

F.O.I.A.

JULIUS ROSENBERG ET AL

FILE DESCRIPTION

HQ **FILE**

SUBJECT Silvermaster

FILE NO. 65-56402

VOLUME NO. 153

SERIALS

3970
PT 1

File No: 65-50402

153

Re: _____

Subcommittee

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	
<u>3970</u>	<u>6/9/52</u>	<u>Revelation Summary Pt I</u>	<u>354</u>	<u>266</u>	<u>51 pages referred b1 b7c b7D b2 b7E</u>
		<u>Search slips</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>b1</u>

549 461 37 51
normal No. of

Main File No: 65-56402 (u)

Date: JUN 9 1952 (u)

Subject: Nathan Gregory Silvermaster (u)

Date Searched: 10-26-51 (u)

Found As: (u)

6/8/83
Classified by SP5 Jg/ky
Declassify on: OADR 5-1-03

~~Komov, Serge - Summary~~
~~Komov, Sergei - Summary~~
~~Masters, Gregory - Summary~~
~~Masters, Nathan - Summary~~
~~Masters, Nathan Gregory - Summary~~
~~Masters, Nathan Gregory - Summary~~
~~one Eric - Summary~~
~~one Erisha - Summary~~
~~one Robert - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, N. Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, A. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, A. George - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, A. Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, E. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, E. P. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, G. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, George - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Greg - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Gregg - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Gregory Nathan - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Eric - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, N. Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, N. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, E. - Summary~~

~~Silvermaster, N. Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Natha E. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Nathan - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Nathan G. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Nathan Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Nathan Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Nathaniel Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Nathaniel V. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, one - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Robert - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, S. E. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Serge - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Sergei - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Nathan Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Greg - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Gregory N. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, N. Gregory - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Nathan - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Stewart, George - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Silbermeister, N. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Silbermeister, Serge - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Silbermeister, N. - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Silbermeister, Nat - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Silbermeister, Nathan - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Silbermeister, Nut - Summary~~
~~Silvermaster, Silbermeister, one - Summary~~

Searched as: (u)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Each of the subjects listed
against each surname: (u)

RECORDED - 33

105/36/04 - 39
JUN 11 1952

Given Names: (u)

A.
A. George

Class. & Ext. by
Reason - FCIM 11, 1-2.4.2
Date of Review
JUL 11 1954

A. Gregory
Alexander

PART I
TOP SECRET

30-82

E.
E. P.
G.
George
Greg
Gregg
Gregory
Gregory M.
Gregory N.
Gregory Nathan
Grig
M. Gregory
N.
Nat
Nate
N. G.
N. Gregory
Natha G.
Nathan
Nathan G.
Nathan Grecorey

Surnames:

Komov
Masters
Silbermaster
Silbermeister
Silvermaster
Silvermeister
Zeilbermaster

Nathan Gregori
Nathan Gregory
Nathaniel
Nathaniel Gregory
Nathaniel W.
Noota
Noota Gregrich
Nut
one
Robert
S.
S. A.
S. E.
Serge
Serge A.
Serge Alexander
Serge E.
Sergei
Sergei A.
Sergei Alexander
Sergei E.

TOP SECRET

Zeilbermeister
Zeilvermaster
Zeilvermeister
Zilbermaster
Zilbermeister
Zilvermaster
Zilvermeister

The following names were also searched:

one, Grig
one, Grisha
one, Robert
Stewart, G.

Stewart, George
Silvermaster, Nathan Gregory
Silvermasters, Greg

TOP SECRET

This is a summary of information obtained from a review of all references to the subject contained in Bureau files except main file references. All references containing data identical or probably identical with the subject have been included except those listed at the end of this summary as not being reviewed. No interpretation or alteration of the facts set forth in the original material has been made except as set forth in footnotes. (u)

It will be noted that the serial number of each reference is contained in a "source block", setting forth in most instances, a description of the serial and the original source of the information reported therein. The number appearing in parentheses beneath each source block is the page number of the search slip where that reference is listed. The term "SI" preceding a reference indicates that the serial so designated contains the same information as the foregoing serial. Unless there is a statement to the contrary, such information emanated from the same source. (u)

Information from outside agencies has been given a security classification, the same as the incoming communication. Information taken from mail originating within the Bureau and its field offices has not been classified regardless of whether the original communication shows a security classification. (u)

THIS SUMMARY HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR USE AT THE SEAT OF GOVERNMENT AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION NOT SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION. (u)

Reviewers

- Emily C. Clatworthy
- Charles L. Allwine
- James F. Boyle
- Catherine T. Collins
- Jean E. Watson

Supervisor

D. M. Brown
D. M. Brown

Approved

V. P. Keary

- 1 CC: 101-786 - *see serial 183*
- 1 CC Espionage

SUMMARIES OF MAIN FILES

~~TOP SECRET~~

Nathan Gregory Silvermaster is the principal subject in the pending case entitled "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, was., et al; Espionage-R" (65-56402). For the purpose of this summary, this file has been considered as the principal main file of the subject. Due to the volume of this file (147 sections; 3957 serials) it is not being summarized herein.

65-56402

Nathan Gregory Silvermaster is also the subject of a Hatch Act investigation which originated during January, 1942, Washington, D. C. Supplemental investigation was conducted in this case through June, 1945. This case was later re-opened and changed to an "Internal Security-R" investigation which is currently in a pending status. The office of origin was subsequently changed to Newark, N. J.

Many of the serials in this file have been changed to the case file entitled "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, was., Espionage-R" and the file does not show when this case was re-opened or when the date that the office of origin was changed to Newark.

Silvermaster moved from Washington, D. C. in June, 1947, to Harvey Cedars, Long Beach Island, New Jersey. Since that time Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullmann have been in the building business operating as Ullmann and Silvermaster, Builders, and have constructed numerous summer homes on Long Beach Island. In January, 1952, Silvermaster was residing with his wife, Helen, at 87th Street and the beach in Harvey Cedars, New Jersey. William Ludwig Ullmann was residing with them at that time.

101-786

Silvermaster is also the subject of an investigation which originated in Seattle, Washington, in April, 1922, entitled "Nathan Silvermaster, et al; Communist and Radical Activities". This file consists of two serials, both of which were dated April 11, 1922 at Seattle, Washington.

Silvermaster, described as "a known Communist," was said to have left Seattle, Washington, for San Francisco, California, on April 10, 1922, in the company of two other individuals, namely, one Perline and one Gundlak. Perline was described as a Communist

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Hurdback

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and Gundlak was described as a radical who probably belonged to the Communist Party. It was pointed out that Silvermaster, who was generally in intimate touch with Anna Falceff (Falkeff, spelled both ways), "a notorious local Communist" who resided at 3731 14th N. E., Seattle, might have gone to San Francisco as a delegate to a conference. Silvermaster was said to have formerly resided at the above residence of Anna Falceff.

(61-1495)

BACKGROUND

N.C. Silvermaster was born in Gdessa, Russia, on November 27, 1898. He entered the United States at San Francisco on March 20, 1916, via the Tenya Maru. On December 5, 1927, he attained his United States citizenship in San Francisco. Silvermaster is married to Helen Witte Silvermaster, daughter of a Russian Baron.

Silvermaster attended the following educational institutes:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>INSTITUTE</u>	<u>DEGREE</u>
1920	University of Washington, Seattle;	Bachelor of Arts Degree
1921	University of Washington, Seattle;	Graduate student
1931-1932	University of California, Berkeley;	Teaching fellow; Doctor of Philosophy Degree (Economics)

Silvermaster was known to have been employed as follows:

1921-1922	Engaged variously in building construction, canneries, farms and factories in San Francisco, Oakland, Marysville and Woodland, California
1922-1923	Instructor at Piedmont Hills Academy, Piedmont, California
1924-1931	Instructor and Professor of Economics at St. Mary's College, California
1932	Economist, California State Unemployment Commission.

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1933-1934

Acting Chief Statistician, California State Department of Labor

3/34-5/34

Economist, California State Relief Administration

5/34-8/35

Director, Division of Research and Surveys, California State Relief Administration, San Francisco

EMPLOYMENT IN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

8/35-11/38

Senior Economist, Resettlement Administration, Washington, D. C. (The Resettlement Administration was transferred to the Department of Agriculture on December 31, 1936, and its name was changed to the Farm Security Administration on September 1, 1937.)

11/38-6/40

U. S. Maritime Labor Board, Washington, D. C.

6/40-12/44

Director, Labor Division, Farm Security Administration. He was detailed from the Farm Security Administration to various Government agencies during his tenure there. On June 1, 1944, he was detailed to the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference, Treasury Department, Bretton Woods, N. H. as a Technical Secretary to the United States delegation at the request of Harry Dexter White of the Treasury Department. On July 1, 1944, he was detailed to the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department.

12/29/44-3/46

Assistant Chief Planning Technician, Procurement Division, Treasury Department. On March 1, 1945, he was promoted to Chief Planning Technician, Procurement Division, Office of Surplus Property. On November 4, 1945 he was transferred to the Office of Surplus Property as a Marketing Analyst.

3/46-11/46

War Assets Administration. On June 2, 1946, he was re-assigned to the Plans and Policies Division, War Assets Administration.

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6/47-2/52

Ullmann and Silvermaster, Builders, Harvey Cedars, New Jersey,

Silvermaster has resided at the following known addresses:

1932	434 Rich Street, Oakland, California
1934	800 Duboce Avenue, San Francisco, California
7/35-7/36	3108 North 10th Road, Clarendon, <u>Virginia</u>
7/36-7/37	3036 Dumbarton Street, Washington, D. C.
7/37-7/38	3217 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C.
7/38-7/39	3630 Jocelyn Street, Washington, D. C.
7/39-6/47	5515 30th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.
6/47-12/47	84th Street and the beach, Harvey Cedars, N. J.; Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Pertnoff
12/47-1/52	87th Street and the beach, Long Beach Township, N. J.

(101-786)

CLA:vw

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The following named individuals were members of the "Silvermaster Group", a Soviet espionage ring composed mostly of individuals employed in the United States Government. This group was headed by Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and primarily operated in Washington, D. C. in the early 1940's.

Nathan Gregory Silvermaster
Helen Witte Silvermaster
Schlomer Adler
Norman Chandler Bursler
Virginus Frank Coe
Lauchlin Bernard Currie
Bela Gold

Sonie Steinman Gold
Irving Kaplan
Abraham George Silverman
William Henry Taylor
William Ludwig Ullman
Anatole Boris Velkov
Harry Dexter White

The following individuals were members of the "Perlo Group", a Soviet Espionage ring composed mostly of individuals employed in the United States Government. This group was headed by Victor Perlo and operated primarily in Washington, D. C. in the early 1940's.

Victor Perlo
Edward Joseph Fitzgerald
Harold Glasser
Alger Hiss
Charles Kramer

Solomon Aaron Lischinsky
Harry Samuel Magdoff
George N. Perazich
Allan Robert Rosenberg
Donald Niven Wheeler

Both the Silvermaster and Perlo groups furnished information to Elizabeth Bentley who acted as their courier and who later was the principal informant in the case.

Through investigation, the following individuals were also ascertained to be connected with the above Soviet espionage conspiracy.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Michael Greenberg
Joseph B. Gregg
Maurice Halperin
Julius Joseph Joseph
Duncan Chaplin Lee
Robert Talbott Miller III
Willard Zerbe Park

Mary Wolfe Price
Bernard Sidney Redmont
William Walter Remington
Peter Christopher Rhodes
Ruth Kirkin
Loren Edward Rose
Helen Barrett Tenney

TOP SECRET

NEW YORK AND VICINITY

~~TOP SECRET~~

John J. Abt
Cedric Henning Belfrage
Abraham Brothman
Ray Elson

Michael Endelman
Mildred Price
Lt. Col. John Hazard Reynolds
Dr. Abraham Benedict Weinstein

It was ascertained from investigation that the following three Soviet Representatives were connected with this Soviet espionage conspiracy.

Fedor Alexeevich Garanin
Anatoli Borosovich Gromov
Olga Borisovna Pravdina

These persons will not be further identified in the summaries of the individual references which follow. For additional information on these individuals in connection with this case see the "Summary Brief" entitled "Underground Soviet Espionage organization in Agencies of the United States Government" dated August 24, 1948. (65-56402-3062X2).

CLA:vw

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Doctor Samuel Gelfan, included in the Security Index as of June, 1951, was born at Bogopol, Russia, on January 16, 1903, and was naturalized at Oakland, California, on April 22, 1927. Intensive investigation developed information that during the early 1920's one St Gelfan, while a graduate student at the University of California, Berkeley, California, was a close friend and associate of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Silvermaster was described by confidential informant of unknown reliability as having the head of the Communist underground movement on the West Coast during the early 1920's. Silvermaster's former wife, Marie Holmesland Van Nohuis, advised that she was reasonably certain that Doctor Samuel Gelfan was identical with the individual she knew as Sam Gelfan who was, during the early 1920's, a close friend and associate of her then husband, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

Memorandum to the Director
From D. M. Ladd, 6-12-54
Re: "Doctor Samuel Gelfan, was.;
Security Matter - C"
100-373311-39
(7)

ECC:men

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On 10-3-1923, the Bureau instructed the San Francisco Office to conduct an investigation of one Jacob Trachtengerts, a Russian, who had applied for a visa to come to this country and had given the following reference: N. Silvermaster, 2314 Dwight Way, Berkley, California.

Letter from the
Director 10-3-23
Addressee, Mr. F.L.
Esola, P. O. Box 174
San Francisco,
California.

10-1510-1
(74)

Correlator's Note; Serial two of the above file was not indexed but reported the following information. The San Francisco Office reported that no one by the name of N. Silvermaster was known at 2314 Dwight Way, (Berkley, California) the address given. Reference was also made to agent's report dated 9-19-18, Re: "Jacob Trachtengertz" who gave as a reference the names of "S. H. Silbermaster, 34 Commerce Street (city and state not given) and Mr. Bond, Vallejo, California". This reference indicated that Silvermaster could not be located.

San Francisco Report
10-20-23
Re: Jacob Trachtengerts;
Visa Matter
10-1510-2

JFB:mlb

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On an unspecified date an announcement was made that the Young Workers League was to begin a study class in "The Development of Man", Friday evening, December 7, 1923, at 180 8th Street, (Corner of Jackson, city not stated) at eight o'clock. All young people were invited and it was stated that Nathan Silvermaster, a thorough student and an experienced teacher, would be in charge of the course.

Source not stated
San Francisco Report
12-15-23
Re: "General Radical
Situation - San
Francisco District."
61-20-113, p. 21
(79)

ECC:mlb

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

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

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For your information: _____

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

65-56402-3970 p10

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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On August 11, 1948, Boris Nicholas Volkov was interviewed by Bureau Agents and stated that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster ran away with Volkov's wife, Helen Petrovna Witte Volkov, in approximately 1927 or 1928. Volkov later learned that they were at: "what he recalled at Atherton, California," and when he went to the address which he then had, he found it to be the residence of a family named Folkoff. Volkov stated that he found his wife and Silvermaster at this address (not further identified) and he identified a photograph of Isaac Folkoff as a person who was also there.

It was pointed out that the San Francisco California city directories did not list any urban residences for Isaac Folkoff and it was believed that the residence visited by Boris Volkov might actually have been the residence of Robert Owen Folkoff at Los Gatos, California.

[REDACTED] (c) verified on June 25, 1950, that Robert Owen Folkoff and Fannie Folkoff continued to reside at 724 Fremont Avenue (Route 1, Box 260), Los Gatos, California. [REDACTED] verified on June 22, 1950, that Robert Owen Folkoff maintained his business address at 25 Taylor Street, San Francisco, California, where he operated an accounting firm under the name Robert O. Folkoff and Company. (A) a (Page 8) b1

San Francisco Report
8-31-50
Re: "Robert Owen Folkoff
was; IS-R."
100-366123-24
(42)

JFB:mlb

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On August 11, 1948, Boris Nicholas Volkov was interviewed by Bureau Agents and stated that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster ran away with his, Volkov's wife, Helen Petrovna Witte Volkov, in approximately 1927 or 1928. Volkov later learned that his wife and Silvermaster were at the residence of a family named Folkoff.

It was pointed out that the San Francisco city directories did not list any suburban residence for Isaac Folkoff and it was believed that the residence listed by Boris Volkov might actually have been the residence of Robert Owen Folkoff at Los Gatos, California. It was also pointed out that the 1929 San Francisco City Directory gave Robert Owen Folkoff's address as "Los Gatos" (California).

[redacted] verified on June 25, 1950, that Robert Owen Folkoff and Fannie Folkoff continued to reside at 724 Fremont Avenue (Route 1, Box 260), Los Altos, California (Santa Clara County). [redacted] verified on June 22, 1950, that Robert Owen Folkoff maintained his business address at 25 Taylor Street, San Francisco, California, where he operated an accounting firm under the name Robert O. Folkoff and Company. (page 8) u

[redacted]

Confidential Informant T-1

San Francisco report, 8-31-50
Re: "Fannie Folkoff, was."
IS-1
100-363937-26
(42)

JFB:nec

CORRELATORS NOTE: This report bore the following notation:
"No Dissemination."

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This reference contained a copy of a report entitled "Investigation of Communist Propaganda." This report was made from hearings conducted before a Special Committee to Investigate Communist activities in the United States, of the House of Representatives, 71st Congress, Second Session.

On July 18, 1930, Commissioner Hoover Whalen of the New York City Police Department testified before this committee. During his testimony Mr. Whalen submitted several documents that had been obtained from the Astorg Company by undercover agents of the New York City Police Department who were investigating Communist activities in New York City. The first of these documents, which was entered into the record as "translation of Photostat No. 1" was dated December 16, 1928 at Moscow. This document was entitled "Absolutely Confidential Memorandum." This memorandum was addressed to "Dear Comrade, Saul (Bron)." The closing sentence of this memorandum is being set out as follows: "The profits from the publication of your catalogue (Understood to be about \$50,000) are to be turned over to Comrade Grisha* for distribution among subsidized publications in Russian and other languages."

Inspector Lyons of the New York City Police Department was asked if Comrade Grisha was in the United States at the time the document was written. Inspector Lyons stated "As far as we know." It was further stated that Comrade Grisha was not known to Lyons and that he did not know who the man (Comrade Grisha) was. He also did not know if they had been publishing a catalogue.

Another of these documents, which was entered into the record as "translation of Photostat No. 2" was dated January 7, 1930 at Moscow. This translation is being set out as follows:

"Dear Comrade: Enclosed herewith is an article which was published by us in Pravda and which was written on the basis of your work in the United States."

"We are instructing you to make on its basis a proclamation (leaflets) for distribution among working masses of all races and nationalities and also in the Army and Navy."

"In preparing this proclamation, use also the previous December article of Comrade Foster, published by us."

TOP SECRET

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"Kindly confirm receipt of the list of regions and scheme of distribution of your workers which were sent to you through Comrade Grisha (Graffen) and which should be in your hands at the time of receipt of this memorandum.

"With Comradely greetings, Feodor

"P.S. From January 10, this year, until cancellation, the key code, Menbog, will be enforced."

A parenthetical note preceding these documents stated "(Our explanation given)."

On July 22, 1930, Johann G. Ohsol, Vice-President and Director of the Amtorg Corporation testified before this committee. Ohsol was questioned concerning the identity of Comrade Grisha mentioned in Photostat No. 1. When asked if such a woman worked for him, Ohsol replied that he did not know of her. He was then asked if Mr. Zukerman (not identified) had such a woman working for him. Ohsol replied he did not know. When asked if Comrade Grisha was in New York at the time of this hearing, Mr. Ohsol stated he "would never hear of her."

Mr. Ohsol was then questioned about a catalogue that was published in one of his Economic Bureaus. Ohsol replied in the affirmative when asked if a catalogue had ever been issued by one of his Economic Bureaus. He was then asked if any profit had been derived from the issue of this catalogue. He was reluctant to answer this but finally admitted that the profit from one issue was about \$50,000.

Fish Committee report
62-23170-144, p. 24, 25, 89
(201)

* It is not known whether this individual is identical with the subject of this summary.

DO NOT DESTROY

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27
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On May 7, 1951, Mrs. Marie Honesland Van Nounhuis, 1063 Park Hill Blvd., Berkeley, California, former wife of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, was interviewed by Bureau agents at the San Francisco Office.

Mrs. Van Nounhuis, after viewing the photograph of Doctor Samuel Gelfan, stated that she was reasonably sure that this individual is identical with the Sam Gelfan whom she knew as a graduate student at the University of California at Berkeley, California, in the late 1920's. Mrs. Van Nounhuis stated that, although the individual in the picture had grey hair and the Sam Gelfan she knew in the late 1920's had dark hair, the other facial characteristics of the individual in the photograph showed a great similarity to those of the Sam Gelfan she had met.

Mrs. Van Nounhuis stated that she was only a casual acquaintance of Sam Gelfan, but that her former husband, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, was friendly with Sam Gelfan. She was unable to state the degree of their association. To the best of her knowledge, Sam Gelfan was never in her home while she was living with Silvermaster.

San Francisco report, 5-23-51
Re: "Doctor Samuel Gelfan, was.;
Security Matter - C"
100-373311-38
(40)

TOP SECRET

ECC:men

1424
~~SECRET~~

Marie Holmesland Van Nohuis, 1063 Park Hill Blvd., Berkeley, California, was interviewed in October, 1948, by Bureau agents, at which time she stated she married Nathan Gregory Silvermaster in 1923 while a student at the University of California, Berkeley, and was divorced from him in 1929. She could not recall many of Silvermaster's American friends, stating that prior to 1927 he had very few non-Russian friends. Among these, she recalled Sam Gelfin, who she stated was then a Professor of Biology at Yale University. She was unable to furnish any further information regarding this friendship or regarding one Sam Gelfin.

This reference carried a pencil marginal notation signed CBR as follows: "Do Not Disseminate, pending verification that Sam Gelfin is identical with subject."

San Francisco report, 2-3-51
Re: "Doctor Samuel Gelfin, aka.;
Security Matter - C"
100-373311-25
(40)

ECC:men

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The August 31, 1948, issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article by Louise Mitchell entitled "Un-Americans Threatens Stevens with Reprisals." It was stated that the House Un-American Committee hearing which had opened the day before in New York had become a flap.

Wittaker Chambers, former Communist, identified Alexander Stevens who was facing deportation, as J. Peters who had been head of an underground espionage ring which had operated in Washington, D. C., during the 1930's. Chambers said that he had worked with Stevens as an underground spy. It was stated that Chambers had again named Gregory Silvermaster in his testimony.

100-184255-A
"Daily Worker" 8-31-48
(64)

ECC:ddl

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On May 18, 1949, Jack Abraham Posin was interviewed at the Stanford University by Bureau Agents regarding a loyalty investigation of Vera Dunham who had given as a reference to her entry at Wayne University, Detroit, Michigan, professor J. A. Posin, Slavic Department, State University of Iowa.

During this interview Posin was questioned regarding Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, since it was noted that he attended the University of California during the same time. He advised that he had known Silvermaster since 1919 when he met him as a fellow student at the University of California. He said both belonged to a Russian Club at the University, but he denied that the club had any political character, stating that many of its members ^{was} white Russians. He stated that he recalled that Silvermaster's politics had always been so extremely liberal as to be classified as radical, and he noted that even in 1920 Silvermaster was in sympathy with what Soviet Russia proclaimed it would accomplish. He knew of no organization to which Silvermaster belonged other than the one mentioned. He stated that Silvermaster, in 1920, transferred to the University of Washington and in about 1923 returned to Berkeley to the University of California. At that time Posin was working for Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, and Silvermaster asked him to try to get him a job. Posin tried to help him but he believed Silvermaster was unsuccessful in securing that employment.

Up until about 1930 or 1931 Posin said that he was seeing Silvermaster from time to time and knew that Silvermaster was taking his doctorate and that his thesis was on the subject of Lenin. He stated that he could furnish no information though as to any Communist activity or membership on the part of Silvermaster. He stated that he would not testify to the above, although it was true to the best of his recollection.

San Francisco report
6-16-49
Re: "Jack Abraham Posin, was.
IS-R".
100-360253-1
(50)

ECC:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7D

A memorandum from the files of source E stated that Doctor Bloch had joined the Communist Party in 1934, under the name of Polk and that he, Doctor Bloch, had been introduced to Sam Darcy by Serge E. Silvermaster at Silvermaster's home in San Francisco. This was just prior to the 1934, maritime strike, in which Bloch was appointed arbitrator.

Source D: [REDACTED]

Source E: Associated Farmers of California, 24 Consol Street, Los Angeles, California. 1934-1935. Louis [REDACTED], alias Louis [REDACTED], Louis [REDACTED]-Polk [REDACTED] 1934-1935.

CLA:jlc

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100 X/CP/1

On February 8, 1949, Mrs. Josephine Frey Herbst, 47 South Fullerton Avenue, Montclair, New Jersey, was interviewed by Special Agents of the Newark Field Division. Mrs. Herbst stated that she was formerly married to John Herrmann, but that they were separated in the spring of 1945. Mrs. Herbst also stated that John Herrmann was the son of Henry Herrmann, formerly general manager of the Reo Auto Company of Lansing, Michigan and a well-known individual in Lansing.

She stated that her husband, John Herrmann, went to Washington, D. C., in the spring of 1934, and she joined Herrmann in July of 1934, and stayed in an apartment with him until September, 1934.

Mrs. Herbst stated that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was one of the persons whom she met while in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Herbst stated that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was introduced to her by Maxim Leiber, her literary agent at that time, when she desired to secure information on foreign relations for use in articles she was writing. At that time, Silvermaster was with the Farm Reclamation Program. Leiber, according to Mrs. Herbst, was still a literary agent in New York at the time of the interview during February, 1949. (page 3)

WFO report 12-20-50
Re: "Josephine Frey Herbst;
Security Matter-C"
101-5244-12
(38)
SI 65-59091-14, p. 29
(44)

JFB:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

L

[REDACTED] (C) b1

The San Francisco Field Office reported in March, 1948, that for the purposes of their report and to establish the implications of Mrs. Maurice Clark's (Helen Monfried Fischer) connection with Louise Bransten it was sufficient to say that Mrs. Berman* had lived in New York City since November, 1945, and visited the West Coast from February to May, 1947. She was said to be of an old established San Francisco family and

[REDACTED]

(Page 12) b1

(C)

Los Angeles Report
5-7-48
Re: "Helen Monfried Fischer,
wa., Mrs. Maurice Clark;
IS - C."
65-51844-47
(65)

*Correlator's note:

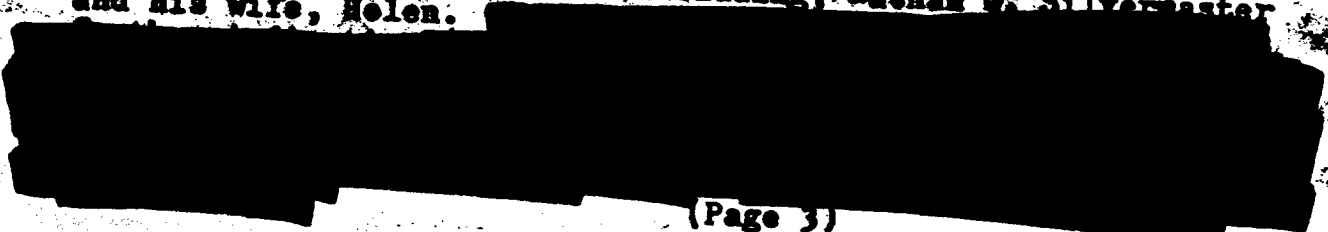
The use of the name Mrs. Berman is believed to be incorrect and it is noted that the correct name probably should be Mrs. Bransten. In connection with the above check Bureau file number 65-51593, Serial 33, page 342, which is summarized elsewhere in this correlation summary.

JFB:pan

TOP SECRET

The New York Field Office reported during the period of March to October, 1947, that a review of the indices in the files of the New York Office indicated the following available information concerning Seth Gaer.

Gaer, who was also known as Joseph Gaer, Joseph Gaier, Joseph Grossman, Joseph Fishman and whose true name was believed to have been Ely Youssef Fishman, was investigated by the Bureau in 1944, as an applicant for the Office of Emergency Management. The investigation indicated that Gaer was born March 16, 1898, at Edinetz, Bessarabia (Russia) and that in 1915, he came to Canada and from there entered the United States in 1916. It was pointed out that current Bureau investigations (original source and date not given) indicated that Seth Gaer had been in contact with a number of individuals including, Nathan S. Silvermaster and his wife, Helen.



(Page 3)

The Washington Field Office reported during the first Part of 1947, that the name of Seth Gaer (aka) Joe Gaer, 45 Prospect, Larchmont, New York, appeared in the address book of Samuel George Bloomfield, according to information secured at Washington, D.C. (original source and dates not given).

b7D

New York report, 8-5-47
Re: "Samuel George Bloomfield, wa;
Internal Security-R"
77-24483-73
(45)(s)

CORRELATORS NOTE: According to Serial 72 of the above file the San Francisco Field Office reported during June of 1947, that Samuel George Bloomfield resided at 587 San Bruno Avenue, San Francisco 10, California during June of 1947. It was also pointed out that



JFB:jlc

C b1

TOP SECRET

34
~~TOP SECRET~~

On July 21, 1948, Howard Rushmore, newspaper man and former Communist, testified before the Washington State Un-American Activities Committee, investigating alleged subversive activities at the University of Washington. Pertinent portions of this testimony were forwarded to the Bureau from the Seattle Office on July 24, 1948.

In this testimony, Rushmore stated that he had before him at that time a copy of an FBI report which consisted of notes taken by two members of the FBI in an interview with a witness who was a member of the Communist Party organization in Washington. He stated that this witness later appeared before the Federal Grand Jury in Washington and in New York about one year before this testimony.

Rushmore stated that the testimony given before the Grand Jury and based on this report amounted to something like the following:

He stated that in 1934, a man named Harold Ware, returned from Russia with a considerable amount of money and out of a violin studio operated by his sister at DuPont Circle, Washington, D. C., had organized a spy ring for a wide espionage organization. He had contacts with some Communist Party members in Washington, D. C., and they brought into this highly secret cell of the Communist Party men like Lee Pressman of the War Labor Board, Gregory Silvermaster and others.

Rushmore stated that the last time he had heard of Silvermaster he was with the Treasury Department.

Rushmore stated that the Russian spy ring had planned this very skillfully. One of the men in the cell in whatever department he was employed, was to obtain all confidential information of interest to the Soviet Government. It was taken at night by government workers and copied or photostated and given to the head of this cell in the department, and he would turn in reports of information once a week to the apartment of Gregory Silvermaster. From

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Silvermaster's apartment a courier would relay the information
to the Russian Embassy.

Seattle teletype to the Bureau

8-24-48

Re: "Howard Rushmore."

100-13058-2

(67)

100-13058-32

(73)

ECC:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Milton Leon Goldberg, Voice of America applicant in 1951, on his application form, gave as a reference Charles Schottland, Director of Social Welfare, state of California.

~~CU~~ T-27, of unknown reliability, advised on November 24, 1950, that during the period around 1935, Charles Schottland had been very friendly with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. He said Silvermaster had received publicity during the hearings before the 80th Congress in Washington, in August 1948, when he had been accused of being a Communist by Elizabeth Bentley. The informant stated that he did not know of any Communist connections on the part of Mr. Schottland, and he did not know just how far the degree of association extended between Mr. Silvermaster and Mr. Schottland beyond friendship.

~~CU~~ T-27-8 F. Morgan, 335 North Harvard Boulevard, Los Angeles, who stated he was Chief Clerk of Works Progressive Administration in 1935.

Los Angeles Report 2-21-51
Re: "Milton Leon Goldberg-
Special Inquiry, State
Department, Public Law 402,
80th Congress (Voice of
America)."
123-8250-9
(9)

ECC:jh

~~TOP SECRET~~

1933
TOP SECRET

The Washington Post on 8-29-50 carried an article entitled "Pressman Broke All Red Ties After Korean Attack, He Says." This article was written by Murrey Marder, Post reporter.

Lee Pressman in his testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee on 8-29-50 stated that he abandoned his Communist Party membership in 1935.

Pressman was asked to identify a long list of persons he said he knew some, but he said that he had no knowledge whatsoever as to their possible Communist affiliation. Among these, he said he knew were Victor Perlo, Nathan G. Silvermaster, George Silverman and Henry Collins.

He said he knew Richard Branston as an open Communist and he believed that it was at the Branston home that he had met Silvermaster.

74-1333-Sub A
(82)

ECC:vw

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During the latter part of 1940, A. William Barkan, 3653 Jackson Street, San Francisco, California, was interviewed in connection with an investigation of Harry Bridges, President of District 1, of the ILWU (International Longshoremen Workers Union). Barkan, stated that he was born in San Francisco, California on October 24, 1917, and was employed during 1940 as a reporter on the "Call Bulletin" a San Francisco, California publication.

During this interview Barkan stated that his mother, Mrs. Hans Barkan had attended a meeting of a Ladies Group (date and location not given) at which there was a speaker named Gregory Silvermaster who was on the west coast about four years previously (about 1936) and who was an avowed member of the Communist Party. During the course of his speech Silvermaster was alleged to have preached violently about Communism and made reference to the overthrow of the United States Government. Barkan, stated that his mother got up and argued with Silvermaster and during her argument with him Silvermaster made some remark to the effect "you and your money - we will annihilate you".

Barkan also stated that according to his information, Silvermaster was a statistician or was in the Federal Statistician Office "sic" at Washington, D. C., at the time of the above interview. (page 75,76)

Source: San Francisco report, 11-29-4.
Re: "Harry Bridges was; Communistic Activities, Immigration Matter".
39-915-621, page 157
(68)

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Florence Tompkins, colored maid, also known as Mrs. Florence Banks, identified herself to Bureau Agents on March 2, 1949, as the former maid of Abraham George Silverman and family for more than ten years, dating from 1935.

At this time, Florence Tompkins stated that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was among the friends of the Silvermans who visited them at the Silverman home.

Florence Tompkins stated that as far as she knew, Silverman kept no photographic equipment in his apartment, but she recalled that "Lud", who resided with the Silvermasters, was a photographer and that he mentioned having photographic equipment set up in the Silvermaster home.

On March 3, 1949, Florence Tompkins was reinterviewed at the Washington Field Office by Bureau Agents. At that time, she repeated the statements she had made previously and elaborated on them.

In her previous statement she mentioned several friends of the Silvermans who had visited in their home, including Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Upon reinterview, from photographs exhibited to her, she identified the persons and also Helen Silvermaster. She identified William Ludwig Ullman as the person she knew as "Lud", and she also recalled that Ullman was residing with the Silvermasters.

During the second interview, Florence Tompkins stated that Silverman often left the apartment on 15th Street, N. W., at night, saying that he was going to the Silvermasters and that when he left, he would take with him a large envelope which she presumed contained papers he had brought home from work. She stated that on no occasion had she examined the contents of these envelopes, and that she was not in any position to say what they contained.

Mrs. Viola Tompkins Abrams, 3550 Warder Street, N. W., a sister of Florence Tompkins, was interviewed by Bureau Agents in her office in Room 363, 401 - 14th Street, N. W., March 8, 1949. Mrs. Abrams advised that she had been a maid to the

Abraham George Silverman family from approximately August, 1934, to late 1935 or early 1936, when they lived at 2138 California Street, N. W., Apartment 409. She furnished a signed statement concerning her association with the family.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Mrs. Abrams stated that Mrs. Silverman and Richard Silverman often spoke of a gentleman named Silvermaster but she could not recall in what connection. She stated that she often heard Richard say his father had had visitors the previous evening, and had played poker with them, but she could not recall ever having seen any of them.

WFO report, 8/3/49
Re: "Abraham George Silverman,
Security Matter - C"
100-363633-2
(20)
SI-74-1333-3031
(31)

ECC:rst

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38

The February 13, 1949, issue of the Washington "Times Herald" contained an article entitled "Stripling Tells How 'Queen' Became A Commie, Served As Spy Courier, Finally Exposed Reds," by Robert E. Stripling. This article was the 15th in a series of articles on the Communist conspiracy in the United States by Stripling who was the Chief Investigator for the House Un-American Activities Committee from 1938 to 1949. ~~TOP SECRET~~

In describing the duties of Elizabeth Bentley, it was pointed out that she was obliged to travel to Washington every two weeks to collect copies of stolen government documents and other information. She received most of these, she testified later, from Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Russian-born government official who, she said, headed one of several Communist spy groups within the government.

61-6328-A
(7)

CLA:lmp

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Margaret Valiant, employee of the Re-Settlement Administration, in Washington, D. C. from January 7, 1936, until August 15, 1939, was interviewed by Bureau Agents (date and place not stated).

Valiant stated that she had resided at Accokeek, Maryland, at a farm known as "Longview", which was rented by Sally Ringe and Lenore Thomas (alleged Communist) from early 1937 to early 1938.

Valiant stated that she could not recall Alger Hiss ever having been a visitor at Accokeek and could not recall Lenore Thomas or Sally Ringe ever having mentioned any acquaintance with Alger Hiss. She stated that she had met Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and had been invited by a persons whose name she could not recall to sing and play guitar at Silvermaster's home on one occasion.

New York report 3-10-49.
Re: "Jay David Whittaker
Chambers, was; et al-Perjury;
Espionage-R; IS-R"
74-1333-2995, pg. 56
(4)

ECC:bjw

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

On February 26, 1938, according to the files of the Public Relations Squad Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C., an automobile registered under the name of Meyer H. Naigles appeared in a parade of the Washington Friends of Spanish Democracy and Freedom, American League for Peace and Democracy, American Students Union, Friends of Abraham Lincoln Brigade, International Workers Order, Washington Labor Placement Committee, National Negro Congress, Special Committee for Defense of Democracy, United Retail Employees, Workman's Circle and Icor. It was noted that Gregory Silvermaster was among those present at this parade. Confidential Informant T-10 advised (no date given)

[REDACTED]

(Page 5)

T-10 [REDACTED]

Washington Field Office
report, 10-28-42 u
Re: "M.H. Naigles was Economist,
Post War Labor Problems Division,
Bureau of Labor Statistics,
US Department of Labor;
Internal Security-Hatch Act"
101-4732-7
(68)

JFB:jlc

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

On September 6, 1949, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that during a discussion with Mike Naigles (not identified), Mary Jane Keeney agreed to meet Naigles and his wife, Miriam, at the residence of Marion Hirsh, 55 Varnum Place, Mount Vernon, New York. *du* b2
b7D

The New York Field Office reported during the period [redacted]

According to the files of the Public Relations Squad, Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C. (no date given), Mike Naigles was present in the company of Gregory Silvermaster at a parade held at Washington, D. C., on February 26, 1938. This informant advised that the parade had been sponsored by various Communist front groups. Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file. b1

NY report 11-15-49
Re: "Mary Jane Keeney,
Philip Olin Keeney; IS - R"
101-467-126
(63)
SI - 101-467-129
(9)

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

3-26-38
~~TOP SECRET~~

On February 26, 1938, the Washington Friends of Spanish Democracy held a parade in the District of Columbia which preceded a mass meeting to protest the shooting down of citizens in Spain. The following organizations were represented at this meeting: The American Student Union, the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, the International Workers' Order, the Washington Labor Peace Committee, the National Negro Congress, the Spanish Committee for the Defense of Democracy, the United Retail Employees, and the Workmen's Circle.

It was ascertained that one of the automobiles which participated in the parade was registered to H. Gregory Silvermaster, 3630 Jocelyn Street, N.W. This automobile carried D.C. license plates, 76-113.

