

**FILE DESCRIPTION**

**BUREAU FILE**

SUBJECT THOMAS L. BLACK

FILE NO. 65-59181

SECTION NO. 9

SERIALS 236

thru

264

## **NOTICE**

**THE BEST COPIES OBTAINABLE ARE INCLUDED IN THE REPRODUCTION OF THE FILE. PAGES INCLUDED THAT ARE BLURRED, LIGHT OR OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO READ ARE THE RESULT OF THE CONDITION AND OR COLOR OF THE ORIGINALS PROVIDED. THESE ARE THE BEST COPIES AVAILABLE.**

File No: 65-59181Re: THOMAS L. BLACKDate: FEBRUARY 1978  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
236	3/5/52	letter from HQ to PG	1	1	
236	8/2/50	letter from HQ to AAG	1	1	
NR	6/22/50	RE: HARRY GOLD TELETYPE FROM NY TO PH, <sup>291/9-19-78</sup> AND HQ	1	-	SEE BUFILE 65-57449-494 <sup>291/9-19-78</sup>
237	8/2/50	TELETYPE FROM NK & PH, WFO, AND HQ	1	1	
238	8/1/50	TELETYPE FROM PH TO NK, <sup>291/9-16-78</sup> AND HQ	1	1	
239	6/26/50	TELETYPE FROM NK & PH, NY, <sup>291/9-15-78</sup> AND HQ	1	1	
240	7/28/50	Report from NY to HQ	8	8	(8 <sup>th</sup> pg is a copy of pg. 1) 18up
241	8/2/50	letter from AAG to HQ	1	-	REFER TO DOJ
242	7/18/50	letter from HQ to PH	2	2	
243	8/4/50	letter from Assoc. Embassy London to <sup>Hq</sup> HQ	1	1	
NR	7/19/50	letter from NY to HQ	1	1	
244	7/31/50	letter from AAG to HQ	2	-	REFER TO DOJ

File No: 65-59181

Re: THOMAS L. BLACK

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
245	7/27/50	letter from AAG to HQ	1	-	REFER TO DOJ
246	8/4/50	letter from HQ to AAG	1	1	
247	8/3/50	letter from PH to HQ	4	2	
247	8/11/50	letter from HQ to PH	1	-	REFER TO DOJ
248	8/4/50	Report from SE to HQ	4	4	(4th pg is copy of pg 1) 1 dup
249	8/8/50	letter from HQ to AAG	1	1	
250	6/20/50	65-59181-250 CHANGED TO 65-59395-1	1	1	
251	7/11/50	teletype from NY to PH, WFO, AND HQ	1	1	
252	8/17/50	4 PG TELETYPE FROM NK TO PH, NY, & HDQR - COPY OF TELETYPE 291/9-16-78	4	4	4 dups
253	6/19/50	TELETYPE FROM NK TO BA, PH, NY, WFO, AND HQ	5	5	
254	8/21/50	letter from HQ to PH	1	1	
255	8/21/50	letter from PH to HQ	1	1	



File No: 65-59181

Re: THOMAS L. BLACK

Date: FEBRUARY 1978  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
256	8/28/50	letter from HQ to PH	1	1	
257	8/22/50	letter from HQ to BA	1	1	
258	8/28/50	letter from HQ to PH	1	1	
259	2/15/78	SKIIPPED SERIAL FORM	1	1	
260	7/18/50	teletype from PH to NY, WFO, HQ	2	2	
261	7/13/50	teletype from NY to PH, WFO AND HQ and a 2 pg search slip re 3rd Party	1 2	1 2	
262	6/17/50	teletype from PH to HQ	1	1	
NR	7/12/50	letter from PH to HQ	1	1	
NR	7/17/50	letter from PH to HQ	4	4	
NR	8/2/50	Report from PH to HQ	6	6	
NR	8/9/50	letter from HQ to NY Re: Harry Gold	2	-	SEE BUFILE 65-57449
NR	8/18/50	letter from HQ to PH	1	1	
263	8/21/50	Report from WFO to HQ	6	-	(6th pg IS A COPY OF PG. 1) REFER TO STATE DEPT. & INS

File No: 65-59181

**Re:**

THOMAS L. BLAIR

**Date:**

FEBRUARY 1978

(month/year)

[illegible]

U. S. Department of Justice

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

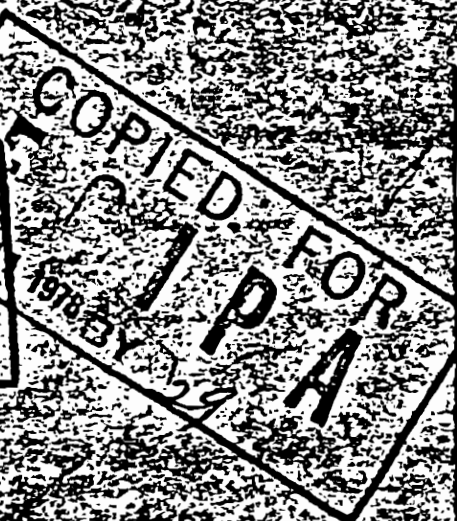
FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

*Complete file 2/1/78*

*Serial 264*



USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

69181

SECTION 9  
SERIALS 236-264

SAC, Pittsburgh

April 5, 1952

Director, FBI (65-59181)

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Pittsburgh is requested to furnish Philadelphia with copies of photographs of Frank Laverne Palmer, subject of Pittsburgh file 100-8894. Palmer has admitted to Pittsburgh Agents that he was engaged in espionage activities between 1931 and May, 1938, at which time he claims that he broke with Galt Ovakimian. Since Black was known to have worked for Ovakimian, it is believed that Palmer's description should be furnished to Black and Palmer's photographs exhibited to him to determine if Palmer qualifies as a candidate for any of the various unknown subjects who were in contact with Black.

cc - Philadelphia

cc - 100-348543

EL:amb hmb

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

FBI

RECEIVED-MAY 10 1952

APR 23 2 28 PM '52

RECORDED - 96

MAILED 12

MAR 5 - 1952

COMM - FBI

65 MAR 11 1952

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-348543



Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney

August 2, 1950

Director, FBI

THOMAS LEE SING BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reference is made to my memorandum to you dated July 26, 1950, forwarding  
white investigative reports concerning this subject.

There is enclosed herewith the report of Special Agent William  
Welts, Jr., dated July 26, 1950, at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Additional reports concerning the activities of Black will be forwarded  
to you when they become available to the Bureau.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

ADVISORY OFFICES

ADMINISTRATIVE

STAMP(S) OF *Declassification*

DATE *2/2/78*

Enclosure

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913  
ON 2/7/28/59

MAILED 2  
AUG 2 1950

RECORDED 107 65-5981-236

AUG 8 1950

EX-13

C 11814

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

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

AUG 2 1950

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

WASHINGTON 3 PHILA 1 FROM TELETYPE  
DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE DASH R. RE PHILA TEL AUGUST FIRST.  
GEORGE C. STIER OF NOPCO CHEMICAL COMPANY, HARRISON, N. J., ADVISED  
THAT BLACK NEITHER WORKED ON NOR CLEARED FOR CLASSIFIED WORK AT THE  
COMPANY AND WAS NEVER INVOLVED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF PRODUCTS FOR THE  
CHEMICAL WARFARE SERVICE.

WA HOLD PLS  
PH ACK AND DSC PLS  
HPH NK R 1 PH MMD

MC RECORDED - 78

INDEXED - 78

165-59181-237  
AUG 11 1950

3  
C. C. M. Thompson

52 AUG 14 1950

COPIES DESTROYED

R 47 NOV 21 1960

5-4  
65-59181

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 1 1950

TELETYPE

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

WASHINGTON 15 AND NEWARK 3 FROM PHILA 8-1-50

3-45

DIRECTOR AND SAC .....U R G E N T

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP - R. REFERENCE IS MADE TO REPORT OF LOUIS G. TURNER, DATED JULY TWENTY LAST, NEWARK, NY. ON PAGE SIXTYSEVEN THIS REPORT IS SET FORTH IN AN INTERVIEW WITH GEORGE G. STIER A LIST OF THE CLASSIFIED CONTRACTS AT NOPCO CHEMICAL CO., HARRISON, NJ, HAD WITH CHEMICAL WARFARE SERVICE. BLACK ON INTERVIEW HAS PREVIOUSLY STATED HE HAS NOT WORKED ON ANY CLASSIFIED WORK FOR NOPCO. NK REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN FROM STIER IF BLACK WAS EMPLOYED ON ANY THESE CLASSIFIED CONTRACTS OR WAS CLEARED FOR WORK ON THEM.

CORNELIUS

RECORDED - 78  
INDEXED - 78

AUG 11 1950

END BOTH AAD

WA BR R 15 WA HK

52 AUG 14 1950 NK CIG

DISC COPIES DESTROYED  
R 47 NOV 21 1960

cc: Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Humphreys

65-59181



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

JUN 26 1950

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 2 NEW YORK 2 PHILA 3 FROM NEWARK

26 2-21 PM

DIRECTOR AND SACS

URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESP-R. RE PHILA TEL JUNE TWENTY THIRD. NOPCO  
CHEMICAL COMPANY ADVISES THAT THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANUFACTURE OF  
SORBITOL

WAS NEVER CLASSIFIED INSOFAR AS NOPCO WAS CONCERNED. RE-  
SEARCH WAS CONDUCTED ON SORBITOL RE ITS USE IN VARIOUS INDUSTRIES AND  
WAS NEVER DEVELOPED OR SOLD UNDER GOVT. CONTRACT. NOPCO ADVISES THAT  
THE FOLLOWING PRODUCTS WERE MANUFACTURED BY THEM DURING WARTIME UNDER  
RESTRICTED CONTRACTS WITH THE CHEMICAL WARFARE SERVICE---SHOE IMPREG-  
NITE PAREN FOR PROTECTION FROM MUSTARD GAS PAREN, VESICANT DETECTOR CRAY-  
ON PAREN TO DETERMINE PRESENCE OF MUSTARD GAS PAREN, TRIACETIN PAREN  
SOLVENT USED TO PROTECT HANDS OF PERSONS WORKING WITH MUSTARD GAS PAREN,  
AND NAPALM PAREN USED IN PRODUCTION OF JELLIED GASOLINE FOR FLAME  
THROWERS PAREN.

COPIES DESTROYED

R 47 NOV 21 1960  
ACK ORD PLS

WA NWK R 2 WA

NY NK R2 NY GAF

PH NK R 3 PH EMC

INITS WASH PLS

GAR 52 AUG 14 1950

DSC

MC KEE  
RECORDED - 78

INDEXED - 78

165-59181-239  
AUG 11 1950

cc Mr. Lamphorn

5-1

John



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

NY FILE NO. **65-15338**

SMS

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7/28/1950</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/7, 10-13/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANCIS W. ZANGLE</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Investigation was conducted in 1941 to determine if GAIK OVAKIMIAN attempted to develop an espionage contact at DU PONT COMPANY. During this investigation PAUL K. LAWRENCE, DU PONT employee in Organic Chemical Department, Wilmington, Delaware, advised that in 1938 WILLIAM W. STAPLER had contacted him relative to an offer of employment in Russia. STAPLER made offer on behalf of his contact, a man named GEORGE, at the Rockefeller Institute in NY. STAPLER told LAWRENCE he had been selling information to "Rockefeller crowd" and GEORGE, his contact, was merely employed at the Rockefeller Institute as a blind and in reality GEORGE was a Soviet agent. OVAKIMIAN, Soviet agent arrested in 1941 and deported, held a fellowship at the Rockefeller Institute during that time. STAPLER at that time was employed by the HERCULES POWDER COMPANY.

- P -

**DETAILS:**

In 1941, during an investigation conducted at the DU PONT COMPANY to determine if GAIK OVAKIMIAN had attempted to develop any espionage contacts at the DU PONT COMPANY in Wilmington, Delaware, Confidential Informant T-1, of unknown reliability, was contacted by SA Paul W. Haviland. The informant advised that the DU PONT COMPANY'S records reflect no contact with OVAKIMIAN, but their records reflected that in October, 1938 PAUL K. LAWRENCE, of the Organic Chemical Department in Wilmington, Delaware, had

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Samuel Scheidt</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED NOV 21 1960 Bureau COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 Baltimore (65-1751) 1 Los Angeles (Info) 1 San Francisco (Info) 1 Washington Field (Info) (Copies cont'd next page)	<b>65-59181-240</b> <b>AUG. 8 1950</b> <b>12</b>	<b>RECORDED - 103</b> <b>INDEXED - 103</b> <b>66-X3</b>
	<i>5-62</i>	

**52 AUG 17 1950**

NY 65-15338

informed his superiors that he had been contacted by an individual whose name he did not divulge and it was not requested of him. This unknown individual informed PAUL K. LAWRENCE that he had been approached by a man named GEORGE connected with the Rockefeller Institute, who offered to obtain a position for him in Russia. In connection with these contacts by the officials from the Rockefeller Institute they had indicated that they would be willing to purchase trade information from him, such as secret processes used, and that they had paid as much as \$22,000 for information.

This unknown individual, in his conversations with LAWRENCE, indicated that high officials of the DU PONT COMPANY were included in the comments made by this person, whose first name was GEORGE, of the Rockefeller Institute. As a result of this contact, different officials of the DU PONT COMPANY were interviewed by their investigative staff because of the fact that LAWRENCE had indicated that this unknown individual had previously been employed at the DU PONT dye works located at Deep Water, New Jersey.

The informant advised that at that time their file was jumbled and incomplete concerning the matter and in order to straighten out the record they would reinterview Mr. LAWRENCE and other confidential sources. The report of this re-investigation by the DU PONT people is as follows:

b7D [REDACTED] "It appears that Mr. LAWRENCE returned to DU PONT employment [REDACTED] in August of 1938, coming here from the Tariff Commission in Washington. Just a few weeks after returning to Wilmington, he ran across an old acquaintance with whom he had been employed a number of years before at the DU PONT Dye Works. This person had left Du Pont service several years previously and had harbored a grudge against the company ever since. On meeting this acquaintance, LAWRENCE asked what he was doing and was told that he was 'free lancing', acting as a consultant for miscellaneous clients and selling information to various parties, some of whom were foreign governments. In the course of the conversation when they first met and at a subsequent meeting at LAWRENCE'S home a short time thereafter (LAWRENCE only saw this man on two occasions), this individual said he had been selling a good bit of information and on one occasion has been told by Rockefeller crowd that they had paid as much as \$22,000 for technical data. This information was given to a Russian whose first name was 'George', then employed by the Rockefeller Institute in New York City;

Copies Cont'd.

- 1 Newark (Info) (65-4074)
- 3 Philadelphia (65-4332)
- 3 New York

NY 65-15338

"that the Rockefeller Institute employment of 'George' was largely a blind and that 'George' in reality was an agent of the Soviet Government. He also informed LAWRENCE that 'George' had a contact in the DU PONT Company, inferring that it was a high-up official, from whom 'George' was obtaining information on Du Pont chemical processes.

"In recalling these events of August and September of 1938, LAWRENCE explained that he could not remember the details very well, but he did recall it was his impression at the time that his unnamed acquaintance was probably making these remarks more to take a dig at the DU PONT Company and in an attempt to impress LAWRENCE. LAWRENCE said he doubted at the time that this person was telling much truth, but nevertheless he felt it advisable to inform DR. E. H. KELIHOFFER, and secure as much information as he could from his unnamed contact, and in so doing told this person that he would treat confidentially any information received and would not disclose the source. Under these circumstances LAWRENCE told the informant he felt it would be unfair to disclose the identity of this former DU PONT employee with whom he had been speaking.

"LAWRENCE'S acquaintance did not attempt to pump LAWRENCE for any information nor did he appear to try to cultivate him for possible future contacts. On the contrary, LAWRENCE says that he was the one who did the pumping in order to determine how serious the matter was."

The informant stated that the company, after a consultation of the various immediate superiors of LAWRENCE, decided that they had no right to force LAWRENCE to divulge the identity of his acquaintance. LAWRENCE disclosed the name of the questioned acquaintance as WILLIAM W. STAPLER, who in 1941 resided in North Jersey and was employed at that time by the HERCULES POWDER COMPANY as some sort of salesman who contacted textile mills throughout the country for the HERCULES POWDER COMPANY. LAWRENCE said that STAPLER was a supervisor at the dye works at Deep Water, New Jersey, but was let out during the 1921 depression, at which time there was a cut of approximately 60% of the employees.

MR + MRS

In developing background of GAIK OVAKIMIAN in the United States the immigration records at Ellis Island, checked in 1941, reflected that he originally entered the country under the name of GAIK BADALOVICH OVAKIMIAN on the Ile de France, arriving at New York on August 15, 1935. He gave his occupation as engineer and indicated knowledge of French, English and German besides Russian. He was en route to AMTORG at 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City for the purpose of "business administration" for six months. He said

NY 65-15338

he was in the United States prior to 1933. He was accompanied by his wife, VERA OVAKIMIAN and their daughter, EGINA, sometimes called ELENA or EGUINA. Apparently OVAKIMIAN departed from the U. S. in August, 1936 and made a second entry into the country November 17, 1936 from Cherbourg, France on the Queen Mary. On this occasion he indicated he was en route to the Commissioner of Heavy Industries, Amtorg, 261 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

OVAKIMIAN received some thirteen extensions on his permit to stay in the United States, all of which were officially requested by AMTORG. He resided at 185 East 163rd Street, New York City until his return to the United States on November 3, 1936, when he began living in an apartment at 97 Brooklyn Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. His wife VERA and their daughter EGINA were listed in the immigration files as departing from the U. S. on August 9, 1940 aboard the SS President Coolidge.

Investigation at the Rockefeller Institute indicated that OVAKIMIAN was a Doctor in the Chemistry Division of the Rockefeller Institute, having come there on January 1, 1937 on a fellowship from the Russian government. He worked with the institute until January 1, 1940 when he terminated this connection and left his forwarding address as Amtorg.

OVAKIMIAN was indicted for failure to register as a Soviet agent and was arrested and deported in 1941.

- P E N D I N G -

NY 65-15338

ADMINISTRATIVE

With regard to the probability that OVAKIMIAN is identical with STALPER'S unknown contact GEORGE, at the Rockefeller Institute, it is pointed out that ALFRED DEAN SLACK, in interviews with Bureau agents, advised that when he met OVAKIMIAN he was introduced to him as GEORGE and he stated that, before knowing the actual identity of OVAKIMIAN, his contact was an Armenian.

NY 65-15338

LEADS

BALTIMORE

AT WILMINGTON, DELAWARE:

Will consider the advisability of locating and interviewing PAUL K. LAWRENCE at the DU PONT COMPANY for any additional information he might have concerning the activities of STAPLER or STAPLER'S wife in connection with Soviet espionage. (See report of SA Paul W. Haviland, Baltimore, 8/30/41 in the case entitled, [REDACTED] ET AL, ESPIONAGE - R", Baltimore file 65- [REDACTED])

65-584

↓  
ARMAND LABIS FELDMAN

NY 65-15338

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informant mentioned in the report of SA Francis W. Zangle dated July 28, 1950 at New York, New York is:

T-1

[REDACTED] b7D  
who requested  
that his identity be kept confidential.

REFERENCE: Report of SA Joseph C. Trainor, Baltimore, 7/7/50.



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

NY FILE NO. **65-15338**

SMS

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7/28/1950</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/1, 10-13/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANCIS W. ZANGLE</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R.</b>

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES			
<b>5) Bureau</b> COPIES OF THIS REPORT <b>2) Baltimore (65-1751)</b> <b>1) Los Angeles (Info)</b> <b>1) San Francisco (Info)</b> <b>1) Washington Field (Info)</b> <b>(Copies cont'd next page)</b>					



REPORT  
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON D. C.

~~SECRET~~

July 18, 1950

To: SAC, Philadelphia

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on June 29, 1950 and from the Baltimore Office on June 23, 1950.

THOMAS L. BLACK, with aliases  
ESPIONAGE - R

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR FILE NO.

FBI FILE NO.

LAB. NO.

65-57181  
65-57181  
D-113673 AU  
D-113673 AU  
PC-28093 IE

Examination requested by: SAC, Philadelphia, Baltimore

Reference: Letters dated 6-27-50 and 6-23-50

Examination requested: Document - General Chemistry

Specimens:

D-113673 AU - Submitted by Philadelphia with letter dated 6-27-50.

- Q1 Twelve sheets of white paper bearing the known handwriting in pencil of THOMAS L. BLACK.
- Q2 A sheet of paper dated 5-23-42, bearing typewriting taken from THOMAS L. BLACK'S typewriter as of 1942.

D-113673 AU - Submitted by Baltimore with letter dated 6-23-50.

- Q3 File pack containing photograph of WILLIAM W. STEPLER and purported handwriting of WILLIAM W. STEPLER.

Results of Examination:

Classified by 4913

Exempt from GDS, Category 2, 3

Date of Declassification Indefinite

RP/rsq 8/7/78

[REDACTED]

RECORDED - 6

AUG 16 1950

MAILED 17  
JUL 19 1950

~~SECRET~~

Continued next page

COMM - FBI

51 SEP 7 1950

FVB:GCB  
1950

SECRET

[REDACTED] b1  
[REDACTED] b2  
The information at the top of K2 setting forth the composition of "Thermoll Granodine or Parkolube" describes a preparation for treating metallic surfaces prior to painting. The composition is similar to the well known "Parkorizing process" which renders metallic surfaces rust resistant prior to painting. The Parkorizing process is not classified or restricted. As far as is known to the Laboratory, the composition on K2 is not classified or restricted. It is felt that the information was not restricted during World War II because the general formula described has been known for many years and has been used for rustproofing metallic surfaces. (U)

In accordance with the request of the Baltimore Office copies of the photographs of WILLIAM V. STAPLER are transmitted herewith to the Baltimore, New York, Philadelphia and Newark Offices. The negatives developed from the film pack, K3, are returned to the Baltimore Office herewith. Specimens K1 and K2 are returned herewith to the Philadelphia Office. Photographic copies of K1, K2 and K3 are retained. (U)

Page 2  
D-118673 AJ  
D-118674 BJ  
PC-20073 DE

SECRET



United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

American Embassy  
1, Grosvenor Square  
London, W. 1  
August 4, 1950

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - AIR COURIER POUCH

Director, FBI  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

b1  
b7D  
[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

*J. A. Cimperman*

J. A. Cimperman  
Legal Attache

RECORDED - 38  
INDEXED - 38

165-59181-243  
AUG 15 1950

JAC:LL  
65-0

Classified By 4913  
Exempt from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

AP/139 2/7/78

~~SECRET~~

5-2

65-59181-

52 AUG 17 1950

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 65-57981

Director, FBI

~~SECRET~~

July 19, 1950

SAC, New York

UNKNOWN SUBJECT was.,  
"Roberts", Rabinowitz, Mr. Rich  
ESPIONAGE - R

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF *Classification*  
DATE *2/8/78 GSS*

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

It has recently been determined that the New York Chapter of the American Red Cross maintains a library containing all back issues of publications issued by the National and International Red Cross Societies. It is felt this may provide an excellent opportunity to obtain a photograph of Dr. RABINOVITCH. (u)

The Red Cross librarian is presently on vacation and is expected to return July 19, 1950. A report will be held in abeyance pending review of the publications at the Red Cross Library. (u)

It is anticipated that a report will be submitted by July 28, 1950 in this matter. (u)

Classified by 4913  
Exempt from GDS, Category 1  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE.

RIS:mbm  
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~~SECRET~~

65-59181-  
NOT RECORDED  
73 AUG 16 1950

50 AUG 28 1950

ORIGINAL FILED IN



ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL JAMES M. McINERNEY

August 4, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

THOMAS LESSING BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

There is being forwarded herewith for your further information in this case the report of Special Agent Charles B. Schildecker, dated July 26, 1950, at Miami, Florida.

There is also enclosed a copy of a signed statement executed by Jacob I. Fass, dated July 17, 1950, at Paterson, New Jersey.

Further reports concerning Black will be forwarded to you when they are received at the Bureau.

Enclosure

EFL:ho

65-59181

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913  
ON 2/7/78 DP/CJS

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF Classification  
DATE 2/8/78 KSS

RECORDED 119

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165-59181-246  
AUG 14 1950  
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MAILED 2  
AUG 4 1950  
COMM-FBI

AUG 17 1950

SEP 7 1950

RECEIVED  
JUL 27 1950

Handwritten signatures and initials.



**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

500 Widener Building  
Philadelphia 5, Pennsylvania  
August 3, 1950

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	_____

**STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**

*WHA:AMM 10/24/75*

Director, FBI

**RE: THOMAS L. BLACK  
POTENTIAL CNDI**

Dear Sir:

THOMAS L. BLACK has been the subject of an Espionage - R investigation, Philadelphia office of origin, for the past several months. An extensive investigation has been conducted into his past activities and he has been interviewed by agents of the Philadelphia Office for a period of several weeks. The results of the interviews with the subject are set forth in the report of Special Agent WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR. dated July 26, 1950, at Philadelphia, Pa., captioned THOMAS L. BLACK, was, ESPIONAGE - R. Reports have also been submitted by the New York and Newark Offices reflecting subject's activities in those areas.

In 1934, the subject was recruited into Soviet espionage by GAIK OVAKIMIAN. BLACK has been handled throughout the years by different Soviet superiors. He has not been active in Soviet espionage for the last five years. So far as his espionage activities are concerned, he was involved in industrial espionage and in anti-Trotsky activities. BLACK also furnished the Soviets results of independent research on penicillin and sorbose, none of which material was classified.

BLACK claims to have been involved in Soviet espionage against his will and held by them through threats of force and violence.

In addition to his espionage activities, BLACK in 1931 joined the Communist Party and as a part of his espionage activity later became a member of the Socialist Workers Party. He is acquainted with Marxism and Leninism and is familiar with the line of thought of the Marxist.

INDEXED - 78  
RECORDED - 78

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AUG 11 1950

5-62

COPIES DESTROYED

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BLACK was aware that HARRY GOLD, an admitted Soviet espionage agent, furnished the atom bomb secrets from KLAUS FUCHS to the Soviets. A signed statement has been obtained from BLACK incorporating the elements of the misprision of felony violation. BLACK anticipates being arrested in the future on a charge of misprision of felony and has stated that he intends to plead guilty as he is guilty of that charge.

b1  
b7D



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



b7D

[REDACTED]

b6  
b7D

[REDACTED]

b6

[REDACTED]

b6  
b7D

[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

*A. Cornelius, Jr.*

A. CORNELIUS, JR.  
SAC

65-59181-247

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO. 65-3095

REPORT MADE AT <b>SEATTLE, WASHINGTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>AUG - 4 1950</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/30; 7/27/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WILLIAM C. TOWER</b> <span style="float: right;">js</span>
TITLE  <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE  <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

G. I. R. - 2

F. BRUCE SANFORD advised one ROLAND KAPP, or GAPP, of NOPCO, told him on one occasion that subject was a Communist. SANFORD cannot recall ever having seen GOLD.

