Cameron Associates, 100 West 23d New York 11, N. Y.

The book, a masterpiece artistically and 672 pages long, costs \$6. It came to this desk unsolicited. No one in this office had ever heard of it. We asked Public Librarian Irwin Sexton yesterday if he ever heard of it. He said no. Librarian Sexton knows more about more books than any man in St. Joseph. The strange thing is that a book this valuable would be sent with no review notice asked. Rarely do books of this value get out without request for a review. And in cities this size \$6 books are not often sent even for review. Anybody in this office who owns Truman's Memoirs, or Hoover's Memoirs, or Churchill's Memoirs paid for them. Who sent free without explanation "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg?"

First who is John Wexley? He is a playwright and a screen play author. His plays include "The Last Mile," "They Shall Not Die," "Steel" and "Running Dog." His screen plays include "City for Conquest," "Hangmen Also Die," "Cornered," "The Long Night," and in collaboration "The Amazing Dr. Clitterhouse," "Angels with Dirty Faces" and "Confessions of a Nazi Spy." He was the O. Henry memorial award winner in 1934 for his "Southern Highway 51."

Wexley is an Idealist, a Defender of the underdog, one of those (and daring) individuals who does not fear to defy the conventions. His "The Last Mile" a study of the consequences of capital punishment, had a foreword written by Warden Lawes of Sing Sing. There is no doubt that was considered a classic. "They Shall Not Die" was a masterpiece and dealt with the Scottsboro case. "Confessions of a Nazi Spy" has as collaborator an F. B. I. agent.

And yet this story of the Rosenbergs is without question the most damning indictment of the F. B. I. this writer ever came across. There was a bit of irony in it that we were on the final chapter's last night of a day made monumental for glory by J. Edgar Hoover. Yesterday morning this desk was busy for hours about the F. B. I. capture of the confessed saboteur of that airplane carrying his own mother. And we were engrossed in Wexley's castigation of Mr. Hoover and his agents when the Gazette news desk called to tell us of the F. B. I. announcement on the slayer of pretty Mrs. Wilma Allen of Kansas City.

The Wexley book is an astounding revelation. Or a horrible fake. Do we believe it? We dare not. If what this man John Wexley says is true Federal Judge Irving Kaufman, trial judge of the Rosenbergs, should be impeached and criminally prosecuted. If the book is true the F. B. I. is an infamous Gestapo that "frames" innocent men and women. For Wexley charges not once but through these more than 600 pages that the Rosenbergs were "framed," by the B. B. I., by the United States district attorney's office and by the Rosenberg's own kin David Greenglass, sister of Ethel Rosenberg, and Ruth Greenglass, his wife.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/86 BY 3042PWS/KAS

"The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg" however will make you think and think deeply. Can it possibly be true? Can it be even partly true? Wexley refers to the Dreyfus case in France before 1900. Emile Zola's literary magnum opus was derided as a damnable defense by a crazed writer. Zola had to flee France. Yet in time Zola's book "I Accuse" was accepted and Captain Dreyfus was recalled from Devil's Island and restored to his rank in the French army. And promoted. But you do not recall people from electric chairs.

You cannot read "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg" without being profoundly moved, as was this writer. Charges of anti-Semitism are heavy in the pages. And yet, and yet, mark you, the trial judge was a Jew. The chief government attorney was a Jew, Roy Cohn, to be on the staff of Senator McCarthy.

We confess frankly the book leaves us puzzled. You cannot dismiss as Red propagandists those who pleaded with Government for a review and leniency. They included two Supreme Court justices (Black and Douglas), the Pope, a noted Nobel prize physicist (Urey), a renowned rabbi and intimate friend of President Eisenhower (Abba Hillel Silver).

Not in years have we read a more touching story. Playwright-Author Wexley rises to sublime heights in that last chapter. He touches the heart with the love chants of Julius and Ethel, loudly applauded by fellow prisoners, before they were parted to meet again only an hour before they were shot into eternity.

ST. JOSEPH, MO.
NEWS PRESS

11 - 15 - 55

EDITOR:

ARTHUR V. BURROWES
9th & Edmond
St. Joseph, Mo.

HCA 30 10 05 6M 22

Let 2 Kansas City
12-12-55
JPL:clt

65-58236-2229

ENCLOSURE

BULKY EXHIBIT - INVENTORY OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED AS EVIDENCE

Bufile: 65-58236

NY

Field Division

2/1/56

Date

Title and Character of Case:

JULIUS ROSENBERG
IS-C

Date Property Acquired:

7/7/50

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/86 BY 3042PW/1/08

Source From Which Property Acquired:

APARTMENT OF JULIUS ROSENBERG,
10 MONROE STREET, NYC, APT. 11-GE

Location of Property or Bulky Exhibit:

BASEMENT

Reason for Retention of Property and
Efforts Made to Dispose of Same:

Possible evidence in any future
prosecution of other members of the
ROSENBERG Espionage Network.

Description of Property or Exhibit and
Identity of Agent Submitting Same:

SA WILLIAM NORTON

- 123. One large paper shopping bag with handles containing the following:
- 124. Can of Kodak acid fixer.
- 125. One can of Kodak microdol developer.
- 126. One small funnel.
- 127. One large glass graduate measuring jar.
- 128. One adjustable roll film developing tank.
- 129. One stainless steel thermometer.
- 130. One paper bag from Willoughby Camera Shop, NYC, containing a stirrer.
- 131. One small cloth bag containing 38 miscellaneous keys.
- 157. One Remington portable typewriter, Serial #V 290917. On the face of the typewriter is scratched the following - Evelyne March.

65-58236-

NOT RECORDED
23 FEB 3 1956

Field File # 65-58236-6 (#6)

7 FEB 6 1956

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (65-58236)

DATE: 1/4/56

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (65-15348)

SUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, Was; et al
ESP-R

Rebulet 11/18/55.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/3/86 BY 3042 PWS/AS
The Wilson

The New York telephone address directory reflects that among the offices located at 940 Broadway is the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell.

A telephone inquiry to this Committee revealed that the proper mailing address of the Committee is Room D, 940 Broadway, New York, N.Y.

2 - Bureau (RM) (65-58236)
1 - NY (65-15348)
1 - NY 100-107111
RAM:IM

RECORDED - 70

EX-126

65-58236-2230

JAN 5 1956

52 JAN 12 1956

ESP-SEC

2803 General Chenault St., NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico
25 January 1956

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Julius Rosenberg

Dear Mr. Hoover:

As a private citizen I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation and admiration for the work you and your Bureau are doing in exposing and investigating the machinations of the Communists in the United States.

This is the first letter of its kind I have written; it was prompted after reading two books on the Rosenberg case. One, authored by a DAILY WORKER staff writer, viciously pictured the FBI as a harassing agency of our "Facist democracy". The other presented fact and fiction about the case and, to me, demonstrated the true worth and value of your organization in these trying times.

During the Rosenbergs' last days I was stationed in Germany and had an opportunity to observe first hand the methods by which the Communists whipped up public opinion against our government.

Again, my thanks to you and the FBI.

Very truly yours,

Clovis V. Crummett
CLOVIS VT CRUMMETT
Captain Sig C
United States Army

Clovis Von Tavel Crummett*

*German y
N.M.*

INDEXED - 8
RECORDED - 8
EX - 118

65-58236-2231

20 JAN 26 1956

CRUMMETT

EXP. PROC.
JAN 30 1956

(4000)
ack 2-3-56
J.L.

4
RECORDED - 8
INDEXED - 8

65-58236-2231

February 2, 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/3/86 BY 3042 PULY/AB

811-13

Captain Clevis W Crummett
2803 General Chenault Street, Northeast
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Dear Captain: *Germany*

Many thanks for your most thoughtful letter
of January 25, 1956.

Your commendatory comments concerning my
direction of the activities of the FBI are deeply
appreciated, and I want you to know how encouraging
such good words are to all of us in this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

COMM - FBI
FEB 2 1956
MAILED 25

NOTE: Bufiles reflect nothing derogatory re Captain Crummett.
"vT" stands for von Tavel.

- Tolson _____
- Boardman _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Harbo _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Sizoo _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

JRH:asb
(3)

60 FEB 8 1956

RECEIVED READING ROOM
FBI
FEB 2 1956 AM 5:08
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FEB 8 1956

F B I

Date: 3/5/56

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, NEW YORK (65-15348)

To: BUREAU (65-58236)

JULIUS ROSENBERG; ESPIONAGE-R

ReNYtel 2/29/56.

9/5
 [redacted] orally advised SA RICHARD H. BLASSER *b2, b7D*
 on 3/1/56 that meeting of Section Membership Directors
 will be held on 3/13/56 at home of [redacted] *b7D*
 [redacted], Ridgewood, NY.

AL EISENBERG, Organizational Secretary, Queens
 County CP, called special meeting in order to impress
 the importance of financial membership director position.

Section, Financial and Membership Directors
 of Area 3 will be present. Informant will attempt to
 secure names of two individuals in question at that time.

KELLY

- 3* - BUREAU (65-58236) (RM)
 1 - NEW YORK [redacted] (7-4) *b2, b7D*
 1 - NEW YORK (100-114755) (20-13)
 1 - NEW YORK (100-65505) (20-13)
 1 - NEW YORK (100-108771) (20-13)
 1 - NEW YORK (100-26603-C41) (20-13)
 1 - NEW YORK (65-15348)

RTH:bek (#6)
 (10)

Mr. Belmont

RECORDED - 21

EX-121

23 MAR 6 1956

50 MAR 13 1956

Approved: *99K*

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 10/23/86 BY 3042 Jnt-ht

*Bulet to NY
 3/8/56 suggested
 this in Division Blasseur
 - Leland Everett Patrick
 JS*

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b2, b7D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

65-58236-2233

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
 X DELETED PAGE(S) X
 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

SAC, New York (65-15348) (orig & 1)

March 9, 1956

RECORDED - 88

Director, FBI (65-58296) 2233

JULIUS ROSENBERG, was., ET AL
ESPIONAGE - R

DECLASSIFIED BY 3042 PWT-27C

ON 10-23-86

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

57-X

[REDACTED]

b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Your attention is directed to the fact that Vivian Glassman and her husband, Ernest Pataki, resided in July, 1955, at 62-15 53rd Avenue, Maspeth, Long Island, New York. As you know, they were involved in the Rosenberg case. A review of Bufiles reflects the latest address for [REDACTED] Maspeth, Long Island, New York. It would appear these addresses are in close proximity to each other and the possibility exists [REDACTED] was referring to the Pataki when she referred to the two persons who were involved in the Rosenberg case.

b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

b7D

2. You should check the above addresses to determine if they fall within the same housing project. In the event it is determined these two persons referred to are Vivian Glassman and Ernest Pataki, you should determine through informant if they become activated in the CP and such information should be reported in their individual case files.

Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Wingard _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JPL:emb (4)

NOTE:

Classified by 235 WAB/DLB
Exempt from GDS, Category 2 & 4
Date of Declassification Indefinite

b2, b7D

MAR 15 1956

MAILED 8
MAR 9 - 1956

class. 2-7-77
AP/dg

15 APR 1956

WAB

JPL

4-22 (6-15-55)
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Section
8-10-1955


☐ Name Check Unit - Room 6523
☐ Attention VERRELLI
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Return to LEE Ext. 2188
Supervisor
Room 7736

☐ All References
☐ Subversive References
☐ Main _____ References Only
☒ Restrict to Locality of Mass. FLA.
☐ Breakdown ☐ Buildup ☐ Variations
☐ Exact Name Only
☐ Exact Spelling
☐ Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

SUBJECT [REDACTED]
Address _____

Localities _____
Birthdate & Place _____

Birthdate & Place _____
R# _____ Date 8-10 Searcher Initial 8134
FILE NUMBER SERIAL

	94-43622
<u>I</u>	62-101893 MRS. GEORGE ACKER
NSP	 b2, b7C MRS. G. C. ACKER 94-43622
<u>I</u>	100-7801-1614

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/86 BY 3042 PWS/LS

4-22 (6-15-55)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Section

8-10-, 1955

☐ Name Check Unit - Room 6523
☐ Attention VERILLI
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Return to LEE Ext. 2188
☐ Supervisor
☒ Room 7736

☒ All References
☐ Subversive References
☐ Main _____ References Only
☒ Restrict to Locality of MASS. FLA
☐ Breakdown ☐ Buildup ☐ Variations
☐ Exact Name Only
☐ Exact Spelling
☐ Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

SUBJECT [REDACTED]
Address _____

Localities _____
Birthdate & Place _____

R# _____ Date 8-10 Searcher Initial gpb
FILE NUMBER SERIAL

I	[REDACTED]	62, b7d
	LILLIAN S. ACKER	
1	94-43622	
I	82-101893	
I	100-7801-1611	
	LILLIAN ACKER	
I	62-101893	
NSA	100-1027187	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/5/96 BY 3042 PWS/AB

FBI

Date: 3/16/56

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, NEW YORK (65-15348)

To: BUREAU (65-58236)

JULIUS ROSENBERG
ESPIONAGE - R

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

MR. BRANIGAN

ReBulet 3/9/56, and NY airtel, 3/5/56.

Check of addresses at 62-15 53rd Avenue, Maspeth, LI, NY, the residence of VIVIAN GLASSMAN and her husband, ERNEST PATAKI, and [REDACTED] Maspeth, LI, NY, residence of [REDACTED] disclosed both addresses fall within the same housing project. Respective buildings are on opposite sides of the street.

[REDACTED] advised SA R. H. BLASSER meeting scheduled for 3/13/56, has been post-poned and new date not yet set.

Bureau will be advised when new date is scheduled.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/23/86 BY 3042 put-Dtc

KELLY

cc MR. BRANIGAN

- ③ Bureau (65-58236) (RM)
 1- New York [REDACTED] (7-4)
 1- New York (100-114755) (20-13)
 1- New York (100-65505) (20-13)
 1- New York (100-108771) (20-13)
 1- New York (100-26603-C41) (20-13)
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16 MAR 20 1956

Mr. Belmont

EX-121

50 MAR 22 1956

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

65-58236-NR 3/27/56

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. Belmont

DATE: March 28, 1956

FROM : W. A. Branigan

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/96 BY 30426

Hicklers - Belmont
Branigan
Lee

**SUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, was., et al.,
ESPIONAGE - R**

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The attached article appeared in "The Washington Post and Times Herald" 3-27-56 and states Bertrand Russell, eminent British philosopher, in a letter to the "Manchester Guardian," accused the FBI of "atrocities" and he was "almost certain the Rosenbergs were innocent." Russell continued he was writing to enlist support for Morton Sobell, described as an "innocent man condemned as a result of mass hysteria." Russell stated the American people are ignorant of the atrocities committed by the FBI and claimed the police (FBI) find a man they can prove guilty of some offense and promise him immunity if he will manufacture evidence against people who could not otherwise be indicted.

Bufiles indicate Russell is a British philosopher and mathematician whose appointment as Professor of Philosophy at the College of the City of New York in 1940 was revoked by the New York State Supreme Court on the basis that he was not fit for the position due to his "immoral and salacious attitude toward sex" and was not a United States citizen. At that time he was 69 years of age. (61-5243) In 1955 a pamphlet entitled "The Corroding Effects of Suspicion" by Russell was published by the National Research Bureau, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, and contained a statement the FBI opposes visas for all European physicists and as a result international congresses of men of science can no longer be held in America. The erroneous nature of this statement was called to the attention of the president of the National Research Bureau, Inc., and he apologized and destroyed all copies of the pamphlet. (100-148352)

It is worthy of note Mrs. Rose Sobell, mother of Morton Sobell, arrived in England on 2-22-56. She was sent by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case to organize fund-raising committees to assist in the campaign to free Morton Sobell. It can be speculated Russell was approached by the Committee and was influenced to write this letter to the newspapers. The statements of Russell appear to be based on the book "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg" by John Wexley published in 1955, which book has been reviewed by the Bureau. In that book, Wexley falsely described "the anatomy of frame-up" whereby he claims the FBI develops derogatory information on a person who is then forced to fabricate testimony to avoid prosecution for the original offense. This of course is a deliberate lie. The book also attempted to relate the Rosenberg trial to world events claiming the Truman Administration wanted to disprove the charge of being soft on Reds and to justify its erroneous estimate of Russian know-how it claimed the Atomic Bomb had been stolen. This letter of Russell's appears to be part of the campaign by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case to continue to attempt to develop public sympathy for Sobell.

ACTION:

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For your information.

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Send memo to R. G. Rogers;
Burger & Josephine. J

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

to answer these scurrilous attacks. This type individual and those who print his utterances are not interested in a factual answer and we will only find that our answers bring new attacks in other publications on a continuing basis. This will bring the type of publicity that the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case wants. It ~~points~~ points up the need for lucid presentation of the facts in the Rosenberg case in a book by an honest, reputable author.

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Philosopher Charges FBI 'Atrocities'

MANCHESTER, England, March 26—Bertrand Russell, the eminent British philosopher, today accused the American FBI of



"atrocities" and said he was "almost certain the Rosenbergs were innocent" of the atom-spying for which they were executed in 1953.

Russell made the statements in a letter to the Manchester Guardian appealing for "reparation" for Morton Sobell, jailed as an accomplice of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in giving atomic-bomb secrets to Russia.

In his letter, Russell said: "I am writing to enlist your support in the case of Morton Sobell, an innocent man condemned as a result of mass hysteria to 30 years' in jail and at present incarcerated in Alcatraz, the worst prison in the United States. I am ashamed to say that at the time of the Rosenbergs' trial I did not look into the evidence. I have now done so. I am almost certain that the Rosenbergs were innocent and quite certain that the evidence against them would not have been considered adequate if prejudice had not been involved."

"It is not too late for the United States Government to make some reparation to Sobell."

Russell said he was sure most Americans "are quite ignorant of the atrocities committed by the FBI."

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DATE 9/5/86 BY 3042 PWS/AB/BM

"They do not know the standard technique of these defenders of what with cynical effrontery they still call the free world."

"The technique is one which we have been made familiar in other police states, such as Nazi Germany and Stalin's Russia."

"The police find a man whom they can prove to be guilty of some offense and they promise him immunity if he will manufacture evidence against people who could not otherwise be indicted...."

"After a sufficient number of secret interviews, the FBI descends upon innocent people with a posse of terrified perjurers and in the general hysteria every word uttered by the perjurers is accepted as gospel truth."

In an article headed, "The Marxist Fraud," in the liberal News Chronicle today, Russell castigated Stalin for having condemned millions of peasants to death by starvation and millions of others to forced labor in concentration camps.

"There are some signs that in the course of time the Russian regime may become liberal, but, although this is possible, it is very far from certain," he wrote.

To combat communism, he called for steps to decrease poverty in the less prosperous parts of the non-Communist world.

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Handwritten signatures:
H. J. ...
...
...

Wash. Post and Times Herald 9
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
N. Y. Mirror _____
N. Y. Daily News _____
Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

Date MAR 27 1956

Handwritten: Memo forwarded to Belmont 3-28-56

ENCLOSURE 65-58236-2235

CONFIDENTIAL

cc - J. Edgar
Nichols
Belmont

The Attorney General (orig & 1)

April 2, 1956

Tully

Director, FBI

G.I.R. - 10

**JULIUS ROSENBERG, with aliases
ESPIONAGE - R**

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DATE 8/5/86 BY 3042 PWS/AS

An article appeared in "The Washington Post and Times Herald" on March 27, 1956, indicating that Bertrand Russell, the British philosopher, wrote a letter to the "Manchester Guardian," a British newspaper, accusing the FBI of "atrocities" and claiming he was "almost certain the Rosenbergs were innocent." In his letter, Russell said: "I am writing to enlist your support in the case of Morton Sobell, an innocent man condemned as a result of mass hysteria to thirty years in jail and at present incarcerated in Alcatraz, the worst prison in the United States....." Russell is then quoted as stating that he is sure that most Americans "are quite ignorant of the atrocities committed by the FBI." Russell claims, "After a sufficient number of secret interviews the FBI descends upon innocent people with a posse of terrified perjurers and in the general hysteria every word uttered by the perjurers is accepted as gospel truth."

Our files indicate that Bertrand Russell is a British philosopher and mathematician whose appointment as professor at the College of the City of New York in 1940 was revoked by the New York State Supreme Court on the grounds that he was not fit for the position due to his "immoral and salacious attitude toward sex" and because he was not a United States citizen. At that time, Russell was 69 years of age. In 1955, a pamphlet entitled "The Corroding Effects of Communism" by Russell, published by the National Research Bureau, Inc., Chicago, Illinois, contained a statement that the FBI opposed visas for all European physicians and as a result international congresses of men of science could no longer be held in the United States. The erroneous nature of this statement was called to the attention of the president of the National Research Bureau, Inc., and he apologized and destroyed all copies of the pamphlet.

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CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum for The Attorney General

It is worthy of note that Mrs. Rose Sobell, mother of Morton Sobell, arrived in England on February 22, 1954. She was sent to Europe by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case to organize fund-raising committees to assist in the campaign to free Morton Sobell. It would appear that Mrs. Sobell may have contacted Bertrand Russell in England and influenced him to write his letter to the "Manchester Guardian." The statements of Russell seemed to be based on the book "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg" by John Sorely. This book was reviewed by this Bureau and was found to be full of inaccuracies and deliberate distortions of the truth. It would appear that this letter of Bertrand Russell is part of the campaign by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case to continue efforts to develop public sympathy for Morton Sobell.

This is furnished for your information in this matter.

- cc: 1 - Mr. William F. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
Warren E. Burger
Civil Division
- 1 - Assistant Attorney General
William F. Murphy
Internal Security Division

CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: April 2, 1956

FROM : L. B. Nichols *LB*SUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, was., et al
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Gandy	_____

Reference is made to Mr. Branigan's memorandum to Mr. Belmont dated March 30, 1956, recommending consideration be given to having a writer friendly to the Bureau write an objective, searching criticism of Wexley's book "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg."

I do not agree that this is a proper way to proceed as you never get anywhere criticizing another book. The way to meet the issue is to show the true facts clearly and objectively without reference to someone else's work. This is being done and you will recall that sometime ago I discussed with Mr. Jim Bishop doing a clear, truthful, factual story on the Rosenbergs, and that Bishop is going to do just this as soon as his current assignments are completed.

Since this is already being taken care of, no further action need be taken on the recommendation in Mr. Branigan's memorandum.

cc: Mr. Boardman

Mr. Belmont

JJM:arm

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EX-122

RECORDED 352 65-58236-2237

APR 13 1956

17 APR 9 1956

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. BELMONT *ah*

DATE: March 30, 1956

FROM : W. A. BRANIGAN *WAB*Tic: Mr. Belmont
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Branigan
Mr. LeeSUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, was., et al
ESPIONAGE - RALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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The Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell sent undated letter to the Director at his home address enclosing reprint of article from "The Western Political Quarterly," December, 1955, published by the Institute of Government, University of Utah, reviewing book, "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, by John Wexley. Review written by Professor Francis D. Wormuth, who accepts Wexley's false statements as true and calls on the Department of Justice to answer the Wexley allegations. Wormuth on "Not To Be Contacted" list since 12-2-55. We reviewed Wexley's book in May, 1955, and found it full of fabrications and deliberate distortions of the truth.

