



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**GERALD L. K. SMITH**

**PART 14 OF 18**

**FILE NUMBER : 62-43818**

**FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS  
RELEASE**

**SUBJECT:** GERALD L.K. SMITH

**FILE:** 62-43818

**SUB:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VOL:** 40

**PAGES REVIEWED:** 58

**PAGES RELEASED:** 47

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

EPB:MLJ

34776

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

April 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;  
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in the captioned matter there are enclosed herewith photostatic copies of the following materials:

1. Booklet entitled, "The Platform of the America First Party."
2. Four-page mimeographed leaflet entitled, "Courage Rewarded."
3. Circular dated February 14, 1945, captioned, "National Emergency Committee."

*Enclosure*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/14/82 BY SP8BJJ/mk

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX-150

62-43818-690  
F B I  
21 APR 11 1945

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 13  
★ APR - 9 1945 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*copy*

40

50 APR 26 1945

*D.S.  
Ealy*

*EPB*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan  
April 7, 1945

10  
[Empty grid for routing or tracking]

DECLASSIFIED BY 4913/APW  
ON 1-9-78

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-5 BTJ/mw

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY -  
SECURITY MATTER  
SEDITION

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF DECLASSIFICATION  
DATE 2/3/78 psb

Dear Sir:

The following information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the activities of the Subject SMITH during the period from March 16, 1945, to April 5, 1945, inclusive. -620

SMITH is planning a number of meetings of his followers in the near future. On Sunday, April 8, 1945, he will hold a meeting in Buffalo, New York, and has sent invitations for this meeting to all persons who attended his two previous meetings in Buffalo. He is also holding a meeting in Detroit, Michigan, on April 19, 1945. Informant believed that the Detroit meeting is to be held at the Detroit Leland Hotel but did not know where the Buffalo meeting would be held. As far as is known, SMITH will be the only speaker at these meetings.

On April 20, 1945, SMITH plans to leave Detroit for San Francisco where he will observe the operations of the United Nations Conference to be held in that city starting April 25, 1945. On his way to San Francisco he plans to hold a series of meetings. The first of these will be in Chicago on Sunday, April 22, 1945, at the LaSalle Hotel. Two meetings will be held, one in the afternoon and the other in the evening. The speakers will be CARL HOPE of Indianapolis and DEAN E. SMITH of Chicago in addition to Subject SMITH. The meeting will be under the auspices of a committee of World War II veterans and Subject SMITH'S name will not appear in connection with it. It was expected that about 250 people would attend.

From Chicago SMITH will travel to St. Louis, Missouri, where he will hold a meeting on a date as yet undetermined. Thereafter, he will proceed westward holding meetings, according to the present schedule, at Denver, Colorado, Salt Lake City, Utah, and possibly at Oakland, California.

He was in contact recently with Mrs. DAVID STANLEY of Cleveland, Ohio, head of a group of "professional mothers" in that city, and suggested to her that she and her followers should hold sessions



APR 22 1945 36

RECORDED & INDEXED 21 -41

5-510  
6-114

Letter to the Director  
April 7, 1945

GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G  
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

of the United Nations Conference at San Francisco. She indicated that this was a good idea and that she might act upon it. SMITH stated he would see her there.

SMITH has discussed at great length with his various followers the meeting which he held in Chicago on March 15, 1945, which meeting was picketed by persons whom SMITH said were "Communist Jews" and which ended in a near riot. SMITH believes that the publicity incident to this meeting has reacted very favorably for him and that the newspapers branded the group as Communists. He believes the riot was incited by FISHBEIN, editor of the "Newish Sentinel."

H. J. DALTON, Secretary of the Plasterers' Union, whose hall was rented by SMITH for his Chicago meeting, advised SMITH that FISHBEIN had written to JOHN FITZPATRICK, President of the Chicago Federation of Labor, and WILLIAM GREEN, President of the American Federation of Labor, making an official protest against the fact that the union had allowed SMITH to use the hall for the meeting and stating that there was a rumor that several former Bund members were active in the union. SMITH states that FISHBEIN pulled a "boner" in writing this letter to the union officials since they are all now mad at him and taking SMITH'S side. He also stated that the Communists had always tried to make him appear anti-labor and that now labor is turning out to be his chief benefactor. He believes that the disturbance created at the Chicago meeting boomeranged against the persons who incited it. SMITH also states he has received a wire from a certain [redacted] of Chicago stating that the question at issue was freedom of speech and right of assemblage and not the correctness or incorrectness of SMITH'S philosophy. b7c

SMITH is also taking an interest in meetings of other than his own organization. He made arrangements for anti-Communist literature to be distributed at a meeting addressed by EARL BROWDER in Detroit on April 5, 1945. However, at the last minute this plan was called off since he could get only one of his workers to agree to distribute the literature. However, he did have his secretary attend the meeting and make notes on what BROWDER said. Informant states that his secretary advised SMITH that BROWDER made no comment on him.

He has been in contact with various Nationalist Associates during the past few weeks. He made an effort to contact Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER at Denver, Colorado, at whose church SMITH will hold his Denver meeting on his way to San Francisco. Informant did not believe, however, that SMITH had actually been in contact with SPRINGER.

He was in contact with BERNARD GYMAN, his former secretary, who has recently returned to Detroit after spending several months in Texas.

Letter to the Director.  
April 7, 1945

GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G  
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

~~DON HARLAN~~, a local lawyer who represents the mother of TYLER KENT, advised SMITH recently that he had some interesting material for SMITH. He has been in contact with GEORGE VOSE who is his organizer of World War II veterans and who has recently been working in Chicago. An individual named [REDACTED] whose first name was unknown to the informant, met with SMITH in Detroit on April 5 and 6, 1945. [REDACTED] is a resident of Chicago, and informant did not know the purpose of his meeting with SMITH. On March 31, 1945, SMITH endeavored to contact some unknown individual at Little Rock, Arkansas.

[REDACTED] an employee of the Bureau of Internal Revenue, spoke with SMITH at considerable length concerning the latter's tax problems. SMITH indicated that he wanted to discuss with someone his "whole tax picture, war taxes, Social Security, etc." and that he wanted to see one of the "old timers" in the Bureau concerning this, since he had political enemies and did not want to talk to anyone who had gotten a job during the last three years. [REDACTED] stated he was an "old timer" since he had been there twenty-nine years and that his policy was to give everybody a break. [REDACTED] then stated, "I am calling you because I think we have the Revenue Agents inside checking on you from the Department in Washington and I don't want this against you..... If they come along and tell me what to do and--well, I don't want to do it. I just wanted to give you a break so that is why I gave you a ring."

SMITH continues to expand his program for the distribution of literature. He is still sending copies of his monthly magazine to all members of Congress. He has had 10,000 of his Washington News letterheads printed and has ordered more of his Nationalist News Service stationery. VIRGINIA LOHBECK, who is in charge of his office, advised informant that within the last week she had run off 32,000 pieces of mimeographed literature. He is sending special material in addition to his regular monthly letter to all his Chicago followers. On one item of literature in particular, the exact nature of which was unknown to informant, SMITH has already mailed out 6,985 copies and was preparing an additional 1,500 copies.

In an apparent effort to expand his already large mailing list he obtained the names of two mailing list companies, Boyd's City Dispatch, 114 East Twenty-third Street, and W. S. Ponton Company, 635 Sixth Avenue, both of New York. These companies are supposed to have lists of wealthy individuals and SMITH will obtain from them their mailing list catalogs.

He has evidently had some differences with a former close friend of his, GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, head of the Constitutional Americans. SMITH is unable to understand why FOSTER is mad at him but on March 28, 1945, at a meeting of FOSTER'S group in Chicago FOSTER made an attack upon SMITH.

Informant learned that on March 20, 1945, SMITH'S mail collections amounted to \$14.50 and on April 5, 1945, to \$33.00. SMITH has added to his mailing list the name of ROBERT POWERS, one of the owners of the ARNOLD

Letter to the Director  
April 7, 1945

GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G  
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION

POWERS Printing Company of Detroit. Among the persons contributing funds to him recently have been [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

b7c

Very truly yours,



H. A. GUERIN *HAG*  
Special Agent in Charge

EPB:WILJ

RECORDED & INDEXED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

April 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH  
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

For your further information there are enclosed herewith photostatic copies of a leaflet entitled "Warning!", which reportedly is being circulated by Smith and his associates.

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/92 BY SP8 BJS/mk

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 13

★ APR - 9 1945 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

RECEIVED - FBI  
APR 10 1945

*Handwritten initials/signature*

APR 25 1945

*Handwritten initials/signature*

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

APR 23 1945

DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8 BTJ/mc TELEMETER

WASH FROM CHICAGO 1 23 2-23 P

DIRECTOR AND SAC DETROIT ROUTINE 8 85

*Brown*  
*St. J.*

DROP. GERALD L. K. SMITH, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. SUBJECT DELIVERED TWO SPEECHES AT LA SALLE HOTEL, CHICAGO ON APRIL TWENTY SECOND LAST. ESTIMATED TOTAL ATTENDANCE WAS EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY. SMITH MADE FREQUENT MENTION OF THE FACT THAT HE WAS IN ACCORD WITH ARCHBISHOP SAMUEL STRITCH OF CHICAGO IN OPPOSING THE AIMS OF RUSSIA AND ENGLAND AND REPEATEDLY REFERRED TO THE SAN FRANCISCO PEACE CONFERENCE AS A COMBINED QUOTE DUMBARTON HOAX UNQUOTE QUOTE CRIME OF CRIMEA UNQUOTE AND QUOTE THE SAN FRANCISCO SELL OUT UNQUOTE, CLAIMING THAT THE SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE WAS BEING SPONSORED TO PROMOTE AND SAFEGUARD BRITISH POSSESSIONS AND ENLARGE THE INTERNATIONAL STRENGTH OF RUSSIA. SUBJECT STATED HE WOULD BE AT THE SAN FRANCISCO CONFERENCE BUT WOULD FIRST MAKE SPEECHES IN ST LOUIS, DENVER, AND SALT LAKE CITY. FRED KISTER ACTED AS MASTER OF CEREMONIES AND MADE MANY ANTI-SEMITIC STATEMENTS. DEAN E. SMITH, WHO HAS MADE A NUMBER OF APPEARANCES BEFORE THE CITIZENS USA COMMITTEE AND SIMILAR LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS GAVE OPENING ADDRESS WHICH WAS EXTREMELY ANTI-BRITISH. THESE MEETINGS HAVE RECEIVED NO PUBLICITY IN LOCAL NEWSPAPERS INDICATING THAT THOSE IN ATTENDANCE WERE HANDPICKED BY SMITH. COMPLETE REPORT WILL BE SUBMITTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

DRAYTON

DETROIT TO BE ADVISED

ACK APR 27 1945 COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 13 1964

RECORDED & INDEXED

162-43812-674  
37 APR 25 1945  
EX-7  
FIVE EFB

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: April 17, 1945

FROM: SAC, Detroit

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED  
ON 4-5-78

4913 APR 21 1945

As you have been previously notified, the Subject SMITH is leaving Detroit April 21, 1945 for an extended trip during which time he will hold meetings at Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Salt Lake City, and San Francisco. Traveling with him and acting as a personal and confidential secretary will be Miss RENATA LEGANT of Detroit.

[REDACTED SECTION]

[REDACTED SECTION]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/MG

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 2/3/78 RS

cc-Chicago  
St. Louis  
Kansas City  
Denver  
Salt Lake City  
San Francisco

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

62-43818-695  
18 APR 21 1945

EX-65

76 MAY 2 1945

FIVE EPB  
file

Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan

Post Office Box 459

April 21, 1945

The Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
c/o Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Attached herewith is the photostat to which I referred  
in my last communication with you.

If anyone in Philadelphia is impersonating an FBI agent  
in an attempt to coerce a building management, I am sure  
that you will be anxious to put an end to such chicanery.

Sincerely yours,

*Gerald L. K. Smith*  
GERALD L. K. SMITH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

GLKS:M DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8 BTJ/mw  
Enclosure

*Gerald L. K. Smith*

*127*  
*no sub. not previously sub. of 4/24/45 sufficient 2/13*

*C. E. H. / Military Parks / Current Events Club / State Camp of the Patriotic Order Sons of America*

RECORDED & INDEXED  
62-43818-696  
F B I  
APR 29 1945

*FILED*

55 APR 27 1945



# State Camp of the Patriotic Order Sons of America

Incorporated by Act of Legislature



Organized December 10th, 1847

Office of the State Secretary

SONS OF AMERICA BUILDING  
1317-19 N. BROAD STREET  
PHILADELPHIA 22, PA.

God, Our Country and Our Order

STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

STATE PRESIDENT  
IRA T. FISS  
Shamokin Dam, Pa.

STATE VICE-PRESIDENT  
GEORGE H. LARE, JR.  
322 Lemonite Street  
Roxborough, Phila. 28, Pa.

STATE MASTER OF FORMS  
FRANK S. DOERRMAN  
144 W. Douglas Street  
Reading, Pa.

STATE TREASURER  
EUGENE F. HENDRICKS  
1311 Hampden Blvd.  
Reading, Pa.

STATE SECRETARY  
CHARLES BRUMM HELMS  
Sons of America Building  
1317-19 North Broad Street  
Philadelphia 22, Pa.

Organized December 10, 1847.

April 13, 1945.

★  
To Preserve the Public School System.  
Made Education compulsory.  
Placed Flag on School Houses.  
Removed distorted Text Books from Schools.

Mrs. Lillian Parks, Secretary,  
Current Events Club,  
1317-19 N. Broad St.,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

★  
Preserved Washington's Headquarters at Valley Forge.  
Owns acre of ground and monument at Washington's Crossing.  
Helped save Betsy Ross Flag House.  
Marked home of author of National Anthem.

Dear Madam:-

Several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our Building, through members of the F.B.I. and otherwise. Today they advise us the Rev. Gerald Smith is to speak here this evening.

★  
First Five Companies to answer Lincoln's Call  
Furnished 27,000 members to World War I.  
Furnished 3000 members to World War II.  
National Defense program called finest in country.

I am compelled under the circumstances to cancel the lease, and advise you that we cannot permit your meeting here this evening if Mr. Smith is to be present or deliver an address.

★  
Assist Red Cross and Salvation Army.  
Cooperates with all Veterans' Organizations.  
Cooperates with F. B. I.  
Sold and purchased over \$20,000,000.00 in War Bonds.

Very truly yours,

*C. B. Helms*  
State Secretary, P.O.S. of A.

★  
Presented thousands of flags and bibles to Schools and Churches.

CBH/MIH

★  
Opposed Sectarian appropriations—uniting of Church and State.

P.S. We made efforts to reach you by telephone all afternoon. Your phone did not answer.

★  
Camp rooms are the High Schools of American Freedom.  
Restricted Immigration into Nation.