A review of the files maintained by the Public Relations Division of the Metropolitan Police Department on the American Student Union.
WFO Report, 9-14-42,
Re: "American Student Union;
IS-R."
61-7497-299
175

CLA:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

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On March 18, 1938, the "Washington Post" carried an article which reflected that the Washington Friends of Spanish Democracy gave a reception in honor of Doctor Gustav Regler, who had served as a volunteer in the conflict in Spain. This reception was given at the home of Alexander Hawes. The article stated that among the guests present were Doctor and Mrs. Ernest Gruening and Doctor and Mrs. Gregory Silvermaster. Gruening, "during a current interview," stated he could not recall Hawes' name and was quite sure he had never attended a reception in his home.

Bureau Memo to Mr.
Belmont from Jr. C.
H. Stanley, 12-11-50
Re: "Doctor Ernest
Gruening, Governor
of Alaska, Department
of the Interior; LGE".
121-23216-19
(60)

CLA:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

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The SIS files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., contained a newspaper clipping from the "Washington Post" dated March 18, 1938. This article reported that one Gustav Regler, formerly of International Brigade and Loyalist Forces in Spain, spoke before a gathering of Friends of Spanish Democracy held in his honor at the home of Alexander Hawes. Included in the guests listed were Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Gruening and Dr. and Mrs. Gregory Silvermaster. It was suggested that the Bureau make arrangements to interview Miss Elizabeth Bentley to determine whether she had any information to offer concerning any association between Gruening and Silvermaster or any other activities of Gruening in the '30's.

WFO teletype 9-8-50
Re: "Ernest Gruening, aka, Interior;
IGE."
121-23216-31
(62)

CLA:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

3 38
TOP ~~SECRET~~

On September 26, 1950, Ernest Gruening, Governor of Alaska, was interviewed. During this interview, Gruening advised that he could not recall the name Alexander Hawes and he was quite sure he never attended a meeting at the home of Hawes in Washington, D. C., at which Gustav Regler, formerly of the International Brigade and Loyalist Forces in Spain, spoke. He also stated that he did not know either Dr. or Mrs. Gregory Silvermaster, who were listed with Gruening as attending this meeting in an article in the "Washington Post" in March, 1938.

Anchorage, Alaska, report,
10110-50

Re: "Ernest Gruening, aka
Ernest H. Gruening, Governon of
Alaska - Appointee, Office of
the Secretary, Department of
Interior, Wash., D. C.; LGE."
121-23216-107

(64)

SI - 121-23216-196

(62)

CLA:ddl

TOP ~~SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

J. F. Quillin, Attorney, Mena, Arkansas, who represented the state of Arkansas in the capacity of deputy prosecuting attorney during the trial of Commonwealth College, advised that in January, 1941, in Polk County Circuit Court, Mena, Arkansas, Commonwealth College was convicted on the charges of displaying an illegal emblem, the hammer and sickle, failure to display the American flag and of teaching anarchy. The college was fined a total of \$2,500 and its real and personal property sold at auction to satisfy these fines. The operation of the college was ceased on August 30, 1940, and has been inactive since that date.

Mr. Quillin had in his possession certain records seized at the time Commonwealth College was closed. These records included a card index system containing the names and addresses of faculty members, campers, students, maintenance workers, and friends of the college. An examination of these records revealed the following cards: "Webster Powell, Mac's Folly Farm, Silver Springs, Md. former address: Marion 128 Georgia Ave. Silver Springs, Md. Notation: 11-15-35, raising scholarship; Farm Research Inc., Room 505 a People's Life Insurance Bldg."

"Gregory Silvermaster, 5515 30th St., N.W., Washington, D. C. former address 3630 Jocelyn St., N. W. Washington, D. C. Notation: 4-1-38, Web Powell."

Mr. Quillin advised that it was his opinion that these main persons had been contacted by Powell in behalf of Commonwealth College and their names submitted by Powell as friends of the college.

Little Rock report, 1-14-49
Re: Webster Clay Powell,
Attache, State Department,
Foreign Service, Washington, D.C.
LGE"
121-14355-2
(66)
SI 121-14356-35
(61)

TOP SECRET

ECC:jar

~~TOP SECRET~~

During a loyalty investigation of Alexander Sacks, Business Economist, Office of Military Government for Germany, United States Department of the Army, Confidential Informant T-1 advised that in [REDACTED]

The Department of Justice records reflected that a personal history statement prepared by Norman Bursler in his own handwriting in August, 1938, listed Dr. Gregory Silvermaster, 3630 Jocelyn Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., as the person to be notified in case of emergency. In this same personal history statement Bursler included the name Dr. Gregory N. Silvermaster, Labor Relations Advisor, Federal Security Administration, Washington, D. C., in a list of references of persons well-qualified to judge as to his fitness for the position sought.

In October, 1938, Mrs. Gregory Silvermaster, 3630 Jocelyn Street, Washington, D. C., was interviewed in another investigation which was not a loyalty inquiry and advised that Norman Bursler resided in her home for several weeks early in June, 1938, when he came from California to accept a position with the government. She stated she had known Bursler during the past six or seven years, dating from his attendance at the University of California where her husband was a professor.

Other information appearing in this reference concerning Silvermaster is the same as that in the Gregory file 65-56402 and is not being set forth in this summary.

~~TOP SECRET~~
Chicago Report 2-25-49
Re: "Alexander Sacks, Business Economist, Office of Military Government for Germany (US) Department of the Army, APO 742, c/o Postmaster, New York, NY - loyalty of Government Employees."
121-10389-72
(71, 176)

ECC: pan

TOP SECRET

Raymond W. Jewell, was interviewed by Bureau Agents on March 29, 1949, Jewell said that he first met Abraham George Silverman in about 1936, at the offices of the Railroad Retirement Board, in Washington, D. C. at which time he was applying for a position with the Railroad Retirement Board and he was interviewed in connection with this application by Silverman. Silverman later hired him as a Junior Economist on the Railroad Retirement Board and he was associated with Silverman as a fellow employee from about 1936 to 1939.

Mr. Jewell said that he was acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. He said that Silvermaster had previously taught in the University of California that he, Jewell, did not know him there but was later introduced to him at Washington, D. C. He could not recall the circumstances. Jewell stated that it was his impression that he recalls seeing Silvermaster and Silverman at lunch together in Washington, D. C., and he recalled having seen Silvermaster at the offices of the Railroad Retirement Board and also of having seen Silverman and Silvermaster together at the Agriculture Adjustment Agency where Silvermaster was employed.

San Francisco report

4-15-49.

Re: "Jay David Whittaker
Chambers, Perjury, Espionage-R,
IS-R"

4-1333-3052

(8)

ECC:bjw

TOP SECRET

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On April 2, 1949, Alexander Portnoff was interviewed at his home (no address given) by Bureau agents. Portnoff advised that in 1928 he and a number of individuals interested in the exchange of cultural relations with the Soviet Union formed the American Russian Institute for Cultural Relations With the Soviet Union. The Honorary President was Leopold Stokowski, then conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra. The individuals who comprised the Board and membership of this organization were interested in some phase of culture and felt that the Russians had a high culture and much could be gained from a free interchange of our culture with the Russians culture.

During the interview Portnoff was questioned concerning his association with the Silvermasters and Ullmann and it was pointed out that he was somewhat evasive and reluctant to discuss this. He stated that he first met Nathan Gregory and Helen Silvermaster about 10 or 12 years ago. He maintained that he could not recall the circumstances under which they had met. He believed that Helen Silvermaster was a former Russian princess. Portnoff would give no information as to how he first met them. He stated that during this time he saw them only occasionally. It was his custom to send them the "Moscow News" on occasion.

Portnoff also advised that he first became acquainted with William Ludwig Ullmann about 15 years previously. He recalled that Ullmann was formerly a Harvard student and a swimming counsellor at a boy's camp and that he knew a family whose sons went to this camp. He has seen Ullmann very little during the ensuing years.

(page 4)

Philadelphia Rpt., 6-1-49
 Re: "Alexander Portnoff, was.;
 IS - R, Registration Act"
 97-748-60;
 (41)

JFB: cmm

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

On December 20, 1948, Isaac Don Levine, (Editor of the publication "Plain Talk"), was interviewed in New York City by Bureau Agents. He advised that he first met Whittaker Chambers in May of 1939, when Chambers came to him and requested Levin's assistance in placing an article dealing with Communism in the "Saturday Evening Post". Levine told Chambers that the manuscript of Chambers' proposed article was unsatisfactory for publication because it was too indefinite as to individuals, dates and places, but suggested that it be brought to the attention of responsible officials.

On 8-23-39, Levine persuaded Chambers to inform someone in the Government of the information in Chambers' possession, and arrangements were made through Marvin McIntyre (not identified) for Chambers to meet and talk to Adolph Berle Assistant Secretary of State.

On September 2, 1939, Chambers had dinner at Berle's home accompanied by Levine, and then began outlining to Berle his knowledge of Communist infiltration into the United States Government. According to Levine, Chambers informed Berle that the government officials concerned were divided into two groups--one was an espionage group and the other was a labor political and propaganda unit. Levine said that in the espionage group, Chambers placed Alger Hiss, his brother, Laurence Duggan, Noel Field, Phillip and Vincent Reno, who were brothers, and two other individuals named Wadleigh and Lovell. Levine recalled that with the latter group, Chambers had associated Harry Dexter White, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, a Dr. Miller, and a Dr. Kornblith. Levine stated that he was not certain of the spelling of the last name of Korablith. In the second group, he also placed Marion Bachrach, Lee Pressman, John Abt, Nathan Witt, and Sol Adler.

(page 14)

TOP SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~

On 12-10-48, Laurence Duggan was interviewed in New York City by Bureau Agents and at that time a number of photographs were shown to him. It was reported that Duggan failed to recognize a photograph of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.
(page 20)

Washington Field Office
Report 10-27-50

~~████████████████████~~ (Espionage - Rⁿ)

65-59131-5 page 14

(15)
SI 74-1333-371
(4)

SI 74-1333-1477 p. 20
(55)

(CLA)

b1
EJW

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

The October, 1948, issue of "Plain Talk" contained an article on page 18, captioned "The Inside Story of Our Soviet Underworld", Part Two, by Isaac Don Levine. This article describes a conference between Levine, Whittaker Chambers, an editor of "Time" magazine and Adolf A. Berle, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State, which was held at the Woodley House (Berle's residence), in Washington, D. C., on September 2, 1939. This conference was arranged by Levine in order that Chambers could make all his information, regarding Soviet Intelligence Activities, available to the proper authorities in Washington, D. C. The article states that Levine did not take any notes during the conference but endeavored to memorize as many names as possible and after the conference he jotted down, on a piece of Hotel stationery, most of the names that had been revealed during the evening. The following is quoted:

"The name of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, described by the House Un-American Activities Committee as 'heading an espionage ring of government employees' and as having maintained in subsequent years an association with Dr. Edward U. Condon, Wallace - appointed head of the Bureau of Standards engaged in Atomic Research, was also unfamiliar to me.

"My memorandum includes these notes: 'Nathan Silvermaster, alias Gregory Master, Greg. Silvermaster, Nathan Silvermaster - Personal Statistician to President in Agr. Dept.' As I now peruse this memorandum, it is patent that I was scouring my memory for the various names which had suggested themselves to me in connection with Silvermaster's identity."
(page 21)

Publication "Plain Talk"
October, 1948.
(7)
SI 94-36511-85 end page 21
(17)

JFB:pan

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This reference contained a copy of the hearings made before a Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 76th Congress, 1st Session.

On October 25, 1939, Mr. Mason of this committee made a motion that a statement and list which gave the names of numerous individuals employed by the United States Government, who were members of the American League for Peace and Democracy be made a part of the record. This motion was agreed to and the statement was entered into the record. The statement related that as a result of testimony which had been presented to the HCUA at intervals for more than a year, it was established conclusively that the American League for Peace and Democracy was organized, and controlled by the Communist Party. It was stated that from the files of the Local Branch of the League it was made clear that nuclei had been established in different government agencies. The committee was not charging that the government employees affiliated with the league were members of the Communist Party. There was no evidence to that effect. The fact that these government employees were members of the Communist Front Organization, and apparently continued their membership long after this organization was exposed as being Communistic, justified, in the opinion of the committee, the publication of the list.

Among the individuals who appeared on this list under the heading of Maritime Labor Board, was Gregory Silvermaster, 2620 Jocelyn Street, N.W.; 5515 36th Street, N.W., an Economist whose salary was indicated as being \$5,600.

Dies Committee Report
Volume 10, P. 6409
(73)

CLA:mlb

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65-56402-3970 p50

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~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant T-1

Parts of this information pertaining to Silvermaster is being set out as follows: ~~(S)~~ ~~(u)~~

[Large redacted block]

The remainder of this report was said to be devoted to a comparison of the information furnished by T-1 concerning

[Redacted block]

Only the portions of information pertaining to Silvermaster are being set out hereinafter. ~~(S)~~ ~~(u)~~

[Redacted block]

~~TOP SECRET~~

b1

According to Confidential Informant [redacted] on September 1, 1945, a telegram signed by William Greene and addressed to June Hinton, Post Office Box 1663, Santa Fe, New Mexico was charged to the telephone of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

TOP SECRET
b2
b7D

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that during 1945, 1946, and 1947, William Greene appeared to be on very friendly terms with the Silvermasters and William Ludwig Ullman. During that period the Greens were guests in the Silvermaster home on many occasions and it was noted by the informant that William Greene seemed to be very interested in the photographic equipment maintained in the Silvermaster home and also in the workshop which Ullman maintained in the Silvermaster home.

b2
b7D

In December, 1946, Jean Greene advised Confidential Informant [redacted] that her sister Joan was contemplating a visit to Washington and that she was very anxious for Joan to meet Helen Silvermaster and the latter's son, Anatole Volkov. The informant also reported that the Silvermasters and Ullman were guests in the Greene home on several occasions.

b2
b7D

As was previously noted, T-1 advised that [redacted]

b1

In October, 1946, William Greene advised Confidential Informant [redacted] that he and Jean had not seen the Silvermasters for quite a long time. He stated that Jean wanted to see Helen Silvermaster about something and they were planning to visit the Silvermasters in the immediate future. Greene did not indicate to the informant the reason why Jean wanted to see Helen Silvermaster.

b2
b7D

Identifying information concerning Silvermaster has not been set out herein as it appears in Silvermaster's main file. (65-56402)

T-1: [redacted] (S)
not to be disseminated.
Washington Field Office report, 9-7-51
[redacted] was.
Esp.-R
65-59259-22 [redacted] (S)
(11)
52
TOP SECRET
b1

~~TOP SECRET~~

John Jacob Abt who according to Elizabeth Bentley, self-confessed Soviet agent, was active in a Communist espionage group in Washington, D.C., in the early 40's, was interviewed by Bureau Agents on January 26, 1949. Abt stated at this time that he was General Counsel to the Progressive Party. Abt was asked whether he knew a group of individuals including Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and he answered that he did not care to discuss these persons. He was asked whether he had ever heard of any of these individuals or had ever attended any meetings at which any of them were present and he answered that he did not care to discuss this.

New York report 6-15-49
Re: "John Jacob Abt, was.;
IS - C"
100-236194-143
(25)

ECC:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

1950

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The July 21, 1948 issue of "Washington Post" carried an article captioned "Washington Area Contingents leave for Third Party Convention."

This article reflected that a total of 13 individuals from the Virginia area of Arlington and Fairfax County and Alexandria were to attend the Progressive Convention to be held at Philadelphia on July 23, 1948. Among the delegates listed for the Arlington - Alexandria - Fairfax area was Mrs. Virginia Foster Durr.

Since individuals mentioned in the article might have been identical with individuals of whom the Bureau had information, thumbnail sketches were made on those having the same name as those appearing in the article. According to Confidential Informant [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] Virginia Foster Durr was a contact and associate of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Charles Kramer, Robert T. Miller, Mary Price, and John Abt, all of whom were described by Elizabeth Terrell Bentley as being engaged in a Soviet Espionage conspiracy during the late 1930's and early 1940's.

b1
b2
b7D

Jen u

Washington Field Office
Report 3-5-51
Re: "Northern Virginia
Progressive Party;
Internal Security - C."
100-357934-258
(8)

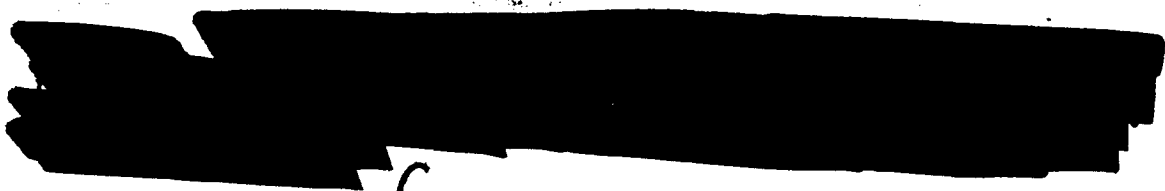
ECC:mlb

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Confidential Informants (not identified) reported (date and location not given) that Glassgold (Adolph Cook Glassgold) was in contact with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, who was involved in a Soviet espionage conspiracy in Washington, D. C. and New York in the early 1940's. It was pointed out that Adolph Cook Glassgold, who was employed by the Federal Public Housing Authority, New York Regional Office, as Senior Project Services Advisor was the subject of an "Internal Security Hatch Act" investigation conducted by the New York Office in 1946 and 1947.

An anonymous source reported (date and location not given) that the name of A. C. Glassgold was included among the effects of Helena Sommerova Matouskova (Helen Matousek).



b1

C

New York Rpt., 12-21-49
Re: "Helena Sommerova Matouskova;
was.; IS - R"
100-320294-47, p. 16;
(8)

JFB:cmm

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(S) b1

[REDACTED]

It was indicated that these individuals (probably Silvermaster, Kramer and Price) had been identified by Confidential Informant Gregory as having been involved in a Soviet espionage conspiracy in Washington, D.C. and New York City during the early 1940's. (page 4)

According to the records of the file clerks, United States House of Representatives, Washington, D.C., Elizabeth Sasuly was registered under the Lobbying Act with the House of Representatives as a Washington representative of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers - CIO and as a representative of the Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers of America - CIO, Elizabeth Sasuly's business address was given as room 416, 930 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

WFO Rpt., 9-16-49
Re: "Communist Infiltration of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers - CIO; Internal Security - C" 100-108199-694;
(8)

SI 100-108199-726, p. 19, 76;
(8)

JFB:cmn

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

b1

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised ^{that} Mrs. Clifford J. Durr was in contact with Nathan Gregory Silbermaster and Robert T. Miller, both of whom were engaged in a Soviet Espionage conspiracy during the late 1930's and early 1940's according to Elizabeth Terrell Bentley. &

b2
b7D

[REDACTED]

Washington Field Office
report, 6-19-50
Re: "Mikhail Magheru;
IS-R & RU"
100-964476-12
(20)

b1

ECC:men

TOP SECRET

Early 1940

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED]

Heading the foregoing information was a penned notation as follows: "Before using any information contained under this heading, see 100-3-65-1071."

b7c
b7D

In serial 1071, it was stated that many individuals who were possible members or prominent suspects of the Communist Party were included in the report for the purpose of assisting in the Loyalty Program, and it was not intended that the listing of these individuals should indicate that definite Communist Party membership had been established.

Washington Field Office report
8-10-48, Re: "Gogog-IS-C"
100-3-65-1071
(63)
66-2542-3-53-1049
(10-62)
SI

ECC:nee

~~TOP SECRET~~

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on February 5, 1940, that Isaac Folkoff, with aliases, was an active Communist and associated only with the upper strata of Party. He advised that Folkoff was formerly one of the signers on checks of the Communist Party account at the Bank of America at San Francisco. He also reported that Folkoff formerly contacted Sergei Silvermaster, who was of February, 1940, employed in the Resettlement Administration at Washington, D. C.

b2
b7D

San Francisco Report
4-4-41
Re: "Isaac Folkoff, was.;
IS-C."
100-19248-1
(92)

ECC:ddl:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

1942-1941

TOP SECRET

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

referred

Paul F. Steiner, 107 Lawton Street, Falls Church, Virginia, the Assistant Airport Administrator, Washington National Terminal, advised during May or June, 1948, that he hired Kuzminsky for the Maritime Labor Board from a group of about fifty applicants. Mr. Steiner stated that he knew nothing about Kuzminsky which would indicate close association with Silvermaster or any Communist sympathy on his part.

WFO Report, 6-17-48.
Re: "Albert Kay, aka Albert Kuzminsky; Special Inquiry, Office of the Secretary of Defense".
77-39017-4
(30)

JFB:bww

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[REDACTED]

b2
b7D

[REDACTED]

(page 185)

WFO report 1-21-41
Re: "Washington Committee for b7D
Democratic Action, IS-C."
100-4590-9
(76)

Correlator's Note: This report bore the following notation dated November 26, 1941, and bore the initials RDD: "Some of the information in this report is wrong. Do not rely on any lists set out herein without checking with Washington Field Office. For further explanation see 100-4590-58."

JFB:ddl

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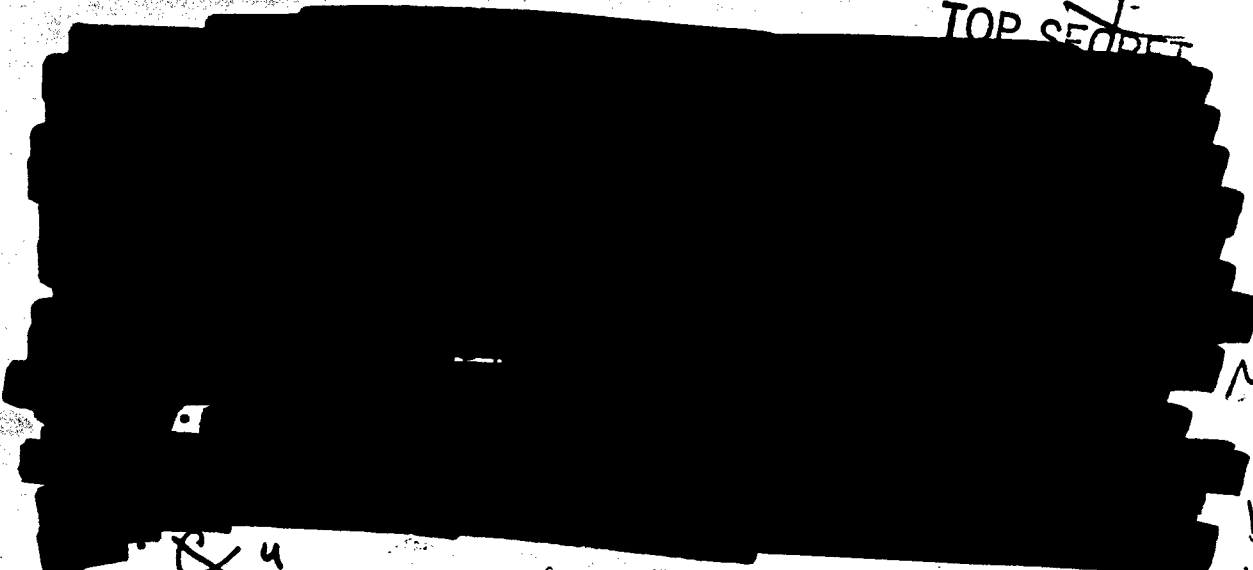
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65-52402-3970 p 62

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referred

b2
b7D

Additional information in this reference pertaining to the association of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster with Omer Mills is not being set out as it appears in Silvermaster's main file.

T-1: Confidential Informant

San Francisco report, 4-12-48
Re: "Omer Mills, Chief of
Occupancy Section, Program
Operations, Region 1, Federal
Public Housing Authority, San
Francisco, California; Loyalty
of Government Employees".
121-5170-5
(1)

b2
b7D
referred

CLA:pan

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65-56402-3970 p64

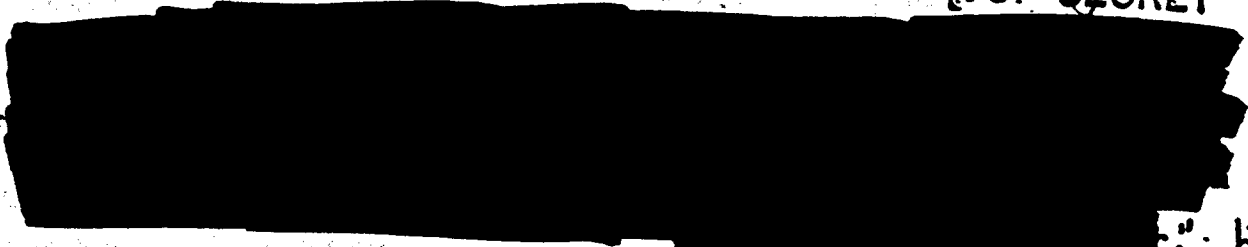
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73
12-18-51

Exec 1041

TOP SECRET



(page 6)

57D

A throw away pamphlet of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax reflected that Edwin S. Smith, Director of the CIO, Oil Workers Organizing Campaign, would be a speaker at a meeting under the auspices of the National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax on 4-13-42, at the National Press Club in Washington, D. C.

WFO Rpt., 1-28-43
Re: "Communist Infiltration of Oil Workers, International Union, (Oil Workers Organization Campaign) CIO; IS-C"
100-105775-67;
(76)

JFB:cmm

~~TOP SECRET~~

10-2
TOP SECRET

Benjamin Mandel, 3101 Pennsylvania Avenue, S. E.,
Washington, D. C., advised in 1942 that Nathan Gregory Silver-
master, also known as Gregory Masters, was editor of the
"Seattle Union Record" at the time that Anna Louise Strong was
writing for that paper under the name of Anise.

New York report 3-A-1000
Re: "Anna Louise Strong, was.
IS-R."
100-7888-523, p. 50
(44-85)

ECC:ddl

[TOP SECRET]

14-

In a New York teletype on March 11, 1949, information was set out concerning a Bureau interview with Joseph Senturia, Director of Market Controls, Textron Corporation, New York City. This interview was conducted in order to obtain information concerning Abraham George Silverman. ~~TOP SECRET~~

Senturia stated he first became acquainted with Silverman when he was recommended by mutual friends to fill a position of Economist at the Retirement Board. This was about November, 1937. Senturia was directly under Silverman until 1942, when Silverman transferred to the Army Air Force, and after several months Senturia joined him at the Army Air Force at Silverman's request. When questioned concerning the allegation against Silverman, Senturia stated that he was shocked. He stated that from his observation, and associations he could not picture Silverman as being in any underground apparatus. Senturia stated that he was acquainted with Irving Kaplan and Gregory Silvermaster. He stated that he had occasion to deal with Silvermaster when Silvermaster was making a study of migratory labor in the Farm Credit Bureau, and both had a common interest in migratory labor of railroad workers. He also advised that he was acquainted with Sylvia Miller, secretary to Silvermaster and knew her quite well socially.

New York teletype 3/11/49.

Re: "Jaham"

74-1333-2376

(60)

SI 74-1333-2770

(68)

SI 74-1333-2998 page 18

(4)

ECC:bjw

~~TOP SECRET~~

1942

TOP SECRET

An anonymous source, advised (no date given) that during the year 1942, the principal activities of Mary Jane Keeney and her husband, centered around the Washington Cooperative Bookshop (probably in Washington, D. C.). The same informant further stated that it was during this period that they made friends with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullman. 4
(page 14)

NY Summary report 3-19-51
Re: "Mary Jane Keeney; IS-C."
101-467-150, p. 14
(26)

JFB:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Mrs. Edith M. Jones, 5401 4th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., advised sometime during the period of January to April, 1942, that she believed that Robert Alexander Brady was friendly with a family by the name of N. Gregory Silvermaster, inasmuch as when Brady rented the house on 29th Street (probably 6266-29th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.) he was accompanied by Mrs. N. Gregory Silvermaster.

Will Allen (not further identified) advised (approximately December 20, 1941) that Dr. Brady was consulted by N. Gregory Silvermaster when Silvermaster was preparing a thesis entitled "Lenin's Economic Thought Prior to the October Revolution". Will Allen further advised that Silvermaster, in his application for his position at that time (approximately 1941 or 1942) gave Brady as a reference. Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file. (page 27)

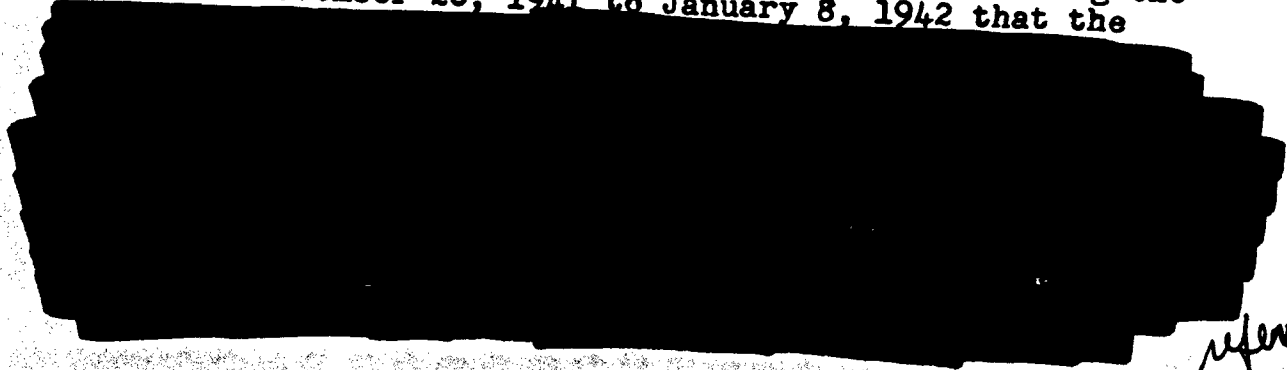
WFO report 5-4-42
Re: "Robert Alexander Brady,
Head Social Economist, Office
of Price Administration, Office
for Emergency Management; IS-
Hatch Act."
100-3368-47
(77)

JFB:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

During the period from November 20, 1941 to January 8, 1942, Confidential Informant T-12 was interviewed by Bureau Agents (no date given). The informant advised that in the past the informant had been closely connected with the work of Lauren W. Casaday at the Maritime Labor Board. In regard to Casaday's work on the west coast for the Maritime Labor Board, the same informant stated that Casaday worked in the offices of the Maritime Labor Unions, taking data from their records for the benefit of the Board. The informant also stated that Casaday was acquainted with Louis Block in California, and with his assistant, Gregory Silvermaster, who was with the Department of Agriculture at the time of the interview. According to the informant, Casaday appeared to be a protege of these two men.

The Washington Field Office reported during the period of November 20, 1941 to January 8, 1942 that the



referred

Miss Dorothy M. Sells
912, 19th St., N. W., Washington,
D. C., Director of Research
U. S. Maritime Labor Board.

Washington Field Office
Report 1/13/42
Re: "Lauren W. Casaday,
Principal Economic
Analyst, Division of
Monetary Research, Dept.
of the Treasury; IS - Hatch
Act."
101-3418-4
(70)

JFB:vw

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 65-52402-3970 p 71

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] *advised*

Nathan Gregory Silvermaster has been reliably reported to be a member of the Communist Party and as early as 1919, when he was a student at the University of Washington his associates included those who subsequently have been identified in the Communist Party Program.

Seattle report, 11-9-42
Re: "Herbert Joseph Phillips,
Internal Security-C, Custodial
Detention"
100-64931-3
(44)

CTC:jlc

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

In connection with an investigation of Abraham George Silverman, Lester P. Schoene, Attorney, was interviewed at his office, room 301, 1625 K Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., on April 5, 1949, by Bureau Agents.

Schoene advised he met Silverman through their association at the Railroad Retirement Board in 1937. He explained that most of the individuals mentioned by Bentley were unfamiliar to him and to the best of his knowledge very few had any contact with Silverman. At this time, Schoene stated that it was his opinion that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster could very well be a Communist Agent but he felt that Silverman certainly was not the type of person to disclose any information whatsoever to Silvermaster and also he could not recall Silverman's ever having mentioned Silvermaster's name. He explained that he was not acquainted with Silvermaster and that the above related's opinion is based merely on his review of the newspaper accounts of the hearings before the HCUA.

Phillip C. Ward, formerly a Colonel with the U. S. Air Force, was interviewed on April 4, 1949, by Bureau Agents relative to his association with Abraham George Silverman at the Army Air Force.

Colonel Ward advised he did not know Silverman socially at any time and due to his personal dislike avoided Silverman's presence, whenever possible. Ward said that he knew of no connection or associations between Silverman, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Victor Perlo, Alger Hiss, or Whittaker Chambers.

Mrs. Cleo McClintic, employed in the Adjutant General's Office, Strength Accounting Division, Personnel Action Section, Pentagon, was interviewed by Bureau Agents on May 6, 1949.

Mrs. McClintic stated she was formerly employed as a desk clerk and switch-board operator at 2325 15th Street for approximately one year in 1941 or 1942. She recalled the Silvermans as tenants at that address but remarked she had very little contact with them. Mrs. McClintic was shown unidentified photographs of individuals prominently mentioned in the Gregory Case from which she identified William Ludwig Ulmann and Nathan Gregory and Helen Silvermaster as individuals she had

TOP SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~

seen on occasions. She could not state definitely that she recognized them as visitors at the 15th Street address nor could she state where she had come in contact with them..

WFO report 8-3-49
Re: "Abraham George Silverman;
Security Matter-C."
100-363633-3, p. 12, 16, 22
(20)

ECC:ddl

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1947

~~TOP SECRET~~

Joseph Kovner was interviewed on July 24, 1951 at his office in the Department of Justice Building. He advised that from March 1937, until January 1942, he was legal assistant to Lee Pressman, General Counsel of the CIO. During the interview, Kovner stated that previous to 1940, he occasionally visited with Pressman at the latter's home in Washington and at his summer home at Bethany Beach, Maryland. Kovner said that he met Nathan Witt frequently at Pressman's residence during that period. He stated the only other individual he ever met at the Pressman home during that period whom he now knows to be a Communist was Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Silvermaster was introduced to him by Pressman as a government employee.

Washington Field Office report,
8-7-51
Re: "Leon Pressman, was, Lee
Pressman: IS-C"
100-11820-617
(6)

CORRELATOR'S NOTE: It was ascertained from serial 603 of this file that the December, 1950 Department of Justice Directory listed Joseph Kovner as an employee on the staff of the Claims Division, Room 3519, Ext. 689.

CLA:jar

~~TOP SECRET~~

1-17-42
~~TOP SECRET~~

Miss Estevah E. Webb, who held a responsible position in the Personnel Division, Farmers Home Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, advised that she was acquainted with Earl Rucker Beckner "in a frequent professional capacity from 1938 until 1942." She stated that there was a "certain clique" in the Farm Security Administration, as this agency was then known, which included Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. She had her own personal reasons for suspecting the loyalty of persons associated with this group. She stated that even though Beckner was under the immediate supervision of Silvermaster, she was unable to associate him as a member of this group or as an associate of Silvermaster. From her observations in the office and from her professional acquaintances with the employees she knew no reason to question his loyalty.

Wallace Crozer, 80 New York Avenue N. W., who was formerly employed as a safety engineer by the Farm Security Administration from 1938 until 1942 stated that Beckner was under the immediate supervision of Nathan G. Silvermaster from approximately 1940 until 1942. He recalled that Beckner visited the home of Silvermaster socially at least on one occasion at which time Crozer was present. He stated that Silvermaster had invited several persons to visit his home for dinner after a meeting in the Department of Agriculture at which Labor and Economic Advisors attended. From hearsay and from casual observations, Crozer believed Beckner to be a friend of Silvermaster. Crozer refused to furnish a signed statement and would not testify before a loyalty hearing board.

William F. Littlejohn, who held a responsible position with the War Assets Administration, stated that he was former Acting Director to the Labor Relations and Personnel Divisions of the Farm Security Administration. While employed by this agency he came to know Beckner in a close professional manner from 1938 until 1942. He knew of no reason to question Beckner's loyalty nor could he offer any information concerning organizational affiliations of Beckner. He added that he considered Beckner to be "liberal in his views" meaning that Beckner was "pro-labor and advocated many of the New Deal agencies" such as Social Security and Community Housing.

~~TOP SECRET~~

He knew of no friends or associates of Beckner with the exception of Nathan G. Silvermaster, who was Beckner's immediate superior from 1940 to 1942. He stated that the friendship between Beckner and Silvermaster was very apparent in the office and he further believed that they were friends socially, although he had no basis for the latter statement. Littlejohn did not desire to furnish a signed statement and would not testify before a loyalty hearing board. TOP SECRET

Information identifying Silvermaster in this reference is not being set out as the same information appears in Silvermaster's main file.

Washington Field Office
report, 7-13-48.
Re: "Earl Rucker Beckner,
Wages and Labor Standards
Advisor, Department of the
Army, Berlin, Germany;
Loyalty of Government
Employees".
121-6085-17
(47,83)

CLA:pan

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65-56402-3970 p79

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~~TOP SECRET~~

During November of 1942, Mr. R. C. Jacobson, of the WPA, furnished information concerning Walter Sassaman of the Farm Security Administration. Jacobson stated that in 1937 and 1938 Walter Sassaman was Minnesota State Director of the WPA and left that position to come to Washington, D. C., where he was a correspondent for the magazine "Variety". Jacobson stated that he had talked to David Saposs who he described as a victim of the Communist Party in the NLRB, and subsequently Saposs had advised him that Sassaman was a member of the Communist Party. He advised, however, that he had no facts which would substantiate the allegations and that he had attempted to obtain details from Saposs who admittedly could furnish none. Mr. Jacobson, drew an inference to substantiate his claims from the fact that Sassaman later worked for the Federal Security Agency for one Silvermaster, presumably Nathan Silvermaster, whom Jacobson claimed was also an alleged Communist.

Bureau memo from E.W. Timm dated 11-10-42;
Re: "Orville Olson, War Shipping Administration, Walter Sassaman, Farm Security Administration and Walter Carstens, Wage and Hour Division, Department of Labor; Internal Security - Hatch Act" 100-136425-1X (80)

JFB: cmm

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant Gregory stated (date and location not given) that in the latter part of 1942 Jacob Golos began to give her typewritten instructions in Russian, which were furnished to Golos by "Charlie" (not identified), and that these instructions were to be taken by Gregory to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Silvermaster was known to Gregory as the head of the Washington, D. C., end of the Espionage Network and the unknown subject "Charlie" was one of the contacts to whom Jacob Golos turned over espionage material collected by Gregory. (page 3)

Source: New York
report, 12-12-49
Re: "Unknown subject wa.,
'Charlie'; Espionage - R"
65-57904-10
(32)

JFB:pan

83 ~~TOP SECRET~~

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~~TOP SECRET~~

During a Loyalty Investigation of Samuel Liss, Agricultural Economist, Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., it was disclosed that Liss was reportedly on the indices of several, front organizations in Washington, D. C.
(Source not stated)

It was also reported (informant not stated) that Liss had associated with known Communists while employed in the Labor Division, Agricultural Department, from 1939 to 1943, headed by Gregory Silvermaster, principal subject in a Soviet espionage case.

WFO teletype, 5-20-48
Re: "Samuel Liss, Agricultural Economist, Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. - LGE"
121-4259-12
(71)

ECC:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

1943

~~TOP SECRET~~

Jefferson Franklin Ray, Sr. was an applicant for employment with the State Department under the Voice of America Program in December, 1950. From March 21, 1949, to the time of this application, Ray was employed at the Economic Cooperation Administration (ECA).