Also enclosed were two pages setting forth comments of alleged prominent persons and some newspapers. Among persons quoted are Elmer Davis, radio commentator and author. His latest book, "But We Were Born Free," (1954) criticizes the Director, FBI and FBI Agents. Another is James H. Wolfe, former Chief Justice, State of Utah. Wolfe has been associated with numerous organizations cited as subversive by the Attorney General as well as others infiltrated or dominated by the Communist Party. He wrote President Eisenhower asking clemency for the Rosenbergs. Another is Malcolm Sharp, who was cocounsel with Emanuel Block in the late stages of the Rosenberg appeals. Sharp

is a past president, Chicago Chapter, National Lawyers Guild. Another is Walter Millis, who, according to Fulton Lewis, Jr., radio commentator, was dropped by the "New York Herald Tribune" as assistant editorial writer for being far too liberal. He has publicly referred to the FBI as "a secret political police."

One newspaper quoted is the "New York Post." The quote is from a review of this book by Nancy Wechsler, appearing 8-21-55. It is interesting to note this review was generally unfavorable to the book. Other newspapers quoted stated in cautious terms that the book raises doubts about the proof of the Rosenbergs' guilt.

From the above, it appears the persons listed have in common a tendency to become affiliated with Communist Party causes. Bufiles reflect bulk of publicity for this book by Wexley has appeared in "Daily Worker," "National Guardian" and similar periodicals. Since the publication of this book, the Committee has attempted to obtain official

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(5)memo Mr Tolson
4/2/56 OAM

Memorandum for Mr. Belmont

statements from responsible Government officials for the obvious purpose of exploiting this book. I. Kaufman, trial judge, Rosenberg trial, told the Bureau this book had libel deliberately inserted in the hopes of provoking a court test.

If we attempt to answer this article in "The Western Political Quarterly" and demand space for our answer, we will be playing into the hands of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. Probably the committee will then raise other points of criticism in other publications and we will be faced with a running series of refutations which will give the committee the publicity they seek.

The facts in the Rosenberg-Sobell trial are clear as to the guilt of the defendants but few persons will wade through the thousands of pages of testimony to find the truth.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that this memo be referred to Mr. Nichols for consideration as to the desirability of having a writer, friendly to the Bureau, write an objective, searching criticism of Wexley's book "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg." In this way it could be brought to the attention of the public that the documentation in Wexley's book is inaccurate and the author is guilty of deliberately distorting the facts.

Let WAB
WAB
JPL

Attached material was sent to the Director at his home address. The FBI is mentioned on page 9 of the first attach.

Committee To Secure Justice For Morton Sobell

940 BROADWAY (Entrance on 22nd Street) NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

ALgonquin 4-9983

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DATE 9/5/86 BY 3042AUS/AS

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Nease
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

Dear Sir:

Julius Rosenberg

We are enclosing for your study a reprint of an article we believe to be of the utmost importance to justice in our country--a review which the distinguished Western Political Quarterly published of the new book by John Wexley dealing with the Rosenberg-Sobell case. The review's conclusion presents a vigorous challenge to the Attorney General's Office. Also enclosed are summaries of other comments on this book raising equally serious questions about the case.

If you have read Mr. Wexley's book and have not yet expressed your views, we are anxious to hear any comment that you may have, particularly with reference to the part of the case concerning Morton Sobell. If you have not yet read Mr. Wexley's book, we urge you to do so at your earliest convenience.

Complimentary copies are available for review in newspapers or other publications. Otherwise, copies may be obtained from our committee at the special price of \$4.50. The book, which is 672 pages, retails for \$6.---

We believe a full discussion of Mr. Wexley's material is of great importance at this moment in view of Morton Sobell's efforts to obtain a new trial to prove his innocence.

Very sincerely yours,

Theodore Jacobs

Theodore Jacobs
Public Relations

N.Y.

2 ENCLOSURE ENCL. ATTACHED
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EX-122

Memo to Belmont
3-95-56
SPZ dlt

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65-58236-2239

17 APR 9 1956

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CONFIDENTIAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 8/5/86 BY 3042 PWS/AA

Some comments on

"THE JUDGMENT OF JULIUS AND ETHEL ROSENBERG"

by John Wexley

N.Y.

ELMER DAVIS, radio commentator and author: "Assuming that the record is here correctly cited (and I have no reason to suppose that it is not) I cannot believe the testimony of Elitcher and the Greenglasses, or much if any of that of Harry Gold."

JAMES H. WOLFE, Former Chief Justice of the State of Utah: "It will stand as a work of reference and decide many undecided points as they arise in this tragic case."

INDIANAPOLIS NEWS: "...He raises an awful doubt that perhaps justice wasn't done, that a political frameup was successfully pulled off."

NEW YORK POST: "Whether Sobell should have been convicted on the meagre record against him...whether the tactics of the prosecution or the demeanor of the judge impaired the fairness of the proceedings, whether the defendants were convicted and sentenced on a record which might not have produced the same result in calmer times--all these are real issues which call for honest appraisal."

CLEVELAND CALL AND POST: "Some day, when the Rosenberg case has taken its place in history with the Dreyfus case in France, and the Scottsboro and similar cases here, copies of Wexley's remarkable work will be very difficult to obtain."

MALCOLM SHARP, professor of Law, University of Chicago: "...should help us prepare at least to do what we can to right the existing wrong to Mr. Sobell, and in doing so to vindicate as far as possible our own intelligence, humanity and courage."

THE NATION: "It is Wexley's careful analysis of the complex pre-trial factual situation, and of the trial itself that enables him to provide the reader with a clear and satisfactory account of the case."

BRETT HALLIDAY, mystery writer: "This is an exceptionally well-documented book. Hardly a page does not carry one or more footnotes citing sources. The appendices are full and well chosen, and the book is carefully indexed."

ENCLOSURE

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WALTER MILLIS, editor of "The Forrestal Diaries" and former editorial writer for the N.Y. Herald Tribune: "The evidence on which Morton Sobell was convicted was probably perjurious; if it were legally possible, the case ought to be reviewed on its merits, while in any event the 30-year sentence was grossly disproportionate to any crime actually attested against him."

MARGOT JACKSON, Akron Beacon Journal: "The people in this book--some free now, two executed, one in Alcatraz for life--become blood-and-breathing persons. The chain of events knotted here is as taut as any cleek-and-dagger story. But this one wrenches the mind, for the whole question remains: How was justice served?"

W. DEWITT MANNING, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle: "Inevitably, as time passes, discussion is heard concerning the possibility that in the trial and execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, the net result has been to create two martyrs. In his monumental work, 'The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg', John Wexley, author of a number of outstanding books, presents detailed findings concerning the conduct of the trial and numerous comments on the character of witnesses whose testimony was presented. He also suggests disturbing implications with regard to the cold war and national hysteria."

FRANK HAINS, The Clarion-Ledger--Jackson (Mississippi) Daily News: "This exhaustive (and often exhausting) study of the trial record and the Columbia Law Review summary would seem to indicate that there was not the proof 'beyond a shadow of a doubt' which the law demands; that the Rosenbergs were not convicted by the evidence against them, but by the temper of the times. Whether or not they were guilty in fact is a question which may never be answered."

PROF. FRANCIS D. WORMUTH, Western Political Quarterly (published by the University of Utah): "Obviously the Department of Justice cannot answer all criticisms. But unless it answers Mr. Wexley's we must conclude that the Rosenberg case is our Dreyfus case, outdoing the first in sordidness, cruelty, and terror."

BROOKLYN JEWISH EXAMINER: "The Rosenbergs are beyond the power of justice, but their alleged accomplice, Morton Sobell, is in Alcatraz, serving a 30-year term. An investigation and a re-trial would seem warranted on the basis of Mr. Wexley's disclosures."

The JUDGMENT OF JULIUS ROSENBERG



The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg. By JOHN WEXLEY. (New York: Cameron & Kahn. 1955. Pp. xiv, 672. \$6.00.)

This book describes with a mass of detail the Rosenberg case, one of the most fascinating and significant trials of our generation. The author concludes that the Rosenbergs were entirely innocent.

This reviewer was advised that no one could review the book without reading the court record. He has been able, however, only to read the court opinions (195 F.2d 583, 200 F.2d 666, 10 F. Supp. 798, 10 F. R. D. 521, 345 U.S. 939, 345 U.S. 1003, 346 U.S. 271, 346 U.S. 273) and the note in 54 *Columbia Law Review* 219 (1954). But an impossibly conscientious reviewer could not be satisfied with reading the record: it would be much more important to duplicate all of Mr. Wexley's independent researches. And should not the reader of the review also read the record and repeat the investigation, rather than trust the reviewer's report? None of this is feasible. If Mr. Wexley has misquoted the record or misstated fact, we may expect corrections to be forthcoming from interested parties. In the meantime, here is the gist of the story as Mr. Wexley tells it.

Harry Gold was a laboratory assistant who was recruited as a Soviet espionage agent in 1932 by one Tom Black of Jersey City. Black carried a pet black snake coiled about his neck and tossed marbles to a pet crow which caught them in flight. Gold loathed communism and refused to join the Communist party, but to escape Black's importunities and to repay Black for finding him a job he agreed to the lesser course of serving as a Russian spy. Thereafter he dealt with a series of Soviet agents, all six feet

65-58236-2239

two, blond, and with determined features; only one of them, however, walked on the balls of his feet with a catlike tread. In 1950 he confessed to being Klaus Fuchs' American contact; after Gold's confession Fuchs identified Gold. (Fuchs had previously rejected the photograph of Gold and had identified another man; Gold's appearance did not match Fuchs' description; Gold's story was at variance with Fuchs' in vital respects.)

Gold also had a private life. He fell in love with a beautiful girl named Helen with one brown and one blue eye, but she married a wealthy manufacturer of peanut-chew candy named Frank. Then, to save her from a white slaver, he married a "comely, good-looking young lady" named Sarah. Sarah bore him two lovely children, but later transferred her affections to a wealthy realtor. Thereafter Gold wistfully watched his children from afar as they played in the park. (Gold was never married.)

David Greenglass was a member of the Young Communist League, a graduate of public school and a trade school, and an automobile mechanic. To better himself he enrolled in the Brooklyn Polytechnic High School but failed all eight of his eight technical courses. When he was drafted he was assigned to the machine shop at Los Alamos. At Los Alamos he stole a bit of uranium "as a souvenir," and also stole Army tools and supplies which he sold on the black market. This much appears to be undisputed. At his trial he asserted that because of his admiration for his brother-in-law Julius Rosenberg he readily acceded to the latter's suggestion that he steal atomic secrets. He thereupon pumped the scientists at Los Alamos, and on the basis of their disclosures and his own observations was able to draft accurate sketches and to supply explanatory matter on a "high explosive lens" when Gold called on him in Albuquerque on June 3, 1945. Gold was making a tour: he had just collected material from Fuchs in Santa Fe. (Fuchs' own testimony was that his only contact with a Soviet agent in America was in Boston in February, 1945.) Gold then returned by rail to New York in two days; apparently he arrived many hours before the fastest train.

While on furlough in September, 1945, Greenglass prepared for Rosenberg a cross-section of the Nagasaki bomb and a twelve-page explanation. Ethel Rosenberg, according to Greenglass and his wife, typed the notes. At his trial in 1951 Greenglass brought into court what he swore was an accurate copy, reproduced from memory, of what he had transmitted in 1945. Several atomic scientists subsequently swore that it was impossible for a man of Greenglass' attainments to have prepared the first sketch in 1945, to say nothing of reproducing it in 1951. Mr. Wexley too is incredulous: he suggests that Greenglass was coached during the nine months he was held in the Tombs before the case was brought to trial.

Julius Rosenberg was an engineer who married Ethel, the sister of David Greenglass, in 1939. In 1945 he was dismissed without a hearing from a plant manufacturing equipment for the Signal Corps on the charge that he was a Communist. In 1946 he went into business with the two Greenglass brothers, Bernard and David, but the business was not successful and in 1949 the two Greenglasses withdrew. Rosenberg undertook to buy them out but was unable to make the payments he had promised. During the time that Rosenberg was struggling with these financial difficulties, and spending an average of \$30 a year on his wife's clothes, he was also, according to Ruth Greenglass, David's wife, spending \$50-\$75 a night in night clubs; and he was able in 1950 to supply David Greenglass, who was bitter because Rosenberg owed him \$1,000, with \$5,000 to flee the country.

Morton Sobell was also an engineer, a college classmate of Julius Rosenberg. In 1950 he made a vacation trip with his family to Mexico City. He later said that he meant to explore opportunities there because of the growing atmosphere of repression in the United States, but all the evidence indicates that he intended to return to the United States before making a final move. While he was in Mexico City the Korean war broke out, and Sobell did a very peculiar thing. He made a trip under a series of assumed names to Tampico to inquire about transportation to South America or Europe. When he returned to Mexico City he was kidnapped and was delivered to the FBI officers waiting for him at Laredo, Texas. As it turned out, the only testimony against him was that of his best friend, Max Elitcher.

Elitcher was a college classmate of Rosenberg and Sobell; he had few friends but knew Sobell well and had a nodding acquaintance with Rosenberg. With Sobell, Elitcher went to work for the Navy Department, and he signed a perjured loyalty statement disclaiming membership in the Communist party. By 1947 he was very apprehensive and believed that FBI men were following him everywhere. He became the patient of a psychiatrist in 1948 and continued for two years; he gave up the psychiatrist in 1950 when he became a government witness.

At the Rosenberg trial Elitcher testified that in June, 1944, his casual acquaintance Rosenberg visited him and in less than half an hour enlisted his services as a Soviet spy. Elitcher never delivered any secrets, but continued to enjoy Rosenberg's confidence. He had two functions at the trial: to allege that Sobell had dealings with Rosenberg; and to lay the ground for the introduction of the "blonde spy queen," Elizabeth Bentley, who testified to the nature of the "Communist conspiracy" and asserted that her paramour Golos had received messages from an unidentified "Julius."

Here is the sequence of events. In 1947 Harry Gold and his employer, Abraham Brothman, were brought before a federal grand jury to inquire into Brothman's relations with the Soviet purchasing agency, Amtorg. The grand jury found "no bill." On February 3, 1950, Klaus Fuchs made his voluntary confession. On May 23 Harry Gold confessed. On June 15 David Greenglass was arrested. On July 17 Julius Rosenberg was arrested. On July 29 Brothman was arrested on the charge that he had conspired with Gold to frustrate the grand jury investigation. On August 11 Ethel Rosenberg was arrested. On August 18 Morton Sobell was kidnapped. In November Brothman was tried and convicted on the testimony of Harry Gold and Elizabeth Bentley. Gold was sentenced for espionage in December on his own confession. He was now an accredited spy. The Rosenbergs were brought to trial for conspiracy to commit espionage on March 6, 1951 and were convicted on the testimony of Gold, David and Ruth Greenglass, and Max Elitcher, and were sentenced to death. Morton Sobell was sentenced to thirty years in prison. The next two years were occupied by legal maneuvers and appeals for clemency from the Pope, thousands of ministers, Albert Einstein, Harold Urey, and others. Justice Douglas' last-minute stay of execution on June 17, 1953 was vacated by the Supreme Court on June 19, in time to permit the scheduled electrocution the same evening.

Both the Brothman case and the Rosenberg case were prepared for trial by Roy Cohn and Irving Saypol. Both cases were tried before Judge Kaufman. Both Greenglass and Elitcher were represented by O. John Rogge. Greenglass was sentenced to fifteen years; Elitcher was never brought to

trial. Mr. Wexley points to the generous spacing between the successive arrests and the indictments and the trial to suggest that pressure was being put upon the witnesses to elaborate their stories and that time was afforded to permit them to co-ordinate them. He disbelieves the testimony for the prosecution altogether. Certainly the word of a psychopathic liar like Harry Gold can carry no weight, and it is beyond belief that any responsible espionage organization would choose such a man for even the smallest task, to say nothing of the greatest spy operation in history. To believe Greenglass' testimony we must assume that an automobile mechanic who failed all his high school science courses could piece together the supposed disclosures by scientists and his alleged stolen glimpses into a workable atomic bomb, that he could draw an accurate plan of the bomb, and that he could repeat the feat from memory nearly six years later. This reviewer finds this as incredible as did Harold C. Urey. But what kind of pressure could have been put on the witnesses to make them testify? Probably Gold needed no pressure; his reward was public attention. Greenglass' wife thought him unstable, but it seems unlikely that he was so pronounced a case as Gold; and the threat of prosecution for stealing uranium and Army supplies could hardly induce him to plead guilty to the more serious crime of espionage. Likewise it appears that Elitcher must have been moved by something more substantial than a bad conscience. We cannot dismiss the possibility that Greenglass and Elitcher may have been guilty of very serious crimes.

In the Court of Appeals Judge Jerome Frank observed that if the testimony of the Greenglasses were disregarded, "the conviction could not stand. But where trial is by jury, this court is not allowed to consider the credibility of witnesses or the reliability of testimony." Mr. Wexley has taken the case to a larger jury which may review the reliability of testimony. The publisher quotes Elmer Davis as saying of the book: "Assuming that the record is here correctly cited (and I have no reason to suppose that it is not) I cannot believe the testimony of Elitcher and the Greenglasses, or much if any of that of Harry Gold." This means that the government had no case against the Rosenbergs. Obviously the Department of Justice cannot answer all criticisms. But unless it answers Mr. Wexley's we must conclude that the Rosenberg case is our Dreyfus case, outdoing the first in sordidness, cruelty, and terror.

FRANCIS D. WORMUTH.

University of Utah.

reprinted as a public service by

The Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell
940 Broadway, N. Y. C. AL 4-9983

CC: van
it

The Attorney General (Original & 1)

April 6, 1956

Director, FBI

**JULIUS ROSENBERG, with aliases
ESPIONAGE - R**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/86 BY 3042PWL/AB

In line with my conversation with you today, I am enclosing a draft of a letter which you may desire to send to the Secretary of State. This letter concerns the attack by Bertrand Russell on the judicial system of the United States and the desirability of combating this on a world-wide basis.

Enclosure

65-58236 | ENCLOSURE

JPL:ss
(6)

EX-125

RECORDED - 93

65-58236-2240

20 APR 11 1956

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Holloman _____
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MAILED 26
APR 9 1956
COMM - FBI

FBI
COMM - BOON

59 APR 12 1956

C: Boardman
Belmont
JLee

20
April 9, 1956

The Honorable (Original)
The Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

An article appeared in "The Washington Post and Times Herald" on March 27, 1956, indicating that Bertrand Russell, the British philosopher, wrote a letter to the "Manchester Guardian," a British newspaper, accusing the Federal Bureau of Investigation of "atrocities" and claiming he was "almost certain the Rosenbergs were innocent." I have obtained a copy of this letter and there is enclosed a Photostat of it for your information. In this letter, Russell says, "I am writing to enlist your support in the case of Morton Sobell, an innocent man condemned as a result of mass hysteria to 30 years in jail and at present incarcerated in Alcatraz, the worst prison in the United States...." Russell is then quoted as stating that he is sure that most Americans "are quite ignorant of the atrocities committed by the FBI." Russell claims, "After a sufficient number of secret interviews the FBI descends upon innocent people with a series of terrified perjurers and in the general hysteria every word uttered by the perjurers is accepted as gospel truth."

The files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicate that Bertrand Russell is a British philosopher and mathematician whose appointment as professor at the College of the City of New York in 1940 was revoked by the New York State Supreme Court on the grounds that he was not fit for the position due to his "immoral and salacious attitude toward sex" and because he was not a United States citizen. At that time, Russell was 69 years of age. In 1955, a pamphlet entitled

EXTRA CC
MADE FOR
Deputy AG
Rogers
5-11-56
580/25

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(7)
BUREAU
cc - CB

4/20 redacted
at Rogers' request
& mailed at Rogers'
instruction. WJG

NOTE: Cover memo to AG 4-6-56 same caption.

ENCLOSURE

65-58236-2240

**Letter to The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.**

"The Corroding Effects of Suspicion" by Russell, published by the National Research Bureau, Incorporated, Chicago, Illinois, contained a statement that the Federal Bureau of Investigation opposed visas for all European physicists and as a result international congresses of men of science could no longer be held in the United States. The erroneous nature of this statement was called to the attention of the president of the National Research Bureau, Incorporated, and he apologized and destroyed all copies of the pamphlet.

It is worthy of note that Mrs. Rose Sobell, mother of Morton Sobell, arrived in England on February 22, 1956. She was sent to Europe by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case to organize fund-raising committees to assist in the campaign to free Morton Sobell. It would appear that Mrs. Sobell may have contacted Bertrand Russell in England and influenced him to write his letter to the "Manchester Guardian." The statements of Russell seem to be based on the book "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg," written by John Wexley. This book was reviewed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was found to be full of inaccuracies and deliberate distortions of the truth.

The Bertrand Russell letter represents an attack from abroad on the judicial system of the United States and, therefore, it goes beyond domestic security and the effect is world-wide. I feel that it would be highly desirable for the Voice of America to take affirmative steps to directly combat the effect of the Russell statement on a world-wide basis. The Federal Bureau of Investigation will be glad to go over this matter with your representative for the purpose of preparing factual data to refute the allegations made by Russell.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM P. ROGERS

**ACTING Attorney General
MAIL ROOM**

Enclosure

cc - Boardman
Belmont
Branigan
Lee

April 10, 1956

65-58236

(JULIUS ROSENBERG, was.,
ESPIONAGE - R)

VIA AIRMAIL

pink
Mr. Keith Merrill (Orig. only)
Blen Hill, Christiansted
St. Croix
U. S. Virgin Islands

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/5/96 BY 3042 PWS/AS

Dear Mr. Merrill:

Your letter of April 8, 1956, enclosing an article from the "New York Times" dated March 27, 1956, concerning Bertrand Russell's accusations against this Bureau, has been received and I appreciate the interest which prompted you to write to me.

The unfounded charges made by Russell against this Bureau indicate he has not changed since 1917, when, as you pointed out, he made baseless charges against the United States troops in England.

I wish to thank you for making this information available to me.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

V
John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMM - FBI
APR 10 1956
MAILED 26

JPL:emb (6)

SEE COVER MEMO Boardman to the Director, 4/9/56, captioned
"JULIUS ROSENBERG, was., ESP-R," JPL/emb

Q.B.
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RECEIVED - DIRECTOR

71 APR 17 1956

RECORDED - 104
10 APR 11 1956

10 APR 11 1956

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with

ticklers: Boardman
Belmont
Brannigan
Lee

Legal Attache (orig and one)
London, England

April 11, 1956

Director, FBI (65-58236)

JULIUS ROSENBERG, was
ESPIONAGE - R - D/C

Classified by 3042 Jut D/C
Declassify on OADR
10/24/86

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 3042 Jut D/C

ON 10/28/86

Information has been received from Keith Merrill, former Vice Consul, American Embassy, London, that Bertrand Russell made a speech in a town such as Manchester or Birmingham in 1917 to a group of workmen. In substance this speech stated the reason the United States was sending so many troops to England, ostensibly on their way to France, was to enable the Government to use them to shoot down English strikers as was the custom in the United States where the militia was used for such purposes. Merrill continued that for this speech Russell was arrested, tried, convicted and sentenced.