- RUC -

**DETAILS:**

AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

On June 30, 1950, F. BRUCE SANFORD, 2520 East McGraw Street, Seattle, Washington, telephonically advised that he had the subject's address in his possession, which was in care of COOPER, 1908 Dallas Street, Philadelphia 8, Pennsylvania, and that an old address of the subject in SANFORD's address book was 17 Oxford Street, Unit 4, Apartment F3, Newark, New Jersey. SANFORD also stated that the individuals whom he knew as friends of BLACK were CHARLES and BEN FREEFIELD. The address of the first was 811 Jefferson Avenue, Miami Beach 39, Florida, and the other address was 94 Whitman Street, Newark, New Jersey. SANFORD was not sure of the accuracy of these addresses at this time.

SANFORD also furnished the addresses of BLACK's former associates, ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, 165 - 12th Street, Wood Ridge, New Jersey, and SALLY PRUDEN, present name SALLY KYNOR, 117 North 17th Street, East Orange, New Jersey. He stated both of these individuals knew BLACK as well as he, SANFORD, did.

COPIES DESTROYED

R 47 NOV 21 1960

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - Philadelphia 2 - Seattle		165-59181-248 AUG 18 1950 5	15-42 (5-42)
		RECORDED - 61 INDEXED - 61	

REPT CONTAINS NO RESTRICTED INFO  
 65-3095-1220  
 100-441100-1000

COPY IN FILE

SE 65-3095

SANFORD further advised that he recalled that one ROLAND KAPP, or CAPP, who is an employee of NOPCO Chemical Company and in charge of one of the divisions there, had told SANFORD while they were both employed at NOPCO that THOMAS BLACK was a Communist.

A photograph of HARRY GOLD was exhibited to SANFORD on July 27, 1950, for possible identification with the individual he met with BLACK in a restaurant in Newark, New Jersey, in about 1937. However, he stated that he could not recall having ever seen this individual.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

65-59181-248

SE 65-3095

REFERENCE:

Report of SA WILLIAM C. TOWER, 6/26/50, at Seattle.  
Philadelphia letter to Director, 7/10/50.

65-59181-248

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO.

65-3095

REPORT MADE AT <b>SEATTLE, WASHINGTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>AUG - 4 1950</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/30; 7/27/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WILLIAM C. TOWER</b> <span style="float: right;">js</span>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

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- RUC -

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT  5 - Bureau 3 - Philadelphia 2 - Seattle			

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL JAMES M. McINERNEY

August 8, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

There is forwarded herewith for your additional information in this matter the report of Special Agent Francis W. Zangle, dated July 18, 1950, at New York City.

Additional reports concerning Black will be forwarded when they are received at the Bureau.

Enclosure

EFL:ho

65-59181

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF Classification  
DATE 2/8/78 CS

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913  
ON 2/7/78 BP/EG

RECORDED - 60

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CHANGED TO

65-59395-1

AUG 26 1950

JUN 11 1950

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	_____

CONF WASH AND WFO 12 AND PHILA 1 FROM NEW YORK 11

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ET AL, ESP-R. RE PHILA TEL JULY SEVEN LAST.  
PHOTO OF ALEXANDER IVANOV EXHIBITED TO BLACK BY PHILA BELIEVED TO BE  
ALEXANDER KORNILOVICH IVANOV WHO WAS ASSIGNED TO ~~MACHINOIMPORT~~ DIV.  
OF SGPC BEGINNING AUG., FORTYTHREE. FOR INFO OF WFO BLACK PICKED OUT  
PHOTO OF IVANOV AS POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH HIS ESPIONAGE SUPERIOR  
PAUL PETERSON DURING THIRTYFOUR-THIRTYEIGHT. NY FILES DO NOT SHOW PRE-  
SENCE IN US OF ALEXANDER KORNILOVICH IVANOV EARLIER THAN FORTYTHREE.  
WFO REQUESTED TO CHECK OFFICE INDICES AND STATE DEPT TO ASCERTAIN IF  
RECORDS SHOW IVANOV IN US DURING PERTINENT PERIOD.

RECORDED - 28

AUG 19 1950  
SCHEIDT

TWO COPIES INDEXED - 28 12

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 17 1950

TELETYPE

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

CONF 3 STATIONS

WASHINGTON 5, NEW YORK 3- AND PHIL 4 FROM NK 6-17-50 6-55 P EST

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., EXPT. R. SEARCH OF SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY PREMISES AT ONE SEVEN SEVEN EAST RAILWAY AVENUE, PATERSON, NJ CONDUCTED JUNE SIXTEEN BY TWO AGENTS IN PRESENCE OF JACOB I. FASS. BULK OF MATERIAL NOTED INCLUDED CHEMICAL EQUIPMENT AND RECORDS USED IN CONNECTION WITH SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY OPERATIONS IN PHILADELPHIA AND RECENTLY IN PATERSON. CORRESPONDENCE WITH VARIOUS CUSTOMERS, ACCOUNTS OF BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS, AND EXTENSIVE FILES OF CHEMICAL FORMULAE COMPRISED BULK OF RECORDS. CHEMICAL LAB EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES FOR MIXING BATCHES OF WATER CONDITIONING AGENTS ALSO ON HAND. SOME PERSONAL EFFECTS OF SUBJECT STORED IN BUILDING INCLUDED DRAWING INSTRUMENTS, BOOKS AND SOUVENIRS. TWO REELS OF PHOTORECORD FILM REMOVED BY AGENTS. SUBSEQUENT EXAMINATION DISCLOSED THEM TO BE PUBLISHED TECHNICAL FILM STRIPS DEALING WITH WOOL ALCOHOL AND LANOLIN. NO SIGNIFICANCE ATTACHED. SPRUCE FILES INCLUDED CONSIDERABLE CORRESPONDENCE WITH BERNIE PIDTO, SEVEN THREE TROY AVENUE, BROOKLYN, NY, WHOM FASS DESCRIBED AS FRIEND OF BLACK AND HARRY GOLD. FILES ALSO INCLUDED CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN BLACK AND PERCY H. HELIE, FIFTY THREE HOLDEN STREET, WORCESTER, MASS. IN WHICH PLANS WERE DISCUSSED FOR HELIE TO WORK FOR SPRUCE CHEMICAL COMPANY IN ADDITION TO HIS REGULAR EMPLOYMENT

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INDEXED - 36

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AUG 8 1950

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END OF PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

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END OF PAGE TWO

65-59181-252

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65-59181-252

**PAGE FOUR**

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MC KEE

**END**

CORRECTION PAGE FOUR LINE FOUR SHOULD READ "AT VAN POZNAK WAREHOUSE,  
NEWARK"

**END**

ACK IN ORDER PLS

**A WA NKUBR**

**NK R5 WA SMS**

NY NK R3 NY JEM

PH NK R 4 PH MTP

**DISC**

cc: Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Langelier

65-59181-25a

59-41-244

RECORDED

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 17 1950

TELETYPE

Mr. Ladd  
2244  
Bef

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

CONF 3 STATIONS

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DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

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65-59181-252

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MC KEE

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END.

ACK IN ORDER PLS

A WA NKUBR

NK R5 WA SHS

NY NK R3 NY JEM

PH NK R 4 PH MTP

DISC

65-59181-252

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	/

JUN 19 1950

(4)

AF

WASH 14 NEW YORK 8 PHILA 5 BALT 3 FROM NEWARK 19

9-52 PM

DIRECTOR AND SAC-S

..... U R G E N T .....

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE DASH R. RE PHILA. TELS JUNE SEVENTEEN AND EIGHTEEN AND MIAMI TEL JUNE SEVENTEEN. DR. E.A. ROBINSON, VP, NOPCO CHEMICAL CO., HARRISON, N.J. STATED THAT BLACK MADE A TRIP TO DELAWARE RAYON CORP., NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE ON APRIL THIRTY, FORTY WHERE HE INTERVIEWED EDWARD SYBRUMBERGER OF THAT COMPANY RE DISCOLORATION IN RAYON YARN. THIS WAS A ONE DAY TRIP AND WAS THE ONLY TRIP TO NEW CASTLE MADE BY BLACK IN THIRTYNINE OR FORTY, ACCORDING TO NOPCO RECORDS. ROBINSON STATED THAT BLACKS WORKBOOK IS THE ONLY SOURCE TO ASCERTAIN DATES AND DESTINATIONS OF OTHER TRIPS HE MAY HAVE MADE FOR NOPCO. HE STATED THIS BOOK IS THE PROPERTY OF THE COMPANY AND WAS NOT TURNED IN BY BLACK WHEN HE LEFT NOPCO. ROBINSON ADDED THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN NATURAL FOR BLACK TO MAKE PERIODIC VISITS TO VARIOUS PLANTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ANALYSIS OF BACTERIAL GROWTH IN WATER AND SLIME USED BY THOSE PLANTS, BUT THAT NO RECORD IS AVAILABLE CONCERNING THESE TRIPS. INQUIRY AT NOPCO INDICATES THAT ANITA BARON IMMERMAN EMPLOYED APRIL EIGHT, FORTYTHREE AS LAB TECHNICIAN AND DISCHARGED NOV. TWENTYSIX, FORTYEIGHT. SHE RESIDED AT THREE FIVE EIGHT WEST TWENTYNINTH ST., NYC, AND PREVIOUSLY RESIDED THREE FIVE FOUR WEST TWENTYNINTH ST. AND EIGHT SIX EIGHT EIGHT BAY SEVENTEENTH ST., BROOK-

65-59181-253

RECORDED - 27

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JUN 8 1950

END OF PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

LYN, N.Y. BARON WAS EMPLOYED AT NOPCO AS A BACTERIOLOGIST IN SAME LAB AS BLACK AND ACCORDING TO DR. ROBINSON WORKED NEXT TO BLACK FOR ABOUT ONE YEAR. BARON WAS AN AGITATOR WHILE AT NOPCO, ACCORDING TO ROBINSON. NEWARK INDICES NEG. RE. SEYMOUR SOROKA, FRANK DZIEDZIC, CHARLES E. BENDER, BERNARD EDELSTEIN, OTTO GREINER, RICHARD WILSON, PAUL WILLIAMS AND GENE SMALLEY. CHARLES E. BENDER FORMERLY OF NOPCO LEFT TO CONDUCT OWN BUSINESS IN FLEMINGTON, N.J. UNDER NAME OF HYPEX COMPANY. THIS BUSINESS FAILED AND BENDER IS NOW OPERATING THE MICRO BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES, ONE NAUGHT EIGHT ARAGON AVE., CORAL GABLES, FLA. WHILE RESIDING ONE EIGHT ONE NINE FERDINAND STREET IN THAT CITY. EXTENT OF ASSOCIATION BETWEEN BLACK AND BENDER NOT KNOWN AT NOPCO. BERNARD EDELSTEIN TERMINATED NOPCO DEC. FIVE, FORTYONE AT WHICH TIME HE RESIDED TWO TWO SEVEN EAST BLANCHE ST., LINDEN, N.J., AT WHICH ADDRESS HE DOES NOT PRESENTLY RESIDE. NO KNOWLEDGE AT NOPCO CONCERNING ASSOCIATION BETWEEN BLACK AND EDELSTEIN. INDIVIDUAL AT NA TWO DASH FOUR ONE THREE SIX IDENTIFIED AS REV. CHARLES F. SHAW, SIXTYSIX FLEMING AVE., NEWARK, N.J., WHO WAS NOT AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW THIS DATE. F. R. HEISEMAN, ONE NAUGHT FOUR FIVE FAIRVIEW PLACE, HILLSIDE, N. J. DIED FOUR YEARS AGO. SON OF SAME NAME DIED FIVE YEARS AGO IN ARMY. FATHER CONNECTED WITH NATIONAL GROCERIES IN N. J. WIFE STATES SHE DOES NOT KNOW BLACK. ABRAHAM M. HERMAN, THREE ONE NINE MAIN ST., ORANGE, N. J. TELEPHONE ORANGE THREE DASH NINE ONE NINE NAUGHT ADVISED HE IS AN ATTORNEY AND HAS NO RECOLLECTION OF BLACK. DAVID

65-59181-253

END OF PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

STONE, ONE SEVEN FOUR HARRISON AVE., WESTFIELD, N. J. STATED HE FORMERLY HAD TELEPHONE NUMBER WE TWO DASH FIVE FIVE THREE SEVEN, BUT THAT HE DOES NOT RECALL BLACK. SAMUEL MC CLURE, FORMERLY ONE TWO THREE JAMES ST., HILLSIDE, N. J., TELEPHONE EL THREE DASH THREE TWO SIX THREE, NOW LOCATED WEAVER HOTEL, BUCYRUS, OHIO. WIFE STATES THAT MC CLURE NOW EMPLOYED CRAWFORD STEEL CASTING CO. IN BUCYRUS AND THAT SHE DOES NOT RECALL BLACK. INDICES NEGATIVE REGARDING SHAW, HEISEMAN, HERMAN, STONE AND MC CLURE. OTTO BRIENER OF OTTO R. GRIENER CO. LABORATORY APPARATUS AND GLASS BLOWING, TWO TWO ONE HIGH ST., FORMERLY FIFTYFIVE PLANE ST., NEWARK, DENIED EVER KNOWING BLACK AND DID NOT RECOGNIZE HIS PHOTO. HE STATED HE HAS NO RECORD OF ANY BUSINESS TRANSACTION WITH BLACK BUT HAS DONE BUSINESS WITH NOPCO CHEMICAL CO. ACCORDING TO NOPCO RECORDS, RICHARD WILSON, FORMERLY ONE FOUR EIGHT STEUBEN ST. EAST ORANGE, N. J. TERMINATED HIS EMPLOYMENT SEPT. ELEVEN, FORTYFIVE, AT WHICH TIME HE ENTERED A THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL IN LYNCHBURG, VA. NO RELATIVES PRESENTLY LOCATED STEUBEN ST. IT WAS ASCERTAINED THAT THE MOTHER OF SEYMOUR SOROKA PRESENTLY RESIDES AT FOUR NINE ONE CLINTON AVE., NEWARK, N. J., BUT WAS NOT LOCATED FOR INTERVIEW AS TO WHEREABOUTS OF HER SON. MRS. HENRY JANMER, ONE ARLINGTON ROAD, CRANFORD, N. J. ADVISED THAT PAUL WILLIAMS FROM WHOM SHE HAS RENTED THE HOUSE AT THIS ADDRESS SINCE LAST FALL IS AN ELDERLY RETIRED PROFESSOR WHO IS AT THE PRESENT TIME AT TWO

65-59181-253

END OF PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

THIRTY SO. EIGHTIETH ST., BIRMINGHAM, ALA. MRS. JAMMER STATED SHE HEARD THAT WILLIAMS MAY ACCEPT A POSITION AT HOWARD COLLEGE IN BIRMINGHAM. INFO CONCERNING INTERVIEW WITH FRANK DZIEDZIC, ONE SEVEN SIX HIGH ST., NUTLEY, N. J. WAS CONTAINED IN NWK TEL DATED JUNE EIGHTEEN IN THE CASE ENTITLED ABRAHAM BROTHMAN, ESPIONAGE DASH R. EUGENE SMALLEY, ONE TWO NAUGHT SEVEN ELM AVE., NO. COLLINGSWOOD, N.J. WAS LOCATED AND ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR INTERVIEW MORNING OF JUNE TWENTY. LOUIS JACOBS EMPLOYED THOMAS A. EDISON CO., WEST ORANGE, NJ. AS RESEARCH ENGINEER FROM JUNE, TWENTYSEVEN TO NOV., THIRTYNINE, RESIDED NYC, CALDWELL, ORANGE AND NEWARK, N. J. ATTENDED COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, N. Y. NINETEEN TO TWENTYTHREE. BELIEVED EMPLOYED BY P AND D MFG. CO., NINETEEN DASH NAUGHT TWO STEINWAY ST., LONG ISLAND CITY, N. J. AFTER LEAVING EDISON. PRESENT WHEREABOUTS AND OCCUPATION UNKNOWN. NO INDICATION THIS OFFICE THAT JACOBS OR WIFE UNDER NAMES LOUIS JACOBS, JACK WEBER, SARA WEBER, SARA JACOBS OR SARA LEWIS, WERE MEMBERS OF SWP IN THIS AREA. NWK.

b7c [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ABOVE ADDRESS GIVEN FOR LOUIS JACOBS AT THOMAS A. EDISON CO. NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTIGATION AT ONE TWO EIGHT CORBIN AVE., JERSEY CITY, N. J. REGARDING BLACK AND GOLD UNPRODUCTIVE. CHESTER AND GORDON JURADINE BROTHERS, BOTH OF WHOM FORMERLY WORKED FOR

END OF PAGE FOUR

65-59181-253

PAGE FIVE

THE AMERICAN CYANAMID CO., LINDEN, N. J. ARE NOW EMPLOYED BY HARSHAW  
CHEMICAL CO., CLEVELAND, OHIO. GILFORD CHRISTENSEN, OWNER, CHRISTEN-  
SEN DEPT. STORE, WOODBRIDGE, N. J. ADVISED HE HAD BEEN A FELLOW EMPLOYEE  
OF THE SUBJ. AT AMERICAN CYANAMID CO. IN APPROXIMATELY TWENTYNINE OR  
THIRTY. HE RECALLED THAT THE OUTSTANDING FACTOR CONCERNING BLACK WAS  
THAT THE LATTER HAD BEEN AN ARDENT ATHEIST AND HAD BEEN PRESIDENT OF  
THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF ATHEISM AT SOME COLLEGE IN  
PA., CHRISTENSEN STATED THAT BLACK HAD BEEN A RELIABLE  
WORKER WHO LEFT THE COMPANY OF HIS OWN ACCORD AND THAT HE HAD NEVER  
HEARD OF BLACKS DOING OR SAYING ANYTHING THAT COULD BE CONSIDERED UN-  
AMERICAN. OTHER FELLOW EMPLOYEES OF AMERICAN CYANAMID, INCLUDING MON-  
TAGUE HUTCHINSON, JAMES V. PRIFF, AND WILLIAM BOTHWELL, STATED THEY  
RECALLED BLACK AS AN EMPLOYEE, BUT KNEW NOTHING OF HIS ACTIVITIES  
OR ASSOCIATES OUTSIDE OF THE PLANT.

MC KEE

WA, NY AND PH HOLD PLS BA ACK AND DISC

BA

65-59181-253

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

August 21, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
Philadelphia file 65-4332

PERSONAL ATTENTION

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent William B. Welte, Jr., dated July 26, 1950, at Philadelphia.

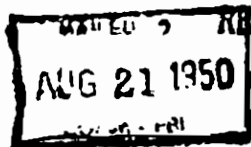
On Page 188 of referenced report it is stated that when Charles W. Berg was interviewed he threatened to shoot Bureau Agents. No further explanation is made of this statement in this report.

You are requested to furnish the Bureau the details surrounding this situation and explain what the circumstances were which prompted Berg to make such a threat.

This matter should be given your prompt attention.

65-59181

EFL:HC



RECORDED - 45

AUG 22 1950

80

EX - 68

65-59181-254

*[Handwritten signature]*  
*[Handwritten initials]*

*[Handwritten initials]*



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bufile 65-59181)

DATE: 8/21/50

Rebulet July 31, 1950.

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the report of SA WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR. dated July 26, 1950 at Philadelphia, Pa., in above captioned case, for use of the Seattle Office. Also enclosed herewith is one photograph of BLACK taken in July 1950.

The Seattle Office was forwarded a photograph of HARRY GOLD by aylet of July 10, 1950.

WBW: cab  
65-4332

cc: Seattle (65-3095) (enc.)

RECORDED - 103  
INDEXED - 103

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AUG 22 1950  
37-20  
5-114

52 AUG 29 1950

SAC, Philadelphia

August 28, 1950

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Since this subject is an admitted Soviet espionage agent, the Philadelphia Division should submit Form FD 122 in order that a Security Index card may be prepared at the Bureau.

65-59181

EFL:jam

*jam*

RECORDED - 40

165-59181-256

AUG 2

56

MAILED 2  
AUG 29 1950

*[Handwritten signature]*

*CHART*  
*EL*

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

*[Handwritten mark]*

55 AUG 30 1950

SAC, Baltimore

August 22, 1950

Director, FBI

M  
THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
Baltimore file 65-1751

Reference is made to Baltimore report of Special Agent Joseph C. Trainor dated July 7, 1950, in captioned matter. Referenced report reveals on page five that Miss Ethel Mann, Administrative Assistant in the Technical Library, Hercules Powder Company, was interviewed and that she advised that the Hopewell reports of the Hercules Powder Company did not contain any Government restricted information. It is noted that Miss Ethel Mann admitted that William T. Copier entertained her socially on various occasions. In view of this, it is believed that an opinion should be obtained from other officials of the Hercules Powder Company regarding the classified nature of the Hopewell reports.

One of the necessary elements in establishing a successful prosecution in this case is the establishment of the fact that information of a classified nature was passed by Black. This matter should be handled expeditiously.

cc - Philadelphia (Phila. file 65-4332)

65-59181

RECORDED - 107

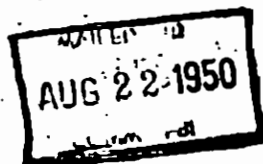
165-59181-257

AUG 23 1950

49

EX-89

EFL:jam



52 SEP 1 1950

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

6476

SAC, Philadelphia

August 28, 1950

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to Philadelphia teletype dated July 12, 1950, which revealed that Black had identified the photograph of Alexander Andrevich Raev, formerly of the Amtorg Trading Corporation, New York City, as being a Soviet contact who contacted him as either a substitute for Jack or an agent who handled him sometime after Paul Petersen during 1939. Black was not clear as to the name used.

Reference is made to Washington Field Office report of Special Agent Howard Fletcher, Jr., dated August 21, 1950, which reveals that Alexander Andrevich Raev entered the United States on February 18, 1944, at Bleine, Washington. Raev entered Columbia University, New York City, as a student for the winter term 1944-1945.

The New York Division conducted an investigation of Raev at that time which disclosed that Raev was listed as an executive with Amtorg, New York City. Raev was studying a course at Columbia University in geographical sections of the United States, the general products manufactured in each section and the output of each.

Raev departed from the United States on August 13, 1947, aboard the SS Rossia destined for Odessa, Russia. (100-344886)

In view of the conflict in the time period involved, Philadelphia should reinterview Black concerning Raev to determine if Black knew Raev during the period 1944 to 1947 rather than about 1939, as he earlier claimed. Efforts should be made to determine under what cover name Raev operated.

RECORDED - 39

65-59181-258

AUG 30 1950  
80

65-59181

EFL:jam

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*  
C-11212  
EL

AUG 29 1950

50 SEP 1 1950

65-5981-257  
SERIALIZATION.

IN THIS FILE SKIPPED DURING

FEB 15 1970

CONS

gg

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

WIL 12  
 TELETYPE

WASHINGTON 18 AND NEW YORK 10 FROM PHILA 7-12-50

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE - R.

SUBJECT WAS INTERVIEWED TODAY FROM SIX FIFTEEN PM TO TEN EIGHT PM.  
 SURVEILLANCE WAS UNPRODUCTIVE UP UNTIL TIME IT WAS DISCONTINUED AT  
 FOUR TEN PM. INTERVIEW CONFINED TO ANALYZING AND REVIEWING WITH BLACK  
 THE MATERIAL SEIZED AS A RESULT OF SEARCH OF HIS RESIDENCE AND HIS DESK  
 AND FILE CABINET AT THE C. W. BERG LABORATORIES. NOTHING PERTINENT TO  
 ESPIONAGE INVESTIGATION DEVELOPED DURING INTERVIEW. EXAMINED ADDITIONAL  
 PHOTOGRAPHS OF RUSSIAN NATIONALS. AGAIN POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED PHOTO-  
 GRAPH OF GAIK OVAKIMIAN. STATED PHOTO OF ANASTASIA VLADIMIROVNA  
 PETROVA PARENTHESIS NEW YORK FILE ~~65~~ DASH SEVEN FOUR SEVEN ONE  
 DASH ONE A NINE NINE PARENTHESIS RESEMBLES WOMAN HE MET AROUND NINE-  
 TEEN THIRTYONE WHO WAS CULTURAL DIRECTOR OF THE FRIENDS OF THE SOVIET  
 UNION, NEW YORK CITY. USED GERMAN NAME AND WAS WELL EDUCATED WOMAN.  
 IDENTIFIED PHOTO OF ALEXANDER ANDREEVICH RAEV PARENTHESIS NEW YORK FILE  
 SIX FIVE DASH SEVEN FOUR SEVEN ONE DASH ONE A NINE NINE PARENTHESIS AS  
 A SOVIET CONTACT WHO CONTACTED HIM AS EITHER A A SUBSTITUTE FOR JACK  
 OR AN AGENT WHO HANDLED HIM SOMETIME AFTER PETERSEN AT APPROXIMATELY  
 NINETEEN THIRTYNINE. NOT CLEAR AS TO TIME OR NAME USED. BLACK DESCRIBED  
 MAN HE SAW AS ABOUT FIVE FEET SEVEN INCHES, THINING DARK BROWN HAIR,  
 GRAY OR BLUE EYES ABOUT ONE HUNDRED SIXTY POUNDS, SOLID BUILD, SPOKE  
 WITH ACCENT. NEW YORK WILL REVIEW FILES OF PETROVA AND RAEV

11-3  
 65-59181-260  
 UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-34788-6

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 INDEXED - 58  
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END PAGE ONE  
 55 SEP 8 1950

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PAGE TWO

WHETHER THEY WERE IN UNITED STATES AT TIMES INDICATED.