In memorandum from A. H. Rosen to Mr. Belmont dated November 2, 1950, it was stated that the Bureau had conducted an extensive investigation of Mr. Ray in May or June, 1949, at the request of ECA. Through this investigation it was determined that Ray's wife, Hilda Austern Ray, had been a close personal friend of Philip Jacob Jaffe and Kate L. Mitchell, subjects in the Amerasia Case (123-6707-3).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

referred

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Jessica Smith, (Mrs. John Abt) the editor and publisher of "Soviet Russia Today", was interviewed (TOP SECRET date given) in the office of Harold Cammer of the law firm of Pressman, Witt and Cammer, 9 East 40th St., New York City. Among other things, Jessica Smith claimed that she had never met Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

(Page 72)

Mrs. James H. Schmitz, a former secretary to George Silverman for approximately 4 months during 1943 at the United States Army Air Force, Analysis and Plans Branch (in Washington, D. C.) was interviewed (no date given) at her apartment at 300 West 23rd St., New York City. Among other things Mrs. Schmitz stated that Silverman had been contacted on various occasions by Harry Dexter White, Victor Perlo, Lauchlin Currie and Gregory Silvermaster.

(Page 96)

Page 51 of this reference contains an administrative reference to the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster case.

New York Report, 5-17-49
Re: "Jay David Whittaker
Chambers was; Alger Hiss;
Perjury; Espionage - R;
Internal Security - R"
74-1333-3224, pgs. 51, 72, 96
(4, 64)

JFB:jar

1943

~~TOP SECRET~~

Elizabeth Bentley advised (no date given) that subsequent to the arrest of Gaik Ovakimian, Jacob Golos began turning the espionage material which he collected over to an individual known to Miss Bentley only as "Charlie". Miss Bentley placed the approximate time of the beginning of this association between Golos and "Charlie" as July, 1941. It was Bentley's belief that Golos continued his contact with this individual until approximately eight months before Golos' death on Thanksgiving day 1943.

Miss Bentley was questioned (probably by Bureau Agents) regarding the typewritten instructions which "Charlie" gave to Golos who, in turn, turned them over to Miss Bentley for transmission to Silvermaster. Bentley stated that it was her belief that these instructions had been prepared by the Russians who in turn, gave them to "Charlie" for further transmission to Golos. It was pointed out that: "in other words," it was not Bentley's belief that "Charlie" himself prepared these instructions.

San Francisco letter
dated June 2, 1950
Re: "Unknown Subject,
was 'Charlie';
Espionage - R"
65-57904-15
(54)

JFB:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

1943

~~TOP SECRET~~

Alice Margaret Damerian. [redacted] was as of 1948 an employee of the State Department. (TS) b1

[redacted]

Latimer was at one time a close associate of Helen and Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. [redacted] & u b2 b7D

Other information in this reference pertaining to Silvermaster is the same as that appearing in the Gregory file.

This reference bears a penciled marginal notation: [redacted] "No Dissemination." & u b1 (S)

Washington Field Office report 4-21-51 [redacted] Espionage - R 65-59714-4 (42-80) (S) DS. b1

ECC:nec

[redacted] (S) NO DISSEMINATION UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES. & u b1

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65-56402-3970 p 91

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~~TOP SECRET~~

On May 7, 1951, the Washington Field Office advised that "a Mr. Silvermaster" mentioned in the State Department letter dated January 31, 1951, was believed to be identical with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Identifying information regarding Silvermaster was then given which is not being set out in this summary, as the same information appears in Silvermaster's main file. Other individuals mentioned in the State Department report were also identified in this report.

WFO report 5-7-51
Re: "Lewis Levitski Lorwin,
aka, Staff Economist, Office
of International Trade,
Department of Commerce,
Washington, D.C.; LGE"
121-25406-42
(12)

CLA:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

The book "Seeds of Treason" by Ralph de Toledano and Victor Lasky contained a reference to the FBI on page 107. This reference to the FBI was summarized as follows:

"(In 1944, a reporter obtained a copy of an FBI report which linked Hiss, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster ---- a notorious Communist despite his immunity in the government ---- and twenty others. The reporter learned that this information had been submitted to the State Department in 1943 but that it had been ignored.)"

(Page 3)

Bureau memo to Mr.
Nichols 5-9-50
Re: "Seeds of Treason"
by Ralph de Toledano and
Victor Lasky".
100-370032-9
(38)

JFB:mlb

TOP SECRET

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65-56402-3970 p 94-96

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July 1941 - 1943

~~TOP SECRET~~

On April 6, 1950, Elizabeth Terrill Bentley was interviewed by Bureau Agents for further information she might have had of the unknown subject "Charlie". Bentley was of the opinion that Jacob Golos was contacting "Charlie" during the period of time between July, 1941, and early 1943. When Bentley was questioned further regarding the typewritten instructions which "Charlie" gave to Golos who, in turn, gave them to Miss Bentley for transmission to Silvermaster. Miss Bentley stated that it was her opinion that these instructions had been prepared by the Russians, who in turn, gave them to "Charlie" for further transmission to Golos. In other words it was not Bentley's belief that "Charlie" himself, prepared these instructions. (page 3)

Source: New York
report, 4-20-50
Re: "Unknown Subject, wa.,
'Charlie'; Espionage - R"
65-57904-14
(56)

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~



TOP SECRET

On December 19, 1947, Schlemer Adler, an associate of Owen Lattimore advised Bureau agents that he had met Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Helen Silvermaster in 1938 or 1939 through William Ludwig Ullman, co-employee of the Treasury Department.

In November, 1945, Elizabeth Tervelt Bentley, self-confessed Soviet agent, advised that Adler was a Communist Party member and his Party dues were collected by Silvermaster, and turned over to her in 1942 and 1943.

Other information appearing in this reference is the same of that in the Gregory file 65-56402 and is not being set forth in this summary.

Baltimore memo to the
Director, 8-15-50
Re: "Owen Lattimore-
Espionage - R"
100-24628-2604
(15)
SI-100-24628-714
(49)

ECC:men

TOP SECRET

43

101 /

At 4:15 PM on May 24, 1949, Mike Horan, an attorney in the Department, contacted the Bureau regarding a "Red Book" article, entitled, "How Not to be Duped by Communists". Mr. Horan stated that the Attorney General was interested in two paragraphs in the article which dealt with Communism.

One request which Mr. Horan made pertained to the paragraph in the article which indicated that the Communists had placed a secretary in the office of a high government official. It was stated that a party leader had been approached for a recommendation and he recommended a secretary who went to work for the high government official. Mr. Horan said in this regard the Attorney General wanted to know the name of the secretary, the name of the high government official, and the name of the party leader who had been approached to suggest the name of the secretary.

It was determined that the secretary referred to was Sonia Gold and the name of the high government official was Harry Dexter White. Sonia Gold was recommended to White by Mrs. Helen Silvermaster, however, there was no evidence indicating that Mrs. Silvermaster was ever a member of the Communist Party. The name of the party leader who suggested Sonia Gold was not determined.

In answer to the foregoing request a memorandum was directed to the Attorney General dated May 27, 1949, advising as follows:

Elizabeth Bentley (self-confessed espionage agent) advised that in the fall of 1943, Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Silvermaster decided to have someone placed in the office of Harry Dexter White in order to facilitate the obtaining of information from his office. As a result Helen Silvermaster went to one of the Communist functionaries and was given the name of Sonia Gold. Eventually arrangements were made with Mr. White to have Sonia Gold obtain a position in his office as one of the secretaries.

Memorandum to H. B. Fletcher
from F. J. Baumgardner 5,-25-49
Re: "'Red Book' article, 'How
Not to be Duped by Communists';
Internal Security-C"
100-3-3013
(63)

~~TOP SECRET~~

In September, 1939, the "Federal Record", official publication of the United Federal Workers of America, announced the names of the teachers for the third year of the Federal Workers School. Among the teachers listed was Dr. Gregory Silvermaster.

In February, 1940, the sixth term of the semi-annual term of the Workers School was announced. The object of this school it was stated was: "to contribute to the cultural development, to increase their effectiveness in union work and to promote a greater understanding and appreciation of the position of the worker in society."

A review was made of the indices of the Washington Field Division concerning individuals listed as holding positions of prominence in connection with the United Federal Workers of America. This review revealed that Gregory Silvermaster, alleged to have been active with Harry Bridges in his waterfront strike in San Francisco, and was reported to have been a member of the Communist Party while on the west coast between the years 1932-36. His Ph. D. Thesis was entitled, "Lenin's Contribution". He was a member of the American League for Peace and Democracy and listed on active indices of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action. His automobile appeared in the parade of the Washington Friends of Spanish Democracy in March, 1936. In 1943, he was principal labor advisor and director of the Labor Relations Division of the War Relocation Authority and Security Administration.

Washington Field Office
Report, 11-26-43
Re: "Communist Infiltration
of the United Federal Workers
of America, CIO; 1A - C"
61-8657-154, p. 218

ECC:cm

~~TOP SECRET~~

1943

~~TOP SECRET~~

Marcus A. Hollabaugh, 3600 Dickerson, Arlington, Virginia, Chief, Special Litigations Section, Anti-Trust Division, United States Department of Justice, stated that he had known Francis Richard Shields, an attorney in the same section, since about 1942 or 1943. Hollabaugh stated that he knew him mainly in New York City where they both were employed at one time in the Anti-Trust Division Regional Office.

Hollabaugh also stated that Norman Burslar, an Economist with the Justice Department, was a good friend of Shields. Hollabaugh stated it was his understanding that Burslar lived at one time at the home of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster in Washington, D. C., and that he was reasonably sure that Shields and Burslar knew each other at that time. Hollabaugh stated, however, he did not know if Shields' acquaintance with Burslar was social as well as professional. (The date this information was obtained was not given.)

WFO report 4-12-51

Re: "Francis Richard Shields, aka Frank R. Shields, Attorney, Anti-Trust Division, Dept. of Justice, New York, NY.; Loyalty of Government Employees."

121-27001-8

(18)

CLA:ddl

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Certain information was set out concerning ~~Bela Gold~~ and Sonia Gold who were considered as ~~_____~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TS (S)~~

b1

1. According to Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, Sonia Gold was securing information in 1943, and 1944, from the Treasury Department, and in 1944, Bela Gold was supplying information regarding the Foreign Economic Administration. The Golds were supplying this information to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. ~~TS~~
2. Bela and Sonia Gold admitted before the HCUA in 1948, that they associated with the Silvermasters in 1944, and 1945, and they stated they also knew William Ludwig Ullman. In 1947, the Golds acknowledged before Bureau agents that in their respective positions at the Treasury Department and the Foreign Economic Administration they had access to confidential information which could do injury to the United States if placed in the hands of persons working against this country. Bela Gold stated he first became acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster at the Department of Agriculture and thereafter visited the Silvermaster home and became acquainted with Mrs. Silvermaster and Ullman. Bela Gold also stated that in 1945, he consulted Nathan Gregory Silvermaster concerning a thesis which he was preparing. ~~TS~~
3. Bentley advised that Bela and Sonia Gold were furnishing information which they obtained from the Foreign Economic Administration and the Treasury Department to the Silvermasters. Bentley advised that in the summer or fall of 1943, the Silvermasters believed it desirable to have someone placed as a secretary to Harry Dexter White, Treasury Department official, in order to facilitate the obtaining of information from his office. As a result Helen Silvermaster consulted one of the Communist functionaries in Washington and was given the name of Sonia Gold. Bentley advised that Sonia Gold, through arrangements with Harry Dexter White, eventually obtained a position as one of the secretaries in his department. As a result of this employment, Sonia Gold obtained documents from his office which she copied and turned over to Helen Silvermaster. It was Bentley's recollection that the information contributed by Sonia Gold concerned the Treasury ~~TS~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Department's opinions and recommendations regarding applications for loans made by the Chinese and French Governments. Also included was political information concerning De Gaulle. According to Bentley, Bela Gold came into the picture in the spring of 1944. He was employed by the F.E.A. and had been supplying the Silvermaster group with information concerning this agency. *KS. ul*

4. There is no available information indicating that Bela and Sonia Gold were members of the Communist Party; however, reliable informants have reported that they have been close associates of persons identified by Bentley, Whittaker Chambers and Confidential Informant [redacted] as either having been engaged in espionage activities or members of the Communist Party. *KS u*

b2
b7D

5. Although the individual known to T-1 as [redacted] Bentley stated that the Golds were supplying information to Silvermaster during 1943, and 1944. *KS ul*

b1

6. Bentley advised that in the spring of 1944, either Silvermaster or Ullman remarked to her that Bela Gold was doing such a good job that they were considering supplying him with a camera so he could do his own photographing at home. In testifying before the HCUA in August, 1948, Bela Gold told the committee that he had borrowed a camera from Ullman over a weekend. At the time Gold was interviewed by Bureau Agents in April, 1947, he acknowledged borrowing a camera from Ullman, but stated that it was merely for purpose of photographing his child. *KS*

A brief summary of background information concerning Bela and Sonia Gold was then set out. *KS*

T-1; [redacted] Washington
Field Office Administrative report,
5-9-50
Re: [redacted] Espionage-R*
65-59259-1 (S) (75)
(49)
SI 65-59259-7
(16) 104 ~~TOP SECRET~~ b1

CLA:jlc

NOT TO BE DISSEMINATED

TOP SECRET

In an El Paso report dated September 18, 1943, it was stated that Tamara Travis formerly Tamara Trofimov began work at the State Department of Public Welfare, New Mexico, on March 11, 1943, after having applied for the position while she was in New York.

~~X~~ Confidential Informant T-1 advised that Mrs. Travis had stayed in her apartment when she first arrived in New Mexico. She stated that Mrs. Travis said that she was a White Russian, that although she was at first opposed to Communism she had come to believe it was a good thing.

~~X~~ Confidential Informant T-2 had no information indicating that Mrs. Travis was interested in or had contacted any employees of the government project at Los Alamos. (Res. 100-190625-351)

A reference check on the name of Tamara Trofimov caused the review of information concerning Tamara (Trofimov) as contained in the above referenced report. In connection with this review it was noted that Tamara Travis' personnel file at the State Department of Public Welfare, New Mexico, where she started employment on March 11, 1943, reflected that one of her references was Dr. Gregory Silvermaster, 5515 30th Street N.W., Washington, D.C.

~~X~~ T-1 Mrs. Ann Webster
634 Garcia Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico

~~X~~ T-2 Capt. C.B. Winstead
Military Intelligence, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Cleveland memo to the Director, 6-5-50

Re: "Cinrod; IS - R"

100-190625-3074

(12)

SI-105-12578-3

(60)

SI-105-12578-7

(71)

ECC:rrb

TOP SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~

On March 25, 1943, information was furnished to Mr. Clegg at his request on officials of the Rural Electrification Administration and the Farm Security Administration. This information was requested by Mr. Clegg in connection with his "present assignment" which was not indicated in this reference.

Among the Memoranda furnished to Mr. Clegg, was a 27 page summary dated March 18, 1943, on H. Gregory Silvermaster, Director of the Labor Division of the Foreign Security Administration. Due to the length of this memorandum, it is not being set out in this correlation summary.

Bureau memorandum
for Mr. Rosen from
Mr. C. P. Breese,
3-25-43, enclosing
above described summary.
62-51507-7
(76)

CLA:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

On the basis of information furnished by Confidential Informant [redacted] a loyalty investigation was instituted on Chandler Morse, Consultant Appointee, Office of the Secretary, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. (u)

b7D
b2

This informant advised that in 1944 the membership lists of the Washington Bookshop Association reflected that Chandler Morse had paid his dues on 4-12-43 and was a member in good standing until April 12, 1944. (u)

(u) The files of Washington T-13, [redacted]

[redacted] referred

Reliable informants of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (not further identified) [redacted]

[redacted]

Other information in this reference pertaining to Silvermaster is the same as that contained in the Gregory file 65-56402 and is not being set forth in this summary. b7D

(u) T-13- [redacted]

Washington Field Office report, 11-15-48
Re: "Chandler Morse, aka, 'Chan' Consultant Appointee, Office of the Secretary Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. - LGE" 121-13079-7 (37) referred

ECC:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

On March 10, 1949, Joseph Senturia, Director of Market Controls, Textron Corporation, 37th Street and 5th Avenue, New York City, was interviewed by Bureau Agents. It was noted that Senturia was a fellow employee of Silverman's in the Analysis and Reports Branch in the Army Air Force from 1942 to 1945.

At this time Senturia advised that he was shocked concerning the allegations made against Silverman and felt it hard to believe them. He said that he was unable to recall any situations which would lead him to believe Silverman guilty of the allegations against him.

Senturia said he was acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. He stated that his associations with Silvermaster concerned a study made of the migratory labor in the Farm Credit Bureau.

Mrs. Helga Wolski Dudman, former Air Force associate of Silverman, was interviewed at Gimble's Department Store, where she was employed in the advertising department, by Bureau Agents (date not stated.)

Mrs. Dudman stated that she had worked directly under Silverman's supervision while she was employed with the Air Corps. She stated that she had become fairly well acquainted with him. She also stated that she had become acquainted with Gregory Silvermaster, who was a long-standing friend of her family in California. She stated that this relationship had stemmed from the time when they both were neighbors in California. She renewed her association with Silvermaster when in Washington in 1942 and often visited their home.

Mrs. Dudman also became acquainted with Ludwig Ullman who resided with Silvermaster and was employed with her under Silverman at the Army Air Corps. Mrs. Dudman was unable to state whether or not Silverman was a Communist or sympathetic towards Communism.

Concerning Silvermaster and his wife, she felt that they may have been radical. However, it never occurred to her they might be Communists and engaged in espionage.

~~TOP SECRET~~

3. 31-40

Richard V. Bibbero of the A. S. Aloe Surgical Supply Company, 19th and Olive Streets, St. Louis, Missouri, was interviewed March 31, 1949, by Bureau Agents.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Bibbero advised that he met George Silverman during 1942 at Wright Field, Ohio, where Bibbero was a Lieutenant assigned to the Analysis and Plans Section, Army Air Force. He stated that Silverman was a civilian employee and his superior in that section and, as a result, was in close contact with him until Silverman's discharge in December, 1945. Bibbero stated that Silverman was acquainted with Major Ludwig Ullman, also of Air Force.

Bibbero recalled that on one occasion he rode home with Major Ullman, and that en route they stopped at the Agricultural Department and picked up Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, an economist with the Agricultural Department. Bibbero stated he knew nothing concerning Silvermaster.

Mrs. James N. Schmitz was interviewed at her apartment, 300 West 23rd Street, New York City, by Bureau Agents. (date not stated) Mrs. Schmitz advised that she had been employed from December 19, 1942, until June, 1943, in the United States Army Force, Washington, D. C. During her employment with the Air Corps, she had been employed as secretary to George Silverman for approximately four months prior to her resignation.

Mrs. Schmitz stated that she was quite shocked and surprised at the allegations against Silverman. She stated that Silverman had been in contact on various occasions with Harry White, Victor Perle, Laughlin Currie, and Gregory Silvermaster. She stated that she had no further information concerning Silverman and his contacts or activities during the period she was acquainted with him.

New York report, 2/28/50
Re: "Abraham George Silverman,
Security Matter - C"
100-363633-8 p. 20, 21, 28, 33
(9-66)
SI-74-1333-3006
(14)
SI-74-1333-3657 p. 13
(73)

ECC:rst

XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

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

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

For your information: _____

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

65-56402 - 3970 p110

XXXXXX
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XXXXXX

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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7-17-43

~~TOP SECRET~~

The records of the Denver Field Office reflected that the name of Chester E. Hazard, Agriculture Department, appeared on page 75 and 89 of the printed "Hearings Before The Subcommittee On Publicity And On Propaganda Of The Committee On Expenditures In The Executive Departments, House of Representatives, May 28 and June 18, 1947".

It was pointed out that the records of the Denver Division revealed that Chester E. Hazard, 1575 Fillmore Street, Denver, Colorado had been in communication (no date given) with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, subject of an investigation in the Washington Division. Hazard was reported to have given Nathan Gregory Silvermaster of the Farm Security Administration as a reference when Hazard filed for a position with the Government on 7-17-43, according to the files of the U. S. Civil Service Commission. The reporting Special Agent pointed out that it was apparent that Hazard was acquainted with Silvermaster when both were employed in Washington, D. C., for the Farm Security Administration.

Denver report, 10-16-47.
Re: "Report on Subcommittee on
Publicity and Propaganda to the
Committee on Expenditures in the
Executive Departments, House of
Representatives".
Re: "Socialized Medicine;
Miscellaneous-Special Inquiry"
62-84363-79 page 13
(33)

JFB:pan

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[REDACTED]

Washington T-11, a reliable informant who was

[REDACTED]

Reliable Confidential Informants

and [REDACTED] have all stated that Marsalka had been reliably identified as a contact and associate of David Wahl, Philip O. and Mary Jane Keeney, Robert and Jennie Miller, and Nathan and Helen Silvermaster. According to Confidential Informant [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (date not given). T-3 advised (date not given) that the Millers, Nathan Gregory and Helen Silvermaster were among the group of persons involved in a Soviet espionage conspiracy in Washington, D. C., from November, 1941, to 1944.

T-3, T-11, and [REDACTED] all declined to furnish a signed statement and would not appear to testify before a Loyalty Hearing Board.

T-3: Informant Gregory in the matter entitled, "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, wa, et al; Espionage R."

T-11: [REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~

referred

referred

referred

b1
b2
b7D

b2 b7D

~~TOP SECRET~~

Mr. Marsalka.
WFO report 3-24-49
Re: "Bronson Price, aka
O. Bronson Price, Public
Welfare Research Analyst,
Children's Bureau, Social
Security Administration, Federal
Security Agency, Wash., D. C.;
Loyalty of Government Employees."
121-9596-45, encl. p. 9, 10
(47, 81)

CLA:ddl

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44742
~~TOP SECRET~~

It was reported by the New York Office that Haskon Maurice Chevalier (reportedly a member of the Communist Party and its successor, the Communist Political Association) had received a letter dated November 27, 1943, from an individual now identified as Professor Robert Brady in regard to Chevalier's efforts to gain employment in the government service. It was suggested by Brady that Chevalier contact a number of individuals including Nathan Silvermaster.

San Francisco Summary report
12/15/44 Re: "Comintern Apparatus"
Internal Security - R
100-203581-3792 p. 44
(78)

JEW:rst

~~TOP SECRET~~

12-18-43

~~TOP SECRET~~

From a highly confidential source (not further identified) a list of persons to whom Haakon Maurice Chevalier intended to send Christmas cards (date not stated) was obtained. Among these names were those of Helen and Greg Silvermaster, 5515 30th Street, Washington, D.C. u

Through a physical surveillance which began on 12-18-43, it was determined that Chevalier had contacted numerous individuals in New York City who were Communists or contacts of Communists.

New York report, 2-9-44
Re: "Haakon Maurice Chevalier; IS - C"
100-18564-20, p. 36
(59)

ECC:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

194...

The Washington Field Office reported during the period of March 11, to March 26, 1948, that Sylvia Miller a State Department employee was the sister-in-law of Edward Louis Richmond, Training Facilities Officer, Veterans Administration, Denver, Colorado.

[REDACTED]

referred

The Washington Field Office also reported that in Sylvia Miller's application form for federal employment (not further identified) Sylvia Miller indicated that she was employed as a secretary under Nathan Gregory Silvermaster while she was employed at the Farm Security Administration US Department of Agriculture. It was also pointed out that there was a notation on the application form (not further identified) that Silvermaster requested Sylvia Miller to be assigned as his secretary when he was detailed to the Board of Economic Warfare (no date given).

[REDACTED]

(Page 1A)

referred

Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file.

Washington Field Office report,
3-30-48
Re: "Edward Louis Richmond,
Training Facilities Officer,
Veterans Administration,
Denver, Colorado; Loyalty of
Government Employees"
121-1796-20
(3)

JFB:jlc

~~TOP SECRET~~

The February 16, 1949 issue of the Washington "Times Herald" carried the eighteenth of a series of articles written by Robert E. Stripling, chief investigator for the House Un-American Activities Committee from 1938 to 1948.

In this article, Stripling stated that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, named by Elizabeth Bentley as a member of the Russian Secret Police, and leader of the spy rings working in Washington during the War who was also a \$9000 a year Government official, appeared before the Committee sometime in August, 1948.

Silvermaster was described as a slight, middle-aged man with a shock of blond hair and a toothbrush mustache. He was born in Odessa, Russia, came to this country in 1915, entered the Government in 1935 with the Re-Settlement Administration, moved to the Maritime Labor Board as Chief Economist and thence to the Labor Division of the Farm Security Administration as its Director.

In 1941, he loaned briefly to the Board of Economic Warfare. In 1944, after his Labor Division at the Foreign Economic Administration folded, he moved on to the office of Surplus Property, Consumers Goods Division, Treasury Department, then to the post of Chief Economist and Director of the Department's Market Research Division. Finally he wound up with R. F. C.

His first statement on the witness stand was that Miss Bentley was a "neurotic liar." He had been harassed constantly, he said, because he was a strong advocate of the rights of the under-privileged and of all New Deal principles. The Committee's hearings on espionage, he declared, were a "diabolical conspiracy" and "motivated by political considerations on the eve of a Presidential election."

When there was an opportunity to interrupt Silvermaster, he was asked if he had ever belonged to the Communist Party. He refused to answer this question on the ground of self-incrimination.

He gave the same answer to questions as to whether he knew Earl Browder, Jacob N. Golos, Gerhard Eisler, Miss Bentley, Alger Hiss, and others. He made the same reply when he was asked if he had ever had any photographic equipment in the basement of his Washington home.

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Silvermaster first responsive answer was in reply to a question as to whether he knew William Ludwig Ullmann, the former Air Force major named by Miss Bentley as chief photographer of secret documents allegedly brought to Silvermaster's home for reproduction on microfilm.

Silvermaster replied that Ullmann had lived with him since 1937, but he refused to answer, on constitutional grounds, when asked if Ullmann had ever been a Communist.

Representative Nixon (R) of California asked Silvermaster to point out the discrepancies in Miss Bentley's testimony which provoked his calling her a neurotic liar. He refused.

Representative Mundt (R) of South Dakota made a man to man appeal to Silvermaster to answer at least the question pertaining to the photographic equipment. He would not.

Stripling asked Silvermaster if Military Intelligence had ever objected to his employment by the Board of Economic Warfare. Silvermaster said that he thought it was the Naval Intelligence.

Silvermaster was then asked if he had gone to Lauchlin Currie.

Silvermaster readily acknowledged that he had done so, and that he had also appealed to C. B. Baldwin, then his chief in the Farm Security Administration and later campaign manager for Henry Wallace.

His appeal, he said, went up to Under Secretary of War, Robert Patterson. Patterson cleared him.

Silvermaster was cleared in the face of such Civil Service Commission reports as the following:

1. "Silvermaster has been known and listed in the files of the Seattle police department, the 13th naval district, the San Francisco police department, the subversive unit of the

~~TOP SECRET~~

American Legion at San Francisco, and the federal bureau of investigation as a member and leader of the Communist party.

~~TOP SECRET~~

2. "Numerous witnesses and the files of various subversive units allege that the applicant was closely associated with Sam Darcy and Harry Bridges, and alternated with Bridges in talking to the waterfront strikers in San Francisco.

3. "The applicant denied that he was an agent of the O.G.P.U. or a member of the Communist party. Former members of the party state that when a Communist is asked as to his membership in the party, he at that moment ceases to be a member until he answers in the negative. After he makes answer his membership is reinstated, according to Communist doctrines.

4. "Civil service investigators recommended in 1942 that Silvermaster be declared ineligible for the position of head economist, board of economic warfare, "... for three years or for the duration of the emergency."

5. "The commission's final report, which was overruled, read, in part, "Cancel Mr. Silvermaster's eligibilities on the senior social science analyst register, cancel any and all other pending applications or eligibilities he may have, and bar him for the duration of the national emergency."

6. The Naval Intelligence report bluntly called him a Communist not to be trusted in his office.

74-1333-A
(30)

ECC:rrb

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During the first part of September 1947, Under-Secretary Wiggins of the United States Treasury Department was given a blind memorandum dated September 3, 1947, which was prepared by the FBI on John Wadsworth Gunter, Office of International Finance, US Treasury Department. It was pointed out that the only derogatory information in the blind memorandum was to the effect that Gunter was a known contact of William Henry Taylor and Harold Glasser, both Treasury Department Representatives and subjects in the Gregory case, and Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, also a subject in the Gregory case. In describing these individuals the statement was made that they "had been described by an admitted Soviet espionage agent (Confidential Informant Gregory) as members of the Communist Party and associates of other individuals mentioned by this source as being involved in Soviet espionage in Washington, D. C., from 1941 to 1944."

Memo to the Director
 from D. M. Ladd
 11-12-47.
 Re: "John Wadsworth Gunter,
 Office of International
 Finance, United States
 Treasury Department."
 62-86523-2
 (34)

CORRELATORS NOTE: The above memorandum presented a detailed analysis of various criticisms made by the Secretary of the Treasury, John W. Snyder in a letter to the Attorney General dated November 7, 1947, concerning an FBI file check on Mr. Gunter. The various administrative details in the memorandum were not abstracted as they were not considered pertinent to this correlation summary on Silvermaster. It is pointed out that more detailed information is available in the files.

JFB:pan

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised (no date given) that Robert Talbott Miller III, was acquainted with a Mr. Silvermaster and had mentioned his name on occasion to Jack Roth (not identified). This report stated that: "It is believed that this individual is identical with N. Gregory Silvermaster who resides at 5515 30th Street, N.W., and who is employed as Director of Labor by the Farm Security Agency, Department of Agriculture." b2
b7D

Confidential Informant T-5 advised that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was born in Odessa, Russia, and was a naturalized citizen and resided at 5515 30th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. during the latter part of 1944. According to T-5, Silvermaster was employed as Director of Labor by the Farm Security Agency during the latter part of 1944. According to Informant T-5, Silvermaster was listed in the indices of the Special Committee on Un-American Activities of which the honorable Martin Dies was chairman, as being connected with the Washington Committee for Democratic Action and the American League for Peace and Democracy. These indices also reflected that Silvermaster's wife, Helen P. Silvermaster, was also a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action and of the Washington Book Shop. T-5 stated that Silvermaster denied membership in these organizations, however, Silvermaster expressed a leftist viewpoint and had been alleged to have numerous Communist connections. This report stated that: "It is not known whether Nathan Gregory Silvermaster is identical with the Silvermaster referred to by Miller."

Another serial in this same file indicated that according to information supplied by [redacted]

~~TOP SECRET~~ referred
T-5 WFO file 101-1083 entitled
"Nathan Gregory Silvermaster;
Internal Security, Hatch Act"
101-786

WFO report 9-13-44
Re: "Robert Talbott Miller III;
Hatch Act"

121 (19, 75)

~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant Gregory advised (date and location not given) that in October, 1943, Jacob Golos informed her that she would again meet "Margaret" (Olga Pravdina, a Russian employee of the Amtorg Corp.) who would introduce her to a new person to whom Silvermaster material was to be delivered. Thereafter, Gregory was introduced to unknown subject "Catherine". From conversations Gregory learned that "Catherine" was a native born, Mid-western American, who had been employed as a secretary at one time. Gregory also learned that unknown subject "Catherine" and unknown subject "Bill" had been married for seven years and that "Catherine" had given birth to a daughter in July or August, 1944, at which time "Catherine" was living on 5th Avenue near 8th Street in New York City. (page 3)

Gregory related that she had delivered material from the Silvermaster group to "Catherine" on one or two occasions. About September 1944, "Bill" informed Gregory that he contemplated moving to Baltimore, Maryland, or Washington, D. C., and further advised that he would take care of the Silvermaster group and Gregory would have no further contact with them. (page 4)

Gregory stated that on one occasion (no date given) Silvermaster complained about Victor Perlo (not identified) upsetting existing arrangements among members of Silvermaster's group in Washington, (D. C.) and asked Gregory to do something about it. Gregory told "Bill" about the complaint and he said he knew a person named "Gene" (not identified) who could "Lay down the law to those boys and straighten them out".

Gregory also discussed her usual practice of purchasing Christmas gifts for her contacts and stated that she made no purchases in 1944 for the Silvermaster group, inasmuch as "Bill" was, at that time, handling that group.

Gregory stated that during early 1945, while unknown subject "Jack" was contacting Gregory, he seemed familiar with the Silvermaster group set up, and indicated that he knew "Bill". (page 11)

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Unknown subject "Jack" mentioned above was described as about 36 or 37 years of age 175 to 180 pounds, athletic build, dark blonde kinky hair, blue eyes, heavy eyebrows, Lithuanian Jew. (page 4)

Unknown subjects "Catherine" and "Bill", mentioned above were described as:

CATHERINE

Age: 34 or 35
Height: 5 feet, 8 or 9 inches
Weight: 140 pounds
Build: Slender
Hair: Dark blonde, feathercut fashion
Eyes: Blue-green
Complexion: Light
Other: Small, turned-up nose. Usually wears suits with ruffled blouses; wore size 8 shoe, usually flat-heeled; believed to have had trouble with feet; believed to have at one time been a secretary; had knowledge of shorthand and typing.

BILL

Age: 38 to 40
Height: 5 feet, 10 or 11 inches
Weight: 150 to 156 pounds
Build: Medium - slender
Hair: Straight, black; parted on left side; hair has habit of falling down on forehead and he continually brushes it back with his hand.
Eyes: Brownish - black; appear sunken.
Other: Short, turned-up nose; high cheekbones; oval face; Slavic type; rather large lips, somewhat purple-bluish in color; small teeth - either a missing tooth or a large space in upper right side of mouth. Meticulous dresser - wears young business man's type clother; triangularly shaped handkerchief in jacket pocket usually matching tie and socks.

~~TOP SECRET~~

summer wears brown and white seersucker suits and brown and white sport shoes; coconut colored straw hat. Speaks English fairly well but has Russian or European accent. Appears to be clothing salesman or in clothing industry. (page 12,13)

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Occupation:

Other information in this reference appears in 65-57905 serial 1 which is summarized elsewhere in this memorandum.

Washington Field Office report,
6-14-48

Re: "Unknown subject alias
'Bill'; unknown subject
alias 'Catherine';
Espionage - R"
65-57905-5
(72)

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

Jan 1944

~~TOP SECRET~~

In Washington, D. C., during January of 1944, (Louise Rosenberg) Bransten, (a prominent member of the Communist Party) was observed in contact with numerous individuals, among whom was H. Gregory Silvermaster, an official of the Department of Agriculture and Hatch Act subject.

Dr. Louis Bloch (employed as Regional Chief of the Division of Program Analysis and Review of the War Manpower Commission at San Francisco, who was branded a Communist in 1938 at a hearing before the Dies Committee) associated with known Communists, and in 1933 and 1934 met on several occasions with Nathan G. Silvermaster and others to discuss the possibilities of publishing a liberal newspaper.

Source: Not given. San Francisco
Summary report 12/15/44 Re:
"Comintern Apparatus, Internal
Security-R [Refer 5 15]"
100-203581-3702, p. 224, 344
(75, 81)

SI as page 224 above
100-203581-1889
(76)

JEW:RST

~~TOP SECRET~~

1-4-44

~~TOP SECRET~~

A physical surveillance conducted by the Washington Field Office of Louise Bransten while she was in Washington, D. C., from January 2 to January 4, 1944, revealed that on January 4 she took a taxicab to the Department of Agriculture Building, where she was observed to enter Room 0242. The sign on this door read, "N. Gregory Silvermaster." She re-appeared in approximately five minutes with an unidentified, grey-haired, middle-aged man who had a brown mustache. Together they walked to the New England Raw Bar at Main Avenue and 12th Street, S. W., where they had lunch. They returned later to the Agriculture Building, arriving at 1:25 P.M., and at 2:30 P.M. Mrs. Bransten hurriedly left.

[REDACTED]

Source: T-1 [REDACTED]

b7D
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED], who requested that his name not be mentioned in connection with this investigation.

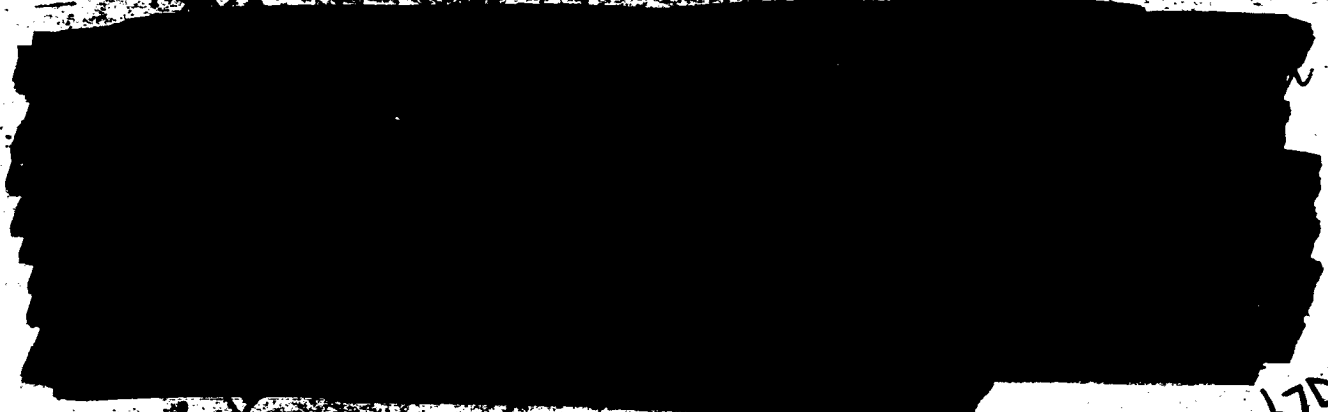
WFO report 2/12/44
Re: "Comintern Apparatus; IS - R"
100-203581-1617
(76)

JEW:rst

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Mr. C. Neal Salisbury, 4402 South 36th Street, Arlington, Virginia, who had worked in the Economic Market Research Division, War Assets Administration, advised that Philip Mullenbach was very close to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, and that he showed favoritism while at War Assets Administration to Russian orders, following a favoritism originated by Silvermaster who preceded Mullenbach as Assistant of the unit.



Confidential Informant T-35, advised that the Carters (Payson Damm and Betty Payson Carter) were friends of Philip and Mariel Mullenbach and their three children. The Carters were reported to be in frequent contact with reported communists and Communist sympathizers.

Confidential Informant T-10 advised that [redacted]

On the same day Bransten was observed by Special Agents of the Bureau to go from the Statler Hotel to the Social Security Building on Independence Avenue where she secured a pass and proceeded to room 3351 to call on Mr. Philleo Nash, who was then employed in the Domestic Branch of the Office of War Information. After leaving this office, Bransten went to room 3351, United States Department of Agriculture Building. The name on this door reads Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. It was observed that she left this office with a man who answered the description of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster who, according]

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~~TOP SECRET~~

to Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, was a leader in a Soviet espionage conspiracy which existed in Washington and New York in the early 1940's.

On February 4, 1950, the Carters drove a woman and child from their own residence to the residence of Philleo Nash, 2715 Dumbarton Avenue, N. W.

T-46, of unknown reliability, advised that Louise Rosenberg Bransten, 2626 Green Street, San Francisco, California, was a wealthy daughter of Abraham Rosenberg who left her an income of about \$40,000 per year, which she devoted to Communist and allied causes. Bransten had been observed in the company of well-known Communist Party functionaries.

Additional information in this reference regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file and is not being set out herein.

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[REDACTED] b7E
[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D
[REDACTED] b7C
[REDACTED] b7D

Undisclosed sources mentioned in report of SA Michael Joseph Cassidy, 12-15-50, San Francisco, in case: "Communist Apparatus, IS-R" Washington Field Office report

~~TOP SECRET~~

L-10 44
TOP SECRET

Anna Lea Falkoff, with aliases, 1710 East Denny Way, Seattle, Washington, was interviewed by Bureau Agents in the case of Gregory Silvermaster in September, 1942. At this time the subject in talking of Silvermaster stated that she had seen him on two occasions, the first being when she visited him in California when en route to Europe about ten years ago.