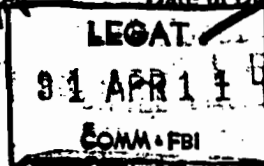
A review of "Current Biography" 1940 reflects Russell was fined one hundred pounds at the outbreak of World War I for issuing a pamphlet on conscientious objectors. Later he was offered a lecturer's position at Harvard University, but English military authorities prevented his departure, sentencing him to six months in prison for pacifist views expressed in an article in the "Tribunal." The "Current Biography" 1951 states that in February, 1918, Russell was prosecuted for an article in the "Tribunal" which cast aspersions on the American Army and was sentenced to four months in prison in England.

You should, through your sources, attempt to determine the complete facts concerning Russell's arrest and imprisonment including, if possible, the specific details of his arrest and the specific crime for which he was convicted. This investigation should be handled very discreetly. Foreign Liaison Unit (route through for review)

See memo Boardman to Director dated 4-9-56 prepared JPL:emb.

JPL:rmp
(8)

Classified by 035 MAR/DLB
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite



RECORDED - 12

10 APR 12 1956

~~SECRET~~

Classified by 035 MAR/DLB
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite

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68 APR 16 1956

Legat London foll 6/25/56 CULMBE.
Rev 6-24-56

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65-58236-2242

EX-122

was was was

Frederick Ayer, Jr., EOD as SA 8-25-41, and
voluntarily resigned 12-14-45. At the time of his
resignation he was in Grade JAF 12 with a salary of
\$5380 per year. His services were very
satisfactory.

SION HILL, CHRISTIANSTED
U. S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/5/96 BY 3042 PWS/KAS

April 2, 1956

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

During the war I worked in close harmony with Mr. Rosen, who may
remember me, and Mr. Davis when with Captain Puleston (USN) I was
appointed Security Officer for the Foreign Economic Administration
on loan from the Navy where I held the rank of Commander. I am,
also, an uncle of Frederick Ayer, Jr., of Boston, formerly in
your organization. I merely wish to submit this information in
case it is not already in your files.

the following

In the New York Times of Tuesday, March 27, 1956, there is a head-
line and article indicating that Bertrand Arthur William Russell,
an English Peer (The Earl Russell) lays atrocities to the F.B.I.
"made familiar in other police states such as Nazi Germany and
Stalin's Russia".

This individual is the same man who in 1917 made a speech in a
town in the Midlands, such as Manchester or Birmingham, to a
gathering of industrial workmen stating in substance that the
reason the United States was sending so many troops to England,
ostensibly on their way to France, was to enable the Government
to use them to shoot down English strikers as was the custom in
the United States where the militia was used for the same purpose.
For this speech Russell was arrested, tried, convicted, and sen-
tenced, I believe, at Bow Street, but of this I am not sure as it
is so many years ago. At the time I was American Vice Consul in
London and saved the clippings reporting the trial but gave them
to New York University in 1924 when the newspapers reported that
New York University was bringing him to the United States to give
a course of lectures. At that time the course of lectures was then
cancelled. So much for his official anti-American activities.

As to his private life: his first wife had an American mother, a
Miss Whitall of Philadelphia. The first wife obtained a divorce
in 1921 and Russell married secondly on September 27, 1921 to
Winifred Black and a son was born to these newlyweds on November
16, 1921. This information is obtained from Burke's Peerage of
1949, Page 1744, under the heading of "The Earl Russell".

Very truly yours,

KM:K

P.S.

Don't

bother to

acknowledge.

KM

RECORDED - 52

INDEXED - 52

Keith Merrill

Keith Merrill

P.S. Don't bother to
acknowledge. KM

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

EXP. PROC.

APR 6 1956

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ENCLOSURE

216 ms - Remission 4/4/56
Let Keith Merrill 4-10-56
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acknowledge

KM:K

P.S.

Don't

bother to

acknowledge.

KM

NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1956.

LORD RUSSELL LAYS ATROCITIES TO F. B. I.

Special to The New York Times.

LONDON, March 26—Bertrand Russell accused the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation today of committing atrocities and of using a technique "made familiar in other police states such as Nazi Germany and Stalin's Russia."

The 83-year-old mathematician and philosopher made his charge in a letter to The Manchester Guardian. He said he was writing to enlist the paper's support for Morton Sobell, who was sentenced to thirty years in prison as an accomplice of the Rosenbergs. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed in June, 1953,

for giving atomic bomb secrets to the Soviet Union.

Earl Russell described Sobell as an innocent man condemned as the result of political hysteria and now incarcerated in Alcatraz, "the worst prison in the United States."

He said he had looked into the evidence in the Rosenbergs' trial and was almost certain that they were innocent. He is "quite certain" that the evidence against them would not have been considered adequate if prejudice had not been involved, he added.

Earl Russell said the "technique" used by the F. B. I. was to find a man whom it could prove guilty of some offense and then promise him immunity if he would manufacture evidence against people who could not otherwise be indicted.

"After a sufficient number of

secret interviews, the F. B. I. descends upon innocent people with a posse of terrified perjurers and in the general hysteria every word uttered by the perjurers is accepted as gospel truth," he declared.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/5/86 BY 3042AWJ/SLS

65-58236-2243

ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: April 9, 1956

FROM : L. V. Boardman *4-13-56*

CC - Boardman

Belmont

Branson

Lee

SUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, was.
ESPIONAGE - RALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/28/86 BY 3042 *put*

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Nichols	_____
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Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

By attached letter of 4/2/56 Keith Merrill, U.S. Virgin Islands, forwarded article of "NY Times" 3/27/56 dealing with attack by Bertrand Russell on FBI. Merrill states he was American Vice Consul in London in 1917 when Russell in a speech stated reason U.S. was sending troops to England, ostensibly on way to France, was to allow government to use them to shoot down English strikers as was custom in U.S. where militia were used for that purpose. Merrill states Russell was arrested, convicted and sentenced for this statement. You ask, "See if we can get the facts."

"Current Biography" 1940 reflects Russell was fined 100 pounds at outbreak of World War I for issuing a pamphlet on conscientious objectors. Later he was offered a lecturer's position at Harvard University, but ^{ENGLISH} military authorities prevented departure, sentencing him to six months in prison for pacifist views expressed in an article in the "Tribunal." "Current Biography" 1951 reflects that in Feb. 1918 Russell was prosecuted for an article in the "Tribunal" which cast aspersions on the American Army and was sentenced to 4 months in prison, in England.

Merrill also pointed out that "Burke's Peerage" for 1949 reflected Russell was married twice; once in 1894 and again in 1921. "Burke's Peerage" 1953 reflects Russell was also married in 1936 and again in 1952.

Bufiles reflect Keith Merrill was employed by U.S. State Dept. for about 20 years and during WW II was a Lt. Commander, USN, attached to Board of Economic Warfare. His wife is a prominent socialite and a sister-in-law of the late General George Patton. His nephew, Frederick Ayer, Jr., was a Special Agent from 8/25/41 until he resigned 12/14/45. His services were very satisfactory.

File ACTION: *4-10-56* There is attached for your approval a letter of acknowledgement to Mr. Keith Merrill.

65-58236

Enclosures

UPL:emb

APR 20 1956

RECORDED - 52

INDEXED - 52

EX - 107

PERS. FILE

Memorandum for The Director

ACTION (continued)

(2) There is also attached for your approval a letter to the Legal Attache, London, instructing that he obtain information through his sources concerning the arrest and imprisonment of Russell.

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JH

✓

TRANSLATION FROM ITALIAN

(Translation of clipping taken from the March 27, 1956, edition of L'UNITA, Italian-language newspaper published in Rome, Italy.)

A LETTER OF THE ENGLISH PHILOSOPHER TO THE "MANCHESTER GUARDIAN"

- - - - -

BERTRAND RUSSELL SAYS THAT HE IS CONVINCED THAT THE ROSENBERGS
WERE VICTIMS OF THE FBI

- - - - -

H. K. [unclear]
[unclear]

After denouncing the methods of the American "G-men," the philosopher urges EISENHOWER to reopen the trial that ended with MORTON SOBELL's conviction

- - - - -

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/96 BY 3042 PWS/KAS

LONDON, March 26 -- BERTRAND RUSSELL, well-known English philosopher, says in a letter published today by the MANCHESTER GUARDIAN that "he is now almost convinced that the ROSENBERGS were innocent and that the evidence produced against them would not be considered sufficient if the trial had not been obscured by prejudices." Stating that "he is ashamed to confess that he did not examine the evidence at the time of the trial," the philosopher writes a letter in favor of MORTON SOBELL, who was sentenced to 30 years as "ROSENBERG's accomplice" and who is held at the terrible prison at Alcatraz. "The ROSENBERGS are dead," writes the philosopher, "and the only thing left to be done for them is to condemn their official assassins; but SOBELL is alive, and it is not too late for the American Government to right the injustice that has been committed."

RUSSELL recalls that SOBELL and his wife were abducted and beaten by FBI Agents; and he states that the only "evidence" produced against the unfortunate man was the evidence of well-known perjurers, who brought accusations against SOBELL to save themselves. "Many say that they are

COPIES DESTROYED

R 28 TRANSLATED BY:
D. PRATOLA:jdh
April 10, 1956

RECORDED - 51
INDEXED - 108

65-58236-2245

② ENCLOSURE 51
let of 4/12/56
4/12/56
independent copies to A. G. [unclear]
& [unclear] as indication
of foreign dissemination
of Russell's letter. K.

skeptical," the philosopher then writes, "when it is said that the Germans knew nothing about the atrocities of the Nazis; but I am certain that the majority of the American people are unaware of the atrocities committed by the FBI. Americans are in the dark about the techniques used by these defenders of what, with crass effrontery, is called the "free world."

Among their methods, RUSSELL lists the very well-known procedure of promising immunity to some criminals, so that they will invent evidence that can be charged against those who could not otherwise be found guilty because they are innocent: "After a certain number of secret talks, the FBI falls upon innocent people with a horde of terrorized perjurers; and in an atmosphere of general hysteria, every word uttered by them is accepted as gospel."

"Not for a single instant do I dare think," concludes RUSSELL, "that EISENHOWER is aware of these procedures. If he knew about them, not only his conscience, but that of every refined person would revolt; but he would understand that every time one of these cases becomes known outside the United States, hundreds of thousands of people either become communists or neutralists who are hostile to NATO politics. For these political considerations of a general nature and for reasons of humanity and justice, one must hope that something will be done to put a stop to the activities of the FBI. A good beginning would be the release of SOBELL or at least a review of his trial."

LUCA TREVISANI

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Boardman _____
 Mr. Belmont _____
 Mr. Mason _____
 Mr. Mohr _____
 Mr. Parsons _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Mr. Winterrowd _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Holloman _____
 Miss Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 8/5/96 BY 3042PWS/AB

UNA LETTERA DEL FILOSOFO INGLESE AL « MANCHESTER GUARDIAN »

Bertrand Russel si dichiara convinto che i Rosenberg furono vittime dell'FBI

Dopo aver denunciato i metodi dei « federali » americani, il filosofo esorta Eisenhower a far riaprire il processo conclusosi con la condanna di Morton Sobell

DAL NOSTRO CORRISPONDENTE

LONDRA, 26 — Bertrand Russel, il noto filosofo inglese, dichiara oggi in una lettera pubblicata dal *Manchester Guardian* di « essere ormai quasi convinto che i Rosenberg erano innocenti, e che le prove portate contro di loro non sarebbero state considerate sufficienti se il giudizio non fosse stato oscurato da pregiudizi ». Il filosofo, il quale afferma di « dover confessare con vergogna di non aver esaminato le prove al tempo del processo », interviene con la sua lettera in favore di Norton Sobell, condannato a trent'anni come « complice dei Rosenberg » e chiuso nel terribile carcere di Alcatraz. « I Rosenberg sono morti — scrive il filosofo — e per loro non si può fare

più null'altro che condannare i loro assassini ufficiali, ma Sobell è vivo, e non è troppo tardi perché il governo americano ripari all'ingiustizia commessa ». Russel ricorda che Sobell e sua moglie furono rapiti e bastonati da agenti della F.B.I., e afferma che le uniche « prove » portate contro il disgraziato furono le testimonianze di noti spregiurati, i quali accusarono Sobell per salvarsi. « Molti si dichiarano scettici — scrive quindi il filosofo — quando si afferma che i tedeschi non sapevano nulla delle atrocità dei nazisti, ma io sono sicuro che la maggioranza degli americani ignora le atrocità commesse dallo F.B.I. Gli americani sono all'oscuro della tecnica usata da questi difensori di quello che, con cinica

sfrontatezza, viene chiamato il "mondo libero" ». Tra i metodi di costoro Russel elenca quello ben noto di promettere l'immunità ad alcuni criminali purché essi inventino prove a carico di chi non potrebbe essere altrimenti denunciato perché innocente: « dopo un certo numero di colloqui segreti, lo F.B.I. si precipita su gente innocente con un'orda di spregiuri terrorizzati e nella atmosfera dell'isterismo generale ogni parola pronunciata da costoro viene accettata come vangelo ». « Non oso pensare per un solo istante — conclude Russel — che Eisenhower conosca questi procedimenti. Se egli ne fosse al corrente, non solo la sua coscienza, ma quella di ogni persona per bene, si rivolterebbe, ma egli comprenderebbe anche che ogni qualvolta uno di questi casi viene conosciuto fuori degli Stati Uniti, centinaia di migliaia di persone diventano, se non comuniste almeno neutraliste e ostili alla politica della NATO. Per queste considerazioni di politica generale, e per motivi di umanità e di giustizia, bisogna sperare che venga fatto qualche cosa per mettere un freno all'attività dello F.B.I. Un buon inizio sarebbe il rilascio di Sobell o almeno una revisione del suo processo ».

contro dista circa 400 km. da Washington, ed è nota in tutta la nazione fin dagli ultimi anni del 18.esimo secolo per le sue sorgenti calde di acqua solforosa.

L'UNITA (Italian CP
 Daily Newspaper)
 Rome, Italy
 March 27, 1956

Office of the Legal Attache
 The American Embassy
 Rome, Italy

English Philosopher's Letter to
 "Manchester Guardian" - Bertrand
 Russell States Conviction Rosenbergs
 Were Victims of FBI

After denouncing methods of the American "Federals," philosopher exhorts Eisenhower to reopen case which ended with Morton Sobell's conviction.

LUCA TREVISANI

65-58236-2245

ENCLOSURE

RECORDED - 51

The Attorney General (orig and one)

April 12, 1956

65-58236-2245

Director, FBI

X-108

JULIUS ROSENBERG, with aliases
ESPIONAGE - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/3/96 BY 3042 PUL/AB

In connection with my letter to you of April 6, 1956, concerning the attack by Bertrand Russell on the judicial system of the United States, which appeared in his letter to the "Manchester Guardian," I am enclosing a Photostat of an article which appeared in "L'Unita," Italian-language newspaper published in Rome for March 27, 1956, along with a translation of this article. The publication of such a story is a further indication of the foreign dissemination of Russell's letter.

This is furnished to you for your information.

Enclosures (2)
65-58236

cc - 1 - Mr. William P. Rogers (Enclosures 2)
Deputy Attorney General

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General (Enclosures 2)
William F. Tompkins

JPL:mp
(8)

MAILED 2
APR 13 1956
COMM - FBI

59 APR 20 1956

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

RECEIVED READING ROOM
APR 12 1 08 PM '56
FBI

WAB
72

April 9, 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. BOARDMAN
MR. BELMONT
MR. NICHOLS

On Friday afternoon, April 6, I had a conference with the Attorney General, at which time a number of matters were taken up.

The Attorney General stated that he had been concerned about the extensive publicity which had been given to the statement of Bertrand Russell, the English author, pertaining to the Rosenberg case and his criticism of the FBI. I told the Attorney General that I had sent to him a copy of a letter written by Mr. Irving Ferman, who has been associated with the American Civil Liberties Union, and that this letter had vigorously taken to task Bertrand Russell. I told the Attorney General it was my understanding that Mr. Ferman had contacted the Voice of America and had endeavored to have them use his letter, but that the Voice of America had taken the position that they did not believe it desirable to do so. The Attorney General requested that we draft a letter to the Secretary of State relative to this Bertrand Russell incident, pointing out that the statement is not being used in this country solely to discredit the Government in the Rosenberg case and to belittle the work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, but it is being used world-wide and that the State Department might desire to take positive steps to combat this Russell statement, either through the Voice of America or otherwise, by setting forth the basic facts in the matter. I have asked Mr. Belmont to have such a letter prepared which we may transmit to the Attorney General for his consideration.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/86 BY 3042 PWT/HAB

65-58236-✓
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102 APR 11 1956

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51 APR 13 1956

100-7324-1629

SAC, Chicago (orig & 1)

April 10, 1956

Director, FBI (65-58236)

**JULIUS ROSENBERG, was., ET AL
ESPIONAGE - R**

The Atomic Energy Commission on 3/3/56 conducted an interview of Dr. Harold C. Urey and during the course of this interview Urey stated that Professor Malcolm Sharp of the University of Chicago Law School is publishing a book on the Rosenberg case. Urey has written a preface for this forthcoming book.

You should be alert to obtain a copy of this book as soon as possible and furnish same to the Bureau.

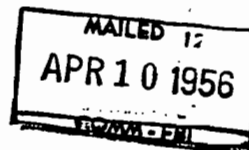
2 - New York (65-15348)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/28/86 BY 3042 Jut-DTC

JPL:emb (6)

NOTE: Malcolm Sharp was co-counsel with Emanuel Bloch, attorney for Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, executed Soviet agents, during the late stages of that case. He has been a professor of law at the Univ. of Chicago Law School since 1933.

He is an active member and past president of CG Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.



EX-113

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Mohr _____
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Rosen _____
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Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

MR. Nichols W.C. Sullivan

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: April 12, 1956

FROM : L. V. Boardman *ffw 4-16-56*cc - Boardman
Nichols
Belmont
Branigan
LeeSUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, was
ESPIONAGE - R

Tolson	✓
Boardman	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Parsons	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Sizoo	✓
Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

The "Daily Worker" on April 10, 1956, has an editorial entitled "Evidence Never Reviewed" which claims the U. S. Supreme Court never reviewed the evidence in the Rosenberg-Sobell trial. The question is raised as to what phase of this case was passed on by the Supreme Court. The U. S. Supreme Court will not grant a writ of certiorari unless a valid constitutional question is involved. However, in reaching this decision the Supreme Court must review certain basic facts to determine if such a question is involved. Following is a brief outline of the appeals in instant case.

On April 5, 1951, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were sentenced to death and Morton Sobell to 30 years. On November 5, 1951, an appeal was filed with the Circuit Court of Appeals (CCA), Second Circuit, claiming: 1) statute under which trial held violated 1st, 5th and 6th Amendments, failing to establish sufficiently definite and certain findings of guilt; 2) conduct of trial judge deprived defendants of fair jury trial; 3) trial court committed error in admitting certain evidence showing that the defendants expressed preference for the Russian system over ours and that they were members of the Communist Party; and 4) the death sentence was cruel and inhuman violating the 8th Amendment. On February 25, 1952, CCA unanimously affirmed the conviction of the Rosenbergs and by vote of 2 to 1 affirmed Sobell's conviction.

The CCA reviewed the complete record of the trial in reaching a decision and Judge Frank in his opinion stated "...since two of the defendants must be put to death, as the judgements stand, it goes without saying that we have scrutinized the record with extraordinary care to see if it contains any of the errors asserted in this appeal." A memorandum opinion filed by Mr. Justice Frankfurter on November 17, 1952, stated it was primarily the responsibility of CCA to review the record of a district court trial and "the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit was deeply conscious of its responsibility in this case." On March 11, 1952, petition for rehearing was filed with CCA which raised same points as were raised previously with

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65-58236-2247

EX - 107

10 APR 20 1956

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 9/5/80 BY 3042 PWS/AB

Memorandum to The Director

additional argument that the defendants were actually tried for treason without the constitutional safeguards surrounding that crime. On April 8, 1952, CCA unanimously denied this petition.

On October 13, 1952, U. S. Supreme Court denied petition for writ of certiorari filed on behalf of the defendants with Mr. Justice Black dissenting. In connection with this petition, the defendants filed a 60-page brief setting forth a 12-page summary of the case and raising the same points as were raised in the Circuit Court of Appeals. There was also a 38-page appendix filed documenting the alleged judicial misconduct of Judge Kaufman (trial judge).

On October 28, 1952, a petition for rehearing of the denial of the writ of certiorari was made claiming additional factors, namely, the defendants were tried for treason under the color of a charge of conspiracy to commit espionage; admission of communist affiliation to impute criminal intent is highly inflammatory; judge relied on untrue assumptions in sentencing the defendants and U. S. Supreme Court has the power to modify, vacate or set aside the death sentence. This petition was denied on November 17, 1952. Mr. Justice Black was of the opinion that the petition should be granted. Mr. Justice Frankfurter filed a memorandum opinion stating U. S. Supreme Court had no power to change a district court sentence.

On December 10, 1952, the District Court denied the defendants' petition to vacate the sentence and stay the execution. Filed under Section 2255, Title 18, defendants claim: 1) pretrial and trial publicity preclude fair trial; 2) publicity over arrest of William Perl prejudiced defendants' case; 3) Government knowingly used false testimony of David Greenglass at trial; 4) Government witness Ben Schneider (passport photographer) perjured himself; 5) Government falsely classified atomic data as secret. On December 31, 1952, CCA, Second Circuit, unanimously affirmed District Court decision.

On May 25, 1953, U. S. Supreme Court denied without opinion the defendants' application for a writ of certiorari. This petition was based on the same points which were raised before the Circuit Court of Appeals. On May 26, 1953, U. S. Supreme Court denied the defendants' motion to stay the action on the petition for a writ of certiorari denied the previous day. This petition

Memorandum to The Director

asked for a stay for a period of two weeks to allow the filing of an amended application for a writ of certiorari. On June 13, 1953, Defense Attorney Bloch made a motion for a stay of execution before Mr. Justice Jackson, U. S. Supreme Court. This stay was requested pending the filing and determination of petitions for certiorari to review the action of the CCA which had affirmed on June 11, 1953, the denial of a motion made by the defendants in the District Court for a new trial. Mr. Justice Jackson referred this matter to the full court. On June 15, 1953, the full court denied this application for a stay. On the same date the Supreme Court denied an oral application for a writ of habeas corpus. No new grounds were raised in these hearings. On June 16, 1953, Daniel G. Marshall, Los Angeles attorney, and Fyke Farmer, attorney, filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus with the U. S. Supreme Court claiming that provisions of the Atomic Energy Act of 1946 rather than the Espionage Act of 1917 controlled since part of the conspiracy occurred after 1946. On June 17, 1953, Mr. Justice Douglas granted stay of execution in order that this could be argued before the full court. On June 19, 1953, this question was argued before the full court and the stay granted by Mr. Justice Douglas was vacated. In his opinion Mr. Justice Jackson stated "Thus, after being in some form before this court for nine months, the merits of all questions raised by the Rosenberg counsel had been passed upon or have closed by dismissals."

The "Daily Worker" editorial quotes Mr. Justice Black as stating on June 19, 1953, "It is not amiss to point out that this court has never reviewed this record and has never affirmed the fairness of the trial below. Without an affirmance of fairness of the trial by the highest court of the land, there may always be questions as to whether these executions were legally and rightfully carried out." This quotation is correct.