★  
Owns Finest Patriotic Headquarters in country.

★  
Sponsors George Washington Boys' Camp—Outstanding Youth Movement.

★  
Maintains Chalfont Aged Folks Home. A Haven for brothers and wives.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
 AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
 INTERNAL SECURITY  
 SEDITION

DATE: April 3, 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-6/BJM/MLW

Informants of the Detroit Field Division advise that Subject SMITH will leave Detroit on April 21 for the purpose of attending the International Conference of the United Nations which will begin in San Francisco on April 25, 1945. Enroute to San Francisco, SMITH will stop at several cities for the purpose of holding meetings of his followers and make speeches. The first meeting will be held in the Century Room of the La Salle Hotel, Chicago, at 3:00 PM and 8:00 PM on Sunday, April 22. Because of the disturbances which attended SMITH'S meeting in Chicago on March 15 his connection with the meeting on April 22 will be kept secret and the meeting ostensibly will be held under the auspices of the "Veterans of World War II." This is a fictitious organization existing in name only and set up by SMITH for the purpose of holding this meeting. Speakers at the meeting in addition to the Subject SMITH will be CARL MOTE of Indianapolis and DEAN SMITH of Chicago. It is expected that about two hundred fifty people will attend the meeting. FRED KISTER will preside.

On April 23 or 24 SMITH will hold a meeting in St. Louis at a place not definitely decided as yet. Informants believe it will be either one of the two meeting places, the Kiel Auditorium or at the DeSoto Hotel. RUTH LÖHBECK is said to be making the arrangements for the St. Louis meeting. After leaving St. Louis SMITH tentatively plans on stopping at Kansas City but informants did not know at this time whether he would hold a meeting there or simply a press conference.

On April 30, SMITH will hold a meeting at Denver, Colorado, at the tabernacle of Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER. Arrangements for this meeting are said to have been made by KENNETH GOFF. On leaving Denver, SMITH has made tentative arrangements to have a meeting within the succeeding few days at Salt Lake City, Utah, providing necessary arrangements can be made there. JEREMIAH STOKES and an individual named MAC KNIGHT, both of whom are believed to be lawyers, are said to have been trying to arrange a meeting at Salt Lake City.

SMITH plans on arriving at San Francisco during the first few days of May, 1945. He has tentatively planned to stay in San Francisco about three weeks. During this period he contemplates holding a meeting at Oakland, California, where a Mrs. ESSIG, formerly a member of the America First Committee, will make arrangements for such a meeting.

*Let  
 4-10-45  
 FBI/awp*

RECORDED  
 &  
 INDEXED  
 196

62-43812-69  
 F B  
 19 APR 10 1945

RECORDED  
 62-43812-69

Letter to the Director  
April 3, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

SMITH is not believed to have any definite program outlined for opposition to the activities of the San Francisco Conference. At the present time he contemplates attending all the public sessions of the conference and will attempt to learn from such sources as there are available all information which he can concerning the activities of the conference and its delegates. Since he has recently established the Nationalist News Service, he may attempt to qualify his wife and Miss RENATA LEGANT, his secretary, as press representatives which would entitle them to attend sessions of the conference that SMITH himself might not be able to attend and in this manner get information which otherwise would not be available to him. LEGANT and Mrs. SMITH are accompanying SMITH to San Francisco but it is not believed that he is traveling with anyone else.

The Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Salt Lake City, and San Francisco Offices are requested to make arrangements for coverage of the meetings above referred to and the reporting of what takes place at such meetings. It should be noted that no surveillance of the Subject is desired nor should any agents attend any such meetings but coverage should be effected solely through informants. In the event that SMITH holds a meeting at Kansas City the Kansas City Field Division is requested to make arrangements for similar coverage of such a meeting. In the event SMITH holds only a press conference in that city it is requested that the Kansas City Office report the results of such press conference as set out in the daily newspapers.

The San Francisco Field Division is requested to learn through informants the nature and extent of SMITH'S activities in that city in connection with the United Nations Conference but it is believed advisable that such information be obtained solely through informants.

As further information is obtained concerning the specific dates and places of the meetings above referred to and any other contemplated activities of the Subject SMITH, the interested offices will be notified by the Detroit Field Division.

 b7c  
62-1126  
CC: Chicago  
St. Louis  
Kansas City  
Denver  
Salt Lake City  
San Francisco

114  
110  
A

66  
Y...

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/20/82 BY [signature]

April 11, 1945

62-43818-697  
Mr. Frederick B. Lyon  
Chief

Division of Foreign Activity Correlation  
State Department  
Washington, D. C.

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-43818-697  
San Francisco Conference

We have received information to the effect that Gerald L. K. Smith, who you will recall is the head of the America First Party in Detroit, Michigan, will attend the International Conference of the United Nations in San Francisco, California. According to our source of information, Smith is not believed to have any definite program outlined for opposition to the activities of the San Francisco Conference, but does contemplate attending all the public sessions of the conference and will attempt to learn from such sources as there are available all information he can concerning the activities of the conference and its delegates. It has been said that since Smith has recently established the Nationalist News Service he may attempt to qualify his wife and a Miss Renata Legant, his secretary, as press representatives, thus entitling them to attend sessions of the conference which Smith himself might not be able to attend and in this manner gather information which otherwise would not be available to him.

Advice has also been received to the effect that Smith in a recent contact with Mrs. David Stanley of Cleveland, Ohio, suggested that she and other members of her mothers' organization also go to San Francisco for the conference, and Mrs. Stanley reportedly indicated that she would do so. We have also been informed that at a meeting held in the home of Mrs. Blanche Winters of Detroit, Michigan, on March 28, 1945, Mrs. Winters stated that she, Vivian Kellems of Saugatuck, Connecticut, Mrs. Lyril Van Hyning of Chicago and other national leaders of Mrs. Winters' mothers' organization were planning to attend the San Francisco Conference and planned to picket the meetings of the conference and otherwise create disturbances.

It has also been reported to this Bureau that former congressman Martin L. Sweeney recently organized a group in Cleveland, Ohio, known as the "Intelligent American Voters League." Sweeney was reportedly formerly connected with Father Coughlin and more recently with Gerald L. K. Smith. According to our information at the first meeting of Sweeney's group it was decided to send delegates to the San Francisco Conference to agitate and bring about

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

MAILED 3  
APR 15 1945 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

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205 OCT 13 1964

MAY 4 1945

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 62-77787-33-212

Mr. Frederick B. Lyon

April 11, 1945

attention to the fact that a just peace should be made at the conference. It was also decided that a group of veterans and Gold Star Mothers would go to the conference as they expressed it "to raise Hell and see that America does not sell out to Russia."

In the event further information is received by the Bureau relative to the contemplated activities of the individuals mentioned above at the San Francisco Conference, it will be made available to you.

cc: [REDACTED] SIS *b2c*

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, Detroit

DATE: April 17, 1945

SUBJECT: GERALD L. SMITH  
 AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
 INTERNAL SECURITY  
 SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/AC

In furtherance of the information relative to the above Subject contained in the Detroit Field Division letter dated April 3, 1945, it has been learned through Informants of this Field Division that the Subject's meeting in Chicago will be held at the time and place mentioned in the reference letter. The meeting to be held in St. Louis will be in Assembly Room 2 at the Kiel Auditorium on April 24th. There will be no meeting at Kansas City but the meeting at Denver will be at the time and place set out in the reference letter.

SMITH is expected to arrive in Salt Lake City on May 2 or 3, 1945 and Informants believed that a meeting will be held in that city, probably at one of the local hotels, either on May 2 or 3, 1945. Arrangements for this meeting are being made through JEREMIAH STOKES and J. H. MCKNIGHT.

Subject SMITH will arrive in San Francisco on May 4 or 5, 1945. He has not yet been able to locate a place to stay. Informants state no definite plans have as yet been made for the contemplated meeting in Oakland, California, referred to in the reference letter.

SMITH is expected to stay in San Francisco for several weeks, although he has no definite plans as to the length of his stay. After leaving San Francisco he may go to Portland, Oregon to see the wife of former United States Senator RUFUS HOLMAN. She is the widow of former United States Senator LUNDEEN of Minnesota. Informants believe that SMITH may hold a meeting in Portland and that on his return from the Pacific Coast he may also hold a meeting in Bismarck, North Dakota, where he is expected to contact friends of former United States Senator GERALD B. NYE. He may also hold a meeting at Minneapolis on his way back to Detroit. As further information is obtained concerning the meetings at Portland, Bismarck, and Minneapolis, offices covering those points will be notified.

As requested in reference letter the Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, Salt Lake City, and San Francisco Offices are requested to arrange for coverage and reporting of the meetings above set out but it is again being pointed out that this coverage should be effected solely through Informants. Since no meeting is being held by the Subject in Kansas City, the Kansas City Field Division is requested to report any press conference held by the Subject in that city as the result of said conference may appear in the daily newspapers. The San Francisco Field Division, while SMITH is in San Francisco, will effect such coverage of his activities as is set out in the reference letter.

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 205 OCT 13 1964

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 &  
 INDEXED

74 MAY 11 1945

EX-141

62-43818-698  
 19 APR 24 1945  
 INDEXED

Letter to Director  
4/17/45

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

In all reports submitted by the above Field Divisions, the Detroit Field Division should be carried as the office of origin.

SMITH will also hold a meeting for his followers at the English Room of the Book Cadillac Hotel, Detroit, at 8:00 p.m., on April 19, 1945. He will be the sole speaker and according to the card advertising the meeting will discuss, "The Breton Woods - 'Steal', The Dumbarton - 'Hoax', and the San Francisco - 'Sell-Out'." The card also states that this meeting is being held on the eve of SMITH's departure for San Francisco and a West Coast speaking tour and that he and ten instructed observers will study the San Francisco United Nations Conference in behalf of twenty-one Nationalists Groups. As far as is known the only persons traveling with SMITH on this trip to the West Coast will be his wife and his Secretary Miss RENATA LEGANT. Coverage of the Detroit meeting will be effected through Informants of the Detroit Field Division. SMITH will leave Detroit on April 21, 1945.

 ejs b7c  
62-1126  
cc-Chicago  
St. Louis  
Kansas City  
Denver  
Salt Lake City  
San Francisco

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

### 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.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
  62-43818-699  

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JTC:JVD  
100-19707  
TO :

DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: April 16, 1945

FROM : SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH, was.  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G  
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION  
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT of 1925  
(Bureau File #62-43818)

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at Washington, D.C., March 7, 1945, in the above captioned case. This report contained a lead for the New York Office to contact [redacted] of the Anti-Nazi League, New York City, to determine the identity of the girl who is reported to be employed in the office of GERALD L.K. SMITH by the Anti-Nazi League.

In view of the relations between the Anti-Nazi League and the New York Field Division this lead is not being covered at the present time. It is believed that the Detroit Office may be in a position to ascertain the identity of this person. No investigation will be conducted in this matter by the New York Office unless specifically requested by the Detroit Field Division.

cc. - Detroit

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DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mc

HANDED BY  
SECRET

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX - 69

62-43818-700

APR 24 1945

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57 MAY 9 1945

1945

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Detroit 26, Michigan  
April 23, 1945

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Gurnea  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

Director, FBI

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;  
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION  
(62-43818; ~~61-7077~~)

1-9-78 4913/APM  
cliff

Dear Sir:

The following is the pertinent information received concerning Subject's activities from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period from April 6 to April 20, 1945, inclusive.

b7D  
atm

SMITH'S reaction to the death of President ROOSEVELT was that it a good thing the President had died since it was a case of one man with too much authority for too long a period of time. SMITH stated it was apparent that HITLER was now out and with ROOSEVELT dead it appeared that all those who try to get all the power in their own hands, soon pass out of the picture. He felt that the death of ROOSEVELT left CHURCHILL and STALIN in bad shape since to them it was like the death of Santa Claus. He felt that TRUMAN was the best man on any of the tickets last fall and would make a better President than WALLACE. He stated he was thankful that WALLACE had not been Vice President or the country would now be in the hands of the Reds.

SMITH received information from RALPH BAERMAN, his Washington contact man, to the effect that President ROOSEVELT had been in very bad health for sometime prior to his death and that Mr. ROSENMAN had been signing documents for the President. BAERMAN stated that HARRY HOPKINS was the most important man in Washington today since he alone knew of the commitments made at Yalta but that BAERMAN did not know the relationship between HOPKINS and President TRUMAN. BAERMAN thought that TRUMAN was hated by WALLACE and would have to get rid of WALLACE and other enemies within the Government or they would ruin him. SMITH spoke to DON LOHBECK, his former secretary, who is now in a conscientious objector camp, and LOHBECK stated that if President ROOSEVELT had died three months earlier, WALLACE would be President now and there wouldn't be anything to feel relaxed about. SMITH considers ROOSEVELT'S death to be a parallel to that of Judge EICHER, who was presiding at the Washington sedition trial, since in both cases the individual had died before the "crowd" around him could put through the ideas they planned.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) DATE 5/25/45



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DATE 12/14/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/ML

76 MAY 14 1945

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167-43818-201

APR 23 1945

FIVE 978  
6 file

Letter to the Director  
April 23, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was. et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

As a result of President ROOSEVELT'S death, SMITH made some changes in his monthly magazine, "The Cross and the Flag," which was in the course of preparation when the President died. He withdrew all derogatory references to Mr. ROOSEVELT and changed all items which were outdated by the President's death. One of the articles which he prepared following ROOSEVELT'S death stated that President TRUMAN had not been in the confidence of President ROOSEVELT and knew little of what had been going on in the White House or among any of the great powers. He stated that ROOSEVELT had died with the secrets of the world on his heart. SMITH stated that TRUMAN had not been ROOSEVELT'S choice for Vice President, but he had been forced onto the ticket by a coalition of Southern and Western Democrats and that everyone at the last Democratic Convention knew in nominating TRUMAN that they were nominating the next President of the United States. SMITH stated that only God could save TRUMAN from the clutches of the most ruthless and highly financed set of international conspirators the world had ever known.

With reference to President TRUMAN, he stated that he was a commoner, that "He's like us", and some might call him a hillbilly. SMITH stated that "I'm for Grandma TRUMAN, if HARRY goes with Grandma, I'm for him, but if he allows those seaboard sophisticates, London chiselers, Moscow planners and Washington pinks to kidnap him, then I am against him. I will assume that he is the prodigal son raised in the right family but drifted into the wrong company." Later, SMITH commented that TRUMAN'S first speech had been very good, emphasizing justice and the fact that the great powers should serve the world and not dominate it.