CF Confidential Informant T-7 advised on January 10, 1944, that he had talked to Falkoff during the early part of the previous year, at which time she admitted to him that a number of individuals who were known to this informant as Communists were living in her apartment house. During this conversation she stated that these men had their own little community there. The informant stated that there were eight in all and among these was Gregory Silvermaster.

[REDACTED]

b1

CF Informant T-2 - William J. Houston, Senior Investigator, United States Civil Service Commission, Post Office Bldg., Seattle, Washington. Seattle report 3-24-44. Re: "Anna Lea Falkoff, was. Anna Lee Falkoff, Security Matter-C." 100-293495-1 (68)

SI-116-162615-3

BCC:ddl

TOP SECRET

The Washington Field Office advised on December 28, 1950, that the data as of January 4, 1945, reflected that

[REDACTED]

The Bureau had suggested the possibility [REDACTED] with Bela Gold and his wife, Sonia Steinman Gold. (S) (TS)

[Elizabeth Bentley advised that in the spring of 1944, either Silvermaster or William Ludwig Ullman remarked to her that Bela Gold was doing such a good job they were considering supplying him with a camera so he could do his own photographing at home.] At the time Bela Gold was interviewed by Bureau Agents in April, 1947, he acknowledged borrowing a camera from Ullman but stated it was merely for the purpose of photographing his child.

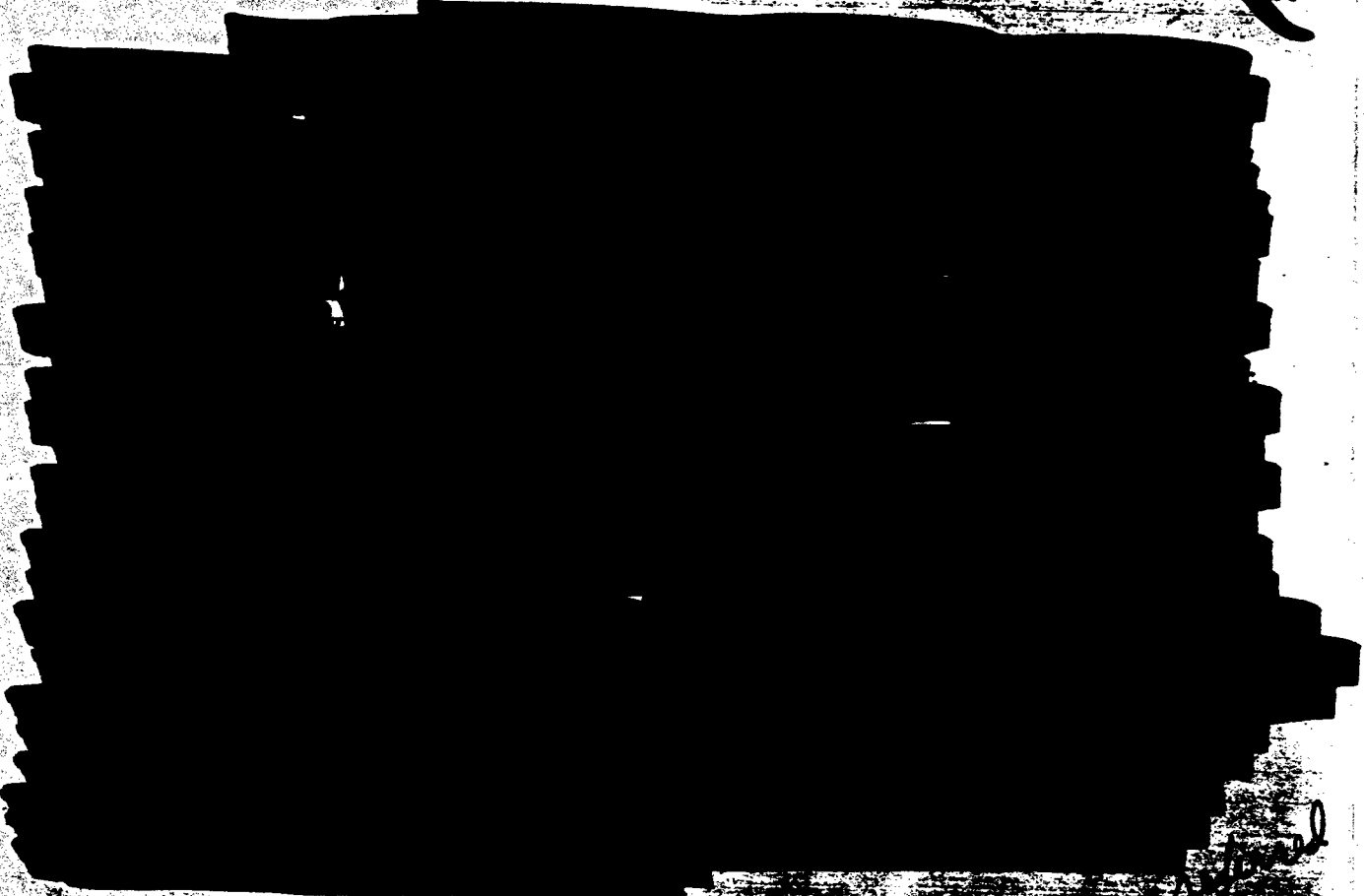
The Boston Division was requested to ascertain from Mrs. Abbie White, former nurse for Bela and Senia Gold, whether the Golds maintained any photographic equipment in their home in Arlington, Virginia.

[REDACTED] (S)
not to be disseminated outside the Bureau.
Washington Field Office memo, 12-28-50
[REDACTED] (S)
[REDACTED] (S)

CLA:jlc

TOP SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~



On July 27, 1944, pursuant to the request from the State Department dated 4-23-44, furnished a summary of information regarding Silvermaster one of the sponsors. This information is repeated at this time as it is contained in this file.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Informant Gregory advised (no date given) that Browder (Earl Russell Browder, was. leader of the American Communist movement) informed Bentley (Elizabeth Bentley) in June 1944, that she was directed to turn over the Espionage group operating under the leadership of Nathan Silvermaster to her Russian contact known as Bill (not further identified). *rel.*

New York Report
7-8-46
Re: "Earl Russell
Browder, was.; IS-C".
40-3798-409 page 64
(78)

JFB: pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

6-3-44

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

Source not given

b1

C

[REDACTED]

65-30092-1453
(102)

b1

CLA:nec

* It is not known whether this individual is identical with the subject of this summary.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Jan July 1944

X 2
During June or July, 1944, Confidential Informant T-1 advised that Post Office Box 481 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, had been receiving copies of the "Daily Worker" and that on June 30, 1944, the box rent became due and was not paid and consequently the box was closed, at which time there were several copies of the past issues of the "Daily Worker" in the box. It was reported that Box 481 had been rented to Anatole B. Volkov on 6-25-43. Volkov's address at that time was given at 410 Pittsboro Street, (Chapel Hill, North Carolina.)

~~TOP SECRET~~

Miss Florence Bostick, an employee in the registrar's office of the University of North Carolina made available during June or July, 1944, the file of Anatole Boris Volkov. Volkov's file contained the following information. Volkov was a second year student at the University and withdrew officially on May 10, 1944, to be inducted into the navy. Volkov was born 10-29-24 at San Francisco, California. His home address was given as 5515 30th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. Volkov's step-father was N. Gregory Silvermaster, Director, Labor Division, Farm Security Administration, Washington, D. C., and his mother was Helen P. Silvermaster, both of 5513 30th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. Volkov's father "sic" (probably step-father) received an A.B. degree from the University of Washington and a Ph.D. degree from the University of California, and Volkov's mother was a graduate of the University of Moscow, Russia.

X 2
W. S. Hogan, Postmaster,
Chapel Hill, North Carolina
Charlotte Rpt., 7-15-44;
Re: "Anatole Boris Volkov; SM-C"
100-329903-1
(76)

JFB:cmm

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

In an undated letter from Ruth McKenny, wife of Richard Bransten who was mentioned in the Comrap case, to Grace Granich (not identified), written from 2939 Newark Street N.W., Washington, D.C., Ruth discussed the book, "The Last Days of Sevastopol". She stated: "That book has quite unhorsed Helen Silvermaster and Helen's family, all of them. Helen's husband got physically sick with sorrow ..."
(page 21)

In a letter from Richard Bransten to Grace Granich and Manny (not identified) dated July 3, 1944, written from 1427 North Kings Road, Hollywood, California, he stated: "We miss you and the Silvermasters in particular".
(page 23)

Other information in this reference appears in 100-88434-110, which is summarized elsewhere in this memorandum.

Confidential Source (not identified)
Albany report dated 6-22-49,
Re: "Grace Granich, nee Grace Maul; Internal Security - R"
100-88434-123
(50,58)

Not to be disseminated due to obvious sources of information.

GTC:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

7

[REDACTED]

b1

W. J. Houston and Orval Norrell, U. S. Civil Service Commission employees advised that Hertz said (date not stated) that he knew Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and considered Silvermaster should be loyal to this country.

Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was interviewed by Bureau agents, July 6, 1944, and at that time stated that during the period 1918-1920, he had associated with Doctor David Hertz, whose home in Seattle during 1936 was a meeting place of the Young Communist League.

Seattle report, 3-26-51.
RE"Carl Mark Herz, also
known as Hertz; Espionage-R"
65-59977-1
(42)

~~TOP SECRET~~
136

~~TOP SECRET~~

The Charlotte Office advised the Richmond Office by letter dated July 14, 1944, that a photograph which was enclosed to the Bureau with this letter was identified as Anatole Boris Volkov, a former student at the University of North Carolina. It was noted that Volkov gave his address as 5515 30th Street, Washington, D.C., and was born October 29, 1924, at San Francisco, California. His step-father was given as Gregory N. Silvermaster, who was a director, Labor Division, Foreign Security Administration, Washington, D.C. It was stated that Volkov's father received an A.B. Degree at the University of Washington and a PhD Degree at the University of California. His mother, according to information developed at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, was a graduate of the University of Moscow, Russia.

Volkov withdrew officially from the University of North Carolina on May 10, 1944, at which time he was inducted into the United States Navy.

It was stated that the photograph of Volkov mentioned above was taken as he left the Convention Hall of the Communist Party, USA, District 16, on April 30, 1944, at Richmond, Virginia.

This information was being called to the attention of the Bureau with the thought in mind that the Bureau might desire to transmit the information concerning subject Volkov to the Labor Division, Foreign Security Administration of which his step-father, Gregory N. Silvermaster, was Director.

Source not given
Richmond Memo, 7-31-44
Re: Communist Party,
USA, District 16,
Richmond Field Division;
IS - C.
100-3-49-133
(176)

CLA:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

8-26-44

~~TOP SECRET~~

On August 26, 1944, Dallas Smythe (not identified) told Gerry Shandros (not identified) "that Gregg Silvermaster (not identified) had urged him to take a job in the Procurement Division of Surplus Property Disposal. Gerry wants to discuss it with him from two points of view, ie, what Gregg wants and the 'other point' of view, Dallas said Gregg is an 'interesting guy' and he gets more discouraged at FCC every day, particularly on Post War Picture, because of barriers there. He said he is ready to spit in some eyes over there. Gerry will call him Monday so they can talk it over for a couple of hours." (u)

(u) [redacted] b2b7D
(u) Technical Surveillance Leg,
Washington, D.C., 8-26-44
Re: "Communist Infiltration
of the CIO Maritime Committee;
IS - C"
100-203268-476
(57)

JFB:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

9-15-1954

On March 31, 1950, Elizabeth Terrill Bentley was reinterviewed by Bureau Agents at New York City for any further information in regard to the unknown subjects "Bill" and "Catherine". [Miss Bentley stated that she delivered material from the Silvermaster group to "Catherine" on one or two occasions prior to her introduction to "Bill". Subsequent to her first contact with "Bill", Miss Bentley saw "Catherine" on several different occasions and on at least two or three of these occasions, she delivered the Silvermaster material to "Catherine".] ~~TOP SECRET~~

In Miss Bentley's opinion, "Catherine" did not seem to be important in the espionage set up of which she was a part, but merely seemed to be acting as a courier. Prior to Miss Bentley's meeting with "Bill", "Catherine" had mentioned to Bentley about her turning over the Silvermaster group to "Catherine", but Miss Bentley steadfastly refused to do this. ~~TOP SECRET~~

(page 2)

Miss Bentley also stated that "Bill" argued with her to turn over the Silvermaster group to him, and also wanted her to take a salary of \$300 a month for her services, which she refused. As Bentley's contacts with "Bill", continued he became increasingly insistent that the Silvermaster group be turned over to him. Bentley told Earl Browder (Head of the American Communist Movement) about this and he at first was much opposed to it, partially because of his own friendship with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Finally, however, Browder told her to place Silvermaster in contact with "Bill", but only in New York City, and only when she, Bentley, was present. Bentley recalled that in this connection she was present at a conference between Silvermaster and Earl Browder at Longchamps Restaurant on 34th Street, New York City. ~~TOP SECRET~~

(page 4)

Miss Bentley recalled that she introduced Silvermaster to "Bill" at the Fishery Restaurant in New York City, in April or May of 1944. Following the introduction, they went to Longchamps Restaurant at 34th Street and 5th Avenue. At a second meeting of "Bill" with Silvermaster, Miss Bentley recalled that she accompanied them to Leon and Eddies Night Club. ~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Miss Bentley also explained that it was her custom to give "Bill" film which she had received from the Silvermaster group and that "Bill" would in return, give her a supply of unexposed film which she would take to Washington, D. C., for the further use of her contacts. (page 4 and 5)

Miss Bentley recalled that the last visit she paid to the Silvermaster group for the purpose of picking up material, took place on the date that a rather severe hurricane occurred on the East Coast. Bentley stated that she recalled this particularly, because of the fact that the hurricane had missed Washington, D. C., where she was at the time, and she was rather surprised to observe the damage which had occurred in New York City during her absence. Miss Bentley also said that the last time she contacted "Bill" probably occurred two days after this trip to Washington, inasmuch as he generally allowed herself one day to get the material into shape before she turned it over to her Russian contact. [It was reported that an examination of the "New York Times" index reflected that the above mentioned hurricane took place on September 15, 1944. Therefore, the last meeting which Miss Bentley had with the unknown subject, "Bill", probably took place about 9-16-44.) (page 11)

Other information in this reference appears in 65-57905-1,5,7X, which is summarized elsewhere in this memorandum.

New York report, 5-12-50
Re: "Unknown subject, was.,
'Bill', unknown subject was.,
'Catherine'; Espionage - R"
65-57905-32 page 4,5,11,13
(44)

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

referred

[REDACTED]

Bureau memo dated
10-5-44
Re: Visa Application
of Hugo R. Woog,

referred

[REDACTED]

40-59930-2
(36, 76)

referred

Corfelator's note:

More detailed information is available in this reference which was not set forth in this abstract because this memorandum from S. S. Alden to Mr. Ladd, dated 10-5-44, contained a recommendation that it be made a matter of record in view of the indiscreet questioning by the State Department representative and the fact that the witness was made aware, by such questioning, of the fact that derogatory information concerning him was available to the committee.

-40-59930-

Additional information in this reference appears in Silvermaster's main file, 65-56402-26(X2)

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

It was reported on October 1, 1944 (source not given) that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster did not limit himself to receiving materials from members of a Soviet Espionage Network, but also gave them tasks after consultation with "Albert." It was also reported (source and date not given) that Helen Witt Silvermaster was assisting William Ludwig Ullman in preparing material. It was also stated (source and date not given) that Silvermaster's wife was not only cognizant of her husband's work, but was actually helping him in this work.

Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, in furnishing information concerning the Russian Espionage Network headed by Silvermaster, advised that she knew Gromov under the name of "Al," and further advised that he took charge of the Silvermaster Network following his arrival in the United States. (page 6) ul

Washington Field Office report,
12-1-50
Ret [redacted] (TS)
Espionage - R
100-361126-10 b1
(68)

JFB:nec

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant T-1 furnished information which indicated that

[REDACTED]

Al was cooperating or working with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Helen Wite nee Silvermaster, and William Ludwig Ullmann, who were identified by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley as persons who furnished information to her in connection with her activities as a Soviet espionage agent during the late 1930's and early 1940's.

(TS)

[REDACTED]

b1

is a further indication of the

[REDACTED]

~~TOP SECRET~~

The informant also advised that in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(S)

b1

T-1 also furnished information which indicated that

[REDACTED]

(S)

b1

T-1 also reported that

[REDACTED]

(S)

T-1 advised that

[REDACTED]

b1

A portion of this report, entitled "Analysis", is being set out as follows:

From the information furnished by the informant, it appears that the most significant identifying data concerning the subject is that he was apparently very familiar with the activities of a group of persons including the Silvermasters and Ullmann. From a review of the material furnished by the informant with respect to the subject, it also appears logical to assume that he concentrated his efforts in Washington, D.C. and New York, New York.

~~TOP SECRET~~

From a comparison of the information furnished by T-1 with the information furnished by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, it seems possible that the subject in this case could be [redacted] b1

In the statement furnished by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley in November, 1945, she stated that Bill was her Russian contact from November of 1943 to September of 1944. She met him in New York City through his wife who is known to her as Catherine. Bentley advised that Bill and Catherine were man and wife. And that Bill had told her that he had known Catherine in Washington, D.C., in 1938, or 1939. It was Bentley's impression that Catherine was employed in Washington at the time. In September of 1944, Bill told Bentley that he was going to personally take care of the Silvermaster group. Prior to this time, Bentley had been collecting information from the Silvermaster group and had been furnishing this information to Bill. Bill also informed Bentley that he was going to move from New York to Baltimore, Maryland, or Washington, D.C. Bentley also advised that Bill was contacting the Silvermaster group in December of 1944. (S)

Bentley also advised that she was informed that Bill and Silvermaster had engaged in a discussion concerning the possibility of introducing Lauchlin Currie and Harry Dexter White, directly to the Russian contact, but that Silvermaster was not in favor of this proposal. In this connection it will be recalled that the information furnished by T-1 [redacted] b1

Bentley also advised that in August of 1945 she happened to meet Silvermaster in New York City at which time he told her that Bill was still around, but that he had not seen Bill for a couple of weeks. (S)

T-1 [redacted] (S)
[redacted] (S)
[redacted] (S)
Espionage (S)
- R (S)
65-59143-1; (S)
(48) b1

CLA:cmn

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65-56402-3970 p 146

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10/30/44
~~TOP SECRET~~

It was set out as an undeveloped lead that the Washington Field Office would report further activity of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and others in the event their activities had some bearing upon instant investigation of Comintern Apparatus.

WFO report 10-30-44
Re: "Comintern Apparatus - Internal Security-R."
100-203581-3722
(25)

JEW:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

u
Confidential Informant T-11 advised (date not given) that by letter dated November 20, 1944, Herbert Hewlett wrote to Agnes Smedley, Yaddo Estates, Saratoga, New York, and advised her he was leaving his job with the Political Action Committee of the CIO and he requested assistance in obtaining another job.

The report also reflected that Hewlett was a former secretary to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, reported head of the Soviet Espionage Ring in Washington when Silvermaster was employed at the Foreign Security Administration of the Department of Agriculture.

File
T-11 re: James Shannon, Caretaker, Yaddo State, Saratoga, New York.
New York Report, 5-27-49.
Re: Agnes Smedley, New York Report, 61-6500-103, p. 35

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

Elizabeth Terrill Bentley advised (date and location not given) that she commenced her activities as a Soviet espionage courier in the summer of 1941, and was active through the year 1944. During this period of time, Miss Bentley made frequent trips to Washington, D.C., where she obtained United States Government classified information from the Nathan Gregory Silvermasters, at which time she delivered to the Silvermasters Communist and Russian literature furnished to Bentley by Jacob Golos. Miss Bentley advised that during the period of time from the latter part of 1942 through the early part of 1943 she became aware, through remarks made by Nathan and Helen Silvermaster and also Ullman (William Lewis Ullman, who resided with the Silvermasters) of a Sol Adler who was a United States Treasury representative in Chungking, China. Miss Bentley recalled seeing, at the Silvermaster home, official letters written by Adler from Chungking, China, to the Treasury Department in Washington, D.C. Presumably these letters found their way to the Silvermaster home through Harry Dexter White. Miss Bentley recalled that Silvermaster characterized Adler as an opportunist and had indicated that he would like to place Adler in a strategic position in the United States Government. Miss Bentley recalled that Adler was a Communist Party member because his dues were, among those collected by Silvermaster and she turned over to Miss Bentley.

December 13, 1947, Sol Adler was interviewed by Special Agents of the Washington Field Office and advised that he became acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Helen Silvermaster in 1938 or 1939. This meeting was held possibly by William Lewis Ullman, a co-employee at the Treasury Department. Ullman invited Adler to dinner at the Silvermaster home and thereafter Adler was a frequent guest until he went to China in 1941. Adler also stated that he had not directed any correspondence or information to the Silvermasters, in which, either directly or indirectly, such channels available to the Silvermasters, or through the channels of assignments or employment with the Silvermasters, he indicated that he did not hold a high regard for Silvermaster's ability although Silvermaster was considered by others to be a great intellect. Adler stated that his relationship with the Silvermasters was entirely on a social plane and that although both Helen and Gregory Silvermaster were very pro-Russian in their attitude he was in no position to make any statement pertaining to their loyalty to the United States.

~~TOP SECRET~~

(Correlators note: The Special Agent who reported the results of the Adler interview noted that at this point in the interview Adler became visibly concerned although prior to this, he appeared fully composed and shortly thereafter, he regained complete composure.) (page 9)

During the hearings before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in August and September, 1948, Victor Perlo, Abraham George Silverman, William Ludwig Ullman, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, John Abt, Nathan Witt and Charles Kramer all appeared in response to subpoenas and were questioned concerning the allegations of Elizabeth Terrill Bentley. All of the above-named individual refused to affirm or deny membership in the Communist Party on the grounds of self-incrimination. These same witnesses, on the same grounds, refused to affirm or deny contacts with one or more of the other individuals allegedly involved in Soviet espionage and refused to deny or affirm knowledge of or acquaintanceship with Elizabeth Terrill Bentley or Whittaker Chambers. These same witnesses also refused to affirm or deny the charges made against them by Elizabeth Terrill Bentley and Whittaker Chambers.

Silvermaster, Perlo, Kramer and Silverman all refused to affirm or deny that they knew Elizabeth Terrill Bentley on the grounds that the answer might be self-incriminating. (pages 10 and 11)

Other information in this reference appears in Silvermaster's main file.

WFO report 11/22/49
Re: "Solemon Adler, was.;"
Espionage - R
65-58751-13, pp. 1,5,9,10,11,15,33
(32,69)

150

JFB:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

On January 30, 1946, Elizabeth Bentley advised that Frank Coe (at one time with the Treasury Department) was one of the minor individuals who was supplying information to the Silvermasters during the period she contacted the Silvermasters. It was her recollection that Frank Coe was in Latin America with the exception of two months prior to the time she ceased her activities with the Silvermasters in December, 1944.

Bentley related that Frank Coe would report to the Silvermasters in Washington, D. C., by letter and the Silvermasters would, in turn, report the information received from Coe to her. She was unable to characterize the type of information supplied by Coe and stated that Frank Coe was a minor figure in the espionage apparatus.

New York report 8-10-51
Re: "Charles Joseph Coe, was.
Espionage-R."
100-333343-21, p. 15
(10)

Frank Coe is the brother of Charles Joseph Coe, alias Robert, who as of February 22, 1952, was the acting head of Farm Research, Incorporated.

ECC:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

FR 42-1945

~~TOP SECRET~~

On February 8, 1950, the Washington "Times Herald" in an article on page 6 captioned, "Red Underground Unmolested in Fifteen Year Operations Here" by Willard Edwards, reported the following information regarding Nathan Silvermaster:

"Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, born in Odessa, Russia; educated in Shanghai, China, entered United States 1915, naturalized 1927; entered government service 1935, holding key jobs in resettlement administration under Rexford G. Tugwell, farm security administration under Henry A. Wallace, and board of economic warfare, 1942-1945; FBI reported him as known Communist and probable agent of Russian secret police in late 30s; named by Elizabeth Bentley Soviet courier, as Red cell leader, who photographed secret documents in his Washington home; befriended by White House secretary Lauchlin Currie and War Secretary Patterson when naval intelligence protested his employment; resigned March 1946, and lives in New Jersey; refused to answer questions at House committee hearing on grounds of possible self-incrimination."

Washington "Times Herald"
dated 2-8-50
62-50000-1
(4, 5)

Span

~~TOP SECRET~~

1945

~~TOP SECRET~~

2
Lanchlin B. Currie was interviewed by Bureau Agents on September 23, 1947. At that time he stated that he had seen Trone at Gregory Silvermaster's house on numerous occasions between 1942 and 1945. Currie stated that Trone had come from Russia and had returned there as a General Electric representative.

In an effort to establish the identity of an unknown subject "Brownie", James H. Pierce, Pierce Management Engineers, Scranton Electric Building, Linden Street, Scranton, Pennsylvania, was contacted (date not stated). Pierce suggested that S. A. Trone of the International General Electric Company, might possibly know Trone.
(100-352749-6)

New York Memorandum
8-10-48
Re: "Brownie";
IS-R
100-352749-9
(63)

ECC:cdd

153
~~TOP SECRET~~

1945

~~TOP SECRET~~

On 9-23-47 Lauchlin B. Currie was interviewed at his office at 487 Park Avenue, New York City by Bureau Agents. Currie stated that he visited the home of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster in Washington, D. C., on occasions from 1940 to 1945. Currie also stated that the visitors he met at Silvermaster's home were mostly U. S. Government Officials associated with Silvermaster and Ludwig Ullman, among whom was Boris Witte. Currie stated that he met Boris Witte, a relative of Mrs. Silvermaster, at the Silvermaster home. Other information in this reference appears in Silvermaster's main file.

According to another reference in this same file



b1
JC

New York letter, 4-20-51
Re: "Norman Chandler Bursler;
IS - R".
101-3274-37
(26)

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

31

1945

~~TOP SECRET~~

Robert T. Miller testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (no date or location given) and stated that he had known Nathan Gregory Silvermaster since some time in 1945. Mr. Miller stated that he met Mr. Silvermaster at some party around Washington, D. C., but did not remember where. Miller also stated that he used to see Silvermaster quite often as he was a neighbor who lived a couple of blocks away in Chevy Chase (probably Washington, D. C.). Miller stated that he did not remember if he had ever gone to Mr. Silvermaster's basement. (page 784)

Photostatic copy of the testimony of Robert T. Miller before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (no date given) pages 778 to page 800

Bureau memo to Mr. H. B. Fletcher from L. Whitson dated October 28, 1948

Re: "House Committee on Un-American Activities"
101-6611-345X, enc. page 783

JFB:nlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

A loyalty investigation of Charles Edward Kaster, Classifier (Applicant) Civil Service Commission, San Francisco, California, was based upon information received from [redacted]

[redacted]

Kaster's application for federal employment filed with the Veterans Administration, 180 New Montgomery Street, San Francisco, California, on September 6, 1946, reflected that from May, 1937, to September, 1943, he was employed with the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau, 46 Kearny Street, San Francisco, California, as economist statistician and labor relations counsellor.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised as follows: *b2 u b7D*

Sam Kagel was the Assistant Director of the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau from 1937 to 1945. The informant further advised that Kagel was a member of the Communist Party and that Albert Sanford, William Reed and Walter Deck, investigators for the Pacific Labor Bureau, were also Communists and veterans of the Loyaliste Forces in the Spanish Civil War. The informant further stated that Gregory Silvermaster, who was known to him as a Communist, was closely connected with the Pacific Coast Labor Bureau.

SI report 3-18-48
Re: Charles Edward Kaster,
Classifier (Applicant) Civil
Service Commission, San Francisco, Calif.
Loyalty of Government Employees,
121-2000, p. 5
(62)

~~TOP SECRET~~

Elizabeth T. Bentley, self-confessed Soviet spy, stated that in October, 1943, Jacob Golos, her superior, told her that she would again meet Olga Pravdina, an employee at Amtorg, who would introduce her to a new person to whom the Silvermaster material was to be delivered thereafter. Bentley was introduced to Catherine (not further identified) but believed to have been an American.

Bentley related that she had transferred material from the Silvermaster group on two occasions. It was noted that when Bentley met Catherine, it was understood that Silvermaster was to be transferred to this new person. (P-21)

About September, 1944, Bill, another contact of Bentley (not further identified), told her that he was contemplating moving to Baltimore or Washington, D.C., and that he would personally take care of the Silvermaster group. He told her that in a short time she was to meet a new man as her principal. This new contact was known to her as Jack (later determined to have been Joseph Katz, was.) (P-32)

Bentley stated that throughout the first few months in 1945, when she continued to see Katz, that he was thoroughly cognizant of the activities of the Silvermasters and the Perlo groups. (P-28)

Bentley said that Katz handled everything but the Silvermaster material which was turned over to Bill at the end of September, 1944. (P-42)

This report bears the following penciled notations (no dissemination - [redacted]) b1

(S) New York report 3-2-49

Re: "Joseph Katz, was. Joseph [redacted]

Hiatt, Jack, [redacted]

Espionage - R. (S)

65-57913-33, encl. p. 2, 21, 22, 27, 28, 42.


(51)

ECC:ddl:mlb

b1

This reference contains a copy of a booklet entitled "Hearings Regarding Communism in the United States Government - Part I" printed for the use of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, which set forth testimony regarding William Walter Remington before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and before the Senate's Investigations Subcommittee of the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments in 1948. *u*

On April 25, 1950, Solomon Adler, of 2721 Dumbarton Avenue N. W., Washington, D. C., appeared before the United States House of Representatives Subcommittee of the Committee on Un-American Activities. that he had met



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(page 6)

San Francisco report 2-16-45
R: "Herbert Resner, wa.; Hubert
C. Resner; IS-C."
100-3757-93

Correlator's Note: The name of Nathan Gregory Silver-
master was not indexed in the above abstract, however, the
pertinent information contained therein was set out in order
to clarify the following abstract in which the name of Nathan
Gregory Silvermaster was indexed.

The Washington Field Office reported that during
the period of March 5, 6, 1945 [REDACTED]

referred

[REDACTED]

Nathan Gregory Silvermaster who was possibly identical with the unidentified individual referred to as "Greg" in a previous report of the San Francisco Office dated February 16, 1945, Re "Herbert Resner, wa.; IS-C".

referred

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Other identifying information taken from a review of the Washington Field Office indices appears in Silvermaster's main file.

referred

WFO report 3-19-45
Re: "Herbert Resner, wa.; IS-C."
.100-3757-94
(29, 84, 85, 86, 87)

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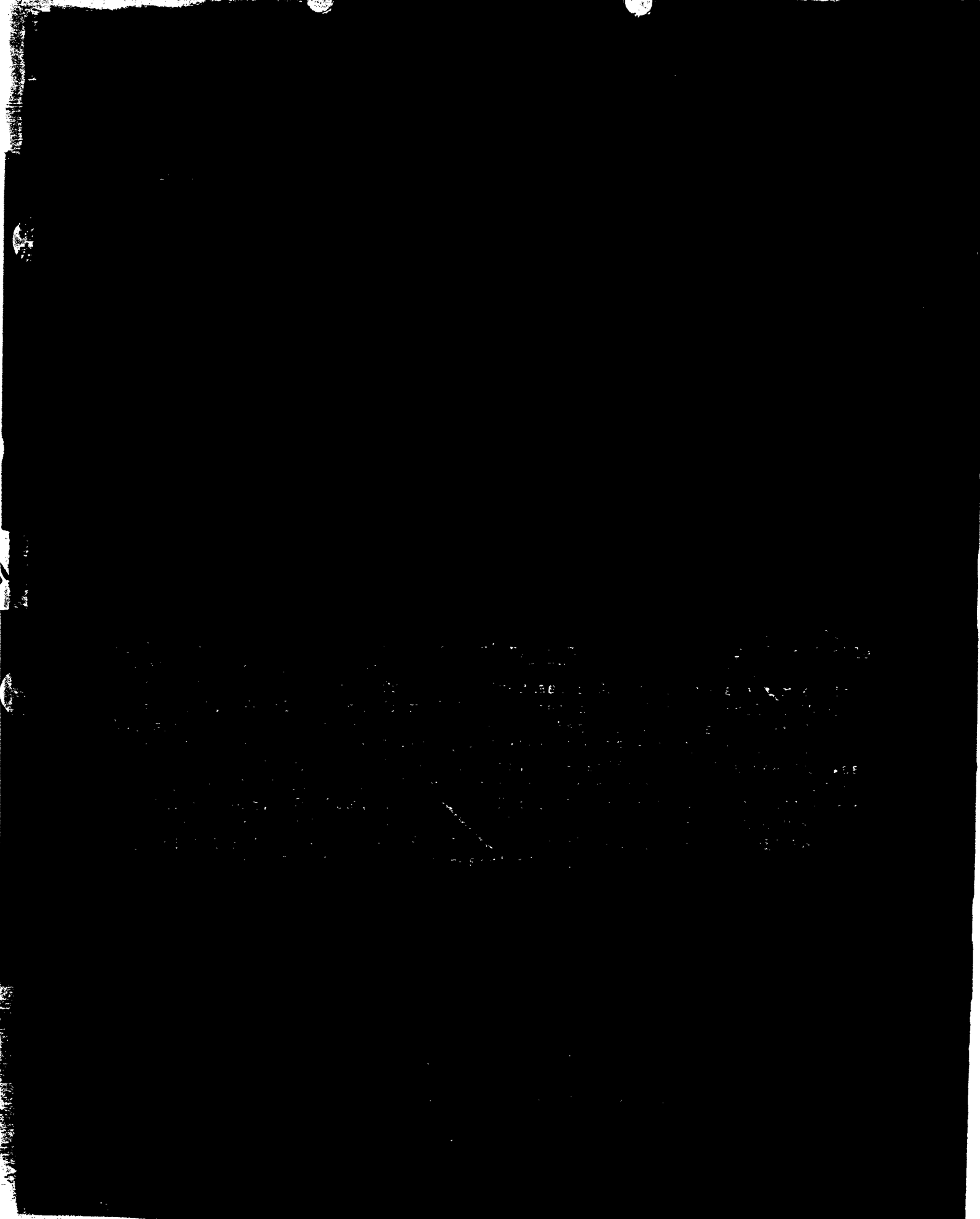
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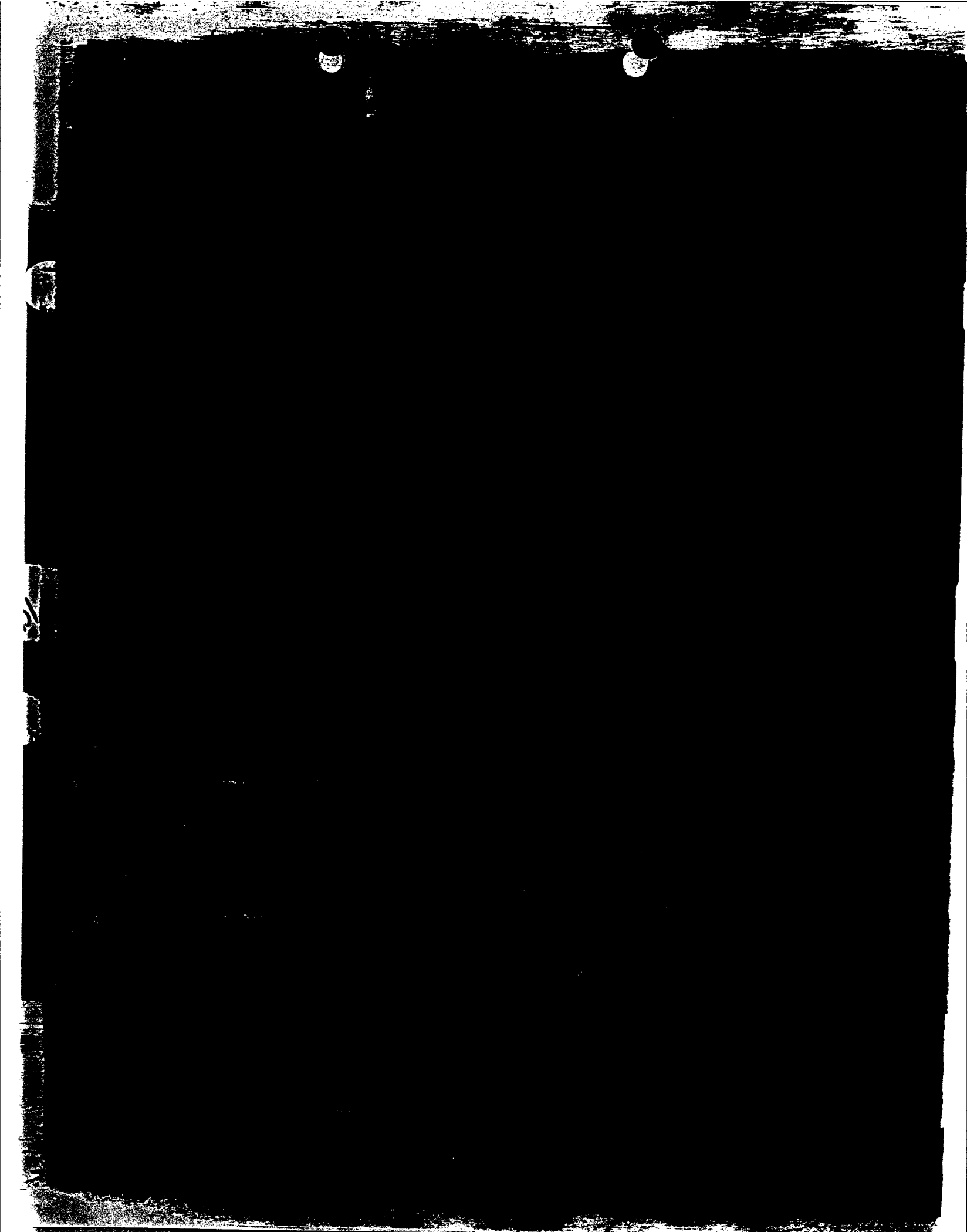
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[REDACTED]

The Washington Field Office advised their files contained

[REDACTED]

The Washington Field Office advised they were considering the possibility that

[REDACTED]

A review of the files of the Washington Field Office disclosed that in 1944 he was serving as a consultant of the Foreign Economic Administration. He was a source of information for the Foreign Economic Administration and was also employed by the Foreign Economic Administration at this time as a consultant.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

The New York Office was requested to contact Elizabeth Bentley and to ascertain:

[REDACTED]

2. The extent of Silverman's influence over Currie, as understood by Bentley. b1

3. The identity of other individuals who were employed in the War Department or Air Force, and who were supplying Silvermaster with information, which information, which in turn, was furnished her. Special efforts were to be made to determine from her the identity of any close associate of Silverman, or others involved in the espionage conspiracy, which she operated, and who was employed in the accounting department of the War Department during 1944.

It was to be determined if Bentley received any indication that Silverman intended to transfer to another government agency in Washington. The reasons for such a contemplated transfer were to be ascertained and the identity of any of Bentley's other contacts who was considering making a similar transfer at that time, was also to be determined.

The Washington Field Office advised they would continue to

[REDACTED]

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The Washington Field Office reported during the period from February 16 to 26, 1945, that the file (probably the files of the Washington Field Office) reflected that Louis Bloch was the Secretary of the National Longshoreman's Board in 1934, and was later reported (source and date not given) to be a good friend of Serge E. Silvermaster and as Silvermaster's sponsor in the California Emergency Relief Administration.