On June 7, 1954, the U. S. Supreme Court denied petition of Morton Sobell to file a second petition for a rehearing of his case. No new facts in this petition.

ACTION:

For your information.

WJ
LGR
JMM
do

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

CHAMBERS OF
JUDGE IRVING KAUFMAN
UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

Irving Kaufman
NY

April 9, 1956

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/5/86 BY 3042PUL/HAB

Mr. Lew Nichols
Assistant Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Lew:

I enclose a copy of a Memorandum which
I sent to Mr. Swope today in connection with Bertrand
Russell's letter to The Manchester Guardian attacking the
F.B.I. and his irresponsible assertion that the Rosenbergs
and Sobell were innocent.

Sincerely yours,

Irving Kaufman

Enclosure

RECORDED - 1
INDEXED - 1
EX-121

23 APR 19 1956

ENCLOSURE
63 APR 27 1956
EX-121

65-58236-2248

(5) A. to 5. to 7. UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 101-2483.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/5/86 BY 3042AUL/US

MEMORANDUM TO MR. HERBERT HAYARD SWOPE

(1) Named in the indictment were the
following:

Julius Rosenberg
Ethel Rosenberg
Anatoli A. Yakovlev, also known as "John"
David Greenglass and
Morton Sobell

Defendants

Also named as co-conspirators, but
not indicted, were

Harry Gold and Ruth Greenglass

NY
NY

Yakovlev became a fugitive from justice
before the trial and has remained a fugitive to this very day.
He was Soviet Vice-Consul in New York.

Morton Sobell was tried as a co-defendant
with the Rosenbergs. He was represented by two able counsel,
Harold M. Phillips and Edward Kuntz.

Both ^{Mrs} Julius and Ethel ^R Rosenberg took
the stand in their own defense.

Morton Sobell failed to take the stand
as a witness in his own behalf.

Mrs David Greenglass pleaded guilty
and testified as a government witness.

65-58236-2248
ENCLOSURE

(2) Max ~~Elitcher~~^{NY}, testified at the trial (not indicted) that he was an electrical engineer and had attended City College in the late 30's with Julius Rosenberg and Morton Sobell. After graduation in 1939, Elitcher roomed with Sobell in Washington, D.C. where both worked at the Bureau of Ordnance of the Navy Department. Sobell induced Elitcher to join a Communist Party Group in Washington. In June 1944 Rosenberg visited Elitcher and told him that the war effort of the Soviet Union was being impeded by some interests in the United States, and to counter-act this, many people were furnishing the Soviet Union with military information. Rosenberg asked Elitcher if he had access to such information and told him that if he did contribute military data they would be microphotographed and precautions would be taken to keep the microfilm from falling into the wrong hands and to secure the expeditious return of the original documents. To encourage Elitcher, Rosenberg confided that Sobell was among those giving away this country's secrets. This was confirmed subsequently by Sobell when he and Elitcher vacationed together.

Elitcher kept putting Rosenberg off, neither contributing information nor refusing to do so. On a visit to Rosenberg in New York in the spring of 1945, Rosenberg told Elitcher that he was relieved to find out that his, Rosenberg's, dismissal from the Army Signal Corps for "security reasons" was because of his activity in the Communist Party and not because of his espionage activities.

In the early part of 1946, Rosenberg and Sobell tried to induce Elitcher to turn over a classified ordnance pamphlet concerning a gun fire-control system on which Elitcher was working. At this time Rosenberg also told Elitcher that there was a "leak" in the espionage setup and to discontinue his Communist Party activities and not visit him.

In June of 1948, Rosenberg and Sobell met with Elitcher in New York and attempted to dissuade Elitcher from his intended plan to leave the Bureau of Ordnance and work for a private firm in New York. Rosenberg stated that he needed a source of information in the Navy Department and had already made plans for Elitcher to meet a contact in Washington. Rosenberg stayed and had dinner with Elitcher and Rosenberg related how he had started in the espionage venture. Elitcher did not follow the group's advice but changed to the New York job. As he drove to New York he thought he was being followed. He stopped at Sobell's house in New York and told Sobell this. Sobell became upset because he had some microfilmed information "too valuable to be destroyed" and Sobell had Elitcher drive him to Julius Rosenberg's house to deliver the film that night.

(3) In law, Elitcher was not an accomplice nor can there be any motive given for Elitcher's falsification. Instead, the Communist Party members criticized him as a "worm" and an "informer".

(4) The jurors unquestionably believed by the Court Max Elitcher's testimony because they were told that if they did not believe Max Elitcher they must acquit Sobell, and Sobell was convicted.

(5) There was, of course, considerable other non-accomplice testimony in addition to that of Elitcher who gave a complete picture of the operation of the espionage ring over a long period of time, which indicated that the Rosenbergs had been making preparations for flight. There was the testimony of the passport photographer who took the pictures of the Rosenbergs and their children. There was also the testimony of Dr. Bernhardt, who was asked by Julius Rosenberg what was required for entry into Mexico. We know that in law, flight serves as evidence of an awareness of guilt and this concept commends itself not only as a valid legal principle, but as common sense as well.

(6) Sobell, indeed, did suddenly take flight and was apprehended in Mexico. As I have said before, he did not testify at the trial but instead tried to create the impression through his counsel that his dash to Mexico was a short vacation trip. Yet while there he used 5 aliases in mysterious trips to Mexico's seaport towns; he corresponded with relatives in the United States through an intermediary

friend, using fictitious return addresses on his letters; and he told a neighbor in Mexico City that the military police were looking for him to take him back into the United States Army and that he was afraid to return to the Army because he had already experienced one war. In fact, he had never been in the Army but had been in a deferred classification during World War II.

(7) There is another popular misconception which has been prevalent and that is that the Rosenbergs and Sobell and the other defendants were charged solely with transmitting information regarding the atom bomb to the Soviet Union. It must be emphasized that neither the charges in the indictment nor the proof at the trial was limited to atomic espionage, but covered a general conspiracy to transmit to the Soviet Union documents, writings, sketches, notes and information relating to the national defense of the United States.

(8) During the course of this trial, the Court was subjected to constant vilification and threats of physical harm to himself and his family. The fairness of the trial over which Judge Kaufman presided was re-examined and upheld on numerous occasions, for, in addition to 16 applications in the District Court, addressed to one or another phase of the

case, there were 7 appeals to the Court of Appeals, and 7 applications to the Supreme Court for review--all denied. It should also be pointed out that ordinarily a reviewing court will reverse the trial court only if the error committed below is deemed to be "substantial" and will dismiss minor or technical mistakes as "harmless error". Because of the peculiar nature of this case the Court of Appeals indicated that it would have reversed had "any" error been found. That none such error was found is indicated by the affirmance.

(9) Examples of the Court's fairness were numerous throughout the trial. To eliminate prospective jurors who might be biased or intolerant, the Court questioned them to an even greater extent than requested by defense counsel. Where there was the slightest doubt of a prospective juror's complete objectivity or where a juror was at all reluctant to serve, the Court excused the juror, without requiring the defense to exercise a challenge. Moreover, although entitled to only 20 jury challenges, by law, the Court extended to the defense an additional 10 challenges, giving them 30 challenges in all. In fact, the defendants saw fit to use only 29 challenges before they announced in open court that the jury was acceptable to them.

(10) In connection with Bertrand

Russell's charge contained in the letter to the Manchester Guardian, excerpts of which appeared in the New York Times on March 27th, it is interesting to note that the statement of the board of directors of the American Committee for Cultural Freedom has charged Earl Russell with doing a major service to the Communists by his unsupported charge.

(See New York Times, April 6, 1956). As they point out,

"There is no evidence whatever that the F.B.I. committed atrocities or employed thugs in the Rosenberg case.

There is no support whatever for your charge that Sobell, an innocent man, was the victim of political hysteria; there is no ground whatever for your contention that either Sobell or the Rosenbergs were condemned on the word of perjurers, terrified or unterrified." Earl Russell made a completely false and irresponsible statement which puts in issue the very process of justice in the United States.

(11) To those who have attempted by every means to discredit and besmirch the trial judge, the words of the defense counsel for the Rosenbergs, the late Emanuel Bloch, uttered in open court, are a complete answer. On three different occasions Mr. Bloch paid tribute to the Court and in several of these statements to the F.B.I. and the prosecution for their courtesy and fairness. Attached are extracts

from the record containing the tributes by Mr. Bloch.

(12) It is also significant that Judge Frank pointed out in the opinion of the Circuit Court of Appeals, affirming the conviction, 195 F. 2d 583, at page 602: "It is of some significance that Sobell's counsel himself, at the end of the trial, indicated that he thought the prosecutor had conducted himself fairly. 'I am willing to shake his hand after a job that we both had to do.' "

(13) It is interesting to note that Earl Russell, like Dr. Urey, does not confine himself to matters in the area of his peculiar competence, which is, as I understand it, mathematics and philosophy. Lord Russell sets himself up as a super-jury. He says: "I have looked into the evidence in the Rosenbergs' trial [and am] almost certain that they were innocent." With one quick sweep of the brush, he has eliminated the necessity for demeanor evidence. Indeed, he has eliminated the very necessity for a jury. In short, he says, that it is not necessary to judge the demeanor of the witnesses for he is in a better position by reading the cold record or listening to what some partisans have to say to judge the guilt or innocence of individuals. Mind you, this in the face of not a single recantation by a government witness, and in the face of a jury verdict after the jury

was carefully charged on the credibility of witnesses, based upon observation of the witnesses, affirmance by the Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, which is recognized as probably the outstanding appellate court of the country, refusals to review by the Supreme Court on seven different occasions, and denials by the President of applications for clemency.

Of course Earl Russell and any citizen may express his personal views on any matter regardless of how ill founded these views may be -- but when Lord Russell speaks, he adds the prestige he has won in the field of education and, therefore, he has the added responsibility to know of his own knowledge what he is talking about and not permit himself to be used as a mouthpiece for some organization which has given him a false and distorted picture of this case. Indeed, Lord Russell has aimed a devastating attack upon American justice.

April 7, 1956

VARIOUS TRIBUTES PAID TO JUDGE IRVING R. KAUFMAN BY MR. BLOCH

Pages 1452-53 of the printed record in Rosenberg case
(tribute paid in summation)

"I would like to say to the Court on behalf of all defense counsel that we feel that you have treated us with the utmost courtesy, that you have extended to us the privileges that we expect as lawyers, and despite any disagreements we may have had with the Court on questions of law, we feel that the trial has been conducted and we hope we have contributed our share, with that dignity and that decorum that befits an American trial."

Page 1583

of the printed record in the Rosenberg case
(tribute paid after verdict of the jury)

"Mr. E.H. Bloch: If the Court please, I was going to refrain from making any comment. I am going to be very brief. I would like to restate what I said when I opened to the jury. I want to extend my appreciation to the Court for its courtesies, and again I repeat I want to extend my appreciation for the courtesies extended to me by Mr. Saypol and the members of his staff, as well as the members of the FBI, and I would like to say to the jury that a lawyer does not always win a case; all that a lawyer expects is a jury to decide a case on the evidence with mature deliberation."

"I feel satisfied by reason of the length of time that you took for your deliberations, as well as the questions asked during the course of your deliberations that you examined very carefully the evidence and came to a certain conclusion."

Page 1603 of the printed record in the Rosenberg case
(tribute paid by Bloch at the
time of the sentencing)

"Mr. E.H. Bloch: If the Court please, it has been a very heavy responsibility on the part of all those who have been connected with this case to see that the administration of justice was properly carried out, and that burden was carried by the Court, that burden was carried by the prosecution, and that burden fell especially upon the shoulders of defense counsel, and I believe that in this posture of the case, in retrospect, we can all say that we attempted to have this case tried as we expect criminal cases to be tried in this country; we tried to keep out extraneous issues; we tried to conduct ourselves as lawyers, and I know that the Court conducted itself as an American judge."

F B I

Date: 4/19/56

Transmit the following message via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

From SAC, NEW YORK

To: DIRECTOR, FBI

JULIUS ROSENBERG
ESPIONAGE-R

ReBulet 3/9/56, and NY airtel 3/16/56.

[redacted] orally advised SA RICHARD H. BLASSER on 4/18/56, that a special meeting of membership and financial directors of Area 3 of the Queens County CP was held on 4/10/56, at home of [redacted], Jamaica, NY. [redacted] Maspeth Section membership director, was not present for the meeting. Informant advised that [redacted] is planning to move to the Canarsie Section of Brooklyn, to live with her husband's family. She is going to surrender her position as membership director of the Maspeth Section. [redacted] will continue attempts to ascertain names of the 2 individuals in question mentioned by [redacted] Bureau will be advised upon receipt of information from informant.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mason	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

KELLY

Mr. Belmont

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/24/86 BY 3042 fwt

65-58236-2249

16 APR 20 1956

3-Bureau (65-58236) (RM)
1-New York (7-4)
1-New York (65-15348)

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163 APR 30 1956

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

Tickler - Mr. Boardman
Belmont
Lee

The Attorney General (original & 1)

April 23, 1956

Director, FBI

JULIUS ROSENBERG
ESPIONAGE - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/5/86 BY 3042PLW/AB

In connection with my letter of April 12, 1956, concerning foreign dissemination given to the letter written to the "Manchester Guardian" by Bertrand Russell attacking the judicial system of the United States, information has been received that "L'Humanite," French communist daily newspaper, reproduced the text of the Russell letter in its issue of April 5, 1956. This article was captioned "Sobell Must Be Freed."

This is furnished for your information.

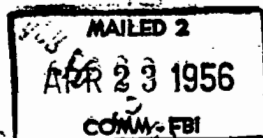
65-58236

cc - 1 - Mr. William P. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General
William F. Tompkins

cc - 1 - 101-2483 (Morton Sobell)

cc - 1 - 100-387835 (National Committee to Secure Justice in
Rosenberg Case)



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65-58236-2250

APR 26 1956

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APR 26 1956

FBI - JUSTICE
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Walters - Boardman
Belmont
Lee

The Attorney General (orig. and 1)

May 2, 1956

Director, FBI

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

JULIUS ROSENBERG, with aliases
ESPIONAGE - R

There are attached four photostats of six letters to the editor which appeared in the "Manchester Guardian." These letters relate to the letter written to that newspaper by Bertrand Russell in which Russell attacked the United States judicial system. One of the photostats is of a second letter written by Russell and published in the "Manchester Guardian" for April 5, 1956. In this letter, Russell reasserts his previous position of attacking the judicial system which convicted Julius and Ethel Rosenberg and Morton Sobell of a conspiracy to commit espionage.

It is interesting to note that the letter written by Sydney Silverman, House of Commons, appearing in the newspaper of April 9, 1956, describes Max Elitcher as a "man who had already been convicted - he has never been sentenced - of perjury." This statement is in error since Elitcher has never been convicted of perjury. Elitcher did admit during his testimony that he denied membership in the Communist Party in questionnaires filed with the United States Government.

Another of the letters was written by Herwood Russell Hanson, an American citizen. Hanson is employed as a lecturer in the Philosophy of Science at Cambridge University.

Information, Joseph Henry Cote has admitted Communist Party membership from 1948-1951. He is American-born and resided in England from 1951-1954. He left England in August, 1954, and now lives in Czechoslovakia where he was granted "political asylum" at his own request.

~~SECRET~~

65-58236

RECORDED - 34

cc - 101-2483

cc - 100-387835

in the Rosenberg Case

9 MAY 9 1956 EX-108

Exempt from GDS, Category
Date of Declassification Indefinite

Tolson
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Tamm
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Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 101-2483

Letter to The Attorney General

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

This is furnished to you for your information.

Enclosures - 4

cc - 1 - Mr. William F. Rogers (Enclosure - 4)
Deputy Attorney General

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General (Enclosure - 4)
William F. Tompkins

- 2 -

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO	DATE WHEN MADE 4-17-86	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/26/55 through 4/9/56	REPORT MADE BY RICHARD F. ALLEN
TITLE NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE IN THE ROSENBERG CASE, Aka., National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Chicago Sobell Committee (CSC) located in Room 1301, Great Northern Office building, 20 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill. This committee continues to maintain a bank account at the Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank in Chicago. Account activities set out. Identity of current and former CSC officers set out. Activities noted in past months include a Pete Seeger Concert held on 2/19/56, under CSC sponsorship. Committee distributed limited number of leaflets in past months and set out.			
- P*DECLASSIFIED BY 3042 put - D/C			
DETAILS: <u>AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS</u> ON <u>10/24/86</u>			
All informants utilized in this report have furnished reliable information in the past unless otherwise indicated.			
ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT			
It is to be noted that T-1 reported on October 10, 1953, that the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case was formed in January, 1952, to raise funds for the defense of JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG, who were convicted, together with MORTON SOBELL, on March 29, 1951, of conspiracy to commit espionage. JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG were sentenced to death on April 5, 1951, and executed on June 19, 1953. MORTON SOBELL was sentenced to serve thirty years in the custody of the Attorney General of the United States.			
CLASSIFIED BY 4912 AP/LS 2-17-78 EXEMPT FROM GDS CATEGORY 2 DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT ②-Bureau (100-387835) (RM) 1-G2-65-58236 (RM) 1-CHI, Chicago (RM) 1-CHI, Chicago (RM) 1-CSI, Chicago (RM) 2-New York (100-107111) (RM) 2-Chi (100-355401) (RM)		45-58236- NOT RECORDED 87 MAY 3 1956 INITIALS OF SPECIAL AGENT - CONFIDENTIAL	
		APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP (S) OF DATE 3-23-77	

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ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-387835-1362

CG 100-25530

T-1 also advised on October 10, 1953, that the Chicago Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case was the Chicago affiliate of the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case.

T-2 advised on October 11, 1953, that the National Conference on the Rosenberg-Sobell Case, which was called by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case, was held at the Fine Arts Building, 410 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on October 10-11, 1953.

T-1 advised on October 11, 1953, that the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee was formed at the above conference on October 11, 1953, and the Chicago Rosenberg-Sobell Committee is the local affiliate of the organization.

T-3 advised on February 3, 1955, that the Chicago Rosenberg-Sobell Committee, formerly located at 410 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, until August, 1954, was the forerunner of the Chicago Sobell Committee, now located in Room 1301 at 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois.

LOCATION OF CHICAGO SOBELL COMMITTEE

On April 3, 1956, Mrs. LILLIAN PEARSON, Secretary to HENRY MANN, Manager, Great Northern Property Building, 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, advised that the lease executed by the Chicago Sobell Committee (CSC) on August 31, 1954, expired on September 1, 1955. Mrs. PEARSON further advised that the CSC renewed its lease in the Great Northern Building for another year on September 14, 1955, effective September 1, 1955. Mrs. PEARSON stated that her records reflected that SYLVIA LEVINSON and DAVID C. SOLTNER, acting for the CSC, were the co-signers for this aforementioned September 14, 1955 renewed lease, and that the CSC was still located in Room 1301 of the Great Northern Office Building located at 20 West Jackson Boulevard in Chicago.

FORMER AND CURRENT OFFICERS OF THE CSC

On February 7, 1955, T-4, reported that as of April 30, 1954, the following individuals were listed as officers of the Rosenberg - Sobell Committee:

GERTRUDE GUNTER- Chairman
 PHYLLIS PILDES- Secretary
 ANN MARKIN- Treasurer

On April 3, 1956, T-4 reported that as of February 4, 1955, the following individuals were listed as officers of the Chicago Sobell Committee:

RUTH ROTHSTEIN- Chairman
 RUTH BELMONT-Secretary
 DAVID SOLTKE- Treasurer

T-4 further reported on April 3, 1956, that as of September 27, 1955, RUTH M. ROTHSTEIN was listed as Chairman and DAVID SOLTKE as Secretary for the Chicago Sobell Committee.

FINANCES

On April 3, 1956, T-4 furnished the following information regarding the CSC bank account maintained at the Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank, 111 South Dearborn Street, Chicago, Illinois, during the period September 1, 1955, through April 2, 1956:

Balance of the CSC account
 as of 8/31/55 - \$281.66

<u>Date</u>	<u>Withdrawal</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Sept. 2	\$38.50		\$243.16
12	51.03		192.13
14	90.00		102.13
16		\$26.00	128.13
27		225.00	353.13
29	1.25		Bal. 9/30/55 351.88

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Withdrawal</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Oct. 3	\$ 9.90		\$341.98
7	51.29		290.69
11		\$16.00	306.69
18		81.12	387.81
19	43.40		344.41
20		5.00	349.41
21	9.90		339.51
28	.75		338.76
31	67.50		271.26
		Bal. 10/31/55	
Nov. 4		100.00	371.26
8	52.75		318.51
14	51.03		
	87.00		180.48
		10.00	190.48
16		5.00	195.48
18	25.00		170.48
25	9.90		160.58
29	1.25		159.33
		5.00	164.33
		Bal. 11/30/55	
Dec. 1		28.00	192.33
7		217.00	409.33
12	55.30		354.03
14	99.24		254.79
15		21.00	275.79
21	9.90		265.89
22		6.00	271.89
29	1.25		270.64
		Bal. 12/31/55	
Jan. 5		101.00	371.64
6	68.50		303.14
9	46.86		256.28
19		5.00	261.28
23	10.14		251.14
27	1.25		249.89
		Bal. 1/31/56	
Feb. 3		150.00	399.89
6	50.00		349.89

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Withdrawal</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Feb. 14	100.00		
	51.03		
15		26.00	198.86
20	14.83		224.86
	10.14		
	2.00		
23	100.00		197.89
24		1454.30	1652.19
27	285.94	185.00	1552.19
		Bal. 2/29/56	1737.19
			1451.25
Mar. 8		25.00	1476.25
12	51.89		1424.36
16	150.00		1274.36
		81.00	1355.36
20		49.50	1404.86
23	10.14		1394.72
26	46.00		1348.72
28	744.75		
	300.00		
		Bal. 3/31/56	303.97
Apr. 2		118.50	422.47
		Bal. of account	
		4/2/56	422.47
		Bal. at	
		8/31/55	281.66
		Deposits	
		from 9/1/55	
		through 4/2/56	2940.42
		Total	3222.08
		Withdrawals	
		and other	
		charges from	
		9/1/55 through	
		4/2/56	2799.61
		Balance at	
		4/2/56	422.47

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The above information will only be made available upon issuance of a subpoena duces tecum.

AFFILIATION OF OFFICERS OF THE CSC

It should be noted that the Communist Party and the Communist Political Association have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

RUTH ROTHSTEIN, nee RUTH MERSON

On August 7, 1951, Mr. [REDACTED], Cleveland, Ohio, who is a self-admitted former CP member, advised that he was a CP member in Ohio from 1944 until 1950. The informant stated that he knew RUTH MERSON (RUTH ROTHSTEIN) to have been a CP member and active in the affairs of the CP, but that he, the informant, was unable to supply specific dates relating to her membership in the CP. b7c b7D

T-5, who is a self-admitted former CP member, advised on July 14, 1950, that he knew RUTH MERSON, UE staff member, as a CP member in UERMWA in the Ohio area.

It should be noted that at the recent House Committee on Un-American Activities hearings held on August 2, 3, and 4, 1955, regarding the National Committee in Washington, D.C., RUTH ROTHSTEIN was subpoenaed to testify and invoked the Fifth Amendment.

DAVID LEE SOLTAKER

In 1942, information was received from the Office of Naval Intelligence, Chicago, Illinois, reflecting that DAVID LEE SOLTAKER was at that time a Communist.

RUTH BELLMAN, wa., Ruth Belmont

T-6 advised in December, 1946, that RUTH BELMONT was a registered member of the Dave White Club, CP, at Detroit, Michigan, with 1946 Registration #54834. This informant related that BELMONT

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had recently been issued a new registration card for 1947 with Registration #68709 in the Dave White Club, CP. According to this informant, RUTH BELMONT had been a member of the CP for five years prior to 1946.

PHYLLIS PILDES (Mrs. SIDNEY SOLOMON)

T-7 reported in March, 1946, that PHYLLIS PILDES, 850 East 40th Street, Chicago, was a registered member of the Oakwood-Kenwood Club, Communist Political Association, South Side Section, Chicago, Illinois, with Card #51735, dated November 25, 1944. This informant also stated that PHYLLIS PILDES had CP Card #59412 dated October 4, 1945.

GERTRUDE GUNTER, also
known as GERTRUDE GUNTER SOLTKER

T-8 advised on February 6, 1946, that GERTRUDE GUNTER SOLTKER, wife of DAVID LEE SOLTKER, first joined the CP in 1934 in Chicago, Illinois. As of November, 1937, her membership in the CP had been uninterrupted as she held the position of Unit Organizer of Unit 129, Section 1, District #8, CP, Chicago. She was then an actress with the Chicago Repertory Group, Inc. On March 15, 1938, she was expelled from the CP for having disregarded Party discipline, being in disagreement with unit decisions, having sent in a letter of resignation from the CP and having an individualist attitude. The Party's decision on her expulsion carried provisions for her reapplication for membership after three months.

T-8 continued that GERTRUDE GUNTER, upon re-applying for Party membership, had claimed that she always had a deep respect for the CP. GERTRUDE GUNTER further claimed that she had done much work on Party campaigns and programs for Spain, May Day and Memorial Day events. The informant related that GERTRUDE GUNTER further claimed that after having been dropped from the Party, she attempted to continue her political development by reading such publications as "New Masses," "The Record," BROWDER's "Peoples' Front" and the "Communist." The informant

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stated that Miss GUNTER felt that the only place for her was in the CP and she was readmitted to CP membership in August, 1938.

It may be noted that the Congressional Record of September 24, 1942, on page 7688, quotes the Attorney General as stating that "New Masses" is a Communist periodical.

It may be further noted that LOUIS F. BUDENZ, Assistant Professor, Fordham University, New York, New York, a former Party functionary, during his ten years as a CP member from 1935 to 1945, testified during the trial of the eleven Communist leaders in New York that the "Midwest Daily Record" was published from February, 1938, through September, 1939, as a daily, and from September, 1939, through January, 1940, as a weekly. It was set up and completely financed by the CP. All staff members were CP members, and Mr. BUDENZ was editor of the paper during its entire life.

ANN MARKIN, nee ANN HALL

T-9 stated on January 12, 1945, that ANN MARKIN, nee ANN HALL, 2012 South Peoria Street, Chicago, Illinois, was a registered member of the CPA in 1944.

ACTIVITY

Pete Seeger Concert
held at Albany Park
Center, 4825 North
Kedzie Avenue,
Chicago, Illinois

On February 23, 1956, T-10, another agency which collects security information in the Chicago area, reported that a concert was held at the Albany Park Center, 4825 North Kedzie Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on February 19, 1956, under the auspices of the CSC. According to the informant, there were approximately 250 persons in attendance at this concert which featured PETE SEEGER, well-known banjo player from New York.

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According to this informant, SEEGER played and sang a mixture of folk, union, and work tunes and brought up repeatedly between numbers the subject of racial integration.

This informant also advised that an announcement was made by a person unknown to the informant, concerning the purpose of this get-together which was to raise funds to support the fight for the freedom of the forgotten man, MORTON SOBELL, who is currently in prison. It was further announced at this concert, that the CSC had approached the "Chicago Daily News," a Chicago daily newspaper on the matter of placing an ad in their paper in regard to the advertisement of JOHN WEXLEY's book, "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg," which will intend to reveal to the public the true facts of this case. It was stated that the cost of this gesture will amount to \$2,600 and the only way this fund can be raised is through donations by all people who are interested in maintaining this inherent democracy.

It should be noted that ANGUS CAMERON is one of the partners in the firm Cameron and Kahn, New York publishers who published the book, "False Witness," written by HARVEY MATUSOW, and "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg," written by JOHN WEXLEY from New York.

On February 16, 1956, T-11 advised that a fund raising party sponsored by the CSC was scheduled to be held at the residence of [REDACTED] in Chicago on February 18, 1956. *q u b7D*

The informant advised he had no knowledge as to whether or not this affair actually took place. *q u*

It should be noted that T-11 further advised on February 16, 1956, that for many years [REDACTED] has been one of the [REDACTED] leaders in the Chicago area. *q u b7D*

LITERATURE USED BY THE CSC

A mimeographed leaflet captioned, "Hennings Committee and Sobell Case," described thereon as being issued by the CSC, 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois.

This document points out that on October 3, 1955, the Senate Sub-Committee on Constitutional Rights will open hearings on the status of Constitutional Liberties in the United States. It states that this sub-committee of the Judiciary Committee, headed by Senator THOMAS C. HENNING, JR., has stated that it will concern itself with citizens' complaints of violations of the Bill of Rights and that this sub-committee brings the hope that the high repute of Congressional investigations may be restored.

It states that in the decade of hysteria from which we seem to be emerging, one particular case commanded the attention of the entire country and the world. "That was the ROSENBERG-SOBELL Case." It states that opinion on the innocence or guilt of the defendants was divided - and for good reason, inasmuch as 9 months prior to the trial the prosecution fed to the newspapers, radio and television a series of sensational accounts of alleged criminal acts of the ROSENBERGS and SOBELL, many of which were never even mentioned at the trial itself and therefore did not have to be proved.

The document concludes with the following statements:

"The right to a fair trial is the most important single guarantee a citizen's security from false accusation. Without it, one is at the mercy, not of law, but of arbitrary and unscrupulous forces.

"The Henning Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights has publicly announced a desire to receive suggestions concerning its future work. May we urge that you write, requesting that room be left open on the subcommittee calendar for investigation of violations of basic rights in the case of MORTON SOBELL. Discuss this matter with your colleagues, your

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friends, and in your organizations. Ask others to write also.

"Today the opportunity exists to objectively air and perhaps end the cold-war spy scares that have served as the backdrop for infringements upon our country's liberties. Please write a personal note to:

Senator Thomas C. Henning, Jr.
Chairman
Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C.

The following sources furnished the above leaflet on the dates indicated:

T-12	10/10/55
Mr. [REDACTED] Attorney,	10/10/55
[REDACTED],	
Chicago, 2, Illinois, who has	
furnished similar literature	
before	
T-13	10/14/55
T-14	11/5/55
T-3	10/21/55
T-15	11/14/55

b7c
b7D

A four page leaflet described thereon as being issued by the CSC, 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois, containing a letter dated August 4, 1955, written by JO GRANAT of the CSC. The letter in part advises of the recent attacks received by the committee who is supporting the appeal for a new trial for MORTON SOBELL. The letter points out that the purpose of this attack is to discredit and discourage those who work with committees concerned with anything known as the truth in the ROSENBERG Case. The leaflet also sets forth a press release sent to all Chicago and vicinity newspapers from the CSC which states that the attacks upon the ROSENBERG-SOBELL Committee by Representative FRANCIS E. WALTER of the House Committee on Un-American Activities is aimed to prejudice new legal moves on behalf of MORTON SOBELL.

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The following source furnished the above on the date indicated:

T-16 11/28/55

On January 6, 1956, T-17, advised that JO GRANAT is a member of Section 3, South Side Division of the CP. Section 3 is composed of the 4th Ward and northern part of the 5th Ward in Chicago, Illinois.

A printed leaflet described thereon as being issued by the CSC, 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, concerning BRETT HALLIDAY's book review of JOHN WEXLEY's book, "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg." This leaflet reflects that HALLIDAY penned the book review on August 8, 1955. The review appearing in this leaflet is a reprint of a book review which appeared on September 15, 1955, in Fairfield County, Connecticut and characterized HALLIDAY, the author of this review, and one of the leading mystery writers in the country and author of the Mike Shayne Detective Stories.

The following sources furnished the above leaflet on the dates indicated:

T-13	11/23/55
T-12	11/28/55
T-18	11/29/55
T-19	12/15/55

A printed leaflet described thereon as being issued by the CSC, 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Room 1301, concerning North Dakota's Senator WILLIAM LANGER's pledge to aid MORTON SOBELL at a New York rally. This leaflet dated November 18, 1955, reflected that LANGER commented at this rally that a fair trial was not possibly in this case. The leaflet stated that new legal appeals would be before the courts in behalf of SOBELL at an early date and financial help to support these legal moves would be deeply appreciated.

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The following sources furnished the above leaflet on the dates indicated:

T-13	11/23/55
T-12	11/28/55
T-18	11/29/55

a "Special Bulletin" described thereon as being issued by the CSC, 20 West Jackson Boulevard, which is a mimeographed sheet on large size paper urging the recipients of same to send contributions, and also to wire or write Representative FRANCIS E. WALTER, Chairman of the HCUA. The following source furnished the above bulletin on the date indicated:

T-18 8/9/55

A printed leaflet described thereon as being issued by the CSC, 20 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, announcing the Pete Seeger Folk Song Concert to be given on February 19, 1956, at the Albany Park Center, 4825 North Kedzie Avenue in Chicago, under the auspices of the CSC. The following source furnished the above leaflet on the date indicated:

[REDACTED] supra, February 9, 1956.

- P* -

ADMINISTRATIVE

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed in this report, and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identity of the source must be concealed.

INFORMANTS

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity and/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
T-1, [REDACTED] b2 [REDACTED] b7D of CR-SC	Characterization	10/10/53 10/11/53		
T-2, Anonymous Source				
T-3, [REDACTED] b2 [REDACTED] b7D of CSC	Characterization	2/3/55	[REDACTED] b7D (orally)	
	Literature "Hennings Committee and Sobell Case"	10/21/55	[REDACTED] b7D	100-25530-1B2 (256)
T-4, [REDACTED] b7C [REDACTED] b7D	Officers CSC and CR-SC	2/7/55 4/3/56	[REDACTED] b7D (orally)	100-25530-1023
Amalgamated Trust & Savings Bank, 411 S. Dearborn St. Chicago, Illinois	Finances	4/3/56	SA RICHARD F. ALLEN (orally)	Instant report

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

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<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity and/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
T-5, [REDACTED] (per his request)	Characterization of RUTH MERSON	7/14/50		
T-6, Anonymous source				
T-7, Anonymous source				
T-8, Anonymous source				
T-9, Anonymous source				
T-10, Security Unit, CG PD, Chgo., Ill.	2/19/56 Pete Seeger Concert	2/23/56	SE FRANCIS G. KAHL (written)	100-25530-1064
T-11, [REDACTED]	2/18/56 CSC Party b7C b7D	2/16/56	[REDACTED] (orally) b7D	100-25530-1063 u
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] b7D	2/18/56	[REDACTED] (orally) u	

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<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity and/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
T-12 [REDACTED] b2 b7D	Literature "Hennings Committee and Sobell Case"	10/10/55	[REDACTED]	A) [REDACTED] b2 b7D
	JOHN WEXLEY's Book Review.	11/28/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (263)
	Literature dated 11/18/55, re Senator LANGER supporting MORTON SOBELL	11/28/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (263)
T-13 [REDACTED] b2 b7D	Literature "Hennings Committee and Sobell Case"	10/14/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (254) b7D
	Literature "JOHN WEXLEY's Book Review"	11/23/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (259)
	Literature dated 11/18/55, re Senator LANGER supporting MORTON SOBELL	11/23/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (262)
T-14 [REDACTED] b2 b7D	Literature "Hennings Committee and Sobell Case"	11/5/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (257)
T-15 [REDACTED] b2 b7D	Literature "Hennings Committee and Sobell Case"	11/14/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B1 (261)

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<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity and/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
T-16. [REDACTED] b7C b7D	Literature CSC and JO GRANAT	11/28/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (266)
T-17. [REDACTED] b2 b7D	Characterization JO GRANAT	1/6/56	[REDACTED]	A) [REDACTED] b2 b7D
T-18. [REDACTED] b2 b7D	Literature JOHN WEXLEY's book review.	11/29/55	[REDACTED] b7D	100-25530-1B2 (264)
	Literature dated 11/18/55 re Sen. LANGER supporting MORTON SOBELL	11/29/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (265)
	Literature CSC Special Bulletin	8/9/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (232)
T-19. [REDACTED] b2, b7D	Leaflet "JOHN WEXLEY's Book Review"	12/15/55	[REDACTED]	100-25530-1B2 (267)

LEADS

CHICAGO DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will continue to follow and report activities of the National ROSENBERG-SOBELL Committee and the CSC.

REFERENCE

Report of SA RICHARD F. ALLEN, dated September 29, 1955, at Chicago.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: 4. 24. 56

FROM : J. P. Mohr

SUBJECT: The Congressional Record

Pages 6055-6058 Senator Humphrey, (D) Minnesota, spoke on the subject of the execution of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, and Morton Sobell, now serving a 30-year prison term in Alcatraz. Mr. Humphrey requested to have printed in the Record, the text of a letter written to the editor of the Manchester Guardian from Bertrand Russell, together with a reply to the Manchester Guardian from two Washington attorneys regarding the issue, and also a review of a book, "The Atom Spy Hoax." References to the FBI have been noted and were set forth for your attention in an earlier memorandum prepared today.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/5/86 BY 3042 PUL/DB

RECEIVED - 72

165-58236-2252
NOT RECORDED
126 MAY 7 1956

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

Original filed in:

66-1731-1219

In the original of a memorandum captioned and dated as above, the Congressional Record for Monday, 4. 23. 56 was reviewed and pertinent items were marked for the Director's attention. This form has been prepared in order that portions of a copy of the original memorandum may be clipped, mounted, and placed in appropriate Bureau case or subject matter files.

Coinculpé des Rosenberg Morton Sobell était-il coupable ?

Par CLAUDE JULIEN

Coinculpé d'Ethel et de Julius Rosenberg, qui furent exécutés le 30 juin 1953 à Sing Sing pour « espionnage atomique », Morton Sobell purge à la prison d'Alcatraz une peine de trente ans. Tout au long de son procès il déclara son innocence, alors que David Greenglass, qui avait passé des aveux complets, fut condamné à quinze ans de prison seulement. On se souvient que toute l'accusation reposait sur le témoignage de David Greenglass, qui, pour échapper au châtiment suprême, passa un accord avec le F.B.I. (police secrète) et envoya à la chaise électrique sa sœur Ethel et son beau-frère Julius Rosenberg. Le procès se déroula en mars 1951. Nous avons alors montré les incroyables failles de l'accusation, décrit l'atmosphère hystérique qui entourait les inculpés, rendus responsables de la guerre de Corée et des victimes d'un éventuel troisième conflit mondial.

Toute l'attention se portait à ce moment-là sur les époux Rosenberg, qui, pendant plus de deux ans après leur condamnation, attendaient d'être exécutés, tandis qu'on leur promettait la vie sauve s'ils passaient des aveux. Trois juges de la Cour suprême, MM. Douglas, Black et Frankfurter, avaient en vain exprimé leurs doutes sur la validité du verdict. Du monde entier d'éminentes personnalités sollicitaient la grâce des Rosenberg. On parlait très peu de leur coinculpé, Morton Sobell, contre lequel pesaient des charges tout aussi fragiles. Mais lui ne risquait pas la mort. Était-il pour autant coupable ? Dans une lettre au *Manchester Guardian*, lord Bertrand Russell affirme qu'il n'aurait pas été condamné si le procès ne s'était pas déroulé dans une atmosphère d'hostilité. (1). Si les Rosenberg sont morts, Sobell est bien vivant et encore en prison pour vingt-cinq ans. Son cas mérite d'être examiné.

Enlevé par le F. B. I.

Dans sa lettre au *Manchester Guardian*, publiée le 26 mars 1956, lord Russell résume ainsi le cas de Morton Sobell :

« Il avait un ami nommé Elitcher, qui avait été son garçon d'honneur. Elitcher avait déclaré sous la foi du serment qu'il n'avait jamais été communiste. Le F.B.I. découvrit qu'il avait commis un parjure en faisant cette déclaration et lui fit savoir qu'il pourrait éviter le châtiment s'il dénonçait d'autres personnes comme complices dans des affaires de trahison. Elitcher décida de sauver sa propre peau en dénonçant son meilleur ami, Sobell. Pendant que des négociations en ce sens se déroulaient avec le F.B.I., Sobell, accompagné de sa femme et de ses deux petits enfants, se rendit au Mexique. Sobell envisagea la possibilité de ne pas retourner aux Etats-Unis, mais il la rejeta. Sa décision de rentrer parvint à la connaissance du F.B.I. qui avait décidé de le présenter comme un coupable fuyant la justice. Afin de pouvoir quand même le présenter ainsi, le F.B.I. recruta des hommes de main qui le frappaient jusqu'à ce qu'il eût perdu connaissance, le chargèrent avec sa femme et ses enfants dans des automobiles et roulaient de Mexico jusqu'à la frontière américaine sans s'arrêter. Là ils le remirent à un officier d'immigration qui apposa sans justification sur leur carte d'entrée un cachet portant la mention « déporté du Mexique », alors que le gouvernement mexicain n'avait pas

été informé de cet enlèvement (kidnapping) et n'avait manifesté aucune intention de déporter la famille Sobell. »

Lord Bertrand Russell rappelle qu'Elitcher ne fut pas inculpé de faux témoignage, bien que son parjure ait été reconnu, et « chaque mot qu'il prononça contre Sobell fut accepté » par le tribunal.

L'intervention des hommes de main

Comment s'est effectué cet enlèvement ? Au mois de juin 1950 la famille Sobell réalise un vieux projet : elle va passer ses vacances au Mexique. Quelques jours après, la guerre de Corée éclate. Sobell, qui a appartenu au parti communiste dans sa jeunesse, vit dans la crainte d'être convoqué par une commission d'enquête. Il prévoit non sans raison que les événements de Corée vont favoriser le maccarthysme. C'est alors qu'il envisage de ne pas rentrer dans son pays en guerre. Victime de la panique qui terrorise d'innombrables Américains plus ou moins « libéraux », il accumule les maladroites : les lettres qu'il envoie à ses parents sont signées de noms fantaisistes et adressées à l'un de ses amis de New-York, qui doit les faire parvenir à leur destinataire. La police en conclura qu'il se cachait, comme seul un espion peut le faire... Pire, il a acheté des lunettes de soleil... pour mieux se dissimuler. D'après Greenglass, Sobell devait prendre contact à Mexico avec l'ambassade soviétique, qui devait lui fournir le moyen de fuir en Europe. Mais au mois d'août ce redoutable agent de l'étranger est encore à Mexico. Le repos des vacances a cependant calmé ses esprits. Il se prépare à rentrer aux Etats-Unis (en utilisant le billet d'avion aller et retour qu'il a pris avant de partir), et il se procure les certificats de vaccination exigés pour cela. La presse lui a cependant appris l'arrestation de Julius Rosenberg (17 juillet) et d'Ethel (11 août).

C'est alors qu'intervient le F.B.I. dans un épisode digne de la « Série noire ». Le 18 août 1950, à 20 heures, les Sobell prennent le café dans l'appartement qu'ils ont loué à Mexico. Soudain les lumières s'éteignent et des coups sont frappés à la porte. Trois hommes armés font irruption, réclament un certain Johnny Jones, accusé d'avoir volé 15 000 dollars dans une banque d'Acapulco. Sobell fournit ses pièces d'identité, demande d'appeler l'ambassade américaine pour vérification, mais on le frappe et l'entraîne, pendant qu'il conseille à sa femme de téléphoner à la police. Sa femme est à son tour prise à partie. On les charge dans des voitures, on les conduit dans un bâtiment, puis à 4 heures le lendemain matin de nouvelles voitures les amènent jusqu'à la frontière. Un agent du F.B.I., nommé Rex Shroder, monte alors dans leur voiture. La mention « déporté du Mexique » est apposée sur leurs cartes de touristes. La police pourvue ainsi, se précipite, que Sobell, se sachant coupable, voulait faire la justice. Les autorités mexicaines attendaient toutefois que Sobell se fût « déporté », mais enlevé, en violation des lois et règlements de leur pays.

Enlèvement le 18 août 1950, à Mexico.

Le 10 octobre. Il leur était donc admette qu'avant cette date aucun élément ne permettait de l'inculper ou de demander aux autorités mexicaines son extradition. Mais la police saura mettre ce délai à profit pour forger des « preuves ».

Les Rosenberg n'auraient pas pu être condamnés sans le témoignage de Greenglass. Sobell n'aurait pas pu être condamné sans celui d'Elitcher. « Si vous ne croyez pas le témoignage de Max Elitcher, déclare le juge Kaufman au jury, vous devez acquiescer Sobell. » Mais ce témoignage contient autant de contradictions que celui de Greenglass. Car les deux hommes sont dans le même cas : Greenglass a volé, Elitcher a commis un parjure ; leur sort est entre les mains du F.B.I. qui leur promet l'indulgence s'ils se transforment en dénonciateurs : tous deux sont des déséquilibrés ; ils devaient des instruments dociles et répètent ce que la police leur suggère. Toutefois l'affaire est assez compliquée pour qu'ils commettent des erreurs. D'après l'accusation Sobell a accepté de travailler pour Rosenberg le 15 juin 1944, et Elitcher le 6. Or ce dernier déclare qu'il n'a accepté d'entrer dans le « réseau » que parce que Sobell y participait déjà... A maintes reprises les dépositions d'Elitcher se contredisent elles-mêmes. Or Sobell a été condamné sur la foi de ce seul témoignage...

Bien plus, le juge Kaufman admettra ne posséder aucune preuve que Sobell ait participé à une affaire d'espionnage atomique, qui pourtant pouvait seule lui valoir d'être condamné à trente ans de prison.

L'opinion du professeur Urey

Le procès Rosenberg-Sobell paraît invraisemblable dans le climat politique actuel de l'Amérique. Mais en mars 1951 M. McCarthy était encore à l'apogée de sa gloire et son adjoint Roy Cohn, dont on n'entend plus guère parler, déployait son jeune talent d'inquisiteur, aux côtés du procureur Scypol, pour obtenir la peine maximum contre les Rosenberg et Sobell.

M. John Wesley s'est livré, dans son livre *The Judgment of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg*, à une étude minutieuse du procès. Cet ouvrage a relevé très exactement toutes les failles de l'accusation, et sa valeur documentaire a été reconnue par un tribunal de Dayton (Ohio), qui, après en avoir pris connaissance, rendit un non-lieu en faveur d'un ingénieur qui était lui aussi accusé d'espionnage (2). On comprend que le professeur Harold Urey, dans une lettre au *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists* (janvier 1956), en recommande la lecture. Il se garde prudemment d'approuver « tout ce que contient ce livre », car M. Wesley a voulu, avec raison, recréer le climat d'hystérie qui joua contre les accusés, et cela a pu l'entraîner parfois un peu loin. Mais l'analyse du dossier lui-même est irréprochable, elle révèle le détail de la machination policière avec la complicité du procureur et du juge. Cela devrait suffire à justifier une révision du procès, qui ne pourrait pas, en 1956, se dérouler comme en 1951. Une telle révision aboutirait, cela paraît hors de doute, à la réhabilitation des accusés. Si les Rosenberg sont morts, Morton Sobell est encore, dans sa prison d'Alcatraz, soumis aux pressions du F.B.I. qui depuis plus de cinq ans s'acharne sans succès à lui arracher les aveux qu'il n'avait pu obtenir de Julius et d'Ethel Rosenberg.

REF ID: A66111
DATE 8/5/81 BY 3042 PWS/MLA



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
American Embassy
Paris 8, France

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Boardman _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Parsons _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Mr. Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

Date: April 16, 1956
To: Director, FBI (101-2483)
From: Legat, Paris (65-356)
Subject: MORTON SOBELL, was
ESPIONAGE - R

J. J. [Signature]

Enclosed herewith is a clipping from Le Monde,
French Neutralist daily, of 4/13/56 entitled "Was MORTON
SOBELL Guilty?" by CLAUDE JULIEN.

In this article, which is very derogatory to
the Bureau, it is stated that an FBI agent named REX SHRODER
"kidnapped" subject from Mexico; that for the past 5 years
the FBI has been vainly trying to elicit information from
subject, who is in prison at Alcatraz.

Enclosure - 1

eng. file with copy
detached copy
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cc - [unclear]
5-4-56
T.P. [unclear]

RECORDED - 91
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MAY 15 1956

RECEIVED
BUREAU OF PRISON

101-2483

Morton Sobell était-il coupable ?

Par CLAUDE LÉVY

Le procès Rosenberg-Sobell, qui se déroule à New York, est le plus important procès d'espionnage américain depuis celui de Julius et Ethel Rosenberg en 1951. Les deux frères, accusés d'avoir livré des secrets atomiques à l'Union soviétique, ont été condamnés à la prison à perpétuité. Leur frère cadet, Albert, a été condamné à 30 ans de prison. Morton Sobell, leur frère aîné, a été condamné à 30 ans de prison. Le procès a été très médiatisé et a suscité beaucoup de débats sur la culpabilité des accusés.

Tout l'attention se portait à ce moment-là sur les époux Rosenberg, qui, pendant plus de deux ans après leur condamnation, attendaient d'être exécutés, tandis qu'on leur promettait le « viatique » s'ils possédaient des preuves, sous forme de la Cour suprême, de la Douglas, Black et Frankfurter, avaient en vain exprimé leurs doutes sur la validité du verdict. Du monde entier d'émouvantes personnalités sollicitaient la grâce des Rosenberg. On parlait très peu de leur neveu, Morton Sobell, contre lequel pesaient des charges tout aussi fragiles. Mais lui ne risquait pas la mort. Était-il pour autant coupable ? Dans une lettre au Manchester Guardian, lord Bertrand Russell estime qu'il n'aurait pas été condamné si le procès n'était pas déroulé dans l'atmosphère d'hystérie. (1). Si les Rosenberg sont morts, Sobell est bien vivant, et après sa prison pour vingt-cinq ans, son nom mérite d'être examiné.

Enlevé par le F. B. I.

Dans sa lettre au Manchester Guardian, publiée le 28 mars 1956, lord Russell résume ainsi le cas de Morton Sobell :

Il avait un ami nommé Elitcher, qui avait été son gendre d'honneur. Elitcher avait déclaré sous la loi du serment qu'il n'avait jamais été communiste. Le F. B. I. découvrit qu'il avait commis un parjure en faisant cette déclaration et lui fit savoir qu'il pourrait éviter le châtiment s'il dénonçait d'autres personnes comme complices dans des affaires de trahison. Elitcher décida de sauver sa propre peau en dénonçant son meilleur ami, Sobell. Pendant que des négociations en ce sens se déroulaient avec le F. B. I., Sobell, accompagné de sa femme et de ses deux petits enfants, se rendit au Mexique. Sobell envisagea la possibilité de ne pas retourner aux États-Unis, mais il le refusa. Sa décision de rentrer survint à la connaissance du F. B. I., qui avait décidé, de la présenter comme un coupable ayant la justice. Afin de pouvoir garder sa femme et ses enfants, le F. B. I. arrêta des hommes de main qui le traquèrent jusqu'à ce qu'il eût perdu connaissance, le chargèrent avec sa femme et ses enfants dans des automobiles et remplirent de Mexico jusqu'à la frontière américaine sans s'arrêter. Là ils le rendirent à un officier d'immigration qui apposa sans justification sur leur carte d'entrée un cachet portant mention « déporté du Mexique », alors que le gouvernement américain n'avait pas

encore déclaré la guerre à l'Union soviétique. Il avait tenté de fuir l'Amérique et d'aller se réfugier en Mexique.

Lord Bertrand Russell rappelle également qu'il ne fut jamais de leur complice, mais qu'il parvint à leur échapper à l'arrestation par un stratagème.

L'intervention des hommes de main

Comment s'est effectué cet enlèvement ? Au mois de juin 1950 la famille Sobell réalise un vieux projet : elle va passer ses vacances au Mexique. Quelques jours après, la guerre de Corée éclate. Sobell, qui appartient au parti communiste dans sa jeunesse, vit dans la crainte d'être convoqué par une commission d'enquête. Il préfère non sans raison que les événements de Corée vont favoriser le maccarthysme. C'est alors qu'il envisage de se pas rendre dans son pays en guerre. Victime de la panique qui terrorisait d'innombrables Américains plus ou moins « libéraux », il occulta les maladroites : les lettres qu'il envoie à ses parents sont signées de noms faussés et adressées à l'un de ses amis de New-York, qui doit les faire parvenir à leur destinataire. La police en conclut qu'il se cache, comme seul un espion peut le faire. Finalement, il a acheté des lunettes de soleil, pour mieux se dissimuler. D'après Greenglass, Sobell devait prendre contact à Mexico avec l'ambassade soviétique, qui devait lui fournir le moyen de fuir en Europe. Mais au mois d'août ce redoutable agent de l'étranger est encore à Mexico. Le repos des vacances a cependant calmé ses esprits. Il se prépare à rentrer aux États-Unis (un avertissement le billet d'avion aller et retour qu'il a pris avant de partir), et il se procure les certificats de vaccination exigés pour cela. La presse lui a cependant appris l'arrestation de Julius Rosenberg (17 juillet) et d'Ethel (11 août).

C'est alors qu'intervient le F. B. I., dans un épisode digne de la « Série noire ». Le 18 août 1950, à 20 heures, les Sobell prenant le café dans l'appartement qu'ils ont loué à Mexico. Soudain les lumières s'éteignent et des coups sont frappés à la porte. Trois hommes armés font irruption, réclament un certain Johnny Jones, accusé d'avoir volé 15 000 dollars dans une banque d'Acapulco. Sobell fournit ses pièces d'identité, demande d'appeler l'ambassade américaine pour vérification, mais on le frappe et l'entraîne, pendant qu'il conseille à sa femme de téléphoner à la police. Sa femme est à son tour prise à partie. On lui charge dans des valises, on les conduit dans un bâtiment, puis à 4 heures le lendemain matin de nouvelles voitures les emmènent jusqu'à la frontière. Ils aperçurent le F. B. I. mené par Sanders, monte dans deux leur voiture. La mention « déporté du Mexique » est apposée sur leurs cartes de transport. La police pourra ainsi « prouver » que Sobell, se sachant coupable, s'est enfui de la justice. Les autorités américaines étaient toutefois que Sobell ne s'est pas « déporté », mais enlevé, en violation des lois et règlements de leur pays.

Le procès Rosenberg-Sobell a été très médiatisé et a suscité beaucoup de débats sur la culpabilité des accusés. Les deux frères, accusés d'avoir livré des secrets atomiques à l'Union soviétique, ont été condamnés à la prison à perpétuité. Leur frère cadet, Albert, a été condamné à 30 ans de prison. Morton Sobell, leur frère aîné, a été condamné à 30 ans de prison.

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M. John Wexley s'est écrit, dans son livre *The Judgment of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg*, à une étude minutieuse du procès. Cet ouvrage a relevé très exactement toutes les failles de l'accusation, et sa valeur documentaire a été reconnue par un tribunal de Dayton (Ohio), qui, après en avoir pris connaissance, rendit un jugement en faveur d'un ingénieur qui était lui aussi accusé d'espionnage (2). On comprend que le professeur Harold Urey, dans une lettre au *Bulletin of Atomic Science* (janvier 1956), en recommande la lecture. Il se garde prudemment d'approuver : « tout ce que contient ce livre », car M. Wexley a voulu, avec raison, recréer le climat d'hystérie qui joua contre les accusés, et cela a pu l'entraîner parfois un peu loin. Mais l'ouvrage de donner lui-même un témoignage, qui révèle le détail de la machination policière avec la complicité du procureur et du juge. Cela devrait suffire à justifier une révision du procès, qui ne pourrait pas, en 1956, se dérouler comme en 1951. Une telle révision aboutirait, cela paraît hors de doute, à la réhabilitation des accusés. Si les Rosenberg sont morts, Morton Sobell est encore vivant. Son procès d'Espionnage, soumis aux juges du F. B. I. qui depuis plus de dix ans cherchent sans succès à lui arracher ce qu'il n'avait pu obtenir de son frère Julius Rosenberg.

DATE 8/5/86 BY 3042 PWS/DAJ

TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH

(Clipping taken from "Le Monde," April 13, 1956.)

Should not be diffamated
CO-DEFENDANT WITH THE ROSENBERGS

WAS MORTON SOBELL GUILTY?

By CLAUDE JULIEN

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A co-defendant of ETHEL and JULIUS ROSENBERG, who were executed on June 30, 1953, at Sing Sing for "atomic espionage," MORTON SOBELL is serving thirty years imprisonment in Alcatraz. He maintained his innocence all during his trial, whereas DAVID GREENGLASS, who had made complete confessions, was sentenced to only fifteen years imprisonment. It will be remembered that the whole prosecution rested on evidence given by DAVID GREENGLASS, who, in order to escape the highest penalty, took part in an agreement with the FBI (Secret Police) and sent his sister ETHEL and his brother-in-law JULIUS ROSENBERG to the electric chair. The trial took place in March, 1951. At that time we brought out the numerous errors made by the prosecution and described the hysterical atmosphere that surrounded the accused, who were held responsible for the Korean War and for the victims of a possible third world conflict.

At that time all attention was on the ROSENBERG couple, who waited to be executed for more than two years after they were found guilty, while they were being promised their lives if they would only confess. Three Supreme Court Justices, DOUGLAS, BLACK and FRANKFURTER, expressed their doubts on the validity of the verdict, but to no avail. The whole world of eminent personalities requested mercy for the ROSENBERGS. There was very little talk of their co-defendant MORTON SOBELL, against whom weighed charges that were just as fragile. However, he did not risk death. Was he just as guilty? In a letter to the Manchester Guardian,

Translated By
D. Prato/A: jen
April 20, 1956

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ENCLOSURE

Lord BERTRAND RUSSELL maintains that he would not have been condemned "if the trial had not taken place in an atmosphere of hostility." 1) If the ROSENBERGs died, SOBELL is quite alive, and still in prison for twenty-five years. His case deserves to be examined.

Kidnapped by the FBI

In his letter to the Manchester Guardian, published on March 20, 1950, Lord RUSSELL furnishes the following resume of the MORTON SOBELL case:

"He had a friend named SLITCHER, who had been his best man. SLITCHER had declared under oath that he had never been a communist. The FBI discovered that he had committed perjury in making this statement and let him know that he would avoid punishment if he would name other individuals as accomplices in treasonable activities. SLITCHER decided to save his own skin by naming his best friend, SOBELL. While negotiations to this effect were going on with the FBI, SOBELL, accompanied by his wife and his two small children, went to Mexico. SOBELL considered the possibility of not returning to the United States, but he rejected it. His decision to return came to the knowledge of the FBI, who had decided to present him as a fugitive from justice. To enable them to show him to be one, however, the FBI recruited strong-arm men to beat him until he lost consciousness, put him with his wife and children into some cars and drove from Mexico to the United States border without arresting him. There he was handed over to an immigration officer, who, without justification, put on their entry card a seal bearing the notation 'deported from Mexico,' when the Mexican Government had not been informed about this kidnapping and had indicated no intention of deporting the SOBELL family."

2) See *La Prensa*, April 7, 1950.

Lord BERTRAND RUSSELL recalls that ELITCHER was not charged with giving false testimony, although his perjury was recognized, and "every word that he said against SOBELL was accepted" by the court.

The International of Strong-Arm Men

How was this kidnapping carried out? In June, 1950, the SOBELL family hurried out on all plans they want to spend their vacation in Mexico. A few days later, the Korean war broke out. SOBELL, who belonged to the Communist Party as a young man, lived in the fear of being called before an investigating committee. Not without reason, he foresaw that events in Korea would foster McCarthyism. It was then that he decided not to return to his country, which was at war. Victim of the panic that held numerous Americans, who were "liberals" to varying degrees, in terror, he did one foolish thing after another: letters that he sent to his parents were signed with fictitious names and addressed to one of his friends in New York, who was to see to it that they reached their destination. The police concluded that he was hiding, as only a spy could... First then this, he bought sun glasses... to conceal his identity better. According to GREENGLASS, SOBELL was to establish contact in Mexico with the Soviet Embassy, which was to furnish him with the means of escaping to Europe. But in August this fearsome foreign agent was still in Mexico. Nevertheless, the vacation rest calmed his mind. He prepared to return to the United States (using the round-trip air travel ticket that he had bought for his departure) and he obtained the vaccination certificates required for this purpose. However, the press brought him the news of the arrest of JULIAN ROSENBERG (July 17) and ETHEL (August 11).

This is when the FBI stepped in, in an episode worthy of the "Black Series (?)". At eight P. M. on August 14, 1950, the SOBELLs were having coffee in the apartment they had rented in Mexico. All of a sudden the lights went out and there was knocking at the door. Three armed men burst in asking for a certain JOHNNY JONES, charged with having stolen \$11,000 from a bank in Los Angeles. SOBELL brought out his

identification papers and asked that the United States Ambassador be contacted for purposes of verification, but he was beaten and dragged away, while telling his wife to call the police. His wife was then taken to task. They were loaded into cars, taken to a building, then brought to the border in different cars at four A. M. An FBI Agent named MAX GREENGLASS then got into their car. The notation "deported from Mexico" was applied to their tourist cards. In this way the police could "prove" that SOBELL considered himself guilty and was trying to escape justice. However, Mexican authorities say that SOBELL was not "deported," but kidnapped, in violation of the laws and regulations of their country.

Kidnapped on August 16 and kept in custody from then on, SOBELL was arraigned two months later, on October 16. It must therefore be admitted that prior to that date there was no charge that could be placed against him and nothing to make it possible for an extradition to be requested from the Mexican authorities. But the police knew just how to take advantage of this delay in forging "proof."

The SOBERBERGS could not have been found guilty without testimony by GREENGLASS. SOBELL could not have been found guilty without evidence given by ELITCHER. "If you do not believe testimony given by MAX ELITCHER," Judge KAUFMAN said to the jury, "you must acquit SOBELL." But this evidence contained as many contradictions as that given by GREENGLASS. For the two men are in the same case: GREENGLASS stole; ELITCHER committed perjury. Their fate was in the hands of the FBI, who promised to give them special consideration if they promised to be witnesses for the Government. Both were (practically?) swayed. They became docile instruments and repeated what the police suggested. Nevertheless, the matter was complicated enough for them to commit errors. According to the prosecution, SOBELL accepted an offer to work for SOBERBERG on June 15, 1944, and ELITCHER did the same on the 5th. Now, the latter said that he only agreed to enter the "net" because SOBELL was already in it. Time and time again ELITCHER's statements contradicted the others. After all, SOBELL was found guilty on the strength of this single evidence.

That is more, Judge KAUFMAN admitted that he had no proof that SOBELL participated in atomic espionage activities, and yet this was the only thing that could account for a sentence of thirty years in prison.

Professor SPIG'S Opinion

It does not seem possible for the ROSENBERG-SOBELL trial to take place in the present political climate in America. But in March, 1951, Mr. McCARHY was still at the height of his glory, and his associate, ROY COEN, who is hardly heard of any more, was employing his youthful talents as an inquisitor at the side of the prosecutor, SAYPOL, to get penalties against the ROSENBERGS and SOBELL.

In his book entitled The Judgment of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, Mr. JOHN WILLEY went into a detailed study of the trial. This work was very exact and brought out all the mistakes of the prosecution, and its documentary value was recognized by a court in Dayton (Ohio), which after reading the book dismissed a charge against an engineer who had also been charged with espionage. He understands that in a letter to the Bulletin of Atomic Scientists (January 1956) Professor HAROLD UREY recommends that the book be read. He prudently refrains from approving "everything in this book," for Mr. WILLEY rightly wanted to recreate the climate of hysteria which operated to the disadvantage of the defendants, and this perhaps took him too far. But the trial analysis itself is beyond reproach. It reveals details of the machinations of the police together with the complicity of the prosecutor and the judge. This should be enough to justify a review of the trial, which in 1953 could not turn out as it did in 1951. There seems to be no doubt that such a review would lead to the rehabilitation of the defendants. Even though the ROSENBERGS are dead, ETHEL SOBELL, in prison at Alcatraz, is still subject to the pressures of the FBI, which for more than five years has unmercifully done everything possible to extract from him the confessions that were not obtained from JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG.

See La Monda, July 22, 1955.

Tickler - Boardman
Belmont
Lee

The Attorney General (original & 1)

May 4, 1956

Director, FBI

JULIUS ROSENBERG
ESPIONAGE - R

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EXED - 91

There is attached herewith a Photostat of an article which appeared in "Le Monde," French daily newspaper for April 13, 1956, along with a Photostat of a translation of this article. "Le Monde" is described as a "neutralist" newspaper which means it claims to be neutral in the struggle between the East and the West. This article is captioned "Codefendant With the Rosenbergs, Was Morton Sobell Guilty?" and was written by Claude Julien. You will note the article quotes from the letter written by Bertrand Russell to the "Manchester Guardian" and printed in that newspaper on March 26, 1956, in which letter Russell attacked the judicial system of the United States. Our files fail to reflect any information which can be identified with Julien.

This is furnished to you for your information.

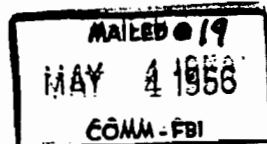
65-58236

Enclosures - 2

cc - 1 - Mr. William P. Rogers (Enclosures - 2)
Deputy Attorney General

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General (Enclosures - 2)
William P. Tompkins

cc - 1 - 101-2483 (Morton Sobell)



Tolson _____
Boardman _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

JPL;stw
(9)

MAY 21 1956

RECEIVED READING ROOM
MAY 4 12 08 PM '56
FBI

101-2483-2

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (65-58236)

DATE: May 15, 1956

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (65-3437)

SUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, was.

ESPIONAGE - R -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/86 BY 3042 PUL/1/83

ReBulet to Chicago dated 4/10/56.

On May 4, 1956, Mrs. MALCOLM SHARP, 5638 South Kenwood, Chicago, Illinois, was telephonically contacted and she advised that the article her husband was writing concerning the Rosenberg Case would be published some time in June, 1956, by the "Monthly Review." (This information was freely given and it was unnecessary for the contacting Agent to identify himself).

Mrs. SHARP was unable to advise if the writing would appear as an article in the periodical "Monthly Review" or as a separate publication printed by that firm.

A bulletin published by the Public Affairs Information Service reflects that the "Monthly Review" is a periodical published monthly at 66 Barron Street, New York, New York. The bulletin describes the "Monthly Review" as an "Independent Socialist Magazine."

Chicago will attempt to obtain a copy of the publication in which the article by SHARP appears and will furnish same to the Bureau.

P.

2 - Bureau (REGISTERED)
1 - New York (65-15348) (Info) (REGISTERED)
1 - Chicago
RVW:sjc
(4)

RECORDED - 41
INDEXED - 41

65-58236-2254

MAY 17 1956

EX-109

71 MAY 28 1956

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE San Francisco	OFFICE OF ORIGIN New York	DATE MAY 24 1956	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 5/3,4,7-11,14-16/56
TITLE OF CASE CHANGED: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE IN THE ROSENBERG CASE, was, National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees		REPORT MADE BY NORMAN P. LE CLAIR	TYPED BY 18
		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C; INTERNAL SECURITY ACT, 1950	

SYNOPSIS:

Julius Rosenberg ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ *WAB/DLS 10/6/75*

Formation of Sobell Committees "workshops" in the Bay Area set out. The offices of the Committee now located at 141 Valencia St., San Francisco, Calif. SYLVIA STEINGART, identified as having CP affiliations, continues as Executive Secretary. Activities set forth.

- P* -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

DETAILS:

The title of this case is marked changed to reflect the additional titles by which the captioned organization and its local committees are also known.

DECLASSIFIED BY *14913*
ON *3-20-78*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ *WAB/DLS 10/6/75*

APPROVED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
COPIES MADE: 6 Bureau (100-387835)(1,65-58236)(Reg.) <i>Encls 865-58236-</i> 1 DIO; 12th ND (By Hand) 1 G-2; Sixth Army (RO #1)(Reg.) 1 OSI, Travis AFB (Reg.) 2 New York (100-10711)(1,65-15384)(Reg.) <i>Encls. 4</i> 2 San Francisco (100-35117)		NOT RECORDED 195 JUN 1 1956	

66 JUN 7 1956

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF *declass*
DATE *RP/m 3-22-75*

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-387835-1403

NPL/1g
SF 100-35117

San Francisco T-1, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on March 27, 1956, furnished the November, 1955, issue of the "Sobell Newsletter," official publication of the Sobell Committee in San Francisco. There appears on the front page an article informing of the formation of the "Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees" which Committee would now co-ordinate the work of seven committees operating in a 40 mile radius around San Francisco.

San Francisco T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on April 24, 1956, furnished the April, 1956 issue of the "Sobell Newsletter." This newsletter advises that the National Committee to Secure Justice for MORTON SOBELL is in need of money, and that the Bay Area Council had pledged \$1500.00.

I. ORIGIN AND SCOPE

San Francisco T-3, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on April 28, 1952, advised that the San Francisco Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case was organized at a meeting held April 27, 1952 in San Francisco.

San Francisco T-4, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on October 31, 1955, that at a meeting of the San Francisco Sobell Committee, held October 17, 1955 at 930 Scott Street, San Francisco, a Bay Area Sobell Council was planned with officers to plan policy, activities, and disseminate information in conjunction with National Headquarters.