Dr. LELAND MARION of Pontiac, Michigan, SMITH'S candidate for Governor of Michigan on the AMERICA FIRST PARTY ticket last November, stated he suspected that President ROOSEVELT was not really dead, that no one had ever seen him lying in state in a casket and that the funeral had been conducted very soon after his death. MARION felt there might be a diabolical scheme backed by the Jews for the purpose of having ROOSEVELT re-appear at some time in the future to become the head of the world government. SMITH told MARION he would check through his Washington sources to learn if anyone reputable actually had seen President ROOSEVELT'S body following his death.

SMITH is planning a trip to San Francisco for the purpose of attending and observing the sessions of the United Nations Conference to be held at that City. He has told informant he will report on the activities of the Conference for twenty-six members of Congress, both Senators and Representatives, and will also make reports to about 100 periodicals. On his way from Detroit to San Francisco, he will hold meetings of his followers

Letter to the Director  
April 23, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was. et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

at Chicago on April 22, St. Louis on April 24, Denver on April 30, and Salt Lake City on May 3. The meetings in these towns will be held respectively at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago, assembly room number two of the Kiel Auditorium in St. Louis, at Englewood Tabernacle of Dr. HARVEY SPRINGER in Denver, and at Hotel Utah at Salt Lake, City. SMITH expects to arrive in San Francisco on May 6 and his length of stay in that City is indefinite. He may also hold a meeting of his followers in San Francisco or Oakland since he has stated there are a lot of "old AMERICA FIRSTERS" out there. He has been unable to obtain hotel accommodations as yet in San Francisco and has requested [REDACTED] secretary to Senator HOMER FERGUSON of Michigan, to obtain a hotel room for him. SMITH will be accompanied by Mrs. SMITH and his secretary, RENATA LEGANT. SMITH planned to leave Detroit for the start of his trip on April 21, 1945. b7c

On April 8, 1945, SMITH went to Buffalo, New York, to address a conference on monetary problems sponsored by JOSEPH STOEPEL, a friend and associate of his who lives in Buffalo. This conference was held at the Statler Hotel in Buffalo.

On April 19, SMITH held a meeting of his followers at the English Room of the Book-Cadillac Hotel in Detroit. Accommodations were provided for 350 people and the room was filled. SMITH was the only speaker and he told his followers of his contemplated trip to the Pacific Coast and also of the probable effect that the death of President ROOSEVELT would have upon the future policies of the United States. Informant states SMITH'S Chicago meeting on April 22 would be under the auspices of the Committee of Veterans of World War II and that arrangements for the meeting had been made by FRED KISTER of Chicago, a friend of SMITH'S. The speakers would be CARL H. WOTE of Indianapolis and DEAN E. SMITH of Chicago, both close friends of SMITH. SMITH would also speak, although his name was not mentioned in connection with the arrangements made at the meeting places. The St. Louis meeting is being held under the sponsorship of the "National Emergency Committee", which is said to represent "twenty-one nationalist groups." Arrangements for the Salt Lake City meeting were made through [REDACTED], a friend of SMITH, who is located at 218 Atlas Building, Salt Lake City. b7c

SMITH has been in contact with various associates and nationalist leaders in recent weeks. DON LOHBECK, his former secretary, was in Detroit some weeks ago and SMITH also contacted him when he spoke at Buffalo, New York, on April 8. An individual named [REDACTED] whose first name informant did b7c

Letter to the Director  
April 23, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was. et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

not know, was in Detroit during the first part of February and saw SMITH on several occasions.

[REDACTED] GEORGE VOSE, whom SMITH has been trying to develop as an organizer of the Nationalist Veterans of World War II was in Detroit recently and in contact with SMITH. The Jewish Sentinel, a Chicago newspaper which has frequently attacked SMITH, is reported to have recently published an article stating that VOSE had received a dishonorable discharge from the United States Army. SMITH believes that VOSE has a good basis for a libel suit against this paper since VOSE'S discharge from the United States Army was honorable.

An individual named [REDACTED] representing the Jewish Press and Publicity Service, which publishes a paper known as "The Day" at 60 East 42nd Street, New York, attempted to interview SMITH but was not able to do so. DON HARLAN, a Detroit lawyer who represents the mother of TYLER KENT was in contact with SMITH recently for the purpose of giving him some information which HARLAN stated would be of value to him. GEORGE MAINS of Flint, Michigan, contacted SMITH from Washington to state that he had spent some time with Justice FRANK MURPHY and had "gotten the low-down" on the Washington situation as it existed following the death of President ROOSEVELT. MAINS is known to be a reporter for a Flint newspaper, a national organizer of the Blue Star Mothers and a Captain in the Michigan State Troops. An individual named JACOB, evidently from out-of-town, whose full name was unknown to informant, was in contact with SMITH on April 9. BERNARD BOMAN, SMITH'S former assistant who left his employ in November of 1944 and spent several months in Texas, has now returned to Detroit and was in contact with SMITH. SMITH also spoke to FRED KISTER and [REDACTED] of Chicago, and CARL MOTE of Indianapolis, in connection with the Chicago meetings on April 22. He received a letter from PARKER SAGE, former sedition trial defendant, advising that SAGE was not connected in any way with HOMER MAERTZ and that SAGE would attend the San Francisco Conference.

GEORGE FOSTER of Chicago, ahead of the "Constitutional Americans" and a former close friend of SMITH'S, has recently become unfriendly to SMITH as a result of some disagreement unknown to informant. SMITH was absent from Detroit from April 12 to April 15, inclusive, during which time he visited his mother and father at Delavan, Wisconsin. Informant was not able to learn much concerning SMITH'S receipts through the mail. On April 11 the receipts were \$28.50. SMITH stated that he had received over 300 responses from his followers up to April 18, 1945, although informant did

Letter to the Director  
April 23, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was. et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

not know the total amount of money received. SMITH has been endeavoring to cut down his expenses somewhat, stating that during the summertime the income would be smaller and he wanted to reduce the expenses as much as possible. The payroll for extra help at his office during one week in April was \$228.40. An additional report to be sent to one of the Congressional committees investigating campaign expenditures was received by SMITH during the early part of April and he advised DON LOHBECK to sign his name to the bottom of three or four blank pieces of paper so that when "they send in that report," evidently referring to the report required by the Congressional committee, they can have his signature for it. SMITH continues to send out large quantities of literature. He sent 100 copies of his April letter to S. O. SANDERSON, 11 Twelfth Street, SE, Rochester, Minnesota, and distributed 400 copies of a book by BERTHA GLEBE at his Detroit meeting on Thursday night. He has ordered 2,000 copies of a book by EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago (probably the book "Forty Years of ROOSEVELT"), but has only received 1,000 so far. He is arranging with DON LOHBECK to publish some sort of pamphlet written by a person calling himself "AMERICANUS." He plans to start a subscription campaign for his magazine on April 20.

Among his subscribers, informant learned the names of the following:

[redacted] San Francisco;

[redacted] Detroit;

[redacted] address unknown;

[redacted] Pittsburgh;

[redacted] Pittsburgh;

[redacted] Philadelphia;

[redacted] Ohio;

[redacted] St. Paul, Minnesota;

[redacted] Ohio.

SMITH has received mail recently from [redacted] of Chicago, from a [redacted] of Prospect, Ohio, from [redacted] of St. Louis, from [redacted] of Chicago, from Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN and a [redacted] of Denver, Colorado.

Very truly yours,

*R. A. Guerin*  
R. A. GUERIN, SACTAN

ALL  
b7c

[redacted]  
62-1126

Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan

Post Office Box 459

April  
18th  
1945

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Attached is a photostatic copy of a letter which speaks for itself. The letter is singular in several respects:

1. There had been no arrangement for me to speak in Philadelphia as the letter suggests.
2. I am convinced that no representative of your Department attempted to coerce the management of the building referred to in an attempt to prevent my speaking in Philadelphia.
3. I have confidence in you to believe that you would not participate in any plan to deny an American citizen his civil liberties.

It is my personal opinion that someone in Philadelphia is impersonating a representative of your Department.

May I have an early reply from you concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,

*Gerald L. K. Smith*  
GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS:L  
Encl.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mg

62-43818-702

*Brown*

50 MAY 15 1945

*EMER  
no final. need  
4/15/45*

*Del Smith  
Philadelph  
Kennis last 4/26/45*

*9*

Gerald L. K. Smith, Detroit, Michigan

Post Office Box 459

April  
19th  
1945

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mc

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Attached is a carbon copy of a letter I sent to you on April 18. After the original letter was in the mail we discovered that through a clerical error the photostat referred to was not enclosed. The letter is being photostated and the copy will be rushed to you within seventy-two hours. I do enclose, however, a typewritten copy of the letter which is now being photostated. This will help you to interpret the meaning of the letter I wrote you on the 18th, copy of which I attach herewith.

As soon as the letter referred to is photostated, it will be returned to Philadelphia.

Sincerely yours,

*Gerald L. K. Smith*  
GERALD L. K. SMITH

*2 ENCL 98*  
GLKS:L  
4

RECORDED & INDEXED

98

62-43818-703  
F B I

*(2)  
Let Smith  
cc Philadelphia  
memo Ladd  
4/26/45  
Jm.*

29 APR 21 1945  
FIVE 8/10

Post Office Box 459

April  
18th  
1945

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

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Attached is a photostatic copy of a letter which speaks for itself. The letter is singular in several respects:

1. There had been no arrangement for me to speak in Philadelphia as the letter suggests.
2. I am convinced that no representative of your Department attempted to coerce the management of the building referred to in an attempt to prevent my speaking in Philadelphia.
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It is my personal opinion that someone in Philadelphia is impersonating a representative of your Department.

May I have an early reply from you concerning this matter.

Sincerely yours,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS:L  
Encl.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8015/mc

62-43818-703

Note: Original copy of following letter is being photostated.

STATE CAMP OF THE PATRIOTIC  
ORDER SONS OF AMERICA

Office of the State Secretary

Sons of America Building

1317-19 N. Broad Street  
Philadelphia 22, Pennsylvania

April 13, 1945

Mrs. Lillian Parks, Secretary  
Current Events Club  
1317-19 N. Broad St.  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Madam:

Several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our Building, through members of the F.B.I. and otherwise. Today they advise us the Rev. Gerald Smith is to speak here this evening.

I am compelled under the circumstances to cancel the lease, and advise you that we cannot permit your meeting here this evening if Mr. Smith is to be present or deliver an address.

Very truly yours,

/s/ C. B. Helms

State Secretary, P.O.S. of A.

CBH?MIH

P.S. We made efforts to reach you by telephone all afternoon. Your phone did not answer.

3

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 BT/wh

L. 1000

10 112915 1103

JKM:EOD

*dk*  
*01*  
RECORDED

62-43818-703 April 26, 1945

Mr. Gerald L. K. Smith  
Post Office Box 499  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

I am in receipt of your letters dated April 18 and April 19, 1945, with enclosures.

You may be assured that the assumptions you set forth in your letter of April 18 are correct; i.e., no representative of this Bureau has at any time attempted to coerce the management of any building to prevent your speaking in Philadelphia or engaged in any activities designed to deny an American citizen his civil liberties.

I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention so that you will have no question concerning the policies of the FBI.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc - Philadelphia (with incoming)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8BJM/MLC

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 3  
APR 27 1945 P.M.  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. A. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Pennington  
Mr. Quinn Tamm  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

MAY 8 1945 367

4/27/45  
RECEIVED - PHILADELPHIA  
MAY 3 1945  
*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd *DL*

FROM : J. K. Mumford *JKM*

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH

DATE: April 26, 1945

Call: 11:50 am  
JKM:CAB

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

At the above time I spoke with SAC Sears, Philadelphia Field Division regarding the captioned individual. Mr. Sears stated that at no time was ~~it~~ told by an FBI agent that Smith was to speak at a meeting of the Current Events Group. Helms' only information on this was a telephone call and he has stated the wording of his letter to Mrs. Lillian Parks was incorrect. Mr. Sears furnished the details as follows:

Last summer, Special Agent [redacted] of the Philadelphia Office, called on Helms. At the present time [redacted] is on a plant and was on his way to that plant and could not be reached by noon. [redacted] visited Helms concerning the Current Events Group, the Blue Star Mothers. During the conversation, [redacted] is reported as saying the group was reportedly anti-Semitic, reportedly pro-Nazi, and as having intimated that the Patriotic Order Sons of America would be better off without this group. Mr. Sears stated that although he has not yet talked personally to [redacted] he does not think [redacted] would have intimated the Patriotic Order Sons of America would be better off without the above group. *b7c*

[redacted] More recently, [redacted] looked over the place, but did not return and made no comments concerning the Current Events Group. *b7c*

Helms had numerous telephone calls regarding the Current Events Group and progressively became annoyed with this matter. On April 13, 1945, he received an anonymous telephone call from a [redacted] (phonetic), who said that Gerald L. K. Smith was going to address the group meeting that night. Helms then decided it was time to take some action and wrote the letter, a copy of which is in the Bureau's possession, to Mrs. Lillian Parks which was handed to the group when it arrived that night. The balance of the rent was refunded and the lease canceled. *b7c*

Earlier on April 13, 1945, Helms called [redacted] Secretary to Mayor Samuels, and advised him of the telephone call and said, "You'd better send some squad cars and detectives up here tonight." [redacted] had told him this group was a trouble maker and had been put out of the Adelphia Hotel. Helms does not recall any visit by [redacted] or others of the Anti-Defamation Council. *b7c*

Regarding Mr. Helms' letter to Mrs. Lillian Parks dated April 13, 1945, stating "Several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our building, through members of the FBI and otherwise. Today they advise us the Rev. Gerald Smith is to speak here this evening", Helms stated the agent made no actual complaint as such but did state the group was reportedly anti-Semitic and reportedly pro-German. Helms further advised that if this group was being investigated by

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/1/82 BY 8867/nd

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30 JUN 7 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

the FBI, as was obvious, he wanted to and still does want to cooperate. He said his use of the word "complaint" in his letter is unfortunate and not exactly correct. He stated he was at no time told by an agent that Smith was to speak, his only source of information being the above-mentioned telephone call.

Helms received a telephone call on April 25, 1945, from [REDACTED], who stated her husband was a member of the Patriotic Order Sons of America. She stated the Current Events Group consisted of all good Catholics and nice people and she argued generally in their favor.

Helms sent a letter yesterday to Mayor Samuels, stating he canceled the lease of the Current Events Club and that he had talked to [REDACTED] who had advised that this group was put out of the Adelpia Hotel, which was not the case. Helms stated in this letter that he had been approached by Christian elements and asked for an explanation; further, "I can only say that agents of the FBI had advised me they were pro-Nazi but my informants tell me this is not the case but they are a group of Catholic ladies.....opposed to the so-called New Deal and to some extent in opposition to radical Jewish elements." Helms stated he wants to give everybody a fair chance to have his say. b7c

Mr. Sears stated he was not worried about Helms' letter to the Mayor since the Philadelphia Office is very friendly with the Mayor's office. Mr. Sears stated in conclusion that the situation can be summed up as set out in the first paragraph of this memorandum.