In an application for employment at the Federal Economic Administration, Alfred Hale Booth listed Dr. Louis S. Bloch as a reference. According to the same application, Booth resided in apartment 110, 1445 Otis Place, N.W., Washington, D. C., and was a naturalized citizen of the United States and a legal resident of the state of California. According to the same application, Booth was born on December 22, 1897, at Hamburg, Germany.

Washington Field Office report
3-3-45
Re: "Alfred Hale Booth, aka
Alfred Heilbuth, Economist,
Wage Stabilization Division,
Board Case Analysis Branch,
Ultra-Regional Section,
National War Labor Board,
IS-Ratch Act"
(S)

JFB:nib

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Confidential Informant T-21 advised (no date given) that he had known Sam Kagle (State Man Power Director, War Man Power Commission, for the Northern part of California) for several years. The same informant advised that Kagle had been very close to Herbert Kanner, George Anderson, Aubrey Grossman and Richard Gladstein, attorneys who served the Communists. The same informant said that Kagle's actions paralleled the Communist Party line, and he felt that if the party line shifts Kagle would be governed in his position accordingly. He further stated that he felt that Kagle left the National Labor Bureau to take a more strategic position as far as the Communist Party was concerned, and he thought it was definite Communist policy for members to get into government positions. The same informant stated that in his opinion Kagle and the Communists take orders from Louis Bloch (not identified) who was closely associated with Gregory Silvermaster another Communist in government service. He also stated that in 1934 he received good information that Kagle joined the Communist Party, and that Jean Cohn, who was a cousin of Kagle's had made the statement that Kagle was a member of the Communist Party. The informant added that this latter information was received from a friend whose name he would not disclose.

T-2, Barney Hayes, Director of Research, California Federation of Labor.
 San Francisco Rpt., 3-13-45
 Re: Sam Kagle, War Man Power Commission; Internal Security - Hatch Case
 100-126275-4
 (67)

JFB:cm

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised (date not given) that Jacob J. Kaufman, an alleged Communist, was a frequent contact and a close associate of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. During 1939 and 1940, Jacob Kaufman roomed with Sidney Lester Klepper, an Economist in the Anti-Trust Division, Department of Justice, who was alleged to have been a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action in 1940. b2
b7D

Washington T-12, a confidential and reliable informant, advised that on February 6, 1946, Mary Jane Keeney while in Frankfurt, Germany, by chance saw Sidney Klepper. Subsequently, in describing Klepper, Mary Jane Keeney said he was the fellow she had met at Helen and Greg's last spring (Helen and Gregory Silvermaster). JLW

Additional identifying information concerning Silvermaster appearing in this reference is not being set out herein as this information appears in Silvermaster's main file.

T-12: A highly confidential source of information whose identity cannot be revealed under any circumstances and whose identity is known to Special Agent Courtland S. Jones and Aubrey S. Grant of the Washington Field Office.

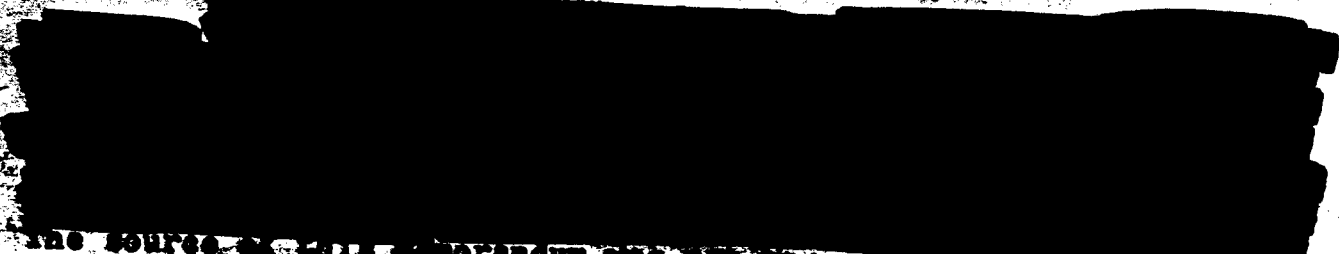
Washington Field Office report re Sidney Lester Klepper, aka 'Klep', Economist Anti-Trust Division, U. S. Department of Justice, 1940.

100-366-3 pp. 17, 19, 22

CLA :pan

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The source of this memorandum was not known. However, it was noted that the name "Whittaker Chambers" was written in pencil at the bottom of page 2.

referred

On April 15, 1949, Whittaker Chambers was interviewed in regard to the facts contained in this memo. Chambers stated that he could not recall any conversation with a government agent at Westminster, Maryland during 1945. He further stated that he knew there was a Weinstein who was co-head of the National Research Project and who had a sister. However, he was not acquainted with either Weinstein or his sister.

Memorandum to H.B. Fletcher from
R. W. Wall, 4-6-49
Re: Helen Rose Krieger, nee
Helen Rose Weinstein, aka Mrs.
Theodore Joseph Krieger.
Physical Science Aide-Appointee
Naval Ordnance Laboratory
Department of the Navy
Bethesda, Maryland - LCA
121-17309-2
(34)

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During the latter part of 1949, the Washington Field Office reported the following information concerning certain allegations of Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, a native United States citizen who was born in Connecticut in 1908. Bentley was reported to have joined the Communist Party in 1935 and in October, 1938 she met James Goles, who at that time was President of World Tourist Incorporated. (New York City) Commencing about June or July, 1941, Goles began to use Bentley as an Espionage Courier between Washington, D.C. and New York City and Bentley continued these activities through the year 1944. During this period Miss Bentley was placed in contact with two groups of individuals, each group functioning as a parallel of Soviet Espionage. These two groups were referred to by Miss Bentley as the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster group and the Victor Perlo group. Through her contact with the Silvermasters, Miss Bentley became aware that other persons were involved in furnishing information to the Silvermasters which she intended to make available to Goles.


The following information was quoted from a statement which Elizabeth Terrill Bentley furnished to Agents of the FBI (Date and location not given).

In the summer of 1941, the Silvermasters believed it desirable to have someone placed as a secretary to Harry White, Treasury Department, in order to facilitate the obtaining of information from his office. As a result, Helen Silvermaster was one of the Communist functionaries in Washington, D.C. who was the wife of Sofia Gold. Eventually Sofia Gold through arrangements with Harry Dexter White obtained the position of secretary in his department as a result of which she obtained access to and information concerning the Treasury Department. It is by recollection that the information which Sofia Gold obtained concerned primarily the Treasury Department's opinions and recommendations concerning applications for loans made by the Chinese and other governments.

170 ~~TOP SECRET!~~

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"In the spring of 1944, Bill Gold, husband of Sonia Gold came into the picture. Bill obtained a position with the Foreign Economic Administration and according to the conversation I had with the Silvermasters and Ullman, I determined that Bill had been supplying this group with what they indicated as excellent information regarding the goings on in the FEA. As a matter of fact, during one of my conversations at the Silvermaster home, either Gregory Silvermaster or Ullman made the remark that Bill had done such a good job that they were thinking of supplying him with a camera so that he could do his own photographing at home." *W* (page 7 and 8)

Confidential Informant  of known reliability, *b2*
advised (no date given) that Elizabeth and Richard Sasuly and *b7D*
the Golds were close friends and frequent visitors to each
others homes during the years 1946-1947. It was pointed out
that Richard Sasuly was the Washington Representative of the
Federated Press, which was cited by the Special Committee on
Un-American Activities in a report dated March 29, 1949, as a
Communist controlled organization, financed by the American
Fund for Public Service and the Robert Marshall Fund, both
principal sources of funds for Communist enterprises. *Ku*

An anonymous source of known reliability reported in



(page 9)

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On August 13, 1948, Bela and Sonia Gold voluntarily appeared before the House Committee on Un-American Activities to deny the allegations of Elizabeth Terrill Bentley. The following testimony of Bela Gold concerning Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was quoted:

"I saw Dr. Silvermaster some 10 or 12 times during the year I worked on my thesis (in 1944 to May, 1945). Each time for the sole purpose of reviewing in detail another completed chapter of my manuscript."

Sonia Gold followed her husband to the stand and made the following statement concerning the Silvermasters. "I came to know Dr. and Mrs. Silvermaster during the period when Dr. Silvermaster advised my husband on the book he was writing. Mrs. Silvermaster was a gracious hostess during the few visits." (page 21, Column 23)

On April 15, 1947, the Golds were interviewed by Bureau Agents. (location not given) The Golds specifically denied furnishing information obtained through their positions in the government to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Helen Silvermaster, William L. Ullman or any other unauthorized persons.

Sonia Gold acknowledged that she occasionally met Helen Silvermaster downtown for lunch. Bela Gold stated, he first became acquainted with Silvermaster at the Department of Agriculture; thereafter, he visited the Silvermasters home and became acquainted with Helen Silvermaster and William Ullman. Bela said that when he prepared a thesis in 1945, he consulted with Silvermaster concerning certain phases of it, but that other than that all of his contacts with the Silvermasters and Ullman were on a social basis. (page 24)

Washington Field Office report,
12-20-48
Re: "Bela Gold, and Sonia Gold,
was.; Security Matter - C"
100-365891-2, pages 1, 7, 8, 9, 21, 24
(20, 69)

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The Washington Field Office advised in a report dated June 14, 1945, entitled "Richard Bransten, wa; IS - C" that by letter from the Los Angeles Field Division dated April 19, 1945, it was noted that indications were that the subject, Bransten, was friendly with a "Greg," who, according to the Los Angeles letter, was believed to be Gregory N. Silvermaster. A check of the Stones Mercantile Credit Agency in the District of Columbia by Special Employee Nicholas R. Manfreda, reflected that Silvermaster resided at 5515 30th Street, N. W., in Washington, D. C., and was approximately 40 years of age, married, and formerly resided in New York State prior to his coming to the District of Columbia. From August 15, 1935, he was employed by the Farm Security Administration as Director of Labor at a salary of \$5400 per annum. As of December 29, 1944, he transferred from the Farm Security Administration to a position with the Treasury Department at a salary of \$8,000 per annum. This file further reflected that he was married to Helen Silvermaster, and that they had one child, whose name was not shown.

Additional information in this reference pertaining to Silvermaster is not being set out herein as it appears in his main file (65-56402).

Washington Field Office
Report 6-14-45
Re: Richard Bransten,
wa; IS - C.
100-20068-100

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August 1945

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Confidential Informant Gregory advised (date and location not given) that the information received by informant from various persons engaged in acquiring data and information was turned over to Jacob Golos (not identified) and subsequently to a series of contacts, including "John" (not identified), "Charlie" (not identified), "Margaret" (Olga Pravdina), "Estimate" (not identified), "Bill" (not identified), "Jack" (not identified), and "Al" (Anatole S. Gromov, First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy).
(page 2)

Confidential Informant Gregory advised (no date given) that late in 1945, "Al" (Anatole S. Gromov) asked if Gregory had seen "Bill" lately. Gregory also had a chance meeting with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster in Pennsylvania Station, New York City, in August, 1945, at which time Silvermaster stated that he had not seen "Bill" in a couple of weeks but that he was still around.
(page 3)

Source: Washington Field Office
letter 1-23-48
Re: "Unknown Subject was;
[unclear] Bill;
[unclear] situation; espionage

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In a letter to Max Granich (not identified) written in August, 1945, Grace Granich (not identified) stated that she had seen Greg and Greg had sent his love. *CU*

In a letter from Richard Bransten to Grace Granich and Manny (not identified) dated July 3, 1944, written from 1427 North Kings Road, Hollywood, California, Bransten stated that it was good to know that they had seen Greg. Bransten also stated: "We miss you and the Silvermasters in particular". *CU*

The Greg referred to above was believed to be Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, subject of an Espionage - R case. It was noted that Silvermaster's wife's first name was Helen, and that the Silvermasters knew Louise Bransten. *CU*

[Highly Confidential Source. *Je*^u
Albany report dated 6-22-49,
Re: "Max Granich, was.;"
Internal Security - R"
100-88434-110, pg. 1,18,22,23.
(50, 59)

This information is not to be distributed due to obvious sources.

CTC:rrb

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Mr. Hobart Cooper, 4113 Russell Ave., Mr. Rainier, Maryland, advised (no date given) that Max Osias was brought into the Foreign Economic Administration by Bela Gold when there was a "freeze" on employment around February of 1945. According to Cooper, Max Osias was a quiet, easy going and likeable fellow but Cooper stated he would not recommend Osias because of his associates. Mr. Coopers stated that he also believed that Gold had known Osias before Osias came into the Foreign Economic Administration. Cooper was not able to support this statement or the statement that Gold brought Osias to the Foreign Economic Administration. Mr. Cooper also recalled that Gold testified (no date given) before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, that he was friendly with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster stating that he (Gold) had visited Silvermaster. Cooper also stated that Osias was later employed under Silvermaster in the War Assets Administration after Bela Gold had left the Foreign Economic Administration. Mr. Cooper stated that he did not know whether or not Osias was acquainted with Silvermaster. (Identifying information set forth herein regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file.) (page 11)

Mr. Walter Rastall of the Tariff Commission, advised (no date given) that there had been a definite clique in the Economic Market Research Division of War Assets Administration which was "red in character" and Rastall said that Nathan Silvermaster had been the head of this clique. Rastall also advised that he believed this clique to be "liberal and red in character" not only because Silvermaster had been hailed before the House Committee on Un-American Activities but also because of numerous indications of a Communistic nature on the part of some members of this clique. Rastall identified Herbert Negus, Emmanuel Fishkin, Wesley C. Monkhern, Lilia Pollin, Leon Fishman, Jack Kaufman, Arthur Rosenbaum, Joseph M. Gillman and Philip Mullenbach as members of the Silvermaster clique. (Identifying information set forth herein regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file.) (page 14, 15)

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confidential and reliable source of information

[REDACTED] b1
[REDACTED] b1
(page 16)](c

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] of known reliability, b2
advised (no date given) that Rosenbaum worked for Silvermaster b7D
and had admitted to be a close friend and associate since Silver-
master left War Assets Administration (no dates given). 4
(page 18)

[REDACTED] b7D
(page 19)

Mr. Joseph G. Dubuque, Economic Professor at George-
town University (Washington, D. C.) advised (no date given)
that he worked in the Economic Market Research Division of
War Assets Administration and it's predecessor, Treasury Pro-
curment, from August 30, 1944 to January 15, 1947. Dubuque stated
that he worked for both Silvermaster and Philip Mullenbach.
Dubuque also stated that Jack Kaufman once told him that only
true liberals in the division would be permitted to handle im-
portant policy matters.

(page 20)

The reporting Bureau Agent also pointed out that
Mr. Dubuque recalled (no date given) seeing the Communist Party
membership card of Arthur Rosenbaum when Rosenbaum proudly
held it over his head before a group attending a union meeting during

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office hours. Dubuque was also reported to have stated that he doubted the loyalty of Osias on the basis of his friendship with members of the Silvermaster group and would not recommend Osias for government employment.

(Page 21)

Mr. G. Reid Salisbury, Division of Islands and Territories, Department of Interior, advised (no date given) that he, Salisbury, had worked at the War Assets Administration from its inception and at the Economic Market Research Division from January to June of 1947. Salisbury stated that the Economic Market Research Division was organized to assure the greatest utilization of surplus property with the least damage to any defense industry and this unit was first headed by Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Salisbury advised that Silvermaster surrounded himself with a group of men who seemed particularly friendly both in and out of office, including Jack Kaufman, Dr. Joseph M. Gillman and later Arthur Rosenbaum, Julien Frechtman and Herbert Negus. Salisbury also stated that these men were so close that he identified them in his mind as a clique. Salisbury also stated that these men always seemed to be in complete agreement on questions of policy and seemed to be working in concert for the promotion of one another.

(Page 21A)

Salisbury also related an incident wherein 50,000 tons of railroad rails were declared surplus during a period when Russia wanted rails. Salisbury stated that the President had just ordered that China be given preference on railway equipment since better transportation was urgently needed to relieve the famine situation at that time. Also the Alaska Railway operated by the Interior Department requested these rails to repair their long neglected roadbeds. Salisbury stated that the bulk of these rails were originally on the west coast but suddenly he, Salisbury, was aware that their concentration had been ordered in Hoboken, New Jersey. Salisbury stated that this appeared odd to him and he requested an investigation which revealed that they were destined for Yugoslavia. Partial shipment of about 3,000 tons had already been made but the shipment of the remainder was divided between China and the Alaska Railway. Salisbury stated that Silvermaster fought this shipment to China and Alaska and had the State Department protest. Salisbury stated that Silvermaster's contact with the State Department was not known.

Mr. Salisbury also stated that he knew of no concrete information regarding Max Osias other than his association with members of the Silvermaster group. Salisbury did not know if Osias actually knew Silvermaster.

(Page 22)

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During February, 1948, Mr. Carl King, former Director of War Assets Administration, Compliance and Enforcement Division, stated that the various surplus property agencies in the United States Government were merged on March 25, 1946 into the War Assets Administration. King stated that Silvermaster was made director of the Economic Market Research Division of War Assets Administration and Mullenbach was named as Silvermaster's Assistant. Mr. King stated that frequent complaints were received by the Director of War Assets Administration charging Communistic activity within this Division. King stated that the names of persons in this Division were checked against files of agencies investigating subversive activities and as a result of this paper investigation, Silvermaster was transferred to a lesser position of little authority and resigned on November 30, 1946.

(page 23)

Miss Mary Walsh, U. S. Canada Division, International Monetary Fund, 1818 H Street N. W., (Washington, D. C.) advised (no date given) that she, Walsh, was Mullenbach's private secretary from November, 1946 to June, 1947. Miss Walsh stated that Mullenbach was very friendly with Kaufman and leaned heavily upon him. Miss Walsh did not recall that Silvermaster had ever phoned Mullenbach at the office but said (Silvermaster) visited there with someone (not further identified) several times and always stopped to pass a friendly word with Mullenbach. Miss Walsh stated that she knew of no associates of Max Osias at the War Assets Administration other than the accidental working relationships. Miss Walsh stated that in view of the Communistic stories that were prevalent about Silvermaster, Gillman, Rosenbaum and Kaufman, etc., she, Walsh, felt that she did not know Osias well enough to make a statement concerning his loyalty.

(page 24)

Mrs. Jane Wiebel Stauffer, Analyst for the Navy Personnel Division, US Navy advised (no date given) that she had been an Administrative Officer to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster (date and location not given). Mrs. Stauffer also stated that she knew of no reason to question the loyalty or character of Silvermaster, Osias, Kaufman or anyone at War Assets Administration. Mrs. Stauffer also stated that she was surprised when the newspapers told of the Communistic infiltration in the organization. Mrs. Stauffer also recommended Max Osias for a position of trust in the government.

(page 24)

Mr. Wesley Mohnkern advised (no date given) that he had been the supervisor of Max Osias for a time and stated that Osias was not allied with any member of the "Silvermaster group". Mohnkern stated that he recommended Osias for a position of trust and considered him to be reliable, loyal and trustworthy. Mohnkern also stated that he had never heard Osias make any statements that would seem to him to be subversive in character.

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Confidential Informant T-2, of unknown reliability, advised (no date given) that Frank Charrette was very friendly with Max Osias. The same informant considered Charrette to be one of the "Silvermaster group" but knew of no definite derogatory information concerning Max Osias other than that he was friendly with the "Silvermaster group".

(Page 25)



b7E

(Page 26)

Other information in this reference appears in Silvermaster's main file.

T-2 Nancy McKeever, 1016 16th St. N.W., (Washington, D.C.)



b7c b7D

Washington Field Office report, 8-24-49

Re: "Max Silber Osias; Special Inquiry-National Security Resource Board-Employee"

126-58-22 pp. 2,9,11,14,15,16,19, 20,21,21A,23,24,26

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On November 4, 1950, an alphabetically arranged address book, maintained by Earl Strathmore Pittman, State Department, was made available to the Bureau. Among the names and addresses in this address book was that of Viola Ilma, Ely 35-51, 903 (R 103) Fre Street, Honore, Paris.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, reported, that on October 22, 1945, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster contacted telephone number ORC-43672 in New York City. This number was listed to Viola Ilma. u b2
b7D

~~Confidential Informant T-15, of known reliability, reported in 1940 that Viola Ilma, one of the founders of the American Youth Congress, was born in Germany, the daughter of Alfred Ilma Waldmeier, but that she had been using the name Viola Ilma since 1928, when she first sought a career on the stage. She said that Ilma originally gained a certain prominence organizing the American Youth Congress in 1934, but shortly thereafter she was ousted by Communist elements after she had invited all National Youth Organizations to Congress. (T-15-Bureau letter, 9-17-40, Re: "Viola Ilma")~~

~~Confidential Informant T-16, of known reliability, reported that Haakon N. Chavalier, a Russian espionage suspect, associated with Ilma a great deal and frequently visited her apartment, 144 East 24th Street, New York City, during December, 1943, and January, 1944. (T-16, Undisclosed source, apparently a physical surveillance, mentioned in New York report dated 7-2-46. Re: "Gregory, Espionage - R".~~

Washington Field Office report
1-18-51

Re: "Earl Strathmore Pittman;
Pierrette Ann Pittman, was.

Espionage - R"
65-59290-102, p. 24
(10)

C:men

~~TOP SECRET~~

On October 22, 1945, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, telephonically contacted Viola Ilms at 115 East 24th Street, New York City. The call was made by Silvermaster from Washington, D.C. (Confidential source not further identified)

This file reflected that in 1931, Viola Ilms was the subject of a security matter - C 245

New York File, 4-12-49
Re: Viola Ilms, was: IS - CS
61-9961-15
(35)
SI-61-9961-19
(Source not stated)
(14)

ECC:cm

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

During an interview of Elizabeth Terrall Bentley, a self-confessed espionage agent, on November 30, 1945, Miss Bentley recounted that about one or two months prior to the death of Jacob Golos, known Soviet espionage agent, he told her of a contact he had recently made with a new group in Washington, D. C. According to her statement, early in 1944 Earl Browder mentioned to her that Golos had been contacting a group but had been unable to keep an appointment with them as the date set for the meeting came shortly after Golos' death on Thanksgiving Day. On Thanksgiving Day, 1943, Browder told Bentley that he was anxious for her to meet this group and that he might contact them and make necessary arrangements for such a meeting. About two months later, Browder directed her to meet this group at the apartment of John Abt on Central Park West, near 90th Street, in New York on a certain date. On the specified day, on Browder's instructions, Bentley went to Abt's apartment and met Victor Perlo, Charles Kramer, Harry Magdoff, and Edward Fitzgerald. They talked freely in her presence, described the payment of Communist Party dues to her, and the type of information that they would be able to furnish. They also discussed the type of intelligence which other members of the group might be able to furnish. The informant subsequently learned that in addition to the individuals named above, Donald Wheeler, Alan Rosenberg, Lischinsky, Harold Glasser and George Perazich were identified with this group.

On June 7, 1947, Perazich was interviewed by Agents in room 305, Social Science Research Building, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

At this time, Perazich furnished a signed statement in which he said that he had no recollection of ever having heard of the following persons: Jacob Golos, Victor Perlo, John Abt, Charles Kramer, Harold Glasser, Edward Fitzgerald, Harry Magdoff, Alan Rosenberg, Lischinsky, Donald Wheeler, George Perazich, and Estelle Walker.

WFO
Per George
Ratter-C
100-36597
(21)

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

b1

(C)

In her autobiography, Bransten related that in 1931 her former husband Richard Bransten gave up a business career and started to write "with the critical help of Joseph Gaer," who first interested them in Communism, and that in January, 1934, they "started reading - Lenin's works, etcetera and took a course in the Economics of Capitalism given by Gregory Silvermaster at an adult education center which had been started by our friend Joseph Gaer - and began to absorb Marxist social and economic theories."

Additional information concerning Nathan Gregory Silvermaster which appears in this reference may be found in the subject's main file, 65-56402.

San Francisco report 4/22/47
Re: "Comintern Apparatus; IS - R"
100-203581-5421
p. 1, 36, 115
(25, 69)

JEW:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

██████████ advised (no date given) that during the summer of 1945, Mrs. Robert Talbott Miller III was in contact with Peggy Greenfield (not identified). According to the informant, Mrs. Miller asked Peggy Greenfield whether she had met the Silvermasters and the latter indicated that she had and knew all about them. Mrs. Miller indicated that she had met them recently with Major Faminville (not identified) whom she admired very much.

12
b7D

This report stated that: "It is not definitely known to whom Mrs. Miller referred, but it is possible that she had in mind Nathan Gregory Silvermaster whose Communistic activities have previously been investigated."

WFO report 11-13-45
Re: "Robert Talbott Miller III;
Internal Security-C, Hatch Act"
101-6611-332
(19)

JFB:nlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

In connection with a loyalty investigation of Gilda Dolores de Frank, former secretary of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Attorney Frank Hancock, former Congressman, advised that he was Administrator of the Farm Security Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, from November 15, 1943, until November 15, 1945. He advised that he did not recall Gilda Dolores de Frank. He did vaguely recall that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was employed by the Farm Security Administration. Further, he advised that to the best of his recollection there was some "corridor gossip" to the effect that Silvermaster was a Communist sympathizer or was believed in some way to be associated with the Communist Party.

Charlotte report 3-22-48
Re: "Gilda Dolores de Frank,
War Assets Administration -
Loyalty of Government Employees."
121-701-8
(12)

ECC:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

A review of the indices and files of the New York Field Office during the period from May 20 to September 16, 1947, reflected the following background information concerning Michael H. Naigles:

"By memorandum dated November 16, 1945, the Bureau advised as follows:

"In connection with the Hatch Act investigation of Michael H. Naigles, Economist, Post War Labor Problems Division, Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor, it was noted that Naigles, a member of various front groups in Washington, D. C., was apparently acquainted with Gregory Silvermaster, who was reported by [REDACTED]

(page 3)

b7D
b7C

NY report 9-22-47
Re: "Michael H. Naigles, was.;
IS-R."
101-4732-22
(63)
SI 100-343242-38 p. 29
(70)
(Source not given)

JFB:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

Miss Elizabeth Terrill Bentley advised on November 30, 1945, that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster used to complain that the activities of Victor Perlo in Washington (D. C.) were upsetting George Silverman (formerly employed by the U. S. Army Air Force in Washington, D. C.).

WFO report 5-24-49
Re: "Victor Perlo, was.; SM-C."
100-362128-1, p. 8
(21)

JFB:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

On November 30, 1945, Confidential Informant, Gregory advised that during the time the informant was associated with Jacob Golos, one Barney Schuster and his wife came into the office, where they talked with Golos. The informant knew that Schuster was connected with the Financial Division of the Communist Party District and also that his party name was Chester. The informant merely knew Schuster as a social acquaintance of Golos, but on one occasion Schuster inquired as to how Gregory Silvermaster was. Schuster indicated he was familiar with Silvermaster and others who were doing the same type of work as Silvermaster.

New York report 7-19-46
Re: "Bernard Schuster,
was.; IS - C"
100-1556-19
(61)
SI 100-1556-42, p. 20,56
(72)

JFB:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

In January, 1951, the New York Office submitted information taken from a review of the signed statements of Elizabeth Bentley (admitted former Soviet espionage courier) dated November 8, 1945 and November 30, 1945.

Bentley was reported to have advised that on the morning following the death of Jacob Golos (on Thanksgiving Day, 1943), "Catherine", (Bentley's contact) introduced Bentley to "Bill," who was to be her new boss. On that day "Bill" told Bentley that he wanted Mary Price first; that they needed her very badly. Bentley refused to turn Mary Price over and said it was not up to her, but was up to Earl Browder. Everytime Bentley met "Bill" he would demand Mary Price and Bentley would then check with Browder and ask him. *rel*

When they decided they could not get Mary, they started after the Silvermaster group. Bentley resisted and "Bill" stated he would go to Browder. About two months later Browder told Bentley to turn the Silvermaster group over to the Russians. Bentley did so in September, 1944. (Page 9)

Elizabeth Bentley advised that sometime in the late spring or early summer of 1944, Gregory Silvermaster came to New York City and met Earl Browder at Bentley's apartment. This conference between Silvermaster and Browder was occasioned by an attempt by "Bill" (Bentley's superior) to have certain people turned over to him ("Bill"). As a result of this meeting, Bentley learned that Browder had consented to permit Silvermaster to have one interview with "Bill." (Page 20)

Elizabeth Bentley advised in a signed statement on November 30, 1945, that during the time she was associated with Jacob Golos she very often saw "Berney" Schuster and his wife who came into the office where they talked with Golos. Bentley stated that at this time Schuster was connected with the Finance Division of the Communist Party District and she also recalled that his party name was "Chester." *rel*

^{THAT,} Bentley advised ^{late} in the spring of 1944, she met Schuster on the street and had a long conversation with him. Schuster asked Bentley how "Gregg" Silvermaster was and when Bentley appeared not to know Silvermaster he made a remark to indicate that he was familiar with Silvermaster and other persons who were doing the same type of work as Silvermaster. (Page 23, 28)

Other information on Page 6 and 19 of this ~~reference~~ appears in Silvermaster's main file.

This serial bore the following notation: "Information herein is from [redacted] and is not to be disseminated outside the Bureau. (S)"

(S) [New York report 1-12-51
Res: [redacted] b1
Espionage-R."
65-58915-14 pgs. 6,9,19,20,23,28
(57,80)]

JFB:lih

XXXXXX
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4

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65-56402 p 205-208

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CONFIDENTIAL

On December 1, 1945, through a physical surveillance, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and his wife, Helen Silvermaster were observed meeting an individual (later determined to have been Alexander Koral, Courier for unknown subject, Frank), at the corner of Connecticut Avenue and Ordway Street, Washington, D.C. Koral and the Silvermasters entered the Silvermaster car and proceeded to 14th Street and Colorado Avenue, where Koral left them and returned to New York.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

Other information appearing in this reference is identical with that appearing in the main file (Gregory Case) and is not being set forth in this memorandum.

New York Report, 7-31-51
Re: "Unknown Subject, was;
Frank; Espionage - R."
65-57915-30
(12-100)
SI-65-57915-2
(32-63)
SI-65-57981-30X
(48)
SI-65-57981-59X
(83)
SI-100-357057-5
(21)

~~TOP SECRET~~

On December 5, 1945, Elizabeth Bentley, in a signed statement advised that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster headed a group in Washington, D. C., engaged in securing data for the Soviet Underground. Miss Bentley also advised that she learned through Silvermaster that Irving Kaplan, who was connected with the War Production Board, was giving her group information he obtained through this Agency. (Additional information in this reference concerning Silvermaster was purely administrative and has not been set out herein.)

New York report, 1-22-51
Re: "David Weintraub,
Espionage - R"
100-338861-35 p. 23, 38
(17)

CTC:pan

A surveillance conducted in 1945, revealed that Elizabeth Sasuly had been in close and frequent contact with persons identified by Elizabeth Bentley as having been engaged in Soviet espionage, including Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Silvermaster.

(page 15)

[REDACTED] reported in December, 1945, that Florence Levy, the sister-in-law of Robert T. Miller, who was identified by Elizabeth Bentley as having been engaged in espionage in Washington, D. C., was acquainted with Helen and Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

(page 43)

WFO Report 11-2-49
Re: "Ruth Sarah Rifkin,
was., Security Matter-C"
100-343492-10 page 15, 43
(24)

CTC:jh

TOP SECRET

[REDACTED]

The reporting [REDACTED] that it was thought
that this probably referred to [REDACTED]

It was noted that an investigation entitled "Joseph Gaer, was; Employee Investigation, Office of Emergency Management," was conducted relative to the instant individual. This investigation reflected that Joseph Gaer was born on March 16, 1897 in Edinetz, Bessarabia, under the name of Eli Yussef Fishman. Identifying information which is reported in this reference regarding Silvermaster, appears in his main file.

New York report 2-19-46
Re: "Louise Rosenberg Bransten
was., IS-R."
100-17139-235 pg. 16
(62)
SI 100-17139-245 pg. 2
(72)

JFB:1th

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

(c)

[REDACTED]

course Bransten, described by Elizabeth Bentley, self-confessed Soviet agent, as a well known Communist.

[REDACTED]

b1

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

referred

~~TOP SECRET~~

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65-56402-3970 p 214

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~~TOP SECRET~~

According to Confidential Informant [redacted], a Mrs. Steinberg, believed to have been Mrs. Arthur Steinberg, requested Mrs. Silvermaster on November 27, 1945, to furnish Joseph Gaer's address in New York City, because she indicated she might want to contact Gaer in New York. Mrs. Silvermaster indicated that she did not have Gaer's address because it was in her husbands possession. u

b2
b7D

Arthur Steinberg was at one time attached to the Office of Scientific Research and Development, assigned as a consultant to the United States Naval Chief of Staff. Mrs. Steinberg, formerly was employed by the College of the City of New York, New York City.

On April 29, 1946, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that Gaer accepted the invitation of the Silvermasters to remain at their home in Washington, D. C. on May 1, 1946. It was learned that Gaer remained at the Silvermasters residence in Washington, D. C., from May 1 to May 4, when he left for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The purpose of Gaers visit to the Silvermaster's was not known. u

b2
b7D

The same informant advised that on July 25, 1946, Gaer received an invitation from the Silvermasters to visit them at their beach residence during August, 1946. Mrs. Silvermaster told Gaer that Henrietta and Herman Klotz would also be visiting them at that time.

[redacted]

Confidential Informant [redacted] stated that during a meeting between Ludwig Ullman, alleged Communist, and Helen Silvermaster, wife of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Ullmann mentioned that he had been talking to Henrietta Klotz and that she had expressed appreciation for the pleasant weekend that she had had at Silvermaster's beach cottage. u

referred

b2
b7D

[redacted]

b7D

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D
[Handwritten initials]

Other information appearing in this file is the same as that in the main 65-56402 and is not being set forth in this summary.

New York report 8-26-49
Re: "Joseph Gaer, was.;"
Security Matter - R"
100-103204-15
(corrected copy of serial
9)
(50,78,8)

ECC:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

TS

In an effort to identify the subject of this case, the surveillances maintained on Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Helen Silvermaster, and William Ludwig Ullman were reviewed for the purpose of determining the identities of any persons who might have contacted the Silvermasters or Ullman under circumstances which would indicate activity of an espionage nature.

b1

It was noted that on December 1, 1945, an individual later identified as Alexander Koral met the Silvermasters under rather suspicious circumstances in Washington, D.C.. After his contact with the Silvermasters, Koral immediately returned to New York City where he was placed under surveillance by the New York Office.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

After Koral returned to New York he was placed under surveillance and on December 4, 1945, Koral and a woman believed to be his wife were observed to leave their residence at 290 Empire Bvd., accompanied by an individual later identified as George Reichelsheimer. They all went to the Long Island Railroad Station where Reichelsheimer boarded a train and proceeded to Port Jefferson, New York.

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

From the information available in the Washington Field Office it appeared that the contact with Reichelsheimer was the only contact made by Koral after his visit to the Silvermasters, which could have been a contact with "Frank". It was pointed out that the description of Reichelsheimer compared very favorably with the description of an unknown subject "Bill" who was a principal of Amadeo Sabatini (unidentified).

It was pointed out that some consideration should be given to the possibility that Koral was identical with the subject in this case. [REDACTED]

In a New York report dated March 26, 1941, it was indicated that an unidentified woman believed to be Mrs. Alexander Koral was observed to exchange a manilla envelope with an unidentified man in the La Salle Cafeteria, 51st Street and Seventh Avenue in New York City. b7c b7D

The New York Office was requested to review available information concerning Koral and compare this information with that which was known concerning [REDACTED] TS b1

It was also pointed out that during the investigation of the Gregory case it was determined that Joseph Gaer, writer and author who was formerly employed by several agencies of the United States Government, was a frequent contact of the Silvermasters and Ullman. From information available concerning the unknown subject in this case it appeared that the relationship between [REDACTED] and the Silvermasters was probably a close one since it appeared that Silvermaster was receptive to advice and counsel given by [REDACTED] TS It was also pointed out that [REDACTED] may have been a writer or engaged in some similar field of endeavor. It was also known that the Silvermasters frequently asked for and received advice from Joseph Gaer and it was apparent that he was also engaged in a literary field. b1

It was believed that some consideration should be given to the possibility that Gaer was identical with [REDACTED] TS b1

~~TOP SECRET~~

It was stated that since Gaer had resided in the New York area for the past several years and was there during the time [redacted] was known to have been operating, the New York Office was requested to review the information available concerning Gaer and compare this with the information known concerning [redacted] TS

b1

WFO memo, 9-26-50
Re: [redacted] (S)
Espionage-R
65-59145-5
(48) b1 (S)

CLA:jlc

~~TOP SECRET~~

On 12-21-45 Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that Ruth Gruber was friendly with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, and his wife, Helen, and was in frequent contact with Silvermaster. ^{b7D}_{b2} u

In August, 1949, Ruth Gruber was described (no source given) as a Free Lance Writer and the former secretary of Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior. (Page 12)

New York Report 8-31-49
Re: "Ruth Gruber, was;
IS-R".
62-62701-25
(34)

JFB:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

The Washington Field Office reported during the latter part of 1948 that Arthur Eden was transferred to the Economic Cooperation Administration on August 11, 1948 according to the files of the Economic Cooperation Administration. These same files indicated that Eden had previously been employed from March 25, 1946 to August 11, 1948 in the War Assets Administration, Economic Market Research Division as an Economist.

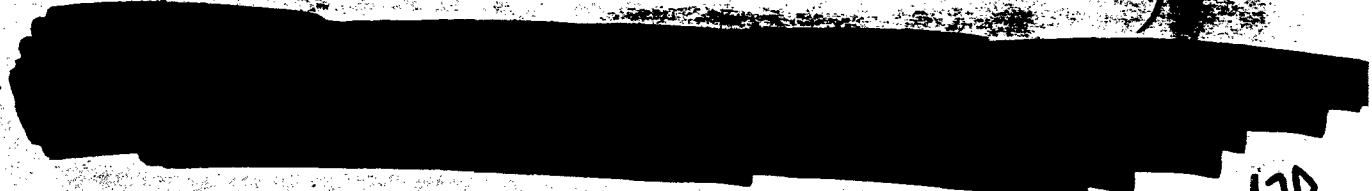
G. Reed Salisbury, 4402 South Thirty-Second street, Arlington, Virginia, who was reported to be in Alaska with the International Factors Incorporated of 1319 F Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., during the latter part of 1948, advised Special Agent Arthur J. Hall that he had worked with the War Assets Administration from its inception, and in the Economic Market Research Division from January to June, 1947. Salisbury related that when WAA was merged from units of Commerce, Treasury and Reconstruction Finance Corporation about March, 1946, Government officials realized that the dumping of nearly three billion dollars worth of goods on the American market might have great effect on our production and economy. To assure greatest utility of the surplus property with least damage to key defense industry, the Economic Market Research Division was organized. This unit was first headed by Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. During this period, Silvermaster surrounded himself with a group of men who seemed particularly friendly-both in and out of the office-and Salisbury identified this group as Jack Kaufman, Dr. Joseph M. Gillman, and later Arthur Rosenbaum, Julien Frechtman, and Herbert Negus. Salisbury also advised that all of these men were so close that he identified them in his mind as a clique, as they always seemed to be in complete agreement on questions of policy, and to be working in concert for the promotion of one another.

(Page 3)



67c 67D

~~TOP SECRET~~



(Page 5) 67c67D

Russell V. Oliver, Office of Real Property, WAA, advised (date and location not given) that he worked in the Economic Market Research Division from August, 1946 to June 30, 1947. Oliver advised that there were two groups in the Economic Market Research Division which he identified as Left and Right Wing groups. Oliver also advised that Eden belonged to the Left camp but was considered to be of the Secondary Periphery of the Inner Circle of which Silvermaster, Arthur Rosenbaum, Jack Kaufman, Joseph Gillman and Philip Mallenbach were the most notorious. Oliver advised that he considered these men as obnoxious, rabble-rousing Communists whose Union activities were obvious to all in the Division.