CORNELIUS

END

WA PH R 18 WA HSU

NY PH R 10 NYC JD

DISC

*CC: [unclear]*

65-59181-260



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 13 1950

TELETYPE

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

WASH AND WASH FLD 19 AND PHILA & FROM NEW YORK

DIRECTOR AND SACS URGENT

THOMAS L. BLACK, WAS., ESPIONAGE - R. RE PHILADELPHIA TELETYPE  
JULY TWELVE LAST. MY FILES REFLECT ALEXANDER ANDREVICH RAEV BORN  
MAY FOURTEEN, NINETEEN HUNDRED SIX, RYAZAN, USSR, ENTERED US AT BLAINE,  
WASHINGTON, ON FEBRUARY EIGHTEEN, NINETEEN FORTYFOUR ON AN AMERICAN  
VISA GRANTED BY AMERICAN EMBASSY IN MOSCOW. FROM NINETEEN THIRTY-  
NINE TO NINETEEN FORTYTHREE HE WAS ALLEGED TO BE EMPLOYED AS AN EN-  
GINEER BY PEOPLES COMMISARIAT OF COMMUNICATIONS, MOSCOW. RAEV LEFT  
US AUGUST THIRTEEN, NINETEEN FORTYSEVEN. NO INFO AVAILABLE ON RAEV  
PRIOR TO NINETEEN FORTYFOUR. FILES ALSO REFLECT THAT ANASTASIA VLAD-  
IMIROVNA PETROVA WAS ISSUED VISA IN MOSCOW IN NINETEEN FORTYONE FOR  
TRAVEL TO US. IN NINETEEN FORTYTWO SHE WAS PERSONAL SECRETARY TO  
LITVINOFF, SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO WASHINGTON. FOR INFO OF WFO RE TELE-  
TYPE REFLECTS THOMAS BLACK STATES PHOTO OF PETROVA RESEMBLES WOMAN  
HE MET IN NINETEEN THIRTYONE IN NYC WHO WAS CULTURAL DIRECTOR OF FRIEND  
OF THE SOVIET UNION. BLACK IDENTIFIED A PHOTO OF RAEV AS A SOVIET  
AGENT WHO CONTACT HIM EITHER AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR JACK OR AN AGENT WHO  
HANDLED HIM SOMETIME AFTER PETERSEN IN APPROXIMATELY NINETEEN THIRTY  
NINE. WFO IS REQUESTED TO CHECK INS AND STATE DEPARTMENT RECORDS  
TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER PETROVA AND RAEV WERE IN US AT TIMES INDICATED  
BY BLACK.

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

SCHEIDT

RECORDED - 58  
INDEXED - 58

SEP 11 1950

END

ACK IN ORDER

SA WY R 19 WA EV

PH WY R 4 PH LPH

DISC

TWO COPIES WFO

28 SEP 7 1950

5-22

344886

65-59181-261

cc: Mr. [Signature]

SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

Subj: Petrova, Anastasia

☒ Exact Spelling

☒ All References

\_\_\_\_\_ Subversive Ref.

\_\_\_\_\_ Main File

\_\_\_\_\_ Restricted to Locality of \_\_\_\_\_

Searchers

Initial SS

Date 7/13/50

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

65-35149-473

65-30097-738

100-146964-13

100-280545-12

100-146964-A-New Mexico

11/17/42

Daily Worker 11/9/42

100-203581-1557

64-711-243-3

Petrova, Anastasia S.

100-308748-2258 p. 23

Petrova, Anastasia D.

100-340473-63, p. 29

5-42

Initialed

SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22a

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

Subj: Petrova Anastasia

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

Searchers  
Initial pd  
Date 7/13/50

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

61-5381-1639

100-879-11X10

Petrova Anastasia

Vladimirova

65-57862-17, Photo

100-7876-54-25

65-57876-28

Petrova Anastasia

64-211-243-185, Photo

54

Initialed

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

JUN 17 1950

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 8 FROM PHILADELPHIA 6-17-50 5.40 PM

DIRECTOR AND SAC

THOMAS L BLACK, WA, ESPIONAGE R. DURING THE COURSE OF THE INTERVIEW WITH SUBJECT THOMAS L BLACK, HE STATED THAT IN NINETEEN THIRTYNINE, HE MADE A TRIP TO NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE TO VISIT A RAYON PLANT THERE. EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER GOING TO VISIT THE RAYON PLANT, HE WENT TO VISIT A DR. CHARLES SANDO OF THE DEPT OF AGRICULTURE, WASHINGTON, DC. SANDO AT THAT TIME HAD PERFECTED A PROCESS FOR IMBEDDING BIOLOGICAL SPECIMENS IN PLEXIGLASS. HE WENT TO CONFER WITH SANDO IN AN EFFORT TO GET FROM SANDO, THE SECRETS OF HIS PROCESS. BLACK MAINTAINED THAT HE HIMSELF WAS INTERESTED IN USING THAT PROCESS IN ORDER TO PRESERVE CERTAIN BIOLOGICALS THAT HE HAD IN HIS POSSESSION. THE WFO IS REQUESTED TO INTERVIEW DR CHARLES SANDO, US DEPT OF AGRICULTURE TO ASCERTAIN IF HE HAS ANY RECOLLECTION OF SUBJECT CONTACTING HIM IN NINETEEN THIRTYNINE, IN AN EFFORT TO SECURE SANDO-S PROCESS FOR IMBEDDING BIOLOGICALS IN PLEXIGLASS. BLACK STATED THAT HE DID NOT GET ANY INFORMATION FROM SANDO BECAUSE SANDO TOLD HIM THAT HE HAD NOT COMPLETED HIS RESEARCH ON THE PROCESS AND THEREFORE WAS NOT GIVING OUT

INFORMATION: 1950

CORNELL: 1950

HOLD 63 AUG 1 1950

EX-34  
RECORDED - 71

INDEXED 71

65-59181-262  
cc: Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Tamm

Director, FBI

July 12, 1950

BAC, Philadelphia

Socialist Workers Party

IS - SWP

During the course of the interviews with THOMAS L. BLACK with Agents of the Philadelphia Office, BLACK has admitted membership in the Socialist Party, Trotskyite Section, from 1937 to the founding convention of the SWP Party, and membership in the SWP since its inception to around 1942. BLACK has admitted that his purpose in belonging to this party was to secure information for his Soviet superiors. He secured information which was turned over to them.

Among BLACK'S property that was in storage at the VAN POZNAN Warehouse in Newark, N. J. was a green strong box which contained personal records of BLACK. Also contained therein was a letter dated May, 1939, addressed to GEORGE BREITMAN and signed CARLOS HUDSON. BLACK stated that this letter was left in his apartment by GEORGE BREITMAN who was the then organizer for the SWP in the Newark area. BREITMAN would spend time in BLACK'S apartment and apparently left this letter there. The letter, photostatic copies of which are being forwarded to the Bureau, New York, Newark and Minneapolis, deals with the setup of a Union Defense Guard. BLACK stated that a Union Defense Guard was formed within the Socialist Workers Party in Newark shortly after the receipt of this letter and continued until the latter part of 1939 when it disbanded. The Union Defense Guard met once or twice a week at the SWP headquarters in Newark. At these meetings it was customary to have an instructor in jiu-jitsu from Newark. He demonstrated and they would practice various holds. BLACK stated they never did engage in firearms practice and he never saw any guns.

Also enclosed herewith are two lists of names, copies of which are being forwarded to the Bureau and the New York Office. These, BLACK states, were lists of membership of the Union Defense Guard of the Socialist Workers Party, Newark, N. J. BLACK will at a later date be questioned further regarding the identity of the various individuals mentioned in this list. According to BLACK, these individuals were all members of the Socialist Workers Party.

This material is being forwarded to the Bureau and interested offices for information.

MB:AVN

100-2036

Enclosure

cc - New York - Enc.

Minneapolis - Enc.

Newark - Enc.

NOT RECORDED

133 AUG 11 1950

52 AUG 14 1950

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Room 500, Widener Building  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

~~TOP SECRET~~

July 17, 1950

Director, FBI  
Washington, D. C.

RE: 

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES

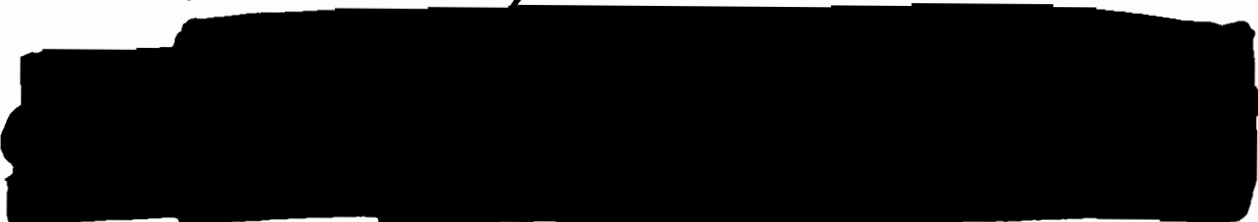
ADVISED BY ROUTING

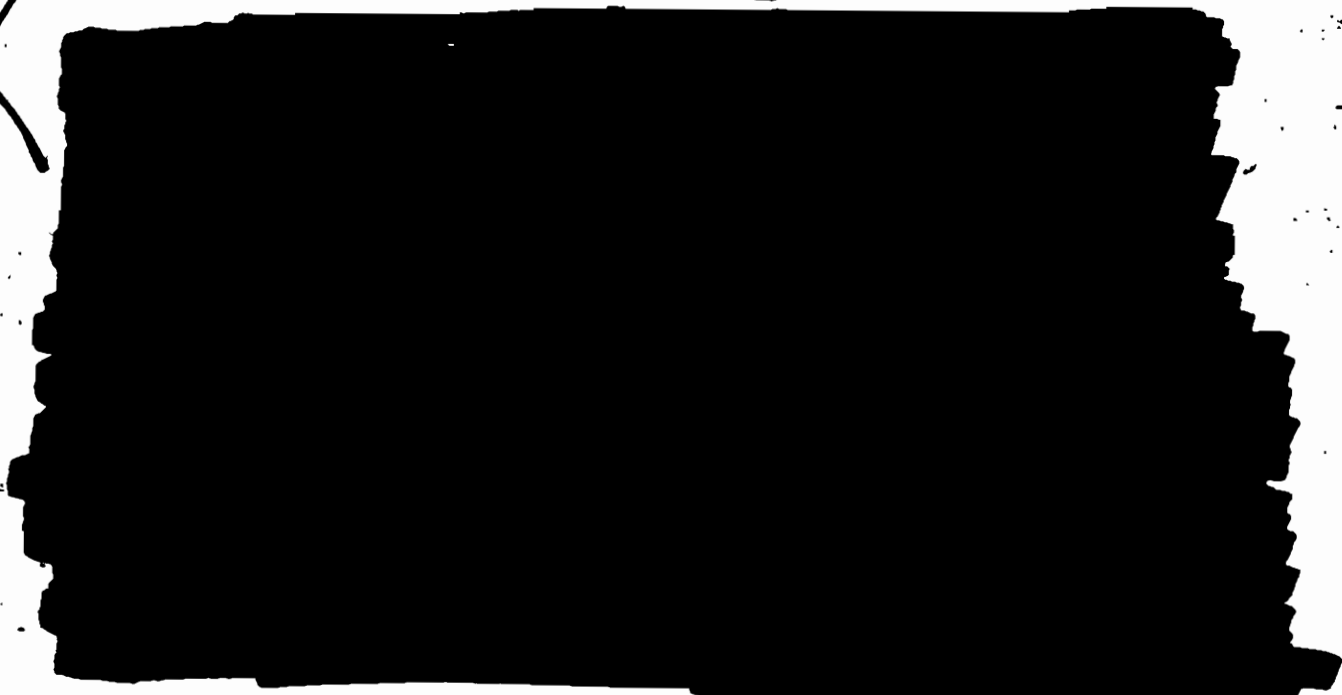
SLIP, ON *Classification*

DATE *2/5/75*

Dear Sir:

Rebutel 7/11/50. (u)





WBW:MML

65-4196

cc 65-4332 (THOMAS L. BLACK)

cc New York, Newark, WFO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE.

Classified by 4913

Exempt from GDS, Category 2,3

Date of Declassification Indefinite

AP/cjg 2/2/78

~~TOP SECRET~~

INITIALS - ORIGINAL

165-59181-1

NOT RECORDED

57 SEP 19 1950

COPY FILED IN 65-58068-263

58 SEP 20 1950

PH 65-4196, Director, 7-17-50

b1  
b7D

b1

Regarding the laboratory that BLACK had in his apartment kitchen, he stated that BOWIE, the manager of Unit 4, of the Chealls-Austin Apartments, knew of the existence of BLACK's laboratory. BLACK stated that he was particularly careful not to create any obnoxious odors thereby disturbing other residents in the apartment. He had informed BOWIE of his extreme care and BLACK never had any trouble with the apartment-house authorities and at no time did the police or a representative of the Department of Public Health visit him either because of complaints regarding the operation of his laboratory or exhibiting any interest in his work. BLACK stated that on occasions when he would have to conduct experiments that dealt with obnoxious odors, he would go to the laboratory of Fine Organs or use the personal laboratory of NICHOLAS MOINAR. BLACK never told anyone that he was visited by a representative of the Department of Public Health. (u)



b1

BLACK advised that during 1944, the Soviets, after learning that BLACK had been discharged from his job at the NOPCO, were desirous of having BLACE secure a job in an existing laboratory that was doing defense work; in fact, they had suggested that BLACK secure employment with the KELLEX CORPORATION, DU PONT'S or MONSANTO CHEMICAL CORPORATION. It was between the period of July and December, 1944, that BLACK received financial assistance from the Soviets in the form of six \$100 monthly payments. BLACK states that he did not request this money and it was given to him by JACK, who, upon giving it to him, told him not to take the first job that he found but to wait and take one that would be of assistance to the Soviet Union. By that BLACK stated that JACK meant that he, BLACK, was to secure a job with a laboratory that was doing defense work so that he could turn that information over to the Soviets. During this period, the Soviets never made any offer to set him up in a laboratory and, in fact, were interested solely in having him secure employment with an existing laboratory. (u)

ORIGINAL

b1

PH 65-4196, Director, 7-17-50

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED] b1 b7D  
[REDACTED] b1 b7D

The Newark Office should inquire of the Department of Health to ascertain if any record is kept of a visit to the apartment of BLACK or if any complaint has been made regarding his operation of a laboratory in his apartment. Will also check with the management of the Cheellis-Austin Apartments to ascertain if any of the complaints received regarding THOMAS L. BLACK during his residence there were made as a result of his operation of a laboratory in his kitchen and if any complaints were referred by the Cheellis-Austin management to the Department of Public Health in Newark. (u)

Very truly yours,

/s/ A. CORNELIUS, JR., SAC

~~TOP SECRET~~

- 4 -

65-59181-NR

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FILE NO. 65-1176 UPM

REPORT MADE AT <b>PHILADELPHIA, PA.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>AUG 2 1950</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/31/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>WILLIAM B. WELTE, Jr.</b>
TITLE <b>UNKNOWN SUBJECT, wa ROBERTS, RABINOWITZ, Mr. RICH</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

ADMINISTRATIVE

THOMAS L. BLACK, an admitted Soviet espionage agent, in 1938 was contacted by Soviet superior using the name of Dr. ROBERT SCHWARTZ. SCHWARTZ urged BLACK to join TROTSKY's household in Coyoacan, Mexico, and gave BLACK \$100 to use for medical treatment in order to speed the healing of his injured arm. In 1942 BLACK's Soviet superior, JACK, gave BLACK a letter of introduction from G. L. RABINOVITCH to Dr. EARL WILLIAM FLOSDORF, Philadelphia. JACK and BLACK concluded that SCHWARTZ and RABINOVITCH were identical, and are probably identical with instant subject.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF CLASSIFICATION DATE 2/15/78

- RUC -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

**DETAILS:**

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

THOMAS L. BLACK, an admitted Soviet espionage agent, furnished Special Agents ROBERT W. HOLMES and WILLIAM B. WELTE, Jr., the following information regarding Dr. ROBERT SCHWARTZ and Dr. GREGORY L. RABINOVITCH, both of whom BLACK believed to be identical. It is probable that this individual is identical with instant subject.

On June 21, 1950 BLACK advised that he first met Dr. ROBERT SCHWARTZ about a month prior to his release from the West H. von Hospital in Kearny, N.J., where BLACK was hospitalized following his accident on March 10,

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Exempt from GDS, Category 2, 3  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (65-57981) 3 - New York (65-14753) 2 - Philadelphia		65-57981-1 NOT RECORDED 73 AUG 16 1950
		ORIGINAL - 18
		INITIALS OF ORIGINATOR

50 AUG 28 1950 453

SECRET

ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-57981-25

Philadelphia File #65-4176

1938. BLACK was hospitalized for approximately twenty weeks and concludes that he first met SCHWARTZ in July 1938. SCHWARTZ came to BLACK's room and introduced himself as being Dr. ROBERT SCHWARTZ, a friend of GEORGE's. BLACK stated that he had been previously contacted by a Soviet superior using the name GEORGE and that he readily recognized SCHWARTZ as being his new Soviet superior. SCHWARTZ indicated that he was a physician and inquired of BLACK concerning his treatment and the nature of his injury. SCHWARTZ' chief concern about BLACK was his physical condition, the speed of his recovery and his financial situation. He inquired of BLACK if he needed funds. BLACK told him that his injuries were being paid for by Workman's Compensation and there was no need to advance him any money.

In August of 1938 BLACK was discharged from the hospital and returned to his apartment in the Chellis Austin Apartments, Newark, N.J. Approximately one month after his discharge, on a Saturday afternoon, he received a telephone call from Dr. SCHWARTZ who identified himself by name. SCHWARTZ wanted to see BLACK. Because BLACK's roommate was present at the apartment at that time, BLACK arranged to meet SCHWARTZ at the Pennsylvania Railroad Station in Newark, N.J. The meeting was kept. There SCHWARTZ inquired of BLACK's progress and told him that he wanted the healing to take place as rapidly as possible since he had a large assignment for BLACK. At that time he gave BLACK \$100 in ten \$10 bills and told BLACK that he was to use this money in consulting the best available plastic surgeon or dermatologist, in order to determine if he could not speed the healing. At that time he did not explain to BLACK the nature of his assignment. BLACK contacted a plastic surgeon and found that a skin graft would not be feasible at that time to speed the healing. BLACK later recontacted SCHWARTZ, meeting again at the Pennsylvania Railroad Station in Newark, New Jersey, and it was at one of these later two visits that SCHWARTZ explained to BLACK that they wanted BLACK to take a "vacation" in Mexico. SCHWARTZ explained that BLACK was to go to Mexico City to ingratiate himself with the Trotskyite household and become a member of it in order to learn as much as possible regarding the personnel, the habits, etc. BLACK told SCHWARTZ that such an assignment was extremely difficult but SCHWARTZ told him that it was his assignment and it was up to him to find a way to accomplish it. On the final contact with SCHWARTZ, he told BLACK that he would not see him again and that a new contact would get in touch with him.

Altogether, BLACK does not recall meeting SCHWARTZ more than four times. BLACK described SCHWARTZ as being a very genteel type of man, one who was very friendly and fatherly.

Philadelphia File #65-4176

In 1942 BLACK's Soviet superior, JACK, instructed him to go to Philadelphia and contact Dr. EARL WILLIAM FLOSDORF, of the University of Pennsylvania. JACK gave BLACK a letter of introduction which was signed by DR. G. L. RABINOVITCH. This letter was dated May 7, 1942. JACK explained to BLACK that FLOSDORF had previously been contacted by Dr. RABINOVITCH who was connected with the Soviet Red Cross in this country. JACK also described RABINOVITCH as being a physician and one with whom the Soviet agents had had considerable trouble because of his general sociability.

BLACK mentioned to JACK at that time that he had had a Soviet physician as his superior at one time who fitted the same description, whereupon JACK and BLACK discussed RABINOVITCH and SCHWARTZ, whereupon both concluded that SCHWARTZ and RABINOVITCH were one and the same person. According to BLACK, JACK told him that RABINOVITCH was the official representative of the Soviet Red Cross in this country and he was responsible for purchasing medical equipment for Russia. Material obtained by RABINOVITCH was largely obtained through legal channels. However, the implication was that what RABINOVITCH could not obtain through legal channels, he would attempt to obtain otherwise.

BLACK stated that in other words there was no question left in his mind that RABINOVITCH was not here solely on a legal mission, since RABINOVITCH was sent here to secure certain information in any fashion that he could get it. BLACK had the definite impression that RABINOVITCH and SCHWARTZ were identical. However, his reasons for this impression were not clear.

Among the material found in a green metal strong box located on June 17, 1950 by Special Agents TROY COLMAN and EUGENE C. JONES of the Newark Office in a search of BLACK's possessions in storage at the Van Poznak Fireproof Storage Warehouse, 92 Howard Street, Newark, N.J., was an envelope containing a letter set forth as follows:

"My Dear Dr. FLOSDORFF:

It is of particular pleasure to me to hear from my friends in the United States that you are in good health and progressing in your research work. I remember our short meetings in the Benjamin Franklin Hotel and I shall never forget your very kind assistance you rendered to me and my country at those peaceful times when I was in the U.S.A. as a

Philadelphia File #65-4176

representative of the Soviet Red Cross. I am now working in the same organization and trying to do my best in taking care of our wounded Red Army men. I am absolutely sure that you will not refuse to continue to be helpful to us in case of need as you did it before. My best regards and sincere gratitude.

Very truly yours,  
/s/Dr. G. L. RABINOVITCH  
5/7/42."

[REDACTED] b1 b2

The following description of Dr. ROBERT SCHWARTZ, whom BLACK believes to be identical with RABINOVITCH, was furnished by BLACK:

Race:	White
Age:	45 to 50 (in 1938)
Height:	Approximately 5'8" - average
Build:	Heavy
Hair:	Graying
Glasses:	Nose glasses when reading, believed carried on a cord.
Clothes:	Well dressed in conservative clothes
Characteristics:	Jovial manner, very sociable and friendly
Relatives:	Believed to have wife and two children in their early teens in this country with Tim.
Peculiarities:	Believed to have small moustache and to have spoken with an accent.

Philadelphia File #65-4176

Regarding SCHWARTZ' family, BLACK stated that it was his recollection that SCHWARTZ' wife was with him here in this country and that SCHWARTZ had two children, a boy and a girl, who were in their early teens. BLACK has this recollection due to the fact that he believes SCHWARTZ has mentioned them to him.

At the time that SCHWARTZ paid BLACK the \$100 BLACK recalls that SCHWARTZ, on opening his wallet, had a piece of paper therein on which was written something that would indicate to BLACK that SCHWARTZ was an employee of a Soviet establishment. SCHWARTZ' whole interest in BLACK was in having him go to Coyoacan and do anti-Trotsky work. He casually discussed BLACK's work at the National Oil Products Company and he and BLACK on one occasion discussed the field of bacteriology. BLACK was familiar with industrial bacteriology, whereas SCHWARTZ was familiar with medical bacteriology.

It is believed that RABINOVITCH and SCHWARTZ are probably identical with instant subject in view of the fact that the physical descriptions tally and that the main undercover purpose of the subject of this case was to handle anti-Trotskyite activities in this country. SCHWARTZ' main interest in BLACK was his anti-Trotskyite activities. In addition, it is noted that RABINOVITCH's wife used the name of Miss SCHWARTZ in her employment with Amtorg.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN



Philadelphia File #65-4176

ADMINISTRATIVE

~~SECRET~~

REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated June 21, 1950, captioned "THOMAS L. BLACK,  
ESPIONAGE - R", enclosing reports in above captioned case.

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~~SECRET~~

REPORT  
of the



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON D. C.

To: SAC, Philadelphia

~~SECRET~~

August 18, 1950

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on August 3, 1950.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF Classification

DATE 7/8/78 K9

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECT, was.  
ROBERTS, RABINOWITZ, Mr. RICH  
ESPIONAGE - R

*John Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

YOUR FILE NO.

65-4176

FBI FILE NO.

~~65-57981-24~~

LAB. NO.

D-120170 -AF

Examination requested by: Philadelphia

Reference: Letter 7-31-50

Examination requested: Document

Specimens:

- Qc1 A photographic copy of a handwritten letter beginning "My dear Dr. Flusdorf It is of particular..." and ending "...My best regards and sincere gratitude," signed "Dr. G. L. RABINOWITZ."
- Qc2 A photographic copy of a 4 by 6 card bearing the name EARL WILLIAM FLUSDORF, PhD. in the handwriting of THOMAS L. BLACK.

Results of examination:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2 - New York (65-14753)

DUPLICATE YELLOW

MSB:mkl

63 AUG 30 1950

Classified by 4913  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2,3  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

AP/39 2/7/77

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~~SECRET~~

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 65-59181-1

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT PHILADELPHIA

NK FILE NO. 65-4074 e1

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEWARK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8/23/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/14, 15, 17, 18, 26, 28; 8/2, 15/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>LOUIS G. TURNER</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_  
REQ. REC'D \_\_\_\_\_  
REF'T FORW. \_\_\_\_\_  
BY \_\_\_\_\_

Signed statement of JACOB I. FASS reflects his knowledge of subject's espionage activity and CP membership prior to 1933. FASS states BLACK left CP to join Socialist Workers Party and ceased Soviet activity at that time. Subject never worked on or cleared for classified material at National Oil Products Co., Harrison, N.J.

- RUC -

DEFERRED RECORDING

## DETAILS:

On July 17, 1950 JACOB I. FASS, 367 Miller Avenue, Brooklyn, New York was interviewed at the Spruce Chemical Company, 177 East Railway Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey by Special Agent JOHN R. LYONS and the writer at which time the following signed statement was obtained:

"Paterson, New Jersey  
July 17, 1950

"I, Jacob I. Fass, make the following voluntary statement to John R. Lyons and Louis G. Turner, who have identified themselves to me as special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. No threats or promises have been made to me for this statement and I know it can be used in a court of law. I have been advised of my right to counsel.

COPIES DESTROYED

R 47 NOV 21 1960

"I reside at 367 Miller Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, and my place of business is at the Spruce Chemical Company,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>L. R. Lyons</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	EX - 83
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5-Bureau (65-5918) 3-Philadelphia (65-4332) 1-Baltimore (info) (65-1751) 1-Los Angeles (info) 1-New York (info) (65-15338) 1-San Francisco (info) 1-Washington Field (info)		AUG-25 1950 1 STATES	RECORDED - 129 INDEXED - 129

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NK 65-4074

"Whether he knew this from personal contact with all of them or by extrapolation, and information gathered through subsequent contacts in the Trotskyite movement, I cannot say.

"He had told me previously that he had left the C.P. in 1933 when they had failed to prevent the rise of Hitler. When he decided to cease his activities for the Soviet Union he realized what the consequences might be. In fact, he told me that when he refused to continue about 2 agents tried to forcibly remove him from the country, and drove him to the Canadian border, in Michigan, if I remember correctly. He escaped by telling them that they could not get away with it: that he would tell the border guards that he was being forcibly taken, and to his surprise the agents could not think of a stratagem to stop him from doing this and so released him. Thereafter he had lived in constant fear of his life. Now, as this had all transpired a considerable time ago, I was inclined to minimize his experience, and told him that at this late date it was unreasonable for him to continue fearing the OGPU. He quoted to me the fates of other deserters from the Soviet camp, as Krivitsky, and others, who died under mysterious circumstances. I told him that he had not been bothered since, and that he was probably too unimportant for them to worry about now, especially since they were now better recognized, and had to be more careful. It was my view that he had been less important than he had thought, and that if, with his known Trotskyite background since then, he had not been molested, he was probably past danger. Nevertheless, he continued to worry. One day, when I was at his apartment, he got a phone call from some party, and when he hung up he said that this person was a representative of the OGPU who wanted to see him again. My impression was that it was a person whom he had known as a communist, though he was not certain that this man was actually involved in espionage activity. I told him to forget about the call, and as far as I know there was no further development along this line.