T-1 on March 27, 1956, furnished the November, 1955, issue of the "Sobell Newsletter." There appears on the front page an article which sets forth information to the effect that the "Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees" would now co-ordinate the work of seven committees in a 40 mile radius around San Francisco. The article continued "Six of the seven local committees grew out of workshops held during recent months in Berkeley, East Oakland, Hayward, Palo Alto, Marin County and Petaluma. The new Bay Area Council will plan overall activities and organize campaigns and establish policy for the area."

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SF 100-35117

II. ADDRESS

In the "Daily Peoples World" (DPW) issue dated April 4, 1956, Page 7, Column 2, is set forth an article advising that the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees has new headquarters at 1417 Valencia Street, San Francisco.

The DPW is a West Coast Communist newspaper.

III. OFFICERS

San Francisco T-4, advised on May 13, 1956, that SYLVIA STEINGART continues as the Executive Secretary of the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees.

San Francisco T-5, who has furnished reliable information in the past, reported in May, 1950, that SYLVIA STEINGART was the Organizational Secretary for the New Jewish Cultural Branch of the San Francisco County Communist Party (SFCCP).

The Communist Party has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

IV. ACTIVITIES

San Francisco Sobell Committee

San Francisco T-6, who has furnished reliable information in the past on April 5, 1956, advised that on April 4, 1956, the "Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees" sponsored a reception for Mrs. HELEN SOBELL, wife of MORTON SOBELL, and a housewarming party at 1417 Valencia Street, San Francisco. HELEN SOBELL told those present that in approximately one month an appeal for a new trial would be made for MORTON SOBELL.

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T-1 furnished on March 27, 1956, a leaflet inviting the recipient to a "housewarming" and reception for HELEN SOBELL at 1417 Valencia Street, San Francisco, on April 4, 1956. T-1 also furnished two tickets to the affair.

In the DPW issue dated March 23, 1956, Page 6, there appeared an article which advised of a combined reception for Mrs. HELEN SOBELL and housewarming party for the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees at 1417 Valencia Street, San Francisco.

In the DPW issue dated April 4, 1956, Page 7, Column 2, there appears an article entitled "Reception, housewarming for Mrs. SOBELL." The article states this affair will be held on April 4, 1956, at 1417 Valencia Street, San Francisco. The article also states that a campaign will be initiated at the party to send 1,000 birthday greetings to MORTON SOBELL on the third anniversary, April 11, 1956, of his confinement in Alcatraz.

T-4 advised on February 6, 1956, that at a meeting of the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees held January 23, 1956 at 930 Scott Street, San Francisco, those present were advised that \$55,000 was needed by the New York Office. The quota for the San Francisco Committee was \$5,000.

In the "Press Democrat" a Santa Rosa, Calif. daily newspaper, issue dated November 25, 1955, there appeared an advertisement entitled "A WIFE'S THANKSGIVING PLEA!" The advertisement stated that this was for MORTON SOBELL, who is imprisoned in Alcatraz on a 30-year sentence. It contains a plea purporting to be from SOBELL's wife to have SOBELL transferred from Alcatraz. The advertisement urged the reader to write Senator THOMAS C. HENNING, Chairman, Constitutional Rights Subcommittee, to urge his committee to investigate SOBELL's case; to write Mr. JAMES V. BENNETT, Bureau of Prisons, urging SOBELL's transfer from Alcatraz. At the bottom of the advertisement is set forth that this advertisement was paid for by the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees.

San Francisco T-7, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on November 10, 1955, furnished a two-page leaflet entitled "A WIFE'S THANKSGIVING PLEA." This leaflet was a plea for the reversal

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of SOBELL's conviction and a request to have him transferred from Alcatraz to another prison.

In the "National Guardian" issue dated October 17, 1955, there appeared an advertisement entitled, "Calling All Franciscans." The advertisement relates that the San Francisco Sobell Committee was planning a rummage sale for October 20, 21 and 22, 1955 at 1257 Webster Street, San Francisco.

The 1949 Report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities cites the "National Guardian" as a publication launched in New York in 1948, aiming at national circulation, which they found to be from its inception notoriously Stalinist in its staff, writers, management, and content.

The East Bay Committee for Morton Sobell

San Francisco T-8 and San Francisco T-9, who have furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 14, 1956, that to their knowledge there is no permanent Sobell Committee or offices for such committee in the East Bay.

T-6 on February 8, 1956, furnished a leaflet advising that the East Bay Committee for Morton Sobell would present JOHN WEXLEY, Author of the book, "The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg," on January 28, 1956, at 360 63rd Street, Oakland, Calif.

San Francisco T-10, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised April 24, 1951, that JOHN WEXLEY was a member of the Communist Party in Hollywood sometime during the period 1938 to 1945.

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SF 100-35117

T-6 advised on February 8, 1956, that on January 28, 1956, JOHN WEXLEY advised those present at the meeting at 360 63rd Street, Oakland, Calif., that the ROSENBERGs were not guilty and had been murdered by the capitalists.

T-6 on December 7, 1955, furnished a handwritten note, signed "FREDA" which invited the recipient to meet Mrs. HELEN SOBELL on December 1, 1955 at 4351 Fleming Avenue, Oakland, Calif. T-6 stated that "FREDA" was FREDA HANSEN.

T-9 advised on November 7, 1955, that on October 29, 1955, FREDA HANSEN was present at a 15th Assembly District CP Club meeting at HANSEN's residence, 9114 B Street, Oakland, Calif.

T-8 advised on December 5, 1955, that on December 1, 1955, Mrs. MORTON SOBELL addressed a Sobell Committee fund raising affair at 4351 Fleming Avenue, Oakland, Calif. Mrs. SOBELL advised those present that she was touring the country to give people a better understanding of her husband's position, who was now in Alcatraz. She urged those present to write articles to labor papers, commercial press papers and church papers, stating her husband was framed on spy charges. MARGE RUBENSTEIN was the Chairman of the affair.

T-9 advised on January 4, 1956, that on December 31, 1955, MARGE RUBENSTEIN attended a New Year's Eve party at 9114 B Street, Oakland, Calif. The host advised the informant that the party was for "Comrades" only.

T-9 advised on December 5, 1955, that on December 1, 1955, the Sobell Committee sponsored a "fund raising" affair at 4351 Fleming Avenue, Oakland, Calif. Mrs. SOBELL talked about her appearances throughout the country and made a plea for money. She urged those present to write to Mr. JAMES BENNETT requesting her husband's transfer from Alcatraz.

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T-6 advised on December 7, 1955, that on December 1, 1955, she attended a fund raising affair sponsored by the Sobell Committee at 4351 Fleming Avenue, Oakland, Calif. Mrs. SOBELL, wife of MORTON SOBELL, advised those present that approximately \$6,000 was needed to finance a new trial for her husband. Mrs. SOBELL stated that whispers which were going around that she was running around with other men had been instigated by the same group who had prosecuted her husband. Approximately \$40.00 was collected and a motion was made and seconded that each person present pledge to raise \$10.00 in the future to be given to HELEN SOBELL.

T-6 furnished on November 9, 1955, a leaflet announcing "A new satire ala Gilbert and Sullivan by Coyley Art Co., song singing, Mexican supper sponsored by the East Oakland and Hayward Sobell Committee."

T-6 advised November 9, 1955, that on November 5, 1955, he attended the above meeting. The informant stated that at the meeting a play was presented in which an elderly worker is arrested, given no chance to talk, and is thrown in jail without a fair trial. The newspapers then cleared the attorney and the judge of any wrong doing.

T-8 advised on November 7, 1955, that on November 5, 1955, the East Oakland and Hayward Sobell Committee held a meeting at 216 Tunis Road, Oakland, Calif. T-8 advised a play was put on ridiculing the FBI, the Attorney General, and portrayed the FBI informants as stoolpigeons and liars. MARGE RUBENSTEIN was hostess of the affair. T-9 advised on November 7, 1955, that on November 5, 1955, the East Oakland and Hayward Sobell Committee sponsored a party at 216 Tunis Road, Oakland, Calif., A satire was presented ridiculing the FBI, the Attorney General, and portrayed the FBI informants as stoolpigeons and liars.

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The Peninsula Sobell Committee

In the "Daily Palo Alto Times," a Palo Alto, Calif. daily newspaper, issue dated March 29, 1956, Page 6, Column 5, there appeared a letter to the editor entitled "Appeal made for Sobell." The letter refers to an Associated Press article on conditions in Alcatraz which appeared in the March 17 issue of the Palo Alto Times and comments that after reading the article one should realize that SOBELL does not belong on Alcatraz. The letter ends with an appeal to the readers to write to Attorney General BROWNELL to support MORTON SOBELL's appeal for a new trial. The letter is signed:

"Peninsula Committee for Morton Sobell
Box 283, Station A
Palo Alto
BETSY K. FISHER
Secretary"

San Francisco T-11, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on March 20, 1956, that on February 27, 1956, BETSY FISHER had been chairman of a Palo Alto Peace Club (PAPC) meeting.

The PAPC has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

San Francisco T-12, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 5, 1956, that the Peninsula Sobell Committee is not a permanent organization. T-12 stated that the organization comes into existence from time to time with headquarters at 835 La Jennifer Way, Palo Alto, Calif. The informant is of the opinion that the San Francisco Committee calls or writes BETSY FISHER whenever they desire a fund raising meeting or a place for a speaker in the Peninsula area.

NPL/ig
SF 100-35117

San Francisco T-13, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on January 21, 1956, furnished a leaflet which bore the crossed out heading "BAY AREA COUNCIL OF SOBELL COMMITTEES." The heading "MEET JOHN WEXLEY!!" had been substituted. Also written on the leaflet was a invitation for the recipient to attend a meeting January 29, 1956, at 8 PM. The leaflet advised that the meeting would be held in Room D, Community Center, Palo Alto, Calif. The return envelope had the name appearing on it crossed off and in its place was inserted in longhand, "Peninsula Sobell Committee, 835 La Jemifer, Palo Alto, Calif."

T-12 on January 22, 1956, furnished a press release announcing a meeting to be held by the Peninsula Sobell Committee on January 29, 1956, in Room D, Palo Alto Community Center, Palo Alto, California.

Sobell Committee, San Jose

San Francisco T-14, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on April 4, 1956, that on March 30, 1956, there was a meeting at 315 South 12th Street, San Jose, California. T-14 advised that at the meeting SYLVIA STEINGART stated the purpose of the meeting was to set up a Sobell Committee in the Santa Clara County, south of Palo Alto. It was agreed to set up a committee immediately. T-14 stated that Mrs. SOBELL and her son, MARK, were brought to the meeting by STEINGART. Informant advised that letters appealing for funds are to be sent out by the new committee and an appeal is to be made to get prominent persons, not connected with left wing movements, to sign letters of appeal.

Marin Committee for Rosenberg-Sobell

T-4 advised on March 23, 1956, that BETTY ENQUIST is currently the sole Committee member in the Marin Section of the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees, having replaced HELEN MORRIS.

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SF 100-35117

T-4 advised in January, 1956, that BETTY ENQUIST had been recruited into the Sausalito Club, Marin County CP, in January, 1956.

T-4 advised on March 1, 1956, that on February 25, 1956, HELEN MORRIS attended a California Labor School (CLS) benefit party at 616 Main Street, Sausalito, Calif.

The CLS has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-4 advised on March 1, 1956, that on February 11, 1956, HELEN MORRIS attended a California Emergency Defense Committee (CEDC) benefit dinner at 31 Crescent Avenue, Sausalito, Calif.

The CEDC has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-4 advised on March 1, 1956, that on February 14, 1956, a meeting of the Marin Committee for Rosenberg-Sobell was held at 701 Humboldt, Sausalito, Calif. It was planned at this meeting to get the "wheels" in Marin to read JOHN WEXLEY's book.

T-4 advised on January 12, 1956, that the Marin Committee for Rosenberg-Sobell had received a donation of \$20.00, \$10.00 of which had been sent to the San Francisco Committee.

T-4 advised on November 22, 1955 that at a meeting of the Marin Committee for Sobell held October 27, 1955, at 528 Silverado Drive, Tiburon, Calif., plans were made to contact important Marin County leaders on Sobell work. HELEN MORRIS at this time assumed chairmanship of the group.

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SF 100-35117

Sobell Committee, Sonoma County

San Francisco T-15, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on March 5, 1956, that the Sobell Committee in Sonoma County was controlled and dominated by members of the CP in Sonoma County. T-15 identified members of the Committee as CHARLES CHERNEY, ANNA CHERNEY, RAE GWYNN, JACK RUDINOW, MATTIE RUDINOW and KATE SCHERER.

San Francisco T-16, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on March 19, 1956, that on March 14, 1956, CHARLES CHERNEY and ANNA CHERNEY attended a CIS class sponsored by the CP Committee of Sonoma County at 5186 Gravenstein Highway, Sebastopol, Calif.

T-15 advised on February 18, 1956, that RAE GWYNN was a member of the Santa Rosa CP Club.

T-15 advised on February 18, 1956, that JACK and MATTIE RUDINOW are paying dues to the Santa Rosa CP Club but were not attending meetings.

T-15 advised on February 18, 1956, that KATE SCHERER was a member of the Sebastopol CP Club.

T-16 advised on December 6, 1955, that at the meeting of the Civil Rights Congress (CRC), Sonoma County, held November 17, 1955, at 9675 Lau Lane, Cotati, Calif., CHARLES CHERNEY was introduced as Chairman of the Sobell Committee in Sonoma County.

The CRC has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

NPL/ig
SF 100-35117

San Francisco T-17, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on November 22, 1955, that at a meeting of the CRC held on November 17, 1955, Mr. and Mrs. CHARLES CHERNEY advised those present that they wanted to put an open letter by Mrs. MORTON SOBELL in the Santa Rosa "Press Democrat." The CHERNEYS also stated they were attempting to get the book, "The Judgment of JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG" accepted in the Santa Rosa Public Library.

JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG, along with MORTON SOBELL were convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union, on March 29, 1951. On April 5, 1951, JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG were sentenced in the U. S. District Court, Southern District of New York, to be executed, and MORTON SOBELL was sentenced to thirty years in prison. On June 19, 1953 JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG were executed at Sing Sing Prison, Ossining, New York. MORTON SOBELL is currently serving his prison sentence at the United States Penitentiary, Alcatraz, San Francisco, California.

V. FINANCES

San Francisco T-6, on April 5, 1956, advised that at a reception held for HELEN SOBELL April 4, 1956, approximately \$200 was collected.

San Francisco T-2 furnished April 24, 1956, the April, 1956, Sobell Newsletter issued by the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees, which states that at a combined housewarming and reception for Mrs. MORTON SOBELL, \$241 had been contributed by those in attendance. The pamphlet also relates that the Bay Area Council and its affiliated committees had pledged to send \$1500 within the next few weeks to the National Committee.

San Francisco T-4 advised January 12, 1956, that on December 5, 1955, the Sonoma County Sobell Committee had sent \$10 to the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees.

San Francisco T-4 advised November 22, 1955, that at a meeting held at 930 Scott Street, San Francisco, October 31, 1955, it was announced that \$300 had been realized from a rummage sale.

VI. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM OTHER FRONT GROUPS

San Francisco T-6 advised December 7, 1955, that on December 4, 1955, at a meeting of Branch 153, American Lithuanian Workers Literary Association (ALWLA), 630 Hamilton Street, San Francisco, it was voted to send \$15 to the Sobell Committee.

The ALWLA has been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

SF T-6 advised December 7, 1955, that at a meeting of Branch 198, ALWLA, held December 3, 1955, at 16132 Carolyn Street, San Leandro, California, it was voted to donate \$10 to HELEN SOBELL to fulfill the pledge made by one of the members at a meeting of the East Oakland and Hayward Sobell Committee December 1, 1955.

VII. PUBLICATIONS

San Francisco T-18, who has furnished reliable information in the past, on December 6, 1955, furnished a two-page mimeographed leaflet which contained an open letter from Mrs. MORTON SOBELL. The letter urged the recipient to help in the fight to transfer Mrs. SOBELL's husband from Alcatraz. The letter had been put out by the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees.

SF 100-35117
NPL:clw

SF T-18 furnished, on December 6, 1955, the November issue of the Sobell Newsletter, issued by the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees. The Newsletter advises of the formation of the new Bay Area Council and advises of the success of a rummage sale held by the Bay Area Council in October, 1955. It contains an article entitled, "New Freedom Drive at Thanksgiving". This article advises that Thanksgiving will mark three years since MORTON SOBELL was transferred to "Alcatraz, America's Devil's Island". The article states that his (SOBELL's) persecutors pictured their act as appropriate punishment for one whom they labeled a betrayer of the Thanksgiving Day traditions. The article continues that, however, it is becoming apparent that theirs was the real betrayal and that their "espionage conspiracy" stories were a sham. The article relates that Alcatraz is being used as a torture chamber to wring a false confession from MORTON SOBELL.

San Francisco T-2 furnished on April 24, 1956, the April, 1956, issue of the "Sobell Newsletter". This pamphlet advises that: "A movement is also getting under way among many prominent people for an appeal to the President for a pardon or a commutation of sentence to time served.

"The Bay Area Committees are now beginning a campaign to get leading West Coast people to join this appeal."

San Francisco T-19, who has furnished reliable information in the past, furnished on May 2, 1956, a pamphlet entitled "TRIAL BY HEADLINE ON EVE OF TRIAL BY COURT". The pamphlet advises that a motion for a new trial for SOBELL is shortly being entered into courts. The pamphlet asks the question, "Is it a coincidence that on the eve of this momentous action the Internal Security Subcommittee is making press headlines with the rehashed testimony of Harry Gold and David Greenglass, key prosecution witnesses in the Rosenberg-Sobell trial in 1951?"

The pamphlet continues:

"It is our belief that these hearings are timed to prejudice Morton Sobell's forthcoming legal appeal. Investigations have uncovered many new facts but all lead to a single conclusion - that the prosecution knowingly used perjured testimony in convicting Morton Sobell.

"Correcting an injustice through legal processes often can be slow and painstaking. Fortunately the President is empowered by law to act swiftly to correct an injustice. By granting a pardon or commuting Morton Sobell's sentence to the six years already served, the President can prevent perpetuating the injustice while the courts deliberate."

The pamphlet urges the reader to:

- "1. Write to U.S. Attorney General Herbert Brownell, Justice Dept., Washington, D.C., asking him to consent to Morton Sobell's motion for a new trial. (Send copies of your letter to the press.)
- "2. Write to Pres. Eisenhower, asking him to take Executive Action in the case of Morton Sobell by granting a pardon or commuting the sentence to the 6 years already served.
- "3. Contribute as generously as you can toward Morton Sobell's legal appeals and to make possible the distribution of the facts in his case to the public. Send contributions to the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees, 1417 Valencia Street, San Francisco 10. "

Although there is no committee listed, T-19 also furnished the envelope in which this pamphlet was received. The return address was "1417 Valencia Street, San Francisco 10, California", which, according to the April, 1956, issue of the "Sobell Newsletter", is the address of the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees.

VIII. SUBVERSIVE RAMIFICATIONS

San Francisco T-12 furnished on January 22, 1956, a leaflet announcing a "Meet the Author" meeting featuring JOHN WEXLEY, January 29, 1956, sponsored by the Peninsula Sobell Committee. T-12 stated that this leaflet was run off on the Communist Party mimeograph machine.

San Francisco T-20, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised February 24, 1956, that on February 22, 1956, SYLVIA STEINGART was in Stockton, California, attempting to contact organizations there to have them sponsor Mrs. HELEN SOBELL in March of 1956 in Stockton. T-20 advised STEINGART contacted the Communist Party in Stockton and that the Communist Party had agreed to mail literature concerning the Sobell case for STEINGART.

SF 100-35117
NPL:clw

WAAD/DJB
10/6/75
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU - Two (2) of the below-listed items:

TO NEW YORK - One (1) of the below-listed items:

Pamphlet entitled "TRIAL BY HEADLINE ON
EVE OF TRIAL BY COURT."

April, 1956, issue of Sobell Newsletter.

November, 1955, issue of Sobell Newsletter
with an enclosure of an open letter
entitled "A WIFE'S THANKSGIVING PLEA".

P*

WAAD/DJB
10/6/75
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SF 100-35117
NPL:clw

ADMINISTRATIVE

IDENTITY OF SOURCE	DATE OF ACTIVITY &/OR DESCRIPTION OF INFORMATION	DATE REC'D	AGENT TO WHOM FURNISHED	FILE WHERE LOCATED
SF T-1 is [REDACTED]	November, 1955, issue "Sobell Newsletter"	3/27/56	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	b2 b7D Leaflet recep- tion for HELEN SOBELL	3/27/56 b7D	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] b2 b7D
SF T-2 is [REDACTED]	b7C b7D April, 1956, issue "Sobell Newsletter"	4/24/56	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SF T-3 is [REDACTED]	Thumbnail San Francisco Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case.			
SF T-4 is [REDACTED]	SF Sobell Committee meeting 10/17/55	10/31/55	[REDACTED] (Oral)	100-35117- 1135
	STEINGART officer of Bay Area Coun- cil of Sobell Committees	5/13/56	[REDACTED]	100-35117 b7D
	Sobell Committee meeting 1/23/56	2/6/56	[REDACTED]	100-35117- 1167
	Officers Sobell Committee, Marin Thumbnail Betty Enquist Thumbnail Helen Morris	3/23/56	[REDACTED]	100-35117- 1182
	Meeting Sobell Committee 2/14/56	3/1/56	[REDACTED]	100-35117- 1173

ADMINISTRATIVE

SF 100-35117
NPL:clw

ADMINISTRATIVE

SF T-4 (Cont'd)	Donation of \$20; \$10 sent 1/12/56 to MASS SFSC	[REDACTED]	100-35117
	Meeting Marin Committee for Sobell & money realized from rummage sale.	11/22/55 [REDACTED]	b7D 100-35117- 1137

SF T-5 is Thumbnail SYLVIA STEINGART.
[REDACTED] b2 b7D

SF T-6 is [REDACTED]	Reception for HELEN SOBELL & finances	4/5/56	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Leaflet to hear JOHN WEXLEY	2/8/56	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	JOHN WEXLEY meeting	2/8/56	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Handwritten invita- tion from FRED A HANSEN	12/7/55	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] b2 b7D
	Sobell Committee fund- raising affair 12/1/55	12/7/55	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Leaflet "A New Satire Ala Gilbert & Sullivan"	11/9/55	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Sobell meeting 11/5/55	11/9/55	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Donation to Sobell Committee by ADWLA Branch 153	12/7/55	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
	Donation to Sobell Committee by ADWLA Branch 198	12/7/55	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE

SF 100-35117
NPL:clw

ADMINISTRATIVE

SF T-7 is Leaflet "A Wife's Thanksgiving Plea" 11/10/55

b2
b7D SF T-8 is Negative information 5/14/56

Sobell Committee fund-raising affair 12/5/55

Sobell Party 11/5/55 11/7/55

b2
b7D SF T-9 is Negative Information 5/14/56

m Thumbnail Freda Hansen Sobell Committee fund-raising affair 12/5/55

Sobell Party 11/5/55 11/7/55

Thumbnail Marge Rubenstein

SF T-10 is Thumbnail JOHN WEXLEY

b2
b7D SF T-11 is Thumbnail BETSY FISHER

SF T-12 is Peninsula Sobell Committee not a permanent organization 4/5/56

Sobell press release run off CP mimeograph machine 1/22/56

100-35117-1188

b7D 100-130A-206A(17)

ADMINISTRATIVE

SF 100-35117
NPL:clw

ADMINISTRATIVE

SF T-13 is Leaflet "Meet 1/21/56 [REDACTED] b7D [REDACTED] b2 b7D
[REDACTED] b7C b7D

SF T-14 is Formation Sobell 4/4/56 [REDACTED] b7D [REDACTED] b2 b7D
[REDACTED] b2 b7D Committee, San Jose

SF T-15 is Domination Sobell 3/5/56 [REDACTED] b7D 100-35117-
[REDACTED] b2 b7D Committee in Sonoma (ORAL) 1175
County by CP

Thumbnail RAE GWYNN

Thumbnail JACK RUDINOW

Thumbnail MATTIE RUDINOW

Thumbnail KATE SCHERER

SF T-16 is Thumbnail CHARLES CHERNEY
[REDACTED] b2 b7D Thumbnail ANNA CHERNEY

CRC meeting & 12/6/55 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
donation to Sobell Committee

SF T-17 is CRC meeting 11/22/55 [REDACTED] b7D [REDACTED] b2 b7D
[REDACTED] b2 b7D

SF T-18 is 2 Page mimeographed 12/6/55 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] b7C b7D letter from Mrs. SOBELL

ADMINISTRATIVE

SF 100-35117
NPL:clw

ADMINISTRATIVE

SF T-18 (Cont'd)	November, 1955, issue "Sobell Newsletter"	12/6/55	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SF T-19 is [REDACTED]	Pamphlet "Trial By Headline...." b7c b7D	5/2/56 b7D	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
SF T-20 is [REDACTED]	STEINGART's trip to Stockton b2, b7D	2/24/56	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

b2
b7D

Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and "T" symbols were utilized in this report only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.

LEADS

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA:

Will continue to follow and report the activities of the Bay Area Council of Sobell Committees.

REFERENCES

Report SA Norman P. LeClair at San Francisco 11/22/55.

ADMINISTRATIVE

The Attorney General (Orig. & 1)

May 21, 1956

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/96 BY 3042PWS/AB

**JULIAN ROSENBERG, with aliases
ESPIONAGE - R**

Reference is made to our letter dated April 2, 1956, which furnished information concerning a letter of March 26, 1956, written by Bertrand Russell, British philosopher, to the "Manchester Guardian," British newspaper, which attacked the United States judicial system. In our letter it was pointed out that Rose Sobell, mother of Morton Sobell, convicted espionage agent, arrived in England on February 28, 1956, and the possibility existed that she had contacted Russell and encouraged him to write the letter to the newspaper.

There is attached a photostat of an article which appeared in the "Daily Worker" for May 10, 1956, reporting an interview of Rose Sobell on her return to the United States. It is noted in this interview she stated she had contacted Russell and after her visit he wrote a letter to the "Manchester Guardian."

This is furnished to you for your information.

65-58236

Enclosure

cc - 1 - Mr. William F. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General

cc - 2 - Assistant Attorney General
William F. Tompkins

cc - 101-2483 (Sobell)

cc - 100-387835 (National Committee to Secure Justice in
the Rosenberg Case)

Tolson _____
Nichols _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mason _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Nease _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

ENCLOSURE

MAILED 2 10

MAY 21 1956

COMM - FBI

RECORDED - 51
INDEXED - 51

MAY 23 1956

EX-109

101-2483-
100-387835

COPY FILED IN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/5/96 BY 3042 PWS/AB

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Declassify on OADR

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Gandy _____

Mother Sobell Tells How Europe Heard H

By VIRGINIA GARDNER

A rather short, stocky grandmother in a tailored navy suit and polka dot blouse stepped off the gangplank of the Queen Mary in the late afternoon sunlight Tuesday, looked about with a tremulous smile, and said quietly, "It's good to be home."

It was even better when she was shown afternoon paper headlines that her son, Morton Sobell, and his counsel had petitioned for freedom from Alcatraz and a 30-year sentence, or a new trial.

This plainly dressed woman with the careworn face, from which her blue eyes still gazed serenely for all her grief, told this

reporter of the surprise created on her tourist deck an hour or so earlier when she was summoned to the topmost deck to meet ship news reporters, TV and still cameramen who boarded the Queen Mary.

And now Rose Sobell, resting on a bench during a 90-minute wait for her luggage after she left the boat, told of her "great experience" in three months away from American shores. She had had audiences with members of Parliament, famous scholars and artists and leading religious figures. Everywhere she found people understanding, friendly.

Each time she left a town or city in England, Italy or France, "it was like leaving life-long friends, and we cried on each other's shoulders at parting, and

they said, 'Next time, you come with your son Morton.'

"But, as I wrote Morty, I'd rather stay home," she said. "Next time, he must go with his wife (Helen), I told him, and I'll go out to Bronx Park with Mark (her grandson and their son) and sit in the sun."

She gazed at the passing throng of passengers, the sunlight glinting on her white hair. "You know," she said, "whenever I spoke, I told them I loved my country, that it was a beautiful country, that it wasn't everyone here who'd wanted the Rosenbergs killed. And afterward, people would come up to me, and say 'I'm so glad you told me that about your country.'"

She spent more than an hour visiting Bertrand Russell, had met with nine Labor Party members of the British Parliament. She visited Picasso, spoke from the platform with M. Coutet, "one of the three outstanding lawyers in France, a devout Catholic," and had an audience with a Jesuit priest at Oxford, England. She had not seen the Pope, but had been granted an interview with Monsignor Pisani at the Vatican, "an aged, kindly, very religious man" who "assured me the Pope and he would pray for my son's freedom."

Rose Sobell will address a mass meeting next Tuesday in Carnegie Hall, sponsored by the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell.

Rose Sobell

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COPIES DESTROYED

APR 19 1960

H-10-10-11

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On the way to France from Italy she had received two telegrams that her husband, Louis Sobell, was critically ill. When she reached Paris she herself was too ill to board a plane for home.

That night, the cable announcing her husband's death came. "I felt so alone," she said. I took four sleeping tablets and went to bed, thinking, Morty is just as alone, and he can't speak to anyone about it either.

But next morning, the girls from the (Sobell) committee in Paris arrived early, they were lovely, and persuaded me I could do more good there than by coming home. I was still too ill for

Wash. Post and Times Herald _____
Wash. News _____
Wash. Star _____
N. Y. Herald Tribune _____
N. Y. Mirror _____
N. Y. Daily News _____
Daily Worker _____
The Worker _____
New Leader _____

Date MAY 10 1956

ENCLOSURE

165-58236-2255

Tolson _____
 Nichols _____
 Boardman _____
 Belmont _____
 Mason _____
 Mohr _____
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 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
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 Gandy _____

Only at the end of the long wait for her luggage and customs inspections was Mrs. Sobell able to greet Mrs. Helen Sobell, Morton's wife, and Sobell committee members, grouped beyond customs railings.

Mother and daughter-in-law kissed and embraced, smiles alternating with tears on the pink cheeks of the older woman, who nevertheless spoke not of her loss, but asked about Mark, and with Helen was jubilant about the news of the petition for a new trial.

First in the lounge near her tourist cabin and then during the wait for her luggage, Rose Sobell spoke to this reporter of her experiences abroad.

It was only after her visit with Lord Russell, she revealed, that he wrote his letter to the Manchester Guardian urging Morton Sobell's freedom and declaring his belief in the innocence of Sobell and the Rosenbergs.

"He was very warm," she said. "At that time he hadn't read the Wexley book ('The Judgment of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg' by John Wexley). He didn't know very much about Morton. We talked a little about the case. Then I told him Morton was also a mathematician and a scientist. He was very moved."

"I told him a little about Mexico—the way Morty and Helen and the children were kidnapped, and he was raging mad at the FBI when he heard about it."

"I spent about an hour there, and left him the Wexley book."

Rose Sobell visited Manchester, Chichester and Oxford as well as London.

The meeting with the nine Labor Party MP's was arranged by Sidney Silverman, she said.

She visited Picasso "right in his workshop," in his Cannes villa, with his "nice young wife translating into English."

"His eyes shine like two diamonds," she said. "He's a small man, 75, they say, though he looks no more than 60. It was like he was my brother, whom I hadn't seen in years. I fell in love with him," she confessed.

"He fussed about me. What do you want, Rose, coffee or tea? I had coffee—that thick Italian coffee, but it was good. And, what chair did I want to sit in? Wouldn't I sit in a better chair?"

"He had just finished a picture and had let it be known he was very tired and wouldn't see anyone for a month. But he gave me a special visit."

"I can't say what it was about him which gave me the feeling I had. Just the simple way he had. He kissed my hands—and I kissed his. When I left, he took me out to the car, helped me in, made me feel wonderful."

The Italian people, the French people, the English—all were "tremendous people," Rose Sobell loved them all. "It's called the Old World, but it's a new world," she said. "Everyone has suffered. There were no barriers between us and them."

Wash. Post and _____
 Times Herald _____
 Wash. News _____
 Wash. Star _____
 N. Y. Herald _____
 Tribune _____
 N. Y. Mirror _____
 N. Y. Daily News _____
 Daily Worker _____
 The Worker _____
 New Leader _____

Date _____

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. BELMONT *ABW 5-25-56*

DATE: May 18, 1956

FROM : W. A. BRANIGAN *WAB*SUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, with aliases
ESPIONAGE - RALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9/6/86 BY 3042PWS/AB

Tolson	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
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Gandy	_____

Miss G. D. Gelpi in the office of Deputy Attorney General Rogers called this morning. She said Mr. Rogers would like a copy of the letter from the Attorney General to the Secretary of State which we had prepared on the Bertrand Russell matter. This pertains to the 4/20/56 letter concerning the attack by Bertrand Russell on the judicial system of the United States and the desirability of combating this on a world-wide basis. Mr. Rogers signed the letter as Acting Attorney General and it was mailed the same day. Subsequent contact with Mr. J. F. Junghans in Mr. Rogers' office disclosed they had attempted to locate the Department's yellow copy but it had not yet reached the Records Administration Branch. A copy of the letter was furnished to Mr. Junghans at 1:20 p. m.

ACTION:

None. This is for record purposes.

SBD:hmm

(4)

cc: Nichols
Belmont
Branigan

RECORDED - 50

65-58236-2256
MAY 22 1956

EX - 134

UNRECORDED
FILED IN 100-148352-
hm

58 MAY 29 1956

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. BOARDMAN

DATE: May 25, 1956

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

Tic: Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Nichols
Mr. LeeSUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, was, et al
ESPIONAGE - RALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/6/96 BY 3042AUX/103

Tolson	
Nichols	
Boardman	
Belmont	
Mohr	
Parsons	
Rosen	
Tamm	
Nease	
Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Holloman	
Gandy	

On 5-24-56 Clive Palmer of Department telephonically contacted Mr. McGuire with reference to the letter to Secretary of State dated 4-20-56 prepared by the Bureau for the Attorney General's signature. This letter transmitted to Secretary of State a Photostat of letter written by Bertrand Russell, British philosopher, to "Manchester Guardian" criticizing US judicial system for Rosenberg-Sobell case and stated it would be highly desirable for Voice of America to take affirmative steps to combat this statement of Russell on a world wide basis. The last sentence of the letter said FBI will be glad to go over this matter with State Department representative to prepare factual data to refute the Russell allegations.

Mr. Palmer stated a representative of U.S. Information Agency (USIA) had been in to see him and will return on Monday, May 28 and he would like to have a Bureau representative present on May 28. He also requested the supervisor who handled the letter to State Department, to telephonically contact him today. Supervisor James P. Lee of Espionage Section telephonically contacted Mr. Palmer on 5-24-56 at 4:20 p.m. and Palmer advised this matter was referred from State Department to USIA and he had been contacted by a woman representative of USIA 5-24-56. This woman did not know if it was too late to do something with reference to this letter and planned to wire USIA representative in American Embassy, London, 5-24-56, for his views. She also raised question of liaison between USIA and Department in future whereby USIA could obtain information on an expedite basis to counteract this type of matter if it should occur again. Mr. Palmer arranged a conference on Monday with some representative of USIA, Mr. Yeagley of Department, a representative of Internal Security Division of Department, and Supervisor Lee, to discuss the above problems.

ACTION:

INDEXED - 58

RECORDED - 58

23 JUN 1956

If you agree, Supervisor J. P. Lee of Espionage Section will attend the conference in Mr. Palmer's office on Monday, May 28, but will restrict himself to our previous offer to prepare factual data to refute the Russell allegations. He will point out the Bureau furnished this in plenty of time for action to be taken and any liaison between State and Justice Departments for more prompt action in future is a matter for those two agencies to handle.

65-58236

(5) JPL:sm:dmd

59 JUN 14 1956

Hennrich
advised it now - over a month

He told me that he is too late to do anything now - over a month

from a report & any positive action should have been taken promptly.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. Boardman

DATE: May 28, 1956

FROM : A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG, was
ET AL
ESPIONAGE - RALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/6/86 BY 3042 PWS/AB/ST

Tolson	_____
Nichols	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mason	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Nease	_____
Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

On 5-28-56 Supervisor J. P. Lee attended a conference in the office of Mr. E. Robert Seaver of the Department. The purpose of this conference was to determine if an answer should be made by the U. S. Information Agency (USIA) to the letter written to the "Manchester Guardian" by Bertrand Russell, British philosopher, attacking U. S. judicial system and to discuss establishing a liaison between the Department and USIA whereby USIA could obtain information on an expedite basis to counteract future propaganda. Also in attendance at this conference were Mr. J. M. Gerrity, Office of the Deputy Director, Policy and Programs, USIA, Mrs. Hemingway, European Branch, International Press Service, USIA, and Messrs. John Reilly, Walter Yeagley, Clive Palmer, and Mr. Seaver of the Department.

Supervisor Lee stated the Director's position was that it was too late to do anything with reference to the Russell letter, as over one month had elapsed since the Attorney General's letter had been sent to the Secretary of State and any positive action should have been taken promptly. Mr. Gerrity and Mrs. Hemingway agreed and stated a cable had been sent to the representative of USIA, London, asking his opinion whether any action should be taken at this time and upon receipt of his answer the Department would be advised. Mr. Seaver stated he felt it was too late, but he would await the reply from the USIA representative in London.

At 11:55 A.M. Mr. Seaver telephonically advised Supervisor Lee that Mrs. Hemingway telephonically advised him that USIA representative in London felt a letter to the "Manchester Guardian" from a high-ranking U. S. jurist would be helpful in counteracting the Russell letter. Mr. Seaver requested to be advised of the Bureau's opinion in this matter.

65-58236

Enclosure

Ticklers: Boardman
Belmont
Nichols
Lee

JPL/eh
(5)

INDEXED - 58

RECORDED - 58

65-58236-2259

23 JUN 8 1956

ESP. SEC.

Letter 54
J.P. Lee
J.P. Lee
J.P. Lee

Memorandum for L. V. Boardman

During the conference, Mrs. Hemingway remarked of the wonderful cooperation she had received from the Identification Division in the form of information furnished to USIA on fingerprint matters. She also stated she felt recent newspaper publicity given to the Director's statements relating to civil rights schools for police officers was excellent and she intended to consult with her superior about preparing a story on these schools for foreign consumption.

Discussion was held between the USIA representatives and Mr. Seaver concerning the best way to notify the Department when USIA wants information in the future. No comment was asked from Supervisor Lee since the discussion was between USIA and the Department.

ACTION:

(1) If you agree, Mr. Seaver will be telephonically contacted and advised that this matter has been in the hands of the Department for over one month and any action taken should be its decision and not the Bureau's decision.

*done
10/21/56
J.P.L. - 9/11/56*

*yes.
J.P.L.*

(2) Following this, a letter will be directed to Mr. Rogers confirming the information furnished to Mr. Seaver telephonically, as well as the expression of the Bureau's position made at the above-mentioned conference.

*20 - 2 -
yes.
J.P.L.
L.V.B.*

ticklers

F
I
L
Lee

(original and one)
Mr. William P. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General

May 31, 1956

Director, FBI

65-58236-2259

RECORDED - 58 ET AL
JULIUS ROSENBERG, with aliases
ESPIONAGE - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/6/86 BY 3042PWS/AB

On May 28, 1956, Mr. J. P. Lee of this Bureau attended a conference in the office of Mr. E. Robert Seaver with representatives of the U. S. Information Agency and Messrs. John Reilly, Walter Yeagley, and Clive Palmer of the Department to discuss the possibility of action being taken at this time by the U. S. Information Agency to counteract the false allegations made by Bertrand Russell in his letter published in the "Manchester Guardian" on March 26, 1956. The representatives of the U. S. Information Agency, Mr. J. M. Gerrity and Mrs. Elizabeth Hemingway, stated a cable had been sent to the representative of the U. S. Information Agency in London, England, asking his opinion whether any action should be taken at this time to counteract the Russell letter. At the time of the conference, no answer had been received from the U. S. Information Agency representative in London. Mr. Lee expressed the Bureau's position that it was too late to do anything due to the lapse of time since the Attorney General's letter had been sent to the Secretary of State over one month ago and any positive action should have been taken promptly.

At 11:55 A.M. on May 28, 1956, Mr. Seaver telephonically advised Mr. Lee that Mrs. Hemingway contacted him and stated the U. S. Information Agency representative in London felt a letter from a high-ranking United States jurist to the "Manchester Guardian" would help in counteracting the Russell letter. Mr. Seaver asked for the Bureau's view on this request.

Mr. Seaver was orally advised at 9:45 A.M. on May 31, 1956, that the matter has been in the hands of the Department of Justice for over one month and any action taken is a matter for decision in the Department.

This is to confirm the above information, which was furnished to Mr. Seaver orally.

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Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mason _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Nease _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

65-58236

59 JUN 14 1956

(7)

RECEIVED READING ROOM

JUN 31 6 58 PM '56

Boardman
Belmont
Lec

The Attorney General (orig and 1)

June 8, 1956

Director, FBI

WILLIAM ROSENBERG, with aliases, et al
ESPIONAGE - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3/6/86 BY 3042PWL

In my letter to you of April 2, 1956, it was pointed out that Mrs. Jean Sobell, mother of Morton Sobell, was sent to Europe by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case to organize fund-raising committees in aid of the campaign to free Sobell.

Enclosed herewith are photostats of two articles which appeared in "L'Humanite," French communist daily newspaper, for May 2, 1956, and the English translations of the articles. You will note these newspaper articles deal with the appearance of Mrs. Sobell at a press conference in France on May 2, 1956. This is furnished to you for your information.

65-58236

Enclosures (4)

cc - 1 - Mr. William F. Rogers (Enclosures - 4)
Deputy Attorney General

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General (Enclosures - 4)
William F. Tompkins

RECORDED - 2

cc - 101-3452 (Sobell)

cc - 100-387835

National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case

18 JUN 23 1956

RECEIVED - 100-387835
JUN 8 5 30 PM '56

RECEIVED - DIVISION

59 JUN 11 1956

100-387835-101-3452

RECEIVED READING ROOM
JUN 15 5 9 PM '56

ASST. DIR.

CHIEF

WAB

SECRET

cc

The Attorney General

(only, & A)

June 13 1956

Director, FBI

JULIUS ROSENBERG, with aliases, et al
ESPIONAGE - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-24-86 BY 3042 jmt-DIC

In your memorandum of April 5, 1956, you noted the recent propaganda attack by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case and the attack by Bertrand Russell appear to be part of a suspected communist attempt to destroy public confidence in our judicial system. You also pointed out this propaganda is presumably used abroad to discredit the United States.

In connection with the above statements, the following information has been obtained from an informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past and who is acquainted with high-level European communists:

Two of these European communists advised our informant that they favor sending written material concerning the case of Morton Sobell to Latin America. Sobell was convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage along with Julius and Ethel Rosenberg in 1951 and was sentenced to thirty years in prison. These two European communists also indicated Sobell's case was receiving some response in South America and it will "take the heat off" the Stalin frame-up. They stated written material should be sent to "Diario El Siglo," Cathedral 1347, Santiago, Chile, and to Juan Marino, Calle Carlos Valde, 1260, Buenos Aires, Argentina. "Diario El Siglo" is a Chilean communist newspaper.

MAILED 17
JUN 13 1956
COMM-FBI

EX-109

RECORDED - 19

1 - Legat, Mexico City (Info) SEE NOTE PAGE 1
1 - Legat, Rio de Janeiro (Info) SEE NOTE PAGE 1
1 - Legat, Havana (Info) SEE NOTE PAGE 2
101-2483 (Sobell)
100-387835 (National Committee to Secure Justice)
Foreign Liaison Unit
JUN 14 1956

65-58236-2261

~~SECRET~~ WAS/DLB
10/1/45

Letter to the Attorney General

In view of the extremely delicate nature of this informant, it is requested that the above information be handled on a need-to-know basis.

cc - 1 - Mr. William P. Rogers
Deputy Attorney General

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General
William F. Tompkins

[REDACTED]

b7D

7786
7790
7791

- 2 -

~~SECRET~~

WAS/DLB
10/1/45

SECRET

WAB/DG
10/1/56

65-58236

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/24/16 BY 3042 JET/DK

BY COURIER SERVICE

1876

Date: June 13, 1956

To: Director (orig. & 1)
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: JULIUS ROSENBERG, with aliases, et al
ESPIONAGE - R

BY COURIER SMO
86 JUN 14
COMM - FBI

On March 26, 1956, the "Manchester Guardian," a British newspaper, carried a letter written by Bertrand Russell, British philosopher. Russell stated he was almost certain the Rosenbergs were innocent and that Sobell was innocent. Russell also attacked the judicial system of the United States Government. This letter has been given world-wide publicity and appears to be part of a campaign of the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case to discredit the United States.

In connection with the above statements, the following information has been obtained from an informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past and who is acquainted with high-level European communists:

Two of these European communists advised our informant that they favor sending written material concerning the case of Morton Sobell to Latin America. Sobell was convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage along with Julius and Ethel Rosenberg in 1951 and was sentenced to thirty years in prison.

- Tolson
- Nichols
- Boardman
- Belmont
- Mr. Mason
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Parsons
- Rosen
- Tamm
- Nease
- Winterrowd
- Room
- Holloman
- Gandy

53 JUN 21 1956

101-2483 (Sobell)
100-387835 (National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case)

EX-109

JPL:jdb
(7)

SEE NOTE PAGE 2.

RECEIVED READING ROOM

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN
101-2483-1
100-387835-1

WAB
JUN 13 1956
101-2483-1
100-387835-1

~~SECRET~~ WAB/PLS
10/6/75
Letter to Director
Central Intelligence Agency

18762

These two European communists also indicated Sobell's case was receiving some response in South America and it will "take the heat off" the Stalin frame-ups. They stated written material should be sent to "Diario El Siglo," Cathedral 1347, Santiago, Chile, and to Juan Marino, Calle Carlos Calvo, 1260, Buenos Aires, Argentina. "Diario El Siglo" is a Chilean communist newspaper. b7D

In view of the extremely delicate nature of this informant, it is requested the above information be handled on a need-to-know basis in your Agency and that it not be disseminated outside your Agency.

[REDACTED] b7D

~~SECRET~~ WAB/PLS
10/6/75