(Page 5)

Joseph G. Dubuque, Economics professor, Foreign Service School, Georgetown University, Washington, D. C., advised (date and location not given) that he worked in the Economic Market Research Division, WAA and its predecessor, Treasury Procurement, from August 30, 1946 to January 15, 1947. Dubuque advised that he worked for both Silvermaster and Mallenbach. He also advised that Jack Kaufman once told him that only those who were in the Division would be permitted to handle important policy matters. Dubuque at first accepted the demoralization of the United States Foreign and Domestic Policy as healthy political thought, but after several months became convinced that the policy was not only against most of Truman's Policy but equally fervent in its opposition to the policy of Russia and the Communist Party.

(Page 5)

Mrs. Hilda Bush, Secretary, Office of Real Property, WAA, advised (date and location not given) that she worked in the Economic Market Research Division, WAA and its predecessor, Treasury Procurement, from August 30, 1946 to January 15, 1947. She advised that she worked for both Silvermaster and Mallenbach. She also advised that Jack Kaufman once told her that only those who were in the Division would be permitted to handle important policy matters. She advised that she accepted the demoralization of the United States Foreign and Domestic Policy as healthy political thought, but after several months became convinced that the policy was not only against most of Truman's Policy but equally fervent in its opposition to the policy of Russia and the Communist Party.

~~TOP SECRET~~

unofficial top assistant and said she was aware of a very loyal personal friendliness predating WAA existing between Silvermaster, Kaufman, Rosenbaum and Gillman. Burke recalled that Russian sympathies were generally shown by the group and also advised that within the office there was a clique held together by racial similiarity, political affinity, interest in promotion of the Union, and against racial discrimination. Mrs. Burke stated that Arthur Eden was quiet, did not express his political views and was not a member of the Silvermaster group.

(Page 6, 7)

Walter Rastall, Economist, Economic Market Research Division, WAA, advised (date and location not given) that there had been a definite clique in the Division which was Red in character and said that Nathan Silvermaster had been the head of this clique. Rastall also advised that Arthur Eden was persona grata with the group and further advised that he believed the clique to be Liberal and Red in character not only because Silvermaster had been hailed before the House Committee on Un-American activities but because of numerous indications of a Communistic nature on the part of some members of the clique. Rastall also advised that Arthur Eden was either very, very naive if he did not know of the Red activities or he was sympathetic to them, or he overlooked these activities for the better-paid promotions and efficiency ratings involved. Rastall further stated that he never so much as saw Arthur Eden speak to Nathan Silvermaster.

(Page 7, 8)



(Page 11)

referred

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Other information in this reference appears in Silvermaster's main file.

Washington Field Office Report
10-1-48
Re: "Arthur Eden, with alias
Arthur Edelstein; European
Recovery Program"
124-1113-6
(41, 80)
SI-124-1113-8
(41,80)

JFB:vw

~~TOP SECRET~~

JOP

Names appearing in the address book of Myra Mills Jordan who as of December, 1947, was employed by the Trusteeship Department of the United Nations, included that of John Dierkes.

[REDACTED]

referred

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] advised that in 1945 and 1946, Dierkes was a close friend of Robert T. Miller and Gregory Silvermaster, both of whom were principal subjects of the Silvermaster Case.

Q u

b2 b7D

New York Report, 10-19-49
Re: "Myra Mills Jordan
Espionage - R"
100-182607-61
(64)

ECC:jar

JOP

~~TOP SECRET~~

[redacted] an informant of known reliability reported (date and location not given) that Morton Eliot Kent, during 1946, was in frequent contact with Nathan and Helen Silvermaster. (page 9)

b2
b7D

~~WAX~~ Confidential Informant T-1, an informant of known reliability, advised that on March 15, 1947, a man driving a Nash automobile, listed to Harlan Van Hadley, 101 Brookside Drive, stopped at the residence of Morton Eliot Kent, 301 Cumberland Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland and picked up Kent's daughter and then drove away.

During October of 1949, Mr. James D. Preston, Registration Clerk, Office of the Secretary of the Senate, produced records to show that Hadley registered with the Secretary of the Senate under the Lobbying Act on May 21, 1947. This form disclosed that he was appearing in the interest of the Taxation Committee, Automobile Manufacturers Association, 320 New Center Building, Detroit, Michigan.

~~WAX~~ T-1, Information received from a Physical Surveillance as reported in Washington Field Office file 65-4749. Report of Special Agent Edward M. Grampt, entitled "Morton Eliot Kent, was; Espionage - R" 4-19-47

Washington Field Office report, 10-31-49
Re: "Harlan Van Vactor Hadley, aka Van Hadley; International Labor Organization, Public Law 843, 80th Congress" 77-44580-13 (80)

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

On August 11, 1948, Frederick James Tomkins was reinterviewed by Bureau Agents in the New Jersey State Prison, Trenton, New Jersey, in connection with Doctor David L. Milliken-Espionage-R, investigation.

Tomkins stated that sometime in 1946, he had traveled east where he contacted an individual which he would not identify. He stated that at that time he had learned of this individual (X's) connection with subversive elements representing the Soviet Government. Tomkins stated that he had asked how he could have gotten mixed up in such a deal and he had said that it was through one R. G. "Archie" Moeller, who he stated was at one time connected with German Elements and had later gone over to the Russians.

According to Tomkins, X falsified letters and documents. Milliken was one of three persons X contacted when material was ready for delivery.

On specific questioning, Tomkins claimed never to have seen anything in X's files regarding Silvermaster.

Newark Letter to the
Director, 8-23-48,
Re: "Doctor David L.
Milliken, was, et al;
Espionage - R: Passports
and Visa's."
65-58010-41
(79)

ECC:mlb

On May 29, 1947, Bureau Agents interviewed Virginius Frank Coe at his office in the International Monetary Fund. Coe was questioned concerning the allegations of Miss Bentley to the effect that he was associated with the Silvermaster group and had furnished information of a general economic nature to Silvermaster to be furnished to her Russian contact. Coe emphatically denied furnishing information of any nature to anyone which would be detrimental to the United States and stated that no information concerning any official activity in his profession was ever passed on to any individual for transmittal to a Russian contact.

Coe was questioned concerning correspondence with the Silvermasters from South America and sending them reports and other information. To this Coe stated that he "Categorically denied furnishing any information or reports to the Silvermasters." Coe stated that he was unable to recall ever having corresponded with the Silvermasters, particularly during the time he was in Mexico.

Coe stated he was not closely associated with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster or his wife but only knew them while traveling in "economic circles." Coe stated there was a possibility that while discussing general economic problems with the Silvermasters or other individuals, he may have discussed some particular phases but that, no time in his recollection, did he recall having furnished information of a nature which could be considered detrimental to the United States.

Coe, after having first stated that he was not closely associated with Abraham George Silverman, admitted later in the interview that he had luncheon engagements with Silverman on numerous occasions. Moreover, that he was aware that Silverman was a close associate of the Silvermasters.

(P. 12-13)

~~TOP SECRET~~

On August 13, 1946, Frank Coe accompanied by his Counsel, O. John Rogge, appeared before the House Committee on Un-American Activities to answer charges made by Elizabeth Bentley.

During this interrogation he was asked if he knew Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. He stated that he believed that he first met Silvermaster in 1939. He stated that he thought that it was through a Mr. Ullmann who was at the Treasury when he (Coe) was there. He stated that in 1939 and 1940, he knew Silvermaster socially and had seen him from time to time since. Coe was asked how many times he had been at the home of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. In 1939 or 1940 he was there ten or twelve times he said. When asked how many times Silvermaster was at his home he said several times.

Coe was asked about his knowledge of a number of individuals who were alleged to have comprised the Silvermaster group, and if he had ever seen them at the Silvermaster home. Coe stated that it was possible but that he could not recall because it had been nine years.

Coe stated that he noticed that there was introduced there a telephone device for recording numbers which indicated that his name was on the telephone device which Silvermaster used. He said that he had his secretary get the same device which was used in his office in 1945 or 1946 and he found Silvermaster name on that list. He said that he had found another such device in his office with 266 names. He said that the point he was trying to make was that some of these people were friendly to each other and some were not. He said that inevitably in Washington, you meet and know a great many people.

Coe stated that the only way these people ever came to being a group, to his knowledge, was in the playing of volley ball. He was asked if he didn't think that it conceivable that people who link together so well that had played volley ball together on Saturdays and Sundays and holidays might know each other so well that they might meet together socially in the evening also. Coe stated that the one person he never

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

saw at the volley ball games was Silvermaster.

Coe stated that his relationship with Silvermaster diminished mainly because he (Coe) moved to Virginia. He stated that they were pleasant people, friendly, and very human people. He stated that Mrs. Silvermaster never impressed him as having any undue interest in anybody else's job or activities. In fact, he stated that Silvermaster talked a lot about labor and the report, of whatever the current operation would be that he was engaged in, and about general matters. Further information appearing in this reference has been set out elsewhere in this summary or is contained in the Gregory file: 65-56402 and is not being set forth in this summary.

Washington Field Office
Report 5-15-51
Re: "Virginius Frank
Coe, aka.; Security
Matter - C."
100-364447-16, Encl. p. 9,
10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18,
21, 22, 23, 32, 36, 37,
40
(11)
SI 100-364447-5
(5-20-69)

ECC:mlb

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~§~~ Confidential Informant T-1 who had proven himself to be reliable, advised that he had personal knowledge of the activities of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and that Omer Mills was friendly with him and in contact with him in 1946. The nature of such contacts was unknown to the informant who refused to furnish a signed statement or appear before a Loyalty Hearing Board.

Additional identifying information concerning Silvermaster is not being set out herein as it appears in Silvermaster's main file.

~~§~~ T-1: Informant whose identity is known to the Bureau as stated in the report of Special Agent Lambert G. Zander, Washington, D. C., 12-6-46, Entitled "Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, was; et al - Espionage (R)," on page 124. b2
b7D

Washington Field Office
report, 2-17-48
Re: "Omer Mills, Chief of
Occupancy Section, Program
Operations, Region 1,
Federal Public Housing
Authority; LGE"
121-5170-X3
(1)

CLA:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

This reference contains a prosecutive summary report on Leon Pressman dated April 7, 1951. Under the heading of "Admissible Evidence" it was stated that Pressman testified under subpoena before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on August 28, 1950. During his testimony he admitted that he had associated with numerous individuals including Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

(page 5)

Under the heading "Information of Possible Value on Cross-Examination", it was stated that Pressman was interviewed on January 27, 1949 at his law office, 9 East 40th Street, New York City. During this interview he refused to discuss whether he knew Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and others.

(page 61)

[Confidential Informant ██████ advised that Pressman was in frequent contact with Harry Dexter White during 1945, 1946, and the early part of 1947. It was pointed out that Elizabeth T. Bentley had advised that Harry Dexter White, now deceased, had been active in a Communist espionage underground group in Washington, D.C., and that he had supplied Nathan Gregory Silvermaster with information and documents obtained by him in the course of his employment in the Treasury Department as Assistant Secretary to the Treasurer.] (b2) (b7D) (u)

(page 68)

Confidential Informant ██████ advised that Pressman was in frequent contact with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster during 1946 and the early part of 1947, and, according to the informant, the subject frequented the home of Silvermaster and, in turn, Silvermaster frequented the home of the subject. It was pointed out that Bentley had advised that Silvermaster was active in the Soviet espionage group in Washington, D.C. (b2) (b7D) (u)

(page 69)

New York Rpt., 4-6-51;
Re: "Leon Pressman, was.;
Lee Pressman; IS - C"
100-11820-596, p. 5, 61, 68, 69
(12)

SI as paragraph 2 above
100-11820-439, p. 13;
(40)

CLA: cmm

232

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

In 1946, James P. Newman, Program Analyst of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, was reported to have been intimately acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

Additional information in this reference appears in Silvermaster's main file.

Highly Confidential Source
Washington Field Office
Report 7-13-46
Re: "National Committee
on Atomic Information,
Internal Security-C
100-344452-11 page 47
(23)

CTC:jh

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

██████████ reported that on January 9, 1946, William Walter Remington sent a telegram to Joe Phillips, 151 Cecil Street, Monterey, California (Joseph Dexter Phillips, Jr.), advising that a friend of Remingtons had a job in Japan for Phillips. On January 10, the same informant stated Phillips wired he was interested and on January 13, Phillips wired Remington that he was no longer interested since he had received Social Science Service funds to finish his Doctor's thesis in Washington. (u)

b2
b7D

On January 14, 1946, ██████████ reported that one Irving, believed to have been Irving Kaplan, called Ludwig Ullmann and asked to speak to Gregory Silvermaster about the personnel situation. On being advised Silvermaster was sick in bed, Irving said to Ullmann "Joe Phillips turned us down today. He had a Social Science Research Council Fellowship outstanding when he came to Washington, and they renewed their offer on the Fellowship Committee to let him finish his doctorate so he thought it best to finish it and get it over with." u

b2
b7D

It was noted that Kaplan, Ulmann and Silvermaster are principals in the Gregory case.

Washington Field Office
teletype 1-12-51.
Re: "William Walter Remington,
Perjury".
74-1379-1196
(62)

EEC:bjw

TOP SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~

According to Confidential Informant [redacted] on January 24, 1946, one Nathan Gregory Silvermaster advised a friend of his by the name of Seth [redacted] * that he and his wife were going over to the home of Lee Pressman that evening. ^{b2} ^{b7D} u

Lee Pressman who was General Counsel for the National CIO, was an alleged Communist and a known contact of numerous individuals who belonged to the Communist Party.

Washington Field Office report,
4-29-46
Re: "Leon Pressman, aka
Lee Pressman;
Internal Security - C"
100-11820-65
(30)

*It was noted that the name Gaer was added in pencil after "Seth".

CLA:jar

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65-56402-3970 p236

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2-1-46
TOP SECRET

On February 1, 1946, Confidential Informant Gregory advised that Helen Silvermaster, wife of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, stated that in 1942 she was acquainted with Norman Bursler, an attorney in the Anti-Trust Division, Department of Justice, and indicated to Gregory that Bursler might be a good prospect in intelligence work. Gregory thereupon advised that she conferred with Jacob M. Golos concerning the possible recruitment of Bursler, but Golos indicated he was skeptical for fear Bursler might be a plant. Subsequently, Gregory instructed Helen Silvermaster to handle Bursler personally and an arrangement of some sort was apparently made between Helen Silvermaster and Norman Bursler inasmuch as, according to Gregory, in the summer of 1944 Gregory personally saw reports concerning German Cartels among material turned over to Gregory by Helen and Gregory Silvermaster. Gregory further recalled Helen Silvermaster had advised that Bursler's work in the Anti-Trust Division principally concerned investigation of German Cartels. Gregory indicated to Helen Silvermaster that she knew the source of the cartel reports, and Helen Silvermaster admitted that they had come from Norman Bursler. *nl*

(page 1)

In a personal history statement prepared by Norman Bursler in his own handwriting for the Anti-Trust Division, Department of Justice, on August 5, 1938, the person to be notified in case of emergency was listed by Bursler as Dr. Gregory Silvermaster, 3630 Jocelyn Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. The relationship of this individual was set out by Bursler as "friend".

Also contained in the same personal history statement was a list of "references to persons well qualified to judge as to your fitness as to the position sought". The name of Dr. Gregory N. Silvermaster, Labor Relations Advisor, Federal Security Administration, Washington, D. C., was included in the references set out by Bursler. Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file.

(page 15)

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65-56402-3970 p 238

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~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

referred

(page 16 and 17)

In October, 1938, Mrs. Gregory Silvermaster, 3630 Jocelyn Street, (Washington, D. C.) was interviewed and at that time advised that Norman Bursler resided in her home for several weeks early in June of 1938, when he came from California to accept a position with the government. Mrs. Silvermaster stated that she had known Bursler during the past six or seven years dating from his attendance at the University of California where her husband was a professor. She further stated that she knew nothing of a derogatory nature which would be considered against his obtaining employment with the government. She considered him a most admirable person and deserving of all the assistance she could give him.

(page 17)

~~TOP SECRET~~

Other information in this reference appears in Silvermasters main file.

Bureau letter to the SAC,
Chicago, Illinois, 6-3-47
headed personal and confidential
Re: "Gregory; Espionage-R.
(Norman Chandler Bursler)."
Carried as an enclosure to the
above letter was a letter from
the WFO to the Bureau dated
5-29-47 headed confidential
Re: "Gregory; Espionage-R; Norman
Chandler Bursler."
101-3274-15X1
(19, 61)

JFB:ddl

Confidential Informant [redacted] a reliable informant advised (no date given) that Jacob J. Kaufman was a frequent contact and a close associate of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. The Washington Field Office reported during January of 1948,

[Large redacted block]

(Page 11) u

SECRET
b2
b7D
referred

[Redacted block]

[redacted] (no date given) that [redacted] contact with Mary Jane Keeney since February, [redacted] u

b2
b7D

Confidential Informant T-8, a highly confidential source of information, advised (no date given) that on February 6, 1946, Mary Jane Keeney, while in Frankfurt, Germany, by chance saw Lester Klepper. Mary Jane Keeney was said to have subsequently described Klepper as a fellow she had met at Helen and Greg's last spring. (Helen and Gregory Silvermaster.) It is pointed out that the source of the parenthetical notation in the last sentence was not given. (C) u

see pg 177

T-8, A highly confidential source of information, whose identity cannot be revealed under any circumstances and whose identity is known to Special Agents Aubrey S. Brent and Courtland J. Jones of the W.F.O., and who made available the diaries of Mary Jane Keeney. (C) u

Washington Field Office report, 2-3-48, Re: "Sidney Lester Klepper, aka, Lester Klepper, 'Klep'; Departmental Applicant, Economist Anti-Trust Division, Washington, D.C." 77-36789-11

24(30,72)

JFB:jlc

~~TOP SECRET~~

On February 8, 1946, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that an unknown individual who claimed to be from California, contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and stated that he had heard the Silvermasters were going to be at a dinner party the next evening. The individual wanted to know if Mrs. Silvermaster and Greg could go over to the Bowen Smiths inasmuch as other people were going to be at the Bowen Smiths also. Mrs. Silvermaster advised that she knew nothing about the engagement and that Greg had probably forgotten to tell her about it. Mrs. Silvermaster stated that she hoped they would be able to make it and she was told that the address was 2818 N Street (Washington, D. C.). u

b2
b7D

The unknown individual told Mrs. Silvermaster that he thought 8:30 was a good time to get to the Bowen Smiths.
(page 14)

From January, 1946 to July 2, 1946, Henry Bowen Smith was employed by the Department of State, Office of Economic Security Policy, with the title of Acting Chief, Interim, Research and Planning Division.

Source: Washington report, 6-26-50
Re: "Henry Bowen Smith; IS-R"
65-57207-6
(48)
SI 121-22708-19
(9)

(This reference also contained information which is set out in Silvermasters main file.)

JFB:pan

TOP SECRET

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on February 8, 1946, that W. Gregory Silvermaster and his wife Helen were acquainted with Henry Bowen Smith, former employee of the State Department, and that the Silvermasters had been guests at the Smith home on February 8, 1946. u b2 b7D

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that on April 10, 1947, Eleanor and Owen Lattimore had been guests at the home of Henry Bowen Smith in Washington, D. C. This informant advised that Smith and his wife were close associates of Mary Jane Keeney and her husband, Philip Olin Keeney, both subjects of the Gregory Case 65-56402. u b2 b7D

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on February 20, 1948, that Henry Bowen Smith was the Executive Secretary of the "Committee of One Thousand". This committee had for the purpose the abolition of the House Committee of Un-American Activities. According to the California Committee of Un-American Activities report of 1948, the Committee of One Thousand was a Communist created and controlled front organization which was created to raise funds for the defense of the 19 witnesses before the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities on investigation of Communist activity in Hollywood. u b2 b7D

WFO teletype 4-3-56
Re: "Owen Lattimore - Espionage - R"
100-2-628-394
(77)
100-2-628-922-14
100-11271-10

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

~~TOP SECRET~~

In March, 1946, Edward T. Wickers, who had at one time been associated with the Los Alamos Atom Bomb Project, was employed at the National Bureau of Standards under Dr. Edward U. Condon, Director of the Bureau of Standards, whose wife was reported to have been a known contact of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster of Washington, D. C., both of whom were reported espionage agents and friends of Feodor Garanin, Second Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C., believed to be an NKVD agent. (Time of contacts not given). Because of the circumstances it was realized that information available to Wicker regarding the atom bomb was particularly secure at his place of employment.

Source not given
Letter from Director to
SAC WFO dated 3-13-46
Re: "Edward T. Wickers;
Internal Security - R"
100-344509-1
(23)
SI 100-344509-2
(23)
SI 100-344494-1
(23)
SI 100-344494-3
(23)

CTC:pan

The February 10, 1950, issue of Chicago Daily Tribune carried an article by Willard Edwards entitled "Halls for R. D. R. Shrugged Off Reds by News".

This was the sixth of a series of articles on the infiltration of Communists in government positions in Washington. Among the individuals mentioned was Harry E. Silvermaster, \$10,000 a year government official, who was named in an FBI investigation, by his own admission, as having had government employment in 1945.

Silvermaster was born in Russia and entered the United States at San Francisco in 1915 and became a naturalized citizen in 1927. He had been an associate of Harry Bridges, Longshore Union leader and well known Communist on the west coast. But he had no difficulty in securing a job in the Resettlement Administration under Rexford Guy Tugwell, later shifting to the Farm Security Administration under Agricultural Secretary Henry A. Wallace.

In 1942, Silvermaster applied for a transfer to the Board of Economic Warfare. The FBI reported that Silvermaster was a Communist, a probable agent of the Soviet Union, and had not been given a post in a war agency because of his confidential information.

Silvermaster sought out Harry Bridges and other Communist leaders. He complained that the Communist Party was being investigated and a number of its members were being removed from the Farm Security Administration. He was reported to have been active in the Communist Party in the Washington area before the war.

~~TOP SECRET~~

When he was called upon to answer this charge, he refused to testify on the ground that he might incriminate himself.

100-351669 sub A
(83)

ECC:adl

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant Gregory advised (date and location not given) that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and his wife had written the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of individuals with whom they were in contact, on a calendar maintained in their home. *ul*

The informant (not identified) advised (no date given) that he saw on the March 1, 1946 page of the Silvermasters' calendar, the telephone number METropolitan 0590. It was noted that this number was known to be that of Marcus Goldman, a member of the Southern Negro Youth Congress, Washington, D. C. Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file. (page 11)

WFO Rpt., 9-21-48
Re: "Southern Negro Youth
Congress; IS - C"
100-6548-349
(29)

JFB:cmm

The New York Field Office reported during the period from March 6, to March 15, 1946, that Bureau teletype dated March 4, 1946, contains information reflecting that an unidentified person at the Silvermaster residence requested that the Express Company pick up a wardrobe trunk for shipping to Chicago (Illinois). It was pointed out that inquiry at the Railway Express Agency in Washington (D.C.) disclosed that a trunk shipped from that residence was consigned to Norman Bursler, Law School, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois.

(Page 11)

Identifying information regarding Norman Chandler Bursler and his association with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster appears in Bureau file 101-3274-40 which is summarized elsewhere in this memorandum.

New York report, 3-20-46
Re: "Norman Chandler Bursler;
Internal Security-R"
101-3274-8
(1,69,176)
SI-101-3274-30
(12)
SI-101-3274-33
(9)

JFB:jlc

~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised (date not given) that on March 10, 1946, Frances Ullman, sister of William Ludwig Ullman, while at the residence of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, placed a call to Richmond, Virginia, telephone 4-3505. Frances talked to one Katherine, last name unknown, and later William Ludwig Ullman talked to Morton L. Wallerstein. It was indicated that William Ludwig Ullman and Morton L. Wallerstein were cousins. Nothing of significance occurred during the conversation and it dealt almost entirely with personal affairs. U

b2
b7D

According to the same informant, on February 23, 1947, William Ludwig Ullman attempted to contact the Wallerstein residence at Richmond 4-3505, and informed the maid that he was Wallerstein's cousin. A highly confidential source (not otherwise identified) advised (date not given) that the name Richard Wallerstein, 4-3505, appeared in the address book of Helen and Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullman. U

It was noted that the Silvermasters and Ullman were subjects in the Gregory Case.

Washington Field Office Memo,
11-4-47
Re: "Elizabeth Wallerstein-5-45899;
Atomic Energy Act-Employee"
116-32664-6
(18)

CLA:vw

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

This reference stated that a review of the Bureau files did not reflect frequent contact between Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Doctor Edward U. Condon, Director of the National Bureau of Standards. It was pointed out, however, that they were acquainted. It was noted that on February 4, 1946, Silvermaster and his wife attended a dinner of the Russian Relief in Washington, D.C. They were accompanied on this occasion by Mrs. Emily Condon, wife of Doctor Condon.

It was further known that on at least one occasion, Mrs. Condon called the Silvermaster residence and asked for Silvermaster. This occurred on March 17, 1946. On this occasion Silvermaster was not in. This information was obtained through a technical surveillance. (S) u

Condon was known to have contacted other subjects in the Gregory case including Jack Marsalka and Beadie Magdoff. (S) u

Bureau memorandum to
Mr. Ladd from Mr. V.
P. Keay, 3-3-47
Re: "Doctor Edward Uhler
Condon, Atomic Energy
Act - Applicant."
116-624-2
(19)

CLA:mlb

On March 23, 1946, Gregory Silvermaster, in conversation with one Douglas Sheldon (not identified) who was attempting to get information about some unknown individual, suggested he get in touch with Gunter, who according to Silvermaster, went to Iran in 1933 as a financial advisor and might know the person Sheldon was inquiring about.

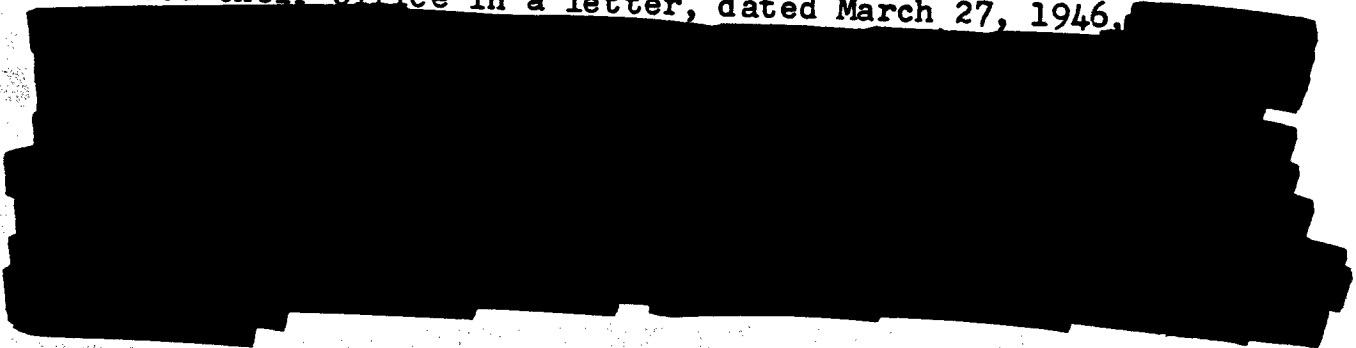
Source: Not given.
Washington Field Office
memorandum, 6-28-48.
Re: "John Wadsworth Gunter,*
Treasury Representative, U.S.
Treasury Department, Washington,
D. C.; Loyalty of Government
Employees"
121-10172-3
(72)

* No further investigation was conducted on this subject.

CLA:men

~~TOP SECRET~~

The Washington Field Office stated that the Bureau advised their office in a letter, dated March 27, 1946.



Additional information appearing in this reference concerning Silvermaster appears in his main file and is not being set out herein. b7D

Washington Field Office
Memorandum, 3-25-47
Re: "Edward Uhler Condon -
11; Atomic Energy Act -
Applicant".
116-624-37
(19)

CLA:mlb

TOP SECRET

During a loyalty investigation of Madeleine Mulqueen Daly, US Department of the Army, it was noted that in her personnel file at the War Department she had given as a reference, Dr. Helen Taft Manning, Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

The files of the Philadelphia Office revealed that Mrs. Manning is the daughter of ex-president William Howard Taft and also that



A Confidential Informant (not further identified) ^{b1} revealed that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster at one time telephonically contacted the home of Mrs. Manning for an unknown reason.

Philadelphia memorandum to the Director 1-13-48
Re: "Madeleine Mulqueen Daly, aka Madge Daly, Research Analyst, Intelligence Group, ID General Staff, US Army, Department of the Army - Loyalty of Government Employees."
121-436-6
(43)

ECC:pan

1946

~~TOP SECRET~~

The Washington Field Office reported during the period of March 20, to April 9, 1946 that the Civil Service Commission file on Norman Bursler contained the following notation: "see file on N. G. Silvermaster."

(Page 10)

On October 19, 1944, Allen Buchanan, Chief, Raw Materials Branch, Office of Manpower Requirements, War Production Board, Social Security Building, Washington, D.C., was interviewed by Bureau Agents. Buchanan stated that he had known Norman Bursler since 1931, when he, Buchanan, was a professor of Economics at the University of California. Buchanan added that he had never heard Bursler say anything which would indicate he was a Communist sympathizer. The reporting agent pointed out that Buchanan was well acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

(Page 11)

On October 16, 1944, Mr. Windell Berge, Anti Trust Division, Department of Justice, advised that he considered Norman Bursler a loyal American and recommended him. Berge stated that he had known Bursler for five or six years and that he had done a very good job as an investigator of Cartels.

Washington Field Office report,
4-17-46

Re: "Norman Chandler Bursler;
Internal Security-R"

101-3274-13

(19)

JFB:jlc

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65-56402-3970 p255

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~~TOP SECRET~~
62-678

Confidential Informant [redacted] (Washington Field Office) advised in 1935 that Dorothy Kaplan, wife of Irving Kaplan, was in contact with Helen Witte Silvermaster, wife of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. *du*

During an interview in Washington on April 15, 1947, Helen Silvermaster advised that she was acquainted with Irving Kaplan, having known him on the West Coast. However, she claimed that she had never seen Kaplan in Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Silvermaster was named by Miss Bentley as playing an active part in the Silvermaster group.

On October 31, 1949, Confidential Informants T-70, T-165, and T-166, all of known reliability, advised that Irving Kaplan was employed as Economic Affairs Officer in the Economic Development Section of the Economic Stability and Development Division, Department of Economic Affairs, United Nations Secretariat. (page 25, 31)

[Large redacted block]

du
Benedict Alper and Mary Jane Keeney were both employed by the United Nations at the time of this report.

Hugh De Lacy was a former United States Congressman who was head of the Progressive Party in the State of Ohio. (page 144)

Additional information concerning Silvermaster is not being set out herein as it appears in his main file.

~~TOP SECRET~~
67D

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~X~~ T-70: Wallace Nelson,
Field Service, United
Nations
WE T-130: [redacted] not otherwise identified in the report of SA Robert E. Leonard, August 24, 1949, Washington, D.C. Captioned "Hulda R. Flynn, wa; Security Matter - C." b2 b7D

~~X~~ T-165: John Cosgrove,
Active Security Head,
United Nations.
T-166: Grace Ryan,
Secretary of the Security
Office, United Nations.
New York Report,
1-19-51
Re: "Infiltration of
the United Nations by
Subversive American
Citizens; IS-R."
105-13893-4, Encl. p.
25, 31, 68, 144
(16)

CLA:mlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

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~~TOP SECRET~~

In connection with the loyalty investigation of Melvin Reginald Monroe, Mover, Public Buildings Administration, Federal Works Agency, Washington, D. C., the Washington Field Office was requested by the Bureau to conduct a preliminary inquiry to ascertain the relationship between the employee and Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, who, a mail cover reflected had received a communication postmarked December 31, 1946, bearing the return address of "Mr. Monroe, 411 50th Street, N. E., Apartment 12, Washington, D. C."

Incoming loyalty form and letter of April 24, 1946, to WFO from the Director
Re: "Melvin Reginald Monroe, Mover, Public Buildings Administration, Federal Works Agency, Washington, D. C. - Loyalty of Government Employees."
121-4557-1
(not indexed)

As a result of a preliminary investigation conducted, it was reported by memorandum of May 14, 1948, from the Washington Field Office, that the mail cover on the mail of Silvermaster for the period of January 1, 1947, to January 15, 1947, reflected the receipt by Silvermaster of a letter bearing the return address "M. R. (not Mr.) Monroe, 411-50th Street, N. W., (should be N. E.) Apartment 12, Washington, D. C." postmarked December 31, 1946.

On the possibility that the instant employee may have corresponded with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster concerning employment or a moving job, it was stated that Silvermaster gave a New Year's party in his residence on that date, December 31, 1946. However, it was impossible to determine any definite connection with the party and the receipt of a letter indicated by the mail cover.

Memo of 5-14-48 from WFO
Re: "Melvin Reginald Monroe, Mover, Public Buildings Administration, Federal Works Agency, Washington, D. C. - Loyalty of Government Employees."
121-4557-3
(45)

JEW:dd1

On a date not indicated, Washington Informant [redacted] advised that sometime in May, 1946, Anna Barnson, a person well acquainted with both Helen and Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, indicated that an individual named Jack Bryan who was in "information," was acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. However, the informant was unable to establish the degree of contact or acquaintanceship that existed between Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Jack Bryan and could furnish no additional information. This informant refused to furnish a signed statement and did not desire to appear before a hearing of the Loyalty Board. 4

TOP
b7D
b2

C. T. Forster, Chief, Division of Investigation, Office of Personnel, Department of Agriculture, Room 402, Administration Building, Washington, D. C., advised (date not given) he recalled Jack Bryan and knew that he worked in the same section as did Nathan Gregory Silvermaster when they both were employed in the United States Department of Agriculture. He said they were both employed in the Farm Security Administration, now known as the Farmer's Home Administration. At that time, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was employed as Director of Labor Relations and Bryan was employed as Assistant Chief and Chief in the Information Division of the Farm Security Administration.

Virgil L. Couch, Personnel Officer, Farmer's Home Administration, US Department of Agriculture, Room 6304, Post Agricultural Building, Washington, D. C., stated (date not given) that he remembered both Jack Bryan and Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. He stated that there was a "forced working relationship" between these two individuals when they worked at the Department of Agriculture. He added that Silvermaster was doing a research and writing project during part of the time he was employed there and that Silvermaster frequently called on Bryan for various types of information and also for advice in preparing some of the written releases coming from Silvermaster's office. He felt that under such circumstances, it was natural that the applicant came to know Nathan Gregory Silvermaster very well. However, Couch added, that in his belief the applicant was a loyal and patriotic citizen.

Identifying information pertaining to ~~TOP SECRET~~ ^{TOP SECRET} Overmaster
which appears in this reference may be found in his main file.

Washington Field Office
report, 6-2-48
Re: "Jack Hunsley Bryan, Public
Affairs Officer-Applciant,
Department of State, Washington,
D. C., Loyalty of Government
Employees".
121-4723-21
(45)
SI-123-29-10
(42 - 20)

JTW:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

(page 7)

b1

The reporting agent indicated that Shura Lewis was the wife of James W. Lewis of 1678 Irving Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., a student at George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

[REDACTED]

referred

Washington Report, 8/14/46.
Re: "Alexandra Pavlovna
Lewis; was. IS - R".
100-333625-48
(53)

JFB:bjw

~~TOP SECRET~~

A preliminary investigation of Laurence I. Hewes, Jr., a Land Reform Specialist with the Far East Command, Department of the Army, Tokyo, Japan, revealed that on May 20, 1946, Hewes telephoned the residence of Gregory and Helen Silvermaster and requested an appointment with Gregory Silvermaster for the following day. On May 21, 1946, Gregory Silvermaster contacted his secretary and indicated he would not be at his office that day on account of illness. He requested her to call Larry Hewes at the Burlington Hotel and advise him that he would be unable to see him.

It was pointed out that the above information failed to indicate any close association of Hewes with Gregory Silvermaster.

It was noted that in 1942 Silvermaster was a Director of the Labor Division of the Foreign Security Administration, Department of Agriculture, and that Hewes was also with the Foreign Security Administration, from 1937 to 1943, both at Washington, D. C., and San Francisco, California, which logically might explain his acquaintance with Silvermaster.

Source not given.

Washington Field Office
memo, 6-5-48

Re: "Laurence Ilsley Hewes, Jr.
aka 'Larry', Land Reform Specialist,
Far East Command, Department of the
Army, Tokyo, Japan; Loyalty of
Government Employees"

121-9500-1X1

(64)

This investigation was predicated upon information that a Larry Hewes contacted Helen and Gregory Silvermaster on May 20, 1946. The Washington Field Office was asked to conduct a preliminary inquiry in effort to ascertain if Laurence Ilsley Hewes, Jr. was identical with the individual who contacted Helen and Gregory Silvermaster on May 20, 1946. If Hewes was established as identical with this individual an additional inquiry was to be made in an effort to determine the nature and extent of the relationship between Hewes and Silvermaster.

Bureau letter, 5-28-48 to

San Francisco ~~TOP SECRET~~
Re: "Laurence Ilsley Hewes, Jr.,
aka Larry, Land Reform Specialist
Far East Command, Department of the

263

~~TOP SECRET~~

Army, Tokyo, Japan; Loyalty of
Government Employees"
121-9500-1
(Not indexed)

CLA:men

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

A loyalty investigation of Paul Henson Appleby, Bureau of the Budget, was predicated upon information relating to activities on the part of Appleby as received from confidential sources.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] *referred*

On May 30, 1946, a confidential source of information designated as Washington T-5, of known reliability, but who was not in a position to offer testimony, advised Appleby was a contact of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. The informant was not in a position, however, to advise as to the extent of the relationship between Appleby and Silvermaster.

T-5: Source who made the personal address book of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, maintained at the latter's residence available to the Bureau.

Silvermaster was known to have been employed in the Labor Division of the Farm Security Administration while Appleby served as an Executive Assistant to Mr. Wallace. Washington Confidential Informant T-3, advised that Appleby and Silvermaster were associated by reason of their official positions in the Department of Agriculture. He stated that he had never had the impression that Appleby was a personal friend of Silvermaster or associated with him in any way outside of the office.

Wash., Conf. Inf. T-3: C.T. Forster, Chief, Division of Investigations, Office of Personnel, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Wash., D.C.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Other information appearing in this reference is the same as that in the "Gregory" case and is not being set forth in this summary.

WFO report 2-6-48
Re: "Paul Henson Appleby, Bureau
of the Budget, Executive Office
of the President, Wash., D.C.
Loyalty of Government Employees."
121-558-13
(36)

ECC:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

Isadore Jackerson, reported to be a former employee of the Soviet Purchasing Commission and member of the International Workers Order, received a communication in February, 1948, from 808 Farragut Medical Building. This building was located at 900 17th Street N.W. and suite 808 was the office of Alec Horwitz, who was a surgeon and resided at 2719 Brandywine Street N.W. at EMerson 1413. (E)4

A highly confidential source furnished on May 30, 1946, information which appeared in address books that apparently belonged to Helen and Gregory Silvermaster and Ludwig Ullman. One of the entries read as follows: "Horwitz - EM 1413".

WFO report dated 7-16-48
Re: "Isadore Jackerson, was;
Internal Security - R"
100-348267-5
(62)

Correlators note: This serial did not indicate that Alec Horwitz, MD was identical with the Horwitz mentioned in Silvermaster's address book except for the fact that the telephone numbers were alike.

CTC:rrb

TOP SECRET
According to a highly confidential source (not otherwise identified), the following notation was observed on May 30, 1946, in address books belonging to Helen and Gregory Silvermaster and Ludwig Ullmann: "Miriam Jackson-Randolph 6552". This probably referred to Miriam Jackerson, daughter of Isadore Jackerson, former employee of the Soviet Purchasing Commission, and member of the International Workers Order.

Informant Gregory advised that Helen and Gregory Silvermaster and Ludwig Ullmann were engaged in Soviet espionage work in the United States. *rel*

Washington Field Office
Report 1-5-48
Re: "Isadore Jackerson,
was., Internal Security-R"
100-348267-3
(59)

CTC:jh

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~~TOP SECRET~~

It is requested that an investigation be made of Mrs. Helga Dudman's parents, William and Alice Wolski, to determine the extent of their association with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and his wife, and with Oscar Lange, and as to the extent of their sympathy, if any, with Communist activities or other subversive interests. (u)

u X

Atomic Energy Commission letter
to the Director, 3-8-50
Re: "John Almon Dudman - NY-
1899 - Q - Applicant "
116-93178-30 *not destroyed*
(42)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CIA:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Washington Confidential Informant T-1, of known reliability (not further identified) advised (date not given) that John Almon Dudman's wife was a frequent visitor in the Silvermaster home, and that she invited Helen Silvermaster to attend her wedding. John Almon Dudman and Helga Wolski were married in Washington, D.C., on March 22, 1946. Informants (not otherwise identified) advised that Helen Silvermaster and her husband, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster were involved in Soviet espionage conspiracy; close associates of known Communists and pro-Soviet sympathizers; contacts of admitted Soviet espionage agent; and dues paying members of the Communist Party.

John Almon Dudman stated that Helen Silvermaster was known to his wife's parents in San Francisco and through them she met Mrs. Silvermaster socially. The Silvermasters came to Washington from San Francisco, and Helga admitted visiting them socially on several occasions, but denied seeing them after her marriage to Dudman on March 22, 1946. Informant T-1 advised of known contacts between Helga and Helen Silvermaster until June, 1946.



WFO memo, 3-29-50
Re: "John Almon Dudman-NY-1899;
AEAA"
116-93178-32
(16)

referred

CLA:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Washington T-1, advised that Eleanor Toshiko Makagawa, during the spring of 1946 was acquainted with Mrs. Boris Witte, also known as Eve Witte, however, the extent of association or duration of the acquaintanceship of the appointee with Mrs. Witte was not known to the informant. Confidential Informant advised Eve Witte is the wife of Boris Witte, who is the brother of Helen Silvermaster. The informant advised that both Boris and Eve Witte, during June, 1946, resided in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster at Washington, D. C.

Other information appearing in this reference pertaining to Silvermaster is the same as that in the Gregory Case 65-56402 and is not being set forth in this summary.

Washington T-1 - [Mail Cover of Boris Witte.] Washington Field Office Report, 9-15-49
Re: "Eleanor Toshiko Makagawa, aka, Ellie, Clerk-Stenographer, Appointee Commanding General, % Postmaster, San Francisco, California--LGE"
121-19374-11
(37)

ECC:jar

TOP SECRET

On March 11, 1949, Mrs. Virginia O. McIntyre, of 1600 16th Street, NW, Washington, D. C. was interviewed by Bureau Agents. Among other things, Mrs. McIntyre stated that from August, 1937 until June 1, 1946, she was employed as Resident Manager of the Garden Towers Apartments located at 2325 15th St., NW, Washington, D. C. Mrs. McIntyre recalled that the Garden Towers were completed in September, 1937, and the Abraham George Silvermans were one of its early tenants and occupied Apartment 311.

Mrs. McIntyre identified a picture of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster as a person who was a frequent visitor to the building and added that she sometimes saw him in the company of Mr. Silverman.

(Page 31)

On March 18, 1949, Sentell Cheffens, of 2022 Columbia Road, NW, Washington, D. C. was interviewed by Bureau Agents. Cheffens stated that for a period of 5 years, he was employed at the Garden Tower Apartments, 2325 15th St. NW, Washington, D. C. Cheffens stated that he worked at night at the telephone switch board and his hours of work were from 11 PM to 8 AM. It was pointed out that Cheffens could testify that a photograph of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was recognized by him, Cheffens, as a photograph of a person who sometimes would come to 2325 15th St., NW, Washington, D. C. and would inquire of him whether or not the Silvermans were at home.

(Page 35)

Page 55 and 56 of this reference contained a summary setting out the background and personal history of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. This information was not abstracted due to the fact that it appears in Silvermaster's main file.

(Page 55 and 56)

New York Report, 5-9-49
Re: "Alger Hiss; Perjury;
Espionage - R;
Internal Security - R"
74-1333-3274, pg. 31,35,55;
(8,84,86,87)

273

JFB:jar

~~TOP SECRET~~

In reference to SAC Letter No. 67 dated June 5, 1946, regarding Technical and Microphone Surveillances, the New York Office listed several installations which should be continued inasmuch as they were necessary in connection with Bureau investigations at that time. Among these was [redacted] on United States Service and Shipping Corporation (N. Gregory Silvermaster, was, et al; Espionage-R)".

u
u

b2
b7D

NY letter 6-13-46
Re: "Technical and Microphone Surveillances."
66-8160-936
(74)

ECC:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

During an investigation of Omer Mills, Federal Public Housing authority, Bureau Agents observed on June 23, 1946 at 11:45 AM, Mills and Silvermaster together. They stopped at a building 132, Marin City, California, knocked and tried the door without response and then drove to building 34, where they also got no response and then stopped to talk to an unknown passerby, who apparently gave directions. They then proceeded to the front of the building 600, parked their car, and walked past building 600, but Agents could not ascertain what building was entered because of lack of cover.

Reference was made to the report of SA David E. Todd dated July 31, 1946 in the Gregory case, which reflected the possibility that they had contacted William C. Billingsley at building 607, Marin City, California. However, no definite proof of this contact was available.

San Francisco teletype
dated 9-1-48
Re: "Omer Mills, FPHA,
Loyalty of Government
Employees"
121-5170-24
(53)

ECC:jar

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

The San Francisco Field Office reported on January 25, 1948, that George DeLew, Departmental Applicant, Special Attorney, Lands Division, San Francisco, California, was visited on June 23, 1946, by Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. It was pointed out that investigation revealed (source and date not given) that Silvermaster formerly taught DeLew at St. Marys College, St. Marys, California, and no further connection between the two was apparent.

San Francisco teletype, 1-25-48
Re: "George DeLew, aka. William
George DeLew, Special Attorney,
Lands Division, San Francisco,
California"
77-37427-3
(45)

JFB:jlc

TOP SECRET

The files of the Washington Field Office reflected that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was in Denver, Colorado on June 27 and June 28, 1946. He arrived at 1:30 PM, June 27, 1946 and immediately went to the office of John A. Skeen, Regional Director, War Assets Administration, Denver, Colorado. He was with Skeen until 10:00 PM that evening and all day on June 28, 1946. Mr. Skeen took him to the train at 9:00 PM, June 28, 1946.

A check of the Civil Service Commission files and a House Committee on Un-American activities record reflected no information of a disloyal nature concerning John A. Skeen.

Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was on January 2, 1946 appointed Director of Plans and Policies Division of the War Assets Administration. Investigations of the Washington Field Office after Mr. Silvermaster's trip to Denver, Colorado on June 27 and 28, 1946 revealed that he was at Denver on official business in connection with his work at the War Assets Administration. Since no information was obtained indicating that his contact with Skeen was for purposes other than those which were required of his position, no full field investigation was conducted.

Washington Field Office Memo
to the Director, 6-30-48
Re: "John A. Skeen, Regional
Director, Region IX, War
Assets Administration,
Denver, Colorado, LGE"
121-10550-3
(10)

ECC:jar

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~~TOP SECRET~~

[redacted] advised (no date given) that Adolph Cook Glassgold and his wife, Sophie, contacted Helen Silvermaster on July 23, 1946, stating they had just arrived in New York City the night before and further that Seth Gaer was in town and planned to stay with the Silvermasters. M b2
b7D

As a result of a mail cover placed on Nathan Gregory Silvermaster between April 16 and 31, 1946, it was ascertained that Silvermaster received a communication from Glassgold, who was at that time with UNRRA in Germany.

Confidential Informant [redacted] (not further identified) advised that Dr. and Mrs. Silvermaster received a letter from A. C. Glassgold, Director, UNRRA, 311, APO 757, Landsberg, Bavaria (Germany). The contents of this letter were quoted as follows:

"Dear Helen and Greg: b2
b7D

"If I haven't written you it's both because I have so much to say and because I'm careless about it, but really even a letter would not suffice to convey my expressions. I'll see you sometime in August."

New York letter dated 3-31-47
bearing the heading "Confidential"
Re: "Adolph Cook Glassgold, was.;"
IS-Hatch Act"
101-6890-4
(43)
SI-100-356041-90
(38)

JRB:nlb

~~TOP SECRET~~

In reference to a Bureau letter to the Washington Field Office dated July 18, 1946, instructing that a survey be conducted for the purpose of determining which necessary technical and microphone surveillances would be maintained in that district, taking into consideration personnel equipment and technical plants, in the event, of the withdrawal of cooperation by the Telephone Company, the Washington Field Office advised as follows: *DAW*

In the event of absence of cooperation by the Telephone Company a number of technical surveillances could possibly be maintained. Among those set forth was Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, 5515 30th Street, N. W., Emerson 6720. *(A)*

WFO Letter to Director 8-12-46

Re: "Technical and Microphone Surveillances." *(S)u*

66-8160-967

(32)

SI - 66-8160-968

(32)

ECC:ddl

~~4/5~~ Confidential Informant T-3, of known reliability, advise (no date given) that in September of 1946 Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was contacted by Dr. Charles Prince, of 1438 Whittier Street, N. W., at which time Prince requested permission to call upon Silvermaster at his home and indicated that he, Prince, desired to discuss an excerpt from the Congressional Record of the 79th Congress, Second Session, (no date given) which contained Dr. Prince's work on "the case for effecting a commercial treaty between the Soviet Union and the United States" as set out in the Congressional Record of June 21, 1946. (page 6)



The personal record of Charles Prince with the Civilian Production Board was reviewed (no date given) and this record showed that Prince entered on duty under a temporary appointment on October 30, 1946 as a Policy Analyst in P-5, with a salary of \$5,905.20 per annum. Prince was transferred to the Office of Temporary Controls on December 12, 1946. Prince's personal record with the Board of Economic Warfare was also reviewed (no date given) and this record showed that Prince came to that organization on transfer on November 9, 1942 having previously been with the Office of Price Administration as an assistant economist since September 24, 1941. Prince entered on duty September 24, 1941 and voluntarily resigned his position with the Board of Economic Warfare on September 16, 1943.

referred

~~4/5~~ T-3: Confidential Informant of the Silvermaster case whose identity is known to the Bureau (not further identified). b2
b7D

Washington Field Office
report, 10-7-48
Re: "Charles Prince: European
Recovery Program".
124-1270-5
(48)

JFB:pan

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The files of the Washington Field Office reflected that Cynthia Dierkes, who according to [redacted] was employed by the National Committee on Atomic Information, and her husband John, an employee of the United States Treasury, Washington, D. C., were known contacts of Helen and Gregory Silvermaster. u

b2
b7D

Through Physical surveillance and confidential informants, it was ascertained that Dr. Edward U. Condon, Director of the Bureau of Standards, and his wife were friends of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

Washington Field Office
Report 9-17-46
Re: "National Committee on
Atomic Information,
Internal Security-C"
100-344452-17 page 28, 40
(68)
SI 100-344452-21
(Source not given)
(43)

CTC:jh

EX-117

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

b1

(C)

On September 26, 1946, a teletype was received by the Philadelphia Field Office from the Washington Field Office which indicated that

[REDACTED]

b1

(C)

The files of the Philadelphia Field Office reflected that Max Katzman had been a member of the Committee for Medical Aid to the U. S. S. R., a member of the Board of the Jewish Council of Russian War Relief, and a "Philadelphia sponsor" of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

Phila. letter 10-11-46
Re: "Alexander Portnoff; IS-R."
97-748-34
(53)

JFB:ddl

TOP SECRET

On April 30 and May 3, 1947, Harold Glasser was interviewed by Bureau Agents at the Washington Field Office. Thereupon a statement was prepared and on May 7, 1947, Glasser appeared at the Washington Field Office and read this statement. However, Glasser refused to sign the statement unless certain changes were made in it. The following information is quoted from this statement:

"However, I do recall that about 1938 I met Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Ludwig Ullman at Harry White's residence, and as a result of this meeting my wife and I were invited to the Silvermaster residence sometime shortly thereafter. During the dinner I recalled that I mentioned having been previously married. I have considered the possibility that my failure to acquaint the Whites with this information concerning my previous marriage may have been the reason White broke off our friendship.

"In regard to my relationship with Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Ludwig Ullmann, I recall meeting them at White's home in 1938 and I probably saw them again at the White's prior to 1940, and as mentioned above, my wife and I were guests at the Silvermaster home, where Ludwig Ullman was also in attendance, sometime around 1938 or 1939. Inasmuch as it was my belief that Silvermaster was the cause of my breaking off with Harry Dexter White, I never returned the favor by inviting the Silvermasters to my home. I last saw the Silvermasters during the Fall of last year (1946) at a party at the home of William Taylor. I have seen Ludwig Ullmann on numerous occasions in a business matter at the Treasury Department and at Treasury Department parties inasmuch as he was employed there up until a few months ago." (page 18)

Other information in this reference appears in Silvermaster's main file.

Washington Field Office
report, 5-18-49.
Re: "Harold Glasser, was;
SM - C"
101-3599-23 page 18
(19)

15-10762
~~TOP SECRET~~

Ben Lowell, with aliases, who was as of June 6, 1950, subject of a security index card, according to Confidential Informant T-10 in December, 1949, received a communication from Gaer Associates, 133 West 44 Street, New York City. (C)u

Confidential source [redacted] of known reliability, advised that the Gaer Associates, Inc., 133 West 44th Street, was a book firm and that the president was Joseph Gaer. b2 b7D

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on July 24, 1946, that Joseph Gaer contacted Helen Silvermaster, wife of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, known Russian espionage agent. On July 24, 1946, Joseph Gaer informed Helen Silvermaster that there were "several things coming up" - and he wanted to see Greg Silvermaster about them and to let Greg know he was "doing them". Helen Silvermaster on this occasion suggested that Gaer contact Greg at his office, and further informed Gaer that he would be welcome at the Silvermaster beach cottage at anytime. u b2 b7D

Confidential Informant T-13, of known reliability, advised that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster received a letter postmarked August 3, 1946, from Joseph Gaer 445 Riverside Drive, Apartment 27, New York, New York. u

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that on October 10, 1946, Joseph Gaer contacted Helen Silvermaster, wife of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, advising her that his plane had been grounded in Washington, and that he would like Helen to "take care of him" for the night; that he was on his way back to New York City. This informant advised that Helen Silvermaster immediately extended an invitation to Joseph Gaer to spend the night with the Silvermasters. u b2 b7D

du T-10 Mail cover placed on Lowell 11-9-49 at his place of business, 165 West 46 Street, New York City.

T-13 Mail cover placed on Nathan Gregory Silvermaster Washington, D.C., 8-30-46.

New York report 7-12-50

Re: "Ben Lowell, was.; IS-R" 100-223746-39

~~TOP SECRET~~
286

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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 65-56402-3970 p 287

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

[REDACTED]

referred

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that Jenny Miller (not further identified) and Helen Silvermaster, were attempting to secure help to participate in the buyers strike about October 31, 1946, a

referred

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b7D

~~TOP SECRET~~

when Jenny said she had contacted Mrs. Miller who lived on Broadbranch Road to assist Helen. Jenny later told Helen that Mrs. Miller might be able to help for about an hour, and that she would let Helen know definitely. Jenny also said that Mrs. Miller's husband's sister, Sylvia, knew Helen very well, at which time Helen stated that Sylvia used to be Greg's secretary five or six years ago.

Washington Field Office
Report 5/17/48
Re: "Sylvia Miller Special
Inquiry-State Department,
Public Law 402, 80th Congress,
(Voice of America)"
123-63-4
(78-39)

ECC:jh

TOP SECRET

The following conversation is quoted from a log:

"Anny Stein to Gregory Silvermaster to inquire for Helen. She is out. Anny wants Helen to speak before a Chevy Chase Women's Group this afternoon at 1 PM. Gregory said Helen is at the Safeway now working on the strike and doesn't know when she will be in. Anny will get someone else".

X^u [Technical Surveillance Log.
Washington, D. C., 10-31-46
Re: "AS Summary".
100-3-65-474
(65)

ECC:mlb:jar

TOP SECRET

Abraham George Silverman was interviewed by Bureau Agents on April 16, 1947, in Silverman's office on the sixth floor of the Ohrbach Department Store in New York City. The result of this interview is described as follows:

Silverman was questioned in a general manner regarding his employment in Washington, D. C., during the past thirteen years. He elaborated to some extent on his background and listed his government employment covering period 1933 to 1945.

Silverman admitted his acquaintance with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, also that he had visited the Silvermaster's house on several occasions over a period of approximately three years, namely 1941-1944.

He also stated that Silvermaster visited his home, namely on a social basis. He added that on infrequent visits to the Silvermasters' home he had never had any reason to believe that Silvermaster was engaged in obtaining information for the Communist Party or any foreign government. When he was asked if such a possibility seemed reasonable in view of their expressed political philosophy, he evaded an answer by saying that the Silvermasters were "progressive minded" but that he certainly could not say that he saw any evidence of espionage activity on their part. He described all his visits to the Silvermasters' home as routine social calls, and said that a variety of topics were discussed. Silverman denied knowledge that either of the Silvermasters were Communist Party members or sympathizers, however, he did not state that neither of the Silvermasters was pro-Communist when specifically questioned.

With further reference to Silvermaster he explained that it is his recollection that he and his wife had been introduced to the Silvermasters at a party in Washington, D. C., the details of which he did not recall and that thereafter he began seeing Silvermaster during the course of his official duties. He claimed to be somewhat shocked by the mere suggestion that the Silvermasters were allegedly engaged in any espionage activities. He stated that he did not really expect Silvermaster was capable of carrying out any type of espionage

TOP SECRET

activity which would require decisions to be made on his part. He stated that when he visited the Silvermasters' home he was usually accompanied by his wife, and that these visits became rather dull because of the authoritative attitude which both Mr. and Mrs. Silvermaster possessed on every subject that was being discussed. He stated that he and his wife virtually ceased social relations with the Silvermasters early in 1945, and explained that the Silvermasters seldom responded to invitations to the Silverman home. He said that when they did make a call and come to his home, their visits were so brief that both he and his wife became disgusted.

With reference to William Ludwig Ullmann, Silverman denied any knowledge or suspicion that Ullmann was ever engaged in illegally securing and transmitting information to unauthorized persons. He mentioned that when he usually saw Ullmann was occasions of his visits to the Silvermasters' home, and then volunteered he had some difficulties of a personal nature with Ullmann resulting over some of the latter's activities with female employees of the Air Force. He denied any knowledge of Ullmann's having photographed governmental documents. He admitted, however, that on occasion of some of his visits to the Silvermaster home, he was in the basement and noted a quantity of mechanical equipment, mentioning specifically some machine tools. Silverman claimed to be totally ignorant of any photography and stated he could not state whether or not Ullmann did, in fact, have an elaborate laboratory for photography in the basement of the Silvermaster home.

Silverman denied he was the individual who had allegedly supplied information to the Silvermasters concerning virtually all aspects of the B-29 program. When he was asked whom he might suggest as the individual who could have furnished such information, he stated the answer was obviously Ullmann. He qualified this, however, by stating that he would have to know as a matter of fact that the Silvermasters were given such information before stating that Ullmann might have furnished it. He was unable to suggest any other source available to the Silvermasters for such information. He denied ever having in his possession, officially or otherwise, any directives of General George C. Marshall, and said he had no idea how the Silvermasters could have obtained these directives, because Ullmann likewise did not officially have access to such material.

~~TOP SECRET~~

TO: /

Silverman readily admitted his very personal relationship with Irving Kaplan, and stated he was an individual with whom he had frequently discussed the various phases of activity of war production work. He denied he had ever transmitted in any fashion information which might come into his possession through Kaplan to the Silvermasters.

The following information was taken from excerpts obtained from the recorded testimony of individuals before the House Un-American Activities Committee, second session, 80th Congress regarding Communist espionage in the United States government.

On August 9, 1948, Miss Gilda DeFrank Burke on direct interrogation advised that she was employed as a secretary to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster at the Farm Security Administration during 1943 and at the War Assets Administration from 1944 to 1946. She presented a telephone number locator which she used while so employed, and among individuals listed was the name of George Silverman.

On August 13, 1948, Lauchlin Currie testified that he had first met Silverman when he, Currie, was a graduate student at Harvard University, and Silverman was an economist at MIT, and that their acquaintance was resumed when Currie came to Washington, D. C., at which time Silverman was an employee of the Railroad Retirement Board. Currie denied that he gave any information to Silverman or to Silvermaster regarding China relations, or that he advised Silverman that the United States had almost broken the Russian code.

Bureau Agent observed Silverman and his wife having frequent social contacts with a number of individuals including Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and his wife, Helen, during the period from December, 1945, to November, 1946.

Mr. Collis Stocking, Consultant, Program Division, National Security Resource Board, Room 392, Old State Department Building, advised Bureau Agents on February 21, 1949, as follows:

He stated that during the summer of 1934, when he served as Chief of Research, Division of Research and Planning, National Recovery Act Administration, he had met Abraham George Silverman through either his sister, Ruth E. Stocking, or his brother, George W. Stocking.

He advised that the National Recovery Administration did not handle information that was confidential from a security standpoint. He advised that he did not know of Silverman ever disclosing the contents of the National Recovery Administration's work to outside or unauthorized individuals. He advised that he became acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster during Silvermaster's employment at the Department of Agriculture. His acquaintanceship was entirely professional in nature, as they served on governmental committees at the beginning of the war. He could not furnish any information regarding Silvermaster but advised that he could not recall Silvermaster ever being in the company of Silverman.

Melvin James Fox, Special Consultant on the Committee for International Trade Organization, 816 - 21st Street, N. W., was interviewed on March 14, 1949, by Bureau Agents.

He stated that he first became acquainted with Silverman in or about the year 1937. During the period of 1940 and 1941, Fox visited the Silvermans' home possibly as often as once every two months. The occasions were merely informal gatherings of friends of the Silvermans. He stated that the Silvermasters were among the persons most frequently present at the Silvermans' home.

On March 8, 1949, Murray Latimer, a former chairman of the Railroad Retirement Board, was interviewed by Bureau Agents at his office at 1625 K Street, N. W.

He stated that when Silverman was employed with the Railroad Retirement Board, Harry Dexter White had called him (Latimer) and requested if Silverman could be loaned to the Foreign Funds Control of the Division of Monetary Research, Treasury Department, in an advisory capacity. This was only a tentative loan which necessitated only several hours a week and Silverman was at no time detached from the Board as such. Latimer stated he believed that Silverman was a close personal friend of Lauchlin Currie and he, Latimer, had heard Silverman speak of Gregory Silvermaster.

Miss Thurley Andrews, a Statistician, Research Department, Federal Works Agency, was interviewed in her office by Bureau Agents on March 2, 1949.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Miss Andrews advised that she was first employed by the Railroad Retirement Board in September, 1938. At that time, Silverman was Chief Economist and employed a secretary, one Mrs. Esther Merrill. Miss Andrews' capacity was assistant to Mrs. Merrill in administrative matters and routine dictation, and consequently did at times take dictation and answer the phone for Mr. Silverman.

Miss Andrews stated that she believed that Gregory Silvermaster called Silverman on several occasions and made luncheon engagements with him. However, she at no time saw him in Silverman's office.

George Gussman, Industrial Economist, Headquarters, U. S. Air Forces, Room 30972, Pentagon Building, was interviewed by Bureau Agents on March 3, 1949. He advised that he was employed from May, 1936, to about February, 1941, as a Statistical Clerk and Statistician at the Railroad Retirement Board, Washington, D. C. He advised that he knew Silverman was the head of the Research and Information Division wherein he was employed, but that he had no contact with him either on a social or professional nature.

In February, 1941, Gussman entered the U.S. Army. In the spring of 1946 he advised he was considering leaving the Army because of the reduction in the Armed Forces, and in this connection he contacted Abraham George Silverman at the French Supply Council, Massachusetts Avenue.

George Gussman stated that in attempting to locate a position with the Federal Government herein Washington, D. C., he had contacted Nathan Gregory Silvermaster in an attempt to gain a position at the War Assets Administration. He advised that his wife, Ruth White Gussman, niece of the late Harry Dexter White, was employed at the War Assets Administration and he believed she suggested that he contact Silvermaster in attempting to locate a position.

Gussman advised that he knew that Silverman knew Silvermaster and he believed that this information was relayed to him by either his wife or his aunt, Marjorie Simon, 1771 Lanier Place, N. W., who was formerly employed with Mrs. Abraham George Silverman at the District of Columbia Welfare Association. In any event, Gussman was positive that Silverman did not suggest that he, Gussman, see Silvermaster in regard to federal employment.

In view of the information furnished by George Gussman, Mrs. Marjorie S. Simon, supervisor, Child Welfare Division, Board of Public Welfare, Room 610, 462 Indiana Avenue, N. W., was interviewed by Bureau Agents on March 14, 1949. Mrs. Simon advised that she had little contact with Mrs. Silverman with whom she worked, outside the office.

She recalled that Mrs. Silverman had advised her about six years before this time that she and her husband had had dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. She could furnish no other names of close associates of the Silvermans.

In connection with the interview of George Gussman, Bureau Agents on March 15, 1949, interviewed Mrs. Ruth White Gussman, 4319 N. Pershing Drive, Arlington, Virginia, whereupon she advised that she was employed by the War Assets Administration from September, 1945, through June, 1947. During this employment she served in the Planning and Control Division and the Industrial Real Property Division under Nathan Gregory Silvermaster for a period of about three or four months. She advised she had little personal contact with Silvermaster, and that she had no outside contact with him. During this time she was employed at War Assets Administration she used to lunch daily with Silvermaster's secretary, Mrs. Gilda Burke. During these luncheon periods they naturally discussed the work of the War Assets Administration and persons with whom they had contact. She believed that Mrs. Burke indicated during one of these luncheons that Silvermaster was acquainted with Abraham George Silverman. She remarked that she had no way of judging the extent of this acquaintanceship. She could furnish no other information concerning the relationship between Silverman and Silvermaster.

Ansel F. Luxford, Assistant General Counsel, International Monetary Fund, was interviewed on March 9, 1949, by Bureau Agents. He advised that he first became aware of Silverman around the Treasury Department when Silverman was a frequent visitor of Harry Dexter White. He advised that he was not closely associated with Silverman himself but recalled having seen him at the home of Harry Dexter White on the occasion of plans being formed for the writing of Henry Wallace's book concerning sixty million jobs. He stated that this meeting at White's home was attended by the following persons: Harold Glasser, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, George Silverman, Louis Beam, Frank Coe, Joe Dubois and perhaps one or two others whom Luxford could not at that moment recall.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Mrs. Virginia O. McIntyre was interviewed by Bureau Agents at 1600 16th Street, N. W., Apartment 407 on March 11, 1949. Mrs. McIntyre advised that she was employed as a resident manager of the Garden Towers Apartments, 2325 15th Street, N. W. She stated that this was from about August, 1937, until June, 1946. Mrs. McIntyre stated that in connection with her relief duties at the telephone desk in the lobby of the apartment building, she observed certain people accompanying either Mr. or Mrs. Silverman in and out of the building. She said she never knew their names. At that point, unidentified photographs were exhibited to Mrs. McIntyre, whereupon she recognized a picture of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, as a person who was a frequent visitor to the building and remarked that she had seen him on some occasions in the company of Mr. Silverman.

At this time, Mrs. McIntyre executed a signed statement in the presence of Bureau Agents.

Other information contained in this serial is the same as that in the Gregory case, 65-56402, and is not being set forth in this summary.

Washington Field Office report,
8/3/49

Re: "Abraham George Silverman,
Security Matter - C"

100-363633-1 p. 10, 11, 12, 14,
17, 34, 39, 60, 61, 68, 69, 70,
77, 117.

(20-60)

SI-74-1333-3071 p. 2, 8, 9, 10, 11,
12, 13, 14, 17, 34, 39, 60, 61, 68,
69, 70, 77, 117, 119, 122, 123
(4, 66, 79, 83)

ECC:rst

TC. /

During July or August, 1951, Mrs. Gilda Burke, nee de Frank, residing at 6903 Colesville Road, University Park, Maryland, was interviewed by Bureau Agents in an effort to identify, [REDACTED] (S) b1

Mrs. Burke stated that she first entered the Labor Relations Division of the Farm Security Administration, Department of Agriculture, on September 3, 1941. Mrs. Burke stated that:

"the effective date of her assuming duties as Secretary to Mr. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was March 14, 1943; however, she stated she was detailed as his Secretary prior to the effective date and she estimated the period that she assumed actual duties as his Secretary to be approximately January, 1943. Mrs. Burke recalled that prior to the period she became Secretary to Silvermaster, that for an extended period of time, his Private Secretary was Sylvia Miller. Mrs. Burke explained that in early 1942, Silvermaster was detailed to employment at the Board of Economic Warfare and at that time, took along as his Secretary, Sylvia Miller. In approximately the middle of 1942, Silvermaster returned to Farm Security Administration, but Sylvia Miller continued her employment at the Board of Economic Warfare. Upon return to FSA, Silvermaster's Secretary was Charles Herbert Hewlett, who had prior acquaintanceship with Silvermaster, which Mrs. Burke believed to have occurred in China. For approximately six months, Hewlett remained as Silvermaster's Secretary and eventually became the Head of the Correspondence Section for C. B. Baldwin, also with the Department of Agriculture. When Hewlett was assigned to duty with Baldwin, Gilda Burke was assigned to Silvermaster by the Personnel Office of the Department.

"In the summer of 1944, Silvermaster became employed with the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department; and at that time, Gilda Burke remained with the Department of Agriculture until she was requested by Silvermaster to accept employment at the Treasury Department as his Secretary. By review of her personnel papers, Mrs. Burke established the date that she was detailed to the Procurement Division with Silvermaster to be September 11, 1944, but the effective date of her

transfer was shown as December 1, 1944. She remained as his Secretary and Administrative Assistant at Surplus Property Administration (Treasury Department) until November, 1946, when Silvermaster resigned his position. She pointed out that surplus property was transferred from several executive agencies during that period by executive order; however, the employment continued to be surplus property work. In recounting the possible former Secretaries to Mr. Silvermaster, Mrs. Burke stated that it was her recollection that Sylvia Miller was, for an extended period, the only person assigned to Silvermaster. However, she said that Alice Ewell, who was a Secretary to the Assistant Director of that Division, may have taken some dictation prior to the time Miller was permanently assigned to Silvermaster. Mrs. Burke stated that Ewell's use as a Secretary would undoubtedly have been on a temporary basis if she ever did serve as his Stenographer.

"With regard to Abraham George Silverman, Mrs. Burke stated she recalls telephone conversations between Silvermaster and Silverman; however, she emphasized that she monitored Silvermaster's conversations only when they were of an official nature and that when the conversation turned to personal matters, she no longer listened in on the conversations. She stated to the best of her knowledge, Silverman never mentioned to Silvermaster anything indicating he was seeking employment in the Treasury Department."

Other information in this reference appears in serials 1364, 1910 of Silvermaster's main file.

WFO report 8-29-51

Re: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Espionage-R."

65-60057-8

(18)

JFB:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

On April 5, 1946, according to a Physical Surveillance, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, a man believed to be William Ludwig Ullman, who resided with the Silvermasters, Maurice Halperin and his wife, Edith; Mrs. Polya J. Habicht and Florence Levi were observed at the residence of Robert Miller, 3223 Northhampton St. N.W., Washington, D.C.

On July 31, 1948, Elizabeth Bentley testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities regarding Communist espionage in the United States Government. During her testimony Bentley stated that Robert Talbot Miller, III was a dues paying Communist and also included Miller among many others as being a member of a Soviet espionage conspiracy in Washington, D.C. and New York.

(Page 5)

On November 22, 1946, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and his wife Helen; Ludwig Ullman; Jack Marsalka; and David Wahl and his wife, Edith were observed at the Miller residence.

(Page 6)

Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file.

Washington Field Office report,
8-29-49

Re: "Robert Talbot Miller, III;
Security Matter-C"

101-6611-350

(19)

SI 121-6234-3

(69)

CLA.

JFB:jlc

~~TOP SECRET~~

During May, 1949, the Bureau instituted a Special Inquiry--National Security Resource Board investigation of Herbert Palmer Negus, an employee of the National Security Resource Board.

The National Security Resource Board files reflected that on August 14, 1946, while employed by the Economic Market Research Division, War Assets Administration as Chief of the Market Research Unit, Negus was given an efficiency rating of Very Good--by Phillip Mullenbach, which was reviewed by Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

George W. Auxier advised that he was the immediate supervisor of Negus at National Security Resource Board (date not stated) that he knew of no association between Negus and Nathan Gregory Silvermaster at War Assets Administration other than the accidental relationship through business contacts.

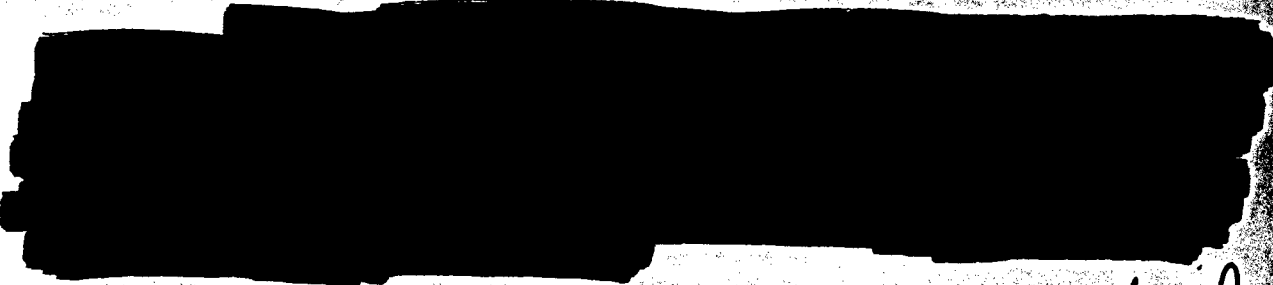
G. Reed Salisbury, Division of Islands and Territories, Department of the Interior advised (date not stated) that he had worked in the Economic Market Research Division from January to June 1947. He stated that this unit was first headed by Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. During this period, Silvermaster surrounded himself with a group of men who seemed particularly friendly--both in and out of the office-- Jack Kaufman, Dr. Joseph M. Gillman, and later, Arthur Rosenbom, Julien Frechtman and Herbert Negus. All of these men were so close that Salisbury identified them in his mind as a clique. They always seemed to be in complete agreement on questions of policy and to be working in concert for the promotion of one another. Salisbury stated that he looked upon Negus as a "cat's paw" in the "Silvermaster group." He stated that small time union activities of a decidedly left-wing character were obvious at all times. The members of this group solicited union dues from employees in the division and implied that union membership was a prerequisite of promotion. Lesser members of the clique were very vocal in support of Russia on many occasions. Salisbury said that the most serious and damaging activity in the group was their juggling

~~TOP SECRET~~

of economic facts and figures to give preference to Russia or Russian satellite countries on the purchase of surplus goods in which they were interested. He said it seemed apparent to him that this group would manipulate their reports to show domestic sales undesirable and overseas foreign sales advisable whenever Russia had entered a bid.

Salisbury stated that at one time 50,000 tons of railroad rails were declared surplus; Russia wanted rails. The President had just ordered that China be given preference on railroad equipment since better transportation was urgently needed to relieve the famine situation at that time. The Alaska Railroad, operated by the Department of the Interior, requested these rails to repair their road beds. The bulk of these rails was originally on the west coast. Salisbury said that suddenly he was aware that their concentration had been ordered in Hoboken, New Jersey. He stated that this appeared odd to him and he requested an investigation, which revealed that they were destined for Yugoslavia. Partial shipments of about 3,000 tons had already been made, but shipment of the remainder was blocked and divided between China and the Alaska Railway. Silvermaster fought this and had the State Department protest. Salisbury said that he had no idea who Silvermaster's contact was at the State Department.

He stated that all the officers in the local union were in the "Silvermaster group". Salisbury said that he felt uncertain whether Negus knew Silvermaster outside the office.



referred

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~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

referred

T-3 advised that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] *IC*

b1

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised that Rosenbaum worked for Silvermaster, and had admitted being a close friend and associate since Silvermaster left War Assets Administration. *u*

*b2
b7D*

Dr. Joseph M. Gilman, one of the afore mentioned group was, according to [REDACTED], a close friend of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. He said "they speak, using first names, visit, frequently in each others homes, have frequent luncheon engagements, and attend social and political meetings together." *u*

*b2
b7D*

[REDACTED]

*b2
b7D*

James A. Garvey, Deputy Director for Management, War Assets Administration, advised that he had no reason to question the character or loyalty of Negus. He said that Negus once told him (Garvey) that he was worried over an investigation because of his accidental business relationship with the "Silvermaster group".

[REDACTED]

*b7c
b7D*

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

b7D

Russell V. Oliver, War Assets Administration, stated he worked in the Economic Market Research Division from August, 1946 to June, 1947. He advised there were two groups of persons in the office, the left-wing and the right-wing, and an employee belonged to one or the other. He considered the inner circle of the left-wing to consist of Silvermaster, Arthur Rosenbaum, Phillip Mullenbach and others.

He said that he considered these men to be obnoxious, rabble-rousing Communists, whose union activities were obvious to all in the Division and which appeared to him to be decidedly Communist tinged.

Mrs. Gilda Burke, War Assets Administration, stated in October, 1948, that she met Silvermaster in 1941 and worked as his personal secretary most of the time from 1943 to 1946. She stated that Silvermaster used Kaufman as his unofficial top assistant. She said she was aware of a very loyal personal friendship, pre-dating War Assets Administration, existing among Silvermaster, Kaufman and others. She recalled that Russian sympathies were usually shown by the group and that within the office there was a clique held together by racial similarity, political affinity, and interest in promotion of the union.

Wesley C. Mohnkern, War Assets Administration, advised he was a fellow employee and worked as Negus's subordinate at War Assets Administration. He stated that he hesitated to say he knew anyone well in view of the Silvermaster expose.

Walter Rastall, U. S. Tariff Commission, advised that he had worked as an Economist in the Economic Research Division of War Assets Administration. He stated there had

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been a definite clique in the Division which was Communist in character, and said that Nathan Silvermaster had been head of this clique. He said he believed the clique to have been Communist in character not only because Silvermaster had been brought before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, but because of numerous indications on the part of some members of the clique.

Joseph Dubuque, Economic Professor, Georgetown University, said that he worked in the Economic Market Research Division of War Assets Administration and its predecessor, Treasury Department, from August 30, 1944 to January 15, 1947. On September 28, 1949, he furnished a signed statement regarding his knowledge of Negus. In this statement he said that Negus was brought into the War Assets Administration by Nathan G. Silvermaster.

T-3, a highly confidential source [redacted]

WFO Report, 8-12-49
Re: "Herbert Palmer Negus-47,
Special Inquiry;
National Security Resources
Board."
126-59-11X
(41, 82)

ECC:jar

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

~~X~~ [REDACTED] b1

(C)
In December, 1946, Reba Lewis, was known to have been working on a book for Clark Foreman, President of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. Reba Lewis was also known to have been in contact with Helen Silvermaster, wife of Gregory Silvermaster. (Informant not stated).

WFO Report, 8-17-47.
Re: "Martin Popper, was
Marty IS-R".
105-191353 Page 5
(73)

ECC:bw

~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised (no date given) that in December, 1946, Dr. Dewey Anderson contacted Gregory Silvermaster and disclosed that he had been attempting to get Silvermaster over where he had been. He also contacted Silvermaster during the same period to discuss the publication of a report making a issue of the Women Army Corps and its Problem. *λ u*

b2
b7D

It was pointed out that the name of Dr. Dewey Anderson appeared on a list of persons who were apparently contacted or attempted to be contacted by Daniel Guerin as set forth in a Philadelphia Field Office report dated October 25, 1948. (not further identified)

[REDACTED]

b2
b7D

WFO report 3-28-49
Re: "Daniel Guerin; IS - SWP"
100-350682-20
(66)

JFB:rrb

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The records of the Statler Hotel, Washington, D. C., indicated that, while at the hotel from August 5 to 21, 1946, Bartley C. Crum (not identified), made five telephone calls to David P. Wahl, number 3, Lexington Street, Kensington, Maryland.

In December, 1946, David P. Wahl was reported to have been associated with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, and others suspected of being members of the Communist Party, and engaging in Soviet espionage in Washington, D. C.

[REDACTED]

b7D

Source: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C

b7D

Washington Field Office
Report 12-10-46
Re: "Bartley Cavanaugh Crum,
was., Bart Crum,
Internal Security-R"
100-334436-76
(25)

CTC:jh

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~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant [redacted], of known reliability, advised that on December 1, 1946, Dewey Anderson was well enough acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, for them to call each other by their first names and have lunch together. *b2 b7D*
(page 2)

It was noted that H. Dewey Anderson was listed as a reference by Theodore John Kreps, a candidate for a position with the Anti Trust Division, Department of Justice, in January, 1944.
[redacted]

referred

Other information in this file appears in Silvermaster's main file.

WFO report 4-26-50
Re: "Theodora Charlene Kreps, was., 'Teddy'; Espionage - C"
100-360985-7
(38)

Correlators Note: Serial one of the above file reported that Theodora Charlene Kreps arrived in Honolulu, T.H. on 1-5-48 to assume duties in the Research Department, Regional Office, ILWU and while there resided in the home of Jack Hall, the Regional Director ILWU, and a leading CP functionary.

JFB:rrb

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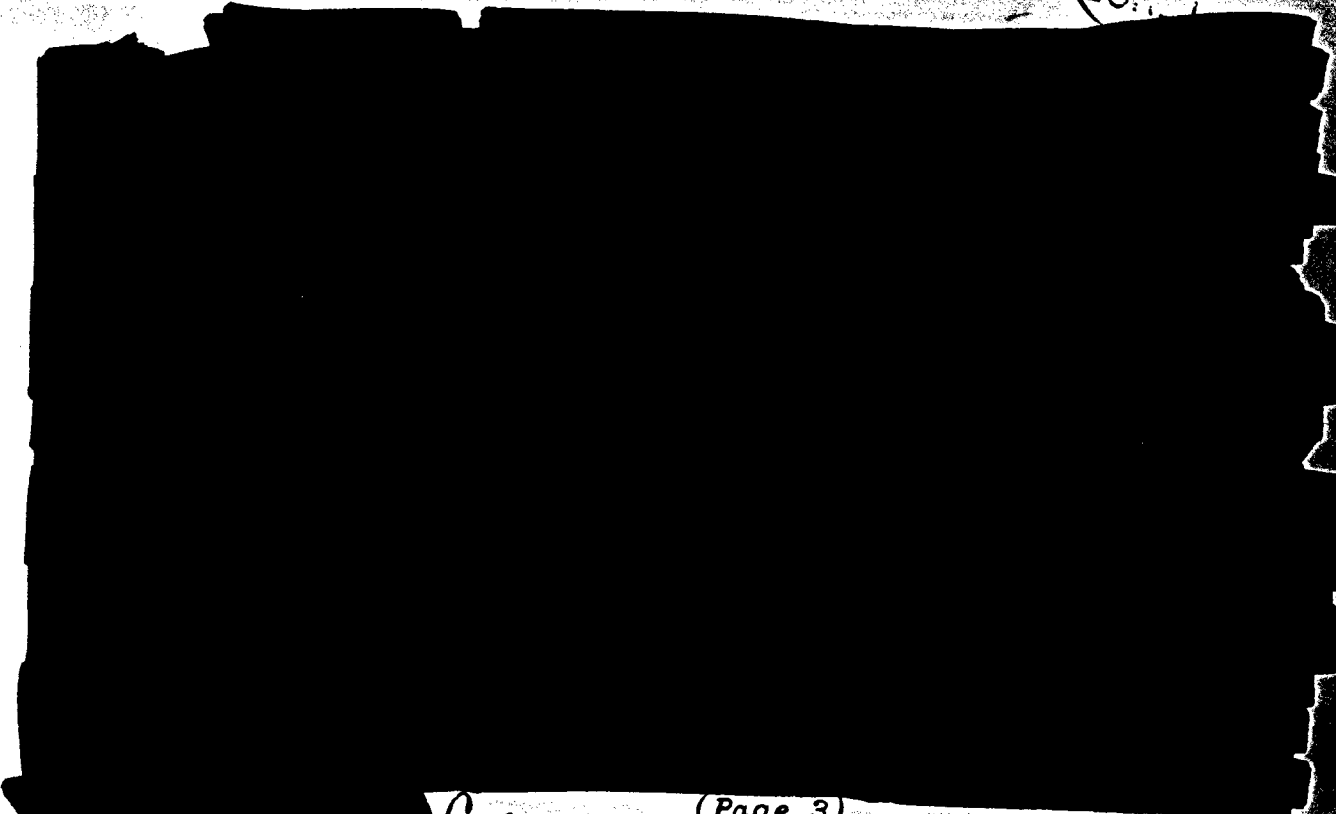
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65-56402-3970 p 310

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TOP



(Page 3)

It was pointed out that during January of 1947, Louise Bransten was residing in an apartment at 14 East 10th Street, New York City and was employed by Win the Peace, 23 W. 26th Street, N.Y.C.

[Handwritten initials]

New York report 3-4-47
Re: "Louise Rosenberg Bransten,
was; IS-R."
100-17139-265
(69)

JFB:lih

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~



b1

It was learned (source not given) that on May 3, 1947, Gregory and Helen Silvermaster were invited to the Pressman residence for the evening.

Washington Field Office, 4-6-48
Re: "Leon Pressman, aka Lee Pressman; IS-C."
100-11820-419
(61)

CIA:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

In connection with the loyalty investigation of Theodore John Kreps, Analyst (Price Economics), Legislative Reference Service, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., H. Dewey Anderson, Chief of Field Operations, United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, a reference, recommended Kreps unqualifiedly as a man of high character, sincere, possessing marvelous ability and a man who would crusade for what he believed was right.

With regard to Anderson, the files of the Washington Field Office (M. I. Summary, pages 3698 and 3699) reflect that on December 10, 1946, Dewey Anderson conversed with Gregory Silvermaster regarding a report on the War Assets Administration. They called each other by their first names and arranged to have lunch. Silvermaster is a subject in a case involving an espionage ring which operated in New York and Washington. This information was not included in the results of the investigation of Kreps in connection with Anderson's interview regarding the employee because the extent of his association with Silvermaster was not known.

WFO report 7-28-48
Re: "Theodore John Kreps, Analyst
(Price Economics), Legislative
Reference Service, Library of
Congress, Washington, D. C. -
Loyalty of Government Employees."
121-4222-16
(62)

JEW:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

On December 10, 1946, the Washington Field Office advised the New York Field Office that Gregory Silvermaster, an individual known to have engaged in an extensive espionage system for the Soviet Government, was to arrive in New York City on 12-10-46. Silvermaster was said to have had an appointment with Palmer Weber of New York City (not further identified) to meet some individual in New York City at the Hotel New Yorker.

A Physical Surveillance determined that Silvermaster arrived in New York City on 12-11-46 at 6:00 a.m. and at 8:00 a.m. entered the Hotel New Yorker where he met Palmer Weber.

[REDACTED]

b1

Source: New York report, 3-7-47

C

[REDACTED] IS-YU and R".

65-57367-15 page 29

(69)

SI 100-346930-19

(12)

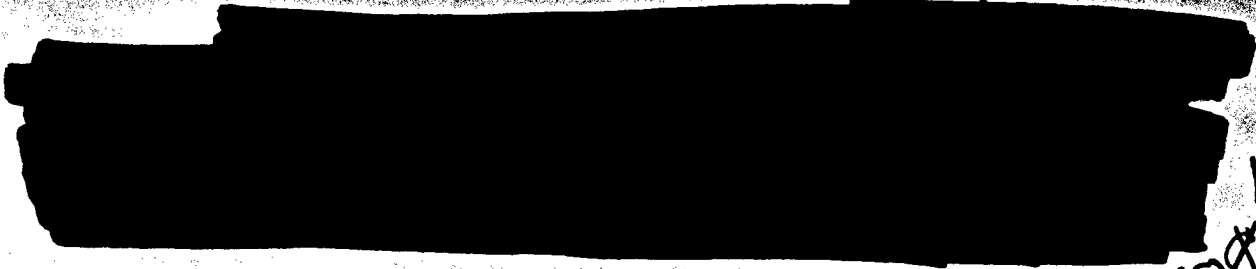
Source not given.

(LA:

b1

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~



New York Report 1-8-48
Re: "Julius Katz-Suchy,
was., Internal Security-R"
100-348330-8
(61)

b1
(S)

CTC:jh

*This report contains a penciled notation indicating
that the informant is [redacted] WFO.

b2
b7D

315 TOP SECRET

On 12-11-46 Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was observed entering 128 East 56th Street, New York City, the home of Randolph Feltus (original source not given - probably a physical surveillance). (page 14)

[REDACTED]

b2
b7D

referred

Peter Dahl, Manager, Hotel Langdon, 2 East 56th Street, New York City, advised (no date given) that the records of the Hotel Langdon reflected that a telephone call to Plaza 9-6911 was charged on 2-4-47 to Jane Foster (wife of George Zlatovski). Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised (no date given) that Plaza 9-6911 was listed to Randolph Feltus, 128 East 56th Street, New York City. On 7-16-48, James C. Goldsworthy, Maintenance Engineer at the Lyceum Building in Duluth, Minnesota, advised that George Zlatovski left Duluth, Minnesota in approximately 1937 and went to Spain where he fought in the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. Other information in this reference appears in Silvermasters main file.

b2
b7D

New York Rpt., 2-10-50
Re: "James Foster Zlatovski,
was.; Espionage - R"
100-35543-92, p. 14;
(44, 64)

JFB:cmm

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

On April 24, 1948, the Washington Field Office advised that a review of the file on William H. Taylor indicated that while he was employed at the Treasury Department he worked under the supervision of Mr. Harry Dexter White and that on his application he had been recommended for the job by Dr. Gregory Silvermaster. It was pointed out that no full field investigation was ever conducted on Taylor by the Washington Field Office.

It was ascertained during a pretext call to the Treasury Department that William Taylor was still employed by that organization and it was believed that that individual was identical with the subject of the file.

On May 12, 1948, the Bureau requested the Washington Field Office to conduct a loyalty investigation on Taylor.

Washington Field Office
memo, 4-24-48.
Re: "William H. Taylor; LGE"
Bureau letter to Washington
Field Office, 5-12-48
Re: "William H. Taylor,
Economist, U. S. Treasury
Department, Washington, D. C.; LGE"
121-7370-1
(66)

69 (On June 1, 1948, the Washington Field Office advised that Taylor had resigned from the Treasury Department on December 14, 1946. It was ascertained that one William H. Taylor was then employed on the chare force at the Treasury Department but he was not identical with the subject.

Washington Field Office
teletype, 6-1-48
Re: "William H. Taylor,
Economist, U. S. Treasury
Department, Washington, D. C.; LGE"
121-7370-2
(not indexed)

CLA:pan

Information concerning the contacts of Charles
Recht from August 23 through December 14, 1946, disclosed
that Recht was a contact of J. H. Randolph Feltus. *Qu*

[REDACTED]

Feltus was a frequent contact of Gregory Silvermaster,
subject of another investigation in the New York Office. *Qu referred*

Additional information pertaining to the background
and activities of Feltus is set forth in this serial. *Qu*

Qu Informant [REDACTED] *b2 b7D*
New York Report
1-10-47.
Re: "Charles Recht;
IS-R."
(65)
61-390-921, p. 6
(66)

ECC:mlb

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65-56402-3970 p 319

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2-17-47

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that on December 17, 1946, Morton Kent chatted with Helen Silvermaster, wife of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, regarding Greg's being in New York. They also discussed the Silvermaster's plan to build at the ocean. u

On December 20, 1946, this same informant advised that Morton Kent arranged to visit the Silvermaster house on that day. Later on the same day, the informant related that Ludwig Ullman, described as a subject in the Gregory case, informed Helen Silvermaster's son, Anatole that Kent had visited the Silvermaster residence and left some presents and cards.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that on December 30, 1946, Morton Kent explained to Gregory Silvermaster that he wanted to consult him and wished to have Greg talk to a man named Bell who had just arrived from Cleveland to work with War Assets on a deal concerning Kent's product. Morton wanted Greg's reaction to it and "advice on personalities and ideas". It was agreed that Greg would see Bell after New Year's inasmuch as Bell was going to be in Washington permanently. u

b2
b7D

Morton E. Kent was a naturalized US citizen formerly employed by the State Department, Labor Department, and the Board of Economic Warfare. It was pointed out in this reference that this information was transmitted to the Bureau by letter rather than report in order to protect the Confidential Nature of the Gregory case.

Washington Field Office
Letter, 3-28-47
Re: "Morton Eliot Kent,
was.; Espionage - R."
65-29800-17
(50)

CLA:mlb

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[redacted] advised (no date given) that on December 19, 1946, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster contacted Hillary Minc, who was then Minister of Industry of the Polish Cabinet of the Professional (probably Provisional) Government, at the Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D. C. Silvermaster stated that Dr. Katz-Suchy (not identified) had made arrangements for Silvermaster to see the Polish Minister and an appointment was then made for the following morning at 11:30 am. According to a physical surveillance conducted by Bureau Agents the following day, Silvermaster was observed entering Room 500-B at the Wardman Park Hotel at 11:30 am and it was determined that this room was registered to the Minister of Industry of the Polish Cabinet. u

(page 5)

The New York Field Office reported during the period from March 2 to May 31, 1949, that Julius Katz-Suchy was the Chief of the Polish United Nations Delegation and replaced Oscar Lange.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised (no date given) that on April 3, 1949, Mrs. Katz-Suchy (ph) who gave her address as 1095 Park Avenue, Penthouse C, New York City, contacted Mary Jane Keeney and advised her that Mr. Katz-Suchy would commence working at the Assembly next week. u

The New York Field Office also reported during the period from March 2 to May 31, 1949, that it was determined through spot surveillances and informants (not further identified) that the Keeneys continued to reside at 41 King Street, New York City and Mary Jane Keeney remained employed at the United Nations.

NY report 6-21-49
Re: "Mary Jane Keeney, Philip
Olin Keeney: IS-R."
101-467-107
(1)

JFB:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised (no date given) that on December 26, 1946, Bruce Waybur (not identified) inquired of Bill Glazier (of the CIO Maritime Committee - source not given) whether he had been at Seth Levine's (not identified) party the day before. 24

b2
b7D

The following is quoted: "Bill advised that they had no way to come since neither Gene (possibly Gene Cotton) nor the Van Tassels (Alfred J.) were going. Waybur advised that he had gone and remarked that he had gone by the Nathan Silvermasters' after leaving Seth's." (2)4

WFO Report, 1-17-47.
Re: "Communist Infiltration of
the CIO Maritime Committee; IS-C".
100-203268-1199 Page 35.
(81)

SI 101-1817-20
(1)

CLA:

JFB: bww

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

On January 15, 1947, information was received from Confidential Informant [redacted] which indicated that Gilda Dolores de Frank had been secretary to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster since about 1941; that Silvermaster took her to each government agency to which he was assigned; and that prior to his leaving the government, she was his administrative assistant. *u*

*b2
b7D*

[redacted]

referred
William B. Bennett, Chief of Research and Analysis Branch, Research and Statistics Division, Office of Plans and Policies, War Assets Administration, Washington, D. C., advised that he worked in the same room with de Frank for approximately six months in 1946. At that time, she was secretary and administrative assistant to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, who was then the head of Economics and Market Research Division of War Assets Administration. He advised that he had never had any occasion to question her loyalty to the United States.

Philip Mullenbach, Assistant Director for Program and Reports, Office of Budget and Reports, Atomic Energy Commission, Washington, D. C., advised that in the latter part of 1946, he succeeded Nathan Gregory Silvermaster as Director of the Economics and Market Research Division of War Assets Administration and in this capacity he was the immediate supervisor of Gilda de Frank for several months. He stated that he understood that she had been transferred from one government agency to another in order to be secretary to Silvermaster and he advised that he attached no particular significance to this, stating that it was not uncommon for a secretary to accompany her immediate supervisor to a new position.

It was noted that a recent FBI investigation of Mullenbach reflected that he was a close friend and an associate of Silvermaster, Jacob J. Kaufman, and Joseph Gillman, all three of whom were released from the War Assets Administration because of doubtful loyalty.

~~TOP SECRET~~

In connection with another investigation conducted by the FBI Miss Gilda de Frank was interviewed by Bureau Agents in February, 1948. In that case, she advised that she met Nathan Gregory Silvermaster in 1941 and worked as his personal secretary most of the time from 1943 to 1946. She said that she had always admired Silvermaster and had not been aware of political activity on his part. Other information appearing in this reference is the same as that in the Gregory Case 65-56402 and is not being set forth in this summary.

WFO report 3-22-48
Re: "Gilda Dolores de Frank,
Secretary, Office of Administrator,
War Assets Administration, Wash.,
D. C. - Loyalty of Government
Employees."
121-701-6
(46)

ECC:ddl

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that on December 31, 1946, Polia Habicht and an unknown man met and talked to Gregory Silvermaster. No other information was available. *qu*

b2
b7D

The same informant advised that on January 2, 1947, in a conversation between Polia Habicht and Anatole Bolhov, Polia invited Anatole to a party at her home that evening at 8:30 P.M.. She mentioned that Greg (Silvermaster), Helen (Silvermaster) and Lud (Ullman) would be present. All of these latter individuals were said to be figures in the Gregory case. *qu*

WFO report, 3-13-47
Re: "Hermann Rollemann Habicht;
Pelageya D. K. Habicht, aka
Polia Habicht, Polya Habicht; IS-R"
65-34416-186
(58,65)

CLA:jlc

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

(page 4.)

b1

[REDACTED]

(page 5)

b1

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised (no date given) that Greene and his wife were very close friends of William Ludwig Ullman and Nathan Gregory and Helen Silvermaster during 1946 and 1947. The informant advised that the Greens had had these individuals in their home as dinner guests on numerous occasions and also that the Greens had likewise been in the Ullman and Silvermaster home. The informant advised further that it was apparent that these individuals and Greene were mutually interested in photography and in the performance of various photographic experiments being conducted at the Silvermaster and Ullman residence. Informant also advised that the Greens and the Silvermasters were acquainted as early as September 1, 1945, but the informant did not know the extent of the association prior to that date.

b2
b7D

On December 4, 1945, according to a physical surveillance Bureau Agents observed a 1940, Chevrolet coupe bearing D.C. plates 91-942 stop in front of the Silvermaster residence, 5513 30th Street N.W., Washington, D.C., and a man, a woman, and a dog got out of the car and entered the Silvermaster residence. It was pointed out that the above D.C. license plates were registered to William L. Green, 1739 Harvard Street N.W., Washington, D.C.

On March 15, 1946, according to a physical surveillance Bureau Agents observed Green and his wife enter the Silvermaster residence. They arrived in a blue Chevrolet, bearing D.C. license tags 91-942, which as stated above were registered to Green.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

The Bureau Agents also observed the Sasuly's (Dick and Elizabeth Sasuly) enter the Silvermaster residence during the same evening and later observed the Sasuly's and the Greenes leave the Silvermaster residence together and drive to, and enter, the Sasuly's residence at 3700 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C.

(page 8)

Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file.

WFO report 9-8-51
Re: "William Lewis Greene, aka,
Bill Green; Espionage - R"
65-60281-4

(11)

SI 100-37078-51, p. 32

(11)

SI 100-351197-3

(11, 59)

(Other information on page 7
of this reference appears in
Silvermaster's main file.)

JFB:pan

[REDACTED]

referred

~~TOP SECRET~~

TOP SECRET

[REDACTED]

(c) (Page 26)

Mr. C. Neal Salisbury, 4402 South 36th Street, Arlington, Virginia, who had worked in the Economic Market Research Division, War Assets Administration, advised (date not shown) that Philip Mullenbach was very close to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Salisbury also advised that Mullenbach showed favoritism to Russian orders while at the War Assets Administration and this favoritism to Russian orders was originated by Silvermaster who preceded Mullenbach as Assistant to the Unit.

[REDACTED]

(Page 30)

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] advised (date not given) that Mr. and Mrs. Payson Carter were friends of Philip and Murriel Mullenbach.

Washington Field Office Summary
Report dated 8-10-51
Re: "Payson Dennis Carter; Petty
Payson Carter, was; IS-R."
65-59055-5 pg. 26, 30
(11)

JFB:lih

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

[redacted] advised (no date given) that it had come to his attention that on several occasions during 1946 and the early part of 1947, Melville Evans Locker had been in contact with both William Ludwig Ullman and Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. The informant indicated that the nature and extent of this relationship was unknown to him but he advised that it was more than casual. u

(Page 4)

b2
b7D

Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file.

Washington Field Office Report
9-2-48
Re: "Melville Evans Locker;
European Recovery Program".
124884-3
(48)



referred

JFB:vw

TOP SECRET

~~TOP SECRET~~

In connection with a loyalty investigation of Arthur Robert Rosenbaum, War Assets Administration, Washington Confidential Informant T-2 was interviewed and furnished a signed statement on February 10, 1948. This informant stated that he did not desire to appear before a Loyalty Hearing Board in this matter and he desired that his identity be kept confidential.

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

R T-2 [REDACTED]

b7C
b7D

(p. 10-12)

Russell V. Oliver, an economist, War Assets Administration, Washington, D.C., was interviewed and furnished a signed statement on November 25, 1947. Oliver advised that he would prefer not to appear and testify before a Loyalty Hearing Board, but that he would be willing to do so if necessary.

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Oliver stated that he believed Rosenbaum was either a member of the Communist Party or in some way closely attached and friendly with its general aims and purposes. He stated that Rosenbaum was originally brought into the unit by Nathan G. Silvermaster, one time head of the unit. They were extremely close friends and called each other "Art" and "Greg." He stated that he had observed that Rosenbaum's connection with Silvermaster was much closer than the business of the unit would warrant and he could furnish examples of close personal relationship between them. He stated that from what he had heard and observed he would say that Silvermaster was also a Communist or a fellow traveler.

Joseph G. Dubuque, professor of economics, University of Maryland, was interviewed and furnished a signed statement on December 8, 1947.

Dubuque advised that he worked with Rosenbaum at the War Assets Administration from the fall of 1945 until February 14, 1947. He stated that Rosenbaum followed every twist and turn of the Communist Party line knowingly and intentionally.

He stated that Rosenbaum was originally brought into War Assets by Dr. Nathan G. Silvermaster, his superior. He stated that very few on the same job level as Rosenbaum could even get into Silvermaster's office for brief conversations about important matters, but that Rosenbaum had free access to Dr. Silvermaster's office anytime without even clearance with his secretary. He stated that they were obviously close personal friends and ate lunch together almost every day.

Mr. Dubuque advised that he would be willing to appear and testify before a Loyalty Hearing Board.

Walter H. Rastall was interviewed and furnished a signed statement on December 11, 1947.

Rastall stated that he was employed as an economist at War Assets Administration, Washington, D.C., and for more than a year had been working in the same office with Arthur Robert Rosenbaum at War Assets.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Rastall stated that he had observed that Dr. Nathan Silvermaster, the Director, had built up a sort of a clique around himself of which his chief favorites were Jacob J. Kaufman and Arthur Rosenbaum. This clique was apparently bound together by personal friendship and similarity of political views. He stated that he noted that Rosenbaum and Silvermaster's relationship was far more intimate and cordial than their business relationship would afford. Rosenbaum had exceptional access to Silvermaster's office, which the others of about the same rank as Rosenbaum did not have.

Rastall advised that he would be willing to appear to testify on this matter before a Loyalty Hearing Board if necessary.

Philip Mullenbach, economist, Atomic ^{ENERGY} Energy Commission, Washington, D.C., advised that he was formerly associated with Rosenbaum at the War Assets Administration for approximately one and one half years. He advised that Rosenbaum was brought into the Surplus Property Division of the Department of Commerce at the suggestion of Dr. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, formerly the director of the Economic and Market Research Division, War Assets Administration. He advised that he had never mingled with Rosenbaum socially, but that he had lunch with him on occasions and had occasionally visited with him in the office. He stated that he had never noticed anything about him that would tend to indicate that Rosenbaum was disloyal to the United States.

(P. 18)

Dr. Paul H. Anderson, formerly Chief of the Consumers Goods Market Research Section of the Economic Market Research Division, War Assets Administration, furnished a signed statement on December 4, 1947.

Anderson stated that he first met Rosenbaum in the fall of 1945, and worked in close association with him at War Assets Administration until January, 1947. Anderson stated that he had a great number of conversations with Rosenbaum and as a result of these conversations he believed that Rosenbaum was at least a "fellow traveler" and might be a member of the Communist Party. He stated that Rosenbaum was an intimate.

~~TOP SECRET~~

associate of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and believed that he had been handpicked for the job at War Assets by Silvermaster because of a friendship existing between them from the time they were both employed at the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Anderson advised that he would appear before a Loyalty Hearing Board to testify if necessary.

(P. 20)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

reference

With regard to Jacob J. Kaufman, an associate of Rosenbaum, Confidential Informant [REDACTED] who was familiar with activities and contacts of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster advised that Silvermaster was frequently in contact with Jack Kaufman and that he knew this relationship to be more than of just a casual nature. *u*

*b2
b7D*

Washington Field Office report
2-26-48
Re: "Arthur Robert Rosenbaum,
Chief, Technical Section,
Economic Analysis Branch, Economic
and Market Research Division,
War Assets Administration,
Washington, D.C.; Loyalty of
Government Employees"
121-74-7X1, p. 12, 13, 15, 17,
18, 20, 21,
(82-76-125)

334

ECC:rrb

~~TOP SECRET~~

[redacted] of known reliability, furnished information (no date given) that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was under the treatment of Dr. Isdore Alpher in 1947. Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file. u
(page 10)

b2
b7D

[redacted]

Washington Field Office
report, 7-17-50
Re: "Mrs. Isdore M. Alpher
was: SM - C"
100-370424-1
(38)

b2
b7D

JFB:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

b2
b7D

[REDACTED] advised (no date given) that the Keeneys were associates of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullman in 1946 and 1947. Identifying information regarding Silvermaster appears in his main file. u

b2
b7D

WFO letter 2-6-51
Re: "Alix Simon Reuther, was.;
IS-R."
101-467-145
(26)

Correlator's Note: No identifying information was given in the above letter regarding Alix Simon Reuther, and it is pointed out that the above letter was a not recorded green serial which bore a notation that the original copy was filed in Bureau file #100-356205-34. Bureau file 101-467 is the main file of Mary Jane Keeney.

JFB:ddl

1247

~~TOP SECRET~~

This report stated that Confidential Informants (not otherwise identified) who had furnished reliable information advised that Lee Pressman was in contact with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Helen Silvermaster in 1946 and 1947.

Lee Pressman acted as an Attorney in 1944 for Charles Gordon Shane, a freight handler at Frankford Arsenal, Department of the Army, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, when he stated in an affidavit that he desired to engage in political activities in his spare time while employed by the Federal Government and petitioned the court to furnish an advisory opinion. The Supreme Court declined to furnish the advisory opinion but upheld the constitutionality of the Hatch Act.

Additional information in this reference concerning Silvermaster is set out in Silvermaster's main file (65-56402).

Washington Field Office report
1-26-49
Re: "Charles Gordon Shane,
Freight Handler, Frankford
Arsenal, Department of the Army,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;
Loyalty of Government Employees"
121-9562-39
(1)

CLA:men

~~TOP SECRET~~

In connection with the Loyalty Investigation of Paul Neyron Boswell, Librarian (Assembler), Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.,

[REDACTED]

b2
b7D

[REDACTED]

b2
b7D

Keeney, reported to have been an associate of Boswell, made friends with and associated socially with certain persons including Nathan Gregory Silvermaster according to New York City Confidential Informant [REDACTED]

u b2 b7D

In this connection, Washington Informant T-20, who would neither furnish a signed statement nor appear before a Loyalty Board, advised that during 1947 David Wahl was an associate of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

~~(u)~~

Other information which appears in this reference may be found in Silvermaster's main file.

(u) ~~(u)~~

T-20: Physical Surveillances conducted by agents of the Washington Field Office.

Washington Field Office report, 6-24-51
Re: "Paul Neyron Boswell, aka.; Librarian (Assembler) Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.; Loyalty of Government Employees". 121-4349-50 pp. 4,5,6,13 (16)

JFW:pan

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

Alice Margaret Demerjian, who was investigated under the Loyalty Program, worked under the supervision of Murray Latimer at the Railroad Retirement Board from 1935 to 1943. Latimer was chairman of the Railroad Retirement Board and resigned in 1947 to head an Industrial Relations Council bearing his name with offices in Washington, D. C. Demerjian gave Latimer's name as a personal reference in her application for employment with Foreign Economic Administration.

Washington Informant [redacted] of known reliability, was in a position to observe the associates and contacts of Latimer, and advised that he was a close associate of George Silverman, Irving Kaplan and Helen and Gregory Silvermaster. (The date this information was furnished was not given.) *Qu*

Confidential Informant [redacted] who was in a position to observe the contacts and associates of Mary Jane and Angus Keeney, advised that during 1945 and 1946, Alice Demerjian was a close friend of Mary Jane and Angus Keeney. The informant refused to testify before a Loyalty Board or furnish a signed statement. (The date this information was furnished was not given.) *u*

Confidential Informants [redacted] and [redacted] who refused to furnish signed statements or testify before a Loyalty Board, advised that Mary Jane and Angus Keeney were frequent contacts of Helen and Gregory Silvermaster. (The date this information was furnished was not given.) *u*

Identifying information which appeared in this reference may be found in the main file of Silvermaster.

Washington Field Office
report, 4-9-48
Re: "Alice Margaret Demerjian
Administrative Officer, IAD,
Department of State, Washington,
D. C., -Loyalty of Government
Employees".
121-2793-7
(72)

JEM:pan

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[REDACTED]

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Both of the above informants indicated they would neither furnish a signed statement nor appear before a Loyalty Hearing Board.

Additional information appearing in this reference is set out in Silvermaster's main file and is not being correlated herein.

Washington Field Office
report, 1-5-50
Re: "Albert Charles Shire,
aka; 'Pete', Arthur C. Shire,
Consultant - Appointee,
Department of the Air Forces,
Washington, D. C.; Loyalty of
Government Employees".
121-21120-33 pp. 1,7,7A,7B,13,16,18
(42,80)

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CLA:pan

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A news article appearing in the Washington "Times Herald" newspaper for February 16, 1948, stated that James Stewart Martin, of Annapolis, who "recently" resigned from his post with the American Military Government in Germany, was Chairman of the Convention held at Baltimore, Maryland, on February 15, 1948, at which meeting the Progressive Party of Maryland was organized.

[REDACTED]

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] stated that in late 1946 and early 1947, Weber was in contact at various times with Gregory and Helen Silvermaster. The same informant said that on March 24, and March 26, 1947, Weber was in contact with Ludwig Ullman. u

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Washington Field Office report
3-13-51
Re: "James Stewart Martin;
Security Matter - C"
100-3788942-5
(65)

ECC:men

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On the morning of March 5, 1948, a conversation took place between Mrs. Arthur Hummel, who stated she was with the Florida Avenue Friends Meeting, and Mrs. Emilie Condon, wife of Dr. U. Condon of the Bureau of Standards.

They discussed the Bureau letter to the Commerce Department dated May 15, 1947, in which a self-confessed Soviet espionage agent was mentioned. Mrs. Condon stated that this man was said to have been a spy between 1941 and 1944 and her husband (Condon) was said to have been associated as late as 1947 with someone who knew this man who died in 1944.

It was apparent from Mrs. Condon's conversation that she believed that the self-confessed agent was Jacob Golos, when, in fact, it was Gregory. Gregory had contacted the Silvermasters from 1941 to 1944 as a courier for Golos.

Mrs. Condon stated that they had found out to whom they were referring. She went on to state how these accused persons had been hounded and had been accused of having been spies. She stated that the case had been dragging on for months and that it was a secret Grand Jury but everyone knew it. She stated that these people had been hounded out of Washington, and had gone to New Jersey. (Undoubtedly referring to Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.) She stated that she had not seen them for about a year and had only met them two or three times at the most. She said that their son was a physicist and that they had wanted her husband's advice on what colleges to send him. That was the way in which they had become acquainted. Mrs. Condon stated that Dr. Condon never knew the espionage agent but "you see, this man was a friend of this couple."

Mrs. Condon concluded by stating that he (Silvermaster) was quite an intimate of Dr. Condon's and they (Silvermasters) had another friend living with them who was quite a hobbyist; that he was a photographer and that he had a dark room. She said that this "neurotic woman" had suggested that he had photographed secret documents to be delivered to the Russians.

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Mrs. Condon was undoubtedly referring to William L. Ullman, Silvermaster's boarder who, according to Gregory, photographed documents in the Silvermaster's basement.

It was noted that the Condons had identified the Silvermasters as their contacts in the Gregory Case and Mrs. Condon had given an explanation of their contacts with the Silvermasters.

14 [Source - Technical Surveillance
Memo to the Director from
D.M. Ladd, 3-6-48.
Re: "Gregory; Espionage - R
Dr. Edward U. Condon; IS - R"
62-58854-144
(6)

ECC:rrb

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised early in 1947, that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, his wife, and Ludwig Ullman, who was then residing with the Silvermasters at 5515 30th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., were all well acquainted with Grace Granich. The informant advised that the relationship between the Silvermasters, Ullman, and Granich, was such that Granich had issued them a standing invitation to visit at her home any time at their convenience. b2
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Other information regarding Silvermaster contained in this reference appears in his main file.

Washington Field Office
Report 8-20-51
Re: "Max Granich, was.;
Grace Granich, was.,
Internal Security-R"
100-88434-204
(12,80)

CTC:jh

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During the period of 1946 and 1947, Clifford Thomas McAvoy, Secretary of Labor Committee for Wallace as of March 15, 1948, and his wife Frances, were intimate friends of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Helen Silvermaster and Ludwig Ullman (all subjects of an espionage case). McAvoy and his wife visited frequently at the Silvermaster and Ullman residences and attended social functions together, exchanged conversation and discussed their personal troubles and plans; they frequently exchanged opinions on political events. [REDACTED] u

In February, 1946, Mrs. Clifford McAvoy contacted Helen Silvermaster and during the conversation she advised that Clifford was on the board of the "Southern Conference" (probably Southern Conference for Human Welfare). [REDACTED] u

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During January, 1947, McAvoy and his wife attended a party at the home of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster (Confidential Informant [REDACTED]). u

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Other information appearing in this reference is the same as that in the Gregory File 65-56402 and is not being set forth in this summary.

Washington Field Office report
10-18-48
Re: "Clifford Thomas McAvoy -
Security Matter-C."
100-30575-24
(29)
SI - 100-30575-20
(29)

ECC:ddl

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on December 14, 1946, that Lee Pressman was an old friend of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and that Pressman was invited to dinner at the Silvermaster home on New Year's Eve (January 1, 1947). u

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Additional information appearing in this reference also appears in the main file on Nathan Gregory Silvermaster.

New York report, 2-2-49
Re: "Leon Pressman; was.
Lee Pressman; IS-C."
100-11820-433, p. 1, 16, 17
(30)

CIA:dsl

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Confidential Informant [redacted] made available a letter from Richard Bransten to Mary Jane Keeney, dated January 9, 1947. In this letter Bransten stated that he and his wife had not corresponded with Greg and Helen (Nathan Gregory Silvermaster). Bransten said that so long as Greg was in the government they had not corresponded with them, because letters to them may have been embarrassing.

Washington Field Office
Letter to Director
2-18-47
Re: "Richard Bransten,
was., Internal Security-C
100-80068-189
(25, 57)

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CTC:jh

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1-7-47

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On January 9, 1947, Adele Slocum (Ph) contacted Peggy McIntire. During the conversation, Adele and Peggy discussed Lester's (Ph) relationship with Jean (Ph) and how she more or less pursued him. Peggy said that Jean knew a lot of people that Lester knew, such as the Silvermaster's and Irving, "the fellow at the Shoreham Market." They commented that Irving had more or less of a paternal attitude toward Lester, such as paying for his meals at times. They described Lester as a very decent and honest young man "who is very calm and he keeps his tongue." Lester had been married and apparently was then divorced. Peggy remarked that his former wife was giving a dance recital sometime in January "to which we will all be going."

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Technical Surveillance
Log, Washington Field
Office, 1-9-47
Re: "MCI-Summary"
100-17768-68
(54)

CLA:mlb

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that Louie Block (not further identified) contacted Helen Silvermaster on February 28, 1946, with reference to a rumor he had heard in San Francisco, that Bruce Minton issued a statement that "he had abandoned his former ideas". Helen Silvermaster said she had not heard of this. Louie then ask Helen who advised Greg, (Nathan Gregory Silvermaster), of the rumor he had heard concerning Minton. u

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A highly confidential informant (not otherwise identified) advised that a letter dated February 10, 1945, was written by Richard Bransten, addressed to the Silvermasters. This letter was of a personal nature, and indicated that Bransten was very friendly with the Silvermasters.

[redacted]

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New Haven Report 3-10-47
Re: "Richard Bransten,
was., Internal Security-C
100-80068-201 page 1, 3, 4
(10)

CTC:jh

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On January 23, 1947, Marcelle Hitchman, who was suspected of having acted on behalf of the Soviet Intelligence, arrived in New York City from Egypt. She listed her destination in the United States as a visit to her friend, Ruth Gruber, 177 Lenox Road, Brooklyn, New York.

The files of the New York Office disclosed that Ruth Gruber, who at one time was employed as secretary in the office of the Secretary of Interior Ickes, and who had a reputation for Communist sympathies, had been in contact with the Silvermasters. (Date of information not given).

Source not given
Memo to the Director from
SAC New York dated 4-11-47
Re: "Marcelle Hitchman, nee
Biagini; Internal Security-R"
100-348852-2
(54)

CTC:rrb

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[REDACTED]

(page 6)

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Confidential Informant Elizabeth Terrill Bentley, stated that in March of 1946 Richard Sasuly was a visitor at the home of Gregory Silvermaster and that Silvermaster was at that time employed by the War Assets Administration. *rel*

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(page 4)

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New York Rpt., 1-19-50
Re: "Marcel E. Scherer, was.;"
IS - C"
100-107137-84
(63)

JFB:cmm

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