"At the time I met Tom Black he was a member of the Socialist Workers Party, and had been, as I understood it, since 1933. He remained a member until at least some time before he moved to Philadelphia. To the best of my knowledge, in all of his time in Philadelphia he was no longer active politically, but was a disillusioned former radical. In many conversations between us he explained to me why he had quit the C.P. and what was wrong with their policies. He left in 1933

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"because he felt that they should have been able to prevent the rise of the Nazis, considering their great strength in Germany at the time. His feelings were that the mission of the C.P. was to sabotage any real growth of communism or socialism. The views he expressed to me were those that any socialist or Trotzkyite might have given regarding the role of the C.P. : their use of labor unions, front organizations and other groups merely as instruments of Soviet policy, and not for any sincere purposes of improving the lot of the workers or people. While working at his apartment I came across some Kodachrome slides of Trotzky, and he revealed to me that they were pictures that he had taken when he had visited Mexico. I gathered that they were shown at meetings of the S.W.P., and that Tom was an important member of the group, if for no other reason than that there were so few of them. He told me of his trip to Mexico - by plane, I believe - and his visit with Trotzky. One night, in the presence of Charles Freefield, he showed me the pictures of Trotzky with a slide projector, along with other pictures. Most of them showed Trotzky tending his pet rabbits. On one occasion he took me on an outing of the SWP to Lake Hopatcong. It was a small group, and every one seemed to know Tom very well. He was called Tom. For all I knew most of the others were using aliases. Among the group was Betty Morrow, the wife of Felix, who was in jail at the time as a result of the Minneapolis trial. After the swimming there was a brief seminar, at which a man named George (I forget his full name) gave a talk which was on theoretical economics. There was almost no discussion. It was obvious that Tom was on good terms with all of the members present.

"On one occasion Tom gave me a book, written by one of the S.W.P. leaders, giving a history of the Spanish Civil War. He said it would explain how the communists sabotaged the loyalists. The details of this were too complicated for me to follow. It was clear to me, though, that he was a thoroughly sincere Trotzkyite, and a severe opponent of the Communists. He always maintained that he was a communist with a small "c".

"I knew that Harry Gold was a good friend of Tom's. On about 3 occasions I met Gold, and he seemed an affable fellow, who talked almost exclusively of chemistry. As far as I knew, and as far as Tom knew, Gold had no political interests whatsoever.

"When the news of Harry Gold's arrest was published Tom told me how shocked he was. He could not understand it, for he had

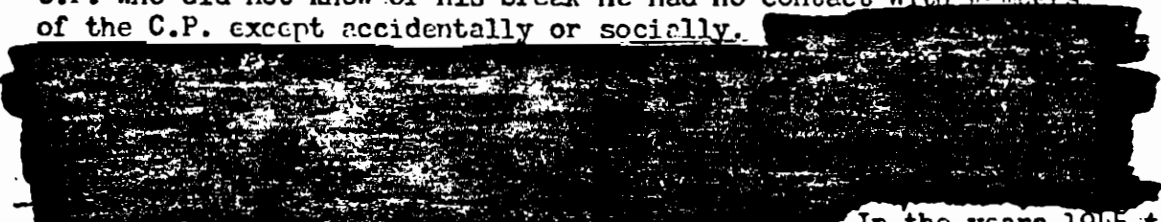
NK 65-4074

"known Gold as a gentle fellow, and a loyal friend. He could not conceive of this man whom he had known as being guilty of the acts with which he was charged. Because he had known him so well, the shock was very deep.

"Several weeks after Gold's arrest, and after the F.B.I. had revealed in an interview that they knew about this, Tom told me that he had been told by Gold a few weeks before his arrest that Gold was the man being sought as the contact of Klaus Fuchs. (The time had been one night when he had gone to pick up a radio at the apartment of my cousin. He was home early, and so could not have spoken to Gold for more than a few minutes.) All I could say to him was "Now you tell me." It was too late to do anything now.

"From my intimate knowledge of Tom Black I feel that he broke completely and unequivocally with the C.P. and the Soviet Union in 1933. He immediately joined the Trotskyite movement, so that he could not have continued working for them much beyond that year. Aside from nodding to former acquaintances from the C.P. who did not know of his break he had no contact with members of the C.P. except accidentally or socially.

b7D



In the years 1945 to now, when we were in Philadelphia, I knew almost every step he made, and where he was at almost every time of the day, and to the best of my knowledge he engaged in no political activity of any sort. His contacts with the Trotskyites were limited to personal gossip of former acquaintances. He had no contacts in Philadelphia. However, his hatred for Stalinism continued, and does to this day.

"I never suggested that Black tell the authorities about his activities on behalf of the Soviet Government for the following reasons. First of all, no government documents were involved. He had only transmitted commercial secrets, which at best or worst could help Russia build her economy. Secondly, at the time he had helped them, Russia was a struggling backward country, and not considered a menace to this country. Only dedicated socialists and Trotskyites considered her a menace then. Finally, it had happened in the past, and the agents involved had probably long

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"since been recalled, according to his own testimony. Further, he felt that Whittaker Chambers, who had been in a much more responsible position, could have told more than he, and it did not seem he could contribute anything of value.

"As for the reason why Tom did not turn Gold in, he told me that he could not do it, because he considered Gold a friend. My view is that Tom, who is given to deep emotional feelings, had this strong feeling of friendship for Gold, and could not bring himself to realize that the admirable fellow he had known had another aspect to his personality. He could only remember the Gold he knew. Perhaps on further reflections he would have recognized the other aspect of the man, and taken action. But Gold was arrested before he could come to any decision.

"I have personally typed the above statement, consisting of 5 pages, and it is true and correct.

/S/ Jacob I. Fass

Witness:

John R. Lyons Special Agent FBI 7/17/50

Louis G. Turner, Special Agent, FBI - 7/17/50 "

During interview FASS was questioned specifically as to whether or not he was aware of any dealings BLACK might have had with the Soviets subsequent to leaving the Communist Party. FASS stated that BLACK had told him of his Soviet activities prior to 1933 but that he, FASS, is certain that BLACK had no Soviet connections subsequent to that time.

In order to determine what access BLACK might have had to classified material at the National Oil Products Company, Harrison, New Jersey, Mr. GEORGE C. STIER, Sales Manager of that firm, was contacted on August 2, 1950. STIER stated that BLACK never worked on any classified project at the company, that he was never cleared for such work, and that he was never involved in the manufacture of products for the Chemical Warfare Service, United States Army.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -



NK 65-4074

ADMINISTRATIVE

Re MACEY L. CASNER

By teletype dated July 24, 1950 the Philadelphia office advised that the name MACEY CASNER, 271 Goldsmith Avenue appeared in the subject's address book. BLACK had stated that he believed this to be in Newark, New Jersey.

Mrs. CHARLES KNIPPLE, superintendent of the apartment building at 271 Goldsmith Avenue, Newark, New Jersey advised that MACEY L. CASNER formerly resided at that address with his mother. Mrs. KNIPPLE stated that CASNER has recently been married and presently resides with his inlaws, care of D. HERMAN, 89 Leslie Street, Newark, New Jersey. She described CASNER as being 30 to 32 years of age and a very reliable and loyal citizen.

b7E [REDACTED] the mother of MACEY L. CASNER, it was ascertained that the latter is employed at Doeskin Products, Inc., 11 West 42nd Street, New York City.

Newark indices are negative concerning CASNER.

No record of CASNER appears in the files of the Newark, New Jersey Police Department or the Credit Bureau of Greater Newark, Inc., 24 Branford Place, Newark, New Jersey.

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Information concerning BLACK'S checking account at the West Hudson National Bank, Harrison, New Jersey has been set forth in previous reports in this case. A review of the bank's Recordak record of this account was undertaken to ascertain the payees of checks written by the subject and this project was partially completed.

By telephone on July 18, 1950 the Philadelphia office advised that the status of this case at that time did not warrant a continuance of the review of subject's checks.

There is set forth below a resume of activity of the aforementioned bank account. Since most of the activity of the account consisted of small deposits and withdrawals, a detailed listing is

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not being included herein. However, a complete listing of activity is being retained in the files of the Newark office. The account was opened March 17, 1939 with a deposit of \$10 and was closed out on September 19, 1947. The following comments are made concerning the average balances:

- 1939 - average balance approximately \$10
- 1940 - average balance approximately \$10
- 1941 - average balance approximately \$35
- 1942 - high was \$113.86 on December 15; low was overdraft of \$1.49 on February 6. Average balance about \$30
- 1943 - January to September high was \$153.59 on June 30; low was 21 cents on January 26. Average balance for this period about \$40. A \$750 deposit on September 15 and a \$1500 deposit December 17 caused average balance September to December of about \$200.
- 1944 - High was \$2034.09 on January 7; low was 44 cents on May 26. Average for year about \$500
- 1945 - High was \$2832.04 on January 15; low was \$719.07 on December 29. Average for year about \$1500
- 1946 - High was \$719.07 on January 1; low was \$42.53 on December 31. Average for year about \$300
- 1947 - High was \$42.53 on January 1; declining until closed out on September 19

The following schedule reflects all deposits or withdrawals on subject's account in the amount of \$100 or more:

	Date	Deposit	Withdrawal	Comments
1943	3/15	\$ 107.34		
	9/15	750.00		Check of Fine Organics, Inc., 211 East 19th St., NYC dated 9/11/43

NK 65-4075

Date	Deposit	Withdrawal	Comments
9/30		\$ 500.00	Payable to Collector of Internal Revenue dated 9/15/43
12/17	\$ 1500.00		Check of Fine Organics, Inc. 12/7/43
1944			
1/5		\$ 218.00	Payable to Collector of Internal Revenue dated 12/15/43
1/7	\$ 750.00		Fine Organics, Inc. dated 12/29/43
1/7		\$ 750.00	Payable to Cash
1/14		\$ 400.00	Payable to Cash
2/3		\$ 182.55	
3/16		\$ 500.00	
7/3	\$ 338.40		Three checks of National Oil Products Co. - pay roll account
9/6	\$ 150.00		Portion of \$170 check dated 7/26 signed by ERNEST SEGESSEMAN
11/6	\$ 1500.00		Fine Organics, Inc. 9/29/44
1945			
1/15	\$ 1500.00		Fine Organics, Inc. 12/27/44

NK 65-4075

<u>Date</u>	<u>Deposit</u>	<u>Withdrawal</u>	<u>Comments</u>
1/24		\$ 182.55	Payable to Connecticut General Life Insurance Co.
3/5		\$ 500.00	Payable to Connecticut General Life Insurance Co., 2/23/45
3/8		\$ 562.60	Payable to Collector of Internal Revenue
4/17		\$ 125.00	Payee not known
7/23		\$ 125.00	Payable to Collector of Internal Revenue 6/15/45
8/13	\$ 250.00		Fine Organics, Inc. 8/2/45
11/19		\$ 250.00	Payable to Collector of Internal Revenue
12/7		\$ 100.00	Payable to Prudential Insurance Co., 12/3/45

MAIL COVER

Additional results of a mail cover maintained on the Spruce Chemical Company, 177 East Railway Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey from June 15 to July 15, 1950 were examined but no information considered pertinent to this case was noted. The bulk of the mail received was addressed to P. A. DITTMAN. No mail was noted which was addressed to the subject personally.

REFERENCE: Report of SA LOUIS G. TURNER, 7/20/50, Newark  
Philadelphia teletype to Newark 7/15/50  
Philadelphia teletype to Newark 8/1/50

FD-72  
(1-10-49)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT PHILADELPHIA

NK

FILE NO. 65-4074 e1

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEWARK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8/23/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/14,15,17,18,26, 28;8/2,15/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>LOUIS G. TURNER</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Signed statement of JACOB I. FASS reflects his knowledge of subject's espionage activity and CP membership prior to 1933. FASS states BLACK left CP to join Socialist Workers Party and ceased Soviet activity at that time. Subject never worked on or cleared for classified material at National Oil Products Co., Harrison, N.J.

- RUC -

## DETAILS:

On July 17, 1950 JACOB I. FASS, 367 Miller Avenue, Brooklyn, New York was interviewed at the Spruce Chemical Company, 177 East Railway Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey by Special Agent JOHN R. LYONS and the writer at which time the following signed statement was obtained:

"Paterson, New Jersey  
July 17, 1950

"I, Jacob I. Fass, make the following voluntary statement to John R. Lyons and Louis G. Turner, who have identified themselves to me as special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice. No threats or promises have been made to me for this statement and I know it can be used in a court of law. I have been advised of my right to counsel.

"I reside at 367 Miller Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, and my place of business is at the Spruce Chemical Company,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5-Bureau (65-5918) 3-Philadelphia (65-4332) 1-Baltimore (info) (65-1751) 1-Los Angeles (info) 1-New York (info) (65-15338) 1-San Francisco (info) 1-Washington Field (info)				

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FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT THOMAS L. BLACK

FILE NO. 65-59181

SECTION NO. 10

SERIALS 265

THRU /

306

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File No: 65-59181Re: Thomas L. BlackDate: 1/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
265	8/24/50	MY Report To HQ	13	13	1 N.C.
NR	8/19/50	MY Teletype to HQ + PH	5	5	
NR	8/24/50	HQ let. to PH	1	1	
266	9/8/50	BS Report To HQ	4	4	1 N.C.
267	9/13/50	PH let to HQ/LHM	1/2	3	
<del>268 9/12/50 HQ Letter To AAG</del>					
NR	8/28/50	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
268	9/12/50	HQ Letter To AAG	1	1	
269	9/7/50	BA Report To HQ	4	4	1 N.C.
269	9/4/50	HQ Letter To BA	1	1	
270	9/18/50	MY Letter To HQ	1	1	
271	9/13/50	BS Letter To HQ	1	1	
272	10/5/50	NR Letter To HQ	1	1	

ImafmanFile No: 65-59181Re: Thomas L. Black

Date:

1/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
273	8/31/50	PH Letter To HQ	1	1	
273X	9/15/50	PH Letter To HQ with Enclosed Report	1	9	10
NR	9/29/50	AH Belmont Memo To DM Ladd	1	-	see HQ file 65-58805
274	10/30/50 10/11/50	HQ letter To Ph. with Return Letter	1	1	2
275	10/11/50	HQ Letter To CIA	1	1	
276	11/2/50	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
276	10/30/50	AAG Letter To HQ with Enclosures	1	2	- referred to other Gov. Agency
277	11/19/50	PH Letter To HQ	1	1	
278	11/15/50	HQ Letter To NK with Enclosed Search Slip	1	1	2
279	10/25/50	Assistant Dir. CIA Letter To HQ	1	-	referred to other Gov. Agency
280	11/24/50	HQ Letter To WFO	1	1	
281	12/1/50	PH Letter To HQ	1	1	

File No:

65-59181

Re:

Thomas L Black

Date:

1/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
281	12/14/50	HQ Letter To AAG	1	1	
282	12/1/50	HQ Letter To AAG	1	1	
NR	11/14/50	INTERNAL Memo	2	2	
NR	11/16/50	HQ Teletype To PH, NY	1	1	
NR	11/20/50	PH Letter To HQ	1	1	
283	12/5/50	HQ Letter To AAG	1	1	
284	12/4/50	PH Report To HQ	5	5	1N.C.
285	12/16/50	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
286	1/2/51	NK Letter To HQ	1	1	
287	1/16/51	PH Letter To HQ	1	1	
288	1/17/51	NY Report To HQ	9	9	1N.C.
289	1/16/51	HQ Letter To AAG	1	1	

File No: 65-59181Re: Thomas L. BlackDate: 1/78  
(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
290	1/23/51	AAG Letter To HQ	1	-	referred to other Gov. Agency
291	1/15/51	Newspaper clipping	1	1	
292	1/16/51	INTERNAL Memo	3	3	
293	2/1/51	Robert A. Schow Letter To HQ	1	-	Referred to other Gov. Agency
294	2/29/51	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
294	2/15/51	PH Letter To HQ	1	1	
295	2/15/51	PH Letter To HQ	1	1	
296	2/20/51	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
296X	2/27/51	PH Letter To HQ	2	2	
297	3/2/51	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
298	3/22/51	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
299	3/22/51	PH Letter To HQ with Enclosures	1/3	4	Referred to other Gov. Agency

File No: 65-59181

Re: Thomas L. Black

Date:

1/78

(month/year)

Serial	Date	Description (Type of communication, to, from)	No. of Pages		Exemptions used or, to whom referred (Identify statute if (b)(3) cited)
			Actual	Released	
299	4/14/51	HQ Letter To AAG	1	1	
300	3/27/51	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
301	4/2/51	NY Report To HQ	3	3	1 N.C.
302	8/12/51	INTERNAL memo	1	1	
302	4/27/51	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
303	—	Serial not in File	—	—	
304	4/26/51	PH Report To HQ	7	7	1 N.C.
305	4/30/51	AAG Letter To HQ	1	—	referred to other Gov. Agency
305	5/7/51	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
306	5/5/51	HQ Letter To PH	1	1	
306X	5/7/51	PH Letter To HQ with Enclosures	1	5	6

U. S. Department of Justice

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of

INVESTIGATION

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65  
59181

SECTION 10  
SERIALS 265-306X

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

NY FILE NO. **65-15338**

MM

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8/24/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/17-21, 24-28, 31; 8/4, 7, 11, 14-27/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANCIS W. ZANGLE</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R ESPIONAGE - MISPRISION OF FELONY</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

J. H. KANE, Head of Biochemistry at CHAS PFIZER CO., analyzed subject's report on production of sorbose. Analysis in effect substantiated BLACK'S contention that process described would not be practical on the commercial production scale. Stated that use of Fringes Generator, as recommended by BLACK, was used unsuccessfully at PFIZER and was discarded around 1938. It was impractical because of excessive heat caused by it. J. H. KANE believed author of report had considerable knowledge of process because of his emphasis on constant checking and re-checking of cultures. In re-interview VERA KANE denied any knowledge of BLACK'S activity in espionage for Soviets. She described typing she did for BLACK and HELLER at various times in the past stating it consisted mostly of chemical formulae. VERA KANE said she often did typing as a favor for them as well as for many other friends. She disclaimed knowledge of the ultimate purpose for which the typed material was intended. She recalled BLACK left a box with her for safekeeping while she lived at Sherman Square Hotel in early 1940's. Later BLACK told her box belonged jointly to HELLER and him. KANE said she was unaware of box's contents. She said she later refused to give box to BLACK because it was jointly owned by HELLER and BLACK and she stalled BLACK by falsely telling him she had put the box in safe deposit vault. She threw away box with rubbish when she moved from Sherman Square Hotel in 1949. BERNARD PIDTO advised he met BLACK through HARRY GOLD in 1949 when BLACK asked him to act as salesman for a detergent. PIDTO found product unsalable. A short time later BLACK unsuccessfully attempted to interest PIDTO in another product.

- R U C -

AGENCY \_\_\_\_\_  
REQ. FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
REP'T \_\_\_\_\_

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Edward J. [Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE 5 Bureau 3 Philadelphia (65-15338) 1 Los Angeles (Info.) 1 Newark (65-4070) (Info.) 1 San Francisco (Info.) 1 Washington Field (Info.) 3 New York <b>SEP 15</b>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">65-59181-265</div> <div style="float: right; text-align: right;"> <b>RECORDED - 117</b>  <b>INDEXED - 117</b> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>SEP 26 1950</b>  <i>[Handwritten initials and marks]</i> </div>
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NY 65-15338

BLACK'S REPORT ON SORBOSE PRODUCTION

A fifteen page typed report entitled, "The Production of L-Sorbose from D-Sorbital by Acetobacter Suboxydans, which was obtained from the subject, was exhibited to JASPER H. KANE, Director of Biochemical Research and Production at the Charles Pfizer Company, 11 Bartlett Street, Brooklyn, New York. Mr. KANE advised that CHARLES PFIZER & COMPANY, INC., is one of the largest producers of sorbose in the United States and in his position he is fully acquainted with the various methods used in the commercial production of the product.

In commenting on the subject's method he stated that the Fringes Generator which BLACK recommended is not used at the present time in the production of sorbose. He said that Fringes Generator is used principally in the production of vinegar. He said the principal drawback of the use of this generator is that it overheats. He said the Fringes Generator was not used in the commercial production of sorbose in 1943, as far as he knows, and as far as its use by the PFIZER COMPANY is concerned it was used unsuccessfully and was discarded by that company in about 1938 and has not been used since that time.

Mr. KANE doubted that the description of the Fringes Generator, as set out in the above-mentioned report, would have been obtained exclusively from reading the patents but he felt that the author of the report must have had additional information either from publications or from individuals who were familiar with the use of the generator. The remainder of the method, as described in the report, Mr. KANE stated was correct and he particularly commented on the fact that the report emphasized the necessity of checking and rechecking the purity of the cultures throughout the process. He said this phase of the report showed that the author must have had some personal experience with the production of sorbose or at least had talked to someone who knew about the necessity for the preservation of the cultures in sorbose production. KANE said he did not believe the author of the report had ever seen a real large commercial plant engaged in producing the sorbose or at least if he had, had not used the knowledge he would have so gained in writing the report.

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REINTERVIEW OF VERL KANE

VERL KANE was re-interviewed in the New York Office on August 10, 1950, by SAs ROBERT W. COHOLAN and FRANCIS W. ZANGLE. KANE was questioned at length with regard to her association with THOMAS L. BLACK and FERDINAND HELLER and her knowledge of their espionage activities on behalf of the Soviet Union. She constantly denied that she had any such knowledge or that she, herself, was in any way involved.

VERL KANE said she did not recall that BLACK and HELLER ever discussed the possibility of obtaining employment in the Soviet Union. She said at one time while she lived on West 11th Street a conversation took place with BLACK and HELLER concerning the need of the Soviet Union for skilled workers and the opportunity thereby presented for making some money. KANE said she considered this a purely academic discussion and she did not think that BLACK or HELLER had any idea of going to Russia to obtain such employment.

KANE said she typed many things for BLACK and HELLER as well as for many of her other friends who frequented the West 11th Street apartment. She stated that BLACK and HELLER were both continually collecting chemical information and they often asked her to type chemical formulae either on 3x5 cards or on to regular size typing paper. She said that she never realized why they asked her to type this material and she had no knowledge as to the ultimate destination of this material or the ultimate purpose for which it was intended. She said she never asked why they wanted the typing done but merely did it as a favor to them. She believed that there was one period when BLACK and HELLER were more active in asking her to do typing for them and believed it was during the time that she lived at the West 11th Street apartment. She recalled that she had done typing for them later when she lived at the Sherman Square Hotel up until the early 1940's but she did not recall doing any further typing in the later years, approximately 1941 to 1949.

At one time while she lived at the Sherman Square Hotel, BLACK asked her to keep a box for him. She placed the date at approximately 1940 or 1941. She described the box as being approximately 8 1/2" x 11" and four or five inches deep. She said the box had a lock on it and was rather heavy for its size. She said she was unaware as to the contents of the box. She never looked in it nor did she ever ask BLACK or HELLER what the box contained. She merely put the box on a bookcase shelf and left it there; a short time after she took it, BLACK brought some material to her apartment and opened the box and added the material to the contents. At that time he told her that the box was the joint property of HELLER and himself.

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A few years later BLACK asked her for possession of the box. She knew at that time that BLACK and HELLER had had a falling out and, therefore, she decided she would not give the box to BLACK alone so she told BLACK that the box belonged to HELLER as well as to him and that she was keeping it in a safety deposit vault for safekeeping for both of them. She said she made up the story of the safety deposit vault. She did not recall the circumstances surrounding the falling out which BLACK and HELLER had at that time but said that they had had many of these and it was not unusual for them not to be on speaking terms for short periods of time. She thought that the box might have contained material which they might have intended to use in opening their own business but she said neither BLACK nor HELLER had ever told her that personally.

A few years prior to 1949, HELLER had told her to destroy the box as he and BLACK no longer had any interest in it. She said she never got around to doing so. When she was preparing to move from the Sherman Square Hotel in 1949, she said she threw the box out into the rubbish. She has never heard anything more of it since.

KANE said that she had never volunteered to BLACK that she would like to furnish information or do something for the Soviet Union. She said that BLACK at one time had remarked that the Soviet Union was in need of technical information and she remarked that her firm, which at that time was the law firm of LOUIS DEAN SPEIR, had information which she thought the Soviet Union would like to have. She recalled that BLACK questioned her closely about this but she refused to furnish him with any information except the patent number which she said was a matter of public information. The patent concerned a waterproofing process for which her law firm handled the legal work. She placed the year of this incident approximately in 1935.

She said that BLACK never told her that he had ever been approached to go to Mexico City and become a member of the Trotsky household. She said BLACK never told her of any involvement on his part which would necessitate him going to the FBI with the information. She did recall at one time around the beginning of the war that she had dinner with BLACK and he told her a long involved story about trouble friends of his had gotten themselves in. At no time did he mention the names of his friends or did he give any indication that he was the person so involved. She said he did not give her much of the details of this but merely told her that he was troubled by something which he knew and he wanted her advice as to what he should do about it. She told him she could not give him advice unless he gave her more details but that on the basis of

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what he did tell her she would recommend that he go to the proper authorities with the information. She may have mentioned that he come to the FBI, but she does not recall that she particularly mentioned the FBI at that time. BLACK never mentioned it again and she never asked him about it after that.

VERA KLINE stated she did not recall that she ever met ~~HARRY GOLD~~ and she did not recall that THOMAS BLACK ever mentioned an individual with that name. She said she frequently told BLACK not to associate with various people whom he included among his friends but that she did not recall ever telling him to stay away from HARRY GOLD. She said she had seen newspaper photographs of GOLD and while he looked vaguely familiar to her she still was unable to effect any identification. She said she did have an idea in the back of her head that GOLD may have associated with BLACK or HELLER but she could not give any reason for this.

VERA KLINE reviewed a photograph of ~~GARY LOVAKIMIAN~~ and said she did not recall ever meeting him. She said she did not recall that he ever came to her apartment.

