

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Morton Sobell

the Grand Jury for the Southern District of New York, New York City handed down an indictment charging that Morton Sobell, Julius Rosenberg, Anatoli A. Yakovlev and David Greenglass had violated Section 34, Title 50, United States Code, in that they had conspired to commit espionage for the benefit of a foreign nation, to wit, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. His trial began on March 6, 1951, and a verdict of guilty was returned on March 29, 1951. On April 5, 1951, he was sentenced to a term of thirty years imprisonment. He is currently serving this sentence at the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FBI

Date: 8/24/64

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via **AIRTEL****AIR MAIL**

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)
FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (65-1311) -RUC-
RE: MORTON SOBELL, aka;
ESPIONAGE-R
Ee **(OO-New York)**

Re report of PHILIP H. SHERIDAN, dated 7/31/64 at New York.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES A. MITCHELL:

AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI:

On August 21, 1964, file pertaining to SOBELL was reviewed. This file reflects a letter, dated August 12, 1964, from JOSEPH W. SHORE, Parole Executive, Washington, D.C., to the Warden of the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners at Springfield, Missouri. A letter reflects that the Parole Board has concluded its annual reconsideration review regarding SOBELL, and has ordered no change be made in his previous order denying parole.

The file reflects that SOBELL is on a diet and is adhering to it. He is doing well in the X-ray Department, where he is employed, and received some meritorious good time on

- ③ - Bureau (RM) 1- Run 647 PPS
- 2 - Los Angeles (65-5082) (RM)
- 2 - New York (100-37158) (RM)
- 1 - Kansas City

JAM:ENV
(8)

EX-103

REC-66

101-2483-1539

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/28/87 BY 3046 AWT/wh

AUG 26 1964

58 SEP 3 1964

C. C. WICK

SOVIET SECTION

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

6
KC 65-1311

January 1, 1964. He is considered a valuable employee in the X-ray Department. The file reflects that during the past year, there has been no organized pressure upon the institution in his behalf, although Mrs. SOBELL continues very active, traveling, addressing meetings, etc.

SOBELL continues active contact with a couple of attorneys still associated with his case, one of whom, MARSHALL PERLIN, has visited him at the Medical Center. His wife has also visited him several times, and his mother has made an occasional visit. He continues an active correspondent with members of his immediate family. SOBELL has made no complaint about his physical condition, and adheres to a well-planned diet. He simply avoids certain foods and is doing very well. Because of this fact, the institution hesitates to recommend a transfer.

No further information of pertinence is contained in the file that has not already been reported.

The Kansas City Division will be advised of any change in subject's status, or if he is transferred to another institution.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (101-2483)

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (65-1311) (RUC)

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL, aka
ESPIONAGE - R
(OO - NY)

DATE: 12/1/64

ReKCAirtel 8/24/64.

B. APPROX. 1949

For information of Bureau and New York, Mrs. MORTON SOBELL and her son, MARK, visited SOBELL in the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri, during the Thanksgiving holidays. Enclosed is clipping from Springfield Daily News, Springfield, Missouri, 11/30/64, concerning interview by Daily News staff writer GEORGE WHITTINGTON with Mrs. SOBELL.

2-Bureau (Enc. ~~ENCLOSURE~~)
2-New York (Enc. 2)
2-Kansas City
JAM:B
(6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/28/87 BY 3042 PWT/et

REC-114

101-2483-1540

3 DEC 2 1964



183
66 DEC 11 1964

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

SOVIET SECTION

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Petitions May Go to President**Mrs. Sobell Hopeful
Husband To Be Freed**By **GEORGE WHITTINGTON**
Daily News Staff Writer

If the efforts of a group of people in New York, Springfield and other places across the country bear fruit, President Lyndon B. Johnson soon may receive petitions from hundreds of them to release the "forgotten man" of the Rosenberg "spy" case — Morton Sobell.

Sobell's wife, here to visit him at the U.S. Medical Center — where he has been held for more than a year — said the group working in her husband's behalf "feel that with the overwhelming support President Johnson received" in the election, he will feel more inclined to grant Sobell freedom.

She said the group already is making an effort to bring petitions before the President.

Here over the weekend, Mrs. Sobell talked freely of the Rosenberg-Sobell case — a case which remains a controversy after nearly 15 years. In fact, a committee working toward Sobell's freedom, headed by his wife and his mother, both of

New York City, distributes a pamphlet reviewing the case, along with copies of a petition on the back of which is a long list of names of prominent persons they say are backing the effort.

On the list are such names as Reinhold Niebuhr of Cambridge; U.S. Sen. Lee Metcalf of Montana; Dr. Martin Luther King; Rabbi Morris Adler of Detroit; former U.S. Sen. William Langer; former Gov. Culbert L. Olson of California (now deceased) and many others.

Another list, on the back of the pamphlet and said to be

See **SOBELL**, Page 4

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 4/28/89

101-2483-1540

ENCLOSURE

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

Springfield Daily-
News

Springfield, Mo.

Date: 11/30/64

Edition: Morning

Author: Geo. Whittington

Editor: C. W. JOHNSON

Title: Mrs. Sobell Hope-
ful Husband to Be
Freed

Character:

or

Classification: 65-1311

Submitting Office: KC

Among those who have urged Sobell's release on many grounds," contains such names as those of Pablo Casals, Niebuhr, noted religious authority: Dr. Linus Pauling of California, Norman Thomas and many others.

Sobell was tried with Ethel and Julius Rosenberg in 1950, but when they received the death penalty — which they fought to the bitter end — he received 30 years. The charges were conspiracy to commit treason — and Sobell's backers have contended through the years that he knew the Rosenbergs only casually, that he was convicted on testimony that he carried on conversations with Julius Rosenberg, and that he once delivered a 35 mm film canister to Rosenberg, although the contents were not identified.

Major witnesses in the case were David Greenglass, brother of Mrs. Rosenberg, who later got 15 years in the case, and Max Elitcher, main witness against Sobell, who later allegedly confessed to having committed perjury.

Intense and immensely interesting, Mrs. Sobell, whose 15-year-old son, Mark, came with her to Springfield, leaves no doubt in her conversation that she personally is convinced of her husband's innocence.

"Morton's case was one on which it was not easy for people to speak out at the time," she said. "It was during the era of McCarthyism and the Korean War." But, she pointed out, the late Appellate Judge Jerome N. Frank of New York dissented from a majority opinion to hold that Sobell's case should have been separated from that of the Rosenbergs.

"Morton is a completely innocent man who never should have been put in prison," Mrs. Sobell said with conviction. "For 15 years, the injustice of his conviction has deprived our country of a talented scientist." Sobell was a radar specialist with the Reeves Instrument Co., and an evening instructor at the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute when he was arrested. Rosenberg had been an engineer, then owned his own machine shop, and had known Sobell at City College of New York.

Any prosecutor in the case has been, later, to become known to the late Sen. Joseph

According to these facts, many of them brought out in the pamphlet which is being distributed, Mrs. Sobell said that after 15 years, with many of the publicity factors removed, people are "looking at the issues and giving their support" of her efforts.

She said some of these are in Springfield — where Sobell has been held for more than a year after being transferred from the Federal Prison at Atlanta — but said she did not feel free to identify them.

She said that Sobell was first sent to Alcatraz, but that public pressure built up to the point that prison authorities were virtually forced to transfer him from "The Rock."

He wasn't, she said many persons pointed out, actually convicted of treason, but of conspiracy to commit treason. Neither, she said, was he ever linked directly to the atomic bomb, as many persons thought.

Of the effort to free her husband, Mrs. Sobell said "Right now, some of the people greatly concerned with our organization are trying to make a date with President Johnson, to petition him for Morton's freedom."

"We hope and pray that after these long 15 years, Morton will come home to his family. His mother, who is almost blind, needs him; this 15-year-old son has never known his father, and I, who love my husband very much, want him home so that we can live normal lives."

"We know that it would be a good thing for this country as well as for our family to release an innocent man from an unjust imprisonment."

She said her husband has "kept up with scientific advancement as much as possible through correspondence courses and through reading — he reads all the time he can." Also, she said, Sobell has not given up scientific research.

"Right now," she said, "he's working on a low-voltage, training simulator to be used in teaching x-ray technicians." She said this could be used to train the technicians in all aspects of x-ray, without exposing them to the danger of the rays.



—Daily News Staff Photo
Mrs. Morton Sobell and her son, Mark, 15, talk with Daily News reporter George Whittington during a weekend trip to Springfield to visit Mrs. Sobell's husband in the U. S. Medical Center here. Morton Sobell was convicted in 1950 of charges of conspiracy to commit treason, receiving a 30-year sentence. He was tried with Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, who each received the death penalty.

F B I

Date: 1/30/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____

AIRTEL

AIRMAIL

(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)

FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (65-1311) -RUC-

MORTON SOBELL, aka;
ESPIONAGE-R

OO: New York

Re Kansas City airtel to the Bureau, 8/24/64.

The following investigation was conducted by SA
JAMES A. MITCHELL:

AT SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI:

On 1/27/65, MELVIN LEMONS, Secretary to the Warden,
Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, advised SOBELL is being
transferred this date to the USP, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

LEADS

NEW YORK DIVISION:

At New York, New York:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/28/87 BY 3042 ewr/jt

Advise Philadelphia whether they desire any infor-
mation from USP other than follow SOBELL's progress at the
institution.

- 3 - Bureau (RM)
 - 2 - Los Angeles (65-5082) (RM)
 - 2 - New York (100-37158) (RM)
 - 2 - Philadelphia
 - 1 - Kansas City
- JAM:jfb
(10)

REC-109

FEB 3 1965

D. D. WICK

FEB 7 1965

SOVIET SECTION

Approved: 374

67 FEB 9 1965

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

KC 65-411

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION:

At Lewisburg, Pennsylvania:

Verify SOBELL's arrival at the U. S. Prison.

F B I

Date: 2/15/65

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)
 FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-37158)(P)
 SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
 ESP-R
 (OO:NY)

0.5 PH
 6-15-65
 JPL/2x

B

Re Kansas City airtel of 1/30/65, advising subject was being transferred to the U. S. Penitentiary, Lewisburg. Pa.

For Philadelphia's information, the Bureau has instructed in the past (Bulet to Kansas City dated 12/9/63) that it desires to have subject's medical file checked periodically to determine the extent of his illness and his progress in recovering from same. SOBELL's sympathizers have been attempting to use his alleged illness as a reason for accelerating his release from prison, and subject's wife has stated that keeping him in prison is a matter of life and death with him. In view thereof, the Bureau desires to have accurate information concerning SOBELL's physical condition and has instructed that his file be checked at 90-day intervals to determine the status of his treatment.

The NYO is presently preparing an annual report concerning subject.

LEADS

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION
At Lewisburg, Pa.

1. Will verify MORTON SOBELL's arrival at the U.S. Penitentiary.

3-Bureau (RM)
 2-Philadelphia (RM)
 1-New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 4/28/87 BY 3010AWT/16

REC-3/01-2483-1542

CWM:cp
 (8)

FEB 16 1965

EE - WICK

Approved: 56 FEB 23 1965
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

SECTION

NY 100-37158

2. UACB, will review his file at the U. S. Penitentiary at 90-day intervals for accurate information regarding his physical condition.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (101-2483) DATE: 3/2/65

FROM : *gpk* SAC, Philadelphia (65-4372) (P*)

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
ESP - R

OO: New York

ST
C

Re Kansas City airtel to Bureau dated 1/30/65.
New York airtel to Bureau dated 2/15/65.

For the information of the Bureau, MORTON SOBELL, USP Registry #31408-NE, was received on transfer at the U. S. Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pa., 1/30/65, and is presently incarcerated.

Enclosed herewith for the New York Division are nine copies of FD 302 reflecting interview with Doctor LLOYD C. GUTHRIE, Chief Medical Officer, U. S. Public Health Service, U. S. Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pa., 2/19/65, relating to SOBELL's health.

Lead

PHILADELPHIA:

AT U. S. PENITENTIARY, LEWISBURG, PA.

Will, within 90 days, recontact Dr. GUTHRIE and obtain information relating to SOBELL's physical condition and furnish New York, the Office of Origin.

- ② - Bureau (101-2483) (RM) 1- *Run 447RD*
- 2 - New York (100-37158) (Enc.-9) (RM)
- 2 - Philadelphia (65-4372)

GPG/djs
(6)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/28/87 BY 3042 PWT

EX-100

18 MAR 3 1965

SOVIET SECTION



114
56 MAR 8 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE NEW YORK	OFFICE OF ORIGIN NEW YORK	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 3/17/65	CONFIDENTIAL
TITLE OF CASE MORTON SOBELL aka		REPORT MADE BY CARLYLE W. MILLER	TYPED BY bab
		CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - R	

REFERENCE:

New York report of SA CARLYLE W. MILLER,
dated 1/15/64.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The Seattle Office is presently conducting additional investigation regarding WILBUR R. ENGELS in an effort to ascertain why ENGELS attempted to visit subject in prison and in order to develop further background information concerning ENGELS.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/28/87 BY 3042 AOT/IT

Classified by 2353
Exempt from GDS, Category X
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

APPROVED

COPIES MADE:

- 5-Bureau (101-2483) (RM)
1-Philadelphia (65-4372) (Info) (RM)
1-Seattle (65-3111) (Info) (RM)
1-New York (100-37158)

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

REC 5

MAR 19 1965

DISSEMINATION RECORD OF ATTACHED REPORT

AGENCY	RRO	MM 53 3 55 PM 22
REQUEST RECD.		
DATE FWD.	3/24/65	
BY WH.	R/S	
	1/4/66	

NOTATIONS

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD
ADVISED BY
SLIP(S) OF

DATE

5-22-78 REC

64 MAR 25 1965

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-37158

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source

NY T-1

File Where Located

LEADS:

PHILADELPHIA

AT LEWISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA (INFORMATION.) A copy of this report is being furnished Philadelphia for information purposes inasmuch as subject is presently incarcerated at the United States Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

SEATTLE

AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON (INFORMATION.) A copy of this report is being furnished Seattle for information purposes in view of the investigation presently being conducted by that division concerning WILBUR R. ENGELS.

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK. Will follow investigation being conducted by Seattle concerning WILBUR R. ENGELS and report any pertinent information resulting therefrom.

NY 100-37158

- ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
 2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
 3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
 4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
 5. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and _____ is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____.
 6. ☒ This report is classified CONFIDENTIAL because (state reason)
 it contains information furnished by _____ confidential informant of continuing value, the disclosure of which would tend to disclose the informant's identity and, thereby, adversely affect the national defense interests. b2
b7D
 7. ☐ Subject previously interviewed (dates) _____.
 8. ☐ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) _____.

8. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
9. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)
 subject is incarcerated at the U.S. Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pa., following his conviction on 3/29/51 in the USDC, SDNY, NYC, for conspiring to commit espionage on behalf of the Soviet Union. The Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell is actively engaged in efforts to have him released.
10. ☒ Subject's SI card ☐ is ☒ is not tabbed Detcom.
☒ Subject's activities ☐ do ☒ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

CONFIDENTIAL

Copy to:

Report of:

CARLYLE W. MILLER

Office:

New York, New York

Date:

3/17/65

Field Office File No.:

100-37158

Bureau File No.:

101-2483

Title:

MORTON SOBELL

Character:

ESPIONAGE - R

Synopsis:

Subject now incarcerated at the US Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pa, following his transfer from the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri. Current information regarding subject's health set forth. Subject's wife continues to participate in activities of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. Information set forth concerning WILBUR R. ENGELS, 1015 East Aloha Street, Seattle, Washington, who requested permission to visit subject during October, 1964, while the latter was incarcerated at the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Missouri.

-P-

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/28/87 BY SP4JAWT/14**

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND FIELD OFFICES

ADVISED BY SLIP(S)

OF **DECLASSIFICATION**DATE **5-22-78**

NY 100-37158

DETAILS:

I. PLACE OF INCARCERATION

On August 21, 1964, SA JAMES A. MITCHELL reviewed files of the Medical Center for Federal Prisoners (MCFP), Springfield, Missouri, pertaining to MORTON SOBELL. This file reflected a letter dated August 12, 1964, from JOSEPH N. SHORE, Parole Executive, Washington, D.C., to the Warden of the MCFP at Springfield, Missouri. The letter stated that the Parole Board had concluded its annual reconsideration review regarding SOBELL and had ordered no change in the previous order denying parole.

On January 27, 1965, Mr. MELVIN LEMONS, Secretary to the Warden, MCFP, Springfield, Missouri, advised SA MITCHELL that subject was being transferred to the United States Penitentiary (USP), Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

Dr. LLOYD C. GUTHRIE, Chief Medical Officer, United States Public Health Service, USP, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, advised SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN, on February 19, 1965, that MORTON SOBELL, USP Registry Number 31408-NE, was received at that institution for incarceration on January 30, 1965.

II. CONDITION OF HEALTH

On May 1, 1964, Mr. MELVIN LEMONS, previously identified, advised SA MITCHELL that subject remained confined to the hospital and there had been no change in his condition and no plans to transfer him to another institution. The file reflected that on February 18, 1964,

the subject requested to see a doctor about his dietary problems. Dr. P. J. CICCONE noted on the request that he talked to SOBELL at which time SOBELL made various complaints about his diet. Dr. CICCONE indicated that this complaint was being discussed with Mr. MANION, Food Administrator at the MCFP. Mr. LEMONS further advised that SOBELL had been working as an X-Ray technician since July 22, 1963, and had been receiving above-average work reports.

On August 21, 1964, SA MITCHELL reviewed files of the MCFP, Springfield, Missouri, which reflected that subject was doing well in the X-Ray Department where he was employed and received some meritorious good time on January 1, 1964. He was considered to be a valuable employee in the X-Ray Department and his file reflected that during the previous year there had been no organized pressure upon the institution in his behalf.

Dr. LLOYD C. GUTHRIE, previously identified, advised on February 19, 1965, that MORTON SOBELL had not been hospitalized since his arrival at the USP, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, on January 30, 1965. He stated subject's medical history reflected he has a mild case of psycho-physiological gastro-intestinal reaction caused by nervous tension and that he appears to be doing well at this time. Dr. GUTHRIE stated that the psychiatric evaluation of MORTON SOBELL is as follows:

"SOBELL is a very intelligent individual, with an obsessive compulsive personality. He is not in

b7c

III. COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE
FOR MORTON SOBELL (CSJMS)

The CSJMS is characterized in the Appendix Section of this report.

NY 100-37158

NY T-1 advised on various dates during 1964 that the subject's wife, HELEN SOBELL, continued to participate in the activities of the CSJMS and that she was a National Staff member of that organization.

The November 30, 1964, issue of the "Springfield Daily News", a Springfield, Missouri, daily newspaper, contained on page 1, an article entitled "Mrs. SOBELL Hopeful Husband To Be Freed". The article stated that Mrs. MORTON SOBELL and her son MARK, age 15, were spending the weekend in Springfield in order to visit the subject who was incarcerated at the MCFP. The article went on to state that the subject's wife and mother, both of New York City, headed a committee which was working toward subject's freedom. According to the article, Mrs. SOBELL claimed that her husband was innocent and that efforts were being made to bring petitions before President JOHNSON urging that MORTON SOBELL be released from prison.

IV. INFORMATION CONCERNING WILBUR R. ENGELS

On October 5, 1964, MELVIN LEMONS, Secretary to the Warden, MCFP, Springfield, Missouri, advised SA JAMES A. MITCHELL that they had received a letter from a man named W.R. ENGELS, Claridge Hotel, 1004 Locust Street, Kansas City, Missouri. In the letter, ENGELS informed the Medical Center that he would like to see SOBELL, if possible, commenting that he did not know him, but since he was in this vicinity, he would like to visit with him.

LEMONS stated that ENGELS was informed that this visit would not be approved.

NY 100-37158

On October 14, 1964, [REDACTED] b7c b7D

advised SA GEORGE A. ARNETT that WILBUR R. ENGELS, who gave his address as Unity Village (Lee's Summit, Missouri), Kansas City, Missouri, and his occupation as representative of Howard S. Wright Company, no location shown, was a guest at the hotel from September 16, until October 10, 1964.

On October 16, 1964, [REDACTED] contacted the Kansas City Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Office, and advised that she had subsequently discovered that ENGELS had left a forwarding address with the hotel, of 1015 East Aloha Street, Seattle, Washington, zip code number 98102. She also stated that subject had informed one of the hotel employees that he was staying at the hotel while his wife was taking a course of instructions at the Unity Village to become some sort of a minister with the Unity Church. b7c b7D

No information identifiable with WILBUR R. ENGELS or ENGLES was located in the files of the Kansas City Office, the New York Office, or the Seattle Office of this Bureau.

Mrs. Wilbur R. Engels b7c b7D born approx 1905 - Low

On November 9, 1964, Mrs. [REDACTED] Seattle Credit Bureau, furnished a record pertaining to one W.R. ENGLES, wife WINNIFRED, nee JOSEPHSON. They have been on file since 1943. In August, 1959, they resided at 1903 Queen Anne Avenue and she was listed as being with the Olympic Hotel laundry. In May, 1944, he was employed at Seattle-Tacoma Ship Yards and they resided at 6617 Schaeffer South. In May, 1945, he was with Todd Ship Yard and in March, 1954, as a laborer with the Austin Construction Company. In September, 1960, he was a laborer with General Construction Company. In August, 1957, she was with Troy Laundry and in October, 1963, was employed by WILLIAM G. SHEPARD as a practical nurse. b7c b7D

NY 100-37158

The ENGLES have resided at 18 different addresses since 1943. It was indicated they married on February 20, 1943, and his age was given as 35 and hers as 38, date not shown. A news article in the Seattle Times, December 2, 1960, indicated ENGLES had been arrested and found guilty of driving while under influence of liquor and was fined \$200.

No record was found in the files of the Seattle Police Department or the King County Sheriff's Office on November 27, 1964, other than that mentioned above.

On December 17, 1964, [REDACTED] Seattle, produced a card dated October, 1962, indicating WILBUR R. ENGLES was born February 23, 1910, at Seattle, was residing at 1015 East Aloha Street as of October, 1962, and his occupation was a laborer. A registration for his wife in 1948 gave her age as 43, indicating she was born in Iowa and was a practical nurse. *b7c b7D*

Wilbur R. Engels *W. R. Engels*
On February 23, 1965, [REDACTED] Office, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, advised that WILBUR R. ENGELS, born March 23, 1910 *or 2/23/10 at Seattle W.* Social Security Number 536-07-4274, was hired as a janitor in the Physical Plant of the University of Washington on December 9, 1964, and continued to be so employed. *Missouri*

During February, 1965, confidential informants who are familiar with certain activities of the Communist Party in Seattle, Washington, were contacted regarding WILBUR R. ENGELS and his wife, WINNIFRED, and they stated ENGELS and wife were unknown to them. *1015 East Aloha S*
Seattle, Washington
zip 98102

NY 100-37158

1.

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE TO SECURE
JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies ETHEL and JULIUS ROSENBERG in June, 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon MORTON SOBELL,' the ROSENBERGS' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case - a Communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg-Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October, 1953, and 'then as the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case'. . ."

("Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications" dated December 1, 1961, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 116.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell," first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The Address Telephone Directory for the Borough of Manhattan, New York City, as published by the New York Telephone Company on April 20, 1964, lists the "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" (CSJMS) as being located at 940 Broadway, New York, New York.

[Handwritten signature]



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York
March 17, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No.

BUfile 101-2483
NYfile 100-37158

Title Morton Sobell

Character Espionage - R

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent Carlyle W. Miller, dated and captioned as above, at New York.

All sources (except any listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/28/87 BY 3042 PWT/mf



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
New York, New York
March 5, 1965

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

NYfile 100-37158
Bufile 101-2483

W
SUBJECT: MORTON *P* SOBELL

REFERENCE: Memorandum dated 5/5/64.

Referenced communication contained subject's residence and/or employment address. A recent change has been determined and is being set forth below (change only specified):

Residence: United States Penitentiary
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

Employment:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/28/87 BY 3042 PWT/jd

101-2483-
NOT RECORDED

1 MAR 9 1965

*1 cc Bureau
3/11/65
2/7/65*
FD-122 DETACHED

~~CONTROL~~
SERIALIZED SECTION

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (Bufile- 101-2483)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-37158)

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL aka
ESP-R
(OO: NEW YORK)

DATE: 3/5/65

unavailable Section

Cards UTD
Cards Sent OO3/15/65
an

☐ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows (specify change only):

Name		
Aliases		
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Born	<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalized	<input type="checkbox"/> Alien
<input type="checkbox"/> Communist	<input type="checkbox"/> Socialist Workers Party	<input type="checkbox"/> Independent Socialist League
<input type="checkbox"/> Miscellaneous (specify) IMPRISONED		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (Include name of employing concern and address) ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 4/25/87 BY 3042PWT/lf		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number		Responsibility
Interested Agencies		101-2483
Residence Address United States Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania NOT RECORDED		

2 Bureau
1-New York
CWM:jac
REGISTERED MAIL
(3)

58 MAR 16 1965

MAR 9 1965

SUBV CONTROL
SOVIET SECTIONENCLOSURE DETACHED
AND HANDLED SEPARATELY

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. DeLoach

DATE: 3-24-65

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
TELEPHONE CALL FROM JUDGE IRVING KAUFMAN

BACKGROUND:

Yesterday afternoon, Inspector Wick of your office received a telephone call from Judge Kaufman expressing concern about efforts to free Morton Sobell who was convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage in 1951. It is noted that Sobell received a 30-year prison sentence at that time and in connection with the sentence, Judge Kaufman commented to the effect that Sobell should serve his entire sentence. Judge Kaufman's telephone call was prompted by an article in the 3-21-65 issue of "The New York Times," which contained a lengthy column concerning efforts to free Sobell. **ATTACHED**

According to "The New York Times" article, the most recent Government statement has been a Department of Justice reply to an appeal by Mrs. Sobell to Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson. Reed Cozart, pardon attorney, reportedly wrote that if Sobell filed a clemency petition "based on his belief that his sentence was excessive, based on his institutional adjustment, etc., we would be glad to give it consideration." Further, Cozart's letter dated 2-5-65 reportedly said "there would be no basis for acting favorably upon a petition predicated upon his plea of innocence primarily," and the Government was "bound by the legal adjudication of his guilt in this case."

INFORMATION IN BUREAU FILES:

A review of the main files of Morton Sobell, his wife and the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell reveals that there has, of course, been a continuing effort on the part of Mrs. Sobell and the Committee, as well as Sobell's sympathizers, to obtain clemency for Sobell based on his alleged "innocence." These files do not indicate any contact by the Department of Justice regarding an inquiry by Mrs. Lyndon Johnson concerning Sobell.

It is noted, however, that a highly confidential source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on 2-4-65 that a meeting of the Sobell Committee was held in New York City the previous day. It was learned at this meeting that Sobell had been transferred to the Federal Penitentiary at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, on 1-31-65

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Sullivan

ENCLOSURE
31 1965
ENCLOSURE

REC-17 2196-2483-1545
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/28/87 BY SP12 AUT/wh

M. A. Jones to DeLoach Memo
Re: MORTON SOBELL

and it was suggested to Mrs. Sobell at this meeting that she write to the Attorney General to thank him in the event he was responsible for the transfer. (This transfer puts Sobell closer to his family and attorneys.) Mrs. Sobell indicated she would not write such a letter as a third party (not identified) had been involved and she was not at liberty to disclose just what steps had been taken. She did indicate, however, that she had written to Mrs. Lyndon Johnson.

We have been keeping the White House informed of pertinent matters involving efforts to obtain Sobell's release. "The New York Times" article mentioned that the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell has obtained 8,000 signatures "calling her husband innocent" and when 10,000 are gathered, the petition will be submitted to President Johnson. On 11-16-64, the matter of presenting a petition to the President was furnished to the White House.

RECOMMENDATION:

There appears to be no further action to be taken at this time inasmuch as the White House is being kept informed of pertinent developments regarding clemency for Morton Sobell.

✓ ✓ JAW T

WIFE STILL SEEKS SOBELLE FREEDOM

The Price Cost of 15-Year Fight at a Million

By PETER KHISS

One of the most massive efforts ever made to free any prisoner has been going on for nearly 15 years on behalf of Morton Sobell, convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage. His wife, Helen, says it has cost probably \$1 million thus far.

The most recent Government statement has been a Department of Justice reply to an appeal by Mrs. Sobell to Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson.

In this, Reed Cozart, pardon attorney, wrote that if Sobell filed a clemency petition "based on his belief that his sentence was excessive, based on his institutional adjustment, etc., we would be glad to give it consideration."

But Mr. Cozart's letter, dated Feb. 5, said "there would be no basis for acting favorably upon a petition predicated upon his plea of innocence primarily," and the Government was "bound by the legal adjudication of his guilt in this case."

Sentenced in 1951

Sobell, who will be 48 April 11, has been in custody since Aug. 18, 1950. He was sentenced to 30 years imprisonment April 5, 1951, in the same case in which Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed June 19, 1953.

Since January, he has been in Lewisburg, Pa., penitentiary, after five and a half years in Alcatraz and the rest of his term in Atlanta and Springfield, Mo., Prison Medical Center.

Mrs. Sobell, a petite, black-haired former physicist, is chairman with her mother-in-law, Mrs. Rose Sobell, of a Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell, successor to a leader group named for the Rosenbergs.

For the last decade, she says, she has worked on a budget of about \$25,000 a year, with offices currently here at 150 Fifth Avenue, 12 1/2th Street and in eight other cities.

For the last year, she has been teaching in a private school "to find something to give the perspective" after depicting herself completely to the press since 1950. The Sobell

Petition for Pardon

The committee is currently circulating a petition to President Johnson urging a pardon for Sobell. Mrs. Sobell says this has amassed 3,000 signatures in a year from Americans calling her husband innocent, and is to be submitted when 10,000 are gathered.

Also under way is a plan for a new habeas corpus suit in Federal Court, offering what Mrs. Sobell says is still-unrevealed but "important new evidence of the innocence of the Rosenbergs and my husband," to be filed probably about June.

William M. Kunstler, who with Arthur Kinoy has been Sobell's counsel since September, says the Supreme Court has had the case before it six times from 1952 to 1963, but never yet allowed arguments.

Mrs. Sobell says the late President Kennedy, between his 1960 election and 1961 inauguration, told her he would free her husband. Two aides, she says, told her he would set up a committee of law professors on the case, but she thinks right-wing pressures caused delay.

Parole Denied

The Federal Parole Board has annually denied Sobell parole since he first became eligible in July, 1962, although without explanation, Mrs. Sobell says.

She contends he could fulfill needed requirements—a family awaiting him, an offer of full-time employment, and agreement by Rabbi Balfour Brickner, of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, to be his parole adviser.

The Sobell committee has published 3,000 copies of an eight-volume, 1,715-page trial transcript, selling this now-days at \$6 a set, to provide what Mrs. Sobell calls a "complete presentation." She estimates it has distributed 10,000 copies of a 672-page book by John Wexley and 5,000 of a volume by Malcolm Sharp on the Rosenberg-Sobell case.

Mrs. Sobell says she has herself addressed probably 1,000 meetings, at which many of the funds have been raised, including trips in 1962 and 1963 to Western Europe.

Maintaining her husband's innocence, she insists there never was any testimony that he "transmitted or received any secret material."

Testimony of Engineer

Sobell's conviction depended on testimony of a former fellow Navy engineer, Max Elitcher, which Mrs. Sobell contends was corroborated. She holds Mr. Elitcher was himself liable to a perjury prosecution.

Mr. Elitcher's testimony basically was that (1) Sobell had gotten him to join the Young Communist League in 1939, (2) Rosenberg in 1944 told him Sobell was helping get military information for the Soviet Union, and Sobell became angry at hearing this later, (3) Sobell in 1947 asked if he knew anyone who could be approached for spying, (4) Sobell supported Rosenberg in trying to induce him to stay in the Navy in 1948 for spying, and (5) Sobell in 1948 took a film can from Flushing to Manhattan, saying he had information for Rosenberg.

Persons who have declared faith in her husband's innocence, Mrs. Sobell says, include Dr. Harold C. Urey, Dr. Linus Pauling and Bertrand Russell, Nobel prize winners, and the Rev. Peter McCormack, who lost his post as Protestant chaplain at Alcatraz after taking this stand.

Among persons who consider

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Sullivan _____
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Trotter _____
Tele Room _____
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Gandy _____

The Washington Post and Times Herald _____
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star _____
New York Herald Tribune _____
New York Journal-American _____
New York Daily News _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times 80
The Baltimore Sun _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____
Date _____

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DATE 4/21/89 BY 4806/MLK

101-2483-1543
ENCLOSURE

MAR 21 1965

A. J. Jones to DeLoach
3-24-65 ELL:llh



FREEDOM SOUGHT: Morton Sobell, who was convicted in atom spying case.

the case merits review or the sentence excessive, Mrs. Sobell cites Senator Lee Metcalf, Democrat of Montana, as having written Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy in 1961 that the conviction was on "very dubious evidence." The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., she says, has called the sentence "cruel and unusual," regardless of guilt or innocence.

At Lewisburg, Sobell is earning 35 cents an hour for a 30-hour week working in a metal

cabinet-making factory, Mrs. Sobell says. At Springfield, she says he designed a simulator for training X-ray technicians. In Atlanta, she says he had charge of making mail sacks, and redesigned equipment to cut down a fire hazard from two or three fires a month to perhaps one a year.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)

FROM : SAC, NEW HAVEN (65-1363)

SUBJECT : MORTON SOBELL, aka.
ESP - R
(OO:NY)

DATE: 5/12/65

Enclosed for the Bureau are 5 copies of a LHM and two copies each for New York and Philadelphia.

As New Haven Office is uncertain as to whether other offices have knowledge of this information, it is set forth herein. Should other offices desire information other than is set forth herein, arrangements for contact with [redacted] may be made through [redacted].

LEADS

PHILADELPHIA

At Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Advise if Philadelphia files reflect [redacted] previously giving such information or requesting to see agents about such matters.

NO DISSEMINATION
UNTIL NYC COPIES
HEAD. 5-21-65 gpl

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/28/87 BY 3042AUR/17

- 1 cc Encl dtd
gpl
- 2- Bureau (101-2483) (Enc. 5) (RM)
2- New York (100-37158) (Enc. 2) (RM)
2- Philadelphia (65-4372) (Enc. 2) (RM)
2- New Haven (65-1363)
CWB:cah
(8)

ENCLOSURE

REC-91

101-2483-1546

21 MAY 14 1965

SOVIET SECTION



124
70 MAY 26 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

At Lewisburg, Pennsylvania

1. Determine Federal correction institutions in [REDACTED] b7c
2. Check prison records at Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, to ascertain if there is information indicating possibility of contact with [REDACTED] b7c

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

1. Advise New Haven if similar type information concerning SOBELL has come to the attention of the New York Office.
2. Advise New Haven if there is any reason [REDACTED] b7c
[REDACTED] should not be contacted.

NEW HAVEN

At New Haven, Connecticut

-Will consider interview of [REDACTED] after receiving results of requested investigation. b7c

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
510 Trust Company Building
New Haven, Connecticut 06510
May 12, 1965

RE: MORTON SOBELL

denied (b)(7)(C) (b)(7)(D)
per letter from Treasury dated 10/22/75
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/28/87 BY 3042PWT/hf

ENCLOSURE

101-2483

1546

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-37158) (P)

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
ESP-R
(OO:NY)

DATE: 6/3/65

Re New Haven letter and LHM of 5/12/65.

For the information of New Haven and Philadelphia, the following information is set forth regarding [REDACTED] aka [REDACTED] who is believed to be identical with [REDACTED] mentioned in relet.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] a co-defendant, were convicted on [REDACTED] of participating in the armed robbery of the [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] National Bank of [REDACTED], New York on [REDACTED]. On 5/6/60 [REDACTED] and his co-defendant were sentenced to 15 years for armed robbery and 5 years for conspiracy, said sentences to run concurrently. At the time of his arrest for the above violation on [REDACTED] he was on 5 years federal probation for his participation in a bank robbery in [REDACTED] during [REDACTED].

During the trial of the case involving the [REDACTED] bank robbery, which was prosecuted by AUSA JAMES M. CATTERSON, JR., EDNY, [REDACTED] interrupted Mr. CATTERSON's summation, shouting that Mr. CATTERSON was telling untruths and caused the US Marshall to restrain [REDACTED] and the court to reprimand him. While the trial was in progress and later while [REDACTED] was appealing his motion to be released on bail pending appeal, [REDACTED] was incarcerated at the Federal House of Detention, [REDACTED]. While at [REDACTED]

3-Bureau (RM)

2-New Haven (100-1363) (RM)
2-Philadelphia (RM)
1-New York (RM)
1-New York

CWM:caw
(9)

REC-42

101-2483-1547

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/82 BY SP2 PWT/hf

VIET SECTION

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NY 100-37158

the Federal House of Detention, [REDACTED] was involved in irregularities at that institution, including the concealment of two hacksaw blades in a pair of shoes which were at one time in [REDACTED] possession. At the time of [REDACTED] transfer from the Federal House of Detention to the United States Penitentiary, [REDACTED] officials of the Federal House of Detention characterized him as a "trouble-maker" and an "escape risk". b7c

Mr. CATTERSON advised that subsequent to his sentencing [REDACTED] made a motion for bail pending appeal and that CATTERSON opposed the motion on the grounds of statements made by [REDACTED] at the conclusion of the trial to the effect that [REDACTED] would have fled to Cuba if he had ever been let out on bail. [REDACTED] motion for bail was carried up to the US Supreme Court and denied in all courts. b7c

In the Fall of 1960 [REDACTED] appeared as a defense witness in the trial of United States vs. [REDACTED] and testified on behalf of the defendant contradicting testimony given by a government witness against the defendant [REDACTED]. In connection with this testimony [REDACTED] forwarded an affidavit dated 5/31/61 to the Foreman, Grand Jury, EDNY, petitioning that criminal indictment be issued against AUSA CATTERSON for attempting to obstruct justice by threats and mental coercion and by violating victim's [REDACTED] rights under color of law. The Federal Grand Jury, EDNY, returned a "no true bill" in regard to that matter on 6/29/61. b7c

[REDACTED] has also made allegations against his own counsel as well as guards at the Federal House of Detention. He has been described as a "con-man, liar, schemer and extremely sneaky". [REDACTED] is the subject of Bufile [REDACTED] NYfile [REDACTED] b7c b2 b7c

Recommendation of NYO

For the information of the New Haven and Philadelphia offices, no previous information has been received concerning MORTON SOBELL similar to that set out in relet. Unless

NY 100-37158

the files of the US Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pa., contain information which would preclude the advisability of interview with [REDACTED] the NYO recommends that he be interviewed for any information which he can furnish regarding SOBELL. b7c

In view of allegations made by [REDACTED] in the past against law enforcement agencies and since his motives in furnishing any information might be questionable, extreme care should be exercised during the interview in order to prevent the possibility of subsequent embarrassment to the Bureau. b7c

Request of the Bureau

The Bureau is requested to advise the Philadelphia Office in the event it does not desire that [REDACTED] be interviewed regarding MORTON SOBELL. b7c

1 - Lee

SAC, Philadelphia (65-4372)

6/15/65

EX 110

Director, FBI (101-3483) 1547

MORTON SOBELL
ESPIONAGE - R

Banylet 6/3/65.

You are authorized to interview [redacted] for information he allegedly has concerning Morton Sobell, a fellow-inmate at the United States Penitentiary in Lewisburg. In view of the character of [redacted] this interview should be conducted by two Agents and extreme caution should be exercised in order to prevent [redacted] from in any way attempting to embarrass the Bureau.

1 - New York (100-37158)

JPL:pa
(5)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/89 BY 3042awt/pfr

NOTE:

Morton Sobell is the convicted espionage agent currently serving a term of 30 years at Lewisburg. An agent of the [redacted] in New Haven received information from a source that [redacted] allegedly had been approached by Morton Sobell to get [redacted] to assist him to do some type of work in [redacted] or for the [redacted] Sobell also asked [redacted] to arrange [redacted] [redacted] allegedly indicated to his father that he desired to see an FBI Agent. [redacted] was convicted in April, 1960, of bank robbery of the [redacted]

He was sentenced to 15 years for armed robbery and five years for conspiracy and when arrested he was on five years' probation for a bank robbery committed in Florida. During the trial [redacted] interrupted the United States Attorney shouting that he was telling lies and the Marshall was forced to restrain [redacted] and the court to reprimand him. While in the Federal House of Detention in [redacted] was involved in the concealment of two hacksaw blades in a pair of shoes. Also in the Fall of 1960 [redacted] appeared as a defense witness in a trial at which he contradicted testimony given by a Government witness. Later he forwarded an affidavit to the Foreman of the Grand Jury asking for a criminal indictment against the United States Attorney for threats and mental

MAILED 11
JUN 14 1965

COMM-FBI

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66 JUN 18 1965

TELETYPE UNIT

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)

FROM: SAC, NEW HAVEN (65-1363) (RUC)

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL, aka.
ESP - R
(OO:NY)

DATE: 6/16/65

Re: New Haven letter to Bureau, 5/12/65.
New York letter to Director, 6/3/65.

In view of the information set forth in referenced New York letter to the Director dated 6/3/65, no additional investigation is being conducted by the New Haven Office.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/22/82 BY 3042 ewj/gh

- ② Bureau (101-2483) (RM)
2- New York (100-37158) (RM)
(1- 91-1851)
1- Philadelphia (65-4372) (Info.) (RM)
1- New Haven (65-1363)
LSG:cah
(6)

1cc from 6479RB
JPH/LH 6-22-65

EX-112

62-101-2483-1548

14 JUN 17 1965

SOVIET SECTION

F33
7 JUN 23 1965

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (101-2483)

DATE: 6/30/65

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia (65-4372) (P*)

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL, aka;
ESP - R
(OO: New York)

Re New Haven letter to Director, 5/12/65; New York
letter to Director, 6/3/65, and Bureau letter to Philadelphia,
6/15/65 ^{encl 1546} _{encl 1547}

[REDACTED]

Let to SAC, New Haven
7-13-65

Refer
Bureau
of
Prisons

- (2) - Bureau (101-2483) (RM)
- 2 - New York (100-37158) (RM)
- 2 - Philadelphia (65-4372)

REC-73 101-2483-1549

GPG:MMR
(6)

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SP4 ch 7/4/65

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DATE 1/29/87 BY 3002 aur/...

NO JUL 1 1965
VIEW SECTION



Refer
Bureau
of
Prisons

PH 65-4372

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

On 6/28/65 Dr. LLOYD C. GUTHRIE, Chief Medical Officer, U. S. Public Health Service, U. S. Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pa., advised SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN there has been no change in MORTON SOBELL's mental or physical condition since contacted by SA GAMBLIN on 2/19/65. He stated he saw SOBELL on 5/26/65 and he complained his shoes were too warm for him because of the neolite soles. The neolite soles were replaced by leather soles and he has not been on sick call since that time.

Dr. GUTHRIE stated SOBELL is assigned to Industries work detail and quartered in E Annex dormitory.

PH 65-4372

Lead

PHILADELPHIA

AT U.S. PENITENTIARY, LEWISBURG, PA.

Will, within 90 days, recontact Dr. GUTHRIE and
obtain information relating to SOBELL's physical condition
and furnish New York, the office of origin.

1 - Mr. Loe

SAC, New Haven (65-1263)

July 13, 1965

REC 8

Director, FBI (101-2423) 1549

MORTON SOBELL
ESP - R

There is attached one copy of Philadelphia letter dated 6-30-65 setting forth the results of the interview of [redacted] inmate, United States Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. You will note that [redacted] refused to discuss the Sobell case or any other matter with Bureau Agents which action was in direct contradiction to the information furnished by [redacted] father to the [redacted] to the effect that [redacted] desired to see an FBI Agent. b7c

In view of the above, no further attempt will be made to contact [redacted] regarding Sobell. You should advise [redacted] of the [redacted] in New Haven concerning the results of this attempted interview. b7c

Enclosure

1 - New York (100-37158)
1 - Philadelphia (65-4372)

1 - [redacted]
JPL:sjs (7)
NOTE: bjp

[redacted] was convicted in [redacted] 1960, for the robbery of the [redacted] Bank, [redacted] New York, and was sentenced to 15 years for armed robbery and 5 years for conspiracy. He is currently serving his term at Lewisburg. A representative of the [redacted] advised the New Haven Office that [redacted] father allegedly had stated that his son had been approached by Sobell to get [redacted] to help him in some type of work for the [redacted] Sobell is the convicted espionage agent currently serving a 30-year term. b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/29/87 BY 3046WT/17

MAILED 27

JUL 12 1965

COMM-FBI

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69 JUL 24 1965

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ 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) _____ 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).

1 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
Disposition in J. Rosenberg
65-58236-2398

☐ For your information: _____

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

101-2483-NR 9/3/65

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ 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).

3 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
Disposition in J. Rosenberg
65-58236-2399

☐ For your information: _____

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

101-2483-NR 9/2/65

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ 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) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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_____ 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).

1 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
Disposition in J. Rosenberg
65-58236-2400

☐ For your information: _____

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

101-2483-NR 7/3/65

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

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lee

Mr. J. Walter Yeagley
Assistant Attorney General

September 10, 1965

Director, FBI

MORTON DONELL
ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA

SEP 10 5 18 PM '65
REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

Enclosed for your information is a copy of a letter received from Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy, attorneys for Morton Donell. There is also enclosed a copy of our reply to this letter.

For your information, in June, 1950, this Bureau obtained a copy of the hotel registration card of Harry Gold at the Hilton Hotel, Albuquerque, for June 3, 1945. It was noted that the stamp on the back of the card was June 4 while the handwritten date on the front of the card was June 3. At that time Fletcher Brumit, Resident Manager of the Hilton Hotel, was queried concerning this discrepancy and he stated that all registration cards received on June 3, 1945, were stamped June 4 and he offered the opinion that through mechanical error the time and date stamp machine erroneously set the date as June 4.

For your further information, the original registration card of Harry Gold at the Hilton Hotel, Albuquerque, for June 3, 1945, was returned to the hotel. Inquiry has developed information that the hotel has destroyed all its registration cards prior to 1957. For your additional information, the original registration card of Harry Gold at Hilton Hotel for September 19, 1945, was destroyed in the normal course of operations by our New York Office in 1960.

MAILED 13
SEP 13 1965

REC-13 101-2483-1550

101-2483
Enclosures - 2
New York (Enclosures - 2)

EX-113

NO SEP 14 1965

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
DeLoach
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan

1 - 65-58236 (Rosenberg)
JPL:plh plh(10)
NOTE:

See memorandum Branigan to Sullivan, dated 9/9/65, same caption, prepared by JPL:plh.

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

50 SEP 17 1965
TELETYPE UNIT ☐

WILLIAM M. KUNSTLER
MICHAEL J. KUNSTLER
ARTHUR KINOY

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

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

At the trial of the above-named client of this office which began on March 6, 1951, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York, the government introduced into evidence as its Exhibit 16 a photostatic copy of what purported to be a registration card of the Albuquerque Hilton Hotel for June 3, 1945, in the name of guest Harry Gold. This card bore on its reverse side, in addition to the hotel's date-time stamp, only the initials "F.L.B."

It is the understanding of this office that agents acting under your supervision visited the Albuquerque Hilton in May of 1950 and procured this card, as well as another, dated September 19, 1945, for the same guest. The latter card bears, in addition to the date-time stamp, the handwritten date "5-23-50", an FBI identification number "65-6" and three sets of initials, "F.I.P.", "A.L." and one that is undecipherable by this office.

REC-3 101-2483-1551

Since a serious question has arisen as to the authenticity of the June 3rd card, it is imperative that a handwriting expert for Mr. Sobell examine the original cards. Only photo-static copies were, as has been indicated, introduced in evidence at the trial and the originals are not on file with the court. We respectfully request that our expert be permitted to examine the original cards if they are in the possession of your agency, and, if not, that we be informed as to their exact whereabouts.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/29/87 BY 3042/201

SEP 2 1965

SEVEN

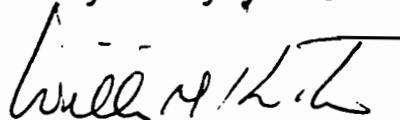
Hon. J. Edgar Hoover

-2-

August 31, 1965

We are in the process of preparing a petition under
Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 and would appreciate an early reply to
this letter.

Very truly yours


William M. Kunstler

WMK SKT

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lee

September 10, 1965

Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinzy
511 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Attention: William H. Kunstler, Esq.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your letter of August 31, 1965, concerning the original registration cards of the Hilton Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico, for June 3 and September 19, 1945, in the name of Harry Gold. Due to the passage of time, these cards are no longer available.

Very truly yours,

101-2483 - 1551
1 - 65-58236 (Rosenberg)
J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

JPL:plh (9)

NOTE:

See Memorandum Branigan to Sullivan, dated 9/9/65, captioned same, prepared by JPL:plh.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/87 BY 3042 PWT/VF

MAILED 6

SEP 13 1965

COMM-FBI

Mr. Tolson
Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Bishop
Mr. Casper
Mr. Callahan
Mr. Conrad
Mr. Felt
Mr. Gale
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Tavel
Mr. Trotter
Tele. Room
Mr. Holmes
Miss Gandy

55 SEP 27 1965

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

SEP 10 5 17 PM '65
FBI
REC'D-READING ROOM

266 10 1 35 BH .02

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

9-8, 1965

☐ Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☒ Attention Lee
☒ Return to Lee 647RB
 Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☒ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☐ Subversive References Only
☐ Nonsubversive References Only
☐ Main References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☒ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations

Subject

Birthdate & Place

Address

Localities

Re

Date

9-8

Searcher

Initials

Prod.

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

SI	105-38507-4	
NR	Michael	52
SI	105-38507-4	67c
I		
I	100-442529-764p9	
I	100-439612-5 called for William	
I	62-102689-42	
	Mike	
	Di	
I	97-4196-34-384p19	
I	105-32128-464p10	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 4/29/87 BY 3060UT/1/4

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

9-8, 1965

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File Review
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attention <u>Lee</u> <u>647 RB</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to <u>Lee</u> <u>647 RB</u>
	Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildup <input type="checkbox"/> Variations

Subject William M. Kuntler
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities _____

R# _____ Date 9-8 Searcher Initials etj

Prod. _____

	FILE NUMBER	SERIAL
--	-------------	--------

I	[REDACTED]	
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	<u>Appx 35 nos</u>	
--	--------------------	--

	<u>William Mares</u>	
--	----------------------	--

I	<u>100-439612</u>	
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SI	<u>100-439612-4</u>	<u>sum 3-12-64</u>
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	<u>Does not list</u>	
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	<u>William</u>	
--	----------------	--

SI	<u>100-439612</u>	
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NI	<u>62-032</u>	
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SI	<u>100-439612-4</u>	<u>sum 8-12-64</u>
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SI	[REDACTED]	
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I	<u>101-2483-1515</u>	<u>sum 10-30-62</u>
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NI	<u>94-57885-4</u>	<u>sum 11-10-62</u>
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	<u>Appx 150 nos</u>	
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	<u>etj</u>	<u>b2</u>
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NI	[REDACTED]	<u>b7C</u>
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(2)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

9-8, 1945

<input type="checkbox"/>	Name Searching Unit - Room 6527
<input type="checkbox"/>	Service Unit - Room 6524
<input type="checkbox"/>	Forward to File Review
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attention <u>Lee</u> <u>Hill</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Return to <u>Lee</u> <u>447RB</u>
	Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Regular Request (Analytical Search)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Subversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Nonsubversive References Only
<input type="checkbox"/>	Main References Only

Type of Search Requested:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted to Locality of _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Buildup <input type="checkbox"/> Variations

Subject Arthur Kinoy
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities _____

R# _____ Date 9-8 Searcher Initials efj

Prod. _____

FILE NUMBER SERIAL

I 100-413210

Appx 125 ser not listed

(3)

Domestic Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Date 9-3-65

Our files are being reviewed to ascertain the location or disposition of the two hotel registration cards following which we will consult with the Department as to how we should reply to this communication.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/82 BY SP12 PWT/lt

LHM:vt

DEM₃

GRC

1 - J. Belmont
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Inspection
Division

9/17/65

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

1 - Crime Records
Division
1 - Mr. Aull

W. A. Branigan

WALTER D. SCHNEIR
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING
(Espionage)

BACKGROUND:

In August of 1965 a book entitled "Invitation to an Inquest" written by Walter and Miriam Schneir was published. This book, in summary, contains conclusions designed to discredit Harry Gold, a Government witness who testified in the case involving Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, executed spies, and implies that the Government's case against Morton Sobell, who was involved with the Rosenbergs in espionage activities, was false.

Information has been received from the New York Office indicating that the Schneirs will begin a "national tour" of major cities in the United States as well as several cities in Canada to publicize and sell their book. This tour was announced in a recent letter from the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. It is believed advisable to alert all Offices of the contemplated tour of the Schneirs and that all Offices be instructed to direct any inquiries concerning the authors or the book to the attention of the Crime Records Division at the Bureau. The Crime Records Division agrees with the course of action suggested above.

In this connection, it should be noted that the Schneirs spent approximately five years preparing this book and that during this time they were in close contact with Isidore Gibby Needleman, who is a suspected Soviet agent and a current contact of high-level officials of the Communist Party. From the very outset it was evident that the Schneirs intended to discredit Harry Gold.

RECOMMENDATION:

There is attached for your approval a letter to all Offices alerting the Offices to the tour mentioned above and instructing that any inquiries concerning the Schneirs or the publication be directed to the Bureau.

1 - 62-106323

Enclosure

1 - Foreign Liaison Unit

① - 101-2483 (Sobell)

1 - 65-58236 (Rosenberg)

1 - 100-387835 (Committed to Federal Justice for Morton Sobell)

WAA:plh (11)

DUPLICATE YELLOW

101-2483-

NOT RECORDED

46 SEP 28 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8/5/86 BY [signature]

ORIGINAL FILED IN 101-2483-

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan
- 1 - Mr. Branigan
- 1 - Inspection Division
- 1 - Crime Records Division
- 1 - Mr. Aull

SAC, Albany

CONFIDENTIAL 9/20/66

Director, FBI

101-2483 -

PERSONAL ATTENTION

ROSENBERG - SOBELL CASE
BOOK BY WALTER AND MIRIAM SCHNEIR

01 sent 10/12/66
 to PH

In August, 1966, a book entitled "Invitation to an Inquest" written by Walter and Miriam Schneir was published. This book, in substance, sets forth implications and conclusions designed to discredit Harry Gold, a Government witness, and implies that the United States Government's case against Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, executed spies, and Morton Sobell was false.

Information has been received at the Bureau that the Schneirs will begin a "national tour" which will include major cities in the United States and Canada to publicize and sell the book. This tour was announced in a recent letter from the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. (14)

All investigative personnel should be alerted for meetings in your territory and any inquiries directed to you concerning the authors or the publication should be referred to the Bureau, Attention Crime Records Division.

3 - ALL OFFICES

- 1 - Foreign Liaison Unit (Route through for review)
- 1 - 101-2483 (Sobell)
- 1 - 65-58236 (Rosenberg)
- 1 - 62-106323 (Schneir)
- 1 - 100-387835 (Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell)

WAA:plh (130)

NOTE:

See memorandum Branigan to Sullivan, dated 9/17/66 captioned "Walter D. Schneir, Miscellaneous - Information Concerning (Espionage)" prepared by WAA:plh.

RECEIVED
 AND FILED
 ADVISE
 SLIP(S)
 DATE 11/2/77
 SMM

DUPLICATE YELLOW

CONFIDENTIAL

50 OCT 1 1965

DECLASSIFIED BY 3040 PWT / 10/1/86
 ON 10/29/86

Classified by 7832
 Exempt from GDS, Category 2
 Date of Declassification Indefinite
 6/20/78 GSK/SM

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-106323-84

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: September 16, 1965

FROM : Mr. W. A. Branigan

1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Mark Felt
1 - Mr. Branigan

SUBJECT:

Morton Sobell

The following is submitted pursuant to your request for an explanation as to why action was not initiated by me with the New York Office to fix responsibility for the destruction of an original hotel registration in the handwriting of Harry Gold on 9/19/45.

On 9/3 I was assigned to the desk of Inspector Donald E. Moore who was then on annual leave. I received from the Laboratory the original letter from Martin Sobell's attorney which requested that the defense be permitted to examine the original hotel registration card of the Albuquerque Hilton Hotel for June 3, 1945, and for September 19, 1945. A note was immediately prepared under my direction to advise that we were reviewing files concerning the location of the cards, following which we would consult with the Department as to how to answer Sobell's attorney. This was done in order that Bureau officials could be aware of the request made of the Bureau. An immediate file review of the voluminous files of the Rosenberg, Sobell and Gold cases was initiated. At the same time, I called the Albuquerque Office requesting that they initiate a file review to locate the documents in question. Later when I learned that one of the documents may have been sent to the New York Office, I instructed that they be contacted and the Bureau should be advised by teletype of the results of the search to locate the pertinent hotel registrations. By teletype 9/3 the Albuquerque Office advised of the destruction of the June 3, 1945, registration by the Albuquerque Hilton Hotel. By teletype dated 9/3 New York Office advised that the September 19, 1945, record was destroyed on February 11, 1960. When this was brought to my attention on 9/7 while still assigned to the desk of Inspector Donald E. Moore, I telephonically contacted Special Agent in Charge Schmit in New York and requested him to advise why the hotel registration had been destroyed. On the same day Special Agent in Charge Schmit in effect informed me that the registration had been destroyed during a regular semiannual review of bulky exhibits, that the registration had served its purpose and the New York Office believed at the time (this was in 1960) that it had no further value. Special Agent in Charge Schmit also advised that they did not have the approval of the United States attorney to destroy the document and that they had not consulted the Bureau concerning their action. On the same day, I discussed with the Assistant to the Director Belmont the necessity for consulting with the Department prior to answering the letter from Sobell's attorney and it was felt that there was no need for such

WAB:kas
(4)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/29/87 BY 3012 PDI/14

REC-22

CONTINUED - OVER

SEP 28 1965

101-2483-1552

3/11

100-300000

Memorandum Branigan to Sullivan

action and Mr. Belmont counselled as to how he thought we should answer the letter. Under date of September 9, 1965, two memoranda were prepared, the purpose of which was to recommend how to respond to Sobell's attorney. Both memoranda, one of which was a synopsis-type memorandum, stated that the September 19, 1945, registration was destroyed by the New York Office in the normal course of purging their files. These memoranda did not initiate administrative action if a delinquency had occurred since such was not in issue at the time and the only issue was how to respond to the request received from Sobell's attorney. On the original of the synopsis memorandum of September 9, the Director noted to the effect that the September, 1945, registration should not have been destroyed by our New York Office and that this might be very embarrassing in the future. He instructed that instructions be issued so that this could not happen in the future. When this was received in the Soviet Section, I discussed with Inspector Donald E. Moore how we could best comply with the Director's instructions and it was agreed that a suitable letter to all Special Agents in Charge should go forward.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Sullivan

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 9/9/65

FROM : W. A. Branigan

1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lee

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA

This memorandum recommends that the attorneys for Morton Sobell, convicted espionage agent, be advised the originals of hotel registration cards for Harry Gold who stayed at the Hotel Hilton in Albuquerque on two occasions in 1945 are no longer available.

BACKGROUND:

By letter dated August 31, 1965, William M. Kunstler of the law firm of Kunstler, Kunstler, and Kinoy, attorneys for Morton Sobell, advised that during the trial of Sobell and the Rosenbergs in 1951 a photostat of what purported to be a registration card of the Hotel Hilton, Albuquerque, for June 3, 1945, in the name of Harry Gold was introduced into evidence; that he understands our Agents visited the Hilton Hotel in May, 1950, and procured this card as well as a card for the registration of Gold at the same hotel on September 19, 1945. Kunstler requested their handwriting expert be permitted to examine the original cards if in the possession of the Bureau and, if not, his firm be advised of the exact whereabouts of the cards. Kunstler asked for this information in connection with a petition to be filed on behalf of Sobell under Title 28 United States Code, Section 2255. (Section 2255 provides for a motion on behalf of a prisoner to vacate, set aside or correct his sentence on various grounds.)

This new legal action is probably based on information set forth in a book entitled "Invitation to an Inquest" by Walter and Miriam Schneir, published in August, 1965, which attacks the Government's case against the Rosenbergs and Sobell. One of the witnesses in that case was Harry Gold, admitted Soviet agent who acted as a courier between his principal and Klaus Fuchs, British scientist and admitted Soviet agent. Gold testified that in June, 1945, he went to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to meet Fuchs and on instructions from his superiors, went to Albuquerque (sixty miles from Santa Fe) to contact David Greenglass. He arrived in Albuquerque about 8:30 p.m. on June 2, 1945, and went to the Greenglass home and found no one there. He spent the night in a rooming house and on Sunday morning June 3, 1945, he registered in

101-2483

1 - 65-58236 (Rosenberg)

JPL:plh (7)

REC-22

101-2483-1553
SEP 28 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/29/87 BY 3000000000

Memorandum Branigan to Sullivan
RE: MORTON SOBELL
101-2483

the Hilton Hotel in Albuquerque paying the day rate of \$1.50. He contacted Greenglass that day and left for New York that evening. During the trial Defense Counsel agreed to admit a photostat of the registration card of the Hilton Hotel, dated June 3, 1945, to be introduced into evidence by the Government making it unnecessary for a representative of the hotel to travel to New York to identify the original document.

ACCUSATIONS MADE IN BOOK:

The Schneirs in the book noted that the photostat of the registration card had a handwritten time of June 3, 1945, on the face but a time and date stamp of June 4, 1945, on the reverse side. Since Gold had also registered at the same hotel on September 19, 1945, the authors had photostats of the registration cards with both dates examined by Mrs. Elizabeth McCarthy, an alleged handwriting expert. McCarthy is the same individual who appeared in the Alger Hiss case attempting to prove "forgery by typewriter." McCarthy expressed doubt that the June, 1945, card was filled out by the hotel clerk and the statement is made in the book that McCarthy would like to examine the originals of the cards.

The Schneirs also note that the September 19, 1945, card had the initials of Agents of the FBI and a hotel representative while the June 3, 1945, had only the initials of the hotel manager. From these allegations the authors make a strong suggestion that the June 3 card is a false one manufactured by the FBI in order to place Gold in Albuquerque on June 3 since on June 4 a deposit was made in the Greenglass bank account of a portion of the money which Gold gave to the Greenglasses. The authors feel that Gold was not in Albuquerque on June 3 and, therefore, did not give any money to the Greenglasses. The authors also make the statement that the September 19, 1945, card was not introduced into evidence and referred to it as being "suppressed" by the Government.

The authors also feel that United States Attorney deliberately used the photostat of the June registration card in order to avoid having a representative of the hotel appear on the stand and subjected to cross-examination concerning the conflict in dates.

CHECK OF BUREAU FILES:

Our files show that the Albuquerque Office obtained the registration card of June 3, 1945, from Fletcher L. Brumit, manager of the Hotel Hilton, and forwarded this to the Bureau by letter dated June 7, 1950. This letter also points out that Mr. Brumit

Memorandum Branigan to Sullivan
RE: MORTON SOBELL
101-2483

was asked about the discrepancy in the dates and he stated that all the registration cards received in the hotel on June 3, 1945, were stamped June 4 and he offered the opinion that through mechanical error the time and date stamp machine erroneously set the date for June 4 rather than June 3. In that same letter the Albuquerque Office advised that Mr. Brumit had initialed the card and wanted it returned as the hotel preferred to retain the card and would produce it in response to a subpoena. This was done and the original was not used at the trial. A check with the hotel shows that all registration cards prior to 1957 have been destroyed.

In addition, a review of the record of the trial shows that the United States Attorney obtained the consent of Defense Counsel Emanuel Bloch to admit the photostat of the card without objection. When it was introduced, United States Attorney stated, "I will ask leave to read it to the jury and exhibit it to the jury, both the face and reverse side of the photostat received. May I proceed to read it to the jury." The record then states that Government Exhibit 16 was exhibited and read to the jury. Thus, the jury and all members of the Defense Counsel saw this card and had an opportunity to examine it. A reading of the summation made by the Defense Counsel in the trial shows that on several occasions he conceded that the testimony of Harry Gold was correct and that he was in Albuquerque on June 3, 1945. (Exhibit 16 is the June registration card)

Our files show that the registration card for the stay of Gold at the Hotel Hilton on September 19, 1945, was not introduced in evidence at the trial since it was not pertinent to the case. The original of the card was maintained by the New York Office until February 11, 1960, when it was destroyed in the normal course of purging files.

INFORMATION IN BUREAU FILES REGARDING ATTORNEYS:

Arthur Kinoy of this law firm was born September 29, 1920, in New York City. Informants who have furnished reliable information in the past report that Kinoy has had long association with the Communist Party, USA. In 1958 he attempted to activate a Communist Party professional group in New York City. As of August 5, 1964, he was Vice President of the National Lawyers Guild. Information was also received on November 10, 1964, that he had been retained by the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell to take over the legal leadership in the Sobell case. His name is on the Security Index.

William Moses Kunstler was born July 7, 1919, in New York. He is an attorney who has been active in Communist Party front organizations and in contact with Communist Party members. On

Memorandum Branigan to Sullivan
RE: MORTON SOBELL
101-2483.

September 16, 1964, he participated in a radio discussion-type program during which the book "The FBI Nobody Knows" by Fred Cook was discussed. Kunstler stated that Mr. Hoover had a totalitarian nature, was a demigod and had achieved a position of power to such an extent that he was feared by politicians at all levels. Kunstler claimed that he had been told by someone in the Bureau that the Director was going to resign in two months. Concerning civil rights, Kunstler claimed that only southern Agents were assigned to FBI Offices in the south until recently and that the Director's "fetish" for maintaining favorable relations with local police departments had forestalled action in civil rights cases. Kunstler stated he felt there was discrimination against Jews and Negroes in the FBI and this was probably due to the efforts of the FBI to recruit Agents who resembled the "all American boy," that is Agents who would be acceptable in all parts of the country.

Kunstler also participated in a television program entitled "The Les Crane Show" on December 5, 1964. Crane began by asking two questions of his audience: "Was J. Edgar Hoover imprudent in making his statements about Martin Luther King?" "Should he be removed?" Kunstler and Robert Morris, former counsel for the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, were introduced during the last thirty minutes. Kunstler stated that the Director had been notoriously delinquent in the south and that if he had any dignity he would resign after his remarks regarding Reverend King. Kunstler also said the Warren Commission justifiably criticized the FBI, that Lee Harvey Oswald was a known Soviet defector and the FBI should have furnished this information to the Secret Service. Kunstler also alleged that the Director had worked very well with every conservative in the Senate and every southern legislator regards him as a States Righter. Kunstler is on the Reserve Index, Section A.

Michael J. Kunstler is a brother of William. His name appeared on a list of names made available by a confidential informant on May 21 and 22, 1961, which was maintained at the headquarters of the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, 799 Broadway, New York City. The name of his brother William Kunstler also appeared on this list.

OBSERVATIONS:

The story of the hotel registration card of Gold is an obvious attempt to make an issue where none exists. We noted the discrepancy in the dates when we first obtained the card in June, 1950, and resolved the question. The United States Attorney read the front and back of the photostat of the card in Court and the jury and all attorneys were on notice of the discrepancy. It is felt we should respond to this request with a terse letter noting that these items are no longer available.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Sullivan

Polson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
Gale _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TO

Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 9/9/65

FROM

W. A. Branigan

1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lee

SUBJECT:

MORTON SOBELL
ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/87 BY SP4 PWT/vrk

SYNOPSIS:

Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy, attorneys for Morton Sobell, convicted espionage agent, have asked the Bureau for the original registration cards for Harry Gold of the Hotel Hilton, Albuquerque, for June 3 and September 19, 1945, in order that their handwriting expert may examine same. Attorneys plan to file a motion to set aside the verdict. Basis for motion probably based on book "Invitation to an Inquest" by Walter and Miriam Schneir published in August, 1965, which attacked the Government's case against Rosenberg and Sobell. The Schneirs claim Gold was not in Albuquerque June 3, 1945, and suggest strongly that the FBI forged the registration card in order to establish Gold's presence there on that date to buttress a bank deposit made by Greenglass on 6/4/45.

Schneirs claim of forgery based on fact that face of card has written date of June 3, 1945, and reverse side has date and time stamp of June 4, 1945. By comparison of photostat of this registration card with that of registration card of September 19, 1945, when Gold was again in Albuquerque, Schneirs reach conclusion that June card is a forgery. Our files show we noted difference of dates in June, 1950, and hotel manager explained all cards for June 3, 1945, had date and time stamp of June 4, 1945, probably due to the machine erroneously setting date for June 4.

Photostat of June 3, 1945, registration card was used as evidence at trial in accordance with stipulation of all Defense Attorneys. Registration card retained by hotel and destroyed in regular course of business. Registration card of 9/19/45 not introduced as evidence and original destroyed by New York Office in 1960 in normal course of purging files. *This should not have been done.*

Bureau files show Arthur Kinoy of above firm is on Security Index and has history of Communist Party activities. William Kunstler of above firm on Reserve Index and, within past year has appeared on radio and television program during which he made vicious attacks on

Enclosures

101-2483

1 - 65-58236

JPL:plb

100

6-12-63

36 (Rosenberg)

✓ (3005

9967

2/7/65

SECRET

rg) γ_{max}

10

[Handwritten signature]

Yemen

[illegible]

CONTINUED

50

I want

[illegible]

[Handwritten signature]

Memorandum Branigan to Sullivan
RE: MORTON SOBELL
101-2483

the Director. He stated Mr. Hoover had a totalitarian nature, was a demigod and achieved a position of power to such an extent that he was feared by politicians at all levels. The name of Michael Kunstler, of this firm, appeared on a list maintained in the office of Fair Play for Cuba Committee.

A detailed memorandum concerning this matter is attached.

ACTION:

1) Attached for your approval is a terse letter to this law firm advising these cards are no longer available.

2) A letter to Assistant Attorney General Yeagley with copy of the Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy letter and our response is attached for approval.

APL
over
Wes
V.
A
[Signature]

FBI

Date: 10/4/65

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via _____

AIRTEL

(Priority)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)

FROM: SAC, WFO (101-2316)

MORTON SOBELL
ESPIONAGE

Re Bureau letter dated 9/20/65 captioned
"ROSENBERG-SOBELL CASE BOOK BY WALTER AND MIRIAM
SCHNEIR."

Enclosed for the Bureau and New York are
five and three copies, respectively; of a LHM
containing information about a meeting 10/3/65 addressed
by SCHNEIR.

The sources used in the LHM are [REDACTED] and
MAX KLITCHER.

The LHM has been classified "Confidential"
since information from [REDACTED] could reasonably
result in the identification of a source of continuing
value and compromise his future effectiveness.

The LHM is being disseminated to local
offices of OSI, ONI and G-2. Dissemination will be
made personally by WFO Agents.

- 5 ENCLOSURE
- ① - Bureau (Enc. - 5) (CSJMS) (WALTER SCHNEIR)
 - ② - New York (Enc. - 3) (RM)
 - ③ - WFO (1 - 100-25444) (CSJMS) (WALTER SCHNEIR)
 - ④ - (1 - 65-8187) (WALTER SCHNEIR)

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

60 OCT 19 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1/29/81 BY [REDACTED]

100-34783-1555
COPY AND COPY OF ENCL FILED IN 100-34783-1555

On 10/3/65, [REDACTED] advised as follows:

b2
b7D

WALTER SCHNEIR appeared at a "meet the author" meeting, Garrett Park, Maryland, on October 3. At the meeting, HELEN SOBELL announced that recently her attorneys received a letter from J. EDGAR HOOVER, Director of the FBI, in answer to their request to see HARRY GOLD's hotel registration card from the Hilton Hotel, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mrs. SOBELL remarked that Mr. HOOVER stated in his letter that "due to the passage of time the cards are no longer available." She commented that based on this reply, her attorneys are planning in the near future to subpoena Director HOOVER and to take a deposition as to who had control of the card, where they were stored, who moved them, who last saw them; were they actually destroyed; and, if so, who ordered them destroyed.

According to Mrs. SOBELL, the purpose of seeing the cards is that SCHNEIR, the author, found that on the face of GOLD's registration card there appeared a date that GOLD registered at the hotel. However, on the reverse side of the card appeared a hotel date-stamp of the following day. Therefore, they have concluded that the hotel card is a forgery.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Washington, D. C.
October 4, 1965

MORTON SOBELL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/87 BY 3048 PWT/L

~~MR. & MRS.~~
A Source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that there was a meeting on Sunday, October 3, 1965, from 5:00PM to 7:00PM at the home of Mark and Evelyn Harris, 10905 Montrose Avenue, Garrett Park, Maryland. About 25 to 35 people attended. The meeting was to "meet the author," Walter Schneir, who spoke about his book "Invitation to an Inquest - A New Look at the Rosenberg - Sobell Case." The announcement for the meeting did not contain a sponsoring organization and no sponsoring organization was mentioned at the meeting. Schneir stated during his speech that the trial of Morton Sobell had fallacies and that Morton Sobell was tried by the press.

There were no tickets sold for the meeting and no donations were collected. Helen Sobell announced that money is made by the sale of Schneir's book. She collected money at the meeting for books to be delivered later. About sixty to seventy-five books at \$6.00 apiece were sold at the meeting. Mrs. Sobell took the money and said she had to pay the publisher to publish the book. They had already distributed 2500 books. Another 1000 are to be delivered to the offices of the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell (CSJMS) in New York City on October 5, 1965. Those bought at the October 3 meeting will be mailed to the Washington, D. C., purchasers from these 1000 books. Mrs. Sobell announced that funds are raised from the difference between the \$6.00 paid for the book and the money she has to pay the publisher. md
10

The CSJMS is described in the attached pages.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 493 JAC/14
ON 5-22-78
DATE 5-22-78 JAC

ENCLOSURE

101-2483-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MORTON SOBELL

In October, 1950, another source, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that Mark Harris was a member of the Navy Department Cell of the Communist Party (CP) in Washington, D.C., from early 1944 to the Spring of 1948. The source had no further contact with Harris after the Spring of 1948 and could not comment regarding any CP activities of Harris subsequent to that time. The source further advised that Harris' wife, Evelyn, was also a member of the Navy Department CP Cell during the same period.

b7c

[REDACTED] identified Helen Gurewitz (Helen Sobell, Mrs. Morton Sobell) as a member of the Education and Literature Committee of the CP in Washington, D.C., as of February 1, 1944.

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

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL

"Following the execution of atomic spies Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, in June, 1953, the 'Communist campaign assumed a different emphasis. Its major effort centered upon Morton Sobell, the Rosenbergs' codefendant. The National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case - a Communist front which had been conducting the campaign in the United States - was reconstituted as the National Rosenberg - Sobell Committee at a conference in Chicago in October, 1953, and then the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case'"

("Guide to Subversive Control Organizations and Publications," dated December 1, 1961, issued by the House Committee on Un-American Activities, page 116.)

In September, 1954, the name "National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" appeared on literature issued by the Committee. In March, 1955, the current name, "Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell" first appeared on literature issued by the Committee.

The Address Telephone Directory for the Borough of Manhattan, New York City, as published by the New York Telephone Company on April 6, 1965, lists the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell as being located at 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York,

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DATE: 10/6/65

FROM : W. A. Branigan

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA

This is an informative memorandum.

BACKGROUND:

In August, 1965, a book entitled "Invitation to an Inquest" by Walter and Miriam Schneir was published concerning the espionage case of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg and Morton Sobell. This book attacks the Government's case and claims that the Government knowingly used fabricated evidence. We alerted the field to this book and that the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell would be attempting to publicize this book in various sections of the country.

Washington Field Office advised that a meeting was held in a private home at Garrett Park, Maryland, on Sunday, October 3, 1965. The purpose of the meeting was to "meet the author" and Walter Schneir and Helen Sobell, wife of Morton Sobell, appeared. Mrs. Sobell stated her attorneys planned to subpoena the Director to obtain details of the disposition of the hotel registration cards of Harry Gold at the Hotel Hilton in Albuquerque in 1945.

In this book the authors noted that the photostat of the June 3 card has a date stamp of June 4 on the back and reached the conclusion that this card probably was a forgery. The card did have a different date on the back, however, our files show that in June, 1950, when we first examined the card we noted this discrepancy and the hotel manager explained that all the June 3 cards had a date stamp of June 4 on the back indicating that the date stamp machine was in error. In addition to this, the United States Attorney read both sides of the photostat of the card in open court when it was introduced into evidence.

ACTION:

For information.

101-2483
JPL:plh (6)

149
OCT 19 1965

REC-28 101-2483-1556
EX-103

OCT 13 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/87 BY [signature]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (101-2483) DATE: 10/18/65

FROM : *ISN* ASAC, Philadelphia (65-4372) (P*)

SUBJECT: MORTON *SOBELL*
ESP - R

Re Philadelphia letter to Bureau 6/30/65.

203
25
On 10/14/65 Dr. H. W. WELLER, Chief Medical Officer, U. S. Public Health Service, U. S. Penitentiary, Lewisburg, Pa., advised SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN there has been no change in MORTON SOBELL's mental or physical condition since the last check by the FBI on 6/28/65. He added his records indicated SOBELL obtained a new pair of glasses on 7/5/65.

Lead

PHILADELPHIA:
AT LEWISBURG, PA.

LCM
Will, within 90 days, recontact the Chief Medical Officer, U. S. Public Health Service, U. S. Penitentiary, Lewisburg, and ascertain whether or not there has been any physical or mental change on the part of MORTON SOBELL and furnish same to the Bureau and OO.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *4/29/87* BY *3042 PWT/lph*

- 2 - Bureau (101-2483) (RM)
- 2 - New York (100-37158) (RM)
- 2 - Philadelphia (65-4372)

GPG:lat
(6)

EX 109

REC-49

101-2483-1557

9 OCT 19 1965

DAK
SOVEN SECTION



64
60 OCT 21 1965

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



PERSONAL ATTENTION
SAC LETTER 65-60
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

November 2, 1965

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20535

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No.

(A) ROSENBERG - SOBELL CASE - BOOK BY WALTER AND MIRIAM SCHNEIR. -- A letter to all Offices dated September 20, 1965, advised of the publication of a book entitled "Invitation to an Inquest" by Walter and Miriam Schneir which implied that the Government's case against Julius and Ethel Rosenberg and Morton Sobell was false. In addition, you were informed that the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell announced a "national tour" by the Schneirs of major cities in the United States and Canada to publicize and sell the book.

Additional information has been received that in connection with this tour attempts will be made to get the Schneirs on television programs throughout the country. Their main aim is to get on a nationwide television program, thus obtaining major publicity for this book.

All Offices should be alert to any indication of such action and immediately notify the Bureau in the event information is received indicating such an attempt on the part of the authors.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/29/87 BY 3048 PWT/vls

101-2483-
NOT RECORDED
37 NOV 5 1965

177
50 NOV 10 1965

ORIGINAL FILED
66-04-3378

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

ROUTE IN ENVELOPE

TO: SAC, NEW YORK (NY 65-17275)

DATE: 11/5/65

FROM: SA

SA

SUBJECT: JULIUS ROSENBERG
ESP - R

ESP - R

Reference: New York airtel, captioned
dated 10/29/65.

Source

Date of Contact

Contacted by

Land

Characterized A confidential informant who has furnished reliable information in the past.

1 - NY
1 - NY
1 - NY,
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[illegible]

TJM:tai
(22)

Classified by 2535
Exempt from GDS, Category 2
Date of Declassification Indefinite

Classified by 3042P
Declassify on: OADR

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)
DATE 4/25/78

NOT RECORDED
29 NOV 15 1965

51 NOV 16 1965

SECRET

NY 65 17275

(S)

When incorporating information furnished by [REDACTED] into communications suitable for dissemination outside the Bureau, Bureau authority is not necessary when the information can be paraphrased so that the identity of the informant is not jeopardized. When certain specific information is of such a nature as to prohibit dissemination, the Bureau should be advised of the basis for non-dissemination. b1

Certain information furnished by [REDACTED] will be of such a nature as to necessitate a classification above "Confidential", since the disclosure of this information to unauthorized persons could have a [REDACTED] b1

[REDACTED] in all instances, a classification of "Confidential" will be adequate if the information relates to [REDACTED] and can be adequately paraphrased. (S) b1

(S)

When disseminating information received from [REDACTED] no reference should be made to the time (date, month or year) the information was received. This should be set forth administratively. b1

Suitable paraphrasing of the information to be disseminated, plus concealment of the time of its receipt will materially assist in concealing the identity of the source.

If the attached memorandum sets forth a [REDACTED] no further dissemination of that [REDACTED] should be made. Such information is of no investigative value and its indiscriminate and unwarranted misuse could endanger the informant's sensitive position. b1

(S)

IN VIEW OF THE HIGHLY SENSITIVE POSITION OF [REDACTED] EXTREME CAUTION MUST BE EXERCISED IN HANDLING ANY INFORMATION ATTRIBUTED TO THIS SOURCE, AND NO ACTION TAKEN WHICH COULD CONCEIVABLY JEOPARDIZE THE SECURITY OF THE INFORMANT OR REVEAL HIS IDENTITY. b1

SECRET

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

11 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:

101-2483-NR 11/5/65 pgs 3 to 13

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 X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
 X FOR THIS PAGE X
 XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

1 F. Lee

11/29/65

SENT BY CODED TELETYPE

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC, ALBUQUERQUE
FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)
MORTON SOBELL, ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA.

REURTEL SEPTEMBER THREE, LAST, CAPTIONED "JULIUS ROSENBERG, ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA." ADVISE NAME OF AGENT WHO OBTAINED REGISTRATION CARD NUMBER SIX FIVE EIGHT FOUR ONE OF HARRY GOLD FROM HILTON HOTEL, ALBUQUERQUE WHICH WAS FORWARDED TO THE BUREAU BY YOUR LETTER JUNE SEVEN, ONE NINE FIVE ZERO, AND HAD INITIALS H.L.N. AS THE DICTATOR.

RECEIVED - 102100Z
JPL:mlh
1 50 PM
p/h

NR.	292217
ENC.	24
CK.	24
APPROVED BY	RW
TYPED BY	
LOGGED BY	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/19/89 BY 3042 awt/rl

VIA TELETYPE
NOV 29 1965
6:11 PM JRM
ENCIPHERED

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

71
50 DEC 7 1965

REC-73
ST-101
101-2483-1558
NOV 30 1965
RECEIVED
MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

1 - Mr. J. P. Lee

ALS

PLAIN

12-1-68

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC, ALBUQUERQUE
FROM DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)
MORTON SOBELL, ESPIONAGE - R
REBUTEL 11-29-68.

SUTEL IMMEDIATELY RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION REQUESTED IN RETEL.

JPL:skp (3) skp

NOTE: Albuquerque was requested to furnish identity of Agent who obtained a hotel registration card in 1950 in order that this information may be furnished to the Department.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/89 BY 6010 AOT/SPR REC-99

101-2483-155

10 DEC 1 1968

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
Felt _____
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Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

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

57 DEC 6 1968
DEC 1 1968
TELETYPE

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ALS

FBI WASH DC

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

DEC 1 1965

TELETYPE

FBI ALBUQUE

935 AM NST URGENT 12-1-65 HAN

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)

FROM ALBUQUERQUE (65-50) -RUC- 1P6

MORTON SOBEL, ESPIONAGE DASH R.

RE BUTEL NOVEMBER TWENTYNINE LAST.

A THOROUGH REVIEW OF ABOVE AND RELATED ALBUQUERQUE FILES AND EXHIBITS REFLECTS HILTON HOTEL, ALBUQUERQUE, NM, REGISTRATION CARD NO. SIX FIVE FOUR EIGHT ONE FOR HARRY GOLD ORIGINALLY OBTAINED BY SA H. MC CONNELL ON JUNE SIX, FIFTY. INITIALED ON THE REVERSE SIDE BY FLETCHER L. BRUMIT, RESIDENT MANAGER, HILTON HOTEL BY INITIALS F.L.B. AND SENT TO BUREAU BY ALBUQUERQUE LETTER JUNE SEVEN, FIFTY. RETURNED TO ALBUQUERQUE LATER IN JUNE, NINETEEN FIFTY AND RETURNED TO HILTON HOTEL ON JUNE TWENTY, FIFTY. OBTAINED FROM HILTON HOTEL BY FINIS I. PARRISH, RETIRED SA OF FBI ON MARCH FOURTEEN, FIFTYONE AND FORWARDED TO NEW YORK OFFICE. RETURNED TO ALBUQUERQUE IN JULY, FIFTYONE, AND RETURNED TO HILTON ON AUGUST FOUR, FIFTYONE. 101-2483-7560

END CORR LINE FOUR AGENTS NAME SHD BE MC CONNELL

END BJH

FBI WASH DC

CLR

REC 16

16 DEC 2 1965

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4/29/87 BY SP8AAT/16

57 DEC 8 1965

cc - Mr. Lee

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

113 (1-10-61)

Domestic Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Date 11/30/65

Attached letter from attorneys for Morton Sobell, convicted espionage agent, asks for information concerning hotel registration cards of Harry Gold at Hotel Hilton, Albuquerque in June and September, 1945, in connection with probable court action. One card has been destroyed by hotel and other by New York Office. Department has been previously advised of disposition of cards. Accordingly, we will reply to Kunstler and inform him that since his inquiry deals with contemplated legal proceedings his letter is being referred to Department. We will furnish Department a copy of Kunstler's letter and call attention to the data in

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

WAB:hmm

DATE 4/29/80 BY SP-6/100

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lee

REC-58

101-2483-1561

December 2, 1965

Kunstler, Kunstler and Kiny
511 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Attention: William B. Kunstler, Esq.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your letter of November 23, 1965.

In view of the fact that you indicate that a petition on behalf of Morton Sobell will be filed pursuant to Title 28 United States Code Section 2255 and since this is a legal matter, your letter has been referred to the Internal Security Division of the Department of Justice.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/5/96 BY 3052/au/ing

1 - 65-58236 (Rosenberg)

JPL:plh (8)

NOTE:

See memorandum Branigan to Sullivan dated 12/1/65, captioned "Morton Sobell," prepared by JPL:plh.

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
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Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

1 - Robert W. O
sent to
DEC 10 1965
REC'D FBI
NOV 10 1965

DEC 3 1965
FBI
RECEIVED-BUREAU
NOV 22 1965

50 DEC 10 1965 TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

DEC 2 3 18 PM '65

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 9328-5-59

MURRAY HILL 2-0317

WILLIAM M. KUNSTLER
MICHAEL J. KUNSTLER
ARTHUR KINOY

November 23,

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Re: United States v. Morton Sobell

Dear Mr. Hoover:

With reference to your letter of September 10, 1965, in which you informed this office that the original registration cards of the Hilton Hotel, Albuquerque, N. M. for June 3 and September 19, 1945, in the name of Harry Gold were "no longer available," it would be appreciated if you could let us know the disposition of these cards. In particular, we would like to know the following:

1. Have they been destroyed and, if so, when, where, how and at whose orders?
2. If they have not been destroyed, where are they?
3. If they were forwarded by your office to some other agency, state or federal, or to a private person or organization, when, where, how and at whose orders were they so transferred?
4. Do you have a receipt in your files for these cards and, if so, when was such receipt signed and by whom?
5. When was each card originally acquired by your agency and what are the names and current addresses of the special agents or other persons who obtained them?

As we explained in our letter of August 31, 1965, we have urgent need of ascertaining the whereabouts of these cards in connection with a forthcoming petition on behalf of Mr. Sobell pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2255. Accordingly, we would be most appreciative of your early response to this communication.

Very truly yours,

REC- 50

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

ALL INFORMATION
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/29/87 BY 30480WT/jw

William M. Künstler

NOV 24 1965

SECTION

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lee

Mr. S. Walter Teagley
Assistant Attorney General

December 2, 1965

Director, FBI

HORTON SCHALL
ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA

Reference is made to our letter dated September 10, 1965.

There is attached a copy of a letter dated November 23, 1965, received from William H. Kuntler of the law firm Kuntler, Kuntler and Kinsey, attorneys for Morton Sobell. Kuntler has asked for additional information relating to the disposition of the registration cards of Harry Gold at the Hotel Milton, Albuquerque, on June 2 and September 20, 1945. In view of the statement made by Kuntler that his firm is planning to file a petition under Title 28 United States Code Section 2255, he has been advised that inasmuch as legal action is planned his letter has been referred to the Internal Security Division of the Department of Justice. A copy of our letter to Kuntler is attached.

In our referenced letter you were advised that the original registration card of Gold at the Hotel Milton, Albuquerque, for June 2, 1945, had been returned to that hotel and destroyed. The card was originally obtained by Special Agent E. L. McConnell on June 7, 1950, and was returned to the hotel on June 20, 1950. It was again obtained from the hotel by Special Agent Finks L. Parrish, now retired, on March 24, 1951, and forwarded to our New York Office. It was returned to our Albuquerque Office in July, 1952, and returned to the hotel on August 6, 1951. John Anshart, manager, Hotel Milton, Albuquerque, advised that all cards prior to 1945 have been destroyed.

The September 19, 1945, registration card was obtained by Special Agent Finks L. Parrish, now retired, and former Special Agent Arthur LaPlant. This card was obtained by our New York Office and was destroyed in the normal course of operations on February 11, 1955.

Enclosures - 2

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

101-2443

1 - 65-36236 (Hosenberg)

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/13/87 BY SP-5/BJP/MLP
DEC 10 1965

SEE NOTE-PAGE TWO

DEC 2 3 10 PM '65
FBI-READING ROOM

Mr. J. Walter Yeagley
Assistant Attorney General

Special Agent McConnell is currently assigned to the Oklahoma City Office of this Bureau. Special Agent Parrish is retired and living [REDACTED] Special Agent Lapiant died in March, 1965.

A review of the trial records shows that the original of the June 3, 1945, registration card of the Hotel Hilton was not introduced into evidence. The United States Attorney, Southern District of New York obtained the consent of Emanuel Bloch, counsel for Julius Rosenberg, to admit a photostat of it without objection to obviate the necessity of calling an official of the hotel to introduce the original card. When this photostat was introduced, the United States Attorney stated "I want to ask leave to read it to the jury and exhibit it to the jury, both the face and reverse side of the photostat received." The record then states that Government Exhibit 16 was exhibited and read to the jury. Thus no attempt was made to conceal any portion of this photostat from the jury or any member of the defense counsel staff.

It is also noted that Emanuel Bloch, in his summation, conceded that the testimony of Harry Gold was correct and that he was in Albuquerque on June 3, 1945.

The registration card of the Hotel Hilton, Albuquerque, for September 19, 1945, was not introduced into evidence.

NOTE: See memorandum Branigan to Sullivan, dated 12-1-65, captioned same, prepared by JPL:plh.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. W. C. Sullivan *WCS*

FROM : W. A. Branigan *WAB*

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA

DATE: 12/1/65

1 - Mr. Belmont *Belmont*
1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Sullivan
1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lee

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
DeLoach _____
Casper _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
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Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

This memorandum recommends that an inquiry received from the attorneys for Morton Sobell, convicted Soviet agent, for information relating to the disposition of hotel registration cards pertaining to the stay of Harry Gold in Albuquerque in 1945 be referred to the Department for consideration.

BACKGROUND:

By letter dated August 31, 1965, *no / oc* ~~Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy~~, attorneys for Morton Sobell, convicted Soviet agent, asked the Bureau for the original registration cards for the stay of Harry Gold at the Hotel Hilton, Albuquerque, on June 3 and September 19, 1945, in order to permit a handwriting expert to examine the cards. The attorneys plan to file a motion to set aside the conviction of Sobell probably based on allegations made in a book entitled "Invitation to an Inquest" by Walter and Miriam Schneir. The Schneirs claim that Gold was not in Albuquerque on June 3, 1945, and strongly suggest that the FBI forged this registration card to establish the presence of Gold in that city on that date to substantiate the testimony of Greenglass. By letter of September 10, 1965, we informed the attorneys these cards were no longer available.

Our files show that the June 3, 1945, card was destroyed by the hotel in the regular course of business and the September 19, 1945, card was destroyed by our New York Office in 1960 in the course of purging files. A photostat of the June 3, 1945, card was introduced into evidence. The original had been obtained by our Albuquerque Office and forwarded to the Bureau by letter dated June 8, 1950. The FBI Laboratory identified the handwriting on the card as that of Gold, returned the card to the Albuquerque Office and it was returned to the hotel on June 20, 1950. The card was obtained from the hotel again on March 14, 1951, and forwarded to the New York Office. It was returned to Albuquerque in July, 1951, and to the hotel on August 4, 1951. The hotel destroyed the card. The September 19, 1945, card was obtained by our Albuquerque Office and was forwarded to the New York Office. *EX-115 REC-16 101-2483-1563* It was not introduced into evidence and the New York Office destroyed the card on 2/11/60.

Enclosure *sent 12*
101-2483
1 - 65-58236 (Rosenberg)
JPL:rlh *DEC 10 1965*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *4/22/82* BY *SP-6 JAW/rlh*
CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum Branigan to Sullivan
RE: MORTON SOBELL
101-2483

CURRENT INQUIRY:

By letter of November 23, 1965, the firm of Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy have made inquiry concerning the disposition of these cards. They also ask if we have a receipt in our files for these cards and request the names and current addresses of the persons who obtained the cards. The June 3, 1945, card has only the initials on the reverse side of FLB, which initials stand for Fletcher L. Brumit who was the manager of the Hotel Hilton in 1950. The September 19, 1945, card had the initials on the reverse side of FIP, AP and CB. The initials FIP stand for Special Agent Finis I. Parrish, now retired; the initials AP stand for former Special Agent Arthur LaPlant and CB stands for Cody Briehn, assistant manager of the Hotel Hilton in 1950. LaPlant died March 9, 1965.

OBSERVATIONS:

By letter dated September 10, 1965, we did advise Mr. Yeagley of the receipt of the first letter from Sobell's attorneys and the fact that both these registration cards had been destroyed, one by the hotel and the other by our New York Office.

Inasmuch as Sobell's attorneys have indicated court action is now planned on behalf of Sobell, it is believed that this letter from Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy should be referred to the Department inasmuch as legal action is now involved. We will furnish to the Department information in our files concerning the questions raised by Sobell's attorneys in the above-mentioned letter.

ACTION:

1) There is attached a letter to Assistant Attorney General J. Walter Yeagley referring this matter to him. A copy of the letter from Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy and our response to that letter are attached for Mr. Yeagley.

2) There is attached a letter to Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy advising them that in the light of the legal action contemplated, this matter has been referred to the Internal Security Division of the Department of Justice.

JS *OK* *W. J. Yeagley* - 2 - *J. W. Yeagley* *V. D.*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

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

TO : Mr. W. A. Branigan

DATE: 12/10/65

FROM : J. P. Lee

1 - Mr. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lee

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA

This memorandum records a telephone call from Departmental Attorney Paul Vincent for information relating to this case.

BACKGROUND:

The attorneys for Morton Sobell, convicted espionage agent, have advised they plan to file a motion to set aside the conviction of Sobell. They plan to base this motion on allegations made in the book entitled "Invitation to an Inquest" that the FBI forged a registration card for Harry Gold, Government witness, at the Hotel Hilton, Albuquerque, for June 3, 1945. The book alleges the forgery was done in order to substantiate the testimony of David Greenglass. Sobell's attorney requested advice on the disposition of this card as well as a registration card for Harry Gold at the same hotel for 9/19/45 in order that a handwriting examination can be conducted. In view of the impending legal action this matter was referred to Assistant Attorney General Yeagley.

CURRENT INQUIRY:

On December 9, 1965, Departmental Attorney Paul Vincent telephonically contacted Special Agent James P. Lee in the Soviet Section for information concerning this case. He asked if the FBI Laboratory had conducted a handwriting examination of the June 3 and September 19, 1945, cards. He was informed that such an examination was done and a positive identification was made of the handwriting of Harry Gold. No examination was conducted of the clerk's handwritten notations made on the card. It is noted that Elizabeth McCarthy, the handwriting expert hired by Sobell's attorney, has expressed doubts that the clerk's notations on the June 3 and September 19 cards were prepared by the same clerk although the same initials appear on both cards. Mr. Vincent also asked if the September 19, 1945, card was used in any other legal action. Mr. Vincent was referred to the book "Invitation to an Inquest" which points out on page 384 that United States Attorney Gerald Gleeson, Philadelphia, told Judge McGranery that Gold had stayed over night at the Hotel Hilton in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in September, 1945, and was registered under his own name.

101-2483

JPL:plh

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/22/87 BY 3000/2/105

REC-82 101-2483-1564
DEC 10 1965

CONTINUED - OVER

57 DEC 10 1965

Memorandum J.P. Lee to W.A. Branigan
RE: MORTON SOBELL

Mr. Vincent asked concerning the destruction of the September 19, 1945, card by the New York Office and he was informed that this was done in the regular course of business.

Mr. Vincent asked whose initials appeared on the reverse of the June 3 card and he was told that these initials, F.L.B., were those of Fletcher L. Brumit, manager of the Hotel Hilton, Albuquerque, 1950.

ACTION:

For information purposes.

get. Am

Domestic Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE—

Date **12-13-65**

We previously received information that attorneys for Morton Sobell, convicted espionage agent, planned on filing motion to set aside his conviction on the basis that forged evidence used to convict him. Evidence alleged to have been forged is registration card for Hotel Hilton, Albuquerque, for Harry Gold for 6-3-45, photostat of which was used at trial to show Gold in Albuquerque on that date and to confirm testimony of David Greenglass concerning meeting with Gold. Department has been consulted concerning these allegations. Attached advises motion probably will be granted. 12-13-65. ~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~

JPL:skip

DATE:

64/6

9/10/74

✓BY=

2010

17

FBI

Date: 12/9/65

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Casper	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Gale	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Mr. Wick	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plaintext or code)

Via

AIRTEL

CONFIDENTIAL

REGISTERED

(Priority)

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)
 FROM: SAC, NEW YORK (100-37158)
 SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
 ESP - R
 100-37158-10000

On 12/8/65, [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past, telephonically advised SA HORACE P. BECKWITH that [redacted]

[redacted] WILLIAM KUNSTLER, the attorney for MORTON SOBELL, would appear in U.S. District Court, SDNY, some time during the week beginning 12/13/65, to present motions in behalf of SOBELL. The informant knew of no further details. (u)

On 12/9/65, the informant advised [redacted] it was learned that KUNSTLER and HELEN SOBELL had been with the subject in Pennsylvania going over a legal brief.

Contact with [redacted] U.S. Attorney, Southern District of New York, SDNY, is being made concerning the above and the Bureau will be kept advised.

4 BUREAU (RM)
 (1 - 62-106323) (WALTER D. SCHNEIDER)
 (Att: Crime Records)
 (HELEN SOBELL)
 (WALTER D. SCHNEIDER)
 (CSJMS)
 1 - NY 100-109849
 1 - NY 100-135206
 1 - NY 100-107121
 1 - NY 100-37158

WDM:mfd (133)
 (10)

CONFIDENTIAL

DEC 16 1965

EX 109

DEC 10 1965

Approved: [Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

ON 15

Per

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-106323-1565

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ 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) _____ 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).

15 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
Disposition in J Rosenberg
65-58236-2404

☐ For your information: _____

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

101-2483-NR 12/14/65

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: December 22 1965

FROM : J. Walter Yeagley
Assistant Attorney General
Internal Security Division

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL
ESPIONAGE - RUSSIA

Reference is made to your memorandum of December 2, 1965, enclosing a copy of a letter dated November 23, 1965, from William M. Kunstler, of the law firm, Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy, attorneys for Morton Sobell. You also enclosed a copy of your letter to Mr. Kunstler dated December 2, 1965, advising him that his letter had been referred to this Division for reply.

After receiving your memorandum, we received a letter dated December 7, 1965, from William M. Kunstler, enclosing copies of the exchange of correspondence between his office and yours.

We are enclosing, for your information, a copy of our reply to Mr. Kunstler.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/22/79 BY SP-6 PWT/ML
per release

ENCLOSURE

69 JAN 4 1966

DEC 53 5 01 PM '65

11 DEC 28 1965

SOVIET SECTION

December 22 1965

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

Kunstler, Kunstler and Kinoy
511 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Attention: William M. Kunstler, Esq.

Gentlemen:

Reference is made to your letter of December 15, 1965 enclosing copies of an exchange of letters between you and Mr. Hoover.

In your letter of August 31, 1965, you indicate that photostatic copies of the hotel registration cards for Harry Gold, at the Albuquerque Hilton Hotel, for June 3, and September 19, 1945, were introduced into evidence at the trial of Morton Sobell. Only a photostatic copy of the June 3rd card was introduced into evidence by the government. This was pursuant to a stipulation by defense counsel as to its authenticity. The September 19th card was not involved in the trial.

The original card dated June 3rd was returned to the hotel on August 4, 1951, and it is our information that it was destroyed by the hotel, together with all cards dated prior to 1957, in the ordinary course of business.

The original card dated September 19th was destroyed in the normal course of operations, by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, on February 11, 1960.

From the nature of your letters to the Federal Bureau of Investigation we assume that your interest in the aforementioned registration cards springs from the baseless accusations set forth in the book entitled "Invitation To An Inquest". We find it difficult to believe that you

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1 Xerox copy sent to FBI

ENCLOSURE

101-2483-1566

- 2 -

would seriously consider the fantastic hypothesis that the Federal Bureau of Investigation would either instigate, or, be a party to, a conspiracy to manufacture or falsify evidence.

Sincerely,

J. WALTER YEAGLEY
Assistant Attorney General
Internal Security Division

By:

JOHN H. DAVITT, Chief
Criminal Section

F B I

Date: 12/22/65

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ (Priority)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (101-2483)

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-37158)

SUBJECT: MORTON SOBELL, DECLASSIFIED BY 3042 *new/fp*
ESP-R

DN 4/30/87

ReNYairtel to Director dated 12/9/65.

On [redacted] furnished SA HORACE
BECKWITH with a copy of the following two items

1. a two page "Summary of Motion to
Vacate Sentence", which reflects that
attorney's for MORTON SOBELL will file
a motion in USDC, SDNY on 1/6/66 (u)

- ⑤ - Bureau (Enc. 4) (RM)
(1 - 62-106323) (WALTER D. SCHNEIR)
(ATT: Crime Record Section)
(1 - 100-387835) (C.S.J.M.S.)
(1 - New York (100-109849) (HELEN SOBELL)
(1 - New York (100-135206) (WALTER D. SCHNEIR)
(1 - New York (100-107111) (C.S.J.M.S.)
(1 - New York (100-37158)
(1 - New York

PPD:SMV
(12)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ENCLOSURE

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

Approved: *[Signature]*
Special Agent in Charge

Sent M Per

SOVIET SECTION

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-106323-100-387835

101-2483-1567

REC-18

DEC 25 1965

NY 100-37158

2. A five page summary of press comments concerning the SOBELL case, which was prepared by the public relations firm of Mann, Stone and Associates, Inc., 120 E. 56th St., NYC. (X) (u)

Two copies of each of the above described documents is enclosed herewith for the information of the Bureau.

The office of the USA, SDNY, is being advised of the intended date for filing the above mentioned motion.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

XERO COPY XERO COPY
MARC STONE & ASSOCIATES, INC.
Public Relations
120 E. 56 St. New York, N.Y. 10022
PLaza 5-5180

ROSENBERG-SOBELL CASE BEING RE-EXAMINED.
IN LIGHT OF NEW EVIDENCE; U.S. PRESS ASKS
PROBING QUESTIONS ABOUT TRIAL FOR FIRST TIME

For the past fourteen years, since the spring 1951 trial and conviction of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg and Morton Sobell in federal court in New York City on a charge of conspiracy to commit espionage, the major U.S. press media have taken the position that the defendants were proved guilty by overwhelming evidence. The existence of such "overwhelming evidence" has been assumed, more or less on faith, by most Americans.

In point of fact, although the Rosenberg-Sobell case is one of the most famous political trials of the 20th century, not a single leading U.S. newspaper or magazine ever has presented its readers with a detailed objective analysis of the evidence that sent two persons to their deaths and a third, Morton Sobell, to thirty years in prison. By contrast, numerous periodicals throughout the world have raised serious questions about the prosecution's case and appealed for clemency for the Rosenbergs prior to their executions on June 19, 1953.

Now, with the publication of INVITATION TO AN INQUEST (Doubleday) by Walter and Miriam Schneir, the Rosenberg-Sobell case has, in effect, been reopened. For the authors of this sober five-year study -- which Nobel Prize winner Harold C. Urey says "should be serious reading for all those interested in the integrity of American justice" -- have uncovered and documented startling new evidence that led them to the conclusion that the Rosenbergs and Sobell were completely innocent.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 4/30/87 BY 3042 [signature]

XERO COPY XERO COPY

Attorneys for Morton Sobell, the surviving defendant in the case, will shortly go into the same federal court in New York City where the original trial was held to seek immediate freedom or a new trial for their client on the basis of this newly discovered material. The attorneys will charge that Morton Sobell was denied his constitutional right to a fair trial because the prosecution used against him forged evidence and perjured testimony and also suppressed evidence that would have been beneficial to the defense.

If the court grants a hearing, it would enable the defense to call for questioning various government witnesses, U.S. attorneys, and FBI agents and officials who participated in the preparation and prosecution of the Rosenberg-Sobell trial. Morton Sobell has been in prison since the time of his arrest, shortly after the outbreak of the Korean War. He was then 33 years of age; he is now 48. Despite the intervention of many eminent individuals, he has been denied parole repeatedly.

In the past few months, since the publication of INVITATION TO AN INQUEST, the attitude of the U.S. press towards the Rosenberg-Sobell case has changed dramatically. For the first time, millions of Americans have been reading (as well as hearing on radio and television) that there are indeed serious unanswered questions about this case -- questions that must be responded to, in particular, by Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The following are excerpts from recent U.S. book reviews and newspaper columns. (The full review or column is available on request.):

20

NEWSWEEK: "Whatever the ruling on the [Sobell] motion, the Schneirs' book, like the case itself, is disquieting. Not a line of it can be readily dismissed as mere apologetics. No scrap of evidence is transparently flimsy....The Rosenbergs lie in an unquiet grave."

WASHINGTON STAR: "...it is difficult to read the book without coming to the conclusion that at the least it is unlikely that the Rosenbergs and Sobell were guilty....Even if one discards all but their mildest -- and most likely -- contention, it seems to the layman that they have assembled sufficient evidence to warrant a reopening of the case."

N.Y. TIMES: "There was not enough evidence, in my opinion, to condemn the Rosenbergs to death. And I wonder if a jury would find them guilty and a judge sentence them to death if they were tried today."

CHICAGO TRIBUNE: "I am not as convinced as I once was that there was even enough to find them legally guilty."

ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH: "This book is disturbing reading for any American....Were the Rosenbergs victims of an era? This book at least establishes that the question needs to be answered."

HOUSTON CHRONICLE: "...this is a difficult book. And troublesome. For it leaves the reader with at least a reasonable doubt. And that, in a dispassionate American court, is enough for a verdict of not guilty."

N.Y. POST: "[The authors] raise questions about the prosecution's conduct that deserve close scrutiny and response by the Justice Department."

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS: "This book...is a source of personal shock. It troubles my conscience. It should be of concern to all AmericansAn inquest is needed. The fact that the Rosenbergs are dead is no reason to shrink from a thorough inquiry....The first result may be as inconclusive as the original re-examination of the trial of Aldred Dreyfus. In the end, the truth will prevail. As believers in the righteousness of our nation, this must be our prayer."

CAPITAL TIMES (Madison, Wisconsin): "Invitation to an Inquest is a book that demands the most careful reading....it is impossible to escape the conclusion that Morton Sobell's imprisonment was a criminal act rather than a punishment, that his continued imprisonment is a festering scandal the U.S. government cannot afford."

INDIANAPOLIS NEWS: "The evidence they pile up is so convincing that the reader very much wishes for an equally detailed and specific answer to their allegations from J. Edgar Hoover and from Irving H. Saypol....One hopes what the Schneirs have written is not true, but unless Hoover and Saypol answer the charges in detail, there will be many who will be convinced it is true."

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR: "Almost certainly, if such a trial were held today on the basis of such testimony, its outcome would be quite different. The Schneirs have performed an important service in making this clear."

LOS ANGELES TIMES: "Whatever the legal or popular opinion concerning the guilt of the Rosenbergs, there exists some important unfinished business with their convicted associate, Morton SobellSobell has always maintained his innocence. But guilty or not, an increasing number of prominent individuals believe that the time has come for him to be pardoned. Certainly his case is worth review again at this time."

HARTFORD, CONN. TIMES: "While the authors do not succeed in dissolving all doubts about that celebrated case, they have put together a devastating compilation of information, of interpretation, of new evidence even, that is bound to stir the open-minded reader to some serious second thoughts."

DETROIT FREE PRESS: "...the Schneirs' evidence is good enough to prove a reasonable doubt and, therefore, that the Rosenbergs' execution was 'naked of the justification in which it was clothed."

02

DES MOINES REGISTER: "In view of the worldwide interest in the Rosenberg case, the Justice Department might find it advisable to answer the allegations in this book."

ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS (Denver): "...one of the most painstaking and soundest studies of a cause celebre ever written....At the very least the Rosenbergs deserved a new trial. The Schneirs show most convincingly that Harold Urey was right when he wired President Eisenhower, 'New evidence makes even more plain what was plain enough before, that the prosecution's case has no logic in it, and that it depends upon the blowing up of patently perjured testimony.'"

THE NATION: "...some of the best detective work in modern journalism....They have produced a book which is also a vital social document, one that should be not just an 'Invitation to an Inquest' in the Rosenberg case, but into the whole witch-hunt era, and, most importantly, into the role played by J. Edgar Hoover and his virtually sacrosanct Bureau of Investigation in this and other celebrated cases of that era....Now the disquieting question of 'frame-up' must be opened, even if this leads directly to the sacred files of the FBI, by a commission appointed by Congress or the President." (Fred J. Cook)

RAMPARTS Magazine: "They were convicted of a crime, not only of which they were innocent, but which had never been committed....In this extraordinary pageant of mendacity and perversion, the palm must be awarded to the FBI." (Rex Stout)

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER: "...I no longer can ignore the possibility that the Rosenbergs and Sobell were victims of a frame-up....To oppose reopening the case will increase rather than allay the suspicions created by Invitation to an Inquest."

#

88

Continuing Effort for Truth in the Rosenberg-Sobell Case
Court Action Seeks Freedom for Morton Sobell

SUMMARY OF MOTION TO VACATE SENTENCE

According to Title 28, United States Code, §2255, it is possible for a federal prisoner who claims that his sentence was illegally imposed to move for his release. One of the main grounds for such a motion is that "the sentence was imposed in violation of the Constitution or laws of the United States..." The motion is made before the court which originally sentenced the prisoner, in this case the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

In brief, Morton Sobell is claiming that he was illegally convicted of a conspiracy to transmit information relating to the national defense to the Soviet Union because the prosecution (1) knowingly used perjured testimony and forged documents, and (2) suppressed evidence that would have proved his innocence. He now asks only for a hearing in which to prove the truth of his charges.

The government's case was based solely and exclusively on the existence of a grand conspiracy among confessed atomic spies David and Ruth Greenglass, admitted Soviet courier Harry Gold, former Russian Vice-Consul Anatoli A. Yakovlev, the Rosenbergs and Mr. Sobell for the purpose of transmitting atomic bomb information to the Soviet Union. The only legally sufficient evidence to support this conspiracy was an alleged meeting between the Greenglasses and Gold on June 3, 1945, in Albuquerque, N.M. As the prosecution well knew, this meeting never took place.

In order to prove that it did, the government introduced the only documentary evidence as to Gold's presence in Albuquerque on June 3, 1945 -- namely, a photostatic copy of a Hotel Hilton registration card. This card is a provable forgery. Not only did it bear a time-date stamp for the following day, but it is visibly different from legitimate cards issued by the hotel at approximately the same time.

This photostat was introduced into evidence at the trial as Exhibit 16 a day after the testimony of Harry Gold, when it would normally have been proffered. The prosecution waited until it was assured that Gold was not going to be cross-examined by the defense to offer the card. Obviously, it did not want Gold to be questioned about a document that materially contradicted his own testimony and varied from legitimate cards.

Mrs. Elizabeth McCarthy, a recognized handwriting expert who has examined Exhibit 16 and a legitimate card, has come to the conclusion that there are serious doubts as to the authenticity of the former. However, she insists that only by a microscopic examination of the originals can she render a final opinion. Despite extensive correspondence from Mr. Sobell's lawyers to FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover requesting the production of the cards for such an examination, they have not been forthcoming.

Gold's pre-trial statements to his own lawyers, which were not made available to Sobell or the Rosenbergs, clearly reveal that he perjured himself about the June 3rd Albuquerque meeting. Among other things, they indicated that he did not remember the name "Greenglass", had never stayed at the Hilton Hotel in June, 1945, had not used a jello box side or the name "Julius" to identify himself in Albuquerque and had received information of no value from an anonymous soldier. It was only after hundreds of hours with the FBI that the story he told at the trial emerged.

Moreover, the government failed to call to the stand a woman who, according to the prosecution, was "an espionage courier", even though her name appeared on its list of witnesses. As it well knew, this woman -- one Ann Sidorovich -- would have denied any espionage activities and shattered the entire jello box side fabrication.

Lastly, the financial history of the Greenglasses suggests that they were receiving money regularly from a variety of unexplained sources. In fact, it was their deposit of \$400.00 on June 4, 1945, the day after a weekend when Greenglass would normally be on leave from his military duties, that led to the date of the fabricated Gold visit to Albuquerque. The government took the juxtaposition of the \$400.00 deposit and the weekend to arrive at the June 3 date. All that was then necessary, outside of the Greenglass perjury, was some documentary proof of Gold's presence in Albuquerque. Hence the forged registration card.

In his petition, Sobell will ask for bail or an order providing for his presence at any hearing. Although he has filed other petitions, on different grounds, prior to this one, he has never received the hearing provided for in the statute. If he is granted such a hearing, he is prepared to place people on the stand to testify to the truth of every charge he makes. As the citizen of a country which prides itself on its adherence to due process, he is entitled to be heard. If he is, perhaps the truth will out after fifteen long years.

The attorneys for Morton Sobell are William M. Kunstler and Marshall Perlin. The date for the filing of the motion is January 6, 1966.

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