I advised Mr. Sears that it would not be necessary for Special Agent [REDACTED] to submit an explanation but he should be admonished against being indiscreet in his questionings. b7c

**ACTION:**

Attached for your approval is a suggested reply to Smith.

Attachment.



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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.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

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For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
62-43818 - 705 Enclosure

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

DETROIT FILE NO. **62-1126**

REPORT MADE AT <b>DETROIT, MICHIGAN</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/19/45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/9; 3/13; 4/2, 16/45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED] EJC</b>
TITLE <b>GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; AMERICA FIRST PARTY</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Since his return from Texas several months ago, BERNARD ZOMAN has been living at his former Detroit address, 603 Philip Street. Is reported to be planning to set up a shop for mimeographing and printing and is known to be in contact with his former employer GERALD L. K. SMITH for the purpose of obtaining business from SMITH. Records of Michigan Secretary of State indicate certification of candidates filed by America First Party on August 3, 1944 which includes SMITH as nominee for President.

- P -

**REFERENCES:**

Bureau File 62-43818

Bureau letter dated January 30, 1945 to Washington Field Division copy to Detroit Field Division.

Teletype from Detroit Field Division dated April 2, 1945 to the Bureau.

Bureau letter dated April 9, 1945 to the Detroit Field Division.

**DETAILS:**

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. A. Gulev</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 3 Detroit		62-43818-706
<p><i>call back by memo 4-30-45 eph: fub</i></p> <p><b>COPIES DESTROYED</b> 205 OCT 15 1964</p>		<p><b>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED</b> <b>HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED</b> DATE <u>10/1/82</u> BY <u>SP8 BTJ/mc</u></p>

(DE 62-1126)

[REDACTED] whose identity is known to the Bureau, confirms what [REDACTED] has stated concerning DOMAN and indicates that DOMAN has been in frequent contact with SMITH and apparently is on excellent terms with him. DOMAN has not, however, given any indication that he will again go to work for SMITH as his Secretary and

[REDACTED]

In connection with the various reports, which the Subject SMITH has been required to file with Campaign Expenditures Committees of the United States Senate and House of Representatives, Informant ZMT states that SMITH has recently been preparing an additional report for submission to one of these Congressional Committees although Informant did not know which one. In the same connection SMITH recently advised his wife to have DON LOHBECK, his former Secretary who is at present in a Conscientious Objector Camp in New York State but who was in Detroit for a few days recently, to "sign his name to the bottom of three or four blank pieces of paper so when they send in that report, they can have his signature on it." Informant believed that the report, which SMITH was referring to, was the above-mentioned report being sent to the Congressional Committee.

Investigation by Special Agent [REDACTED] at Lansing, Michigan, indicates that the certification of candidates filed by the AMERICA FIRST PARTY with the Michigan Secretary of State at Lansing, Michigan, on August 3rd contains the name of GERALD L. K. SMITH as the Party's nominee for President of the United States. The certification states that each candidate listed thereon has been notified of his candidacy and is agreeable to such nomination. The certification, which is dated August 2, 1944, is apparently signed by KENNETH C. WEBER as Chairman and RENATA LEGANT as Secretary and is notarized by JAMES F. KEATING, Notary Public for Wayne County, Michigan.

(DE 62-1126)

[REDACTED] of the Compiling Division of the Secretary of State Office, advises that G. T. HARTMAN, Deputy Secretary of State at Lansing, Michigan, is the proper person to subpoena in the event it is desired that the above-mentioned certification be produced in court. The above information concerning this certification was furnished to the Bureau by the Detroit Field Division by letter dated February 10, 1945. b7c

In view of the information set out in the reference teletype and the reference Bureau letter dated April 9, 1945, DOMAN is not being interviewed at present and no further action is being taken by the Detroit Field Division in this matter pending receipt of advice from the Bureau as to whether or not DOMAN should be interviewed.

- P E N D I N G -

(DE 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At DETROIT, MICHIGAN, will conduct such further investigation in the instant matter as may be specified by the Bureau.

- P E N D I N G -

75  
PB:FVB  
62-43818-706

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

April 30, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925

80 X  
S  
EX-60

Reference is made to my memorandum dated April 20, 1945, wherein you were furnished information relative to the above captioned matter.

For your further information, there is enclosed herewith a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated April 19, 1945, at Detroit, Michigan.

b7c

Enclosure 

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/12/82 BY SP-8 BT/ah

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 96  
APR 30 1945 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Calvin*  
*Raw*

6 MAY - 25 1945

EPB

5/20

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI.

DATE: April 26, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH;  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

*Handwritten notes:*  
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12  
65-12  
12

In furtherance of the information contained in Detroit Field Division letters of April 3 and 17, 1945, relative to the activities of the Subject SMITH, it has been learned that the meeting of his followers which SMITH will hold in Salt Lake City will be at the Hotel Utah on May 3, 1945, at 8:00 p.m. It is believed that this will be a rather small meeting and probably no more than one hundred persons will attend.

Arrangements for the meeting have been made through [redacted] and [redacted] of Salt Lake City.

*b7c*

As requested in the letters above referred to, the Salt Lake City Field Division will arrange for covering and reporting this meeting but it is again being pointed out that this coverage should be effected solely through informants and no Agents should attend such meetings.

No surveillance of Subject SMITH is desired during his stay in Salt Lake.

*Handwritten signature:* [Signature]

*Handwritten mark:* 7C

62-1126  
cc - Salt Lake City

*b7c*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/12/83 BY 50-130/mw

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INDEXED

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50 MAY 2 1945

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*Handwritten:* 7C MAY 19 1945

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: May 5, 1945

FROM : SAC, Detroit

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

We are in receipt of a letter dated April 13, 1945 from the St. Louis Field Division requesting advice as to whether recordings made of a meeting held by the Subject SMITH in St. Louis on February 17, 1944 should be retained or may be destroyed by that Office. The St. Louis letter states that a full account of the meeting was set out in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 6, 1944 at St. Louis, Missouri.

In view of the fact that any decision as to alternate prosecution of the Subject will possibly be made by the Department, the question of whether the evidence referred to in the St. Louis Field Division should be retained is being referred to the Bureau for a decision and it is requested that the St. Louis and Detroit Field Divisions be advised as to what decision is arrived at by you.

[redacted]

62-1126

cc: St. Louis

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/82 BY SA 805 JMA

*let SAC, Detroit 6-2-45 - EPB/ary cc St. Louis*

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13 MAY 8 1945  
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62-43818 - 738

SAC, Detroit

June 2, 1945

RECORDED

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

EX - 8

GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Reference is made to your letter dated May 5, 1945, requesting advice as to whether the recordings made of the meeting held by subject Smith in St. Louis, Missouri, on February 17, 1944, should be retained or destroyed.

Inasmuch as we are still actively investigating Smith, it is not desired that these records or any other evidence relating to this case be destroyed or otherwise disposed of at the present time.

cc-St. Louis

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/14/82 BY SP8 BTM/ML

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*aop*

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED 13  
 ★ JUN 2 - 1945 P.M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

51 JUN 8 1945

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

*Handwritten initials*

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JWP:HS  
100-17175

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: April 6, 1945

FROM : GUY HOTTEL, SAC WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925  
Bureau file 62-43818

Reference is made to Bureau letter to this office dated March 20, 1945 requesting a revision of the undated report of Special Agent [redacted] made at Washington, D.C. the period for which was February 7, 8, 14, 1945 to include only information relating to GERALD L. K. SMITH and the America First Party in connection with the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925. b7c

There are transmitted as enclosures to instant letter pages 1,4,7, 14, and 17 which should be inserted in copies of this report by offices receiving this letter. The four copies of the report which were returned to this office by the Bureau have been revised and are also being transmitted herewith to the Bureau as an enclosure to this letter together with the revised pages for the additional copy of instant report which was retained at the Bureau.

The Detroit, New York and San Antonio Field Divisions are being transmitted respectively 3, 2, and 1 revised copies of corrected pages to instant report. Also being transmitted to the Bureau herewith are the additional enclosures listed in the revised copy of instant report. Copies of instant reports in the Washington Field Division have been revised in conformity with Bureau instructions.

This matter is being considered Referred Upon Completion to the Office of Origin.

Encls. ~~2~~ 3  
20 - Detroit  
3 - New York  
1 - San Antonio

ENCLOSURE

*encls. were inserted in report previously submitted*  
*6-13-45*

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ *ATM*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/82 BY SR86JH/EDH

62-43818-709  
MAY 5 1945

*memo clark  
4-26-45  
EPB*

EX-18

*FIVE EPB*

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62-43818-709

EX-16

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

April 20, 1945

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
FEDERAL CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT OF 1925.

DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8/BJH

68-1

Reference is made to my memorandum dated March 24, 1945, with which you were furnished a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted], dated March 2, 1945, at San Antonio, Texas. This report, you will recall, set forth information to the effect that the America First Party was properly registered in Texas as a political party.

Inquiry by the Bureau's Detroit Office has disclosed that Gerald L. K. Smith was the official candidate of the America First Party in Michigan in the recent Presidential election. There is on file with the Secretary of State at Lansing, Michigan, the certificate of candidates filed by the America First Party under date of August 3, 1944. This certificate of candidates includes Smith as nominee for President. The certificate is signed by Kenneth C. Weber, Chairman, and Renata Legant, Secretary, and was notarized by James F. Keating, Notary Public, Wayne County. [redacted] Compliance Division, Secretary of State's Office, has advised that G. T. Hartman, Deputy Secretary of State, Lansing, Michigan, is the proper person to subpoena in connection with this matter.

For your further information, there is enclosed herewith a copy of the investigative report prepared by Special Agent [redacted] at Washington, D. C., on April 6, 1945, as well as photostatic copies of the enclosures listed on page 17 of this report. In your examination of Special Agent [redacted] report, you will note on page 13 information is set forth to the effect that under date of January 13, 1945, Smith communicated with [redacted] Clerk of the House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., furnishing him a statement of receipts and expenditures of the America First Party from November 7, through December 31, 1944. Smith at the same time also explained the reason for his delay in filing this statement.

In view of the fact that the America First Party has been determined to be a political party and since the reason for Smith's failure to file the statement required of political parties on January 1, 1945, has been ascertained, you are requested to advise whether further investigation should be conducted in this matter. In the event you are desirous of further investigation, I would appreciate your advising me whether you believe Bernard Doman, Smith's former secretary, should be interviewed. In this connection it should be noted that Doman is again in contact with Smith and attempting to secure Smith's printing business for his new printing establishment. Because of this business association and also because Doman no longer has access to Smith's books and records, it does not appear that he would be able to or would willingly furnish any information of value to this investigation.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

APR 21 1945  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Handwritten notes: "2/4", "EAT", "Jensen", "ALL", "SPB"

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MAY 5 1945

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

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

FBI SALT LAKE CITY 5-5-45 9-50 AM FR

DIRECTOR AND SACS SAN FRANCISCO AND DETROIT URGENT

MOVE GERALD L. K. SMITH, AMERICA FIRST PARTY - INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION. SUBJECT, HIS WIFE, AND HIS SECRETARY RENATA LEGANT, FEMALE, LEFT SALT LAKE CITY VIA UNION PACIFIC TRAIN NUMBER THIRTY THREE AT ELEVEN NAUGHT FIVE PM, MAY FOURTH, NINETEEN FORTYFIVE. THE TRAIN CONNECTS WITH SOUTHERN PACIFIC TRAIN NUMBER TWENTY ONE, LEAVING OGDEN, UTAH, FIVE AM MAY FIFTH, AND SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE SAN FRANCISCO SIX FIFTY AM, MAY SIXTH. SUBJECT AND WIFE OCCUPY COMPARTMENT B, CAR NAUGHT ONE NAUGHT. LEGANT OCCUPIES LOWER FIVE, CAR NAUGHT ONE NAUGHT. SUBJECT STATED HERE IN PRESS CONFERENCE HE WAS GOING TO SAN FRANCISCO AS A REPRESENTATIVE OF AMERICA FIRST PARTY AND WAS TO HEAD A STAFF OF TWENTY ONE PERSONS COVERING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PEACE CONFERENCE FOR THIS PARTY. HE ALSO CLAIMS HE IS TO SUB MIT A CONFIDENTIAL REPORT ON PEACE CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES TO TWENTY THREE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, INCLUDING SIX SENATORS. HE PLANS TO REMAIN IN SAN FRANCISCO FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE WEEKS, WHEN HE WILL RETURN TO DETROIT, MAKING STOPS EN ROUTE FOR SPEECHES AND CONFERENCES AT VARIOUS POINTS WHICH HE CONSIDERS STRATEGIC. IT IS KNOWN HE PLANS TO STOP IN SALT LAKE CITY ON HIS RETURN. SUBJECT HAD NO HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS SAN FRANCISCO AT TIME OF DEPARTURE FROM SALT LAKE CITY. HOWEVER, AN ADVANCE AGENT IS SUPPOSEDLY ARRANGING FOR SAME AT PRESENT TIME. IDENTITY OF THIS

*bw*

*Stowell*

*m*

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- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General

SUBJECT: Gerald L. K. Smith; America First Party  
Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925

DATE: May 1, 1945

TCC  
TCC:SPM:esw  
146-28-45

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

It appears from your memorandum of April 20, 1945, that the America First Party filed with the Clerk of the House of Representatives on January 13, 1945, the statement of receipts and expenditures which should have been filed on January 1, 1945, pursuant to the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

With the filing of this report by the America First Party there remains only a technical violation of the statute for failure to file this report on January 1. Inasmuch as it does not appear that a successful criminal prosecution could be based on such a technical violation, no further investigation is desired in this matter. The Department's file on a possible violation of the Corrupt Practices Act is being closed.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
arm

HANDLED BY  
SK

*Link memo Harmon  
lett - Detroit  
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5-15-45*

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SL... FILE NO. 100-6013

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAINT LOUIS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>5-11-45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4-26, 27-45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <span style="float: right;">b7c</span>
TITLE <b>GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject SMITH held an America First Party meeting April 24, 1945 at the Kiel Auditorium, Saint Louis, Mo.; attendance approximately 800. Subject assailed the British, the Russians, the "Jewish Communists," "the international conspirators," as well as U. S. policy. Substantial collection taken and SMITH advised he would return to Saint Louis to report on the San Francisco Conference.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

- RUC -

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) DATE 5-5-45

**REFERENCE:** Letter from Detroit to the Bureau dated 4-3-45.

**DETAILS:** At Saint Louis, Missouri:

CLASS BY SP-5 BTJ/mh

DATE OF REVIEW None ml/ov

GERALD L. K. SMITH held an America First Party meeting April 24, 1945 at 8 p.m. in the Kiel Auditorium, Hall No. 2, Saint Louis, Missouri. Admission was by card only. The attendance was approximately 800 persons.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>162-43818-715</b>
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COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 10 1964 COPY IN FILE		CONFIDENTIAL MAY 14 1945 <i>[Signature]</i>

DECLASSIFIED  
DATE: 10/28/97

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### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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[REDACTED]

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The Saint Louis Star-Times dated April 25, 1945 carried the following comment concerning the SMITH meeting on April 24, 1945:

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GERALD L. K. SMITH IN REPEAT PERFORMANCE HERE; 700 ATTEND

GERALD L. K. SMITH, the self-styled "rabble-rousing" leader of the America First Party, went through his act again last night, this time for the benefit of about 700 followers, most of them middle-aged women, at Kiel Auditorium.