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BERNARD PIDTO  
783 Troy Avenue  
Brooklyn, New York  
President 4-2518

BERNARD PIDTO advised that he met the subject through HARRY GOLD. He said he had met HARRY GOLD while GOLD worked for ABRAHAM BROTHMAN in 1946-1947. He said it was in the early part of 1949 that GOLD brought BLACK out to PIDTO'S house and introduced him to BLACK. BLACK told PIDTO he was manufacturing a concentrated synthetic soap at the Spruce Chemical Company in Philadelphia and he was interested in having PIDTO market the product for him through PIDTO'S customers in the New York Area. PIDTO said that BLACK told him that he was working for BERG in Philadelphia at that time and making a similar product but that he was attempting to branch out on his own through the Spruce Chemical Company as he was not satisfied at BERG. PIDTO said the product was a detergent base which might be used by all the leading soap manufacturers. The proposition at this time sounded very promising to PIDTO as he thought there might be a good market for the product and because he, himself, was interested in expanding.

PIDTO said he called on a few potential customers and all of them told him that the product BLACK described was practically unsalable as all the big manufacturers made their own detergents and that there was little or no market for the stuff anywhere.

After that PIDTO said he received some correspondence from BLACK furnishing samples but he paid no more attention to it and later in April or May, 1949, received a letter from BLACK trying to interest him in a manufacturing venture which BLACK desired PIDTO to invest in. PIDTO said he never even answered the letter as he was not interested.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

JASPER H. KANE, of the CHARLES PFIZER COMPANY, advised that his company had a visit and some correspondence from representatives of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission in approximately 1946. The SGPC was interested in sending representatives to the PFIZER Plant to take notes and to observe various commercial processes which were in use there.

Mr. KANE had the files of the PFIZER COMPANY searched and advised that by memo dated July 15, 1946, a visit by representatives of the SGPC was reported. The group included Mrs. M. A. DOLOTOVA, interpreter and chemist; Mr. V. F. KRUCHININ, engineer, and Mr. N. I. BUGAKOV, biochemist. These individuals expressed interest in seeing the PFIZER Plant and observing in particular the means used for producing citric acid and ascorbic acid (Vitamin C). Mr. KANE advised that these representatives got no further than the executive offices of the company and were politely refused their requests to see the plant.

Previous correspondence concerning this matter included a letter from the SGPC in which they stated they were recommended to the PFIZER COMPANY by the FEA and they asked for literature and a discussion of the various commercial processes used by the PFIZER COMPANY. Mr. KANE stated they refused to furnish the information but that the visit which followed was made nevertheless.

Mrs. M. A. DOLOTOVA is believed to be identical with MRLA A. DOLOTOVA. Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability, advised that MRLA A. DOLOTOVA, age 37 (in 1946) arrived in the United States November 3, 1942, at San Francisco, California. She departed from the United States on December 23, 1946, aboard the SS Vlacheslav Molotov, bound for Odessa, USSR.

The informant stated that MRLA'S husband, DMITRI L. DOLOTOV, age 39 (in 1946) arrived in the United States November 3, 1942, at San Francisco, California, and was an engineer by occupation. This man was known to be in New York from 1938 to 1940 and up until the time he left aboard the same ship as his wife in 1946, he was an economist in the Metals Division of the SGPC.

Mr. V. F. KRUCHININ is believed to be identical with an Amtorg engineer named VASILII FEDOROVICH KRUCHININ who arrived in the United States on January 9, 1946.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Con't.)

VERA KANE

During the course of the re-interview with VERA KANE, she was questioned regarding numerous former associates of HELLER, BLACK and herself. Concerning JACOB FASS, she said she met him through BLACK several times. She recalled at that time, about 1940-1941, he was trying to finish school. She said she once had a conversation with him and he told her that he did not want to go to war and he asked her if she knew of a good way to fill out his draft questionnaire so that he could get out of war service. She said she could not help him in this regard. She said she did not know of any Communist tendencies of FASS.

Concerning ERNEST SEGESSEMAN, KANE said she recalled that SEGESSEMAN was against the ROTC and in the period 1933 - 1935, she recalled him as a mild sympathizer of the Communist Party. She said he was a member of the Freiberg Hiking Club in Newark which was not a Communist Club but it did include some Communist members.

J. BYRON McKINNEY

It will be recalled that J. BYRON McKINNEY was allegedly the seaman and longshoreman who introduced VERA KANE to the subject. VERA KANE stated previously that she believed McKINNEY had been among some seamen who were lost in the sinking of a freighter of the Bull Line in the early part of the war.

JOHN H. MITTLER, Claim Agent, Bull Steamship Company, advised that the Bull Line records which contain a list of all seamen killed on Bull Line ships during the war did not reflect the name of J. BYRON McKINNEY. He stated that personnel records of seamen employed prior to 1937 are no longer available but that the records since that time contain no record of McKINNEY.

UNION BAG & PAPER COMPANY

Miss LORETTA J. ROIONE, Personnel Department, Union Bag and Paper Company, Woolworth Building, New York City, advised that their company had no record of BLACK having been employed in any capacity. She stated that if BLACK were employed on a consultant basis as he stated, he may have been working for an outside company who did some work under contract with the Union Bag and Paper Company and that if that was so his name would not be included in their personnel records.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Con't.)

HOTEL NEW YORKER

~~JOHN~~ STILES, Secretary-Manager, Hotel New Yorker, 34th Street and Eighth Avenue, New York City, advised that the hotel registration cards are destroyed after three years, therefore, registration cards for the Fall of 1943, when BLACK allegedly stayed at the hotel, would not be available.

EDNA SINGER  
331 East 71st Street  
New York City  
RH 4-6559

Mrs. EDNA SINGER, at the above address, was contacted telephonically and she advised that she was formerly a bookkeeper at Fine Organics, Inc., and that she had left the employ of that company in June or July of 1943. She did not recall the subject. She stated she worked in the office of Fine Organics in New York City on 19th Street and that she was never at the Fine Organics Laboratory. The only one she knew from the laboratory was a ~~Mr.~~ RICHTER.

Confidential Informant T-2, of known reliability, was questioned concerning an alleged meet which BLACK said never was made. It will be recalled that BLACK stated that in 1946 or 1947 he was given instructions to meet a woman at 7:30 in the evening on Lexington Avenue, near 43rd Street. BLACK was given extensive instructions as to the procedure he would follow in making this meet. He said he did not go through with the plans. The informant was unable to shed any light on the possible identity of the person BLACK was supposed to meet.



NY 65-15338

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Con't.)

The following investigation was conducted by SA ROBERT W. COHOLAN:

DR. MARIA BLUME  
66 West 88th Street  
New York City

b7e

The above individual was contacted [REDACTED] on July 27, 1950. She advised she formerly resided at 157 West 73rd Street, New York City, prior to 1941. The Medical Directory reflects one M. R. BLUME born in Germany, 1898, licensed to practice in New York State in 1936.

NORMAN REYER  
583 Pine Street  
Brooklyn, New York

b7e

Through a [REDACTED] made to Mrs. SADIE REYER, 583 Pine Street, Brooklyn, it was ascertained that her son, NORMAN REYER, presently resides at that address with his wife and two children, aged six and ten. He is employed at the Post Office and has two brothers who are dentists.

M. LIPMAN  
3 West 192nd Street  
New York City

ALFRED WACH, owner of 3 West 192nd Street, advised that no tenant by the name of M. LIPMAN had resided at that address to his knowledge for the last fourteen years.

NY 65-15338

LEADS

PHILADELPHIA

At Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Will ascertain if photographs of V. F. KRUCHININ, Mr. N. I. BUGAKOV and DMITRI L. DOLOTOV have been exhibited to the subject for possible identification. (This is being done inasmuch as two of these individuals and the wife of DOLOTOV were so interested in the process being used by the PFIZER CHEMICAL COMPANY.)

\* \* \* \* \*

One copy of this report is being sent to each of the following offices in view of their interest in this and related cases:

Los Angeles  
Newark  
San Francisco -  
Washington Field

NY 65-15338

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

The Confidential Informants mentioned in the report of SA FRANCIS W. ZANGLE, dated August 24, 1950 at New York, are identified as follows:

T-1

[REDACTED] b7d

T-2

[REDACTED] b7d

REFERENCE:

Report of SA WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR., 7/26/50, Philadelphia.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FD-75  
C-10-10

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

NY FILE NO. **65-15338**

MM

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8/24/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/17-21, 24-28, 31; 8/4, 7, 11, 14-27/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANCIS W. ZANGLE</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R ESPIONAGE - MISPRISION OF FELONY</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

J. H. KANE, Head of Biochemistry at CHAS PFIZER CO., analysed subject's report on production of sorbose. Analysis in effect substantiated BLACK'S contention that process described would not be practical on the commercial production scale. Stated that use of Fringes Generator, as recommended by BLACK, was used unsuccessfully at PFIZER and was discarded around 1938. It was impractical because of excessive heat caused by it. J. H. KANE believed author of report had considerable knowledge of process because of his emphasis on constant checking and re-checking of cultures. In re-interview VERA KANE denied any knowledge of BLACK'S activity in espionage for Soviets. She described typing she did for BLACK and HELLER at various times in the past stating it consisted mostly of chemical formulae. VERA KANE said she often did typing as a favor for them as well as for many other friends. She disclaimed knowledge of the ultimate purpose for which the typed material was intended. She recalled BLACK left a box with her for safekeeping while she lived at Sherman Square Hotel in early 1940's. Later BLACK told her box belonged jointly to HELLER and him. KANE said she was unaware of box's contents. She said she later refused to give box to BLACK because it was jointly owned by HELLER and BLACK and she stalled BLACK by falsely telling him she had put the box in safe deposit vault. She threw away box with rubbish when she moved from Sherman Square Hotel in 1949. BERNARD PIDTO advised he met BLACK through HARRY GOLD in 1949 when BLACK asked him to act as salesman for a detergent. PIDTO found product unsalable. A short time later BLACK unsuccessfully attempted to interest PIDTO in another product.

- R U C -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES  <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>
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5 Bureau

3 Philadelphia (65-15338)

1 Los Angeles (Info.)

1 Newark (65-4070) (Info.)

1 San Francisco (Info.)

1 Washington Field (Info.)

3 New York

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

AUG 19 1950

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	_____

CONF TWO STNS

WASHINGTON 3 AND PHILADELPHIA 2 FROM NEW YORK

19

DIRECTOR AND SAC

DEFERRED

Thomas L. O'Black

VERA KANE, WAS., ~~SP-5~~ SUBJECT INTERVIEWED AT NYO AUG. SEVENTEEN LAST, FROM SIX FORTY PM TO NINE THIRTY PM. KANE CONTINUED TO DENY KNOWING HARRY GOLD OR GIVING HIM ADVICE CONCERNING PHOTOSTATING WORK. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT HARRY GOLD HAS IDENTIFIED A PHOTOGRAPH OF SUBJECT AS BEING THE INDIVIDUAL WHO ADVISED HIM WHERE HE COULD GET PHOTOSTATING WORK DONE IN NINETEEN THIRTY FIVE. SUBJECT STATED THAT ON ONE OCCASION, WHILE SHE WAS TYPING CHEMICAL FORMULAE FOR BLACK AND HELLER, SHE BECAME SUSPICIOUS AND ASKED THEM WHETHER THEY HAD A LEGAL RIGHT TO THE FORMULAE. KANE STATED IT WAS A NOPCO FORMULAE SHE WAS TYPING AT THAT TIME, AND BLACK ASSURED HER THAT HE WAS LEGALLY ENTITLED TO REPRODUCE IT. KANE WAS ASKED WHY SHE DENIED, IN A PRIOR INTERVIEW, KNOWING WHERE THESE FORMULAE CAME FROM. SHE STATED IT WAS AN OVERSIGHT ON HER PART AND SHE DID NOT MENTION IT PREVIOUSLY BECAUSE SHE DID NOT RECALL IT. SHE FURTHER STATED THAT THESE WERE THE ONLY FORMULAE THAT SHE TYPED, THE ORIGIN OF WHICH WAS KNOWN TO HER. KANE FURTHER STATED THAT BLACK SEEMED TO HAVE CONSIDERABLE KNOWLEDGE OF A CONFIDENTIAL NATURE, CONCERNING COMMUNISM. BY WAY OF AN EXAMPLE SHE STATED

65-59181-1

AUG 31 1950

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

BLACK TOLD HER ON ONE OCCASION THAT SOVIET TERRORISM EXTENDED BEYOND THE BORDERS OF RUSSIA AND THAT AN EDITOR OF A LARGE NEWSPAPER OR MAGAZINE IN THE US WAS IN MORTAL FEAR OF THE SOVIETS. KANE STATED THAT ALTHOUGH SHE DOES NOT RECALL WHEN BLACK TOLD HER THIS, IT WAS A LONG TIME PRIOR TO THE TIME WHITTAKER CHAMBERS RECEIVED PUBLICITY IN THE PAPERS. KANE STATED SHE BELIEVED BLACK WAS REFERRING TO CHAMBERS AND SHE DID NOT MENTION IT PREVIOUSLY BECAUSE SHE FELT IT WAS OF NO IMPORTANCE. SHE ALSO STATED THAT SHE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF WHERE BLACK HAD OBTAINED THIS INFO. SUBJECT DENIED HAVING ANY RELATIONS WITH FERDINAND HELLER UNTIL IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT SHE TOOK A TRIP TO CANADA WITH HIM IN NINETEEN THIRTY THREE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED] CONCERNING THE TRIP TO CANADA, KANE WENT TO GREAT LENGTHS TO POINT OUT THAT SHE COMMITTED NO FEDERAL VIOLATION. SHE

END PAGE-TWO

PAGE THREE

STATED THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE TRIP WAS TO HAVE A VACATION, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b2  
KANE ALSO INQUIRED WHEN THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS WOULD RUN ON BLACK, IF HE HAD BEEN ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE WHILE SHE LIVED AT WEST ELEVENTH STREET. SHE STATED THAT SHE INTENDED TO LOOK IT UP, BUT AS YET HAD NOT FOUND TIME TO DO SO. KANE WAS TOLD THAT THERE WAS AN INDICATION SHE MAY HAVE TO TESTIFY BEFORE THE GRAND JURY. AT THIS POINT SUBJECT BECAME EXTREMELY EXCITED AND REMONSTRATED WITH HERSELF FOR HAVING BEFRIENDED BLACK AND HELLER. SHE STATED THAT BLACK AND HELLER WERE CONTEMPTIBLE FOR ATTEMPTING TO DRAG HER INTO THIS "MESS". UPON REGAINING HER COMPOSURE, SUBJECT STATED SHE HAD NOTHING TO HIDE, BY TESTIFYING BEFORE THE GRAND JURY, BUT ADDED THAT PERJURY WAS A VERY SERIOUS OFFENSE, AND IT LOOKED LIKE BLACK AND HELLER WERE TRYING TO "FRAME HER". KANE WAS QUESTIONED CONCERNING HER ASSOCIATIONS WITH CHARLES NEHER, BUD COOKE, STELLA SARIG, AND FRANCIS LEHRMAN. SHE STATED THAT SHE MET NEHER AT AN APARTMENT AT WEST ONE FOUR FIVE STREET

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

IN NYC IN THIRTY ONE, WHILE HE WAS ATTENDING COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY. SHE STATED [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup> NEHER PROPOSED TO HER. HOWEVER, SHE STATED THAT SHE DID NOT WANT TO BE TIED DOWN AND THIS AFFAIR ENDED WHEN SHE TOOK A TRIP TO CANADA WITH HELLER IN THIRTY THREE. CONCERNING COOKE, SHE STATED SHE MET HIM THROUGH NEHER IN THIRTY THREE AT HER ELEVENTH STREET APARTMENT. SHE DENIED TELLING BLACK THAT COOKE OBTAINED A GUN FOR THE COMMUNIST PARTY ON ONE OCCASION. CONCERNING SARIG, KANE STATED SHE MET HER THROUGH FERN HELLER IN THIRTY THREE AND THAT SARIG OFTEN VISITED HER APARTMENT. SUBJECT STATED THAT SARIG [REDACTED] <sup>b7c</sup>, AND WAS VISITING IN NY FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT. CONCERNING LEHRMAN SUBJECT STATED THAT SHE MET HIM THROUGH HELLER IN THIRTY THREE. SHE STATED LEHRMAN WAS A PHARMACIST, AND SHE ONLY MET HIM ON ONE OR TWO OCCASIONS. SHE STATED THAT SHE DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER LEHRMAN IS A COMMUNIST, BUT BELIEVES HE BELONGED TO AND WAS ACTIVE IN A COMMUNIST UNION AT THAT TIME. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT SUBJECT WAS ABLE TO RECALL THE ABOVE INDIVIDUALS VERY VIVIDLY. SHE TOLD SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME INFOR-

END PAGE FOUR



PAGE FIVE

MATION AS THE ABOVE INDIVIDUALS HAVE REPORTED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ANY COMMUNIST ACTIVITY ON HER PART AT HER APARTMENT ON WEST ELEVENTH ST. SUBJECT STATED THAT SHE AND HER HUSBAND MOVED TO CLEVELAND IN MAY, NINETEEN TWENTY FIVE, SHORTLY AFTER THEIR MARRIAGE. SHE ADVISED THAT WHILE THERE SHE WORKED FOR THE FRED CLARK COMPANY UNTIL NOVEMBER, NINETEEN TWENTY FIVE, WHEN THEY CAME TO ROCHESTER. SHE ADDED, THAT WHILE IN CLEVELAND HER HUSBAND WAS UNEMPLOYED AND SHE SUPPORTED HIM. SHE STATED THAT WHILE THEY LIVED IN ROCHESTER, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] b7c  
SUBJECT WILL BE REINTERVIEWED AS SHE CONTINUES TO BE EVASIVE ALTHOUGH SHE STATES THAT SHE DESIRES TO COOPERATE WITH THE BUREAU TO THE FULLEST EXTENT.

SCHEIDT

PH ACK AND DISC PLS, WA HFC WITH BA

PH NY R 3 WA HSU

PH NY R 1 2 PH AAB

ORIGINAL--DIRECTOR

SAC, Philadelphia

August 24, 1950

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.

ESPIONAGE - R

48  
During the interview of Harry Gold on June 2, 1950, he declared that in approximately 1938, Thomas Black pointed to Whittaker Chambers name as editor of "Time" magazine and told Gold that he knew Chambers in connection with espionage. Black also told Gold that Chambers had given information "on his own activities to Army intelligence." According to Gold, Black on several occasions during the period 1938 to 1946, talked about Chambers and wondered if Chambers would remember him.

On June 3, 1950, Gold advised agents that Black told him he and Chambers had worked together for the Soviets.

On June 15, 1950, Gold advised agents that Black told him Whittaker Chambers knew him well under the name of Thomas Black.

On June 6, 1950, a motion picture film of Black taken by agents was exhibited to Chambers and he was unable to identify Black. Chambers declared he had never been acquainted with Black, had never seen him, and has no information whatsoever concerning him.

During the interview of Thomas Black, Black has denied knowing Chambers.

Reference is made to New York teletype to the Bureau and the Philadelphia Office dated August 19, 1950, entitled "Vera Kane, was., Espionage - R." On page two it is reflected that Kane advised that Black told her on one occasion that Soviet terrorism extended beyond the borders of Russia and that an editor of a large newspaper or magazine in the United States was in mortal fear of the Soviets. Kane stated that although she does not recall when Black told her this, it was a long time prior to the time Whittaker Chambers received publicity in the papers. Kane stated she believed that Black was referring to Chambers and she did not mention it previously because she felt it was of no importance. She also stated she had no knowledge of where Black had obtained this information.

Black should be thoroughly questioned regarding his knowledge of the above allegations of Harry Gold and Vera Kane. Since the information comes from two sources it would appear that Black either knew Chambers personally or knew about his activities.

65-59181

EL:gm

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEWARK PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO. 65-3365 RJB

REPORT MADE AT <b>BOSTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9-8-50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8-17, 31-50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FREDERICK M. CONNORS</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Alumni records reviewed for purpose of identifying unknown subject NICHOLS. Records failed to establish identifying data. ALEX GEORGE NICHOLS nee NICHOLSKY suggested as a possibility.

-RUC-

**DETAILS:**

T-1, of known reliability, reviewed the records of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Alumni Association at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. No person was located who answers the description of NICHOLS. The unknown subject who apparently resided in East Rutherford, New Jersey in 1937 was a graduate of the Metallurgy Course at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and had a hobby of microscopes. The possibility is suggested that NICHOLS nee NICHOLSKY, who entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in his Junior year receiving a B.S. in Biology in 1922, should be considered. The yearbook reflected NICHOLS was born on October 22, 1892, at Petrograd, Russia. He prepared at the Russian Naval Academy and was in the Russian Polar Expedition. His course according to the yearbook was Electrical Engineering.

The address of NICHOLS in 1926 was furnished as Orange and Summit, New Jersey; his business address in 1927 to 1930 was furnished as the De Bothrat, Newark, New Jersey.

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R 47 NOV 21 1960**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>65-59181-266</b>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 6 Bureau 1 Philadelphia 1 Washington Field Office 2 New York 3 Newark 2 Boston	<b>SEP 13 1950</b> <b>FILE</b>	<b>RECORDED - 127</b> <b>INDEXED - 127</b> <b>EX - 14</b>
	<b>COPY IN FILE</b>	
	<b>STAT SECT</b>	

**50 SEP 13 1950**

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BS 66-3366

Mail forwarded to him was returned to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1934 from 793 130th Street, New York City. He gave an address in care of De Franseho, 82 East 68th Street, New York City in 1938. His last known address in October, 1937, was in care of the Board of Education, 383 State Street, Brooklyn, New York.

While it is noted that the data concerning ALEX GEORGE NICHOLS does not provide information which would identify him with the NICHOLS who resided in East Rutherford in 1937, it was noted that one of the records indicated that he was a Biologist. If this record is correct, he would possibly have a hobby of microscopes; and it is believed that he should be definitely eliminated as no other individual is suggested on reviewing the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Alumni records other than previously furnished.

In the event the photograph of ALEX GEORGE NICHOLS is desired, a copy can be obtained through officials at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

BS 65-3365

LEAD SHEET

THE NEW YORK DIVISION

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will check its indices on ALEX GEORGE NICHOLS and make available any pertinent information regarding this individual to Newark, office of origin.

REFERENCE: Report of SA BRENTON S. GORDON dated July 14, 1950.

105-59121-95

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

~~NEWARK~~ PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO. 65-3365 RJB

REPORT MADE AT <b>BOSTON</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9-8-50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8-17, 31-50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FREDERICK M. CONNORS</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Massachusetts Institute of Technology Alumni records reviewed for purpose of identifying unknown subject NICHOLS. Records failed to establish identifying data. ALEX GEORGE NICHOLS nee NICHOLSKY suggested as a possibility.

-RUC-

## DETAILS:

T-1, of known reliability, reviewed the records of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Alumni Association at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. No person was located who answers the description of NICHOLS. The unknown subject who apparently resided in East Rutherford, New Jersey in 1937 was a graduate of the Metallurgy Course at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and had a hobby of microscopes. The possibility is suggested that NICHOLS nee NICHOLSKY, who entered the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in his Junior year receiving a B.S. in Biology in 1922, should be considered. The yearbook reflected NICHOLS was born on October 22, 1892, at Petrograd, Russia. He prepared at the Russian Naval Academy and was in the Russian Polar Expedition. His course according to the yearbook was Electrical Engineering.

The address of NICHOLS in 1926 was furnished as Orange and Summit, New Jersey; his business address in 1927 to 1930 was furnished as the De Botherat, Newark, New Jersey.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES			
COPIES OF THIS REPORT					
5 Bureau 1 Philadelphia 1 Washington Field Office (Info.) 2 New York 3 Newark 2 Boston					

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9-13-50

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bufile 65-59181)

Reference is made to Bureau letter of August 21, 1950 in the above captioned case, requesting this office to explain in detail, the circumstances which prompted BERG to make the threat to shoot Bureau Agents.

There is attached hereto, a memorandum explaining in detail, the circumstances surrounding the threat by CHARLES W. BERG.

The report of SA WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR., dated July 26, 1950 at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania did not elaborate on this threat due to the fact that it was not felt that BERG made the threat in any seriousness and it was merely due to his emotional instability.

This office regrets that it did not clarify this for the Bureau and every effort will be made in the future, to avoid such a recurrence.

WBM:mtp  
65-1332

Encl.

EX 16

RECORDED - 73  
INDEXED - 73

EX-16

165-59181-267  
SEP 15 1950  
DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
RECEIVED

SEP 20 1950  
25th ESPIONAGE

HEINRICH

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: 9-13-50

FROM : SA WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR.

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bufile 65-59181)

Rebulet 8-21-50 and report of SA WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR., dated 7-26-50 at Philadelphia.

All contacts of CHARLES W. BERG, the employer of the subject, were made by SA HOWARD A. SEARL. At no time during any of the interviews, did Mr. BERG express in any manner, a threat in any form to Agent SEARL or any other Special Agent of the FBI. BERG appeared to be highly emotional and easily upset. He offered his complete cooperation to the Federal Bureau of Investigation in connection with the instant investigation, and offered his services, if needed, in connection with any other investigation. At times, as the investigation progressed, BERG expressed concern for the reputation of the company, The Charles W. Berg Laboratories of 1827 North 5th Street, Philadelphia, desiring that every effort be made to protect the good reputation of that company.

Interviews with THOMAS L. BLACK were conducted by SAs WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR. and ROBERT W. HOLMES. During the course of these interviews, BLACK made occasional references concerning the [REDACTED] For example, after BLACK returned to his employer after the initial interviews on June 15 and 16, 1950, which were conducted during BLACK's normal working hours, he informed CHARLES W. BERG that he had been interviewed by the FBI and was doing everything he could to assist its investigation of HARRY GOLD. BERG was rather incensed over the fact that BLACK had not been at work for two days and told BLACK that the FBI had no right to interview him during the day and that if he were being detained, he should sue the FBI. He also recommended to BLACK that he get an attorney.

BLACK told the Agents that he did not take anything that BERG said seriously in view of the fact that BERG was a [REDACTED]

As the Bureau has been previously advised, the surveillance of subject BLACK was extremely difficult due to the character of the neighborhood in which the surveillance was being conducted. There were several numbers writers (petty gamblers) in the vicinity of the Charles W. Berg Laboratories, and it was not long before the surveilling Agents were spotted by these numbers writers as being strangers in the vicinity. However, while the Agents were spotted, there is absolutely no indication that they were aware of the identity of the Agents. The surveilling Agents observed these numbers writers in the vicinity and even noticed that they went into the Charles W. Berg Laboratories each day.

WBW:mtp  
65-4332

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R 47 NOV 81 1960

ENCLOSURE

65-59181-269



Memo - SAC  
9-12-50

BLACK had advised on several occasions, that he suspected he was being surveilled and that BERG on one occasion, hearing of the activity of strangers in the vicinity, flew off the handle and told BLACK that it was all his fault that the FBI was around and that he would shoot the first FBI Agent that he saw. At the time he made this statement, BLACK stated that BERG was in a highly emotional state and certainly did not mean anything that he was saying. BLACK explained that BERG [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and would have been quite relieved to know that it was the FBI. 7c

During the interviews, when BLACK brought up the subject of a surveillance, no comment was made to either affirm or deny the existence of the surveillance on subject BLACK. To this day, no statement has been made to him as to whether or not he was ever under surveillance by this office.

JAC, Philadelphia

August 28, 1950

Director, FBI

DR. KARL WILLIAM FLOSDORF, aka.  
Duke Flosdorf  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to Philadelphia teletype dated June 21, 1950, in the case entitled "Thomas L. Black, was., Espionage - R," Philadelphia file 65-4332, which stated that Philadelphia was bringing up to date information on Dr. Karl William Flosdorf. Flosdorf has been identified by Thomas L. Black, admitted Soviet agent, as the person Black contacted at the University of Pennsylvania upon the instructions of his Soviet superior, Dr. Robert Schwartz. The sole purpose of this contact, according to Black, was to re-establish contact between the Russians and Flosdorf.

Information regarding Flosdorf should be reported in a separate case file captioned as above.

Philadelphia should advise the Bureau immediately regarding the status of this matter.

100-72222

EFL:jam

cc - 65-59181

65-59181  
RECORDED  
AUG 29 1950

DUPLICATE YELLOW

SEP 8 1950

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

6476

Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney

September 12, 1950

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

For your additional information in connection with this investigation,  
the following reports are transmitted:

Report of Special Agent Louis G. Turner, dated August 23, 1950,  
at Newark, New Jersey.

Report of Special Agent Francis W. Zangle, dated August 24, 1950,  
at New York, New York.

Enclosures  
65-59181

KL:EFF  
68

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 2-15-78 *DeLong*

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913AP/HEK  
ON 2-4-78

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EX-13

165-59181-268  
SEP 14 1950

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

SEP 12 1950

SEP 13

474

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT: **PHILADELPHIA**

FILE NO. **65-1751**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BALTIMORE</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9-7-50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8/16, 22, 28, 9/5, 6/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANK A. STANTON /mt</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

No knowledge at Hercules Powder Co. of Hopewell reports bearing government classification. PAUL K. LAWRENCE learned from WILLIAM STAPLER in 1938 or 1939 that Russians willing to purchase certain types of information. No additional information concerning STAPLER in this regard.

- RUC -

~~DELETED RECORDING~~

**DETAILS: AT WILMINGTON, DELAWARE**

Mr. G. P. KAVANAUGH, Legal Department, Hercules Powder Company, advised that he had no information regarding any government classification given to any of the Hopewell reports. Mr. KAVANAUGH referred to Mr. ELMER HINNER, General Manager, Virginia Cellulose Department, Hercules Powder Company, as the Hercules official who would have knowledge in this matter.

Mr. ELMER HINNER, identified above, advised that he had no knowledge of any of the Hopewell reports bearing a government classification.

Mr. PAUL K. LAWRENCE, Manager, General Section of Control Division, E. I. duPont de Nemours Company, Inc., advised that he was an acquaintance of WILLIAM STAPLER and had occasional contact with him until his death in 1947. He vaguely recalls that in 1938 or 1939 he had learned from STAPLER that the Russians were willing to purchase certain types of information. He cannot recall any of the details at this time and has no additional information concerning STAPLER or anyone else in this regard.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>C. H. Carron</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED NOV 21 1960 COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (65-59180) 3 - Philadelphia (65-4332) 1 - Newark (Info.) (65-4074) 1 - New York (Info.) (65-15338) 2 - Baltimore	<b>65-159181-269</b> SEP 9 1950 RECEIVED	RECORDED - 36 INDEXED - 36 cc - Phila. & N.Y. EL: and
	5-14-50 ROUTING SLIP	

BA 65-1751

Mr. LAWRENCE stated he has no information concerning any activities on the part of Mrs. STAPLER. He related that soon after STAPLER's death he received a letter from Mrs. STAPLER wherein she wanted to know if there was any market for process information for dye stuffs and dye intermediates. Mr. LAWRENCE stated that he was unable to furnish her with any information in this respect and has not heard from her since.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

BA 65-1751

REFERENCE:

Report of SA FRANCIS W. ZANGLE, dated 7-28-50 at  
New York.

Bureau letter to Baltimore dated 8-22-50.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

FILE NO. **65-1751**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BALTIMORE</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9-7-50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8/16, 22, 28, 9/5, 6/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANK A. STANTON /mt</b>
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- R U C -

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (65-59181) 3 - Philadelphia (65-4332) 1 - Newark (Info.) (65-4074) 1 - New York (Info.) (65-15338) 2 - Baltimore			

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SAC, Baltimore

September 14, 1950

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
Baltimore file 65-1751

Reference is made to Baltimore report of Special Agent Frank A. Stanton dated September 7, 1950, in above-captioned matter.

The name of William Stapler is incorrectly set out on both pages of this report as William Stapleg. The Bureau copies have been corrected and each office receiving copies of this report should do likewise.

The Bureau file number is also incorrectly shown as 65-5918. It should be corrected to be 65-59181.

cc - Philadelphia (65-4332)  
Newark (65-4074)  
New York (65-15338)

RECORDED - 36

65-59181 - 269

SEP 14 1950

FBI

RECEIVED

SEP 14 2010  
AS

Handwritten signature

Handwritten signature

ELSON

MAILED 13  
SEP 14 1950  
COMM - FBI

SEP 21 1950



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, New York  
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was;  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: September 18, 1950

Re report SA FREDERICK M CONNORS, Boston, Mass. 9/8/50.

NY files contain no record of ALEX GEORGE NICHOLS ~~nee~~ Nicholaky.

RUC.

cc Philadelphia  
Newark

RECORDED - 90  
INDEXED - 90

65-59181-270  
1 SEP 19 1950

FWZ:HJC  
65-15338

55 SEP 22 1950

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM : SAC, BOSTON  
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: September 13, 1950

Reference is made to the Boston report of Special Agent FREDERICK M. CONNORS dated 9/8/50 which, through inadvertence, indicates Newark as office of origin.

The Bureau and all offices receiving a copy of this letter are requested to change instant report to show Philadelphia as office of origin. Newark is requested to forward two copies of this report to Philadelphia and the Bureau is requested to amend its records accordingly.

Further reference is made to Bureau letter to Newark dated 9/1/50 entitled, "Unsub, NICHOLS, East Rutherford, New Jersey, THOMAS L. BLACK, Informant, Espionage-R." In accordance with the directions contained therein, the Boston Division will submit a report of its efforts with reference to Unsub, NICHOLS, said report showing Newark as origin.

FMC:maw  
65-3365  
cc Philadelphia  
cc Washington Field  
cc New York  
cc Newark

*Correction made  
on ser. 266.  
completed 9/28/50*

RECORDED - 53

165-59181-271

SEP 18 1950

24

5-447

65-59181-447

OCT 13 1950

SEP 28 1950

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 65-59181-271

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : *N* SAC, Newark  
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bufile 65-59181)

DATE: October 5, 1950

Reference is made to the report of SA LOUIS G. TURNER dated 7-20-50 captioned as above.

It was set forth on page 32 of rerep that during a search conducted on premises of the Spruce Chemical Company, 177 East Railway Avenue, Paterson, New Jersey on June 16, 1950, there were removed two reels of 35 mm photo record film. Subsequent examination reflected this film to be published technical film strips entitled "The Role of the Wool Alcohols in Emulsion Ointment Bases" by MICHAELS.

Since the above-mentioned material appears to have no evidentiary value in this case, it is suggested that the film be returned to the Spruce Chemical. Unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau or Philadelphia within thirty days, the film will be returned to JACOB I. FASS of the Spruce Chemical Company.

↓  
OK.

EE 10-13-50

cc: Philadelphia (65-4332)

LGT:GHK  
65-4074

RECORDED - 45

65-59181-272

OCT 6 1950

14

*El y el*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA

DATE: August 31, 1950

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bufile 65-59181)

*Card filed  
10-2-30RA*

*ok prepare  
S.I. Card  
9-7-50*

*4-1  
8-1-1  
p-1*

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

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

NAME THOMAS LESSING BLACK

ALIASES Tasso Lessing Black, Thomas L. Black, Tom Black, Dr. Thomas L. Black,  
George Williams, Tom Jones, Harold L. Jones, Tom Wright, Lessie Black,

Bob, "Doc"

RACE White SEX Male NATIVE BORN X NATURALIZED SEP 5 8 41 AM '50 ALIEN RECORDED

COMMUNIST SECTION 8 SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) RUSSIAN

TAB FOR DETCOM X TAB FOR COMSEC SECTION 8

DATE OF BIRTH July 5, 1907 PLACE OF BIRTH BloomSBurg, Pa.

RESIDENCE ADDRESS 1929 North 6th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

DEFERRED RECORDING

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address)

Charles W. Berg, Laboratories, 1827 North 5th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

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

None

HAS:agn  
65-4332

RECORDED - 123

*165-59181-273*  
SEP 7 1950  
*5-8*  
*RECORDED*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 9-15-50

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT:

ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bufile 65-57884)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

B1

B1

B1

Two copies of each memorandum are attached for the Bureau and one for each of the other Offices receiving copies of this letter.

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

WIDENED

B7D

Encls.

cc: Los Angeles

New York

San Francisco

Washington Field

PH File

RECORDED  
INDEXED  
DATE 2-13-78

RECORDED - 3

INDEXED - 3

B7D

SEP 19 1950

B7D

56 OCT 13 1950

Classified by 4913  
Exempt from GDS, Category 3  
Date of Declassification Indefinite

APIN 2113178

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

65-59181-273X

[REDACTED]

B1

(c)

[REDACTED]

B1

[REDACTED]

B1

(c)

[REDACTED]

B1

(c)

WBW:mtg

B7D

Classified by 4913  
Exempt from GDS, Category 3  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
AP/uk 2/13/78

65-59181-273X

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED] (c)  
B1

METHOD:

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

WBW:mtp  
[REDACTED] B10

2

65-59181-273X

MOTIVE:

[REDACTED] (c) B1

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

3

65-59181-2731



TYPE OF PERSON:

[REDACTED]

B1

(c)

[REDACTED]

B1

(c)

4

4

65-59181-273V

[REDACTED] B1

(c)

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

[REDACTED] B1

(c)

[REDACTED] B1

(c)

[REDACTED] B1 (c)

[REDACTED] B1

(c)

[REDACTED] B1

(c)

WHL:mtg

B7D

5 5  
65-59181-273X



(981

- 2 -

6

6

65 59181-2721

[REDACTED] (c) B1  
ESPIONAGE - R  
Bufile 65-57970

[REDACTED] (c) B1

[REDACTED] (c) B1

[REDACTED] (c) B1

[REDACTED] (c) B1

[REDACTED] (c) B1

WBW:mtp

67D

7  
65-57970-177

ESPIONAGE - R  
Bufile 65-57967

(c) B1

B1

(c)

WPM:mtg

B7D

8 8  
65-59181-2734

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] (C)  
STORAGE - R  
Bufile 65-57972

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] (C) B2

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] (C) B2

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] B2 (C)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] B2 (C)

W24 info

[REDACTED] B7D

1 9  
CONFIDENTIAL

65-59151-27

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: October 11, 1950

FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA

SUBJECT: THOMAS LESSING BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bufile 65-59181)

*Card UTD  
10-26-50 RH*

*G.I. 11-2*

"SPECIAL SECTION"

*N-1*

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

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

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ALIASES: DELETE Tom Black, Dr. Thomas L. Black

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) \_\_\_\_\_

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Strategic and Critical Industries List)

REMARKS: Subject is being placed in the "Espionage Section" of the "Special Section" - "Admittedly an Espionage Agent in the past."

WJ:llw

65-59181

RECORDED - 125

EX - 52

*65-59181-274*

*OCT 16 1950*

*8*

*[Signature]*

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

October 30, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

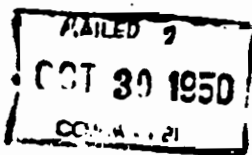
THOMAS LESSING BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
Philadelphia File 65-4332

Reference is made to Form FD-122 submitted by the Philadelphia Office October 11, 1950, which suggested that this subject be included in the Special Section of the Security Index.

Since Black is not currently active as an espionage agent, the Security Index card on him should be maintained in the Regular Section of the Security Index.

65-99181 - 274

EFL:hc



30 2

EB

MEP

30 2

CH

DS

EL

5 NOV 6 1950



PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL  
VIA LIAISON

Date: October 11, 1950

To: Director,  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2210 E Street, N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Colonel Robert A. Schow  
Assistant Director

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to Bureau letter to CIA dated June 28, 1950, which requested that CIA obtain a photograph of Dr. Gregory Lvovich Rabinovitch, was., from the International Red Cross at Geneva, Switzerland.

It would be appreciated if you would advise us of the status of this matter.

EFL:hc

65-59181

RECORDED - 116

65-59181-275

EX-32

OCT 18 1950

5

W.B. 8/1

W.B. 8/1

SAC, Philadelphia

November 2, 1950

Director, FBI

THOMAS LESSING BLACK, WAS.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Assistant Attorney General James H. McInerney has advised that he has requested United States Attorney Gleeson at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to examine the investigative reports in this case and discuss the case with the Agent handling same with a view of determining whether they reflect evidence warranting prosecution for espionage or other Federal crimes.

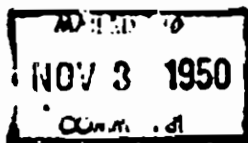
Assistant Attorney General McInerney has stated that upon the completion of the examination of the investigative reports by Mr. Gleeson, the Department desires to have Mr. Gleeson's conclusions in this matter. The Philadelphia Division is instructed to make available to Mr. Gleeson copies of investigative reports in this case and to have the Agent handling the Black case contact Mr. Gleeson to discuss this matter. The Bureau has already furnished the Department with copies of reports in this case.

This matter should be given your expeditious attention.

RECORDED ..

65-55181 - 276

EFL:jmm



EB: [Signature] 374  
AP: [Signature] 374  
EL

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

52 NOV 22 1950 499

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: THOMAS LESSING BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bufile 65-59181)

DATE: November 10, 1950

Rebulet November 2, 1950.

Pursuant to instructions in referenced letter, one copy of each of the following reports is being furnished to the United States Attorney:

- 5/2 ✓ Report of SA WILLIAM B. WELTE, JR., dated 7/26/50 at Philadelphia
- 7/1 ✓ Report of SA LOUIS G. TURNER dated 6/12/50 at Newark
- 7/16 ✓ Report of SA FRANK C. WOOD, dated 7/1/50 at Albany
- 7/1 ✓ Report of SA JOSEPH C. TRAINOR, dated 7/7/50 at Baltimore
- 8/4 ✓ Report of SA CHARLES D. SCHILDECKER, dated 7/26/50 at Miami
- 9/12 ✓ Report of SA LOUIS G. TURNER dated 8/23/50 at Newark
- 9/12 ✓ Report of SA FRANCIS W. ZANGLE, dated 8/24/50 at New York

R.H./mm  
59 NOV 20 1950

RECORDED - 19  
EX-73

165-59181-277  
NOV 14 1950

SAC, Newark

November 15, 1950

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.,  
ESPIONAGE - R  
Newark File 65-4074

Re Newark report of SA Louis G. Turner dated 7-20-50. On page 34 thereof it is revealed that Seymour Soroka is presently working in the vicinity of Trenton, New Jersey; however, Soroka's employer has not been determined.

It will be recalled that according to Thomas L. Black, confessed Soviet agent, that Soroka was once a member of the Socialist Workers Party in Newark. Since Soroka was listed in Black's notebook as being a civilian employee of the Army, Newark is requested to determine Soroka's present employment status. If he is determined to be presently employed by the Government, a loyalty investigation will be necessary; however, a loyalty investigation should not be initiated until advice is received from the Bureau.

The Bureau's indices do not reflect that a loyalty form was received at the Bureau on Soroka. There is no pertinent information in the files of the Bureau concerning Soroka.

65-59181

RL:EH

RECORDED - 26  
EX - 52

65-59181-278

NOV 17 1950  
80

NOV 22 1950

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NOV 12 4 21 PM '50

NOV 15 1950

52 NOV 22 1950

SERVICE UNIT  
SEARCH SLIP

4-22

Supervisor Fuddberg Room 3

Subj: Seymour Sorka

Exact Spelling

Searchers

All References

Initials

Subversive Ref.

Date 1/15/50

Main File

Restricted to Locality of

in one

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

65-59181-182 P 34 72 P 18

212, 213, 207, 253

Seymour Sorka

65-5006-6

S. Sorka

100-39588-5

65-31468-16

Initialed

November 24, 1950

SAC, Washington Field

Director, FBI

PETER DAVIDOVICH GUSEV, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference New York report of Special Agent Edward F. McCarthy dated November 3, 1950.

Washington Field should send any photographs of the subject which may be available in State Department or Immigration and Naturalization Service records to the Philadelphia division in order that they may be exhibited to Thomas L. Black and Harry Gold, confessed Soviet agents. The description of Gusev generally fits that of Unknown Subject Paul Petersen and Unknown Subject "John," Soviet espionage superiors of Thomas L. Black.

It is noted that the subject's wife, Helen, also acted as a Soviet agent, according to the informant. Since Thomas L. Black was to be contacted by an Unknown Subject, Helen, the Philadelphia office should be advised of any further information developed regarding Helen Gusev.

A copy of reference report is being forwarded herewith for the information of the Philadelphia office.

65-59585

cc - New York (New York file 65-1547)

Philadelphia (enclosure)

cc - 65-57449

65-59181

65-59191

65-59452

EL:mpa

INDEXED - 51

65-59181-280  
NOT RECORDED  
147 NOV 28 1950

52 DEC 7 1950

RECEIVED YELLOW

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, Philadelphia  
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 12/1/50

On 11/30/50, BLACK advised by telephone that he wished an interview and he came to the Philadelphia Office later in the afternoon.

BLACK said his purpose was to advise that he feels the world is faced with an all-out war against Communism. He wishes to be of some assistance. He believes that he will not be eligible for military service because of his age. He says he will be willing to act in any capacity in any organization in this country or abroad for the FBI or for any of the intelligence services. He said that if he received an assignment which could be carried on while he keeps his present job he would not expect to be paid. If it were necessary for him to give up his job, he would ask only for subsistence.

He emphasized that he is not making this offer in order to avoid punishment but purely from patriotic motives. He does not feel that his present employment is necessary to the war effort and he does feel that his past record qualifies him for some type of undercover work. He said he did not expect an answer but wished to have this office know of his willingness.

*Let Phila.  
know of this  
12-16-50  
E7H*

RECORDED - 96

165-59181-281

DEC 4 1950

EX-27

RH:mbq  
65-4332

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL JAMES M. McINERNEY

December 16, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On November 30, 1950, Black visited the Philadelphia Office and made the following offer:

Black said his purpose was to advise that he feels the world is faced with an all-out war against Communism. He wishes to be of some assistance. He believes that he will not be eligible for military service because of his age. He says he will be willing to act in any capacity in any organization in this country or abroad for the FBI or for any of the intelligence services. He said that if he received an assignment which could be carried on while he keeps his present job he would not expect to be paid. If it were necessary for him to give up his job, he would ask only for subsistence.

He emphasized that he is not making this offer in order to avoid punishment but purely from patriotic motives. He does not feel that his present employment is necessary to the war effort and he does not feel that his past record qualifies him for some type of undercover work. He said he did not expect an answer but wished to have the FBI know of his willingness.

The Philadelphia Office has been instructed to refrain from instructing Black to actively re-establish his espionage contacts at this time. No effort will be made by the Bureau to reinstitute Black's espionage activities in an informant capacity until the Department has rendered a decision as to the application of the Internal Security Act of 1950 to Black and until the United States Attorney at Philadelphia has given his opinion regarding prosecution of Black for violation of any United States laws.

The above offer of service on the part of Black is being furnished for your information.

RECORDED - 5818

65-59181

EFL:hc

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP

DATE 12-13-50

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FBI

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913 2/13/8

MAILED 10  
DEC 13 1950  
COMM - FBI

RECEIVED  
DEC 14 4 44 PM '50

DEC 29 1950



Assistant Attorney General James V. McInerney

December 1, 1950

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.

ESPIONAGE - R

INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

Investigative reports concerning the espionage activities of the above-mentioned subject have previously been furnished to you.

Your opinion is solicited as to whether or not Thomas L. Black would be subject to registration under Section 20 of the Internal Security Act of 1950.

65-59181

EL:mpm

RECORDED - 75

65-59181-  
DEC 6 1950  
80

DEC 1 5 53 PM '50  
RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

APPROVED: [Signature]  
DATE: 2-19-78  
DECLASSIFIED

DEC 1 3 34 PM '50  
REC'D - 10720H.2 OFFICE  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
[Signature]

DEC 2 1950  
COMM. - 21

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913 2/13/78  
AP/NL

5 DEC 9 1950

Mr. Ladd

November 14, 1950

Mr. Belmont

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DR. GREGORY IVERICH RABINOVITCH, was.,  
Gregori Iverich Rabinovitch, Roberts,  
Dr. Rich, Rabinovits  
ESPIONAGE - R

PURPOSE

To advise you of the identification of Dr. Gregory Iverich Rabinovitch, Director of the USSR Red Cross in the U.S. from 1934 to 1939 by Louis F. Budenz as his Soviet espionage superior from 1937 to 1939. Rabinovitch was known to Budenz as "Roberts" and "Mr. Rich."

BACKGROUND

You will recall that Louis F. Budenz advised Bureau Agents in March, 1948, that he did some work for some "Roberts," aka "Mr. Rich," of the Russian Secret Police for about 1 1/2 years from 1937 to 1939. Budenz did active work for "Roberts" in the field of Trotskyite infiltration. He last saw "Roberts" in the Spring of 1939 in NYC.

On 10-25-48, Budenz advised Bureau Agents that he and Elizabeth Bentley had discussed "Roberts" and that from similar descriptions and general background information, they had concluded that "Roberts" was identical with a person known to Elizabeth Bentley as Dr. Rabinovits. Bentley knew Rabinovits as a doctor employed at the Antorg summer camp in 1936.

BZ

When Thomas L. Black, admitted Soviet agent was interviewed on 6-21-50, he advised that one of his Soviet superiors in 1938 was Dr. Robert Schwartz, whom he believed to be identical with Dr. Gregory Iverich Rabinovitch of the Soviet Red Cross. Schwartz wanted Black to join Leon Trotsky's household in Coyocacan, Mexico. He also helped pay Black's medical expenses in 1938 after Black had been involved in an explosion at his place of employment. In October, 1950, the WFO obtained photographs of Gregory Iverich Rabinovitch, former Director of the USSR Red Cross in the U. S. and forwarded them to the NY Division. By teletype dated 11-10-50, NYC advised that Louis F. Budenz had positively identified the photograph of Gregory Iverich Rabinovitch as his Soviet superior from 1937 to 1939, who was known to him as "Roberts" and "Mr. Rich."

EL:EM

65-57981

65-59181

65-59199

Identified by 4913

Exempt from GDS, Category 2

Exemption Indefinite

NOT RE-CLASSIFIED

DEC 9 1950

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 65-57981-40

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The photographs will be exhibited to Thomas L. Black and Elizabeth Bentley. They will also be exhibited to Harry Gold in that Rabinovitch may be identical with unknown subject "Fred," one of Harry Gold's Soviet superiors. U

Rabinovitch was last known to be in Moscow, Russia, in 1946, and was at that time still active as a Director of the Russian Red Cross. He left the U. S. 11-28-39. U

RECOMMENDATION

Wane. The above is for your information. All leads will be pressed vigorously to run out Rabinovitch's espionage contacts while he was in the U. S. U

- 2 -  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-160

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION. November 16, 1950 URGENT

Transmit the following message to: SAC'S PHILADELPHIA  
NEW YORK CITY

GREGORY LVORICH RABINOVITCH, WAS., ESPIONAGE R. RE NYC TEL TENTH INSTANT  
ADVISING OF IDENTIFICATION OF SUBJECT BY LOUIS BEDENZ AS UNSUB ROBERTS.  
PHILADELPHIA ADVISE IMMEDIATELY RESULTS OF EXHIBITION OF RABINOVITCH'S PHOTO  
TO THOMAS L. BLACK. NYC ADVISE RESULTS OF EXHIBITION OF PHOTO TO ELIZABETH  
BENTLEY AND HARRY GOLD.

HOOVER

65-57981

EL:mpm

cc - 65-59181

65-59199

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 65-57981-34

65-57181-2  
NOT RECORDED  
147 NOV. 21 1950

DUPLICATE YELLOW  
TRANSMITTED

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

52 DEC 5 1950  
(468)  
284

SENT VIA \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Director, FBI

November 20, 1950

SAC, Philadelphia

SEMEN M. SEMENOV, was.

ESPIONAGE - R

Bureau File 100-47083

Re New York letter dated 10-27-50.

Photographs of JACOB E. DOMINSKY were exhibited to THOMAS L. BLACK on November 18, 1950, who was unable to make an identification.

At the same time BLACK was shown a photograph of SEMENOV, whom he had previously identified. He again identified SEMENOV as a Soviet contact whom he believes he knew as GEORGE and who saw BLACK about 1938 for a short period of time. BLACK never knew SEMENOV by any name except GEORGE. RUC.

65-59181-  
NOT RECORDED  
145 DEC 1 1950

BWH:VPH  
65-4212

cc: New York (100-54227)

ORIGINAL FILED IN

5-62

Assistant Attorney General James H. McInerney

December 5, 1950

gm  
Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

Thomas L. Black has made a positive identification of Gregory Lvovich Rabinovitch as the individual who was his Soviet superior in 1938. Rabinovitch used the name of Dr. Robert Schwartz when contacting Black. Information concerning Schwartz is set out on pages 108 - 110 of the report of Special Agent William B. Walte, Jr. dated July 26, 1950, at Philadelphia, which has previously been furnished to you.

Rabinovitch was head of the USSR Red Cross in the United States from 1934 to 1939. He left the United States, November 28, 1939, and was last known to be in Russia in 1946, where he was active with the USSR Red Cross.

Louis F. Budenz has identified Rabinovitch as a person who was his Soviet superior from 1937 to 1939 under the name of "Roberts."

65-59181

HL:gm

RECORDED - 129

165-59181-283  
DEC 8 1950  
80

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913 2/13/78  
APTH

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES

DATE 2-13-78  
DECLASS. b9c

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COMM. FILE

REC'D-10620H.2 OFFICE

52 DEC 12 1950

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO.

