

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: January 19, 1951

FROM : MR. C. E. HENNRICH

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

10-1

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

ASAC Whelan called from New York on the afternoon of January 19. He advised that the U. S. Attorney's office has indicated that they will agree to a reduction of bond to \$5,000 which Vago will probably make. It is anticipated this action will be taken on the morning of January 20.

The U. S. Attorney's office state that they feel definitely the Vago case should not be tried until after the Rosenberg case is tried as they are not satisfied with the materiality of the perjury involved and therefore they must reduce the bond in order to avoid the necessity of going to trial immediately.

Information has been received by the New York Office from one Tartakow who is incarcerated in the same jail with Vago that Vago said he would flee the country by a sure route if let out. The New York Office has been unable to reveal any further details on this. The U. S. Attorney's office has of course been advised of the information furnished by Tartakow and he has now indicated that he will recommend one of the conditions of the bond be that Vago report daily to the FBI. Other conditions being restrictions on his movements and places where he may go etc.

I inquired of Whelan whether there is any reason why the New York Office desires Vago reporting to them and he said no. It appears the FBI should not be required to handle the receipt of reports on the daily basis of Vago for a period of several weeks and thus be responsible for some of his actions and thereby be tantamount to a surveillance. This appears to be a function of the courts. Whelan pointed out, however, that the Marshall's and the U. S. Attorney's offices are usually closed on Saturdays and Sundays and thus no reports could be made by Vago to them.

It appears that the problem of releasing Vago on bond and questioning the probable whereabouts of Vago is for the U. S. Attorney and the courts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the New York Office be instructed to advise the U. S. Attorney's office that the FBI did not desire that the court direct Vago to report to us and that arrangements should be made to have him report to some other court official if the U. S. Attorney's office desires this procedure be followed. Mr. Whelan should be called before 10 a.m., January 20.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLS

CEH:jc
60 FEB 6 1951

Classified by 335 WAG/1442
Exempt from GDS Category 34
Date of Declassification Indefinite
WAG/ARR 10/14/75

JAN 23 1951

9885/39
memo 1/20
1/21

DEPARTMENT OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 19 1951

TELETYPE

CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 40 19 7-13P

DIRECTOR URGENT ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/PWT/ols

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, ESP - R, PERJURY. AUSA MYLES LANE ADVISED HE CONTACTED MOSES C. WEINMAN, ATTY FOR SUBJECT ON JAN. NINETEEN AND TOLD WEINMAN USA SAYPOL HAD DECIDED NOT TO OPPOSE THE MOTION FOR REDUCTION OF BAIL ON VAGO. THIS WAS IN CONNECTION WITH CIRCUIT COURT OF APPEALS INSTRUCTIONS THAT VAGO-S BAIL SHOULD BE REDUCED OR THAT HE SHOULD BE TRIED IMMED. MR. LANE SAID THAT AFTER DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH WEINMAN THEY HAVE TENTATIVELY AGREED ON BAIL IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS. WEINMAN WILL RECONTACT USA OFFICE AFTER DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH HIS CLIENT. JEROME EUGENE TARTAKOW, INMATE AT THE FED HOUSE OF DETENTION WHO HAS BEEN FURNISHING INFO RE JULIUS ROSENBERG AND VAGO, ADVISES VAGO PLANS TO FLEE THE US UPON RELEASE WHETHER ACQUITTED, RELEASED ON BAIL OR ON COMPLETION OF SENTENCE. VAGO INDICATED HE WOULD GO BY "TRIED AND PROVEN ROUTE" IF US PASSPORT DENIED TO HIM. SAYS HIS ARREST ENDED "USEFULNESS IN U.S." TARTAKOW WAS PRESSED FOR FURTHER INFO WITH REGARD TO THIS MATTER BUT WAS UNABLE TO FURNISH ANY FURTHER INFO. HE STATED HE HAS ASCERTAINED THE INFO FROM CONVERSATIONS WHICH HE HAD WITH VAGO. TARTAKOW-S RELIABILITY IS SUBJECT TO QUESTION AS THE BUREAU IS AWARE. THIS INFO WAS FURNISHED AUSA LANE BY TARTAKOW HIMSELF. LANE HAS MADE NO FORMAL REQUEST BUT HAS SUGGESTED IT WOULD BE ADVISABLE TO CONDUCT A PHYSICAL SURVEILLANCE OF VAGO UPON HIS RELEASE IN ORDER TO PREVENT HIS FLEEING

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

60 FEB 6 1951

END PAGE ONE

CONFIDENTIAL
Classified by 2325
Exempt from GDS, Category 2, 7
Date of Declassification Indefinite

PAGE TWO

OR TO APPREHEND HIM IN EVENT HE DOES FLEE. STRONGLY RECOMMENDED NO
SURVEILLANCE BE CONDUCTED AND LANE ADVISED THAT RESPONSIBILITY OF
ASSURING APPEARANCE OF DEFENDANT AT TRIAL IS ONE FOR COURTS AND
THE FACTS RE HIS POSSIBILITY OF FLEEING ARE TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE
USA IN HIS RECOMMENDATION TO THE COURT FOR REDUCTION OF BAIL.

HOLD PLS

SCHEIDT

cc - Mr. Belmont

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM : SAC, SEATTLE
 SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
 PERJURY
 ESPIONAGE - R
 Bufile 101-1988

DATE: January 25, 1951

~~SECRET~~

Re New York letter to Bureau, 1/20/51.

This is to advise that stops have been placed against VAGO with the Immigration and Naturalization Service covering Washington, Idaho, and Montana; with the U. S. Customs; with the Chief Clerk, Bureau of Internal Revenue (Alien Tax Division); and [REDACTED] b7D

Stops were not placed with airlines and steamship companies at this time inasmuch as the stop with U. S. Customs and [REDACTED] will effectively cover airline and steamship passengers leaving the United States. b7D

The attention of the Bureau and the New York Office is directed to the fact that the stop placed with the Immigration and Naturalization Service is probably not effective because persons leaving the United States for Canada, are not required to stop at the U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. [REDACTED] b7D

WCT:MEM

65-3133

cc: New York
Butte

AM

DECLASSIFIED BY 3042/PWT/CLS
ON 2-25-87

RECORDED - 115
 JAN 29 1951
 11 55 AM '51

RECEIVED
 EX-15

~~SECRET~~

Classified by 355
 Exempt from GDS, Category I
 Date of Declassification Indefinite

~~SECRET~~

REGISTERED AIR MAIL

Date: February 5, 1951
To: Mr. Glenn H. Bethel
s/o The Commissioner
Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
ESPIONAGE - R - PERJURY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

2-25-87

CLASSIFIED BY: 2012/PWT/CLS
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

For your information, Oscar John Vago was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury, Southern District of New York, on September 28, 1950, on a charge of perjury. On January 20, 1951, he was released under bond of five thousand dollars with restrictions that he was not to leave the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York.

It was ascertained through a confidential informant that Vago indicated if he were released on bond he would attempt to flee the country on a Hungarian passport and return to Hungary. Based on this information, the United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, has authorized the arrest of Vago in the event he attempts to leave the country. To this end, appropriate nationwide stops have been placed with U. S. Immigration and Naturalization Service, U. S. Customs Service and U. S. Bureau of Internal Revenue.

[REDACTED]

For your information, the following is a summary of the background and description of Vago:

101-1988 - 141
cc - New York

Room 7651

58 FEB 12 1951
Through Service Desk

Tolson
Ladd
Clegg
Glavin
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Belmont
Mohr
Tele. Room
Nease
Gandy

FEB 2 5 51 PM '51

~~SECRET~~

1951

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B I

5 24 PM '51

10/6/55

W2

~~SECRET~~

Vago was born in Budapest, Hungary, on February 27, 1898. He entered the United States in 1924 and was married to Claire Olga Weissman, who was also born in Budapest, Hungary. Vago was naturalized in the Southern District of New York on September 29, 1938. He is described as 5'6", 150 lbs., dark complexion, brown eyes, partially bald, wears glasses, and has a peculiar waddling walk.

It is requested that this matter be given expeditious attention.

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -
~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: January 20, 1951

FROM : MR. A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042 PWT/US

Reference is made to the teletype dated January 19, from New York and the memorandum dated January 19, 1951, reflecting a call from ASAC Whelan in New York regarding a motion by the defense for reduction of bail on Vago. The U. S. Attorney has decided not to oppose this motion as the alternative is to try Vago immediately, and the USA does not want to try Vago until after the Rosenberg case.

The USA proposes that bail be reduced to \$5,000 and has suggested that a physical surveillance be conducted by the FBI to prevent Vago from fleeing. An informant at the Federal House of Detention has stated that Vago told him he would flee if he were released on bail. The USA further suggested that the court require that Vago report daily to the New York Office as a condition of bail.

On the morning of January 20, I called Supervisor Granville, in the absence of Mr. Whelan, and advised him that the New York Office should tell the USA -

(1) That it is not within the jurisdiction of the FBI to have Vago report to us daily while on bond - that this is a matter for an officer of the court to handle such as the U. S. Marshal.

(2) That we feel that the court should have full knowledge of the possibility that Vago will flee if released on bond. The USA has been advised of the information furnished by the informant that Vago may flee. Inasmuch as it is the responsibility of the court to see that Vago shows up for trial the court should have this information.

(3) We cannot guarantee through any full surveillance that Vago will not flee and, consequently, the USA should not depend on any such surveillance to keep track of Vago if he is released on bond. Further, we are not going to place a full surveillance on Vago.

(4) The New York Office should strongly point out that it is the function of the court, through the bail procedure, to insure that Vago appears for trial; that this is the legal method set up to insure a defendant's appearance for trial and it is not the function of the FBI to keep track of defendants who are released on bail to insure their appearance.

60 FEB 7 1951
AHB:mer

RECORDED - 30 JAN 31 1951

Tolson
Ladd
Clegg
Glavin
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Belmont
Mohr
Tele. Room
Nease
Gandy

Nease
Gandy

LR-2

FOK

Mr. Granville was advised that the New York Office should place a spot surveillance on Vago if he is released but it was not necessary to inform the USA that we are doing this. Mr. Granville advised that a full surveillance will be maintained through January 22 in order that we can ascertain whether Vago makes any contacts and, thereafter, it will be reduced to a spot surveillance. Mr. Granville pointed out that this matter may not go to trial for three or four months and any attempt to place a full surveillance on Vago would be an unwarranted burden on the Bureau. In order to have any possibility of success it would require the full-time services of at least ten men.

all approved.

H.

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

JAN 22 1951

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASHINGTON 9 FROM PHILADELPHIA

1-22-51

6.19 XX 6.10 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, PERJURY, ESP DASH R. REBUTEL TODAY. PHILA.

SUBMITTED LETTER JAN. NINETEEN, LAST, BEARING ABOVE CAPTION

SETTING FORTH INFO RECEIVED FROM ANONYMOUS SOURCE. PHILA. FILE

CONTAINS NO INDICATION OF CP ACTIVITY ON PART OF DAVID BLOOM SINCE

ARRIVAL IN PHILA. ANONYMOUS SOURCE AS OF DEC. TEN, FORTYNINE,

ALSO STATED BLOOM HAD NO CONTACT WITH CP FOR TWO YEARS. IN VIEW

OF NO KNOWN CP ACTIVITY ON PART OF BLOOM SINCE RETURNING TO PHILA

IT IS RECOMMENDED INTERVIEW BE HELD EVEN THOUGH IT CONCEIVABLE

BLOOM INTERVIEW WILL BE NEGATIVE.

CORNELIUS

END

ACK AND DIS PLS

MTMTTMTTUNKGA

RECORDED - 103

101-1988-143

JAN 29 1951

cc: Mr. E. M. Smith

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

51 FEB 8 1951 DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLS

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT *AB*

DATE: January 27, 1951

FROM : MR. C. E. HENNRICH

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO
ESPIONAGE - R

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

PURPOSE

To authorize the Philadelphia division to interview David Bloom, a former associate of Vago in the Procurement Division, Washington, D. C., for any information he may be able to furnish concerning Vago's CP activity. This interview was previously authorized on January 18, 1951, but was withheld on the basis of information reported by the Philadelphia office as having been received from an anonymous source on December 10, 1949, indicating possible CP membership of Bloom at that time.

DETAILS

As indicated in my memorandum of January 18, 1951, the interview with David Bloom, a former associate of Vago in the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department in 1939, was authorized by the Bureau after a review of the files and references on this individual.

The Philadelphia division advised that they were withholding the interview, based on information which they received from an anonymous source believed reliable indicating possible CP connection of Bloom in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. According to additional information received from Philadelphia, this anonymous source turned over to the Philadelphia office on December 10, 1949, a transfer form believed to have come from CP headquarters in Philadelphia. This transfer form mentioned that no contact had been had with Bloom for the past two years but mentioned that he had been transferred and should be contacted. It was indicated that he was to be seen immediately, registered for the year, and his yearly dues obtained. The Philadelphia office has recommended that an interview be had with Bloom, as that office has received no information as to known CP activity on the part of Bloom since his return to Philadelphia in 1947.

RECOMMENDATION

In view of the fact that Bloom is not a Security Index subject and there is no indication of CP activity during the past two years, it is recommended that the Philadelphia office be authorized to conduct immediate interview with him concerning Vago's CP activity. A teletype to the Philadelphia office authorizing this interview is attached hereto for your approval.

101-1988
cc - 100-67250
Attachment
EFE:mpm *mpm*

RECORDED - 103

101-1988-144
JAN 29 1951
WHS
CH

SECOND BELMONT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PLJ/pls

101-1988-144
JAN 29 1951
WHS
CH

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-15

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message January 27, 1951

DEFERRED

RECORDED 103

W 101-1988-147

SAC PHILADELPHIA

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, ESPIONAGE R.

REURTEL JANUARY TWENTY SECOND, FIFTY ONE. INTERVIEW WITH BLOOM CONCERNING

VAGO AUTHORIZED BY BUREAU PURSUANT YOUR RECOMMENDATION.

HOOVER

101-1988

WFO:mpm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-87 BY 2042/pat/pls

cc - 100-67250

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456 MAR 9 1961



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

JAN 27 1951

TELETYPE

141 P M

Per

65 FEB 8 1951

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-1502

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION. January 30, 1951

URGENT

Transmit the following message to: SAC'S CLEVELAND
NEW YORK

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-87 BY 3024/ur/ols

MRS. OSCAR JOHN VAGO

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., ESP R.
RE CLEVELAND TEL TODAY. VAGO INDICTED FBI, SDNY, SEPTEMBER TWENTY EIGHT,
FIFTY, ON CHARGE PERJURY. RELEASED UNDER FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS BOND
JANUARY TWENTY, FIFTY-ONE, WITH RESTRICTIONS NOT TO LEAVE SOUTHERN OR
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK. BASED ON INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM CI
THAT VAGO INDICATED HE INTENDED TO LEAVE U.S. ON HUNGARIAN PASSPORT,
NATIONWIDE STOPS PLACED. INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED BY GILBERT HOOKS, INTERNAL
REVENUE, TOLEDO, BELIEVED ROUTINE BASED ON REQUEST BY BUREAU AT COLLECTION
DIVISION OF U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT THAT THEY PLACE NATIONWIDE STOPS.

NO WARRANT OUTSTANDING BUT USA, SDNY, HAS AUTHORIZED ARREST OF VAGO IN EVENT
HE ATTEMPTS LEAVE COUNTRY. VAGO BORN BUDAPEST, HUNGARY, FEBRUARY TWENTY
SEVEN, EIGHTEEN NINETEEN EIGHT; ENTERED U. S. NINETEEN TWENTY-FOUR; MARRIED
CLAIRE OLGA WEISSMAN, ALSO BORN BUDAPEST, HUNGARY; NATURALIZED SDNY
SEPTEMBER TWENTY NINE, THIRTY-EIGHT. VAGO DESCRIBED FIVE FEET SIX INCHES,
ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY POUNDS, DARK COMPLEXION, BROWN EYES, PARTIALLY BALD,
WEARS GLASSES, HAS PECULIAR WADDLING WALK. IF VAGO ARRESTED YOUR DISTRICT,
ADVISE BUREAU AND NEW YORK TELEPHONICALLY.

101-1988

EFK:mpm

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

JAN 30 1951

TELETYPE

RECORDED - 104
INDEXED - 104

JAN 31 1951

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466 MAR 9 1961

7/24/30
3 ON 6/1/21
RECEIVED
FBI

Per



JAN 25 1951

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Mr. Gandy	_____

CONF WASHINGTON & WASH FIELD FROM NEW YORK 38 25

DIRECTOR VAND SAC URGENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLS

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., PERJURY, ESP - R. RE WFO TEL THIS DATE.
AS POINTED OUT IN MYLET JAN. TWENTY LAST VAGO HAS INDICATED TO
INFORMANT THAT IF HE IS DENIED US PASSPORT HE WILL TRAVEL ON HUNGARIAN
ONE. WFO REQUESTED TO PLACE INS STOP ON THAT BASIS. STOP PLACED BY
WFO WITH US CUSTOMS ON SEPT. TWENTY, FIFTY, INDICATES VAGO NOT TO
BE UNDULY DETAINED OR OTHERWISE MADE AWARE OF BUREAU INTEREST. AS
SET OUT IN REF LET, US ATTORNEY, SDNY, HAS NOW AUTHORIZED ARREST OF
VAGO IF HE ATTEMPTS TO FLEE US. CUSTOMS STOP SHOULD BE CHANGED TO
CONFORM.

SCHEIDT

HOLD PLS

66 FEB 5

1951

RECORDED

JAN 27 1951

TWO COPIES WFO

EX-113

✓
4/21

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/94 BY 1041-912

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/1/94 BY 1041-912

10/1/94
1041-912

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM : SAC, BALTIMORE

DATE: January 31, 1951

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.,
 Perjury
 Espionage-R
 (Bufile 101-1988)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-25-87 BY 2042/PWT/CLS 10-1

Re New York letter to Bureau January 20, 1951.

On January 23, 1951 appropriate stops were placed with the following agencies in Baltimore to prevent the subject's departure from this country via the Port of Baltimore:

JOHN RYAN - Immigration and Naturalization Service

WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS - Alien Tax Division, Bureau of Internal Revenue

WILLIAM JENKINS - U. S. Customs Service

The Baltimore office will be immediately notified in the event VAGO comes to the attention of any of the above agencies.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JJK:vcm
 65-1794

cc: New York (100-55242)

RECORDED - 45

101-1988-148

FEB 1 1951

3

EX-37

FILED
 English

50 FEB 7 1951

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI
 FROM: SAC, Albany
 SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, Was.
 PERJURY
 ESPIONAGE - R
 (Bufile 101-1988)

DATE: January 31, 1951

~~SECRET~~

Re New York letter to Bureau, 1/20/51.

Mr. S.H. STEWART, Immigration and Naturalization Service, District No. 1 Headquarters, St. Albans, Vermont, on 1/25/51, by radio broadcast, advised all U.S. Immigration offices at border crossing points between the United States and Canada, in District No. 1, extending from Lake Ontario to the Atlantic Ocean, that should VAGO endeavor to leave the country, through these ports, he should be detained until FBI Agents could arrive to handle the matter.

Mr. STEWART pointed out that anyone leaving the country, across the Canadian border does not stop at the U.S. Immigration Offices to report out of the United States.

[REDACTED]

b7D

A detailed description as supplied in referenced letter was furnished to the various U.S. Immigration Offices with the required background information.

FCW:lmk
 74-6

cc. New York

~~SECRET~~

Classified by 2355 *WAG/DAK 10/6/75*
 Exempt from GDS, Category I
 Date of Declassification Indefinite

RECORDED - 34

FEB 2 1951

56 FEB 8 1951

EX-175

WAG
Stark

DECLASSIFIED BY 3042/PWT/CS
 ON 2-25-87

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, New York
SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was:
Osskar Vago, John Murray,
John Murray
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R
(Bureau file 101-1988)

DATE: January 31, 1951

SECRET

CLASSIFIED BY: 3042/pwt/cls
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

3-25-87 B-1

It is requested that photos of VAGO be displayed as follows:

Bureau

ISMAEL ARNEEDOV
ALEXANDER FOOTE

Charlotte

JAMES MATWIN

Los Angeles

Miami

NICHOLAS DOZENBERG

Washington Field

HENRY JULIAN WADLEIGH
VLADIMIR DE SVESHNIKOFF

VAGO was born on 2/27/98 at Budapest, Hungary, and attended school in Hungary and in Germany before entering the U.S. at New York on 1/12/25. Since that time he has been absent from the U.S. only from 12/3/32 to 1/12/33, when he visited Hungary. In the U.S. he has worked as an engineer in New York and in Washington, D.C.

On 9/28/50 he was indicted for perjury in the ^{SDNY} in testifying before a grand jury in 1933. On 1/20/51 he was released on bail. No date has been set for his trial.

The following is a description of VAGO

Height	5'6"
Weight	150 lbs.
Eyes	brown
Hair	brown, graying and thinning

RECORDED - 77 101-1988-150

FEB 1 1951

INDEXED - 77

34

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456 MAR 9 1961

Encs. (2)

Miami

cc Charlotte (encs. 2)

Los Angeles (65-5125)

Washington Field (65-5598)

RMK:ELC

SECRET

Classified by 2355
Exempt from GDS, Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite

~~SECRET~~

Letter to Director
NY 100-55242

Complexion	ruddy
Build	stocky
Citizenship	U.S. naturalized 9/29/38
Residence	66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, NY

Two photos of VAGO are enclosed for the Charlotte office and two additional photos to the Bureau.

~~SECRET~~

cc - Mr. De M. Ladd
Mr. A. H. Belmont

8196

~~SECRET~~

February 7, 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Re: Oscar John Vago

For your information, Oscar John Vago was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury, Southern District of New York, on September 28, 1950, on a charge of perjury. On January 20, 1951, he was released under bond with restrictions that he was not to leave the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York. The date of the trial in this case has not been set.

Vago was born in Budapest, Hungary, on February 27, 1898. He entered the United States in 1924 and was married to Claire Olga Weissman, who was also born in Budapest, Hungary. Vago was naturalized in the Southern District of New York on September 29, 1938. He is an engineer by profession and resides at 66 - 07 99th Street, Bago Park, New York. He is described as 5'6", 150 lbs., dark complexion, brown eyes, partially bald, wears glasses, and has a peculiar waddling walk.

It will be appreciated if you will make an inquiry of Alexander Foote, who is presently located in England, for any information he may be able to furnish concerning the Communist affiliations of Vago, as well as his activities in the United States. A photograph of Vago is being attached hereto for your assistance in conducting this interview.

Attachment

cc - Legal Attache, London, England

53 Foreign Service Desk

101-1988

E.F. Enrich:mpa

FORB 16 1951

~~SECRET~~

DIVISION FIVE

Classified by 2355 wth/MAK
Exempt from GDS, Category I
Date of Declassification Indefinite

227-2
CLASSIFIED BY: 3012 PUL/JOK
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

RECORDED

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

Director, FBI

DATE: February 2, 1951

FROM :

SAC, New York

SUBJECT:

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R
(Bufile 101-1988)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/aw/clj

Rerep SA FRANCIS J. DUANE, 1/3/51, at Washington, D. C.,
setting out information on Page 10, et seq. pertaining to PAUL
WEIDLINGER

It is noted that in addition to the \$194. and \$200.
deposited in the VAGO account as previously reported, another
\$100. check drawn by WEIDLINGER was deposited on January 26, 1951.
Cash deposits in the amounts of \$705. and \$500. were made on
November 13, 1950, and December 11, 1950, respectively.

As a result of his entry into the United States at
Miami on January 24, 1943, a SECURITY MATTER - H investigation
was conducted on WEIDLINGER, Bufile 100-186754. No derogatory
information was brought out in the investigation. A review
of the file indicates that WEIDLINGER was born on December 22,
1914, at Budapest, Hungary, and was employed by Fellheimer and
Wagner, 155 East 42d Street, New York, in March of 1943. It
is noted that VAGO was also born at Budapest and was employed
by Fellheimer and Wagner until April 17, 1943.

The source of VAGO's funds after his incarceration,
other than the checks from WEIDLINGER, is not known. Conse-
quently it is suggested that WEIDLINGER be interviewed concern-
ing his association with VAGO and the amounts furnished to
VAGO. In this connection it is noted that information con-
cerning VAGO's bank account was obtained on the usual confidential
basis, so that the source should not be made known to
WEIDLINGER.

The Washington Field Office should hold this lead
in abeyance until authorization is received from the Bureau.

CC: WASHINGTON FIELD (64-5598)

RMK:GM
100-55242

RECORDED
INDEXED
FEB 8 1951

INDEXED - 11

FEB 8 1951

RECEIVED

SAC, Washington Field

February 15, 1951

Director, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLS

Reference is made to the letter from the New York division dated February 2, 1951.

It was suggested that an interview be had with one Paul Weidlinger who has furnished certain sums of money, which sums were deposited to Vago's bank account.

A review has been made of the Bureau files and references pertaining to Paul Weidlinger, wa. Pablo Weidlinger, and there is being set forth hereinafter certain information obtained therefrom for the assistance of the Washington Field division in conducting the suggested interview.

Weidlinger was born in Budapest, Hungary, on December 22, 1914. He attended the Swiss Polytechnic Institute in Zurich, Switzerland, from 1935 to 1937, and graduated as an engineer in architecture. He was married to Madeline Y. Weidlinger, who was born in La-Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, on January 22, 1912. They have one daughter, Michelle Jacqueline Weidlinger, who was born in La Pas, Bolivia, on August 19, 1940.

Weidlinger was formerly employed as a chief engineer of the Sociedad Constructora Nacional, and professor at the University of La Pas, Bolivia. He entered the United States with his wife and child at Miami, Florida, on January 24, 1943, and was naturalized at New York City on August 26, 1948, Certificate No. 6686200. Weidlinger was employed by the firm, Fellheimer and Wagner, New York City, from 1943 to 1944, the Aylas Aircraft Corporation, New York City, from 1944 to 1946, and the National Housing Agency in Washington, D. C. from 1946 to 1948. Since that date, he has been self-employed as an architect, and his latest business address was given as 1928 First Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

EX-35
RECORDED

Tolson
Ladd
Clegg
Glavin
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Belmont
Mohr
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

cc - New York
KFE:mpm

RECEIVED
FEB 16 1951
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

NOTE: A surveillance was conducted that on March 8, 1946, Weidlinger was known to have contacted one Cedric Hennin Belfrage who, according to Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, was a Communist sympathizer and supplied the Communists with information which Belfrage obtained by virtue of his service with the British Security Coordination Office in New York City. (101-1988-127)

60 FEB 20 1951

The investigation which was conducted concerning Weidlinger prior to 1944 under the character "Internal Security - R" failed to develop any information indicating that he was engaged in espionage activities. (100-186754; 40-15041)

*No
Self
inquiry*
Professor Earl Brooks of the New York State School of Industrial and Labor Relations, Cornell University, upon interview advised that in 1946 he served as Personnel Director of the Office of Housing Expediter in Washington, D. C. He stated that while so employed, one Edward Bard, whose true name is Edward L. Solomon, whom he describes as "way left of center," appointed Weidlinger as an architect in the Expediter's office. He further mentioned that he suspected Weidlinger of being a Communist.

*admission
page*
(124-4553-27)
Weidlinger was listed as a reference on the "chart of experience" prepared by Sali Lieberman for his use in obtaining a position in the war industry in the United States. Lieberman was the husband of Jean Lieberman who, according to Paul Massing, was a Soviet espionage agent in Europe during the late 1930's. (100-346290-74, 76)

The Immigration and Naturalization Service records at the time of Weidlinger's entry into the United States indicated that Weidlinger while in Bolivia stated he was a committee member in the Free Hungarian Movement. (100-346290-76)

The Washington Field Office is authorized to conduct the suggested interview of Weidlinger unless information appears in the files of that office which might make such interview undesirable at the present time. This interview should be for the purpose of obtaining any information that he may be able to furnish concerning Vago's Communist activities and affiliations.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042 PWT/CS

WASH AND NEW YORK FROM WASH FIELD

1-27-51

6:20

DIRECTOR AND SAC

DEFERRED

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS, PERJURY, ESP. R. REBULET JANUARY EIGHTEEN AUTHORIZING
INTERVIEW WITH JOSEPH ZALKIN IDENTIFIED IN WFO REPORT JANUARY THREE AS ASSOCIATE
OF SUBJECT. ZALKIN SAID HE MET VAGO THIRTY FIVE WHEN BOTH EMPLOYED WPA, NYC.
KNOWN PROFESSIONALLY FROM THIRTY FIVE DASH THIRTY SEVEN BUT HAD NO SOCIAL CONTACT
WITH HIM AT THIS TIME. ZALKIN JOINED FAECT IN NYC BUT UNABLE TO RECALL IF VAGO
SOLICITED HIM FOR MEMBERSHIP THIS GROUP. RENEWED ASSOCIATION WITH VAGO THIRTY
EIGHT WHEN EMPLOYED PRA, WASH, D.C., ALONG WITH SUBJECT. DENIED SUBJECT AIDED
HIM IN OBTAINING THIS POST. ADMITTED LIVING WITH VAGO FOR SEVERAL WEEKS IN HOME
OF MORRIS H. BERKMAN DURING THIRTY EIGHT. THEREAFTER RESIDED IN SAME APARTMENT
BUILDING, WASH, D.C., AND SAME NEIGHBORHOOD ARLINGTON, VA., WITH SUBJECT UNTIL
VAGO MOVED TO NYC FORTY ONE. SINCE FORTY ONE HAS SEEN SUBJECT ON THREE OCCASIONS.
HAS NOT SEEN VAGO OR CORRESPONDED WITH HIM SINCE FORTY THREE. LAST SAW VAGO IN FORTY
ONE OR FORTY TWO IN OFFICES ABRAHAM BROTHMAN AND JULES KORCHIEN WHERE HE WAS
EMPLOYED. ZALKIN MET BROTHMAN AND KORCHIEN THERE BUT SAID HAD PREVIOUSLY KNOWN
KORCHIEN THROUGH FAECT MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON. ZALKIN CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY
SUBVERSIVE OR COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES OF KORCHIEN, VAGO, BERKMAN OR DAVID BLOOM.
ZALKIN DENIED MEMBERSHIP IN CP. RECALLED HAD SEEN DAILY WORKER IN VAGO'S POSSESSION
BUT UNABLE TO ELABORATE. SAID WOULD NOW CONSIDER VAGO A RADICAL AND RUSSIAN
SYMPATHIZER ON BASIS OF STATEMENTS MADE BY SUBJECT DURING LATE NINETEEN THIRTIES.
ZALKIN UNABLE TO ATTRIBUTE SPECIFIC STATEMENTS TO VAGO OR OTHERWISE SUPPORT BY
CONCRETE EVIDENCE HIS OPINION OF SUBJECT.

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456 MAR 9 1961

FJD:gm
65-559

51 FEB 7 1951

RECORDED - 79

G. INDEXED - 79

EX-100 80 1951

8

cc: Mr. [signature]

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

JAN 28 1951

TELETYPE

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

FBI CLEVELAND 1-30-51 10-58 AM EST MMK

DIRECTOR AND SAC NEW YORK VERY URGENT

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., ESPIONAGE R. GILBERT HOOKS, ASSISTANT COLLECTOR
INTERNAL REVENUE, TOLEDO, OHIO, THIS MORNING NOTIFIED RESIDENT AGENT
TOLEDO THAT HE HAD RECEIVED TELEPHONIC INSTRUCTIONS FROM COLLECTION
DIVISION, U.S. TREASURY DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, D.C. THAT SUBJECT MIGHT
ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN PASSPORT AT TOLEDO, OHIO. HOOKS INSTRUCTED TO DELAY
SUBJECT AND NOTIFY FBI, WHO WOULD APPREHEND SUBJECT. HOOKS HAD NO
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR REASON FOR TREASURY DEPARTMENT INTEREST.

BUREAU REQUESTED TO FURNISH ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND IF WARRANT OUTSTANDING. SUTEL.

ABBATICCHIO

END

ACK PLS

11-00 AM OK FBI WA GE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/CK

G.I.R.-7

RECORDED 64

EX-35

FEB 2 1951

51 FEB 7 1951

153

Mr. Belmont

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 31 1951

TELETYPE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/POT/cks

WASH 18 NEW YORK 4 FROM PHILA 1-31-51 641PM

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

OSCAR JOHN VAGO DASH ESP DASH R. REBUTEL JAN TWENTYSEVEN, LAST.
DAVID BLOOM INTERVIEWED TODAY. EXPERIENCED DIFFICULTY IN
IDENTIFYING PHOTOGRAPHS HOWEVER, AFTER HE WAS TOLD PHOTO WAS OF
OSCAR VAGO, SAID HE RECALLED SEEING PHOTO IN NEWSPAPERS A FEW MONTHS
AGO. HE SAID VAGO WAS GETTING RAW DEAL IN BEING CHARGED WITH PERJURY
ON FINE POINT OF SAYING HE WAS IN COUNTRY WHEN HE WAS NOT. BLOOM
SAID HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE RE THIS SITUATION BEYOND WHAT HE
READ IN NEWSPAPERS. HE ALSO SAID HIS LAST ACTIVE ASSOCIATION WITH
VAGO OCCURRED IN EARLY FORTY, PROBABLY APRIL, WHEN BLOOM LEFT
WASHINGTON DC FOR APPROXIMATELY TWO YEAR PERIOD PRECEDING THIS.
BLOOM SAID HE AND VAGO WERE EMPLOYED AS ENGINEERS IN PROCUREMENT
SECTION OF TREASURY DEPT. HE KNEW VAGO SOCIALLY AND SAID
BOTH WERE MEMBERS OF FAECT. SAID HE KNEW OF NO CP AFFILIATIONS OR
ACTIVITIES ON PART OF VAGO. HE DESCRIBED VAGO AS BEING ASSOCIATED
WITH PROGRESSIVES WHO WERE PREVALENT IN WASH DC DURING LATE THIRTIES.
HE ALSO SAID HE BELIEVED VAGO TO BE COMPLETELY LOYAL AMERICAN AND HAD
NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY POSSIBLE ESPIONAGE OR OTHER SUBVERSIVE
ACTIVITIES ON PART OF VAGO. BLOOM STATED HE HAS LITTLE CONTACT WITH
VAGO SINCE FORTY. STATES HE HAS SEEN VAGO BUT ONE OR TWICE SINCE IN
NEW YORK. LETTER TO FOLLOW.

CORNELIUS

CORR LINE 8 9TH WORD SHOULD BE "ACTIVE"

END

WASH

PH R 18 WA MIM

RECORDED - 6401-1988 - 154

INDEXED - 64

FEB 1 1951

FILE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. 100-731

REPORT MADE AT ALBUQUERQUE	DATE WHEN MADE 2/3/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/25, 29, 30/51	REPORT MADE BY RAYFORD S. KISSIAH RSK:FO
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was., Oszkar Vago, John Murray, John Murray			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Stops placed at port of entry, Columbus, New Mexico, for Subject.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

At Columbus, New Mexico

On January 25, 1951, Border Patrolman ROBERT FRAYER was afforded appropriate photographs and information regarding Subject and a request was made to place stops in the offices of the Border Patrol and Immigration & Naturalization Service at that port of entry.

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DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042 RUC/CS

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Perry W. [Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5) Bureau (100-2986) 2 New York (100-55242) 2 Albuquerque 55 FEB 10 1951	101-1988-155 RECORDED - 101 FEB 5 1951 RECEIVED <i>[Signatures]</i>

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AQ #100-731

LEAD

THE NEW YORK OFFICE

At New York, New York

Will advise the Albuquerque Office when stops may be canceled.

REFERENCE: New York letter to Director dated 1/20/51.

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

1-26-51

WASHINGTON AND LOS ANGELES FROM WASH. FIELD 26

1:40 P.M.

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., PERJURY, ESP. DASH R. BULET JAN. SIXTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTYONE, AUTHORIZED INTERVIEW WITH MORRIS H. BERKMAN RE HIS KNOWLEDGE VAGO'S CP ACTIVITIES. BERKMAN, A FORMER CP MEMBER AND FELLOW EMPLOYEE OF SUBJECT IN TREASURY DEPT., D.C. SUBJECT RESIDED IN BERKMAN'S HOME IN D.C. IN NINETEEN THIRTYNINE. BERKMAN IDENTIFIED IN WFO REPORT THIS MATTER DATED JAN. THREE, NINETEEN FIFTYONE, AND COPY FURNISHED LA. BERKMAN MOVED FROM D.C. DEC. TWENTYEIGHT LAST AND GAVE FORWARDING ADDRESS GENERAL DELIVERY, LOS ANGELES. LA INTERVIEW BERKMAN AND SUTEL RESULTS NY OFFICE.

HOTTEL

FJD:JG
65-5598

CC: NEW YORK (100-55242)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2-25-81 BY 3042 FWT
G.I.R.-7

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JAN 27 1951

65 FEB 13 1951

EX-23

FILE

CONFIDENTIAL
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 30 1951

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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/RWT/CLS

TELETYPE

CONFIDENTIAL

WASH 8, NYC 4 FROM LOS ANGELES

30

DIRECTOR AND SAC NEW YORK

2-26-87 URGENT

CLASSIFIED BY: 3042/RWT/CLS
DECLASSIFY ON:

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., PERJURY, ESPIONAGE-R. RE WASHINGTON TEL JAN.

TWENTYSIX LAST AND BULET TO WASHINGTON JAN. SIXTEEN LAST. MORRIS H.

BERKMAN AND WIFE FRANCES INTERVIEWED AT THIS OFFICE TODAY RE SUBJS.

ACTIVITIES WHILE RESIDING AT THEIR RESIDENCE IN WASH., D. C. IN THIRTY-

EIGHT. CLAIMS WIFE PLACED AD IN WASH. NEWSPAPER IN THIRTYEIGHT FOR

ROOMERS WHEN SUBJ. AND JOSEPH ZALKIN ANSWERED AD AND RENTED ROOMS.

SUBJ. RESIDED THERE FOUR OR FIVE MONTHS AND ZALKIN FEW MONTHS LONGER.

BERKMAN AND WIFE CLAIMED NEVER KNEW OF SUBJ. HAVING ANY CP CONNECTIONS

OR SYMPATHY, ALTHOUGH SUBJ. AND ZALKIN DID HAVE NUMEROUS VISITORS AND

OCCASIONALLY USED RECREATION ROOM IN BASEMENT, BUT NEVER HELD ANY CP

MEETINGS TO BERKMANS KNOWLEDGE. BERKMAN PURCHASED RESIDENCE AT TWO

ONE ONE FOUR HUIELEKOPER, WASH., IN THIRTYEIGHT AND OPERATED SAME AS

ROOMING HOUSE APPROXIMATELY FIVE YEARS. BERMANS SON, ROY, IN U. S.

MARINES PAST TWO AND ONEHALF YEARS. BERKMAN AND WIFE DENY ANY AFFILIA-

TION OR SYMPATHY WITH CP AT ANY TIME. FILES THIS OFFICE REFLECT THAT

IN MAY, FORTYSEVEN, [REDACTED]

FOLLOWS.

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT

b1

65 FEB 13 1951

RECORDED - 122
INDEXED - 122

CONFIDENTIAL

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **65-5125**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 2/7/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/27,28,30/51	REPORT MADE BY JOE B. ABERNATHY <div style="text-align: right;">RAJ</div>
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

MORRIS H. and FRANCES BERKMAN, Los Angeles, [redacted] inter-
viewed and advised rented room at 2114 Huidekoper Place, Washington, D.C., to subject and **JOSEPH ZALKIN** for several months in 1938. Claimed no knowledge of any Communist Party activity or sympathy on part of subject, although subject had several visitors and occasionally used recreation room in basement. **BERKMAN** denies he was ever affiliated with Communist Party.

DETAILS: CLASSIFIED BY: **3042 PWT/CLS** **ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**
DECLASSIFY ON: **OADR** **DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042 PWT/CLS**

T-1, of known reliability, advised that in 1947 **MORRIS and FRANCES BERKMAN, 912 North Avenue 47, Los Angeles,** were [redacted]

T-2, of known reliability, advised on January 30, 1951 that **MORRIS and FRANCES BERKMAN, who formerly resided at 912 North Avenue 47, Los Angeles,** presently reside at 904-1/2 South Kernere, Los Angeles.

On January 30, 1951 **MORRIS H. BERKMAN** and his wife **FRANCES** were interviewed at the Los Angeles Office by **SAS WILLIAM C. PATTERSON** and **JOE B. ABERNATHY**, at which time they furnished the following information:

In 1938 **FRANCES BERKMAN** placed an ad in a Washington, D.C. newspaper for roomers. The subject and **JOSEPH ZALKIN** answered the ad and

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CONFIDENTIAL		EX-37

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60 FEB 14 1951

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 65-5125

rented rooms at their residence, 2114 Huidekoper Place, Washington, D.C. The subject resided there approximately four or five months and ZALKIN resided there a few months longer.

They never knew of the subject having any Communist Party connections or sympathy, although the subject and ZALKIN did have numerous visitors and would use the recreation room in the basement, but never held any Communist Party meetings there to the best of their knowledge.

BERKMAN stated they purchased the residence at 2114 Huidekoper Place in Washington, D.C. in 1938 and operated it as a rooming house for approximately five years. He stated his son ROY BERKMAN has been in the U. S. Marine Corps for the past two and one-half years.

MORRIS and FRANCES BERKMAN denied any affiliation or sympathy with the Communist Party on their part at any time.

It should be noted that MORRIS BERKMAN insisted that his wife FRANCES be present during the interview and that both were very uncooperative during the entire interview.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 65-5125

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

T-1

[REDACTED]

C b1

T-2

Mrs. A. K. EVANS, 908 North Avenue 47, Los Angeles, to
SA JOE B. ABERNATHY on January 30, 1951.

REFERENCE:

Washington Field Office teletype to the Bureau and
Los Angeles on January 26, 1951
Report of SA FRANCIS J. DUANE dated January 3, 1951 at
Washington, D.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 7, 1951

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
 PERJURY
 ESPIONAGE - R
 (Bufile 101-1988)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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Employment records reflect that VAGO was employed by the WPA at 37 West 65 Street, NY, from 1/29/34 to 10/28/36. Contacts with fellow employees to date have revealed no pertinent information concerning VAGO'S activities during that period.

However, it is believed that VAGO'S immediate superior during that period was LOUIS NEIMAN, now residing at 229 East 15 Street, Tucson, Arizona. It is noted that VAGO was employed as a rodman and engineer and worked in the designing of recreational buildings and swimming pools for the Department of Parks, City of New York. The Phoenix Office is requested to interview NEIMAN.

A 1933 photograph of VAGO is enclosed for assistance in the interview.

2cc Phoenix (100-3781) Enc. (1)

RECORDED - 91

101-1988-159
 FEB 10 1951

EX-125

DEPT. OF JUSTICE
 SEC. OF INVESTIGATION
 FEB 14 2 28 PM '51

RMK:GMW
 100-55242

61 FEB 16 1951

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
 FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

DATE: February 8, 1951

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was
 PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R
 Bureau file #101-1988

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/cl

Rebutel 1/27/51.

On 1/31/51, DAVID BLOOM, 1411 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pa., was interviewed by SAs ROBERT E. MASTERS and ROBERT G. JENSEN.

BLOOM, at the outset of the interview, was unable to identify a photograph of OSCAR JOHN VAGO as anyone he knew. However, when he was told this was a photograph of VAGO, he said he recalled a similar photograph as having been in the local newspapers a few months ago. He also said he believed VAGO "was getting a raw deal" in being charged with perjury on the fine point of saying he was in the Country when he was not. BLOOM advised he had no personal knowledge relative to the supposed perjury of VAGO beyond that which he read in the newspapers.

Relative to any Communist Party activities and affiliations of VAGO, BLOOM said he had no knowledge. He said he knew VAGO socially in the late 1930's while they were both employed by the Treasury Department in Washington, D. C. During this period VAGO was characterized by BLOOM as having been associated with progressives who were prevalent in Washington, D. C. in the late 1930's. BLOOM declined to clarify what he meant by the term "progressives."

He said that both he and VAGO were members of the FAECT while in Washington, D. C., but he described this as a legitimate union and not subversive in any way.

Since 1940, BLOOM said he has seen VAGO but once or possibly twice. He also advised that he believed VAGO to be a completely loyal American and that he had no knowledge of any possible espionage or other possible subversive activities on the part of VAGO.

The stops requested in New York letter of January 20, last, have been placed.

Inasmuch as there is no additional investigation to be conducted in this Division, this matter is considered RUC.

RGJ:ERG
 65-4411

cc: 100-10892
 New York (100-55242)
 65 FEB 16 1951

RECORDED - 85

INDEXED - 85

EX-75

101-1988-160

FEB 13 1951

34

SECRET

← **CONFIDENTIAL**
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Date: February 7, 1951

To: Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Colonel Robert A. Schow

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: OSCAR JOHN VAGO
ESPIONAGE - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042 PWT/AS

For your information, Oscar John Vago was indicted by the Federal Grand Jury, Southern District of New York, on September 28, 1950, on a charge of perjury. On January 20, 1951, he was released under bond with restrictions that he was not to leave the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York. The date of the trial in this case has not been set.

RECORDED - 91 FEB 10 1951

Vago was born in Budapest, Hungary, on February 27, 1898. He entered the United States in 1924 and was married to Claire Olga Weissman, who was also born in Budapest, Hungary. Vago was naturalized in the Southern District of New York on September 29, 1938. He is an engineer by profession and resides at 66 - 07 99th Street, Rego Park, New York. He is described as 5'6", 150 lbs., dark complexion, brown eyes, partially bald, wears glasses, and has a peculiar waddling walk.

It will be appreciated if you will interview Ismail Akhmedov, who is presently located in Turkey, for any information he may be able to furnish concerning the Communist affiliations and activities of Vago in the United States. A photograph of Vago is being attached hereto for your assistance in conducting this interview.

02 DEB 1 DE 10211CE

FBI

Your early attention to this matter will be appreciated.

Attachment

101-1988
EFE:mpm

61 FEB 16 1951

FEB - 8 1951

COMM - FBI

SECRET

Classified by 2355
Exempt from GDS, Category I
Date of Declassification Indefinite
WAB/MD 107M/25

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	

WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK FROM WASH. FIELD

2/7/51 3:40 P.M.

DIRECTOR AND SAC

URGENT

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WA PERJURY, ESP.R. RENYTEL REQUESTING WFO
 TO NOTIFY BU OF CUSTOMS TO ARREST SUBJECT IF HE ATTEMPTS TO
 FLEE THE U.S. GENERAL COUNSEL, TREASURY DEPT. HAS RULED THAT
 BU OF CUSTOMS HAS NO AUTHORITY TO MAKE SUCH AN ARREST. BU
 OF CUSTOMS HAS AGREED TO UTILIZE DELAYING TACTICS AND NOTIFY
 NEAREST FBI OFFICE IF VAGO DETECTED FLEEING U.S.

FJD:ALB

65-5598

STEIN

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 DATE 2-25-87 BY 202/22/CS

G.I.R.-7

RECORDED - 73

101-1988-162

FEB 10 1951

62 FEB 17 1951

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

FEB 6 1951

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASH 15 FROM SALT LAKE CITY VIA LOSA 6 3-37 PM

DIRECTOR URGENT

OSCAR VAGO, WAS, OSZCAR VAGO, JOHN MURRAY, JOHN MURRAY, INFO CONCERNING W. J. KORTH, COLLECTOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE, SALT LAKE CITY, ADVISED HE RECEIVED TELEGRAM JANUARY TWENTYFIVE, FORTYONE FROM AL CROSS, DEPUTY U S INTERNAL REVENUE COMMISSIONER, WASH. DC. TO PLACE STOP FOR CAPTIONED SUBJECT, A NATURALIZED CITIZEN BELIEVED TO BE TRYING TO LEAVE U S USING FOREIGN PASSPORT. DESCRIBED, AGE FIFTYTHREE, FIVE FEET SEVEN, ONE HUNDRED SIXTYFIVE, BUILD MEDIUM, HAIR BROWN, EYES BROWN. KORTH STATES RETURN JUST RECEIVED FROM ONE ^{Mrs.} JOHN MURRAY, PARK CITY, UTAH, SSN [REDACTED], MARRIED, WIFE ^{Murray} INEZ, DAUGHTER JOYCE, SON KNUT, MURRAY EMPLOYED SILVER KING MINE, PARK CITY, UTAH AND ACCORDING TO KORTH IS UNKNOWN TO EMPLOYEE AT HIS OFFICE, LONGTIME RESIDENT PARK CITY AND WHOSE FATHER HAS BEEN EMPLOYED SILVER KING MINE FOR YEARS. KORTH STATED HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO NOTIFY NEAREST FBI OFFICE IF SUBJECT LOCATED. NO RECORD THIS OFFICE. SUTEL NATURE OF STOP AND IF MURRAY CAN BE IDENTICAL WITH SUBJECT.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

END

LA R 15 WA E LR

61 FEB 26 1951

SE 10

FEB 10 1951

NEWMAN

RECORDED
INDEXED

EX-4

FIVE

CC - Mr Tracy

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

February 7, 1951

Transmit the following message to SAC'S SALT LAKE CITY
NEW YORK CITY

URGENT

101-1988-163

RECORDED SCAR JOHN VAGO, WA., OSZKAR VAGO, ESP R. PERJURY.

EX-4
RESLTEL JANUARY SIX. VAGO INDICTED FOR SDNY SEPTEMBER TWENTY-EIGHT, FIFTY ON
CHARGE PERJURY. RELEASED UNDER FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR BOND JANUARY TWENTY, FIFTY
ONE WITH RESTRICTION NOT TO LEAVE SOUTHERN OR EASTERN DISTRICT NY. NATIONWIDE
STOPS PLACED WITH INTERNAL REVENUE ON BASIS INFORMATION VAGO INTENDED LEAVE
COUNTRY ON HUNGARIAN PASSPORT AND USA SDNY HAS AUTHORIZED ARREST IF HE ATTEMPTS
LEAVE COUNTRY. THE JOHN MURRAY REFERRED SIC BY INTERNAL REVENUE NOT BELIEVED
IDENTICAL WITH VAGO. POSITIVE ELIMINATION IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT ADDITIONAL
DESCRIPTIVE DETAIL. NYC REQUESTED IMMEDIATELY DISCREETLY ASCERTAIN WHETHER
VAGO STILL IN NYC AND ADVISE SIC AND BUREAU.

HOOVER

101-1988

WFE:mpm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/pw/jcs

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

FEB 7 1951

TELETYPE

59 FEB 27 1951
COPIES DESTROYED
456 MAR 9 1961
SENT VIA

Per

Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney

February 14, 1951

Director, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY

There is transmitted herewith a copy of the report of
Special Agent Robert M. Lane dated at New York City January 18,
1951, in the above-captioned matter.

Attest

101-1988

EFE:mpm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042 PWT/Cls

RECEIVED
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FEB 15 9 34 AM '51

RECORDED - 45

101-1988-164

FEB 17 1951

EX-35 FEB 17

REC'D - 2012 OFFICE

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED - MAIL ROOM

COMM - FBI
FEB 15 1951
MAILED 20

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Harbo
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

66 FEB 24 1951

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

FEB 8 1951

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED TELETYPE
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/ROT/CJS

CONF WASH AND WASH FLD 16 FROM NEW YORK 8 3-37 PM
DIRECTOR AND SAC DEFERRED

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R. RE WFO TELETYPE
FEBRUARY SEVEN LAST. NY TELETYPE JANUARY TWENTY FIVE LAST REQUESTED
ONLY THAT BUREAU OF CUSTOMS BE APPRISED OF AUTHORIZATION OF ARREST
OF VAGO AND NOT THAT CUSTOMS MAKE ACTUAL ARREST. WFO REQUESTED TO
NOTIFY CUSTOMS THAT THIS AUTHORITY EXISTS IN ORDER THAT CUSTOMS MAY
BETTER HANDLE SITUATION IF VAGO DETECTED LEAVING US.

SCHEIDT

59 FEB 21 1951
HOLD

TWO COPIES WFO

RECORDED - 71

EX-60

101-1988-165
FEB 10 1951

26

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 17, 1951

FROM : SAC, Mobile

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R
(Bureau file 101-1988)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/pwt/clb

Re New York letter to the Bureau dated 1/20/51.

This is to advise that on January 25, 1951, a stop was placed with Mr. R. E. JETT, Acting Officer in Charge, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Mobile. JETT advised that there are no planes leaving Mobile for foreign flights but that his office will be on the alert to attempt to detect any attempt of the subject to leave the Port of Mobile as a passenger or crew member on any vessel.

Stop was also placed with Mr. H. STEWART COBB, Supervising Deputy, United States Collector of Internal Revenue, Mobile, it being noted that Mobile does not have a separate alien tax division in the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

Contact with Chief W. T. SMITH, United States Customs, reflects that the Mobile Office of the Customs Bureau has received notice from its national headquarters relative to the stop placed against the subject.

New York should advise Mobile when these stops may be removed. RUC.

JTB:ld
cc: New York (100-55242)

EX-83
RECORDED-1288

101-1988-166
FEB 19 1951

398
FEB 21 1951

[Handwritten signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: Feb. 16, 1951

FROM : SAC, San Antonio

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R
(Bufile 101-1988)

Re New York letter to Bureau 1/20/51.

Pursuant to request made in referenced letter, lookouts were placed with U. S. Customs at all border points in the San Antonio Division. A copy of subject's photograph was submitted to Customs at each border point to assist in maintaining the lookout.

Stops were also placed with U. S. I&NS at border crossing points in the San Antonio Division, and with the Alien Tax Section, Bureau of Internal Revenue at Austin, Brownsville, Del Rio, Laredo, and San Antonio, Texas.

Request New York advise when stops may be removed. RUC.

cc: New York (100-55242)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/257/CL

EX - 83

RECORDED - 128

FEB 19 1951

JEJ:EE

74-73

399

FEB 21 1951

English

SAC, New York

February 14, 1951

Director, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 3042 PWT/CLS
ON 2-25-87

You are authorized to furnish to the United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, a copy of the report of Special Agent Robert M. Lane dated at New York City January 18, 1951, in the above-entitled matter.

101-1988

~~SECRET~~

EFE:smm

Classified by 2355 w/RR 10/6/75
Exempt from GDS Category 1
Date of Declassification Indefinite

RECORDED - 85

101-1988-168
FEB 17 1951

80

RECEIVED
F B I
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
F B I
U S DEPT OF JUSTICE

COMM - FBI

FEB 15 1951

MAILED 20

61 FEB 23 1951

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

DATE: February 19, 1951

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
Perjury
Espionage - R
Bufile 101-1988

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/CS

Re: New York letter January 20, 1951

On January 26, 1951 stop notices against subject's imminent departure from the United States were placed with Miss Ann Babcock, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Paul Cisco, in charge of the outside division, US Customs Service, and William Derrick, Alien Tax Division, Treasury Department, all of San Francisco.

The New York Office is requested to advise when these notices are to be removed. RUC.

PCF/jr
65-4286

cc: New York (100-55242) B/

RECORDED - 121

FEB 21 15 11/61 FEB 24 1951

65 FEB 28 1951

W. J. Erickson

SAC, New York

February 19, 1951

Director, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY
(NY file 100-55242)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/CIS

In connection with the prosecution of Vago on the charge of perjury, you are aware that one of the essential elements to be established by the government is the materiality of Vago's false statement to the violation of a Federal law being inquired into by the Federal Grand Jury, SDNY, before whom Vago appeared on September 20, 1950.

It is noted that the indictment in this case indicates instant Grand Jury was conducting an investigation pertaining to possible violation of espionage laws of the United States and any other Federal criminal statutes. Therefore, in order to establish this perjury violation, it will be necessary to show a direct relation between Vago's false statement and the espionage activities of the Bentley or Rosenberg networks or some other violation of the Federal law.

It would appear that Vago's false statement cannot be directly connected with the activities of these espionage networks, and that the false statement must be shown to be material to some other violation of the laws of the United States. From an analysis of the information developed in this investigation, there is an apparent violation of the Immigration and Naturalization laws indicated on the basis of Vago's false statement under oath at the time of his entry into the United States on January 12, 1933. At the time of this entry, he swore falsely before Immigration Officer J. R. Montgomery that he had previously been in the United States from 1925 to 1928, when in truth he had been in this country from 1925 until 1932.

RECORDED - 118 101-1988-170

The investigation further clearly shows that his false statement, both at the time of his re-entry into the United States in 1933 as well as that before instant Grand Jury, was given willfully and with premeditation in order to cover up the facts relative to his illegal and irregular immigration status in the United States between 1928 and 1932. It might be mentioned that Vago might have similarly made a false statement under oath concerning his whereabouts during this period at the time of his naturalization proceedings in the Southern District of New York on September 29, 1938.

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Ne _____

101-1988

MAILED 8
FEB 20 1951
COMM - FBI

59 FEB 27 1951

RECEIVED
FEB 19 6 30 PM '51
V. R. KNOX
CIS

Your office is requested to immediately check all of the available records concerning the naturalization of Vago in the Southern District of New York to determine whether he made such false statement during any hearings or in any affidavits executed by him at the time of or immediately prior to his admittance to citizenship.

It is further desired that you discuss this matter with the United States Attorney, Southern District of New York, to determine his views as to the exact violation of the Federal law which it is his intention to use in offering proof in the forthcoming trial as to the materiality of Vago's false statement. On the basis thereof, you are requested to carefully review the results of your investigation to date, analyze the pertinent evidence available, and conduct such additional investigation which might be necessary to corroborate and strengthen the available evidence.

This matter should be given your immediate attention.

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

FEB 8 1951

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASH FROM NEW YORK 18

8 3-44 P

DIRECTOR

URGENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/CB

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., PERJURY., ESPIONAGE - R. REBUTEL FEBRUARY
SEVEN LAST. VAGO KNOWN TO BE IN NYC FEBRUARY SEVEN LAST AND NOT
BELIEVED TO HAVE LEFT NY SINCE RELEASED ON BAIL. FACTS RE SLC
STOP NOT KNOWN, BUT APPARENTLY NOT IDENTICAL.

SALT LAKE CITY ADVISED

HOLD

RECORDED - 97

59 FEB 27 1951 EX-100

FEB 10 1951
REC'D BETHOHI

SCHEIDT

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

FEB 7 1951

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

WASH 16 FROM SALT LAKE CITY VIA LOSA 7 9-16 AM

DIRECTOR U R G E N T

OSCAR VAGO, WAS, OSZCAR VAGO, JOHN MURRAY, JOHN MURAY, INFO CONCERNING
REMYTEL SIXTH INST. CORRECT DATE TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY W. J. KORTH,
COLLECTOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE, WAS JANUARY TWENTYFIVE, FIFTYONE, NOT
FORTYONE.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-25-87 BY SP4 R/PW/cks

END

LA R 16 WA DAD

246
MAR 3 1951

RECORDED - 6

G.I.R.

101-1988-172

FEB 10 1951

25

FOR

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: February 27, 1951

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Miami

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R
(Bufile 101-1988)ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-81 BY 3042/PWT/CL

Re New York letters to Bureau dated January 20 and 31, 1951, captioned as above.

Appropriate stops have been placed with the suggested Government agencies and with transportation companies at ports in the Miami Division so that the Miami Office will be notified in the event Subject should try to leave the country from one of these ports.

A photograph of VAGO was exhibited to NICHOLAS DOZENBERG, 425 7th Street, West Palm Beach, Florida, on February 19, 1951, but DOZENBERG was unable to identify it as being anyone known to him.

As there is no further investigation in the Miami Division, this case is being RUC'd. However, the office of origin is requested to notify Miami when the stops may be removed.

HKR:ltf

65-2424

cc: New York (100-55242)

RECORDED - 9

MAR 1 1951

EX-22

62 MAR 6 1951

0

3

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK FROM WASH FIELD 2-20-51 2:30 p.m.

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS. ESP. R, PERJURY
REBULET FEBRUARY FIFTEEN LAST AUTHORIZING INTERVIEW WITH PAUL WEIDLINGER.
WFO DETERMINED WEIDLINGER CAN BE LOCATED CARE OF GENERAL ENGINEERING ASSOCIATES,
ROOM ONE ONE ONE THREE, ONE NAUGHT ONE PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK.
HANDLE AND SUTEL RESULTS OF INTERVIEW IN ORDER THAT WEIDLINGER'S D. C. ASSOCIATE
MORRIS SHAPIRO MAY BE INTERVIEWED IMMEDIATELY THEREAFTER. SHAPIRO CONTINUES TO
RESIDE SIX THREE TWO THREE LUZON AVENUE, D. C. HE LIVED THERE DURING SAME PERIOD
VAGO AND JOS AALKIN DID. NEW YORK REFER WFO REP JANUARY THIRD LAST FOR INFO.
RE SHAPIRO AND WEIDLINGER.

THOMAS
FJD:cal
65-5598

STEIN *Cauch*

G. I. R. -10

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/for/ks

FAVE
100-1745
198-1745

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456 MAR 9 1961

RECORDED - 137
INDEXED - 137

FEB 27 1951

6 MAR 8 1951

EX - 8

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

100-347121-131 03V13335

FEB 23 1951

12:47:22 5 15 831

3017201 TO TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

WASH AND WASH FLD 35 FROM NEW YORK 23

7-27 P

DIRECTOR AND SAC

URGENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PTJ/CB

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., PERJURY, ESP. DASH R. RE WFO TEL FEB. TWENTY LAST. PAUL WEIDLINGER ADVISES FIRST MET VAGO WHEN BOTH EMPLOYED BY FELLHEIMER WAGNER AT NY IN NINETEEN FORTYTHREE. NEXT CONTACT IN NINETEEN FORTYNINE BY ACCIDENT AND VAGO BEGAN DOING PART TIME WORK AT HOME FOR WEIDLINGER. LATTER ESTIMATES VAGO PAID THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN A PERIOD OF SOME EIGHTEEN MONTHS. WAS WITHIN ONE WEEK OF HIRING VAGO AS REGULAR EMPLOYEE AT TIME OF LATTER-S ARREST. ADVISES VAGO-S WIFE CAME TO HIM SHORTLY AFTER ARREST PLEADING POVERTY AND HE PROMISED PART TIME WORK IF VAGO RELEASED. TOLD HER HE WOULD POSITIVELY NOT GIVE VAGO A REGULAR JOB. A FEW DAYS AFTER VAGO-S RELEASE ON BAIL, WEIDLINGER GAVE HIM JOB OF DRAFTING AT HOME WHICH AMOUNTS TO REGULAR JOB IN COMPENSATION. WILL PROBABLY LAST FOUR MORE WEEKS. WEIDLINGER DENIES ANY KNOWLEDGE OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES ON VAGO-S PART AT ANY TIME DURING RELATIONSHIP. WEIDLINGER STATES HE IS QUOTE POSITIVE UNQUOTE VAGO NOT KNOWN TO EITHER CLAUDE ENGLE OR MORRIS SHAPIRO, WEIDLINGER-S PARTNERS. ADVISES HE TOLD SHAPIRO AT TIME OF ARREST THAT HE ALMOST HIRED VAGO AND LATTER GAVE NO INDICATION HE KNEW VAGO PERSONALLY. WFO REQUESTED TO INTERVIEW SHAPIRO IN LIGHT OF ABOVE.

SCHEIDT

RECORDED - 137

FEB 28 1951

INDEXED - 107

EX - 8

4 F4

65 MAR 7 1951
HOLD PLS 351 COPIES WFO

101-1988-175
FIVE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **74-41** **BTM**

REPORT MADE AT CHARLOTTE	DATE WHEN MADE 3-1-51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-10-51	REPORT MADE BY JAMES W. CANNON
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE

JOHN JAMES MATWIN, 122 Rhett Street, Greenville, S. C. does not recognize photograph of subject, and has never heard of him.

-RUC-

DETAILS:

At Greenville, South Carolina

JOHN JAMES MATWIN, 122 Rhett Street, was exhibited the photograph of subject VAGO, and questioned for any knowledge he might have of VAGO, but he advised he did not recognize the photograph of VAGO and had never heard of him.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/POT/CJ

COPIES DESTROYED
456 MAR 9 1961

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">COPY IN FILE</p> <p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 - Bureau (101-1988) 3 - New York (100-55242) (1 for file 65-14783) 3 - Charlotte (1 for file 65-1301) <p>MAR 2 1951</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.2em;">101-1988-176</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MAR 8 1951</p> <p style="text-align: right;">RECORDED - 50 INDEXED - 50 EX-123</p>

PROPERTY OF FBI—THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOU BY THE FBI AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

Charlotte 74-41

REFERENCE

New York letter to the Bureau, dated January 31,
1951 with CC to Charlotte.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, NEW ORLEANS

DATE: February 27, 1951

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY; ESPIONAGE-R
(NY File 100-55242)

5327

8-219

Re New York letter to Director dated January 20, 1951

This is to advise that requested stops and lookout notices were placed with the local office of INS, and all steamship companies and air lines operating in the New Orleans area which carry passengers out of the United States.

The United States Customs Service advised that their local office does not maintain a check upon citizens leaving this country.

There is no office of the Alien Tax Division of the Bureau of Internal Revenue located in this city. HUC.

CC: New York

100-14401

BJO:dfs

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042 PWT/cls

RECORDED - 16

EX-84

100-1988-177
MAR 8 1951

Enrich

351
56 MAR 8 1951

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

B

REC'D ESPIONAGE

MAR 1 10 50 AM '51

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).

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

DISPOSITION OF DOCUMENT IN
JULIUS ROSENBERG 65-58236-730

☐ For your information: _____

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

101- 1988- NR (2-20-51) after serial 177

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

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, New York

Card U.T.D.

DATE: March 2, 1951

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, wa.
PURGERY - ESP. R.
Bufile 101-~~001988~~

G I. R. -8

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

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

NAME

ALIASES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-25-89 BY 3042/PJT/CLS

RACE

SEX

NATIVE BORN

NATURALIZED

ALIEN

COMMUNIST

SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY

INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST

LEAGUE

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify)

TAB FOR DETCOM

TAB FOR COMSAB

DATE OF BIRTH

PLACE OF BIRTH

RESIDENCE ADDRESS

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address)

Unemployed

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Vital Industry List)

RMK: 100-55242

56 MAR 24 1951

RECORDED - 121

MAR 5 1951

101-1988-178

English

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FILE NO. 65-5125

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 3/12/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/29; 2/15, 24; 3/3/51	REPORT MADE BY JOE B. ABERNATHY ldb
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ADMINISTRATIVE

T-1 and T-2 after viewing subject's photograph at Los Angeles, advised had never seen nor heard of him. Stops placed with Western Air Lines, Los Angeles, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Los Angeles, I & N S, Los Angeles, and Customs Agency Service, Los Angeles.

- R U C -

DETAILS:

The New York Office advised that subject had indicated he might flee the United States, and New York requested certain stops be placed. That Office also requested subject's photograph be exhibited to T-1 and T-2 in Los Angeles.

By letters dated January 29, 1951 stops were placed with Bureau of Internal Revenue, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and Customs Agency Service, all Los Angeles.

On February 15, 1951 a stop was placed with Mr. PAUL E. SULLIVAN, Vice President, Western Air Lines, Los Angeles, covering each of their air terminals throughout the western states.

DECLASSIFIED BY 3042/PWT/OLS
ON 2-25-87

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R.B. Host</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT ② - Bureau (101-1988) 3 - New York (100-55242) 2 - Los Angeles COPY IN FILE		101-1988-179 MAR 16 1951 34
		RECORDED - 1 INDEXED - 1

LA 65-5125

ADMINISTRATIVE

On February 24, 1951 SA HAROLD F. DODGE exhibited subject's photograph to T-1, a former associate of NICK DOZENBERG, who is an admitted former Soviet Agent in the United States. T-1 advised he had never seen nor heard of him.

On March 3, 1951 SA DODGE also exhibited subject's photograph to T-2, who has admitted engaging in Soviet Espionage in the United States in the middle 1930's. T-2 advised he had never seen nor heard of subject.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

LA 65-5125

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

T-1

[REDACTED] who furnished information to SA [REDACTED]
on February 24, 1951.

T-2

[REDACTED], who furnished information to SA [REDACTED]
on March 3, 1951.

b7c
b7D

REFERENCE: New York letters to Bureau dated 1/20/51 & 1/31/51

XXXXXX
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 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- 1988 - 180 (IC 2-28-51)

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

March 10, 1951

SAC, NEW YORK

DIRECTOR, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO
ESPIONAGE - R

RECORDED - 65 101-1988-180

This is to advise that a confidential foreign source has indicated that the photograph of the subject Vago was exhibited to Alexander Allan Foote on February 23, 1951, and Foote stated he never had seen or heard of Vago.

101-1988

EFE:hc *h*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/PWT/CB

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

THIS CASE ORIGINATED NEW YORK

MSB
NY FILE # 100-55242

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 3/20/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/18-3/12/51	REPORT MADE BY ROBERT M. KANE
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE- R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

VAGO released on \$5,000 bail on 1/20/51. No trial date set. VAGO employed since release on drafting work in own home for PAUL WEIDLINGER, engineer at 101 Park Avenue, New York. No unusual activities noted.

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR
ADD. DISSEMINATION.

DETAILS:

PROSECUTIVE ACTIVITY

On January 15, 1951, Judge JEROME FRANK of the Circuit Court of Appeals, New York, issued an order directing that VAGO be tried in the immediate future or released on bail pending trial.

On January 20, 1951, JOSEPHINE WINKLER, 28-44 50th Street, Woodside, Long Island, furnished \$5,000 cash bail and VAGO was released on that date. He was restricted by the terms of his release to the Southern and Eastern Districts of New York. At the present time, no date is set for trial.

It is noted that JOSEPHINE WINKLER is a sister of CIAIRA VAGO, wife of OSCAR VAGO.

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

- 5 - Bureau (101-1988)
- 1 - USA, SDNY
- 1 - Los Angeles (65-5125) (Info.)
- 1 - San Francisco (65-4286) (Info.)
- 1 - Washington Field (65-5598) (Info.)
- 3 - New York

101 - 1988 - 181

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EX-86

6 APR 1951

NY100-55242

RESIDENCE

FRANK BETZ, building superintendent of VAGO'S residence at 6607 99th Street, Rego Park, advised that the rent at the VAGO apartment, during the period of his confinement, was paid regularly by his wife, CLAIRE VAGO. He stated that no indication had ever been given to him of any plans on the part of the VAGOS to leave their apartment.

He stated that he did not know VAGO well personally, but advised that it was rumored in the neighborhood that VAGO was a member of the Communist Party and distributes Communist literature. He was unable to furnish any specific information bearing on this, but advised that one JAMES TOAL, a neighbor of VAGO, would be able to furnish more detailed information.

JAMES TOAL, Jr., 6611 99th Street, Rego Park, a Detective in the New York City Police Department, advised that he too had heard a great many rumors that VAGO was a Communist and related that on a number of occasions he had seen VAGO purchasing copies of the "Daily Worker" at a neighborhood newsstand. He recalled that in about January, 1950, he returned home with his wife late one evening and observed VAGO leaving the front door of his, TOAL'S, apartment. Upon opening the door of his apartment, TOAL said he noticed what he described as "Communist literature" on the floor and immediately pursued VAGO and asked him whether he had pushed the material under the apartment door. VAGO readily admitted that he had done so and TOAL threatened him with physical violence if he repeated the act.

At that point, VAGO told him that if he would give him his apartment number he would refrain from giving him more material and TOAL advised him that if he distributed the literature anywhere in the building again, he would personally inflict a beating on VAGO.

NY 100- 55242

According to TOAL, VAGO did not distribute any more literature in the development although up to that date such literature was distributed regularly, apparently by VAGO.

TOAL advised that he was unable to recall the exact nature of the literature left by VAGO, but was sure that none of it bore the direct stamp of the Communist Party. He stated that he was almost sure that some of the literature was from the American Youth Congress, but could recall nothing further concerning it. TOAL stated that he had no additional information to establish VAGO'S connection with the Communist Party.

EMPLOYMENT

PAUL WEIDLINGER

PAUL WEIDLINGER, 349 East 49th Street, New York, who is a partner in General Engineering Associates with offices in Washington, D.C. and at 101 Park Avenue, New York, advised that he had entered the United States at Miami on January 24, 1943 and was naturalized at New York in 1948. He related that upon coming to New York, a few months after his entry into the United States, he obtained a job at Fellheimer-Wagner, a New York engineering firm, and had met VAGO immediately thereafter. He stated that he was born in Hungary on December 22, 1911 and that he and VAGO had become associated because of their common background.

He advised that VAGO had been extremely helpful to him in such matters as securing an apartment in New York and had given him a great deal of advice which he badly needed because of his unfamiliarity with the United States.

He stated that he had known VAGO almost entirely at work, but that he had visited in his home twice during the few months that they worked together in 1943.

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He said that after VAGO left Fellheimer-Wagner in 1943, a few months after he himself began to work there, he lost all contact with him until 1949. At that time, he said he met VAGO accidentally on the street and VAGO told him the story of his having become involved in Abraham Brothman Associates. According to WEIDLINGER, VAGO described his partners in the firm as "gangsters" and informed him that he had lost a great deal of money in the venture and was very bad off financially.

WEIDLINGER advised that at that time he was already making plans to set up an office in New York and he asked VAGO to work for him whenever the office was opened. Upon opening the New York Office, he said he found that he did not have enough work to hire VAGO full time, but gave him a great deal of part time work. He estimated that from early 1950 until the time of VAGO'S arrest, he had paid him about \$3,000 for this part time work.

In addition, he said he had promised VAGO a full time job as soon as the latter finished the work which he was doing for JACOB ARONOW. He advised that if it had not been for VAGO'S arrest, the latter would have been employed by him within a week or so.

Shortly after the arrest, he related Mrs. VAGO came to his office in a near hysterical condition and asked him if he would employ VAGO if the latter were released on bail. WEIDLINGER informed her that he would not give VAGO a full time job because of the bad publicity which would accrue to him, but promised her he would give VAGO part time employment,

Upon VAGO'S release, he said Mrs. VAGO again appeared at his office and he gave her work for VAGO to do in his own home. He stated that he pays VAGO \$4.50 an hour and that he has averaged about \$200 a week in the work that he does for WEIDLINGER. He described VAGO as being very competent and stated that in

NY 100-55242

view of the shortage of engineers at the present time, he would be very happy to hire VAGO full time except for the possible bad publicity.

He advised that he had made it plain to VAGO that he could not give him full time employment and also that VAGO was not to rely on him for his livelihood. Actually he said he would probably be able to give VAGO sufficient work to keep him busy for some time to come.

He stated that either VAGO or his wife call at his office to pick up the work and that sometimes they deliver it at his office and sometimes at his home.

He advised that in addition to the money which he had paid VAGO since the latter's release, he had also owed VAGO for previous work at the time of his arrest and had given that money to Mrs. VAGO while VAGO was incarcerated.

WEIDLINGER stated that he had never seen VAGO in Washington, D.C. and claimed that he had no knowledge whatsoever of any Communist activity on VAGO'S part. He advised that he was aware that VAGO was a militant member of the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians and related that on one occasion VAGO had attempted unsuccessfully to recruit him for that organization.

WEIDLINGER stated that he, himself, had never had any connection with the Communist Party.

JACOB ARONOW

JACOB ARONOW, 117 West 197th Street, New York, advised that in May of 1949 VAGO had walked into his office at 12 East 48th Street and had asked for employment as a Structural Engineer. He stated that he had no previous acquaintance with VAGO and that VAGO had merely walked in "cold" looking for work. At that time, ARONOW said he had hired VAGO for about three weeks, but had let him go upon the completion of the project.

NY 100-55242

In February of 1950, he related he had gotten a contract for a large construction job and had immediately rehired VAGO whom he described as a very competent structural engineer. He stated that VAGO worked swiftly and accurately and kept very much to himself while working. He stated that he had never at any time had any inkling as to VAGO'S political connections since he apparently never discussed such matters in the office.

He stated that VAGO had asked for re-employment but that he had refused to rehire him and would continue to do so unless VAGO were acquitted,

MICHAEL J. KAPILOFF, Assistant to ARONOW, also advised that VAGO had absolutely refrained from any political discussions during his employment there and had apparently had very little connection with the other employees.

DAVID BLOOM

DAVID BLOOM, a fellow employee of VAGO in the Treasury Department, Procurement Division in the latter 1930's, who presently resides at 1411 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, was interviewed at Philadelphia on January 31, 1951 by SAs ROBERT E. MASTERS and ROBERT G. JENSEN.

BLOOM, at the outset of the interview, advised that he was unable to identify the photograph of VAGO and upon being informed that it was VAGO, stated that he then recalled that he had seen the photograph in the newspapers some months ago. He stated that he believed VAGO "was getting a raw deal" in being charged with perjury on the fine point of saying that he was in the country when he was not.

BLOOM advised that he had no personal knowledge relative to the supposed perjury of VAGO beyond that of which he read in the newspapers. Relative to any Communist Party activities or affiliations of VAGO, BLOOM stated he had no knowledge.

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He said he knew VAGO socially in the late 1930's while they were both employed by the Treasury Department in Washington, D.C. During this period VAGO was characterized by BLOOM as having been associated with progressives, who were prevalent in Washington, D.C. at that time. BLOOM declined to clarify what he meant by the term "progressives." He stated that both he and VAGO were members of the F.A.E.C.T. while in Washington, D.C., but he described this as a legitimate union and not subversive in any way.

Since 1940, BLOOM said he has seen VAGO but once or possibly twice. He also advised that he believed VAGO to be a completely loyal American and that he had no knowledge of any possible Espionage or other possible subversive activities on the part of VAGO.

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, advised that on January 27, 1947, DAVID BLOOM attended a meeting of the Communist Party Executive Committee at Wilmington, Delaware.

On February 19, 1947, the informant reported that DAVID BLOOM had expressed himself in favor of establishing a white collar section of the Communist Party in the Wilmington area.

WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

It is noted that government employment records reflect that VAGO was employed by the WPA from January 29, 1934 to October 28, 1936 at 37 West 65th Street, New York City. He was employed by the Park Department of the City of New York in the Design Division and was under the supervision of ARTHUR BARZAGHI, Chief Engineer of that division.

STUART CONSTABLE, Chief of Design, Park Department, City of New York, advised that ARTHUR BARZAGHI had died about 1940. CONSTABLE stated that he, himself, had no recollection of VAGO. He advised that the

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

section in which VAGO worked had some 1,200 engineers.

EDWARD A. SEARS, Mechanical Engineer, 13 East 37th Street, New York, advised that he recalled VAGO as an engineer with whom he worked, but was unable to furnish any specific information. He did recall, however, that VAGO worked under the supervision of LOUIS NEIMAN, 229 East 15th Street, Tucson, Arizona.

The Phoenix Office has been requested to interview NEIMAN.

ERNEST J. CLARK, a member of the engineering firm of Andrews, Clark and Buckley, 305 East 63rd Street and T. SANFORD THOMPSON, Board of Water Supply, 120 Wall Street, both of whom worked under BARZAGHI, were unable to recall VAGO.

BANK ACCOUNT

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that on March 6, 1951, VAGO had a balance of \$173.58 in his account at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard. He advised that on January 26, a check drawn by PAUL WEIDLINGER in the amount of \$100 was deposited in the account and on February 13th, another check in the amount of \$371.25 was deposited. Both checks were drawn on the Riggs National Bank, Washington, D.C.

Checks executed by VAGO and his wife appeared to be all of a routine nature.

It is noted that the above information was secured on the usual confidential basis and is not to be made public except on the issuance of a subpoena.

- P E N D I N G -

- 8 -

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

JEROME EUGENE TARTAKOW

JEROME EUGENE TARTAKOW, a fellow prisoner with VAGO at the Federal House of Detention, West Street, New York, advised that VAGO had informed him that as a result of his arrest, his "usefulness" in America was ended. VAGO advised TARTAKOW that he was trying to find the best possible way to "contact Washington" before he left jail to inform "them" that he is prepared for another assignment.

He finally decided, according to TARTAKOW that he would send a friend to Washington as a messenger to deliver his letter.

Upon being asked by TARTAKOW what he would do if the State Department refused to issue a passport to him, VAGO replied, "then I will go by the tried and proven route."

TARTAKOW stated that VAGO intends to go to Budapest immediately upon his release and related that VAGO had informed him that he was on the verge of leaving the United States at the time of his arrest. At the present time, according to TARTAKOW, VAGO plans to have friends in France write him a letter offering him a job there which should enable him to obtain an American passport.

TARTAKOW advised that ABRAHAM BROTHMAN, a former partner of VAGO in Abraham Brothman Associates, who has been convicted of Obstruction of Justice, was preparing a deal concerning the promotion of an electrically operated valve invented by him. He stated that plans were being made in connection with this promotion which would give VAGO five per cent of the income.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA (CONT'D)

TARTAKOW also advised that VAGO had informed him that all of the material which Doctor EMIL KLAUS FUCHS had furnished to the Russians was first submitted to BROTHMAN for his examination and verification of the accuracy of the material.

He stated that VAGO had been very friendly with JULIUS ROSENBERG who is presently being tried on a charge of conspiracy to commit espionage, but that ROSENBERG'S attorney had warned him not to associate too closely with VAGO.

In describing ROSENBERG and VAGO, TARTAKOW made the following observation:

"Never have I been associated with two men whose hatred for our government is so profound. Every statement contains a threat of destruction, of violence, to America. These men are not mere Communists. What is more important is that they are revolutionists and that even in the Communist organization itself is a horse of a different color."

TARTAKOW, whose reliability is subject to question, was unable to furnish any more specific information concerning any of the above statements;

INFORMANTS

[REDACTED] *whose credit*
[REDACTED] advised *it is not*
SA A. ROBERT SWANSON that he did not recall VAGO. *former since he has*
b7D b7c in the past furnished

[REDACTED] *former Communist Party*
both reliable &
functionary in the New York area, advised SA VICTOR *reliable inf.*
TURYN, that he did not recall VAGO or that he had *reputation*
never known VAGO.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ b7c b7D

NY 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA (CONT'D)

[REDACTED] b7c
and former member of the German Communist Party, advised SA WILLIAM E. NUMMEY that she had never been acquainted with VAGO.

[REDACTED] German Communist Party member b7c
[REDACTED] advised SA JOHN M. O'MARA that he was not acquainted with VAGO.

[REDACTED] and familiar with Communist activities b7c
among Negroes, advised SA FRANK J. SMITH that VAGO was not familiar to him.

HELEN ELITCHER, wife of MAX ELITCHER, contact of JULIUS ROSENBERG, advised SA VINCENT J. CAHILL that to her knowledge, VAGO had never been associated with ROSENBERG.

[REDACTED] Communist Party member in b7c
New York and San Francisco from 1927 to 1939, advised SA EDWIN R. TULLY that he was not acquainted with VAGO.

BEN SITLOW, former prominent Communist Party functionary, advised that he was unable to identify VAGO although a photograph seemed familiar to him.

NICHOLAS DOZENBERG, confessed Soviet Agent in the early 1930's in the United States, advised that he too was unable to identify VAGO. This information was contained in Miami letter dated February 27, 1951.

MISCELLANEOUS

HERBERT NUSSEY, Principal of the Public School attended by VAGO'S son, JOHN, was advised on January 22, 1951 in a letter from Mrs. CLAIRE VAGO, that her son was being withdrawn from that school as of that date.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA (CONT'D)

It is noted that Confidential Informant T-1 has advised that checks dated January 31, 1951 in the amount of \$50 and February 2, 1951 in the amount of \$59.50, were drawn by Mrs. VAGO to the Downtown Communist School.

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised on June 20, 1945 that the Downtown Communist School was set up in 1944 and controlled by the Communist Party either directly or indirectly.

Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, advised that Mrs. PAULA GROSS, 102 East Fourth Street, New York, directed a letter to VAGO on February 8, 1951. Confidential Informant T-1 advised that a check in the amount of \$7 was drawn to Mrs. PAULA GROSS on February 27.

Confidential Informant T-5, of known reliability, advised that PAULA GROSS, no address, was Treasurer of the American-Hungarian Women's Division of the International Workers Order on June 22, 1950.

Confidential Informant T-6, of known reliability, advised that one PAULA GROSS was a contact or employee of "Magyar Jovo" in 1949. The latter publication has previously been described as a Hungarian language Communist newspaper to which VAGO is known to be a subscriber.

A surveillance of VAGO on January 20, 21 and 22, subsequent to his release, failed to reflect any information pertaining to this investigation.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, N.Y.

Will follow and report prosecutive action.

Will continue to maintain a mail cover at
6607 99th Street, Rego Park.

Will continue to monitor the bank account of
the VAGOS at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company,
95-38 Queens Boulevard.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA ROBERT M. KANE dated March 20, 1951 at New York, New York, are as follows:

T-1

[REDACTED] b7c
[REDACTED] b7D
Sterling National Bank
and Trust Company of NY,
95-38 Queens Boulevard.
contacted by SA(A) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

T-2

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] b2
as set out in the report b7D
of SA [REDACTED] BORN
dated May 17, 1949, at
Baltimore, in the case
entitled, "DAVID BLOOM,
was; ET AL, SECURITY MATTER-
C."

T-3

Former [REDACTED] contacted by b2
SA [REDACTED] b7D

T-4

Mail cover at 6607 99th
Street, Rego Park.

T-5

[REDACTED] contacted by b2
SA EVERETT K. DEANE. b7D

T-6

BELA ROTH, a former
employee of "Magyar Jovo"
contacted by SAS ELMER M.
ROTH and ROBERT C. DOWNES.

REFERENCE:

Report of SA ROBERT M. KANE, 1/18/51,
New York.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: March 21, 1951

FROM : SAC, HOUSTON

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
Oszkar Vago, John Murray,
John Muray
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R
(Bufile 101-1988)

G. I. R. -1

ReNYlet to Bureau dated 1/23/51, a copy of which was designated for the Houston Office with a request to place appropriate stops with the U. S. Customs Service, Immigration and Naturalization Service, and Alien Tax Division of the Internal Revenue.

This is to advise that all appropriate stops have been placed in the Houston Division, and the New York Office is requested to advise when these stops are no longer required.
-RUC-

CC - New York (100-55242)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042/pw/clg

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MAR 27 1951

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EX-100

50 APR 2 1951

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL JAMES M. McINERNEY

April 3, 1951

DIRECTOR, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.

PERJURY

ESPIONAGE - R

CONFIDENTIAL WAS 10/3/51

There is being transmitted herewith for your information one copy of the report of Special Agent Robert M. Kane, dated March 20, 1951, at New York City, in the above-captioned matter.

Enclosure

WFB:hc

101-1988

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042 PWT/CJS

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EX-123

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MAR 28 1951
COMM - FBI

SAC, NEW YORK

April 3, 1951

DIRECTOR, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.

FELONY

ESPIONAGE - R

New York 100-39842

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re New York Special Agent Robert M. Kane, 3/22/51, New York City.

You are authorized to furnish a copy of this report to the United States Attorney, Southern District of New York.

It is noted that you included the information as obtained by Jerome Tartakow in the Administrative Section of this report. Inasmuch as your office has previously been authorized to make available to the United States Attorney, SDNY, such information as has been furnished to your office by Tartakow, it is requested that this information be set forth in the regular section of your next report so that the information might likewise be brought to the attention of the Department. It is suggested that in your opening paragraph describing Tartakow, that it be specifically pointed out that Tartakow has indicated that he is unwilling to appear as a witness in court.

100-39842

WFE:hc

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-25-87 BY 3042 ADT/cl

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EX-100
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Classified by 355 WAB/DAW 10/3/75
Exempt from GDS, Category 2, 4
Date of Declassification Indefinite

WAB/DAW 10/1/75

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Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

MAILED 10
APR 3 1951

66 APR 13 1951

FD-72
(1-10-49)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECURITY INFORMATION~~

WNY DRR 10/3/75

FORM NO. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 65-5598

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 4/7/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/27; 2/12, 13, 17; 20, 21, 24; 3/21/51	REPORT MADE BY FRANCIS J. DUANE FJD:teb
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

JOSEPH ZALKIN, Former Associate of subject, denies knowledge that VAGO was a member of the Communist Party while in Washington, D. C. ZALKIN stated that both he and VAGO were members of the FAECT and attended meetings of this group which were held at the Washington Bookshop Association. Both FAECT and the Washington Bookshop have been cited as Communist groups. ZALKIN described VAGO as a "radical" but said he could not further define this designation of VAGO. ZALKIN said that during the late 1930s, VAGO was definitely sympathetic to the Russian form of government. ZALKIN also recalled that VAGO read the Communist publication, the Daily Worker. ZALKIN last saw VAGO in New York City seven or eight years ago where he was employed in an office with JULES KORCHEIN, a former officer in the FAECT.

*sec 8m 2 - F72
9/2/51
5/15/51
12-51-20
4/20/51
1 cc Mr. [unclear]
[unclear]*

ALR-1

- RUC -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/PWT/CLS

COPIES DESTROYED

456 MAR 9 1961 GEORGE SLOAN, a Structural Engineer, employed by the General Services Administration, and a former co-worker of VAGO,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
		101-1988-185	RECORDED - 16
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 6 copies Bureau (101-1988) New York (100-55242) Los Angeles (65-5125) San Francisco (65-4286) (Info) Washington Field		COPY IN FILE APR 10 1951	INDEXED - 16

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66 APR 28

WFO 65-5598

advised that while VAGO was employed in the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department, his closest associates were DAVID *BLOOM and JOSEPH ZALKIN. ACTIVE IN F.A.E.C.T.

It has been determined that BLOOM is presently residing in the vicinity of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and that ZALKIN is presently employed by the Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, at Washington, D. C.

It has been determined that in 1938, after arriving in Washington, D. C., to accept employment in the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department, VAGO resided at 2114 Huidekoper Place, NW, a private dwelling then occupied by MORRIS BERKMAN; in 1939, he resided 6323 Luzon Avenue, NW, and in 1940, he moved to the Buckingham Apartment development, Arlington, Virginia, remaining there until he returned to New York City in 1941.

JOSEPH ZALKIN, 429 Bellview Drive, Falls Church, Virginia, (Former Associate of Subject)

Personnel files, Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army, disclosed that ZALKIN was born April 26, 1894, at Ekatermoslav, Russia, and that his wife, ESTER MIRA ZALKIN, was born in Poland in January, 1898. In his application for employment with this agency, ZALKIN advised that his father, HYMAN, had been born in Russia and his mother, ALWGOV had been born in Poland. ZALKIN arrived in the United States on July 3, 1911, from Libau, Estonia, acquired United States citizenship on April 8, 1919, in the United States District Court, New York City, under certificate 1195590. He attended Cooper Union College in New York City from October, 1913 until May, 1916, and again from October, 1917 to May, 1918. In the latter year, he received a B. S. Degree in Civil Engineering. He also attended the University of New York and in 1931, received a "P. E." Degree from this institution. His record indicated the following employment history for him:

- 1918 to 1919 - Draftsman, Turner Construction Company, New York City;
- 1919 to 1921 - Designer, Witherow Steel Company, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania;
- 1922 to 1923 - Field Engineer, Barahona Sugar Company, Santo Domingo;
- 1923 to 1924 - Assistant Engineer, Thomas H. Wigen, New York City;

WFO 65-5598

- 1924 to 1928 - Structural Engineer, Walker and Eisen Architects, Los Angeles, California;
- 1928 to 1929 - Structural Engineer, Board of Transportation, New York City;
- 1929 to 1931 - Structural Engineer, Albert Kahn, Detroit, Michigan;
- 1931 to 1934 - Amtorg Corporation, New York City (was employed by this corporation at Uralvagonstroy, Russia, as Resident Engineer);
- 1935 to 1937 - Supervisory Engineer, Parks Department, New York City;
- 1937 to 1938 - Structural Engineer, Semet Solvay Corporation, New York City;
- 1938 to 1939 - Assistant Structural Engineer, Federal Works Administration, Procurement Division, Treasury Department;
- 1939 to 1943 - Structural Engineer, War Department;
- 1943 to 1945 - Engineer, War Production Board;

At the present time, ZALKIN is employed by the District Corps of Engineers as a Structural Engineer and is assigned to the Corps of Engineers Installation at McMillan Reservoir, First and Bryant Streets, NW.

Passport files, Department of State, disclosed that ZALKIN was included in Passport #445579, issued October 10, 1931, for travel to Russia for the purpose of fulfilling his contract with the Amtorg Trading Corporation. His application indicated that he was to be employed in the capacity of a Civil Engineer on the construction of reinforced concrete structures at Uralvagonstroy, Russia. From March, 1933 until 1934, the records of this source indicate that he had been employed as an Engineer for the organization Sonzasbost, at Asbest Ural'ski Oblast, Russia.

ZALKIN's wife, ESTER ^{X ZALKIN} was issued Passport #484313, on April 26, 1932, for travel to Russia. Her file indicated that she had been born in Pinsk, Minsk, Poland.

Credit Bureau records contained a report dated November 8, 1950, which disclosed that ZALKIN and his wife, MIRA, resided at 429 Bellevue Drive, Falls Church, Virginia. This report disclosed that ZALKIN had been born April 26, 1894, and had previously resided at 319 North Thomas Street, Arlington, Virginia; 6323 Luzon Avenue, NW, Washington, D. C., and 3451 Giles Avenue, New York City.

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In addition to the addresses listed for ZALKIN in the Credit Bureau report, his personnel file at the Department of the Army disclosed that in August and September of 1938, he resided at 2104 Huidekoper Place, NW.

It is to be noted that from 1938 to 1940, ZALKIN resided in the same residences as did subject VAGO.

ZALKIN was interviewed at his residence and in the presence of his wife, ESTER, on January 27, 1951, by Special Agents HOLLIS W. BOWERS and the writer.

ZALKIN advised that he first met VAGO during the latter part of 1935 while both were employed as engineers by the Works Progress Administration in New York City. He explained that, at that time, his contact with VAGO was purely professional and he added that he did not even know where VAGO lived in 1935. ZALKIN pointed out that at that time he resided on Seagate Avenue, Coney Island, New York.

In addition to his employment with VAGO in 1935, ZALKIN stated that he joined the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists, Technicians (FAECT) during 1935 and attended meetings of this group with VAGO during the period from 1935 to 1937. ZALKIN was unable to recall positively who had actually solicited him for membership in this group but said that subject was "probably" instrumental in his joining this organization. ZALKIN was unable to recall where the meetings of this group had been held in New York City and he could not identify other individuals active in the FAECT at that time.

The report of the Joint Fact-Finding Committee to the 1948 regular California Legislature made the following comment with respect to the FAECT: "Typical of Communist front organizations in the science and professional classifications is the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians..."

After his employment at the Works Progress Administration was terminated in 1937, or early in 1938, ZALKIN stated that he came to Washington and secured employment with the Public Buildings Administration, Procurement Division of the Treasury Department. He advised that VAGO preceded him to Washington and had secured employment with this same government agency. ZALKIN maintained, however, that VAGO was not instrumental in securing government employment for him

WFO 65-5598

and advised that he obtained this position through his own efforts. After arriving in Washington, ZALKIN stated that he renewed his acquaintanceship with VAGO and said that VAGO secured a room for him in the home of MORRIS BERKMAN, 2114 Huidekoper Place, NW. (Confidential Informant T-1 of known reliability advised [REDACTED])

[REDACTED] ZALKIN stated that he lived in BERKMAN's home with VAGO for approximately two months and thereafter he said that they both moved to individual apartments located in the Luzon Apartment Building, 6323 Luzon Avenue, NW. ZALKIN placed the date of this move as September, 1938 and stated that both he and VAGO signed a one-year lease on these apartments. He recalled that VAGO did not remain in this building for the entire period of his lease but prior to the expiration of this lease, moved to an apartment located on 4th Street in the Buckingham Apartment development, Arlington, Virginia. ZALKIN stated that after his own lease expired in September, 1939, he moved to an apartment located at 319 North Thomas Street in the same apartment development in Arlington, Virginia. ZALKIN stated that his apartment was located just around the corner from that which was occupied by VAGO.

During the period that he and VAGO resided in the home of BERKMAN, ZALKIN stated that he had no reason to believe that BERKMAN was a member of the Communist Party. He stated that BERKMAN never solicited him for membership in the Communist Party and he added that he had never attended any meetings of the Communist Party with BERKMAN. ZALKIN also stated that, to his knowledge, VAGO was not at any time a member of the Communist Party and had not attended any meetings of the Communist Party during the period he resided in BERKMAN's home.

During the time that they resided in the apartment building located on Luzon Avenue, ZALKIN stated that he and his wife were not particularly intimate socially with VAGO. He stated, however, that he usually accompanied VAGO to and from work inasmuch as they worked in the same office. After moving to Arlington, Virginia, ZALKIN stated that he and his wife exchanged social visits with the VAGOs on several occasions but never became intimate social friends. ZALKIN stated that on occasions when he did visit the VAGO apartment, he observed the Communist publication, the "Daily Worker" in VAGO's home in Arlington, Virginia. He also stated that on occasion he had observed VAGO reading this paper but was unable to fix the date or place of such an occurrence. ZALKIN stated that he would be unable

to recall how often he had been a visitor in the VAGO apartments in Washington, D. C., and Arlington, Virginia, and how often he had seen VAGO reading the "Daily Worker," pointing out that he had never been a frequent visitor to either of the VAGO apartments. ZALKIN stated that during the period that VAGO was in Washington, which was from 1938 to 1941, he was active in the FAECT and served on various committees of this group. ZALKIN was, however, unable to identify any of the committees which VAGO served but he did recall having attended meetings of the FAECT which were held in the Washington Bookshop. He also advised that he had attended these meetings with VAGO. ZALKIN was again unable to recall the identity of others who had attended these meetings, explaining that he did not attend these meetings regularly even though he continued to be a member of this group until 1942 or 1943, when he discontinued his FAECT membership by not going to meetings of the group. ZALKIN also recalled that JULES KORCHEIN, who was an officer in the Washington Chapter of the FAECT during the late 1930s, was especially active in this group's affairs in Washington, D. C. ZALKIN also recalled that VAGO served in the same committee of the FAECT as did KORCHEIN.

ZALKIN said that VAGO never told him that he had been a member of the Communist Party while in Washington, D. C. He added that he had no reason to believe that VAGO had been a member of the Communist Party during that time. He said that, although VAGO held certain beliefs which were considered by some to be "Radical," he did not believe VAGO was ever disloyal to the United States. He pointed out that while in Washington, VAGO impressed him as being very sympathetic to the Russian form of government but ZALKIN observed that during the late 1930s, the prevailing opinion was one of sympathy for, and admiration of, Russia. ZALKIN was unable to amplify his classification that VAGO was "radical" but said that he used this term because he knew (1) VAGO read the Communist Paper, the Daily Worker and (2) VAGO was sympathetic toward the Soviet Union, which he explained would, in some circles, label VAGO as a "radical." ZALKIN was unable to attribute to VAGO any specific beliefs or statements which supported his belief that VAGO was a "radical." ZALKIN advised that both he and VAGO were terminated from their employment with the Procurement Division, Treasury Department, late in 1939. He said that they then secured employment with the Quartermaster Corps of the Army but were assigned to different installations of this Corps. He said, however, that after a brief period, VAGO was transferred to Fort Myer, Virginia, where he was employed. He recalled that VAGO continued to be employed here for a short time and voluntarily resigned his position to return to private industry in New York City.

While in Washington, ZALKIN stated that VAGO had no particularly close friends and was unable to furnish the names of any other individuals who he believed were close social acquaintances of VAGO. ZALKIN also stated that during the period he was employed with VAGO, their work was not of a classified or restricted nature. After leaving the government and returning to New York City, ZALKIN recalled that VAGO had visited him in Washington on one occasion. ZALKIN was unable to recall the purpose of this visit but believed that it was purely social. ZALKIN said that this visit occurred within one year after VAGO's termination. He also recalled that in 1942 or possibly as late as 1943, he had visited VAGO in New York City on two occasions. On one of these occasions, ZALKIN said that he visited socially at VAGO's home and on the second occasion, he visited VAGO at his office where he also met JULES KORCHEIN, who was then employed in the same office with VAGO. ZALKIN stated that his visits with VAGO in New York City were purely social in nature and he added that his trips from Washington to New York were not for the express purpose of seeing VAGO but for visiting other members of his family who resided there. During the past eight years, ZALKIN stated that he has not seen VAGO nor has he had any communication from him.

Concerning DAVID BLOOM, who has been previously identified as an associate of ZALKIN during the late 1930s, ZALKIN recalled that BLOOM had also been active in the FAECT while in Washington, D. C. ZALKIN maintained that his association with BLOOM was limited to his professional contacts which occurred in the Procurement Division, Treasury Department, and on the few occasions he had attended meetings of the FAECT which were also attended by BLOOM. ZALKIN said that he possessed no information concerning the reputation of BLOOM in regard to his loyalty to the United States and advised that since BLOOM left the government and went to work for the DuPont Company in Wilmington, Delaware, he has had no further contact with him.

With respect to MORRIS BERKMAN, the owner of the premises at 2114 Huidekoper Place, NW, where ZALKIN and VAGO resided after arriving in Washington, D. C. in 1938, ZALKIN stated that he maintained a limited social contact with BERKMAN from 1938 to 1950 when BERKMAN moved to California. ZALKIN also recalled that BERKMAN had been a member of the FAECT and had also attended meetings of this group which were held in the Washington Bookshop.

The Washington Bookshop Association, Washington, D. C., has been cited as a Communist front organization by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in a report dated March 29, 1944, Page 150.

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ZALKIN stated that his only association in the United States with representatives of the Soviet Union occurred during the period from 1929 to 1931. He explained that in 1929 while employed as an engineer for the Albert Kahn Engineering Associates, Detroit, Michigan, his employer had contracts with the Soviet Union. In his position, he stated that he met representatives of the Soviet Union who negotiated with the Albert Kahn Company. In 1931 when the work became slack with the Kahn Company, ZALKIN stated he applied to Amtorg, the Russian Purchasing Commission in New York City, for an engineering post in Russia, having been advised that Russia was hiring engineers at that time. He advised that his application for employment was accepted and that he executed a contract and went to Russia where he did engineering work. Upon his return to the United States, ZALKIN stated he was unable to find immediate employment and again applied to Amtorg for work. He advised that he was given work as a translator and continued in this post for a short time until he secured employment with the Works Progress Administration. ZALKIN stated he was not employed directly by Amtorg but was employed as a translator by engineers who were working directly for Amtorg.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

MORRIS BERKMAN

Confidential Informant T-1 was unable to identify photographs of ZALKIN or BLOOM. [REDACTED]

MORRIS SHAPIRO, 6323 Luzon Avenue, NW

SHAPIRO is a business associate of PAUL WEIDLINGER, both of whom operate or have an interest in the General Engineering Associates, 1928 I Street, NW, Washington, D. C., and who also maintain offices in New York City. WEIDLINGER has been identified as the present employer of the subject.

The Washington City Directory disclosed that SHAPIRO has resided at 6323 Luzon Avenue, NW, since 1938. It will be recalled that this is the same residence where VAGO and ZALKIN resided in 1938 and 1939.

SHAPIRO was interviewed at his office, 1928 I Street, NW, by SAs ROBERT L. SMELTZER and the writer. He denied knowing subject, ZALKIN, BERKMAN or BLOOM. He likewise was unable to identify VAGO from photographs exhibited to him. He also advised that he is not acquainted with any of the employees working for his associate, WEIDLINGER, in New York, explaining that these employees are not carried on the pay rolls of his office in Washington. SHAPIRO had no recollection of WEIDLINGER's mentioning to him that he had almost hired VAGO on a permanent basis just before VAGO was arrested in New York City on a perjury charge.

SHAPIRO stated that he had attended two or three meetings of the FAECT during late 1930s, having been invited to these meetings by JULES KORCHEIN, who was then employed by the United States Housing Authority, where he, SHAPIRO, was also employed. SHAPIRO stated, however, that he never became a member of the FAECT and after attending two or three meetings, lost interest in the group and had no further contact with it.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

SHAPIRO said the meetings he attended were held in the Department of Interior but he was unable to recall the identity of any other individuals attending these meetings and said that the turn-out for these meetings was very small.

JULIAN WADLEIGH and VLADAMIR de SZESHNIKOFF

New York letter dated January 31, 1951, requested that photographs of VAGO be displayed to WADLEIGH and de SZESHNIKOFF. Both WADLEIGH and de SZESHNIKOFF have admitted participation in a Soviet espionage conspiracy which operated in Washington, D. C., during 1930s.

Photographs of VAGO were exhibited to de SZESHNIKOFF and WADLEIGH by Special Agents WALTON CONE and the writer respectively. Neither de SZESHNIKOFF nor WADLEIGH could identify VAGO.

One copy of this report is being furnished San Francisco in accordance with Bureau instructions.

WFO 65-5598

LEAD PAGE

THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE

At Los Angeles - Will furnish this office with the results of the interview with MORRIS BERKMAN, Care of General Delivery. (WFO teletype dated January 26, 1951, requested BERKMAN be interviewed for information relating to Communist activities on the part of VAGO while he resided in Washington, D. C.) This office is desirous of ascertaining BERKMAN's attitude in this matter and also to ascertain if he would cooperate in other cases this office has under investigation. (Los Angeles is requested to designate one copy containing this information for WFO file 101-1624, captioned JOSEPH ZALKIN.

WFO 65-5598

INFORMANT PAGE

T-1 [REDACTED] b2 b7D

REFERENCES; Reports of Special Agent ROBERT M. KING dated November 4, 1950, and October 16, 1950, at New York City
Report of Special Agent HOLLIS W. BOWERS dated October 30, 1950, at Washington, D. C.
Report of Special Agent FRANCIS J. DUANE dated January 3, 1951, at Washington, D. C.

Office Memorandum **SECRET** UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 24, 1951

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was;
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY
(Bufile 101-1988)CLASSIFIED BY: 3042/PWT/CS
DECLASSIFY ON: DADRALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Rebulet 2/19/51.

JOHN M. FOLEY, Assistant to the Chief of the Criminal Division, Office of the U.S. Attorney, SDNY, has indicated that he will handle VAGO'S prosecution for perjury, which he expects will take place within the next few weeks.

With respect to materiality, FOLEY has advised that, in spite of the wording of the indictment "and any other Federal criminal statutes", the actual purpose of the Grand Jury in this instance was in connection with an espionage inquiry. Thus, in his opinion, the issue of materiality will stand or fall on that basis. Consequently, the fact that VAGO violated immigration or other Federal laws will not satisfy the requirement.

At present, said FOLEY, his argument will of necessity be that VAGO'S whereabouts were material to an espionage inquiry, and that perjury was committed. Obviously, any evidence connecting VAGO with espionage directly would greatly strengthen the government's case, and investigation to date has been aimed at obtaining such evidence, although unsuccessfully.

The N.Y. Office of INS has expressed the opinion that the misstatements made by VAGO in connection with his naturalization were not of such a nature as would have precluded his being naturalized had the real facts been known, so that the only course available to INS is cancellation of citizenship based on membership in the CP. INS has advised that this course will not be pursued until the conclusion of the perjury prosecution.

It is called to the attention of the Bureau that VAGO'S denial before the Grand Jury that he had been in touch with representatives of a foreign power constitutes a strong perjury case, [REDACTED]

However, butel of 11/30/50 advises that this informant cannot be considered for use as a witness.

The above is submitted for information.

RECORDED - 24

101-29881-186
APR 25 1951**SECRET** EX-123

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- ☐ 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.

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 25, 1951

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R
(Bufile 101-1988)

Re report of SA FRANCIS J. DUANE dated 4/7/51 at Washington, D. C., which sets out a lead for Los Angeles to furnish Washington Field results of an interview with MORRIS BERKMAN in Los Angeles.

Enclosed herewith for Washington Field is one copy of report of SA JOE B. ABERNATHY dated 2/7/51 at Los Angeles. If an additional copy is desired, New York should be requested to furnish same.

RUC.

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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/PDT/CLS

JBA:JER

65-5125

cc: Washington Field (65-5598) (Enc.)
New York (100-55242)

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End
JBA

Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney

April 28, 1951

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ WAD/omr
10/2/70

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY

There is being furnished to you herewith one copy of the report of Special Agent Francis J. Duane dated at Washington, D. C., April 7, 1951, in the above-entitled matter.

Enclosure

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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042 PWT/CS

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101-1988

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101-1988-188
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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI

RECEIVED - MAY 11 1951

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APR 30 1951

COMM - FBI

MAY 3 1951

SAC, New York

April 28, 1951

Director, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
ESPIONAGE - R
PERJURY

You are authorized to furnish to the USA, SDNY, a copy
of the report of SA Francis J. Duane dated at Washington, D. C.,
April 7, 1951.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/PWT/CS

101-1988

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☐ 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).

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101-1988-190 - (IC 5-2-51)

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~~TOP SECRET~~

SAC, New York

May 8, 1951

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

2.26.57

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.

ESPIONAGE - R

PERJURY

CLASSIFIED BY: 3042 [signature]

DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

RECORDED - 38

EX-130

101-1988-190

Reurlet 4-24-51 in which you pointed out that a possibility exists of developing a strong Perjury case against subject Vago, in the event [redacted]

While, of course, it is realized that the use of but one witness to prove the perjurious nature of Vago's statement would not be sufficient to establish successful prosecution, the Bureau has made inquiry of the [redacted] to determine his status and the possibility of his being available as a witness.

The Bureau has been advised by the Cleveland Division that [redacted]

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OTHERWISE

In view of the foregoing, it is not believed that further consideration should be given to the matter of the utilizing of [redacted] as a witness in the above-entitled matter.

101-1988

cc - Washington Field
Cleveland

REC'D-10600K2 OFFICE

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Harbo
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Tele. Rm.
- Nease
- Gandy

50 MAY 28 1951

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~SECRET~~
MAILED

3042 [signature]

SAC, Newark

May 11, 1951

Director, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO

ESPIONAGE - R

PERJURY

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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/PST/CLS

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent Philip J. Carroll dated at Newark April 10, 1951, in the case entitled "Raymond Althoff - NY - 2, ARAA."

It is noted that Raymond Althoff executed a signed sworn statement on April 6, 1951, wherein he admits association with Jules Korchien and subject Vago in connection with FAECT (Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians) Union activities in 1935. Further, that Vago, according to Althoff, asked him to join the Communist Party and that he, Althoff, knew Vago to be a Communist. (116-215201-26)

In view of the possible importance of such testimony in connection with the forthcoming Vago perjury trial in the Southern District of New York, it is requested that the Newark Office immediately set forth the details of Althoff's statement concerning Vago in an appropriate report so that the information can be made available to the Department, as well as the USA, SDNY. The New York Division is office of origin in instant case.

101-1988

cc - New York

RFE:mhf

RECORDED - 38

EX-130

MAY 16 1951

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MAY 15 5 53 PM '51

MAY 12 1951
COMM - FBI

66 MAY 19 1951

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

NY

FILE NO. 100-55242 EXM

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 5/23/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/13-5/10/51	REPORT MADE BY ROBERT M. KANE
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

VAGO presently employed by Carol Management Corp., a real estate firm with offices in Belmont Plaza Hotel, 49th St. and Lexington Ave., NYC. Contacts with additional informants negative.

DETAILS:

EMPLOYMENT

PAUL WEIDLINGER, 101 Park Avenue, New York City, advised that VAGO had completed all the work which WEIDLINGER had given to him late in April and that he no longer was using VAGO'S services. WEIDLINGER stated that it was his understanding that VAGO had secured a drafting job with Carol Management Corporation, a large real estate firm in New York.

JACOB ARONOW, 12 East 48th Street, New York City, employer of VAGO at the time of the latter's arrest in September 1950, stated that VAGO had been hired by Carol Management Corporation late in April 1951, apparently on a permanent basis. He stated that VAGO is being used as a draftsman in the company's offices in the Belmont Plaza Hotel at 49th Street and Lexington Avenue, New York City.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042 [signature]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature: Edward Schuch]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	RECEIVED <i>[Stamp: 101-1988-192]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES RECORDED - 20 INDEXED - 20 EX - 63
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JUN 2 1951

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NY 100-55242

It is noted that spot surveillances at the above address have disclosed VAGO'S regular presence there.

In a letter dated March 10, 1951, the Phoenix Office advised that LOUIS NEIMAN, 229 East 15th Street, Tucson, Arizona, had stated that he was unacquainted with VAGO. It is noted that NEIMAN was in charge of the Works Project Administration in New York City on which VAGO was employed in the 1930's.

BANK ACCOUNT

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that on April 30, 1951, VAGO'S account at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard, New York City had a balance of \$237.20. The informant advised that checks issued by VAGO appeared to be of a nature not pertinent to the investigation. Checks issued by PAUL WEIDLINGER to VAGO were deposited on March 9, 12 and 20 in the amounts of \$249.75, \$234.00 and \$240.75 respectively.

It is noted that the above information was secured on the usual confidential basis and is not to be made public except on the issuance of a subpoena.

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT T-2

Confidential Informant T-2, of unknown reliability, has furnished the following information concerning VAGO secured during his incarceration at the Federal House of Detention in New York. It is noted that the informant has indicated that he is unwilling to appear as a witness in court.

According to the informant, VAGO advised him that as a result of his, VAGO'S, arrest, his "usefulness" in America was ended. He stated that he was trying to find the best possible way to "contact Washington" before he left jail to inform "them" that he is prepared for another assignment. He finally decided, according to the informant, that he would send a friend to Washington as a messenger to deliver his letter.

Upon being asked by the informant what he would do if

the United States State Department refused to issue him a passport to enable him to leave the United States, VAGO replied, "Then I will go by the tried and proven route." VAGO told the informant that he intended to go to Budapest, Hungary, immediately upon his release, and also confided at the time of his arrest he was on the verge of leaving the United States. His plan, according to the informant, was to have friends in France write him a letter offering him a job there which he could use to induce the State Department to issue him a passport.

The informant also advised that VAGO had been in touch with another fellow prisoner, ABRAHAM BROTHMAN, a former partner of VAGO who has been convicted of "obstruction of justice" concerning the promotion of an electrically operated valve invented by BROTHMAN. According to the informant, VAGO was to receive five per cent of the income from this promotion. Informant also advised that VAGO was extremely friendly during his incarceration with JULIUS ROSENBERG, who has been convicted of conspiracy to commit espionage.

In describing ROSENBERG and VAGO, the informant made the following observation: "Never have I been associated with two men whose hatred for our Government is so profound. Every statement contains a threat of destruction, of violence, to America. These men are not mere Communists. What is more important is that they are revolutionists and that, even in the Communist organization itself, is a horse of a different color."

The informant was unable to furnish any more specific information concerning the relationships, past or present, between VAGO, BROTHMAN and ROSENBERG.

MISCELLANEOUS

In a letter dated March 10, 1951, the Bureau advised that ALEXANDER ALLAN FOOTE, soviet agent in Europe in the late 1930's and early 1940's, was unable to identify VAGO.

In a letter dated February 27, 1951, the Miami Office advised that NICHOLAS DOZENBERG, soviet agent in the United States and Europe in the 1920's, was also unable to identify VAGO.

~~SECRET~~

NY 100-55242

Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, who has admitted participation in Soviet espionage in the 1920's, stated that he was not acquainted with VAGO.

Confidential Informant T-4, of known reliability, advised that VAGO was listed as a petition canvasser for the Election Campaign Committee of the Communist Party in the 1949 campaign for the reelection of BENJAMIN J. DAVIS, JR., Communist candidate for councilman, City of New York.

Spot surveillances of VAGO were conducted on March 14, 15, 26 and 31; April 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 16, 18, 20, 21 and 23; May 3 and 9, but no information was obtained pertinent to this investigation.

P E N D I N G

~~SECRET~~ WAB/MLR
1/4/72

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA ROBERT M. KANE, New York, dated May 23, 1951, are as follows:

- T-1 [REDACTED]
Sterling National Bank and Trust Company,
95-38 Queens Boulevard, New York City.
- T-2 JEROME EUGENE TARTAKOW, whose identity is
being kept confidential at his own request.
- T-3 [REDACTED], contacted by SA [REDACTED]
- T-4 [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] who furnished this information
to SAS [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

NY 100-55242

LEAD PAGE

NEW YORK OFFICE

At New York, New York

Will follow and report prosecutive action.

Will continue to maintain a mail cover on 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park.

Will continue to monitor the bank account of subject at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard.

Copies of this report are being furnished the Los Angeles, San Francisco and Washington Field offices for information purposes because of related investigations.

REFERENCE: Report of SA ROBERT M. KANE, New York, dated 3/20/51.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **65-4124 MRA**

REPORT MADE AT NEWARK	DATE WHEN MADE 5/24/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/24/51	REPORT MADE BY TROY COLEMAN
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - R PERJURY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

RAYMOND HENRY ALTHOFF, 155 West Main Street, Somerville, N. J., furnished a signed statement under oath on April 6, 1951, reflecting that **OSCAR VAGO**, officer of Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists, and Technicians Union, requested ALTHOFF to join the Communist Party in 1935 or 1936.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

During the course of an applicant type investigation in April, 1951, Mr. **RAYMOND HENRY ALTHOFF**, 155 West Main Street, Somerville, New Jersey, advised that he was of the opinion that **OSCAR VAGO** was a Communist, as VAGO had asked him to join the Communist Party, in either 1935 or 1936.

ALTHOFF was placed under oath at his request, and furnished the following signed statement, of which the original has been made a part of the files of the Newark Office:

"April 6, 1951
Somerville, N. J.

"I, **RAYMOND HENRY ALTHOFF** make the following voluntary statement to Special Agent **JOHN M. MASTERTON** and **PHILIP J. CARROLL** who have identified themselves to me to be

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

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101-1988-193

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 - 4 - New York (100-55242) (1, USA, So. District, N.Y.)
 - 2 - Newark

MAY 26 1951

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EX - 120

NY. 65-4124

Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. No threats or promises have been made to me and I know this statement may be used against me in a court of law.

"I was born August 4, 1906 New York City. In 1935 I was employed by the W.P.A. Department of Parks New York City as an electrical Designer. I was in that employ until about February 1936. During that period I was the shop steward for the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians Union. I was asked by JULES TORCHINE and OSCAR VAGO both officers of the aforementioned Union to join the Communist Party. I told them that I was not interested in joining. Both of these men were employed by the WPA. I had no social contact with either of these men and knew them only in connection with my work. These are the only two men with whom I have ever had any association that I knew to be Communists.

"I have never been Secretary of the Communist Party in New York City and in fact have never been a member of the Communist Party anywhere. I have never made any remarks or statements as an advocate of the Russian government as being better than the previous Russian governments. I have never been to Russia, have never had any desire to go to Russia and would not desire to live under a Communist regime.

FAL THOFF
"I married BECKY MACHANOWSKY probably sometime in 1936. After marriage BECKY developed an intense interest in Communist ideologies. I do not know that my wife BECKY was ever a member of the Communist Party. In our social contacts both my wife, BECKY, and I were associated with many people whom I believe were probably Communists or Communist sympathizers. Our contacts with these people was purely social and were not meetings called to discuss Communism or Communist theories.

"I have and have had an interest in all forms of social ideologies both religious and political. To that extent, I have had an interest in the Communist theory.

"I have read "DAS CAPITAL" by KARL MARX, have also read Communist periodicals "New Masses" and the "Daily Worker".

"I attended a Communist sponsored meeting at Madison Square Garden sometime in 1937 and 38. I have attended other meetings which may have been Communist sponsored.

"I also attended a meeting at Madison Square Garden in N.Y.C. sponsored by the German American Bund probably around the same time as the

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

NK. 65-4124

aforementioned Communist sponsored meeting I attended.

"I have never been favorably impressed with the Communist ideology either in its intellectual implications or its political aspect.

"I am a practicing loyal American of the United States and always have been.

"I am not or never have been a member of any organization which has for its purpose the overthrow of the U. S. Government.

"I have read the foregoing statement consisting of 3 hand written pages and it is true and correct.

"RAYMOND XALTHOFF

"Witnessed: PHILIP J. CARROLL Special Agent F.B.I., Newark, N.J. 4/6/51
JOHN M. MASTERSON, Special Agent - FBI, Newark 4/6/51

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAH/0901
10/4/75

NY 65-4124

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to Newark, dated May 11, 1951.
Report of SA PHILIP J. CARROLL, titled "RAYMOND ALTHOFF -
NY -2, aka, Raymond Henry Althoff, ARAA", dated April 10, 1951,
at Newark.

June 4, 1951

OSCAR JOHN VADO, was.
ESPIONAGE - R
FEB-JUNY

CONCLUSIONS

Report of Special Agent Robert M. Kane, dated May 23, 1951, at New York City)

Report of Special Agent Troy Coleman, dated May 24, 1951, at Newark.

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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/ptf/cks

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[Handwritten signature]

150 JUN 14 1957

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JUN 5 1951
MAILED 26

WAR/PA
CONFIDENTIAL 12/2/51

Date: June 2, 1951

To: Director of Naval Intelligence
Department of the Navy
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/PWT

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: SERGEANT ROY S. BERKMAN
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Summary
Oscar John Vago

I am transmitting herewith for your information a memorandum which contains information concerning the Communist Party affiliations of the parents of Sergeant Roy S. Berkman, who is a member of the United States Marine Corps Band and has, in the past, been assigned to play in that orchestra at White House receptions.

I have made this information available to Rear Admiral Sidney W. Souers, Special Consultant to the President, and Mr. U. E. Baughman, Jr., Chief, United States Secret Service, Department of the Treasury.

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124
Enclosure
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101-1988-195
JUN. 11 1951

INDEXED 124

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JUN - 2 1951
MAILED 20

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

480
50 JUN 14 1951

June 2, 1951

RE: SERGEANT ROY S. BERKMAN
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In connection with an investigation concerning Oscar John Pogo, a known member of the Communist Party who is presently awaiting trial in Federal Court in the Southern District of New York on the charge of perjury, it was ascertained that in 1930 Pogo roomed at the home of Morris H. and Frances Berkman in Washington, D. C. The Berkmans are presently residing in Los Angeles, California, and their son, Sergeant Roy S. Berkman has been in the United States Marine Corps for the past two and one-half years.

At the time of an interview with Sergeant Roy S. Berkman on May 29, 1951, he advised that he had enlisted in the United States Marine Corps as a professional violinist and is presently attached to the United States Marine Corps Band, Washington, D. C. He also stated that in the past he has, on occasions, been assigned to play in that orchestra at the White House receptions, at which time he is "very near to the President."

b7D

b1

(101-1988-157,158)

The Berkmans, as well as their son, Sergeant Roy S. Berkman, have denied any present or past affiliation or sympathy with the Communist Party. Further, Sergeant Berkman, at the time of his recent interview, claimed no knowledge that his parents were Communists, but advised that his parents were interested in fighting Fascism during the late 1930's through the medium of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. He also described his father as being sympathetic toward the Russian people and the USSR until the time of the Russo-German Pact of 1939. Sergeant Berkman added that his father could not now be considered as pro-Soviet or pro-Communist as his father feels that Russia is "getting out of hand" and consequently his father now supports "Truman's position in Korea."

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OTHERWISE

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E. F. ERICH:hc

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ENCLOSURE

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Ladd _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Nichols _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Harbo _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

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

5-29-51

WASHINGTON FROM WASH FIELD 29 6:50 p.m.

DIRECTOR URGENT

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, WAS., PER., ESP. DASH R. U. S. MARINE CORPS S/SOT.
ROY S. BERKMAN, SON OF MORRIS AND FRANCES R. BERKMAN, SIX TWO FOUR
SOUTH BERENDO STREET, LOS ANGELES, INTERVIEWED THIS DATE.

[REDACTED]

SOT. BERKMAN ASSIGNED U. S. MARINE CORPS BAND, WASHINGTON, D. C.
AND ON OCCASIONS IS ASSIGNED TO PLAY IN ORCHESTRA AT WHITE
HOUSE RECEPTIONS. AT THESE RECEPTIONS BERKMAN ADVISED THAT
FREQUENTLY HE IS QUOTE VERY NEAR THE PRESIDENT. UNQUOTE SOT.
BERKMAN WAS BORN APRIL THREE, NINETEEN TWENTY NINE AT WASHINGTON,
D. C. AND PRIOR TO ENLISTMENT IN MARINE CORPS HE WAS A PROFESSIONAL
VIOLINIST. HE WAS INTERVIEWED TO ASCERTAIN HIS KNOWLEDGE RE
ACTIVITIES OF VAGO AND JOSEPH ZALKIN WHO LIVED IN HIS FATHER'S
HOME FOR BRIEF PERIOD DURING LATE NINETEEN THIRTIES IN D. C.
THIS DATA WOULD HAVE BEEN OBTAINED BY HIM FROM HIS FATHER.
SOT. BERKMAN JUST RETURNED FROM VISIT WITH HIS PARENTS IN L. A.

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456 MAR 9 1961

FJD:DJM

65-5598

cc: New York (100-1988)

Los Angeles (65-5125) (Air Mail)

RECORDED - 75

INDEXED - 75

101-1988-196
JUN 5 1951

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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HIS PARENTS HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN INTERVIEWED FOR THIS INFORMATION BUT WERE UNCOOPERATIVE AND FURNISHED NO PERTINENT DATA. SGT.

BERKMAN APPEARED COOPERATIVE BUT FURNISHED NO PERTINENT INFO RE VAGO OR ZAIKIN. HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT HIS FATHER DID NOT MENTION FBI INTERVIEW TO HIM. HE CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE THAT HIS PARENTS WERE COMMUNISTS BUT ADVISED THAT HIS PARENTS WERE INTERESTED IN FIGHTING FASCISM DURING LATE NINETEEN THIRTIES THRU MEDIUM OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN BRIGADE. DESCRIBED FATHER AS SYMPATHETIC TOWARD RUSSIAN PEOPLE AND USSR UNTIL RUSSO DASH GERMAN PACT OF NINETEEN THIRTY NINE. SAID FATHER COULD NOT NOW BE CONSIDERED PRO DASH SOVIET OR PRO DASH COMMUNIST AS HE FEELS THAT RUSSIA IS QUOTE GETTING OUT OF HAND UNQUOTE AND CONSEQUENTLY HE SUPPORTS TRUMAN POSITION IN KOREA. SGT. BERKMAN SAID THAT AS HE FREQUENTLY CORRESPONDS WITH HIS FATHER HE WOULD SECURE INFO FROM HIM PERTAINING TO SUBJECT. SGT. BERKMAN CLAIMED NO MEMBERSHIP IN ANY COMMUNIST OR SUBVERSIVE GROUPS AND SAID HE WAS INVESTIGATED BY BOTH ONI AND SECRET SERVICE BEFORE BEING ASSIGNED WHITE HOUSE RECEPTIONS. HE CLAIMED TO BE COMPLETELY LOYAL TO U. S. AND WOULD NOT AID IN ANY OR BE A PARTY TO ANY GROUP OR ORGANIZATION WHICH OPPOSES U. S.

FORM OF GOVERNMENT. BERKMAN SAID HE WOULD INFORM THIS OFFICE
UPON RECEIPT OF INFO FROM FATHER. WFO FILES NEGATIVE RE ROY
BERKMAN.

STEIN *curd*
aws

SERVICE UNIT

4-22a

SEARCH SLIP

Supervisor Enrich Room 1234

Subj: Roy S. Berkman

☒ Exact Spelling

Searcher

☒ All References

Initial RK5

☐ Subversive Ref.

Date 5-31

☐ Main File

☐ Restricted to Locality of

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

NR
Roy Berkman

101-1988-127, 157, 158,

R.S.

TX

R.

NE 65-49213-16, 3,

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Initialed

SERVICE UNIT
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor Emmick Room 222

Subj: Paul Weidinger

☒ Exact Spelling
☐ All References
☒ Subversive Ref.
☐ Main File
☐ Restricted to Locality of _____

Searcher
Initial MC
Date 2-7-51

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

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b7c

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I [REDACTED]

I 240 - 346290 - 74

I 401 - 1988 - 127 111 71

I 200 - 17826 - 2 - 461

I 401 - 1988 - 79446 47

I 65 - 7101 - 19

I [REDACTED]

I 65 - 56402 - 93962 5

I 400 346290 76

Mrs -

I ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042 PWT/cks

one - MR

Initialed

June 2, 1951

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Mr. U. E. Baughman, Jr.
Chief
United States Secret Service
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-87 BY 304/PWT/CJS

Dear Mr. Baughman:

I am transmitting herewith for your information a memorandum which contains information concerning the Communist Party affiliations of the parents of Sergeant Roy S. Berkman, who is a member of the United States Marine Corps Band and has, in the past, been assigned to play in that orchestra at White House receptions.

I have made this information available to Rear Admiral Sidney W. Souers, Special Consultant to the President, and the Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

WFE:hc

RECORDED - 125

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JUN 6 1951

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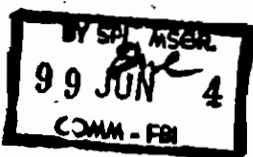
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June 2, 1951

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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/PW/JS

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Rear Admiral Sidney W. Homers
Special Consultant to the President
Executive Office Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Admiral:

Oscar John Lago

I thought the President and you would be
interested in receiving the attached memorandum which
contains information concerning the Communist Party
affiliations of the parents of Sergeant Roy S. Berkman,
who is a member of the United States Marine Corps Band
and has, in the past, been assigned to play in that
orchestra at White House receptions.

I have made this information available to the
Director of Naval Intelligence, Department of the Navy,
and Mr. H. E. Baughman, Jr., Chief, United States Secret
Service, Department of the Treasury.

With expressions of my highest esteem and best
regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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JUN 6 1951

EX-35

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Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

60 JUN 18 1951
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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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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.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM NO. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK

FILE NO. 65-5598

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE JUN 21 1951	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/17, 21, 29; 6/7/51	REPORT MADE BY FRANCIS J. DUANE FJD:s
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.		CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Staff Sergeant ROY S. BERKMAN, USMC, the son of MORRIS H. BERKMAN and former resident of 2114 Huidekoper Place, N.W., Washington, D. C., recalled that VAGO and ZALKIN resided in his father's Huidekoper Place home during the late 1930's. Sergeant BERKMAN claimed no knowledge of communist activities on part of VAGO or ZALKIN. He described his father as an idealist, staunch anti-fascist, and one who was sympathetic toward the Russian people but was, at the same time, a loyal American.

Sergeant BERKMAN is presently assigned to the USMC Band, Washington, D. C., and on occasions is assigned to play for official White House receptions.

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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/PWT/CJS

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

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It will be recalled that the subject's personnel file at the General Services Agency revealed that in 1938 VAGO resided at 2114 Huidekoper Place, N. W. Investigation has also determined that VAGO roomed with JOSEPH ZALKIN previously identified

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COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (101-1988) 3 - New York (100-55242) 1 - Los Angeles (65-5125) (Info) 1 - San Francisco (65-4286) (Info)		JUN 22 1951	RECORDED - 14 INDEXED - 14 EX - 120

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in this investigation at this residence which was then the home of MORRIS H. BERKMAN. It has also been determined that BERKMAN occupied this home along with his wife FRANCES and his son ROY S. BERKMAN.

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, has advised that during the late 1930's, [REDACTED] b7D

Confidential Informant T-2, also of known reliability, advised that in 1947, MORRIS and FRANCES BERKMAN were residing at 912 North Avenue, Los Angeles, California; [REDACTED] (c) b1

In an effort to ascertain if VAGO and ZALKIN were engaged in communist activities while in Washington, D. C., during the late 1930's, MORRIS and FRANCES BERKMAN were interviewed at their home, 904 1/2 South Kenmore, Los Angeles, California, on January 30, 1951, by Special Agents WILLIAM C. PATTERSON and JOE B. ABERNATHY. In this interview, BERKMAN and his wife denied possessing knowledge of any communist activities or communist membership on the part of the subject and ZALKIN during the period they resided in Washington, D. C. At the same interview, Mr. and Mrs. BERKMAN also denied any affiliation with, or sympathy for, the Communist Party at any time. BERKMAN advised that his son ROY was presently serving in the U. S. Marine Corps and had been a member of the Corps for the past two and a half years.

U. S. Marine Corps Staff Sergeant ROY S. BERKMAN was interviewed at the Washington Field Office on May 29, 1951, by SA HOWARD FLETCHER, JR., and the writer. BERKMAN identified himself as the son of MORRIS H. and FRANCES BERKMAN and stated that he had been born on April 3, 1929, at Washington, D. C. He advised that he is presently attached to the USMC Band stationed at the USMC Barracks at Washington, D. C. He advised, however, that he actually resides at 705 Greenwood Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland, with his wife whom he identified as the former MYRA R. MINOVITZ, a native of Washington, D. C., and who is employed as a clerk-typist in the Veterans' Administration at Washington, D. C.

BERKMAN stated that during the late 1930's his parents rented one bedroom in their home at 2114 Heidekoper Place, N. W., to individuals he identified as OSCAR VAGO and JOSEPH ZALKIN. He identified a photograph of the subject as possibly being identical with the OSCAR VAGO who lived in his father's

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

home for a short period during the late 1930's. He was unable to fix the date of their residence in this home more accurately. It was Sergeant BERKMAN's recollection that VAGO and ZALKIN secured their room in his father's home by responding to an advertisement that had been placed in the local papers. He denied knowing that these men had been employed with his father as architects in the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department at that time. He stated that they occupied a room in his father's home for a very short time and after moving, he stated that neither he nor, as far as he knew, his parents had any further contact with either ZALKIN or VAGO. He reported that he had never received any information from his parents which was unfavorable concerning VAGO or ZALKIN.

Sergeant BERKMAN was unable to recall if his father had discussed these men with him after they moved. Sergeant BERKMAN said that he had recently returned from a visit with his father in Los Angeles and declared that during this visit his father did not mention having been interviewed by the FBI concerning the subject, and stated that at no time during this visit did his father discuss either ZALKIN or VAGO with him.

Concerning the loyalty and patriotism of his own father, Sergeant BERKMAN advised that in discussions he had with his father after World War II started, he learned that his father was an idealist, a strong anti-fascist, and one who was sympathetic towards the Russian people and the Soviet Union. Sergeant BERKMAN advised that he also learned that his father, who was a native of Russia, had been especially sympathetic towards the Russian people and the Russian Government until the Soviet-German pact of 1939, at which time he advised that his father began to doubt the intentions of the Russian Government. Sergeant BERKMAN advised that to his knowledge his father had never been a member of the Communist Party and had never belonged to any organizations with the exception of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN Brigade. Sergeant BERKMAN remembered that his parents had on one or two occasions taken him to picnics which had been sponsored by the ABRAHAM LINCOLN Brigade. He also advised that his father's opposition to fascism was expressed through membership in the ABRAHAM LINCOLN Brigade. Sergeant BERKMAN advised that he was unable to recall having seen any communist publication such as the "Daily Worker" or the "People's World" in his father's home at any time and especially during the period that VAGO and ZALKIN resided there. He also advised that he had no knowledge that either the subject or ZALKIN were members of the ABRAHAM LINCOLN Brigade and could not recall their having attended the picnics to which he had been brought by his parents.

The ABRAHAM LINCOLN Brigade has been declared by the Attorney General to be an organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Sergeant BERKMAN advised that he considers his parents to be thoroughly loyal to the United States and stated that at the present time he knows that his father is opposed to communism and Russian aggression. On his recent visit home, he advised that he discussed the Korean war with his father who supported the TRUMAN position to take a stand against aggressive designs of communism as the communists in China and Soviet Russia were "getting out of hand".

BERKMAN advised that he had no relatives in Russia and stated that to his knowledge his parents do not correspond with anyone in Russia. He stated that the only persons connected with his family who were known communists were his wife's cousin SOL MINOVITZ and his wife TILLA. He advised that both these individuals had been communists in Washington, D. C., until SOL's death three years ago, at which time his wife TILLA left the U.S. and is now living in England.

In 1945, Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advised that [REDACTED] b7D

Sergeant BERKMAN identified his only other relative in Washington, D. C., as his aunt ALICE BERKMAN, a Government employee currently residing at 1724 Capitol Avenue, N. E. Sergeant BERKMAN recalled that a few years ago when his aunt was under investigation for a position in a "sensitive Government agency", she and his father had quarrelled because he would not submit an affidavit testifying that he was not a member of any subversive groups. Sergeant BERKMAN stated that this act by his father created ill will between MORRIS BERKMAN and ALICE BERKMAN.

Sergeant BERKMAN advised that he resided in Washington, D. C., until the early 1940's when his family moved to Cleveland, Ohio, and then to Los Angeles, California where his parents are now residing. He advised that he was graduated from the Franklin High School in Los Angeles in 1946 and thereafter moved to Dallas, Texas, where he joined the Dallas Symphonic Orchestra. In 1948, he stated that he joined the U. S. Marine Corps. As he was a professional musician, he was assigned to the USMC Band in Washington, D. C., and has been assigned to the Band since joining the Corps. In addition to his duties in the Marine Corps Band, BERKMAN stated that on occasion he is assigned to play in the orchestra at official receptions held in the "Blair House" which is the present residence of President TRUMAN. On

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

occasion at these receptions, BERKMAN stated that he frequently is "very close to the President". Sergeant BERKMAN advised that he frequently corresponds with his father and in the event he received any information relating to VAGO or ZALKIN he stated he would communicate with this office. Sergeant BERKMAN advised that he has never been associated with any group which has been declared as subversive by the Government and that he is completely loyal to the Government.

Mrs. ALICE BERKMAN, aka Mrs. ABRAHAM MUCHINSKY, 1724 Capitol Street, N. E., and who is employed as a clerk-typist in the Bureau of Internal Revenue at Washington, D. C., advised that she had never resided in the home of her brother MORRIS BERKMAN, 2114 Huidekoper Place, N. W., and had never been acquainted with either the subject or JOSEPH ZALKIN. She did recall, however, that her brother rented a room in his room but she stated that she was not aware of the individuals who had leased this room.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

WFO 65-5598

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INFORMANTS

T-1:

[REDACTED]

b2 b7D

T-2:

[REDACTED]

c b1

T-3:

[REDACTED]

b2 b7D

REFERENCE: WFO teletype to the Bureau dated May 29, 1951
Report of SA ROBERT M. KANE dated May 23, 1951, at
New York
Report of SA JOE B. ABERNATHY dated February 7, 1951,
at Los Angeles

Assistant Attorney General
James M. McInerney
Director, FBI

July 9, 1951

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAA/MS
10/2/51

OSCAR JOHN YAGO, was.
ESPIONAGE - R and PERJURY

There is being transmitted herewith for
your information a copy of the report of Special Agent
Francis J. Duane, dated at Washington, D. C., June 21,
1951, in the above captioned matter.

RECORDED-44 101-1985-200
Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/pw/ps

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eme

JUL 10 11 52 AM '51
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FBI
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAILED 10
JUL 10 1951
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F. B. I.

JUL 8 50 PM '51

REC'D-1070000 OFFICE

60 JUL 16 1951

101-1988

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAT/DAR

Date: July 9, 1951

To: Director of Naval Intelligence
Department of the Navy
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: SERGEANT ROY S. BERKMAN
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reference is made to my letter of June 8, 1951, in which I furnished you with information concerning the Communist Party affiliations of the parents of Sergeant Roy S. Berkman, who is a member of the United States Marine Corps Band. For your additional information I am transmitting herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent Francis J. Duane dated at Washington, D. C., June 21, 1951, which sets forth the results of an interview which was recently had with Sergeant Berkman.

Enclosure

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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042 PWT/09

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RECORDED - 57

EX - 37

JUL 11 1951

COMM - FBI

JUL 9 1951

MAILED 18

60 JUL 12 1951

101-1988

CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Date: July 9, 1951
To: Mr. U. F. Baughman
Chief
United States Secret Service
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.
From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: SERGEANT ROY S. BERKMAN
INFORMATION CONCERNING

You will recall that on June 8, 1951, I furnished you with information concerning the Communist Party affiliations of the parents of Sergeant Roy S. Berkman who is a member of the United States Marine Corps Band.

In order that you might be further advised in the matter, I am transmitting herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent Francis J. Duane, dated at Washington, D. C., June 21, 1951, setting forth the results of an interview which was had with Sergeant Berkman.

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DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/pw/bjs

Enclosure

RECORDED - 88

EX-130

101-1988-202
JUL 12 1951

EFE:eme

BY SPL MSGR

52 JUL 9

COMM - FBI

RECEIVED - FBI
JUL 12 1951

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

W 7/2/AM 10/2/75

FILE NO. 100-55242

JMM

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE JUL 20 1951	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/1, 2, 9, 12, 18, 22, 28; 7/6, 13/51	REPORT MADE BY ROBERT M. KANE
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

VAGO continues employment as draftsman for Carol Management Corp., now at 12 East 48th St., NYC. Spot surveillances and contacts with confidential informants failed to reveal pertinent information.

*1cc McLaughlin
17-12-51*

DETAILS:

Employment and Residence

JACOB ARNOW, 12 East 48th Street, New York City, former employer of VAGO and independent contractor for Carol Management Corporation at the same address, advised that VAGO continues his employment as full time draftsman for Carol Management. He said that VAGO is presently working at 12 East 48th Street.

It is noted that spot surveillances have disclosed VAGO'S regular presence at that address.

COPIES DESTROYED

56 MAR 9 1961 Dr. ROBERT JACOBS, Dentist, 66-07 99th Street, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, advised that he regularly

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward J. [Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<p style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">COPY IN FILE</p> <p>3 Bureau (101-1988)</p> <p>1 USA, SDNY</p> <p>1 Los Angeles (65-5125) (Info.)</p> <p>1 San Francisco (65-4286) (Info.)</p> <p>1 Washington Field (65-5598) (Info.)</p> <p>3 New York</p>	<p style="font-size: 1.5em; text-align: center;">101-1988-203</p> <p style="text-align: center;">JUL 25 1951</p> <p style="text-align: center;">11</p> <p style="text-align: right;">RECORDED - 54 INDEXED - 54</p> <p style="text-align: right;">EX - 4</p>

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~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

sees VAGO and his family entering and leaving the building. He stated that he had noted no visitors at the VAGO apartment nor had he observed VAGO in the company of anyone other than members of his family.

Bank Account

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that on July 12, 1951, VAGO had a balance of \$32.42 at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard, New York. All checks drawn on the account were in small amounts and appeared to be of a routine nature and not pertinent to this investigation.

It is noted that the information secured from Confidential Informant T-1 was obtained on a confidential basis and is not to be made public except on issuance of a subpoena.

Miscellaneous

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, a former [REDACTED] who has furnished information concerning Soviet espionage, advised that he was unable to identify a photograph of VAGO. b7D

Confidential Informants T-3 and T-4, both of known reliability, who are familiar with some phases of Soviet espionage in the U. S. in the 1930's, advised that they were unable to identify VAGO.

Confidential Informants T-5 and T-6, both of known reliability, admitted former Soviet espionage agents who operated in New York City and Mexico in the period from 1937 to 1945, were also unable to identify VAGO.

Confidential Informant T-7, of known reliability, advised that VAGO received correspondence from his brother, ERNEST VAGO, Rottenbiller U29/a, Budapest, Hungary.

Spot surveillances on June 1, 2, 9, 12, 18, 28, and July 6 and 13, 1951, reflect VAGO'S continued presence in the New York area but failed to disclose any information pertinent to this investigation.

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA ROBERT M. KANE, New York, dated JUL 20 1951, are as follows:

T-1

[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] Sterling National Bank and b7D
Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard,
New York City.

T-2

[REDACTED] contacted by SA [REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D

T-3

[REDACTED] contacted by SA [REDACTED]

T-4

[REDACTED] contacted by SA [REDACTED] b2
[REDACTED] b7D

T-5

[REDACTED], contacted by SA [REDACTED]

T-6

[REDACTED] contacted by SA [REDACTED] b7C b7D

T-7

A mail cover on the subject at 66-07
99th Street, Forest Hills, New York.

Copies of this report are being sent to the Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington Field Offices in accordance with Bureau instructions.

LEADS

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will follow and report prosecutive action.

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE (Con't)

Will continue to maintain mail cover on subject at 66-07 99th Street, Forest Hills, New York.

Will continue to monitor the bank account of the subject at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-30 Queens Boulevard, New York.

Will continue to conduct spot surveillances on the subject.

REFERENCE

Report of SA ROBERT M. KANE, New York, 5/23/51.

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL JAMES M. McINERNEY

July 31, 1951

DIRECTOR, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VADO, was
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

CONFIDENTIAL

Transmitted herewith for your information is one copy of the following report which has been submitted in this matter:

Report of Special Agent Robert M. Kane, dated July 20, 1951, at New York, New York.

Enclosure

KFE:hs

101-1988

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042 PWT/CB

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EX 62

RECEIVED - MR. TOLSON

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AUG 31 15 03 PM '51

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MAILED 10
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10 1951



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO

Op-321E/ere
Ser 02520LP32

By Hand

rec'd 8/15/51
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM for Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Attn: Liaison Section

Subj: [REDACTED]

Ref : (a) FBI (Wash., D.C.) conf inv rpt dtd 21 June 1951,
file #65-5589, subj: VAGO, Oscar John

1. Reference (a) contains pertinent information on [REDACTED]
2. The Office of Naval Intelligence has been advised that [REDACTED]
is on leave from the U. S. Marine Corps until 5 August 1951.
[REDACTED] gave as his address while on leave: [REDACTED]

*b7c
per
NAVY*

4.15.51
3042 PWT OLS
per affidavit release
William Abbott
William Abbott

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington 25, D. C.
Attn: Liaison Section

INDEXED - 39

RECORDED - 39

EX-130

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By Hand

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AUG 12 1951
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101-1988

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- ☐ 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.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAB/DRR 10/3/55

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-55242 LE

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 9/18/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/3, 4, 6, 11, 18, 27; 9/11/51
REPORT MADE BY ROBERT M. KANE		
TITLE OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.		CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

VAGO continues employment with Carol Management Corporation at 12 East 48th Street, NYC, and residence at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, NY. Contributed \$20 to fund for JULIUS ROSENBERG, recently convicted espionage agent, and indicated willingness to contribute additional funds in the future. Spot surveillances of subject negative.

3cc-802-ETV
 8-22-51
 12-12-51

- P -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 2-26-87 BY 3042/PD/C/S

DETAILS:

JACOB ARONOW, 12 East 48th Street, New York City, former employer of VAGO, advised on September 11, 1951 that VAGO is still employed as a full-time draftsman by the Carol Management Corporation at 12 East 48th Street.

Dr. ROBERT JACOBS, Dentist, 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, New York, advised that he has observed the VAGO family regularly entering and leaving the building and repeated his former observation that he had not noticed any visitors at the VAGO apartment, nor had he seen VAGO in the company of anyone other than members of his family.

HENRY BOLIA, 88-40 213th Street, Hollis, New York, Assistant Superintendent at VAGO'S residence at 66-07 99th Street,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>Edward Schmitt</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">101-1988-209</div>
COPY IN FILE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (101-1988) 1 USA, SDNY 1 Los Angeles (65-5125) (Info) 1 San Francisco (65-4286) (Info) 1 Washington Field (65-5598) (Info) 3 New York	SEP 22 1951 10 EX-79

NY 100-55242

advised that he has observed VAGO almost daily leaving for work in the morning and related that he had recently had a discussion with Mrs. VAGO concerning the redecoration of the apartment in which she indicated that the family had no intention of moving from that address.

Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that VAGO had a balance of \$47.81 at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard, on July 31, 1951 and a balance of \$79.48 on August 31, 1951. The informant advised that checks drawn by VAGO were either for routine expenses, such as utilities, or to cash, all in comparatively small amounts. It is noted that the above information was obtained on a confidential basis and is not to be made public except on the issuance of a subpoena.

Confidential Informant T-2, of unknown reliability, advised that on August 23, 1951 he contacted VAGO at the latter's home and solicited funds for JULIUS ROSENBERG, recently convicted on a charge of conspiracy to commit espionage and presently awaiting execution at Sing Sing Prison, Ossining, New York.

The informant advised that the fund was being raised in order to make the stay of ROSENBERG and his wife, ETHEL, more comfortable through the purchase of extras at the prison.

The informant advised that VAGO contributed \$20 and stated that he would do everything he could to help further in the future.

It is noted that VAGO is noted to have been on very friendly relations with ROSENBERG during the period in which both VAGO and ROSENBERG were held at the Federal House of Detention in New York.

Surveillances of VAGO on August 3rd, 4th, 6th, 11th, 18th, 27th, and September 11th of 1951 disclosed his

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

NY 100-55242

continued presence in the New York area as required under his bail, but failed to reflect any information pertinent to the investigation.

P E N D I N G

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

WAS/BR
194/75

NY 100-55242

ADMINISTRATIVE

INFORMANTS:

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA ROBERT M. KANE, New York, dated 8/20/51 are as follows:

T-1

[REDACTED] Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard. b7c b7D

T-2

JEROME EUGENE TARTAKOW, whose identity is being kept confidential at his own request.

MISCELLANEOUS:

One copy of this report is being forwarded to Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington Field for information in accordance with Bureau instructions.

LEADS:

NEW YORK: — covered, see ser. 212.

At New York, New York

Will follow and report prosecutive action.

Will continue to maintain a mail cover at VAGO'S home at 66-07 99th Street, Rego Park, New York.

Will continue to monitor the bank account of the subject at the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company, 95-38 Queens Boulevard, New York.

Will maintain contact with HENRY BOLIA, Assistant Building Superintendent at VAGO'S residence.

Will conduct spot surveillances of VAGO.

REFERENCE:

Report of SA ROBERT M. KANE, New York, 7/20/51.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL JAMES M. McINERNEY

September 29, 1951

DIRECTOR, FBI

OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was.
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ WAB/RA
1-1-1-1-1

Attached herewith for your information is one copy of the report of Special Agent Robert M. Kane, dated September 18, 1951, at New York City, in the above-captioned case.

Enclosure

EFE:hc

101-1988 - 209

RECORDED - 111

EX-79

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OCT 1 1951

MAILED 10
SEP 23 1951
COMM - FBI

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

58 OCT 9 1951

Clt

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (101-1988)

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: OSCAR JOHN VAGO, was;
PERJURY
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: October 8, 1951

Reference NY letter to Bureau 1/20/51, requesting various stops in order to forestall VAGO'S departure from the U.S., and Miami letter to N.Y. 9/22/51.

For the information of all offices concerned, VAGO is presently on bail on the same terms with no date set for trial, and all stops should be maintained until removal is requested by this office.

cc-Albany (74-6)
Albuquerque (100-731)
Anchorage (100-307)
Baltimore (65-1794)
Boston (65-3417)
Buffalo
Butte (65-528)
Chicago (65-3474)
Detroit (65-2286)
El Paso (65-813)
Houston (100-8303)
Los Angeles (65-5125)
Miami (65-2424)
Minneapolis
Mobile
Newark (65-4124)
New Orleans (100-14401)
Norfolk (74-3)
Philadelphia (65-4411)
Phoenix (100-3781)
Portland (65-1732)
San Francisco (65-4286)
San Antonio (74-73)
San Diego (65-0)
San Juan (74-10)
Savannah (65-0-504A)
Seattle (65-3133)
Washington Field (65-5598)

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EX - 8

101-1988-210
OCT 10 1951

RMK:LEW
100-85242

58 OCT 16 1951