Attendance at the meeting, in Assembly Hall No. 2, was supposed to have been limited to invited members of the party, but a woman who said she was attached to SMITH's "headquarters" here called the Star-Times yesterday, said she was speaking for SMITH and that he would like to have a reporter present. So a reporter who had seen SMITH in action many times before went.

It was a typical SMITH show, with a few new names added to the SMITH blacklist. The chest-beating, arm-flailing, bellowing "nationalist" leader assailed the British, the Russians, the "Jewish Communists," the "international conspirators."

His Comment on Truman.

He spoke disparagingly of President TRUMAN as "a good politician who will try to please most of the people regardless of how it is done," and of the late President ROOSEVELT, who was one of his pet hates, he said:

"FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT's death was hastened by his inability to get the American people to swallow Yalta, the crime of the Crimea."

He said Premier STALIN forced an agreement on ROOSEVELT and CHURCHILL "to bring slavery to Europe, slavery for millions of Germans who destroyed Europe but who are no more to blame for HITLER than I am for the New Deal."

Delegates at the Bretton Woods "steal," he said, "schemed to build a \$10,000,000,000 kitty to bribe the delegates at San Francisco, both below and above the table, so an ungodly set of rascals and international thieves and connivers and international bankers could seize control of the world."

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"The whole scheme," he continued, "is to expand the British Empire and communize Europe, with the United States underwriting both projects."

Keays Tariff Policy.

He told the audience, which at times became almost hysterical in its enthusiasm, that the British maintain a lobby in Washington to keep tariff rates down and that, as a result, the British would "flood St. Louis with Czech shoes," (he never explained how) and that many St. Louisians would be thrown out of work.

He said the U. S. must pay the Australian government \$3 for every tree knocked down by American guns "in any British possession in the Pacific, even though it is held by the Japs."

He said Independence, Mo., hometown of President TRUMAN, is famous for two things: "For HARRY S. TRUMAN and JESSE JAMES. I hope we have had enough of JESSE JAMES." Later, he added, "Only God can save HARRY TRUMAN from the international conspirators."

At the conclusion of the meeting, the reporter asked SMITH how he would handle the Germans when victory comes in Europe. "In the usual military manner," he replied, and wouldn't elaborate.

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Copies of the April, 1945 issue of "The Cross and The Flag", "The Chicago Christians Victorious", and a pamphlet entitled, "Stop Peacetime Conscription" were obtained and are being retained in the Saint Louis file.

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**FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION**

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS  
RELEASE**

**SUBJECT:** GERALD L.K. SMITH

**FILE:** 62-43818

**SUB:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VOL:** 41

**PAGES REVIEWED:** 90

**PAGES RELEASED:** 81

**NOTES:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED  
FOR CONSIDERATION  
AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

William D. Barrett  
Secretary to the President

May 6, 1945

President Truman  
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/82 BY SP8BJK/ML

Dear Mr. President

I hope it is not presumptuous of me to write you & if I intrude upon your very busy program I hope you'll forgive it. I had an experience here in Chicago that rocked the ground under me and feel legal action must be taken.

Gerald K. Smith

In some way, I know not how, I received an invitation to attend a meeting at the La Salle Hotel on April 22. Dean E. Smith spoke on "Imperialism, the Cause of War." I knew the subject matter would be reactionary, but I like to hear both sides of the story & was all unsuspecting. But when Gerald K. Smith was introduced I knew I was in the wrong place. However, I remained. The Star Spangled Banner was sung twice, the flag was spread over the entire back of the speaker's platform for Victory flanked the flag. Smith said he was for John

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the Constitution of the U.S. for the  
American flag. There were about 200 people  
present & they were mostly elderly women -  
but some elderly men. It was supposedly  
given under the auspices of Com. of Veterans  
World War II. But young Fredrick Kister,  
the chairman, was the only Veteran.  
Suddenly he pointed his finger & arm at  
someone in back & shouted "There are two  
Jews in the back" They happened to be  
two little Jewish sailors sitting in the  
last row. "Can they deprive us of  
our Free Speech?" shouts of NO from  
the audience. "They are trying to take  
our country from us. Are we going to let  
them?" Again a chorus of NO. Still  
shaking his arms at them & yelling he  
cried "The Jews caused this war!  
There they are." You with sons in the  
service, those Jews killed your sons!  
The audience shouted, some said "Jax &  
feather them." An old man in front of  
me said "Someone ought to tear them to  
pieces!" I and my companion were trembling  
with fright. Those faces as they turned &  
shouted at the boys were so bestial & distorted  
I can still see those horrible expressions, all  
turning & looking backward. The two  
little sailors sat & said nothing!

I am a respectable married lady of 32  
I have travelled around the world & seen  
many things but I had to live to see  
this in the city I was born in & my  
parents before me! It was unbelievable  
And those two boys in the uniform of  
their country & the war not yet completely  
won!

My companion & I left in the middle of  
Smith's speech & went to a nearby phone &  
called the police to send protection up to  
the hall in the La Salle Hotel (Chicago's loop).  
The woman who answered the phone said  
she would send someone to investigate!  
I said "I investigate nothing. Send two  
plain clothes men up there to protect those  
boys!" I don't know if protection arrived or  
what was the end of the meeting, but I  
was so afraid, I felt I was being followed &  
watched all the way down the street. Even  
now I tremble to think of it & am afraid  
to say I attended the meeting. I am Jewish  
but do not look it or I might have been  
attacked - who knows? This rabble-rousing  
certainly should be stopped!!! The crowd  
laughed at the mention of the F. B. I.  
Hissed Roosevelt. The way they chanted in  
unison makes me believe, on looking back,  
that there must have been paid clowns  
in the crowd. Kister said "Should we

have, no meetings? "Chorus of Yes"  
"Should we meet all over the country?"  
Chorus of "Yes". It was like the organized  
Nazis transplanted from Germany to Chgo.  
like a movie scene in a news reel. With  
the precision of practice.

If this goes on now, during the war,  
it will break loose in wild riot when  
the war is over & the boys get back looking  
for jobs. The enclosed envelope, with a  
small pencil inside, was handed out to  
each one present. I understand that the  
hundred of leaflets against the Jews were  
handed out in San Francisco, no doubt by Smith.

I favor a bill of rights in the World  
Conference, but we certainly need it enforced here,  
too. Libel against a group should be punished  
as well as libel against a person. Anyway,  
threatened violence to law abiding people is a  
terrible thing. I know, I've seen it. And it  
should not be permitted to continue just because  
people should have "free speech". Against the Jews  
entitled to free speech too? But ~~those boys~~  
were afraid to utter a word & so was I.  
Those people looked ordinary, but when aroused  
looked like brutes capable of anything! I saw  
fascism in action there & it should not go on.  
I have been doing wonderfully well, as  
far, Mr. President; please do something about  
the matter, too. Very sincerely,  
A Constatant.

b7c

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May 29, 1945

[Redacted]

b7c

Dear [Redacted]

Your communication dated May 6, 1945, addressed to the President has been referred to this Bureau for consideration and acknowledgment.

I have carefully reviewed the content of your letter and want you to know that I appreciate very much your interest and courtesy in making this information available to the Government.

In the event you receive information in the future which you believe to be of interest to the FBI, I want you to feel free to communicate with me or with the Special Agent in Charge of our Chicago Field Office, which is located at 1900 Bankers' Building, Chicago 3, Illinois.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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DATE 10/13/82 BY SP4/BJK

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*Edg Hoover*  
*[Signature]*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Herrington \_\_\_\_\_
- Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

1945  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 13  
★ MAY 29 1945 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

7/1/45

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

FILE NO. 14-7 **MK**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BUFFALO, NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4-24-45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4-6, 7, 10-45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <span style="float: right;">b7c</span>
TITLE <b>GERALD L. K. SMITH, was.; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

On 4-8-45 at Iroquois Room, Statler Hotel, Buffalo, N.Y., SMITH addressed the Eastern Monetary Congress; meeting under sponsorship Buffalo Economics League; Congress characterized as subsidiary of America First Party. Literature of America First Party distributed at meeting, about 150 persons present. Essence of SMITH'S remarks set out.

- R U C -

**REFERENCE:**

Letter from SAC, Detroit to Director, dated April 3, 1945.

**DETAILS:**

AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10-19-81 BY SP7MAA/JO**

[REDACTED] advised that the Eastern Monetary Congress was meeting under the local auspices of the League at the Statler Hotel on April 6, 7 and 8, 1945. [REDACTED] said that GERALD L. K. SMITH was scheduled to address the meeting on Sunday, April 8, 1945, and that SMITH was not expected to arrive in Buffalo prior to that time. He advised that he

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *J. B. Wilcox* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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14-43818-71  
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EX-18

had not followed the matter very closely inasmuch as he was not interested in hearing SMITH and that he did not wish to attend the meeting. He said that league literature indicated that CARL H. MOTE of Indianapolis, RALPH KEELING, Chicago, Illinois, Mrs. ARLEALA JOHNSON of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, MARTIN CROWE of Cleveland, Ohio, and JACOB S. COXEY (General COXEY of Coxeys' Army fame) were also scheduled to address the Congress. [redacted] said that he understood that JOSEPH STOFFEL, Chairman of the Buffalo Economics League and JOHN G. SCOTT and EDWIN LUNDQUIST of the same organization, were handling arrangements for the meeting of the Monetary Congress. b7c b7D

The Buffalo Evening News for April 9, 1945, reported also that the following individuals were in attendance at meetings of the Congress:

- JOHN McLAREN of Boston, Massachusetts
- LAWRENCE ZIMBARIS of Salamanca, New York
- Rev. W. S. WERNER of New York City
- Mrs. ANNA WEIDEMAN of Washington, New Jersey
- Mrs. MONA MANNING, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
- S. R. HOUSE, Detroit, Michigan
- Mrs. SAMUEL GEDDIS
- Mrs. JACQUELINE BROCKNER
- Rev. MICHAEL ANSTETT
- (the latter all of Buffalo, New York).

It is to be noted that the newspaper account referred to characterized CARL H. MOTE as the GERALD L. K. SMITH of Indiana.

[redacted] of the Statler Hotel, advised that his records reflected that the Eastern Monetary Congress had been booked for meetings in the Iroquois Room of the Statler for April 6, 7 and 8. He said the booking was made through [redacted] of the Union Central Life Insurance Company, 904 Liberty Bank Building, Buffalo, residence address 98 Comstock Avenue, of the same city. The booking of the Iroquois Room was at \$25.00 per day and meetings were to run through the entire day of each of the dates stated from 9:00 a.m. [redacted] said that the meeting was under local sponsorship of the Buffalo Economics League and that a request had been made for a room accommodating three hundred persons on Sunday, April 8, 1945. [redacted] said that the Iroquois Room would accommodate only approximately one hundred twenty-five persons. He advised the hotel was unable to furnish other accommodations for the organization and that therefore the Iroquois Room was to be used for all three days of the meetings. He said further that it was not until Saturday morning that it was ascertained that GERALD L. K. SMITH was to address the meeting on Sunday, April 8, and that on that day the hotel received a request from SMITH for a reservation of a conference room at day rate only; that SMITH expected to arrive early Sunday forenoon and to depart the same day. [redacted] said that no b7c b7D

program for the meetings had been made available to him, and that apparently the meetings were closed affairs and not open to the public. He said that he could furnish no further information concerning the nature of the meetings of the Eastern Monetary Congress or data concerning SMITH'S plans. He referred the writer to [REDACTED] at the Statler who had handled the booking.

[REDACTED] stated that he was unable to supplement the information furnished by [REDACTED] in any detail except that [REDACTED] mentioned above, had requested that billing for the accommodations in the Iroquois Room be made to him. He said further that he had observed in passing the Iroquois Room a person was stationed at the door and that no one except certain individuals, probably members of the Buffalo Economics League, were admitted. [REDACTED] advised that he started to enter the Iroquois Room when the meetings were in session on Friday afternoon and that the person at the door immediately asked him to identify himself; that he made no further effort to ascertain what was going on at the meeting. He stated that at this time, however, he overheard someone move the meeting to vote confidence to GERALD L. K. SMITH, who was to address the meeting on Sunday.

[REDACTED] advised that he had no further information concerning the prospective meeting at which SMITH was to appear. He stated that he had noted that General JACOB S. COXEY of COXEY'S Army fame, had opened the Congress. He said further that the Courier-Express did not wish to give any but nominal publicity to SMITH'S appearance in Buffalo, but that he personally wished to be cooperative with this office in furnishing any information that he could relative to SMITH and said that a very capable reporter would attend the meeting on Sunday and make a detailed report for his own files on SMITH'S remarks and that this report would be made available to this office.

Subsequently [REDACTED] furnished to the writer the report of [REDACTED] reflecting that SMITH addressed the meeting of the Eastern Monetary Congress on Sunday afternoon, April 8, 1945. The audience was comprised of approximately one hundred and fifty middle-aged men and women. [REDACTED] reported to [REDACTED] that before he was able to enter the meeting room he was asked to present credentials and in addition was required to obtain permission from JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, Chairman of the Buffalo Economics League, presiding at the meeting. [REDACTED] reported that seated at the speakers' table were STOFFEL, SMITH, MRS. STOFFEL, MRS. SMITH, CARL H. MOTE of Indianapolis, JOHN G. SCOTT, identified by SMITH in his speech as the "apostle of monetary reform", and Gen. JACOB S. COXEY, Sr., who related his 1893 "March on Washington".

ALL  
b7c. b7d

b7c  
b7D

Following is the report which [redacted] made to [redacted] relative to SMITH'S remarks at the meeting:

"In opening his talk, SMITH told delegates he was not unmindful of the honor bestowed upon him to speak before the Eastern Monetary Congress, although, while flinging a few bouquets to Gen. COKEY, STOFFEL, MOTE, and others, SMITH readily admitted he was 'a layman, not a student of money.' He added it would be ridiculous for him to pose as a student of money, emphasizing, however, that 'any American should be able to say I favor constitutional money,' one of the monetary reforms proposed by COKEY.