65-4332 JMF

REPORT MADE AT <b>Philadelphia DEC 4 1950</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7/6; 8/9; 11/14, 18, 27/50</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/6; 8/9; 11/14, 18, 27/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>ROBERT W. HOLMES</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

BLACK identified photographs of OSCAR JOHN VAGO and MORDECAI MARCOLIN. BLACK's FBI number is 551860A. Referred to USA, Philadelphia 11-10-50 for opinion re prosecution.

1cc McWHERNEY  
12-12-50  
AGENCY *See memo*  
REQ. REC'D *7-5-50*  
REF'T *10-11-50*  
BY *W. J. P.*  
*Classified Confidential*

## DETAILS:

AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.

On October 2, 1950 THOMAS L. BLACK was shown a photograph of OSCAR JOHN VAGO by the writer. At first he said he did not recognize the person in the photograph, but after further study, said he believed it to be a picture of "OSCAR, the mechanical engineer and draftsman," who worked for ABRAHAM BROTHMAN. He then recalled having seen VAGO on two occasions, the first being at BROTHMAN's New York Office when he was there with BROTHMAN and HARRY GOLD, and the second occasion at BROTHMAN's laboratory in Long Island City. BLACK was introduced to VAGO casually at the first meeting. BLACK said he never had any direct conversation with VAGO and what he knew about him was related by HARRY GOLD. GOLD described VAGO as an excellent draftsman and a devoted worker for BROTHMAN. GOLD further said that VAGO was having trouble with his family as a result of having worked for BROTHMAN over a long period of time without pay. During the period he worked for BROTHMAN, VAGO was dependent on his wife's relatives for support.

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R47 NOV 21 1950

0-1 Phila 3-21-51 EL  
Phila. R. 9. to be submitted 4/20/51 EL

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>A. Cornelius</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 BUREAU (65-59181) 2 NEW YORK 3 PHILADELPHIA		65-59181-284	RECORDED - 104
COPY IN FILE		DEC 9 1950	INDEXED - 104
			EX-104

On November 18, 1950 the writer displayed to THOMAS L. BLACK a photograph of MORDECAI MARGOLIN. Although BLACK was unable to recall the man's name, he instantly recognized the picture as that of a man whose first initial he said was "M." He said that this was a picture of the Communist Party member whom BLACK introduced to Dr. LOUIS CHRISTMAN, then Director of Research at the American Cyanamid Company in the early 1930's. BLACK was asked if he recognized the name MARGOLIN and said that this was a picture of MARGOLIN. This photograph was taken in 1946, but according to BLACK, it greatly resembled MARGOLIN as BLACK knew him in about 1932.

The FBI Identification Record for THOMAS LESSING BLACK reflects that under FBI No. 551860A, the Service of Supply, U. S. Army, received an application from BLACK for the position of bacteriologist on May 7, 1942.

On November 10, 1950, the case of THOMAS L. BLACK was referred to the United States Attorney in Philadelphia for an opinion regarding prosecution.

- PENDING -



ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Photographs of N. I. ~~BULGAKOV~~ and DMITRI L. ~~DOLOTOV~~ were displayed to BLACK, who was unable to identify either. No photograph of VASILY FEDOROVICH KRUCHININ was available in the Philadelphia Division.

On November 14, 1950 THOMAS L. BLACK voluntarily agreed to go to New York City to make himself available as a Government witness in the case against ABRAHAM BROTHMAN and MIRIAM MOSKOWITZ. On November 18th, BLACK said that he had not been used as a witness and had been dismissed on November 16th. He also said that while he was in New York he had been shown a photograph which he had recognized as that of the Soviet superior whom he knew as Dr. ~~SCHWARTZ~~.

LEADS

THE NEW YORK DIVISION

At New York, N.Y.

Will report results of interview with THOMAS L. BLACK while he was in New York on November 15 and 16, 1950.

Will send to Philadelphia photograph of VASILY FEDOROVICH KRUCHININ for display to THOMAS L. BLACK.

THE PHILADELPHIA DIVISION

At Philadelphia, Pa.

Will report decision of USA regarding prosecution.

Will question BLACK regarding his possible application for position as bacteriologist with the Army in May 1942.

REFERENCE

Report of Special Agent WILLIAM B. WHITE, Jr. dated July 26, 1950 at Philadelphia, Pa.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

FILE NO.

65-4332 JMF

REPORT MADE AT <b>Philadelphia</b>	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/6, 8/9, 11/14, 18, 27/50</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>ROBERT W. HOLMES</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

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- P -

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		
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5 BUREAU (65-59181)				
2 NEW YORK				
3 PHILADELPHIA				

SAC, PHILADELPHIA

December 16, 1950

DIRECTOR, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.

ESPIONAGE - R

Philadelphia File No. 65-4332

Bureau 12/1/50 advising of the offer made by Black to be of service to the Government in some type of undercover work.

[REDACTED]

B1

[REDACTED]

B1

[REDACTED]

B1

65-59181

EFL:hc

RECORDED - 765-59181-285

DEC 19 1950  
80

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S)  
DATE 2-13-78 BY SP8

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
RECEIVED  
JAN 19 1951

Classified by 4913  
Exempt from GDS, Category 3  
Date of declassification: Indefinite

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JAN 2

1951  
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COMM - FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AP/N 2/13/78

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

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: January 2, 1951

FROM : SAC, NEWARK

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, Was.  
ESPIONAGE - R -  
(Bufile 65-59181)

Rebulet dated 11/15/50 which requested employment status be determined of SEYMOUR SOROKA alleged by THOMAS L. BLACK to have been a member of the Socialist Workers Party.

Mrs. D. SOROKA, 491 Clinton Avenue, Newark, New Jersey, mother of SEYMOUR SOROKA, was contacted [REDACTED] She advised that SEYMOUR SOROKA is presently employed by SWIFT and CO. as a traveling salesman and is constantly in a travel status. Mrs. SOROKA said that her son does not maintain a residence, but his work at the present time centers principally in the Washington, D.C. area. b7E

Mrs. SOROKA remarked that SEYMOUR SOROKA has not been a civilian employee of the Army for several years and he is definitely not a government employee at the present time. RUC

RECORDED - 102

165-59181-286

INDEXED - 102

LGT:rfg

100-34257

55 JAN 10 1951

EX-1

*[Handwritten signature]*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM : SAC, PHILADELPHIA

DATE: January 16, 1951

W  
N  
RA  
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bureau File 65-59181)

*[Handwritten signature]*

Assistant United States Attorney JAMES MC CORMICK advised today that there are two considerations involved in forming his opinion regarding prosecution on the above case. The first is whether any evidence is available to corroborate BLACK's confession to misprision of felony. He believes that the testimony of HARRY GOLD to corroborate BLACK's confession may be sufficient.

The second consideration is whether misprision is an active or a passive violation. He points out that it has been generally decided that mere knowledge of the commission of a felony is not enough to impose the duty of reporting. He feels that the court might decide that BLACK had no duty to report his knowledge until and unless specifically asked.

Mr. MC CORMICK advised that if, after further consideration of the facts, he believes that BLACK did have a duty to report his knowledge, he will ask the Department for its opinion.

EWB/jmf  
65-4332

RECORDED - 31

INDEXED - 31

EX-84

165-59181-287 HENRYCK  
JAN 18 1951

*[Handwritten signature]*

64  
JAN 29 1951

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

NY FILE NO. 65-15338 mjt

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>JAN 17 1951</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>11/14, 15/50; 1/12/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANCIS W. ZANGLE</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

*THIS INFO PREVIOUSLY  
FURNISHED TO DEPT.  
NO DISSEMINATION*

BLACK identified photo of GREGORY L. RABINOVICH as Dr. ROBERT SCHWARTZ. BLACK interviewed in NYC in connection with the ABRAHAM BROTHMAN case and furnished summary of all the information he could recall concerning matters relating to the BROTHMAN case.

- R U C -

*EMERSON*

**DETAILS:**

On November 14, 1950 THOMAS L. BLACK was interviewed in the New York Office and a photograph of Dr. GREGORY L. RABINOVICH was exhibited to him. RABINOVICH was formerly the Russian Red Cross representative in the United States. BLACK positively identified the photograph as identical with Dr. ROBERT SCHWARTZ who had visited him in 1938 in a hospital in Kearny, New Jersey, where he was confined for burns received in an explosion at his place of employment.

At the request of United States Attorney IRVING SAYPOL, BLACK was interviewed on November 15, 1950 regarding his knowledge of affairs pertinent to the ABRAHAM BROTHMAN case, which was then on trial in the Southern District of New York. A subpoena had been issued for BLACK.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">65-59181-288</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 - Bureau (65-59181) 3 - Philadelphia (65-4332) 3 - New York (1-NY 100-90568)	<div style="text-align: center;">JAN 18 1951</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><i>[Signature]</i></div>
<b>COPY IN FILE</b>	RECORDED - 91 INDEXED - 91

NY 65-15338

by the United States Attorney but he was not called as a witness in the case.

In response to questions, BLACK gave the following statement to a stenographer:

"I met HARRY GOLD by arrangement with FERDINAND P. HELIER and the meeting came about as follows. In February of 1933 I was leaving a job at Holbrook Manufacturing Company in Jersey City to take a job with National Oil Products Company in Harrison. HELIER, who had been a co-worker with HARRY GOLD at Pennsylvania Sugar Company in Philadelphia, told me that HARRY had been laid off the previous December and was badly in need of a job. He asked me if there was any possibility of obtaining the position I was leaving for HARRY. I told him that I thought the chances were rather good and he made arrangements for HARRY to come to my apartment in Jersey City.

"In the late summer of 1933 HELIER was unemployed and living in New York City. He and I had discussed many times the possibility of going to Russia to work as chemists. One day he decided to go to Amtorg to see what the possibilities were. There he made the acquaintance of GAIK OVAKIMIAN, who, I believe, was in charge of something concerned with Soviet petroleum technology for Amtorg. HELIER made arrangements for the three of us, HELIER, OVAKIMIAN and myself, to have a meeting the following week. We met and we had dinner together and I believe it was at this meeting that OVAKIMIAN suggested that before he make arrangements for us to go to the Soviet Union he would have to have something tangible on which to make his recommendations. He wanted samples of what we were able to do for the Soviet Union so that he could make specific recommendations. More specifically, he wanted to know what technical information we had which would be of value to the Soviet Union. This, of course, was technical information not available in the published technical literature but rather information relating to specific industrial processes.



NY 65-15338

"I believe that the Soviet Union wanted this type of information because in my further dealings with them it developed on many occasions that they did not consider information obtained through regular channels to be very reliable. In other words, if they purchased processes from an American company they were never quite sure that they were getting the exact process as it was used in this country but rather they thought that they were getting sort of substitute process which was not as efficient or as economical. Probably another reason was that information obtained through espionage would be less costly.

"OVAKIMIAN asked HELLER and myself whether we knew of any other chemists who would be able to provide technical information of value to the Soviet Union. HELLER suggested HARRY GOLD because he knew HARRY GOLD had some information when he worked at Pennsylvania Sugar Company which he thought would be of value to the Soviet Union.

"HELLER mentioned the matter to HARRY and HARRY was willing to cooperate. However, just about this same time OVAKIMIAN decided to drop HELLER as a contact because he considered HELLER emotionally unstable and, therefore, unsuited to his purposes. He told me to tell HELLER that he could not be of further value to the Soviet Union; in other words, to get rid of him. He made arrangements for me to meet with a person introduced as PAUL PETERSON. I believe this was in very late 1933. I would say it was probably November or December, 1933.

"Shortly after my first meeting with PETERSON I introduced GOLD to PETERSON by pre-arrangement with PETERSON. We met at a restaurant in New York--I don't remember which one--and that was the only meeting I ever attended with GOLD and the Soviet agent. GOLD and PETERSON made arrangements to meet separately.

NY 65-15338

"I have seen GOLD since that time rather infrequently. Sometimes a year or more would elapse between meetings and at other times I would see him every month or so or every three months.

"Sometime in 1942 or 1943 I received a telephone call from GOLD, I believe from New York City. I was living in Newark at that time. He told me that he had to see me on a very urgent matter so we made an appointment and met. He told me that he was about to be inducted into the Army; that, as a matter of fact, he had received his notice to take his pre-induction physical examination. He said that he had been handling a contact who in the past had provided him with extremely valuable technical information for the Soviet Union and who could still provide much more such information. However, this contact had been very badly handled before he had been turned over to GOLD, badly handled in the sense that he was rather temperamental and in order to get information from him he could not be handled brusquely but had to be handled with extreme tact, flattery, etc. He believed that this contact was so valuable he didn't want to see just anyone handle him and, therefore, he had recommended or was going to recommend to his Soviet superior that I be assigned that task. He told me that this contact was a brilliant chemical engineer and among other things an expert on the design of mixing equipment for the chemical industry. He thought that I was the only person who would be able to get the fullest cooperation from this contact because of my own personality traits.

"I told HARRY that it would be foolish to turn this contact over to me because I expected to be inducted myself.

"GOLD did not mention the contact's name at that time and it was some years later before I found out that this contact was ABE BROTHMAN. I found out that this contact was ABE BROTHMAN at the time that I first met BROTHMAN. GOLD asked me to go to BROTHMAN'S laboratory

NY 65-15338

"with him because BROTHMAN needed some technical information or some ideas on technical matters which HARRY believed I would be able to supply from experience. HARRY GOLD was still working at Pennsylvania Sugar Company at this time. On the trip to New York to meet BROTHMAN, GOLD told me a little bit about the person I was to meet." He said that BROTHMAN was a chemical engineer in the consulting business and that currently he was working on the process to obviate the Dupont and Rhom and Hass patents on Methyl Methacrylate ('Plexiglass'). He mentioned also that BROTHMAN was an expert on chemical mixing equipment and it was then that I asked him if BROTHMAN was the contact he had wanted me to handle if he were inducted. GOLD said 'yes'.

"We met BROTHMAN at the subway in Queens and he drove us to his laboratory in his car. While I was in BROTHMAN's car I noticed a current issue of the 'Daily Worker'.

"BROTHMAN asked me a great many questions on the general topic of sulfonation, which seems to have been the step in his process for making Plexiglass with which he was having difficulty.

"I met BROTHMAN, I believe, on about two other occasions. I believe the second meeting with BROTHMAN took place at his office in Queens.

"I received a telephone call in Philadelphia from HARRY GOLD who was now an employee of BROTHMAN. He asked me if I would do him a special favor by picking up a sample of material at the Rhom and Hass Plant in Bristol, Pennsylvania, and bring it to BROTHMAN'S office. He said that the sample had been arranged for by telephone and that it would be waiting for me but that they must have it in a hurry and that is why he was asking me to pick it up. I picked up the sample for him and delivered it to BROTHMAN'S office that evening. Present were GOLD, BROTHMAN and MIRIAM MOSKOWITZ. BROTHMAN took us all out to dinner and during the conversation I recall that the chief topic discussed was the Chinese Communist movement. I recall

NY 65-15338

"nothing specific but I came away with the impression that BROTHMAN, MOSKOWITZ and GOLD were favorable to the Communist regime in China and appeared to follow the Party line in this country.

"As soon as HARRY and I were alone again HARRY told me that BROTHMAN'S handling of his business contacts was extremely stupid. He said that BROTHMAN was in contact with a representative of the Chinese Nationalist Government trying to negotiate the sale of his Plexiglass process to them. One evening when he was entertaining this contact for business purposes he had taken him to a Communist meeting at Madison Square Garden to hear the Chinese Nationalist Government denounced.

"From my conversations with HARRY GOLD there was no doubt in my mind that BROTHMAN had been sympathetic to the Communist movement and to the Soviet Union for many years.

"On another occasion, which I believe was the first meeting with BROTHMAN, I was introduced to a Dr. YUSSEM, then an employee of BROTHMAN. BROTHMAN at this time was very dissatisfied with YUSSEM and he was thinking about discharging him. He said that in his opinion YUSSEM was a [redacted] and that he was a disorganizing influence in his organization. Later when GOLD was considering becoming an employee of BROTHMAN he discussed with me the proposed job and he said that he had made it mandatory to BROTHMAN that he get rid of YUSSEM before he, GOLD, would take charge of the laboratory. On still another occasion GOLD told me that in discharging YUSSEM, ABE had been brought before the appropriate committee in the Communist Party to explain the alleged unfair treatment of YUSSEM and that this committee had instructed BROTHMAN to pay YUSSEM \$600. b7C

"On one occasion GOLD asked me if I could obtain a stenographer for him to take technical dictation in shorthand for one of his contacts. He told me that the reason he needed a stenographer was that this contact did not like to write the reports himself but he was quite willing to dictate them and it was very time consuming for GOLD to take them down in longhand. I told HARRY that I didn't know anyone that I would want to involve in espionage activity.

NY 65-15338

"GOLD said that this would not involve anything of an illegal nature but rather that it was strictly bona fide consulting work. Finally I put GOLD in contact with JENNY ZAWYRUCKA. I know that she met GOLD and this contact on a few occasions. I don't know who the contact was that HARRY referred to in this instance and I believe Mrs. ZAWYRUCKA did do some work for GOLD.

"In connection with my refusal to take over GOLD'S contact for him when he said he was in danger of being inducted, I would like to add that I told GOLD that I expected to be inducted myself because I did not want to take over any of his contacts or to get any more involved with the Soviet Union myself. Actually, I had been trying to disentangle myself with Soviet espionage since 1936. I lost complete sympathy with the Soviet Union in 1936 during the period of the first so-called Moscow trials. During the Moscow trials I had a discussion with PETERSON as to what was going on in the Soviet Union. During the course of this discussion I told him that if this were the sort of thing that the Soviet Union stood for then I felt myself in closer sympathy with the Trotskyist movement. At this remark PETERSON became extremely angry and we parted in an angry mood. At the parting I was not sure as to whether he would contact me again or not. However, in a week or so PETERSON made an appointment with me by telephone and told me that my remark about the Trotskyist movement had given him an idea and he instructed me to join the Trotskyist movement, then a part of the Socialist Party, and to work in that organization as a Soviet agent. I did in fact become a member of the Trotskyist faction of the Socialist Party but I withheld a great deal of information from PETERSON which I knew he would be interested in receiving. I did continue to furnish information to the Soviet Union but the reports were all falsified. This I did out of fear of reprisal."

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN - 257

NY 65-15338

REFERENCE

Report of SA ROBERT W. HOLMES, Philadelphia,  
12/4/50.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA

NY FILE NO. 65-15338 mjt

<b>REPORT MADE AT</b> NEW YORK	<b>DATE WHEN MADE</b> JAN 17 1951	<b>PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE</b> 11/14, 15/50; 1/12/51	<b>REPORT MADE BY</b> FRANCIS W. ZANGLE
<b>TITLE</b> THOMAS L. BLACK, was.			<b>CHARACTER OF CASE</b> ESPIONAGE - R

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

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<b>APPROVED AND FORWARDED:</b>	<b>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</b>	<b>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</b>  <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">65-59181-288</div>	
<b>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</b> 5 - Bureau (65-59181) 3 - Philadelphia (65-4332) 3 - New York (1-NY 100-90568)			

Assistant Attorney General  
James M. McInerney

January 16, 1951

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

THOMAS LESSING BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to your letter dated October 30,  
1950, and to my memorandum dated December 1, 1950.

It would be appreciated if you would advise what  
your opinion is in this matter.

65-59181

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JAN 18 1951

EX-37

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CORRESPONDENCE  
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2 JAN 24 1951



# THESE DAYS

By George Sokolsky

ONE of the most important facts established in the Harry Gold case was that the Amtorg Trading company was the center of Soviet espionage in this country. That has often appeared in testimony before congressional committees during the past decade and has generally been ignored by our government.

Now to return to Gold, the spy. From his testimony it appears that he had become acquainted with a chemist whose name is Mr. Black. I do not find a first name and Black was not called as a witness, so maybe he is dead or something.

Whatever became of Black he was a Communist and he wanted Gold to be a member of the Communist party. Gold had no wish to be a Communist. He was willing to be a spy, but not a Communist. He apparently felt that it was immoral and indecent to be a Communist but not to be a spy. In this curious amoral world in which we live in a spiraling paganism treason seems to a man not to be a crime.

This testimony is pertinent:

"The witness [Gold]: The first [reason] was a debt of gratitude to Black because of the fact that he had gotten me a job in the worst years of the depression, the worst months of the depression, in February of 1933, just before the bank holiday.

"We were a family with a fierce sort of pride and we would have hated to go on relief—Black saved us from that. The second reason in addition to the one of a genuine desire to help the people of the Soviet Union, the second reason was that I got Black off my neck about joining the Communist party. I didn't want to. I didn't like them."

NOW, figure that one. He is grateful to Black, he wants to help the people of the Soviet Union and he becomes a spy, stealing the military secrets of the American people, but he will not be a Communist. Why? Read this:

Q—You did not like the Communist party?  
A—No; I thought they were a lot of wacked-up Bohemians.  
Q—I beg your pardon, what did you say?  
A—I thought they were a lot of wacked-up Bohemians.

THIS is hard to follow no matter how you read it and I wonder how Judge Irving

Kaufman or the jury could follow Gold's logic. In a word, he disliked American Communists, preferring the Russian brand.

This bit of evidence shows how Russia worked in America:

Q—You told us that you were not a member of the Communist party. Is that correct?

A—I never was a member of the Communist party.

Q—You mean you were not a dues-paying member?

A—I was not a member. I never wanted to, and I never became one, and I was told by the first Soviet superior I ever had to stay away from them, never to read the Daily Worker, never to go near them—

Q—In 1944—

The court: Are you finished with your answer?

The witness: Not quite. I was told never to read the Daily Worker, never to read any such liberal literature or even express liberal thoughts.

Q—Did you read liberal literature, Mr. Gold?

A—Very, very occasionally when it was forced on me by someone.

Q—Did you express liberal thoughts?

A—Very rarely.

NOW, when someone talks about a dues-paying, card-carrying Communist, he might think of the self-confessed, convicted spy, Harry Gold, who was not a Communist but who worked for Soviet Russia against the United States.

There are many such men and women in this country, some of whom are jumping on the bandwagon now, fearing least they be discovered. Many who today say that they are anti-Communist but who have a record of service in the interest of Soviet Russia say since 1935, need to do more than suggest that they have changed their minds—particularly as it is now a Communist policy to go underground.

Lots of Americans did worse things than Gold did. In magazines, on the radio, in universities, they corrupted the minds of our people. Now they are denying but they are not renouncing their past. They are fooling no one.

Gold has displayed a pattern of work which was quite successful for a time.

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

*Herich*

*Thomas L. Ding • Clerk*

*What is background of Black?*

*d.*

RECORDED TO INDEXED - 75

65-57181-291

JAN 23 1951

Page

Times-Herald

Wash. Post

Wash. News

Wash. Star

N.Y. Mirror

N. Y. Compass

*gl*  
ORIGINAL

Date: JAN 15 1951

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: January 16, 1951

FROM : MR. D. M. LADD

**SUBJECT: THOMAS LESSING BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R**

## PURPOSE

To inform you of the background of Thomas Lessing Black, who recruited Harry Gold into Soviet espionage activity and who, himself, acted as a Soviet espionage agent from 1934 to 1947.

## BACKGROUND

The attached newspaper column of George Sokolsky for January 15, 1951, as it appeared in the Times Herald, set out certain information about Harry Gold and a Mr. Black. In answer to your inquiry as to the background of Black, the following information is set out:

Harry Gold admitted in a signed statement dated June 2, 1950, that he was initiated into Soviet espionage activity by Thomas L. Black, a chemist, in the Spring or Summer of 1935. Black asked Gold if he could get information from the Pennsylvania Sugar Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, relative to processes. Black explained that he, Black, was in contact with a Russian at Amtorg, New York City, and that Black had been giving this Russian chemical processes of the National Oil Products Company, his employer. Gold admitted that in the latter part of 1935, he went to New York City with Black where Black introduced him to Paul Smith, who was Gold's first Soviet espionage superior.

Gold denies that Black aided him in his espionage operations except for occasionally lending him money.

Black has admitted that he introduced Gold to Paul Smith (whom Black knew as Paul Petersen.) Paul Smith has not yet been identified.

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647 NOV 21 1980

1 1980 Black has admitted becoming involved with the Soviets in 1934 when he and Ferdinand P. Heller went to Amtorg, New York City, to inquire about seeking employment in Russia. At Amtorg, Black and Heller met Gaik B. Ovakimian (Soviet espionage agent operating in the United States in the 1930's and arrested by Bureau Agents in New York City, May 5, 1941, for violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act. As a result of negotiations by the State Department and the Russian Government, Ovakimian was allowed to depart from the United States on July 23, 1941.)

**JAN. 23 1951**

**65-59181**

**Attachment**

**RECORDED - 75**

**EL: ~~XXXX~~**

**INDEXED - 75**

**62 FEB 1 1957**

Black has admitted contacting and sometimes furnishing information to Ovakinian and subsequent Soviet espionage superiors, Paul Petersen, Carl, George (Semen Markovich Semenov), Dr. Robert Schwartz (Gregori L. Rabinovitch), John, and Jack (Joseph Katz) from 1934 to 1947. The information consisted of industrial secrets of various companies by which Black was employed. Information concerning penicillin and sorbitol (the source of Vitamin C) was passed. None of the information furnished has been determined to have been of a classified nature.

Black has admitted that his Soviet superior, Gregori L. Rabinovitch, in 1938 wanted him to go to Mexico to work his way into the household of Leon Trotsky (one of the founders of the CP, USSR, who was murdered in Mexico in 1940) in order to get complete information regarding the household. Black stated that he refused this assignment.

Louis Budenz has recently identified Gregori L. Rabinovitch, Director of the USSR Red Cross in the U. S. from 1934 to 1939, as one of his Soviet espionage superiors from 1937 to 1939 who was instrumental in the death plot against Leon Trotsky.

Black admitted acting as a courier for his Soviet superior, Joseph Katz, in 1944 or 1945 in that he delivered \$100.00 and a message to William F. Stapler (deceased). Katz advised Black that the Soviets had purchased technical information from Stapler in the past. Stapler was an employee of the Hercules Powder Company, Wilmington, Delaware.

Black admitted receiving \$100.00 from Soviet superior Rabinovitch to defray medical expenses in 1939, and six monthly payments of \$100.00 each from Soviet superior Katz in the last half of 1944. He also received expense money and various gifts from Soviet contacts.

Black admitted membership in: Communist Party - 1931 to June, 1933; Trotskyite Faction of Socialist Party - 1937 - 1938; Socialist Workers Party - 1938 - 1941.

The Department by memorandum dated July 13, 1950, declined prosecution of Black on the grounds that the material transmitted by him was not of such a nature as to fall within the scope of espionage statutes.

By memorandum dated July 31, 1950, the Department declined prosecution of Black under a general conspiracy indictment with Harry Gold and Abraham Brothman. The Department stated that there did not appear to be enough evidence on this point to substantiate a prosecution.

By memo dated October 30, 1950, the Department advised that it was instructing USA Gleeson at Philadelphia to study the Black case and talk it over with the FBI agent handling same, and to make a recommendation to the Department. The Philadelphia office advised on January 16, 1951, that this case has been thoroughly discussed with USA Gleeson and that he has not rendered a decision to date. Philadelphia has been instructed to follow this matter closely with Gleeson.

On December 1, 1950, the opinion of the Department was solicited as to whether or not Black would be subject to registration under Section 20 of the Internal Security Act of 1950.

ACTION

There is attached hereto for your approval a memorandum to Mr. James M. McInerney, Assistant Attorney General, requesting his decision in this case.

*sent  
Ph.*

SAC, Philadelphia

February 27, 1951

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Philadelphia file 65-4332)

Reurlet 2-15-51 requesting the Bureau's advice as to whether or not Black's name should be retained on the Security Index list, inasmuch as he is designated as a national source of information in unnumbered SAC Letter 2-3-51.

In view of the past espionage activities of Black, it is believed that in the event of an emergency he should be picked up under the Security Index program and that a hearing board should judge as to whether or not he should remain at large.

~~Black's name should be retained on the Security Index list~~  
consideration will be given to placing him in the Special Section of the Security Index.

RECORDED - 65-59181 - 294

EX-8  
ELimp

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

MAILED 4  
FEB 28 1951  
COMM - FBI

RECEIVED  
FEB 28 1951  
FBI  
RECEIVED MAIL ROOM

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 2/15/51

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

Re unnumbered SAC letter, 2/3/51, which designated the subject as a national source of information.

The Bureau is requested to advise whether in view of BLACK's designation as a national source of information he should be retained on the security index list.

RWH:mbq  
65-4332

G.I.R.-7

a

RECORDED - 58

65-59181-294

FEB 17 1951

8

EX-125

*[Handwritten signature]*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 2/16/51

Interviews are now being conducted in connection with this case and a report will be submitted by 2/23/51.

EDVH/tgm  
65-4332

6LR-7

RECORDED 97165-59181-295  
FEB 19 1951

EX-125

SI 5 IS bh

370  
FEB 23 1951

W. L. ...

~~SAC, New York~~ PHILA.

February 20, 1951

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

*copy  
R.A.*

Reurlet 1-16-51. Please advise if the United States Attorney at Philadelphia has arrived at a decision in this matter.

65-59121

EL:mpm *mpm*

*71*

RECORDED - 32 65-59151-296  
FEB 28 1951

EX-111  
FEB 30 2 30 PM '51

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

MAILED 8  
FEB 20 1951  
COMM - FBI

*PH*  
*CB*  
*CH*

65 FEB 26 1951



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAC, Philadelphia  
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: 2/27/51

On February 20, 1951, BLACK was interviewed regarding several matters at the Philadelphia Office. In the course of the interview, BLACK volunteered the information that in 1935, his contact, PAUL PETERSEN, had mentioned to him that the Soviets were having trouble getting information out of Germany because of the vigilance of the German Intelligence Services. He asked BLACK, as a chemist interested in photography, to consider this problem and see if he could devise some means of sending information through regular channels so that it could not be detected. PETERSEN said that such methods as invisible ink, etc. were of no avail because they were easily detected with ultraviolet light. Other invisible writings were easily detected by infrared lights, and these examinations were routine.

BLACK said that he gave this problem considerable thought and worked out, by laboratory experiments, two methods, or two variations of the same method, which he thought would work. He said, however, that during the time that he was conducting these experiments, the Moscow trials took place and he lost sympathy with the Soviets and decided not to cooperate any longer in activity in behalf of the Soviets. Therefore, he never told PETERSEN or any of his other Soviet contacts of the methods he had developed.

He described the methods as follows:

1. An image is put on photographic paper, such as a post card, and is fixed by the use of any standard silver haloid emulsion. This image is then hardened with a good alum hardener. You then have what appears to be a plain piece of paper, although it has on it an undeveloped image covered with a hardener. On top of this image, any picture is printed on a new emulsion, but the second emulsion is not hardened. The post card or paper is then mailed. Upon receipt, the visible image or top emulsion is removed by soaking in warm water. BLACK said that since this top emulsion has not hardened, it is readily soluble in warm water. After the top emulsion has been soaked off, the original image can then be developed with a visible developer and a readable print secured.
2. The second process, which is a variation of the first, involves a process similar to the wash off process. BLACK said that a

FWH: cab  
65-1332

RECORDED - 34

INDEXED - 34

EX-23

FEB 28 1951

25

61 APR 18 1951

65-59181-296X

BLACK  
HAS NOT  
TOLD US  
THIS YET.

G.I.R.-7

65-59181-296X

LINE 6

Handwritten signature

Director, FBI

2/27/51

chrome alloy hardens an emulsion in varying degrees or depths. The image which is to be sent (the secret image) is developed and then bleached as in the wash off process. By washing this image in warm water, there will be varying thicknesses of gelatine. This gelatine is immersed in dye, and the varying thicknesses of the gelatine will absorb the dye in various shades. He said that this bleached secret image can be covered with an innocent photograph for transmission the same as in the first process.

The practicality of these methods is not known, but the information is being furnished to the Bureau.

SAC, Philadelphia

March 2, 1951

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

Enclosed herewith are two photographs of Joseph W. Bokhart which should be exhibited to captioned subject. Bokhart has been identified by reliable informants as being identical with the Soviet agent known as Silbert and Lambert, who operated in New York from 1929 to 1931, and who later returned to New York from 1936 to 1937. He operated between New York and Mexico City on behalf of Republican Spain in 1936 and 1937.

DESCRIPTION

Born:	2-2-95 at Komo, Lithuania
Height:	5'10" to 6'2"
Weight:	180
Eyes:	Hazel
Hair:	Black
Complexion:	Dark
Occupation:	Chemist
Nose:	Hooked
Residence:	Hotel Vanderbilt, New York City

65-59181

Attachment

RECORDED - 58

165-59181-297

MAR 5 1951

EX-73

ELmpa

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
FBI  
MAR 2 5 20 PM '51

MAR 3 1951

66 MAR 8 1951

SAC, Philadelphia

March 22, 1951

Director, FBI

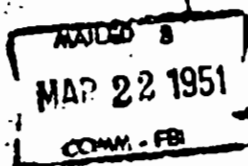
THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Philadelphia file 65-4332)

Reurlet 1-16-51. Please advise if the United States Attorney at Philadelphia has arrived at a decision in this matter.

The report setting forth the United States Attorney's decision and the results of other investigation performed in this case should be submitted to the Bureau in the near future.

65-59181

EL:mpm



RECORDED - 90  
EX-130  
165-59181-298  
MAR 28 1951  
80

ABs  
MAR 28 1951  
FBI  
RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM

60 MAR 28 1951

Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney

April 14, 1951

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

By letter dated October 30, 1950, you advised that you had instructed the U. S. Attorney at Philadelphia to review the investigative reports in this case to determine if they reflect evidence warranting prosecution of Black for espionage or other Federal crimes. You also stated that the U. S. Attorney had been instructed to make his conclusions available to the Department.

Our Philadelphia office has advised that James P. McCormick, Assistant U. S. Attorney, Philadelphia, has rendered an opinion that there is not enough evidence to sustain a conviction against Black for misprision of a felony; for espionage; or for conspiracy to commit espionage.

In order that this case may be brought to a logical conclusion, your opinion is solicited as to whether or not prosecution of Black is possible under any Federal statutes.

Your opinion is also solicited as to whether or not Black is subject to registration under the Internal Security Act of 1950.

Please advise if any further investigation is desired in this matter.

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913 2/13/78

RECORDED - 65-59181 - 299

EX-123

COMM - FBI  
APR 16 1951  
MAILED 20

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

DATE 2-13-78

RECEIVED  
FBI  
APR 15 1951  
REC'D 45

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

61 APR 18 1951

SAC, Philadelphia

March 27, 1951

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

*Wing*  
*SC*

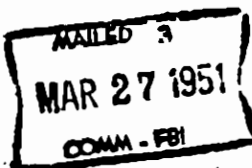
[REDACTED] *B1*

In this connection, you may desire to refer to Bureau Bulletin No. 71, Series 1945, dated July 31, 1945.

Copies of the insert should be forwarded to New York City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Washington Field.

65-59181

EL:mpm *mpm*



RECORDED - 60

65-59181-300  
MAR 29 1951

EX-104

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FBI

RECEIVED-MVIF ROOM  
APR 5 2 34 PM '51

*B*

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

66 APR 4 1951

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **PHILADELPHIA**

NY FILE NO. **65-15338 GMM**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/2/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/12, 19/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANCIS W. ZANGLE</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

## ADMINISTRATIVE

### SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

No record of BLACK'S Contax camera at Carl Zeiss or Penn Camera Exchange. Custom House import records kept by date only.

- RUC -

### DETAILS:

Philadelphia advised that on January 24, 1951 subject made available the customer's copy of receipt number 92436 from the Penn Camera Exchange, 126 West 32 Street, New York City.

The photostatic copy of the sales slip furnished to New York showed that on May 7, 1940 Contax II (or III) number 44047 was exchanged for Contax III box number B50850. Newark had advised on June 21, 1950 that the camera among BLACK'S possessions at the Spruce Chemical Company, Paterson, New Jersey, was Contax box number 44047. From this it would appear that the sales slip was made out in reverse and that actually BLACK had originally received number B50850 from his Russian superior and had exchanged it for number 44047 which he presently has in his possession.

WALTER G. KRAMER, Carl Zeiss Company, 485 Fifth Avenue, New York City, advised that his company had no record of ever handling either Contax III box number B50850 or number 44047. He stated that his company handled only a few cameras of

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R 47 NOV 21 1967

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
<b>COPY IN FILE</b> <small>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</small> 2 - Bureau (65-59181) 3 - Philadelphia (65-4332) 3 - New York	<b>65-59181-301</b>	<b>RECORDED - 26</b>  <b>EX-91</b>
	<i>[Signature]</i>	

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**APR 6**

NY 65-15338

the B50000 series.

I. EHRENREICH, treasurer of the Penn Camera Exchange, 126 West 32 Street, New York City, advised that his company had destroyed records for 1940. Due to a change in system some records were still available for 1938 and 1939. These were checked for a record of either Contax number with negative results.

The Custom House records for incoming items are kept by dates and no search is feasible unless the date an article was imported is known.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

**PHILADELPHIA**

**NY**

FILE NO. **65-15338 G-11**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/2/51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/12, 19/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANCIS W. ZANGLE</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

## ADMINISTRATIVE

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

No record of BLACK'S Contax camera at Carl Zeiss or Penn Camera Exchange. Custom House import records kept by date only.

- RUC -

**DETAILS:**

Philadelphia advised that on January 24, 1951 subject made available the customer's copy of receipt number 92436 from the Penn Camera Exchange, 126 West 32 Street, New York City.

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WALTER G. KRAMER, Carl Zeiss Company, 485 Fifth Avenue, New York City, advised that his company had no record of ever handling either Contax III box number B50850 or number 44047. He stated that his company handled only a few cameras of

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. R. T. Harbo *PH*  
FROM : D. J. Parsons  
SUBJECT: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R

DATE: March 12, 1951

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Reference is made to the letter of the Philadelphia Office dated February 27, 1951, regarding the interview with BLACK at which time he outlined two methods of concealing photographic images on photographic paper. The Espionage Section inquired by routing slip as to whether the methods outlined are possible.

Both of the photographic outlined in the referenced letter are reasonable, and, it might be noted that there are in addition other ways of accomplishing the same objective. It is possible to photograph one image and either render it invisible for later development or obscure it by an additional image. *aw*

DJP:BJL *if*

RECORDED - 27

165-59181-302  
SEARCHED  
INDEXED  
APR 12 1951  
E

*54*

*54*

SAC, Philadelphia

March 27, 1951

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Philadelphia file 65-332)

Reurmemo 2-27-51.

The FBI laboratory advised that the two methods of concealing photographic images on photographic paper described by Black are possible.

It is noted that the information Black furnished concerning Paul Petersen's interest in Germany has not heretofore been made known by Black. Detailed information regarding Petersen, such as that furnished in refmemo, may eventually aid in the identification of Petersen. It is therefore imperative that Black be exhausted of all information in his possession regarding Paul Petersen, as well as other information he may have pertaining to his espionage operations.

RECORDED - 21

65-59191

302

cc: 65-59191

EL:apm

G.I.R. 1



MAR 28 15 22 6H 12  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
FBI  
RECEIVED-MAR 28 1951

MAR 27 4 20 PM '51  
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374

MAR 16 1951

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

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

SECRET

FILE NO. 65-4332 sub

REPORT MADE AT <b>PHILADELPHIA, PA.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>APR 26 1951</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/16, 29, 2/1, 28; 3/12; 4/4, 16/51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>ROBERT G. JENSEN</b>
TITLE <b>THOMAS L. BLACK, was.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

AUSA JAMES P. McCORMICK advised that in his opinion there was insufficient evidence to sustain a conviction against THOMAS L. BLACK.

- P -

**DETAILS:**

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

On January 16, 1951, Assistant United States Attorney JAMES P. McCORMICK advised there were two considerations involved in forming his opinion regarding prosecution of THOMAS L. BLACK. The first is whether any evidence is available to corroborate BLACK's confession to misprision of felony. The second consideration is whether misprision is an active or a passive violation.

Mr. McCORMICK pointed out that it has been generally decided that mere knowledge of the commission of a felony is not enough to impose the duty of reporting.

Mr. McCORMICK was recontacted January 29, 1951 by SA ROBERT W. HODGES. At this time, Mr. McCORMICK raised certain specific questions relative to the opportunity that THOMAS L. BLACK might have had to divulge knowledge of the activities of HARRY GOLD.

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R 47 NOV 21 1960

Classified by 4913  
Exempt from GDS, Category 3  
Date of declassification indefinite

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>A. Cornelius Jr.</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	APR 24 1951	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
	65-	59181-304
	APR 28 1951	INDEXED - 71
	17	RECORDED - 71
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (65-59181) 1 USA EDPA 2 New York (65-15338) 3 Philadelphia	EX-58	

COPY IN FILE

STAMP SECT.

65 MAY 26 1951

SECRET

The following additional facts concerning THOMAS L. BLACK were subsequently furnished February 1, 1951:

HARRY GOLD was first interviewed by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation May 15, 1950. On May 22, 1950, GOLD admitted for the first time transmitting information about the Atomic Bomb from KLAUS FUCHS to the Soviets. This confession was reported in the Philadelphia papers May 23, 1950.

On May 31, 1950, THOMAS L. BLACK was interviewed by SA HOWARD A. SENL at his place of employment, 1827 North 5th Street. In the course of that interview, which concerned BLACK's knowledge of HARRY GOLD and his activities, BLACK made the following statements:

1. That he never had any reason to doubt HARRY GOLD's loyalty to the United States
2. That he had no knowledge of GOLD's interest in Communist matters
3. That the only trip he knew of GOLD making from Philadelphia was to Brooklyn, N.Y., in September or October 1945
4. That he would like to visit HARRY GOLD's father and brother if it would be all right in view of the publicity following GOLD's arrest

On June 15, 1950, BLACK was interviewed by Agents of the FBI and admitted that he had known of HARRY GOLD's association with KLAUS FUCHS since February 1950. He further admitted knowing of GOLD's trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 1945 and his belief that the trip was made for the Soviets. BLACK also said that GOLD had asked him to take care of his father and brother in the event anything happened to him (GOLD). This information is contained in a signed statement given by THOMAS L. BLACK.

By letter dated February 28, 1951, AUSA JAMES P. MCCORTICK furnished the following opinion:

"Dear Sir:-

Re: THOMAS L. BLACK, was.  
Espionage - R  
Misprision of Felony

"Reference is made to your letter of February 1st, with regard to the possible involvement of THOMAS L. BLACK in espionage or misprision of felony, or both. Your letter sets forth two circumstances with relation to BLACK's possible involvement.

I.

"That in February 1950 BLACK knew of GOLD's association with KLAUS FUCHS.

II.

"That in 1945 he knew of GOLD's trip to Albuquerque, N.M., and he, (BLACK) believed that the trip was made for the Soviets.

"Neither of these statements, by itself, or both, added together, is enough to sustain a conviction against BLACK for misprision of felony. The Federal cases on misprision are very strict in their interpretation and they require more than a mere failure to disclose the knowledge of a felony. They require, in general, an active concealment from the lawful investigative authorities when those authorities are trying to get information from the person who is concealing it. Such is not the case as revealed by your said letter.

"The statements added together likewise are not enough in our opinion to sustain a conviction against BLACK for espionage because they reveal no active participation on his part in either an act of espionage or a conspiracy to commit it.

"Very truly yours,

/s/ GERALD A. GLEESON

GERALD A. GLEESON  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

"Mr. McCormick"

- P E N D I N G -

ADMINISTRATIVE SHEET

On March 12, 1951, THOMAS L. BLACK stated he did not know PHILIP ARONBERG nor had he ever met anyone who might fit the description of ARONBERG. J

On the same date, THOMAS L. BLACK was shown a photograph of JOSEPH W. ECKHART. BLACK stated he had never met nor had he ever seen JOSEPH W. ECKHART. J

In connection with Washington Field letter dated March 1, 1951 concerning GEORGE SHAW WHEELER, THOMAS L. BLACK, on March 12, 1951, advised he had never met nor had any occasion to know GEORGE SHAW WHEELER. J

[REDACTED] B1

[REDACTED] B1

[REDACTED] B1 (f)

[REDACTED] B1

[REDACTED] B1

ADMINISTRATIVE SHEET (con't.)

 B1

On April 4, 1951, THOMAS L. BLACK was interviewed for any supplemental information he might have concerning the Unknown Subject, with alias NICHOLS. BLACK stated that he had no additional information beyond that previously furnished. U

On April 4, 1951, the photographs of MORRIS and EVA BLACK were shown to BLACK. He said he had never seen or met either of these people at any time. U

On April 4, 1951, the photograph of OTTO KITE, submitted with Bureau letter captioned "UNKNOWN SUBJECT, wa. Paul Smith, Paul Petersen", was shown to THOMAS L. BLACK. He said he had never seen or met this person. U



SECRET

LEAD SHEET

THE PHILADELPHIA OFFICE

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Will reinterview THOMAS L. BLACK for any additional information  
he may have regarding his espionage contacts or activity. U

REFERENCE: Report of SA ROBERT W. HOLMES dated 12-4-50.

SECRET

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

SECRET

FILE NO. 65-1332 REND

REPORT MADE AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE APR 26 1951	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/16, 29; 2/1, 28; 3/12; 4/4, 16/51	REPORT MADE BY ROBERT G. JENSEN
TITLE THOMAS L. BLACK, was.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - R

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

AUSA JAMES P. MCCORMICK advised that in his opinion there was insufficient evidence to sustain a conviction against THOMAS L. BLACK.

- P -

## DETAILS:

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

On January 16, 1951, Assistant United States Attorney JAMES P. MCCORMICK advised there were two considerations involved in forming his opinion regarding prosecution of THOMAS L. BLACK. The first is whether any evidence is available to corroborate BLACK's confession to misprision of felony. The second consideration is whether misprision is an active or a passive violation.

Mr. MCCORMICK pointed out that it has been generally decided that mere knowledge of the commission of a felony is not enough to impose the duty of reporting.

Mr. MCCORMICK was recontacted January 29, 1951 by SA ROBERT W. HOLMES. At this time, Mr. MCCORMICK raised certain specific questions relative to the opportunity that THOMAS L. BLACK might have had to divulge knowledge of the activities of HARRY GOLD.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (65-59181) 1 USA EDPA 2 New York (65-15338) 3 Philadelphia		Classified by 4913 Exempt from GDS, Category 3 Date 6/1/78 AP/N 2/13/78	

SECRET

SAC, Philadelphia

May 7, 1951

Director, FBI

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R

Cal-1

There is attached hereto a copy of a letter from Mr. James V. McInerney, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, dated April 30, 1951 setting forth the opinion of the Department in this matter.

This opinion should be set forth in the next investigative report from your office.

Enclosure

65-59181 - 305

KL:fm

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DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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

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32  
65 MAY 10 1951

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION. 5/5/51

DEFERRED

Transmit the following message to: SAC, PHILADELPHIA

THOMAS L. BLACK, ESPIONAGE DASH R. DEPARTMENT ADVISES SUBJECT HAS  
ENGAGED IN ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES AND THEREFORE COMES WITHIN PURVIEW OF  
FOREIGN AGENTS REGISTRATION ACT AS AMENDED BY SECTION TWENTY A OF IS ACT  
OF FIFTY. BEFORE BLACK'S REGISTRATION IS SOLICITED DEPARTMENT  
DESIRES THAT BLACK BE SUMMONED BEFORE A FEDERAL GRAND JURY FOR A  
THOROUGH INTERROGATION OF HIS ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES. PHILADELPHIA SHOULD  
MAKE CERTAIN USA GLEESON IS IN POSSESSION OF ALL INFORMATION PERTAINING  
TO ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES ON BLACK.

HOOVER

65-59181

EL:fm

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TO :

Director, FBI

6/7/51

FROM :

SAC, Philadelphia

SUBJECT:

THOMAS L. BLACK  
ESPIONAGE - R  
(Bufile 65-59181)

~~SECRET~~

Rebulet 3/27/51.

RGJ/tgm  
65-4332

Enclosures

cc: New York(Encl.)  
Los Angeles(Encl.)  
San Francisco(Encl.)  
WFO (Encl.)

Classified by 4913  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of declassification indefinite

RECORDED

INDEXED

~~SECRET~~

EXPEDITE PROCESSING  
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65-59181-396X  
LINKING

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

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Bureau  
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NY, WFO, SF, Phila  
call to shift  
7/7/51  
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RE: THOMAS L. BLACK

I - PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Name: THOMAS LESSING BLACK, was.,  
Tasso Lessing Black, Thomas L. Black,  
Tom Black, Dr. Thomas L. Black,  
George Williams, Tom Jones,  
Harold L. Jones, Tom Wright,  
Lessie Black, Bob, "Doc"

Sex: Male  
Race: White  
Age: 43, in 1950  
Born: July 6, 1907, Bloomsburg, Pa.  
Residence: 1929 N. 6th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.  
Height: 5'8 1/2"  
Weight: 200 pounds  
Build: Heavy  
Hair: Light brown, wavy  
Eyes: Blue  
Complexion: Light, ruddy  
Scars and Marks: Burn scars on entire left arm  
and shoulder, front of neck, and  
left ear

Peculiarities: High, square forehead, glasses,  
flat feet, uses long, black  
cigarette holder, incessant  
smoker of cigarettes, smokes  
Camels

Occupation: Chemist  
Marital Status: Single  
Immediate Relatives: Step-mother, Mrs. A. BRUCE BLACK  
(LOIS), nurse, Grant Hospital,  
Columbus, Ohio

Nationality: American  
Country of Birth: United States  
Fingerprint  
Classification: Identification Division, FBI  
Handwriting Specimen: At Bureau  
Social Security Number: 136-09-0915  
Past residences: Birth until June 1929, at  
265 East St., Bloomsburg, Pa.;  
1928 to 1937: 677 Madison Avenue,  
Elizabeth, N.J.; Apartment 210,  
112 Westfield Avenue, Elizabeth,  
N.J.; 116 Anna Street, Apartment  
2H, Elizabeth, N.J.; 654 Bergen

**Past residences:**  
(Cont'd)

Avenue, Jersey City, N.J.; 57  
Sip Avenue, Apartment 82, Jersey  
City, N.J.; The Mayflower Apart-  
ments, Apartment D-17, 65 Tonnell  
Avenue, Jersey City, N.J.;  
55 Oxford Street, Apartment 2-F,  
Unit 1, Newark, N.J.; 17 Oxford  
Street, Unit 4, Newark, N.J.;  
Majestic Hotel, Philadelphia part  
time; 1945 and 1946, apartment  
of SARAH ANN MELLOR, 1749 N. Mascher  
Street, Philadelphia; June 1946 to  
October 1946, 43 West Gravers Lane,  
Philadelphia, home of Miss  
S. V. HENKELS; 2124 Spruce Street,  
Philadelphia, apartment of SARAH  
HERSCHER, until 1948; 1908 Dallas  
Street, Philadelphia, home of  
Mr. LOUIS COOPER, September 1948  
to Spring 1950;

**Employment:**

Spring of 1950, 1929 N. 5th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.  
AMERICAN CYANAMID COMPANY, 1929  
to 1930;  
Holbrook Manufacturing Company,  
1930 to 1933;  
National Oil Products Company,  
1933 to 1944;  
Fine Organics, Inc., 1944-1945 as  
Consultant;  
Spruce Chemical Company,  
177 Railway Avenue, Paterson,  
New Jersey, 1946 - as Consultant;  
Charles W. Berg, Laboratories,  
1827 N. 5th Street, Philadelphia,  
Pa., 1945 - as Consultant  
Bloomsburg, Pa. High School,  
1921-1925;  
Pennsylvania State College, 1925-1929  
(did not graduate).

**Education:**

**II - STATEMENT OF SUBJECT'S ACTIVITIES**

BLACK has been a member of the CP, Socialist Party and SNP.  
He contacted GAIK OVAKIMIAN at Amtorg Trading Corporation in New York City,  
in 1934, to get a job in the Soviet Union. He was recruited into Soviet

espionage system at that time. BLACK claims to have been unwilling and uncooperative Soviet agent since recruitment. During 1930's gave Soviets various industrial processes. He joined the SWP at suggestion Soviet superior PAUL PETERSEN and conducted espionage activities against Trotskyites for Soviets. Claims to have submitted a number of faked reports on industrial processes to make showing of cooperation. Recruited HARRY GOLD into Soviet espionage by introducing him to PAUL PETERSEN in New York City in 1934. BLACK admits receiving \$100 from Soviet agent known as Dr. ROBERT SCHWARTZ to defray expenses of medical treatment in 1939, and also receipt of six monthly payments of \$100 each from Soviet center in last half of 1944. He received expenses from Soviet agents. He also was given books, cameras and laboratory equipment by Soviet agents and received offers to set up in business and also also study at California Institute of Technology.

Complete details relative to these activities have been set out in Philadelphia report dated 7/26/50, copies of which were furnished to New York, Los Angeles, San Francisco and WFO, as well as the Bureau.

### III - MODUS OPERANDI

BLACK has stated that all his activities in connection with Soviet espionage consisted principally of contacts in and around New York City. These meetings were generally held in railroad stations, restaurants or on street corners. BLACK has denied any lengthy trips on behalf of the Soviet Union.