"Still giving pats on the back, SMITH called SCOTT the apostle of monetary reform, with 'character in his countenance, a man who made himself a slave to the truth'. Then, he said: 'My job is to recruit large masses of the people in the cause of nationalism. I am not ashamed of America First and nationalism. The word 'First' is an honorable word.'

"With a change of pace, SMITH charged that the press had been trying to smear him, and that the editor of the Courier-Express libeled him to the extent of saying he jumped on the American flag. But with Godly men, like STOFFEL and his compatriots, SMITH said, 'we shall preserve the four freedoms in Buffalo.'

"One of the few statements SMITH made with reference to the monetary congress currently meeting in Buffalo was that he favored constitutional money, adding that 'we cannot have constitutional money if we divide our sovereignty with Russia, England, France, and other countries.'

"SMITH said, 'we have a crew in Washington which steered us through Bretton Woods, Dumbarton Oaks, and later this month, will do it again at San Francisco, a crew that would make Benedict Arnold look like a Sunday school teacher when it comes to organized treason.'

"Then he charged that ROOSEVELT was buying up mayors all over the country with the people's money, the 'product of our own sweat and tears.' He charged that 'never has there been, including even Napoleon, Ivan the Terrible, the Czars, Caesar, and Nero, such an exploitation of the wealth of the people as we have experienced in the last 12 years. He told of political maneuvering in Congress as a result of which bridges were built in the desert of Florida in expectation of the canal which was to run underneath, but that after the spans were erected, the deal fell through, and left the people with useless bridges.

"He charged that at the United Nations conference, President ROOSEVELT hopes to rush through the Bretton Woods proposals, with

the aid of 'stuffed-shirt STETTINIUS.' He said also that FDR wants to be the first president of the world superstate, and that the president and his 'crew of international financiers, connivers, bankers, and others' will use the people's wealth to create a superstate, and thereby make the people the slaves of the world.

"SMITH ridiculed the Atlantic charter, and said that in a moment of weakness, FDR 'forgot himself for a moment and told the truth,' and confessed that there was no written document as the Atlantic charter. SMITH said this country sent, 13,000,000 to fight for what we thought was the Atlantic charter, and then after 1,000,000 have died, be told there is no charter.

"I am ashamed,' said SMITH, 'that there are gutless Americans who do not rise in indignation.'

"SMITH then listed what he termed his 'chorus'; the Bretton Woods steal, the Dumbarton hoax, the Crime of Crimea, and the San Francisco sellout.

"Tacking again, SMITH then turned his attention to the foreign situation, asserting that HITLER was able to invade the Low Countries and France, only because he had STALIN'S assurance that Russia would not strike at her back. SMITH said that 'STALIN crawled into bed with HITLER, and told him 'go to it.'

"But, added SMITH, as always happens, thieves eventually fall out, and HITLER invaded Russia, and America found itself in alliance with the Soviet. At this point, SMITH said, EARL BROWDER who, heretofore, had been kicked from pillar to post for his Communistic ideas, suddenly emerged as 'the patron saint.' 'It is strange how illegitimate children come back to roost on our front porch.'

"SMITH said that ROOSEVELT released BROWDER from penitentiary to promote 'national unity', but implied that it had been conveniently maneuvered so that BROWDER was released just before the presidential election in order to swing more votes FDR's way.

"Jumping back to the Crimean conference, SMITH asserted that 'at their worst, the Prendergast, Hague, and Kelly-Nash machines smelled like violets in the spring in comparison to the smell in the backroom at Yalta when they sold the blood of your boys and mine.'

"SMITH scored the voting arrangement whereby England was to have six votes, Russia 3, and the United States only 1. He said that 80 out of every 100 men fighting, and 90 out of every 100 dying were Americans.

"Not only are they going to set up a superstate at San Francisco, said SMITH, but FDR also has agreed that STALIN can veto anything if it doesn't suit his particular fancy.

"SMITH said the 'most arrogant confession' he had ever heard was the statement attributed to BERNARD BARUCH on his arrival in London, when BARUCH told a London newspaperman that 'I am here to swing the big stick.' 'Why should he swing any stick,' asked SMITH. 'We didn't elect him to any thing.'

"The internationalists want two things from the superstate which is to be created at the United Nations conference, SMITH said. He listed these as the increase of taxes of the American people, and the use of between 2 and 4 million American men as a world police force.

"Then in his most persuasive tone, SMITH said: 'As long as there is a pulse in my wrist, blood in my veins, spirit in my soul, and self-respect, no foreign power shall ever give the order to send your son and mine to his battle death.'

"SMITH said it will be at least 3 to 4 years before American boys will return home, even if the war were to end that same night. He attributed this to the fact that England will be using her ships to regain her world commerce, and too busy to transport the men back to this country.

"I say when we have put the enemy to flight, bring our boys back home,' said SMITH.

"He said then that the U. S. was paying 46 million dollars to England as rent for airfields in India 'to save England.' Commercially, he said, we have been run out of the Mediterranean, and no airplanes will be permitted in that area without England's permission.

"He said that we paid England 86 million dollars as rent for British ships to carry American soldiers to Europe to 'save England.'

"SMITH said the U. S. spent 6 billion dollars to buy goodwill in South America, a goodwill that we do not now possess. He charged that the San Francisco conference is being speeded up because they do not want to risk the resentment of 13,000,000 American soldiers.

"SMITH then related supposedly true stories of conversations with discharged veterans who, in their desire to return home, did not make the proper arrangements about claims. He said that one soldier he talked to, received only \$11 in mustering out pay. At this point, SMITH very vaguely implied that doctors in the military

were applying a new technique whereby they would play on the serviceman's desire to leave the service as quickly as possible upon receipt of medical discharge that they often neglect to do anything about claims until it is too late.

"SMITH said he was taking an America First delegation to San Francisco, adding that it did not make any difference whether he was permitted to attend the meetings or not, since there were going to be 1,200 newspapermen covering the conference. 'If you hang around them long enough', he said, 'one is bound to spring a leak.' He termed the conference an 'attempted sellout.'

"He announced that he had established a Nationalist News service with about 81 periodicals receiving the service.

"SMITH said he had one man in Washington who goes in and out of the White House every week, and then coyly added, 'I can't tell you his name.' He said that FDR is getting to be 'the old man', and that politicians were playing up to Vice-President TRUMAN, apparently figuring that in the event of FDR's death, TRUMAN will become president. He intimated, however, that HARRY HOPKINS was the 'big man.'

"He listed as 'friends in the press on our side', the Chicago Tribune, New York News, and Washington Times-Herald.

"SMITH said the scheme being used against him and his followers has been the denying to them of meeting places. He related then his meeting in Chicago on March 15th, when a Jewish bloc vowed he would not speak in the city, and that of 21 auditoriums sought, each one refused to allow him to use the hall. The meeting was held however, in a labor union auditorium which was given a pre-meeting dousing with "stench-bombs."

"The Jews of America, said SMITH, should not fight against America First, because it is in America that there is any hope of survival for them."

The published newspaper accounts reflected nothing concerning the meetings or of the address by SMITH in addition to that set out above, except that it was noted that the Buffalo Evening News for April 7, 1945, characterized the group as related to America First, and in the Evening News report of April 9, 1945, Mr. LAWRENCE ZIMBARIS referred to the Congress as a "subsidiary of the America-First Party".

██████████ stated also that America-First literature consisting of the platform of the America-First Party, the Cross and the Flag, and other items published by the Cross and the Flag were distributed at the meeting.

b7c  
b2D

BU 14-7

ENCLOSURES TO DETROIT: Flyer entitled "~~WARNING~~", signed GERALD L. K. SMITH,  
facsimile signature.

February issued of the "CROSS AND THE FLAG".

PLATFORM of the America-First Party.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

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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- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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For your information: Per your March 18, 1982 letter this enclosure was not xeroxed for release.

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62-43818 - Enclosure

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*+*  
*15*

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL TOM C CLARK

May 9, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases  
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

EX-16 - 717

Reference is made to our previous correspondence concerning the above-captioned matter.

For your further information in connection with this case, there is attached herewith a copy of the investigative report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated April 24, 1945, at Buffalo, New York, captioned as above.

*b7c* *ml*

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-19-81 BY SP7MAA/JC  
#EP-444

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 3  
MAY 9 - 1945 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 2 1945

*WJZg*  
*EAT*  
*Est*

100  
100  
100

[REDACTED]

May 17-45

Office of the F.B.I.  
Washington, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Gentlemen:-

DATE 11/13/82 BY SP-800/pc

You enclosing an  
article taken from the Reader's  
Scope magazine of March, ult.  
This may seem like child's play  
on my part in sending you  
this, as your office is no doubt  
well informed on all such items.  
The author states, however, in the  
last paragraph, page 23, that  
such activities might well receive  
the attention of the Federal Govern-  
ment. That will <sup>be</sup> my reason for tak-  
ing this course. Respectedly,  
[Signature]

EX-23 RECORDED & INDEXED 62-43218-71

[REDACTED]

ALL  
670

★★ They don't stop and they don't wait, these people who want to undermine American Democracy. Now they're after the veterans!

# VETERANS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Kevin Mullen

DATE

10/13/82

BT 288T JMC

On October 2, 1944, a soldier stepped off a train at Buffalo, walked out of the station and took a cab. Nobody paid any attention to him; he was just another soldier, a somewhat plumpish chap of medium height with a nondescript face. But he was not just another G.I. on his way to attend to his own or his government's business.

This was George Vose, advance scout for Gerald L. K. Smith, "nationalist" leader and rabble-rouser extraordinary. And his business had interesting implications for all of us.

Vose came to Buffalo to contact and organize mustered-out war veterans under Gerald L. K. Smith's leadership. As this is being written, Vose is working in the Detroit area, doing what he did in Buffalo—setting up a "central committee" of seven ex-servicemen in every city where he can find seven unsuspecting veterans from among the thousands now coming out of the armed forces. Up until December, Vose was still in the uniform of the Army, and he, as well as Smith, was carefully hiding the fact that he had been dishonorably discharged on charges of attempted embezzlement. He had been un-

ceremoniously dumped by the Army last summer after being released from Fort Custer Hospital, Battle Creek, Michigan, upon recovery from a minor leg ailment. On August 29, 1944, Gerald L. K. Smith trotted Vose out on the platform of the "first national convention" of the America First Party, which Smith heads.

Vose was accepted with hysterical applause by Smith's key organizers as head of the drive to set up the "Nationalist Veterans of World War II." Then Smith took Vose with him on a country-wide tour, introducing him to native fascist leaders. In September, he brought him east and introduced him at rallies held in Baltimore, Philadelphia, Buffalo and Boston. Following each rally, Smith and Vose met with a handful of the most active local "nationalists" and laid the groundwork for a return tour by Vose during which Vose could meet secretly with ex-servicemen gathered together by local leaders.

Vose went first to Buffalo, then to Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore. In each city he established the framework for postwar organization among the returning war veterans, setting up Smith's "central committees" of seven picked

62-4514-718

"That this nation under God shall not perish from the earth."

## Protestant War Veterans

OF THE  
United States



OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE  
TO THE ORGANIZATION

OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN  
GENERAL COUNCIL  
EDWARD JAMES SMYTHE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
AND THE OFFICE OF THE TREASURER  
148 VERMILYEA AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

Terramare Office.  
KronenstraBe I.  
Berlin, Germany

July 28th-1939.

Gentlemen:—

Many thanks for the books on Hitler and the New Germany, they are already out in circulation, I gave them away at meetings I was addressing on the subject of keeping America out of another alliance with Great Britian and France and going to war against Germany.

If you writers and newspaper people over there in Germany only knew how hungry the American people were for the real news from your Country, you would see that this was supplied them...and I dont mean German Americans.

The American people...are being fed a lot of lies, but they don't know how or where to get the truth, I feel that it is your duty over there to get it over to them here.

Send me any other literature that you have on hand.

Cordially Yours,

Edward James Smythe

Above is a reproduction. (set in type for the purpose of legibility) of a letter written by Edward James Smythe which shows how he cooperated with the Nazi propoganda services. The original letter is at the offices of Reader's Scope.

ex-servicemen already discharged from the armed forces.

Smith's method of enticing servicemen is subtle and appealing. The fourth clause in Smith's *America First Party* platform reads: "Veterans: American money for American veterans! Stop the foreign looting of our public treasury. \$1,000 each for mustered-out veterans having served one year, with proportionate sums for those who have

served more or less. Extensive program for education, rehabilitation and employment. Stop international boondoggling. We are spending on the South Americans alone enough to give \$1,000 bonus to 6 million veterans.

"Veterans should have the first chance to homestead land confiscated by the Federal Government after those who have suffered mortgage foreclosures have had an

opportunity to repurchase."

While Smith thus lays the groundwork through his speeches, circular letters and personal contacts, his agent Vose is busy setting up the actual machinery for a returned-veterans organization.

But they didn't have the field to themselves. In this business of trying to recruit veterans there is competition among the American fascist leaders. Long ago Charles E. Coughlin got the jump on Smith in this crusade. The Detroit priest works in a more subtle, but equally effective fashion. Early in 1942 he launched a scheme to line up the servicemen by the formation of his "St. Sebastian's Brigade."

Up until November 1944, Coughlin had enrolled more than 400,000 servicemen into this organization, meanwhile collecting about \$700,000! His operation works thus: mothers, wives and sweethearts of servicemen are urged to "enroll" the names of their loved ones at Coughlin's Royal Oak shrine. The "contribution" for each name enrolled averages \$3. In return, Coughlin prays to St. Sebastian, the soldiers' patron saint. He contacts the men whose names have been enrolled by mail, sees that the women constantly write the boys about Coughlin's concern for their physical and spiritual safety.

Viewed superficially, one can see no harm in Coughlin's professed solicitude for the soldiers. But those familiar with his past activities and the critical attitude of the Federal authorities toward his banned publication *Social Justice*, have good reason to believe that his

intimate purpose bodes no good either for the servicemen or the country at large.

Another smooth operator, Joe McWilliams (who has tangled with the law on numerous occasions), also uses the real or imagined grievances of servicemen for his own purposes. He and his aides have circulated tens of thousands of leaflets calling for a flat \$7,800 bonus to each mustered-out serviceman, and he makes it seem reasonable by demanding elimination of government appropriations for what he calls "boondoggling New Deal projects."

McWilliams's \$7,800 mustering-out pay plan got a tremendous boost when the *Chicago Tribune* lauded the "plan" in its May 6, 1944 issue. McWilliams promptly reprinted the *Tribune's* laudatory spread and sent it to servicemen's mothers all over the country. He calls his come-on racket the "Servicemen's Reconstruction Plan." He gets all the money he needs from wealthy fascist-minded members of the Chicago Lincoln Park chapter of *America First* which refused to disband after Pearl Harbor.

At a meeting of his followers in Kimball Hall, Chicago, a few months ago, McWilliams boasted of his servicemen's plan: "Already we are making progress in Chicago, Milwaukee, in Detroit. Soon we'll sweep the country like wildfire..."

Each of the leaders of this movement—Smith, Coughlin and McWilliams—uses the issue of mustering-out pay as a snare for the servicemen. The desire of the ex-soldiers for a substantial financial start when they return to civilian

NOVEMBER, 1944

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

by *Gerald L. K. Smith*

**VETERANS! VETERANS!** We are now getting ready to organize

**VETERANS!** the veterans of this war into an organization known as the Nationalist Veterans of World War II. If you know a veteran of this war who is a Nationalist, send his name in at once so that he can be informed when the time comes to launch the campaign for expansion. Send the names of all veterans to THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, Box 459, Detroit, Michigan and we will see that the names are turned over to the organization committee headed by George Voss, recently mustered out of the army hospital at Fort Custer.

The above editorial comment is taken from Gerald L. K. Smith's notorious anti-war, anti-semitic, anti-United Nations magazine, THE CROSS AND THE FLAG. It appeared on page 471 of the November, 1944 issue.

life is understandable and no patriotic American will begrudge them all that America can provide. Unfortunately, however, many servicemen will probably be misled by the irresponsible promises held out to them by men like Smith, Coughlin and McWilliams. The extravaganzas outlined by these demagogues have no basis in reality. They are economic fallacies. They are not realizable objectives (such as the GI Bill of Rights) and are put forward obviously for purposes other than safeguarding the interests of the returning soldiers.

It is the classic technique of the demagogue to promise large sums of the government's money at some future date while he takes in the money of the unsuspecting for his own account now.

William Kulgren, a lesser light, is another who has ambitious post-war plans. One of the defendants in the recent Washington, D. C. sedition trial, Kulgren publishes *America Speaks*, an incredibly vi-

cious paper which is widely circulated. Kulgren's line is preaching of outright falsehoods to the World War II servicemen and their families, declaring that President Roosevelt knifed World War I veterans and fought against the 1935 soldier bonus bill. Kulgren appeals to the servicemen and their families to join his anti-semitic movement and band together to assure proper bonus pay for the soldiers of this war. Naturally, he proposes to head the movement.

Others such as Edward James Smythe, also a sedition trial defendant, are busily shouting the phony merits of their own outfits. Smythe heads the Protestant War Veterans, headquarters at 148 Vermilyea Avenue, New York City. He proposes to exclude all Jews and Catholics.

Smythe launched his outfit to inveigle Klan-minded veterans of World War I, but he plans to get in on the World War II racket unless the government puts him in a Fed-

eral penitentiary. He makes no bones about his postwar plans and says so publicly. Even the Federal courtroom where he was being tried, along with twenty-seven others, was not too sacrosanct for such boasting on the part of Smythe. He is not over-subtle, and the accompanying reproduction of his letter, on the letterhead of his Protestant War Veterans, addressed to "Terramare Office, Kronenstrabe I, Berlin," is an indication of Smythe's methods.

The fifth column has selected America's motherhood as its chief means for reaching the minds and hearts of our fighting men, and an unusually effective method this is proving to be! Investigators of the fascist network have dubbed this mothers' movement "momism." Over half a million mothers of soldiers have been ensnared in the "Mothers" racket, and while many are fascist-minded by distorted convictions, the great majority are simply innocent women who have been edged into the growing movement by other mothers who have received their baptism in the old roaring days of America First, the Christian Front and similar groups.

Native fascist chiefs, like Gerald L. K. Smith, boast that when our 11,000,000 servicemen are mustered out, they will seek leadership of the "nationalists." This is nonsense. The overwhelming majority of our boys in the services are patriotic, democracy-loving Americans and they will spurn these overtures. But it would be a mistake to under-

estimate the destructive abilities of Smith, Coughlin, Kulgren, McWilliams and their female counterparts who head the "Momism" movement. They don't expect the majority, or even a sizeable minority, of the servicemen will adhere to their destructive principles when they come home. They will be satisfied if they can influence and organize one serviceman out of every few hundred; a storm troop mob of 50,000 to 100,000, organized into well-knit companies throughout the country will more than satisfy them. Hence such activities as Mr. Vose's and others of his kind at the present time. The framework is now being established.

The native fascist leaders yearn for chaos after the war. They dream of strikes and brutal strike suppressions. They chortle with glee while the war continues and our boys overseas are fed with anti-labor propaganda by our newspapers and other publications, for that enrages GI Joe and prepares his mind for the things the fifth column chiefs plan when he returns home.

The agitation of the Smiths, Coughlins and the rest can be counteracted most effectively by a broad educational campaign aimed to show their spiritual links with the foes of our nation, together with a constructive job-program to give economic security to returning veterans. (Meanwhile, their activities might well receive the attention of the Federal Government's law-enforcement agencies.)

\* \* \*

# Aladdin's Lamp Is Lit Again

Waldemar Kaempfert

*\* Postwar electronics will shop for you, cook for you, transport you, bring you the hand-clasp of a distant friend—do just about everything but kiss your girl and raise your babies!*

**R**EMEMBER Aladdin's Wonderful Lamp? Remember how, whenever it was rubbed, Aladdin's slave made a palace spring from the ground or produced bags of precious stones?

The lamp is here. You can buy one for as little as twenty-five cents or as much as \$1,250, depending on what you expect of it.

Of course, it will not build palaces overnight or present you with diamonds. But it will cook for you and rock the baby. It will detect a burglar climbing your porch, see through fog, stop an elevator at the right floor. It will open the garage door so you can drive in. It will cure some diseases.

This Aladdin's Wonderful Lamp is the electron tube. It comes in about two thousand different types and sizes. Look inside your radio set and you will see at least two types. They are little bulbs, and they glow with a dull light. Why are they called electron tubes? Because they juggle electrons.

And what are electrons? Particles much smaller than the smallest atom. A current in a wire is a flow of electrons. A flash of lightning is a sudden burst of them. Electricity comes in electrons. It took about two thousand years of experimenting and thinking to find that out,

*Condensed from Argosy*

and now that it has been found out we have the electron tube, the most important, the most versatile, the most sensitive, the most useful tool ever invented.

To put electrons to practical use as electricity they must be torn out and set free. Heat does that. You can heat a piece of iron until it glows white and thus release electrons, but you can't do anything with them. Shoot a minute electron into the air and it is stopped at once by a gigantic air-atom, as if by a wall. Hence the first step is to get rid of the air. That is why tubes are necessary—vacuum tubes. Inside a tube is a filament much like the electric lamp on your desk. Turn on the current to heat the filament and the electrons are shot out like bullets at a speed that may be anything from 25,000 to nearly 186,000 miles a second. You see now why the tubes in your radio glow. It is not the light that is wanted, but the heat that goes with the light—the heat that drives out electrons from the filament.

Some way of controlling electrons is needed before they can be put to work. There is also a metal grid and a metal plate within the tube. Between the two is the filament. The electrons stream from

*Copyright 1944, Popular Publications, Inc., 205 East 42nd Street, New York, N. Y.*

June 2, 1945

718

ENCLOSURE

EX-73

Dear [REDACTED]

This will acknowledge receipt of your communication dated May 17, 1945, with enclosure.

The material which you have submitted has been carefully reviewed, and I want to thank you for your interest and courtesy in writing to this Bureau. In the event you receive additional information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, I want you to feel free to communicate with the Special Agent in Charge of our Saint Louis Field Division which is located at 423 United States Court House and Custom House, Saint Louis, Missouri.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/pmk

WCC  
b7c  
Ked

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 3  
JUN 2 1945 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
JUN 12 1945

5

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan  
May 8, 1945

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E.A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

88-1

DECLASSIFIED BY 60872/ELH  
ON 8/1/77

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;  
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - Sedition  
(62-43818 and ~~62-2055~~)

~~\_\_\_\_\_~~ b7c

Dear Sir:

The following is pertinent information received from ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~, whose identity is known to the Bureau, concerning the Subject's activities during the period from April 21 to May 6, 1945, inclusive.

b7D

SMITH left Detroit on the evening of April 21st for an extended trip to the West Coast during the course of which he made speeches to his followers at meetings held in Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, and Salt Lake City. He planned to leave Salt Lake City at 11:40 p.m. on May 4, 1945, and was to arrive at San Francisco on the morning of May 6, 1945. Informant did not know where SMITH planned to stay while in San Francisco but believed he would receive his mail at the St. Francis Hotel in that city. He plans to spend several weeks in San Francisco "observing" the activities of the United Nations Conference now being held there. While on this trip he has maintained contact with his Detroit office by mail and long distance telephone and has continued to direct the operations of the office.

b7c

He is continuing publication and distribution of various types of literature. The pamphlet "Whose Concept Is It?", supposedly written by a Mrs. BERTHA GLEBE of Dayton, Ohio, has received wide distribution through his sources recently as has a book written by "Americanus" dealing with post-war settlements. His monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag" ran 11,000 copies for the May issue and informant believed that these copies were all used in distribution to subscribers and contributors.

Among his donors informant noted ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~, and ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~. Informant learned that on April 26, 1945, SMITH's donations through the mail totaled \$19.50 and on May 2 and 3 the contributions were \$22.00 and \$23.00 respectively. SMITH has received mail in recent weeks

b7c



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205 OCT 13 1954

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DATE 50 MAY 31 1945 BY 10/1/82 SP-8 BTJ/mca

62-43818-719  
INDEXED

Letter to the Director  
May 8, 1945

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH,  
with aliases; THE  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;  
INTERNAL SECURITY -  
Sedition

from Senator NYE, Congressman WOODRUFF of Michigan, Congressman HAGEN, HARRY ROMER, who was SMITH's candidate for vice president on the America First Party ticket last fall, [REDACTED], and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. SMITH told informant that this latter letter was in reply to one which he sent to J. Edgar Hoover recently relative to allegedly discriminating against SMITH, in Philadelphia. Informant did not learn the contents of this letter. The letter was forwarded to SMITH at San Francisco.

Informant stated that on April 26, 1945, SMITH's office received a call requesting that SMITH contact [REDACTED], phone [REDACTED]. This information was relayed to SMITH at St. Louis by wire.

SMITH has indicated to informant that some "little newspapers" are now printing items distributed by his newly organized Nationalist News Service. He also told informant that he was making a list of the people who had answered a questionnaire which he sent out some time ago, one of the questions of which inquired as to whether the person could come to Washington if SMITH requested him to do so. SMITH stated he was saving these names since he would "need them for the debates in Washington". Informant did not learn what debates SMITH had in mind but believed probably he had reference to the discussions which would occur in Congress when that body considered the proposals presented at the San Francisco conference.

Very truly yours,

*R. A. Guerin*

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[REDACTED]  
62-1126

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b7c

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- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: MAY 22, 1945

FROM : SAC, KANSAS CITY

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

Reference is made to the letter of April 3, 1945, from the Detroit Office to the Bureau, a copy of which was furnished to this Field Division.

A review of newspapers and inquiries of other sources of information in Kansas City have failed to indicate that GERALD L. K. SMITH held a press conference at Kansas City, Missouri.

In the event information is received at a later date concerning any activities of SMITH in the Kansas City Field Division, the Bureau, as well as Detroit, will be immediately advised.

This case is being continued in a referred upon completion status in this office.

100-3598  
cc - Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mhc

RECORDED

EX-44

MAY 24 1945

57 MAY 29 1945

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
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# Chicago Christians Victorious

## ATTEMPTED BLOODSHED IN CHICAGO

On the 15th of March Christian Americans in Chicago took up their crosses in behalf of their Christian ideals. As many of the readers of this magazine know, Communists, anti-Christians and certain hysterical Jewish elements in Chicago, announced to the world that I would never be permitted to speak in Chicago again.

## BRIEF STATEMENT OF WHAT HAPPENED

Our Chicago committee rented Temple Hall, owned and operated by a unit of the American Federation of Labor and of the Chicago Federation of Labor. This did not mean that these groups were underwriting my philosophy of life—it did mean, however, that these outstanding labor leaders favored the Constitution of the United States, which guarantees to all law-abiding Americans freedom of speech and freedom of assembly.

The moment that our meeting was announced, J. I. Fishbein, editor of the *Sentinel* (largest English language Jewish weekly in America) inaugurated a campaign of character assassination and vilification, the like of which I have not experienced since the assassination of Huey Long.

First, the Chicago Labor Union received over 200 telegrams, many of which threatened bloodshed. The Union also received telephone calls threatening the destruction of their building if I was allowed to speak.

The Union called a meeting of their membership and announced that they were going to take a stand on the side of free speech and free assembly. They said that they were not underwriting the philosophy of Gerald L. K. Smith, but they were underwriting his right to speak and the right of his people to assemble.

This decision on the part of the local union made Fishbein and his compatriots furious. A compilation of the names of those who sent the threatening telegrams and the messages of protest reveals that they were 93% Jewish. I have the name of every one of these individuals in my personal file.

## GUNMEN INVADE TEMPLE

On the afternoon before the night of the meeting, three hoodlums broke into the Temple, which as a building is a thing of beauty, assaulted the janitor with a gun and exploded six stench bombs. They warned the janitor that there must not be a meeting that night. Threatening telephone calls continued to pour into the Union Hall. The building was guarded during the remainder of the afternoon by 25 police, some with sawed-off shotguns. In the meantime our Chicago committee, with the co-operation of the police, used a counteracting chemical on the building, and the effect of the stench bombs was destroyed.

## LYNCH MOB ARRIVES

At 8 o'clock a mob moved in and attempted to take the hall away from our America First people. They were armed with counterfeit tickets which were readily detected. They formed a picket line and chanted chorus—"Down with Smith"—"Hang Smith"—"Shoot Smith"—"Kill Smith"—"To Hell with Smith." Their language was so vicious that it reminded me of vulgar language which many of us have been reading from the New Testament recently, especially regarding the psychology that was developed

among the mobs shortly prior to the crucifixion of our Lord. It must be remembered that the same evil mentality which crucified Christ, now desires to crucify everything that looks Christian—even Christian Americanism.

Our people refused to be intimidated. They came in and filled up the hall. I was escorted to the platform by two veterans of this war, while deep in the hearts of Mrs. Smith and myself was the thought of our only son, Gerald, Jr., who has been a casualty twice in this war, and is now in a hospital in Burma.

The meeting was opened by Mr. Frederick Kister, a veteran of this war with an honorable discharge, who spoke fifteen minutes and presented me. I spoke for two hours and fifteen minutes, devoting my message to the same principles as are enunciated in this magazine.

## SENSATIONAL FACT!

While I spoke, the mobsters outside (at least 90% Jewish) knocked most of the windows out of the building, even in spite of the police. The audience did not move, but sat in rapt attention.

The place was guarded by at least 50 police, and more than 100 were prepared for an emergency call. I warned the good Christians assembled that a move was on foot to agitate our people beyond self-control. I urged them to be peaceful and not respond to the vulgar insults of this uncouth mob.

It is a fact, however, that as our people left the hall, they were actually spat upon. Even so, they made no response to these insults. The enemy had failed to incite our good people to riot.

Shortly before the end of the meeting I received a message from the police detectives to the effect that they were convinced that there was a definite plot to do me great injury, perhaps kill me. A car, well guarded by police, met us at the stage door and Mrs. Smith and I were returned safely to the hotel. The meeting had been a great triumph for Christian Americanism.

The above is a mere outline of the story. I will discuss other details in my monthly letter which goes out to loyal supporters all over the United States.

## AN APPEAL TO JEWS

Surely there are Jewish leaders in America whose attitudes are not represented by the Chicago Jewish *Sentinel*. Surely the employment of the threat of bloodshed and the actual use of stench bombs, bricks, stones, and guns is not pleasing to all Jewish leaders.

I challenge the Jews of America who love peace and who seek goodwill to seize leadership and repudiate such men as J. I. Fishbein, and those who formulate the editorial policy of the Chicago Jewish *Sentinel*.

Mr. Fishbein is now engaged in a campaign to smear the officers of the American Federation of Labor (Chicago unit) and to brand as Nazis and traitors all Christian Americans who believe in the principle of America First. God save America. God save the Jews from the leadership of such men as J. I. Fishbein of Chicago.

*Gerald L. K. Smith*

Important Note: If anyone reading this article does not receive my monthly letter and would like to receive the Chicago edition, as well as other activities, please make a written request to me, and I will send you the full letter dealing with the Chicago situation.

This circular may be had in quantities at the following rates:  
100 copies, \$1.00 — 1000 copies, \$10.00

Address communications to GERALD L. K. SMITH,  
POST OFFICE BOX 452, DETROIT 31, MICHIGAN.

ENCLOSURE

62-43818-7

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  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.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) \_\_\_\_\_, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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EPB:mn

-723

SAC, San Francisco

May 21, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director - Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
Internal Security; Sedition

Reference is made to your teletype dated May 12, 1945, wherein you advised that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Your teletype also requested advice as to the action, if any, desired of your office in connection with this matter.

[REDACTED] However, you should continue to keep the Bureau and the Detroit Field Office advised of Smith's activities while in San Francisco

cc - Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/14/80 BY SP-8 BTJ/mh

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED 8  
 ★ MAY 21 1945 P.M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*E. J. [unclear]*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CC-150

To: <sup>62-13818</sup> COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

ROUTINE

Transmit the following message to:

MAY 25, 1945

SAC, SAN FRANCISCO

GERALD L. K. SMITH, THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION.  
REBULET MAY TWENTYONE, LAST. IMMEDIATELY SUBMIT REPORT REFLECTING  
RESULTS OF COVERAGE SMITH'S ACTIVITIES TO DATE. DEPARTMENT  
PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN DATA SHOWING POSSIBLE VIOLATION SECTION  
FIVE, TITLE EIGHTEEN, USC.

HOOVER

CC: DETROIT (BY MAIL)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/nlw

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

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DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/nlw

RECORDED  
62-13818-724

SENT VIA \_\_\_\_\_

5-19 P M

Per \_\_\_\_\_



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Detroit, Michigan  
May 31, 1945

~~PERSONAL AND  
CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

Re: <sup>0</sup>GERALD L. K. SMITH  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

DECLASSIFIED BY 6372  
ON 8-8-77

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

A copy of this letter is being sent to the San Francisco Field Division and to the Los Angeles Field Division in order that they may be advised of SMITH's present whereabouts and ultimate plans and may in turn advise the Bureau and the Detroit Field Division and any other interested field divisions upon learning of SMITH's plans for the return trip to Detroit.

Very truly yours,

*R. A. Guerin*

R. A. GUERIN  
Special Agent in Charge

[REDACTED]

62-1126

cc - Los Angeles (AIR MAIL)  
San Francisco (AIR MAIL)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/13/82 BY SP-8 BJS/mh

RECORDED  
INDEXED

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EX-44



JUN 4 1945

*EPB*

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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: 5:30 p.m., 5-26-45  
JKM:lem

FROM : J. K. MUMFORD

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA - Current Events Group

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Carson  
Mr. Hendon  
Mr. Mumford  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Quinn  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Beahm  
Miss Gandy

I called ASAC Hinze at Philadelphia and referred him to a call I made to SAC Sears on April 26, 1945, about a letter we had received from Gerald L. K. Smith, in which he alleged we had done something about his civil liberties, enclosing for us a copy of a letter written by the State Secretary of the POS of A to Lillian Parks, Secretary of the Current Events Club, in which Helms said that "several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our building through members of the FBI and otherwise," and therefore Smith stated he was compelled to cancel the lease. Hinze was advised we answered Gerald L. K. Smith, but before doing so I called SAC Sears and asked him whether anybody up there had "put the bite" on the management about having these meetings. Sears said that SA [redacted] had visited [redacted] concerning that group last summer, and that it was alleged that he had said to Helms apparently that the group was anti-Semitic, pro-Nazi, and that the POS of A might be better off without them; however, [redacted] at the time was on a plant, Sears had not had a chance to talk with him, but stated he would talk to him and ascertain whether he actually said anything or not.

Mr. Hinze was told that now Lillian Parks has written in demanding an explanation of the same kind and referring not only to the letter from the POS of A but also to the letter we wrote back to Gerald L. K. Smith; that we had received a teletype from Philadelphia dated May 25th, pointing out that the National Blue Star Mothers of America were to have a meeting at which they were going to have Helms testify that he had to cancel their lease because of FBI pressure.

I instructed Mr. Hinze to call the Bureau by 10:00 a.m. Monday, clearing up the following matters: 1. The Bureau should be furnished the results of the interview with the Agent - did he or did he not tell Helms they would be better off without this group, etc. What about the allegation another Agent is supposed to have contacted him more recently, visited the janitor and looked over the place, but made no comments concerning the Current Events Club? 2. Philadelphia wire of May 25th says they were to have a meeting and have [redacted] testify as to the pressure of the FBI. What happened to the meeting?

For his further information, ASAC Hinze was advised we had a teletype from San Francisco stating they had picked up information that Gerald L. K. Smith, apparent in referring to a magazine article, said that one feature should be a photostatic copy of the Philadelphia letter, and one of the "J. Edgar Hoover letter" with the background story.

ACTION: ASAC Hinze said he would check on this matter and call the Bureau.

RECORDED 162-43818-927

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/13/02 BY SP-805/mk

ALL  
OK

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE:

55 a.m., 5-28-45

JKM:lem

DATE 10/2/82 BY SP5/MLC

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

FROM : J. K. MUMFORD

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA (Current Events Group)

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn
- Tele. Room
- Miss Beach
- Miss Gandy

ASAC Hinze called from Philadelphia, pursuant to my request, to furnish information regarding the allegations made by Gerald L. K. Smith and by William Parks, Secretary of the Current Events Club that the FBI had brought pressure on the POS of A to cancel leases in their hall held by Smith and by the Current Events Group.

Hinze stated SA [redacted] had furnished the following data: Some time last May or June, [redacted] went to see Helms, told him we were interested in the Blue Star Mothers, who had at that time made arrangements to meet at the POSA Hall under the name of the Current Events Club.

[redacted] Helms asked why were we investigating them, and [redacted] says he generally told him they were a holdover from the pre-Pearl Harbor America First Committee and had apparently the same aims. [redacted] said he believed he also told him they were believed to be contacting servicemen and talking to them in such a way as to try to make them less enthusiastic about fighting the war. Helms at that time showed [redacted] the lease that they had signed and asked [redacted] if he wanted to have them thrown out, and [redacted] said that he did not want that; that he was pleased to have them permanently located somewhere where we could watch their activities.

[redacted]

[redacted] pointed out his contact with Helms was just after William Lyman, one of the 33 seditious conspiracy defendants, had come to Philadelphia and had made an inflammatory speech to the women, and as a result the Bureau had given instruction to follow their activities as closely as possible. Mr. Hinze stated he assumed [redacted] when he went up there, gave them as little information as he possibly could to what we were doing; that they had checked and ascertained [redacted] was the only man that actually had contact with Helms; that [redacted] did indicate something about the name of their organization and some of their aims, but in talking to Helms, he said, he was very circumspect; that he did not make any charges that they were unpatriotic or that they were seditious or anything like that (that was what [redacted] had said).

Mr. Hinze stated this meeting was held last Friday - a hearing before Judge Curtis W. Bok, Common Pleas Court, and a temporary injunction was issued restraining the Patriotic Daughters of America from preventing the Blue Star Mothers (Current Events Club), from having their meetings there (in the POSA Hall). Helms did not testify at all; it was all done by the Blue Star Mothers. Parks in her testimony said the Helms had told her that FBI men were hanging around on fire escapes and in closets. Later on, one of the informants said she also made the statement (but there seems to be some question as to whether she gave this as testimony or whether it was just a statement made out loud in the court room later on) that the FBI had put pressure on the mayor in this matter. Mr. Hinze stated letters had been forwarded to the Bureau by Philadelphia indicating this thing all seems to have occurred following

00 JUN 7 1945

Mr. Ladd

- 2 -

appearance of Parks in the mayor's office, objecting to a certain United Nations Council Meeting in Philadelphia and indicating that Mayor Samuels, who has a Jewish secretary named Rosenberg had been putting some pressure on her.



Mr. Hinze quoted parts of Philadelphia letter to the Bureau dated May 2, 1945:



ALL  
b7D

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

Lillian Parks, Secretary,  
 Current Events Club,  
 1113 S. 54th St.,  
 Phila., 25, Pa.

May 14, 1945.

John Edgar Hoover, Director,  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
 United States Department of Justice,  
 Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 10/15/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mh

My Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of a letter this morning from the Reverend Gerald L. K. Smith enclosing a photostatic copy of a letter dated April 26th from the Federal Bureau of Investigation over your signature. You state in your letter to Mr. Smith that at no time have you ever attempted to interfere with an American's right to his civil liberties. In this connection, we would like to point out to you that due to pressure being brought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Mayor's office in Philadelphia we have been denied our constitutional right of free speech. In fact, our lease has been terminated by the P.O.S. of A. because, so they state, we were having the Reverend Gerald L. K. Smith as a speaker at our meeting.

I am enclosing herewith a copy (photostatic) of a letter received from the P.O.S. of A., which definitely points to the Federal Bureau of Investigation as being the prime factor in causing us to lose our inalienable right of free speech and free assembly.

We would welcome any investigation you would care to make, and if you find we have been amiss in our understanding of our fundamental rights as free Americans, we stand ready to pay the full penalty. The alternative would be a open bill of health by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Very respectfully,

(Mrs) Lillian Parks  
 Secy

ack 5/31/45 21

RECORDED 102-4-112

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : JKM:EOD  
THE DIRECTOR

DATE: May 28, 1945

FROM : D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
BLUE STAR MOTHERS OF AMERICA (Current Events Group)

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn
- Tele. Room
- Miss Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

Set forth below is a brief summary of recent developments involving Gerald L. K. Smith; the Blue Star Mothers of America (Current Events Group); the latter's landlord in Philadelphia, one C. B. Helms, State Secretary of the Patriotic Order Sons of America; and the Bureau.

Under date of April 13, 1945, C. B. Helms, State Secretary of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, which has a building at 1317-19 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, addressed a letter to Mrs. Lillian Parks, Secretary, Current Events Club, same address, stating: "Several complaints have reached us against your holding meetings in our building, through members of the FBI and otherwise. Today they advise us the Reverend Gerald Smith is to speak here this evening. I am compelled under the circumstances to cancel the lease and advise you that we cannot permit your meeting here this evening if Mr. Smith is to be present or deliver an address." Mrs. Lillian Parks, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] promptly sent a copy of the letter received from Helms to Gerald L. K. Smith, who forwarded a copy to you with a letter containing the following comment:

- \*1. There had been no arrangement for me to speak in Philadelphia as the letter suggests.
- \*2. I am convinced that no representative of your Department attempted to coerce the management of the building referred to in an attempt to prevent my speaking in Philadelphia.
- \*3. I have confidence in you to believe that you would not participate in any plan to deny an American citizen his civil liberties.

\*It is my personal opinion that someone in Philadelphia is impersonating a representative of your Department.\*

RECORDED  
EX-6

A check was made with SAC Sears at Philadelphia, who subsequently advised that in connection with the investigation the Bureau has had pending for some time relative to the Blue Star Mothers of America and its group using the name Current Events Club, [REDACTED]

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

COPIES DESTROYED  
205 OCT 18 1966

DATE 10/12/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mhc

b7c  
b7d

Memorandum for the Director

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Special Agent [REDACTED] has advised he told Helms we were interested in the Blue Star Mothers as a general matter because they were alleged to be a holdover from the pre-Pearl Harbor America First Committee and were contacting servicemen and talking to them in such a manner as to make them less enthusiastic about fighting the war. He recalled that Helms showed him the lease the Current Events Club (Blue Star Mothers) had signed and asked Agent [REDACTED] if he "wanted to have them thrown out," whereupon [REDACTED] specifically said he did not want that and, in fact, expressed the opinion that he was pleased to have them permanently located somewhere where we could watch their activities.

[REDACTED]

In view of the contents of Helms' letter to Mrs. Lillian Parks, SAC Sears had Helms contacted, and Helms stated that he had numerous telephone calls regarding the Current Events Club and progressively became more and more annoyed; that on April 13, 1945, he received an anonymous telephone call advising him that Gerald L. K. Smith was going to address a group that evening and he thereupon decided it was time to take some action and wrote the reference letter. Also on the same date Helms called [REDACTED] Secretary to Mayor Samuels of Philadelphia, and advised him of the telephone call and suggested that squad cars and detectives be sent there. [REDACTED] then told Helms that the instant group were trouble makers. Helms also advised that the wording of his letter to Mrs. Parks was not exactly correct in that the FBI Agent who had contacted him had made no complaint about the group but had merely stated it was reportedly anti-Semitic and reportedly pro-German. He also stated that no Agent had told him Smith was going to speak but that his only information was the above-mentioned telephone call. It was also learned at that time that Helms also sent a letter to Mayor Samuels referring to his conversation with [REDACTED] in which he said: "I can only say that Agents of the FBI had advised me they were pro-Nazi but my informants tell me this is not the case but they are a group of Catholic ladies..... opposed to the so-called New Deal and to some extent in opposition to radical Jewish elements." Mr. Sears stated that he would see to it the letter to Mayor Samuels caused no embarrassment. It does not appear from the above that the actions of the Bureau Agent were in any way improper but, on the contrary, he handled the matter very discreetly.

[REDACTED]

A reply was thereupon prepared to Gerald L. K. Smith acknowledging his letter and stating: