

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. This petition can be signed by any American citizen over 18 years of age.
2. Do not delay petition. Fill it up at the earliest possible moment and rush it in. Additional petitions may be received by addressing your request as follows: **VETERAN'S PETITION COMMITTEE, P. O. BOX 459, DETROIT 31, MICHIGAN.**
3. If signer is a veteran, put the letter "V" in front of his name.
4. Mail this petition in as soon as it contains five or more names.
5. This petition should be circulated in churches, schools, shops and offices.
6. The one circulating this petition should sign first so that his or her name can be entered in a special file when it is presented to Congress.

Campaign Slogan: "AMERICAN VETERANS FIRST"



PETITION

132



TO
CONGRESS
IN BEHALF OF
WAR VETERANS



WHEREAS, thousands and thousands of veterans of this war are now being mustered out of the service because of wounds, medical discharges, and various other reasons;

WHEREAS, billions of dollars are now being spent for non-military purposes on the citizens of foreign countries;

WHEREAS, veterans mustered out of the Armed Services are returning home virtually penniless;

We, the undersigned citizens of the United States of America, petition Congress to pass such legislation as will provide not only a cash payment upon being mustered out, but a rehabilitation bonus that will help the veteran to re-establish himself in the community.

NAME	CITY—STREET	STATE	ZONE

(First line reserved for person circulating petition)

J. P. HAIRATTY:WJW
1-31-44

GERALD L. E. SMITH

The following information has recently been received concerning the activities of Gerald L. E. Smith of Detroit, Michigan:

According to a confidential source of information, Smith, at a meeting of his "America First Party" held at Detroit on the evening of January 18, 1944, announced that he and the "America First Party," using the name "Veteran's Petition Committee," planned to circulate petitions calling for substantial payments to personnel mustered out of the Armed Forces.

Reportedly Smith, while speaking at the meeting, claimed that he and his organization were largely responsible for the increased rate of pay now allowed enlisted personnel inasmuch as he some time ago sent 80,000 signatures to Congress demanding a pay raise for enlisted personnel. Continuing in this vein, Smith urged his followers to circulate and cause to be signed the instant petitions, and apparently when a sufficient number of petitions have been executed, they will be forwarded to Congress en masse.

Smith, while speaking in behalf of his plan for increased mustering out pay, described in the petition, allegedly asserted that "a measly \$300" is not sufficient for our servicemen, especially in view "of the fact that America can give every person in the 22 South American republics the sum of \$50." Smith reportedly commented that every month 70,000 men are being mustered out of the service even at the present time and that due to financial difficulties and physical defects incident to their participation in the war, they are facing hardships which could be alleviated by the designation of more substantial payments for them.

The source of information in this matter also advised that according to Smith, Collier's Magazine plans to carry a story in the near future concerning Smith and the "America First Party." Smith has allegedly revealed that [redacted] of Collier's Magazine recently visited him for the purpose of assembling material to form the basis of this article. In this connection the source of information has further reported that photographers for Collier's Magazine were present at the meeting held on January 18, 1944, and at Smith's request made several pictures of mothers who have sons in the Armed Forces. Reportedly, these women posed in groups displaying Smith's "Petition to Congress" and it is the opinion of the source of information that the article in Collier's, if it actually appears, will deal to some degree with Smith's latest plan for circulating petitions calling for greater mustering out pay. b7c

- Tolson _____
- E. A. Tamm _____
- Clegg _____
- Coffey _____
- Glavin _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Acers _____
- Carson _____
- Harbo _____
- Hendon _____
- Mumford _____
- Starke _____
- Quinn Tamm _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

From the information furnished by the Confidential Source it does not appear that Smith has to date taken any steps toward founding or organizing any type of veterans' organization. As indicated, his contemplated procedure is to circulate these petitions to be signed and then forwarding the petitions to Congress.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP. 8875/mic U

102-43818-403
FEB 9 1944

J. Edgar Hoover
1-31-44

RECORDED

62-43818-405

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Honorable James Barnes
Administrative Assistant
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Barnes:

You will recall that on January 27, 1944, you telephoned Mr. E. A. Tamm of this Bureau concerning a report that Gerald L. N. Smith has been making efforts to form a new veterans' organization and is sending certain forms or petitions to personnel discharged from the Armed Forces.

As you will note from the attached summary memorandum setting forth the substance of data received by this Bureau concerning Smith's activities in this regard, it appears that Smith, using the name "Veterans' Petition Committee, P. O. Box 157, Detroit 31, Michigan," is circulating "Petitions to Congress" calling for a "rehabilitation bonus" for personnel discharged from the Armed Forces. Reportedly he has taken no action as yet toward forming an organization of war veterans and is disseminating these petitions among his following with the thought that they will be signed and subsequently forwarded to Congress en masse.

For your further information I am attaching hereto photostatic copies of the petition being circulated by Smith, and as you were informed by Mr. Tamm, the information developed with reference to this matter is being referred to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

JAN 31 9 41 PM '44
RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F B I
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

b2c
[Redacted]
Pricker Copy Sent
Letter 3-8-76
Per FOIA Request

Tolson
E. A.
Clegg
Coffey
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Acers
Carson
Harbo
Hendon
Mumford
Starke
Quinn Tamm
Nease
Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
FEB 1 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F B I
RECEIVED-NYIF-BOOK

FEB 11 1944
JAN 31 7 29 PM '44

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/6/92 BY SP-8 BTJ/HR

34 FEB 4 1944

[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. Acers _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Starke _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

January 28, 1944

Time: 3:05 to 3:07 p.m.
4:28 to 4:32 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH
The America First Party
Internal Security - Sedition

In response to a call from SA J. A. Sizoo, SA [redacted] of the Detroit office called and stated that that office was in possession of a copy of the petition which Smith is circulating.

[redacted] said that copies of this petition are being circulated at various meetings but as yet the Detroit office had no information as to whether he was sending any through the mail. Smith has, however, been in contact with several Congressmen, one of them being Congressman Reynolds of the House Military Affairs Committee.

The aforementioned petition [redacted] described as approximately 15 inches in length and 10 inches in width. In essence the petition states that its purpose is to urge Congress to provide mustering-out pay and rehabilitation expenses to army veterans. The petition may be signed by any American citizen over 18 years of age and instructions are contained thereon to send it to the following address:

Veterans Petition Committee
Post Office Box 459
Detroit 31, Michigan

[redacted] indicated that no information has been received indicating that Smith is attempting to form an association of War Veterans.

ACTION: SA [redacted] was advised to forward this petition to the Bureau by air mail, special delivery and to keep the Bureau advised of any additional information the Detroit office received concerning Smith's activities in connection with a possible veterans organization.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY 2005/MLG



*Partially info
has been sent to
my Bureau at
white H.S. 2/4/44*

Respectfully,

72-43818-406
FEB 5 1944

RECORDED & INDEXED

ALL b7c T
(5)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

REY: ~~MS~~

TO : D. M. LADD *DL*

CLASS. BY SP-9ATS/mh

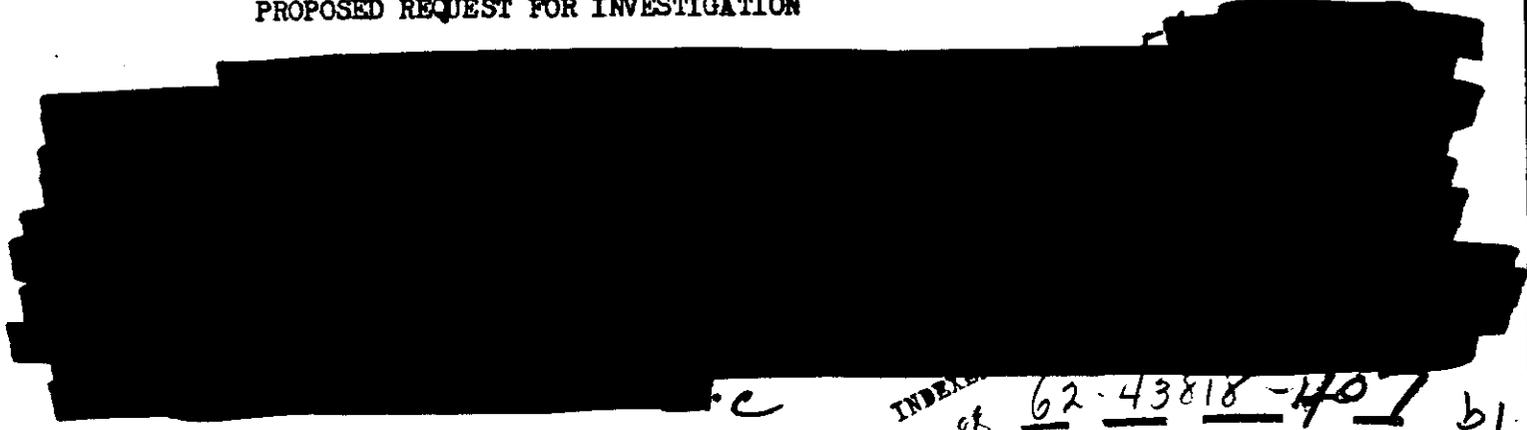
DATE: JANUARY 25, 1944

FROM : G. C. CALDWELL *GC*

DATE OF REVISION DATE 10/6/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH
PROPOSED REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION



ACTION: This data is called to your attention in order that you may be advised should a further request for the investigation be received from the White House.

7 FEB 9 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

INDEXED 62-43818-407 b1

We have no previous knowledge of this activity since

(S) - Ollku

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

DETROIT

FILE NO. 100-4754

REPORT MADE AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA	DATE WHEN MADE 1/29/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/13, 26/44	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c J
TITLE GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, WITH ALIASES			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>GERALD L. K. SMITH ADDRESSED A GROUP OF 175 PEOPLE AT FORT WAYNE, IND. ON 1-13-43. SPEECH CONSISTED OF RELATING HIS ACTIVITIES AND PLANS AND THE NEED FOR DEFEATING THE NEW DEAL AND REMOVING ROOSEVELT FROM OFFICE.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/6/92 BY SP9 BTJ/mk</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p>REFERENCE: BUREAU FILE: 62-43,818. DETROIT LETTER TO INDIANAPOLIS DATED 1/10/44.</p> <p>DETAILS: THIS IS A JOINT REPORT OF SA [REDACTED] AND THE WRITER. b7c</p> <p style="text-align: center;">AT FORT WAYNE, INDIANA</p> <p>ON JANUARY 13, 1944, GERALD L. K. SMITH CONDUCTED A MEETING AT HOTEL ANTHONY, FORT WAYNE, INDIANA. THIS MEETING WAS NOT PUBLICIZED IN FORT WAYNE IN ANY WAY AND SMITH ADVISED AT THE OUTSET OF HIS TALK THAT HE HAD ORIGINALLY INTENDED ON COMING TO FORT WAYNE TO SPEAK TO A FEW FOLLOWERS BUT HAD LATER DECIDED TO HAVE AN OPEN MEETING, AND HAD SENT NOTICES TO A FEW OF HIS FRIENDS.</p> <p>SMITH STATED THAT CAPTAIN EARL SOUTHARD OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO ADDRESS THE ASSEMBLY BUT CAPTAIN SOUTHARD HAD BEEN PREVENTED FROM BEING THERE BECAUSE OF SERIOUS ILLNESS IN HIS FAMILY.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<p style="text-align: center;">COPIES DESTROYED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">205 OCT 13 1964</p> <p>5 - BUREAU 2 - DETROIT (62-1126) 2 - INDIANAPOLIS</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>[Handwritten initials]</i></p>		<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">62-43818-408</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">JAN 31 1944</p>	<p style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">RECORDED</p>

100-4754
INDPLS.

SMITH INDICATED THAT THE ONLY PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS FOR HIM TO AGAIN MEET HIS FRIENDS IN FORT WAYNE, TO DISCUSS WITH THEM HIS RECENT ACTIVITIES AND HIS PLANS AND TO ALSO DISCUSS THE COMING PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

SMITH, IN HIS TALK, TOLD OF HIS TOUR THRU THE WESTERN PART OF THE COUNTRY, DIFFICULTIES HE HAS ENCOUNTERED AND OF THE WONDERFUL RECEPTIONS HE HAD RECEIVED AFTER EACH SPEECH. HE SAID THAT HE WAS BEING RECOGNIZED AS AN INFLUENCE AND QUOTED FROM NEWSPAPER ARTICLES THAT SEVERAL COLUMNISTS CONSIDERED HIM A FACTOR IN THE 1944 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

IN HIS SPEECH, SMITH SAID THAT HIS PRIME INTEREST AND THOSE OF HIS FOLLOWERS WERE IN RETIRING THE ROOSEVELT FAMILY FROM PUBLIC OFFICE. HE STATED "GIVE ROOSEVELT A FOURTH TERM AND STALIN AND HITLER WILL LOOK LIKE PIKERS COMPARED WITH BUREAUCRATIC CONTROL AND DOMINATION UNDER WHICH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WILL BE BURIED." HE BITTERLY DENOUNCED NUMEROUS ADMINISTRATION LEADERS, INCLUDING VICE PRESIDENT WALLACE, HAROLD HOPKINS AND SECRETARY ICKES.

HE STATED THAT THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY HAD MADE PLANS SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE DUPED IN THE 1944 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE REPUBLICANS WOULD NOMINATE "AN AMERICAN" FOR PRESIDENT, BUT HE STATED IF THEY DID NOT THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY WOULD CALL A NATION-WIDE CONVENTION AND NOMINATE THEIR OWN CANDIDATE. HE SAID A MAN OF WENDELL WILLKIE TYPE WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE. HE SAID HE WOULD NOT BE CONTENTED WITH WILLKIE NOR A WILLKIE STOUGE AND STATED HE WAS QUITE SURE THE REPUBLICANS FELT THE SAME WAY.

HE STATED THAT SUITABLE REPUBLICANS WHOM HE WOULD CONSIDER A SATISFACTORY NOMINEE FOR PRESIDENT INCLUDED VANDENBURGH, NYE, HOFFMAN, LINDGERGH AND FATHER COUGHLIN. HE STATED THAT SUITABLE DEMOCRATS WOULD BE SENATORS BURTON K. WHEELER OR ROBERT REYNOLDS.

SMITH, DURING HIS TALK, STATED THAT HE WAS HOPING FOR AND PLANNING FOR A LARGE MASS MEETING TO BE HELD AT THE SHRINE AUDITORIUM IN FORT WAYNE IN THE NEAR FUTURE. HE STATED HE HOPED TO BRING CLARE HOFFMAN, (REP.) OF MICHIGAN AS THE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER OR SOME OTHER EQUALLY SUITABLE INDIVIDUAL.

b7c, b7d
[REDACTED] HOTEL KEBNAN, FORT WAYNE, INDIANA, ADVISED THAT SMITH AND HIS WIFE ARRIVED AT THIS HOTEL AT 10:53 A.M. ON JANUARY 13TH AND CHECKED OUT AT 9:40 P.M. ON THE SAME EVENING. THE RENTING OF THE BALLROOM AT THE HOTEL ANTHONY WAS DONE BY PHONE FROM SMITH'S HEADQUARTERS AT DETROIT, MICH.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 31, 1944

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I am enclosing a clipping which was sent to Mrs. Roosevelt by one of her correspondents.

Mrs. Roosevelt will appreciate it if you will let her know about this story.

Very sincerely yours,

Malvina C. Thompson
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-7 BT/mc

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

RECORDED & INDEXED

*me he has
been sent to
Counsel
2/10/44*

*101 fl
FBI
34*

*more m...
1/3/44*

*ack rec'd
2/10/44
QFB*

162-43818-#
FEB 8 1944
[Signature]

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. Gurnea	✓
Mr. Hendon	✓
Mr. Pennington	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

GERALD SMITH SEEN LINING UP VETERANS

"Potential Storm Troop" Seen by Anti-Nazi League

by Frederick Woltman,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

Gerald L. K. Smith, one-time satellite of the late Huey Long and Father Coughlin, who doesn't quail at being called a demagogue, has found himself a new facet of endeavor. He is now busy collecting on a national scale the names of returned war veterans who have been mustered out.

His object is not entirely clear. But the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League to Champion Human Rights today called it "an attempted marshalling of the votes of American veterans into a potential storm troop service of an incipient Hitler."

Besides the names of the veterans, Mr. Smith is also willing to accept contributions of \$1 to \$100, and up, according to a letter dated "January — 1944" which arrived in New York today.

Muster-Out Pay.

The salutation was directed to "My Dear Patriotic Friend" and enclosed a No-Postage-Stamp-Necessary business reply envelope, addressed to Mr. Smith as Director and Organizer, America First Party, Detroit, Mich.

One purpose of collecting the names of the returned veterans, he says, is to form a "National Committee" to guarantee mustering-out pay "from \$500 up" for every man in the armed services.

While heretofore Mr. Smith has hinted at forming a third party ticket, along isolationist lines, for the Presidential campaign, this is not indicated in the letter except, perhaps, for the opening sentence: "This is one of the most important letters I have ever written you."

Promises Leadership

The letter talks about "international politicians and international bankers" who "squander our natural wealth on foreigners." And it promises "a leadership meeting in every center in the United States" and petitions filled with 1,500,000 names.

"Whether you are able to donate a large or small sum of money to this noble crusade," adds Mr. Smith in a P. S., "please rush your contribution."

A blank headed IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT! IMPORTANT! urges that the name, address and branch of service of a returned veteran be filled in.

Called a Menace.

This gathering of veterans' names by the former Townsend pension plan promoter was called "a menace to the public welfare and safety" by James H. Sheldon, administrative chairman of the Anti-Nazi League. "The only question is which of the people's agencies should inquire into such a situation," Mr. Sheldon said.

TRUE COPY

COPIES DESTROYED
20 OCT 13 1964

ENCLOSURE
62-73818-409

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/hm

104
JLW:WJ
2-4-44

RECORDED
62-43818-409

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am in receipt of the communication dated January 31, 1944, from Miss Malvina C. Thompson, with enclosure, referring to the actions of Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan, regarding the question of payments for veterans of this war. The article refers particularly to Smith's efforts toward collecting names of discharged war veterans on a national scale. The enclosure is being returned herewith.

May I at the outset advise you that Mr. James Barnes, Administrative Assistant to the President, in response to his request, was furnished on February 1, 1944, a summary memorandum setting forth pertinent data in the possession of this Bureau as to the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith in this connection. Attached hereto is a digest of the information which has been received to date concerning the actions of Gerald L. K. Smith in circulating "Petitions to Congress" calling for a "rehabilitation bonus" for personnel discharged from the Armed Forces. The letter cited in the enclosure to Miss Thompson's communication has been distributed by Smith to his adherents in an effort to have these petitions signed, but to date there has been no indication that he has taken any definite action toward forming any veterans' organization.

There is enclosed one of the petitions in question as of possible interest to you, and as a matter of further information I want you to know that all data of pertinence which have developed relative to the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith are being referred to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice for appropriate prosecutive analysis.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-802/afk
ON 10/6/82

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR
FEB 5 12 56 PM '44
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED - HVI
FEB 3 2 10 PM '44
J. Edgar Hoover

Enclosure

- Tolson _____
- E. A. Tamm _____
- Clegg _____
- Coffey _____
- Glavin _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Acers _____
- Carson _____
- Harbo _____
- Hendon _____
- Mumford _____
- Starke _____
- Quinn Tamm _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
★ FEB 3 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEB 14 1944

John

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

Record of Telephone Call or Visitor

Jan. 27, 1944

Time 4:40pm

Name Mr. James Barnes tele thru
Whitehouse switchboard,
(Adm. Asst. to the President)

Referred to _____

Details:

When advised Mr. Hoover was out of the city, Mr. Barnes asked to speak with the Acting Director and was accordingly transferred to Mr. Tamm after checking.

5pm
Mr. Tamm's office advised Mr. Barnes stated he had seen some clippings concerning forms which are being sent to discharged servicemen in an effort to start a new veterans organization, and Barnes desires to know about this. Mr. Tamm told Barnes that we are presently looking into this matter and he will be advised what we find out.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

mdh

DATE

10/6/82

RECORDED BY SP-1013/kl

45818-410

DECEMBER 1944

Handwritten notes: "Barnes", "Mr. Tamm", "Mr. Hoover", "Mr. Barnes", "M/T"

Handwritten initials: "M/T"

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



EAT:KLW

Call: 4:40 P. M.

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

January 27, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 BJS/mhw

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Handwritten signature

Mr. Barnes of the White House was referred to me by your office. He advised that he had seen several clippings relating to the efforts of Gerald L. K. Smith to form a new veterans' organization by sending forms to discharged soldiers.

I informed Mr. Barnes that we are checking this matter and that it has been referred to the Criminal Division for study as to whether there is a violation of any Federal Statute.

Mr. Barnes requested that we furnish to him a memorandum of this situation.



*lett to Mr. Barnes
memo & check
1/31/44
gph*

Respectfully,

Edw. A. Tamm

RECORDED

62-43818-411
FEB 4 1944

(9) JPH

60 FEB 17 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit - Michigan
January 28, 1944

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY [signature]

[Handwritten signature]

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the telephone conversation of this afternoon between Mr. Joseph Sizoo of the Bureau and Special Agent [redacted] of this office relative to the above-entitled matter. *b7c*

This is to advise that a confidential informant of the Detroit Office attended a SMITH meeting on January 18, 1944, and this informant has advised the Detroit Office that at this particular meeting Subject SMITH announced to those present that he was circulating a petition to be signed by all those present, said petition being addressed to Congress and asking Congress for some immediate legislation to provide cash for servicemen being mustered out of the service. A copy of this petition was furnished to the Detroit Office by informant and is being enclosed herewith.

~~UNCLASSIFIED~~ *[Handwritten signature]*

Along these same lines, this same informant also turned over to the Detroit Office a form letter which was circulated to all those on SMITH's mailing list, which form letter more or less announces the campaign to be instituted by SMITH relative to the mustering out pay for servicemen.

This same informant has advised that at his last two meetings, SMITH has commented to those in attendance that if they knew of any soldier who had been mustered out of the service, they should invite the soldier to attend the meetings and, if possible, to have the soldier sit on the platform and perhaps say a word or two to the audience.

COPIES DESTROYED

205 OCT 13 1964 The Detroit Office has not yet received any information to indicate that SMITH has been mailing pamphlets and enclosing self-



43 FEB 15 1944

RECORDED

62-43818-412

F B 22 FEB 1944

2 - [unclear] enclosure detached + sent to Mrs. Roosevelt 2/4/43 - [redacted]

b7c

Letter to the Director:

January 28, 1944

addressed envelopes to any of his followers. This fact, however, will be borne in mind during future inquiries made in instant case and the Bureau will be kept currently advised.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

 t
62-1126

Enclosures

b7c

AMERICA FIRST PARTY

GERALD L. K. SMITH
DIRECTOR AND ORGANIZER

BERNARD A. DOMAN
SECRETARY and TREASURER

POST OFFICE BOX 459
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Friend:

Shortly after the first of the year you will receive your calendar. We will not mail it until the Christmas rush is over.

I am sure that I do not need to remind you that your faithfulness and generosity makes it possible to carry on our dynamic and dangerous crusade. The evil and unpatriotic forces which would sell our Country to the highest bidder never cease to haunt us and persecute us. However, we glory in the victory which we believe lies ahead; namely, the end of New Deal tyranny and the restoration of true American liberty.

Our boys are dying by the thousands, and it is estimated that the invasion of Europe will cost us a million casualties or more. When our boys who live through this war return to us the least we can do is to prove to them that we have been true to America first. Furthermore, it will be a disgrace to the human family if we permit international conspirators to destroy the form of government and the American way of life for which our sons have died.

We are launching a campaign which you will hear about soon, looking toward the passing of a law which will guarantee a square deal for our service men as they are mustered out of the Armed Services.

It is time for us to quit giving away so much money to foreigners and begin to take care of our own soldier and sailor boys who are being discharged penniless.

Yours for America First,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS:L

Meat and butter for Americans first + Billions for victory, not one penny for internationalist Propaganda.
ORDER OF LOYALTY—ARMED FORCES FIRST—CIVILIANS SECOND—ALLIES THIRD—REST OF WORLD LAST.

"For God and Country"

PETITION



TO
CONGRESS
IN BEHALF OF
WAR VETERANS



WHEREAS, thousands and thousands of veterans of this war are now being mustered out of the service because of wounds, medical discharges, and various other reasons;

WHEREAS, billions of dollars are now being spent for non-military purposes on the citizens of foreign countries;

WHEREAS, veterans mustered out of the Armed Services are returning home virtually penniless;

We, the undersigned citizens of the United States of America, petition Congress to pass such legislation as will provide not only a cash payment upon being mustered out, but a rehabilitation bonus that will help the veteran to re-establish himself in the community.

NAME	CITY—STREET	STATE	ZONE
(First line reserved for person circulating petition)			



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

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

lem
Time: 10:30 to 10:33 a.m.

February 3, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, WAS.
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY (G), ET AL.

[Handwritten signature]

With regard to the letter from Malvina C. Thompson, Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt, dated January 31, 1944, [redacted] in my office phoned the Detroit office relative to the newspaper clipping forwarded with Miss Thompson's letter, indicating that Gerald L. K. Smith had distributed a letter requesting the names of mustered-out veterans in order that petitions might be filed requesting mustering out pay of "from \$500 up" for every man in the Armed Services.

Indications in the enclosure to Miss Thompson's letter were that James H. Sheldon, Chairman of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League of NYC, had obtained a copy of the letter and was alleging that it was evidence of "an attempted marshalling of the votes of American veterans into a potential stormtroop service of an incipient Hitler."

[redacted] talked to SA [redacted] of the Detroit office at this time and requested that the Bureau be immediately and telephonically advised whether any such letter has been issued by Gerald L. K. Smith and, if so, the exact content should be furnished to the Bureau telephonically. In addition, instructions were issued to Agent [redacted] that this case must be followed closely, as in the past, and any indication of the formation of a veterans group or of any organization along that line.

ACTION:

As soon as advice is received from the Detroit office, which should be some time late today, a reply will be immediately prepared to Mrs. Roosevelt incorporating the facts in the matter.

Respectfully,

[Handwritten signature]
F. L. Welch

35 FEB 8 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED



DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 RST/mr

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

38 FEB 15 1944

[Handwritten initials]

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.

- 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.

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

For your information: Serial 414 is not in file.

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

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan
January 26, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

REPLICATION DATE 10/6/82 BY *SP5/mw*

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. E. SMITH, with aliases
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION
(Bureau File 62-43818)

Hayden

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated January 14, 1944, in the above-entitled matter in which letter the Bureau requests specific information relative to the facts concerning the publication of the book entitled "And So They Indicted Me", said book having been written by J. EDWARD JONES.

This is to advise that under date of November 10, 1943, [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that SMITH had on that particular day received a communication from J. EDWARD JONES of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and that at that time JONES enclosed a check in the amount of six hundred fifty dollars for the alleged purpose of defraying the expense of publishing JONES' book.

[Large redacted block]

DEFERRED RECORDING

[Redacted block]



COPIES DESTROYED
5 OCT 13 1964

cc of book to Clark

COPIES DESTROYED
37 OCT 19 1964

memo to Clark
1/3/57
COPIES DESTROYED
21 OCT 21 1964

62-43818-415

F B I
22 FEB 1944

(5) - VTB
ALL 67D

Letter to the Director
January 26, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases

[REDACTED]

b7D

Information has been received from [REDACTED] to the effect that SMITH has been encountering difficulty in keeping up payments to the printer for the expenses incurred in the publishing of this book and that in fact SMITH is so far behind in his payments that the printer has refused to print any more books until he receives some compensation for the books already published..

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

It is being noted at this time also that four or five hundred of these books have been already forwarded to GERALD WINROD at Wichita, Kansas, and it is contemplated that additional copies will be sent to WINROD in the near future. SMITH has advised WINROD that the facts set forth in the book should be read very carefully by WINROD with the thought in mind that the information contained in the book might be of assistance to WINROD in the preparation of a defense by WINROD in the sedition case presently pending in Washington.

As previously reported to the Bureau this book has been published in the Detroit area in this manner inasmuch as SMITH has advised [REDACTED] that JONES was encountering a great deal of difficulty in securing a printer to publish his book in his vicinity, claiming that he was being discriminated against. SMITH more or less volunteered to JONES the fact that if he was not able to secure publication of the book in JONES' immediate vicinity, he, SMITH, would attempt to have the same published in this area, which was done at a later time.

b7D

In the event additional information is secured by the Detroit Office relative to further facts concerning the publication of this book in the Detroit area, the Bureau will be immediately advised.

There is being enclosed herewith a copy of the book entitled "And So They Indicted Me". There is also being enclosed at

Letter to the Director
January 26, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases

this time a form letter sent by SMITH to his subscribers, which form letter contains further information relative to SMITH's activities in connection with the distribution of this book.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

 *b7c*
62-1126

Enclosures ~~2~~

1372
2-9-44

BY SPECIAL DELIVERY

Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department Attention: [REDACTED]
J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

b7c

GERALD L. K. SMITH

For your information there is attached hereto a photostatic copy of the January, 1944, issue of a publication known as "The Cross and the Flag," which is published by Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit, Michigan.

You will note that the last page of this particular publication sets forth an article under the caption, "\$1000 for Each War Veteran," which relates to Smith's reported formation of a "Veteran's Petition Committee," the object of which appears to be that of circulating petitions to Congress calling for the payment of the sum of \$1000 to personnel discharged from the Armed Services.

Also attached are photostatic copies of three other pieces of literature which pertain to this same subject matter. Reportedly Smith has been disseminating literature of this type in considerable quantity during the past few weeks.

cc - Director of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8 BTJ/MLW
ON 10/6/82

Enclosure *W*

ah

62-43818-416

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FEB 12 1944
S. G. GIBBY ROOM

- Tolson _____
- E. A. Tamm _____
- Clegg _____
- Coffey _____
- Glavin _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Acers _____
- Carson _____
- Harbo _____
- Hendon _____
- Mumford _____
- Starke _____
- Quinn Tamm _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
★ FEB 10 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED 10
FEB 10 12 19 PM '44

D. J. [Signature]

EAST

SM

13 FEB 15 1944

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit - Michigan
January 31, 1944

PUBLICATION FILE

Director, FBI

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

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the recent request from the Bureau to the effect that this office attempt to ascertain further information relative to the activity presently being conducted by Subject SMITH with regard to "mustered out" pay for service men.

There is being transmitted herewith a copy of the January issue of "The Cross and the Flag" edited by Subject SMITH along with other printed material which was turned over to the Detroit Office by [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

The Bureau will be kept currently advised relative to any further activities by SMITH along these lines.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin
R. A. GUERIN, SAC

#62-11281-2
Enclosures (4)

62-23818-417
F B
31 FEB 14 1944



Memo to Clerk
to 4-2
cc me
2/19/44
gp/wh
RECORDED
INDEXED

[Handwritten signature]

b7D

[Handwritten initials]

③ *[Handwritten initials]*

ENCL BEHIND FILE
ENCL F
25
31
4

JPHa:WLLJ
2-9-44

43818-417

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

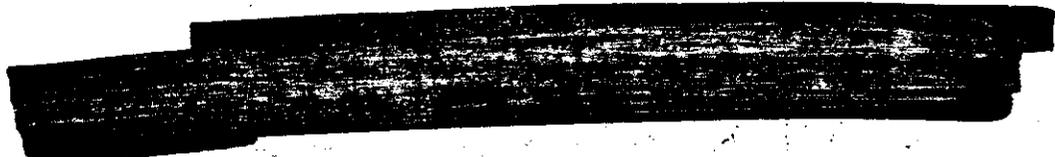
J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

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

Reference is made to our previous correspondence concerning the subject matter and especially to my recent memorandum furnishing you with certain data relative to Smith's use of the name "Veteran's Petition Committee" in disseminating petitions calling for more substantial pay for discharged personnel from the Armed Forces.

For your further information in this regard there is attached hereto a photostatic copy of the January, 1944, issue of subject's publication, "The Cross and the Flag." You will note that the last page of this particular issue of the magazine carries the caption, "\$1000 for Each War Veteran," and sets forth certain comments relative to Smith's objectives in promoting his "Veteran's Petition Committee."

Also attached are photostatic copies of three pieces of literature concerning this same subject matter which Smith has reportedly disseminated in recent weeks.



b7D

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 BJS/...

- Tolson
- E. A. Tamm
- Clegg
- Coffey
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Acers
- Carson
- Harbo
- Hendon
- Mumford
- Starke
- Quinn Tamm
- Nease
- Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 3
 FEB 10 1944 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEB 21 1944

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

[Handwritten initials]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
January 26, 1944

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

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-8 BTJ/mc
ON 10/6/82

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

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

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth below the substance of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, which information was secured during the period from January 5, 1944 through January 24, 1944: b7D

Informant advised that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was encountering some difficulty with his printer relative to the payment to the printer for the publishing of "books". Informant stated that he was of the impression that SMITH was referring to the book published by J. EDWARD JONES "And So They Indicted Me". Informant stated that SMITH advised that the printer had seven thousand dollars worth of books for SMITH and that SMITH had figured he would receive about six thousand dollars in revenue from the books by Christmas time, but that they were two thousand dollars behind in their payment to the printer and the printer advised SMITH that the linotype operator was refusing to work until he received some further compensation. Hepworth
[redacted]
p 2 b7c

SMITH also advised at this time that GERALD WINROD of Wichita, Kansas, had been requested by SMITH to take one thousand copies of the new book. Informant advised that SMITH was attempting to make some arrangements with the Ford Motor Company for the employment of one [redacted] (phonetic), whose home address was [redacted] Ohio. SMITH has contacted [redacted] along these lines, but there is no information that this individual has been hired as yet. RECORDED
9
b7c

Informant advised further that SMITH had made reservations at the Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit for a meeting on February 1, 1944, and that he expected around one hundred fifty people to attend this meeting.



COPIES DESTROYED
20 OCT 13 1964

RECORDED
INDEXED

62-43818-418
FEB 1 1944
[Handwritten initials]

Op. 11

Letter to the Director
dated January 26, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases

Informant advised that SMITH under date of January 11, 1944, had been contacted by [redacted] of the New York Times and at that time [redacted] apparently interviewed SMITH relative to the activities of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

SMITH recently forwarded to [redacted] secretary to CHARLES SORENSON of the Ford Motor Company, six copies of the JONES book and six copies of the last issue of "The Cross and the Flag".

Informant advised under date of January 17, 1944, that SMITH had been contacted by a man by the name of [redacted] (phonetic), apparently connected with the Colliers magazine, and that [redacted] was to take photographs of SMITH. Along these lines informant stated that he was under the impression that the Colliers magazine was to run a feature article written by WALTER DAVENPORT relative to the activities of the SMITH group and apparently this story was to be accompanied by photographs.

Under date of January 18, 1944, informant advised that SMITH had forwarded two hundred fifty copies of the JONES book to GERALD WINROD.

Informant advised that SMITH had been carrying on negotiations for the rental of a hall at Buffalo, New York, with apparently negative results. SMITH has contacted JOSEPH STOFFEL of Buffalo and apparently STOFFEL is to complain of the discrimination being made against SMITH to the Buffalo city authorities.

Informant advised that he had received information to the effect that SMITH was contemplating having a meeting at the Franklin Auditorium in Cleveland, Ohio, under date of January 31st, at which meeting SMITH intended to have as a speaker Mrs. JOSEPH RICHARD, who was to relate her experiences in Russia. Mrs. RICHARD was apparently a recent speaker in Chicago under the auspices of Captain EARL SOUTHARD.

Under date of January 21, 1944, SMITH contacted [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, at which time he advised [redacted] that he had a friend, approximately forty-five years of age, who had just served two and one-half years in the Army, who was a college graduate and who thought along the same lines as SMITH and [redacted] SMITH at this time was apparently attempting to secure a position for this individual with the Ford Motor Company. SMITH on a later occasion advised [redacted] that the name of this individual was [redacted] (phonetic).

It is being noted at this time that under date of January 21, 1944, which is the same day that SMITH contacted [redacted]

ALL
b7c

Letter to the Director
dated January 26, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases

relative to the above, the Detroit Office received information to the effect that [redacted] had on that day checked in at the Tuller Hotel in Detroit. It is believed that there is a great possibility that the [redacted] whom SMITH contacted [redacted] about might be identical with [redacted], founder of the American Patriots, Incorporated, Greenwich, Connecticut. The Detroit Office files also reflect a letter to the Bureau under date of January 17, 1944, which sets forth the fact that the Detroit Office had received information to the effect that [redacted] had recently been discharged from the Canadian Army and was contemplating going to New York City. b7c

On January 23, 1944, informant advised that he had just received information to the effect that GERALD WINROD had requested information relative to the two hundred books he had ordered from SMITH the preceding week. At this time SMITH was advised by WINROD that WINROD desired an additional two hundred books. SMITH then advised that he had a reserve of about eight hundred books set aside for WINROD.

At that time SMITH asked WINROD whether or not it might be feasible for WINROD to carry on an open debate with one of his outstanding opponents. WINROD stated that he was not entirely in accord with SMITH's idea at the present time although SMITH stated that he merely thought that WINROD might challenge the individual and that in all probability the individual would refuse to debate after which SMITH and WINROD could state that the opposition was afraid to debate.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin
R. A. GUERIN, SAC b7c

[redacted] b7c
62-1126
cc 100-7295

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
Attention: Mr. O. John Rogge
J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

UNITED STATES vs. JOSEPH E. McWILLIAMS, ET AL;
GERALD B. WINROD, DEFENDANT; SEDITION.

RECORDED

62-43818-418

The Bureau has been informed by a confidential source of information that Gerald L. K. Smith of Detroit has recently sent Winrod several hundred copies of a book entitled, "And So They Indicted Me", written by one J. Edward Jones. Allegedly Smith has suggested to Winrod that he should read this book very carefully with the thought in mind that the information contained therein might be of assistance to Winrod in the preparation of his defense in the instant case. No further clarifying data as to this particular remark on the part of Smith is available but reportedly Winrod has requested several hundred additional copies of the book and apparently contemplates disseminating them to his followers. A photostatic copy of the book, "And So They Indicted Me", is attached hereto and in the event you are interested in referring to the Criminal Division's files concerning Smith and Jones, you will find that numerous reports pertaining to these individuals have heretofore been furnished to the Criminal Division. It appears that at the present time Smith is actively engaged in helping Jones promote and sell the book.

Further information has been received to the effect that during the latter part of January, 1944, Smith communicated with Winrod suggesting that it might be appropriate for Winrod to issue a challenge to Reverend Leon Birkinhead of New York City (or possibly a Dr. Riley of Minneapolis, Minnesota) to debate certain issues of current importance, pertaining apparently to the instant case. Reportedly Smith is of the opinion that this debate should be promoted and publicized in a sensational fashion and should be held at Detroit. Reportedly Smith further indicated that he believed "the opposition" would not accept and that the meeting could nevertheless continue, thereby putting "the opposition" in the position of being "afraid to meet the issue." From the information made available it appears that no definite plans in this regard have been made and that the whole project is in a tentative stage.

If additional information of pertinence relative to the above-discussed matters is received, you may be certain that the Bureau will bring such data to your attention.

Enclosure

- Tolson _____
- E. A. Tamm _____
- Tracy _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED
 FEB 3 1944
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mh

Handwritten notes and signatures including "LWS", "Rogge", and "TJH".

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Acers _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Starks _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

F. B. I. RADIOGRAM

FROM RIO DE JANEIRO [REDACTED] NR 414 3:09 PM EWT

RE GERALD L. K. SMITH. REFERENCE YOUR RADIOGRAM 658 DATED [REDACTED] THE QUOTE DOCTOR UNQUOTE WHO CONTACTED SMITH ON [REDACTED] IS APPARENTLY IDENTICAL WITH [REDACTED] OF DELRAY BEACH, FLORIDA, SUBJECT RIO DE JANEIRO REPORTS DATED [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] LAST AND ALSO SUBJECT OF INVESTIGATION BY MIAMI AND DETROIT OFFICES. [REDACTED] CEL SUBJECT, WITH WHOM [REDACTED] IS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT AND COMMUNICATION, WAS GIVEN POWER OF ATTORNEY TO PROCESS TIME MAGAZINE IN RIO DE JANEIRO COURT. LIBEL SUIT BROUGHT HERE ON BASIS [REDACTED] ARTICLE BY TIME CHARGING [REDACTED] WITH MALPRACTICE. PROCESS DIRECTED AGAINST [REDACTED] TIME REPRESENTATIVE IN RIO DE JANEIRO, NOW IN THE UNITED STATES AND LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR. SUIT NOT CONCLUDED BUT SUPREME COURT HAS HELD IT HAS JURISDICTION TO HEAR CASE. SUGGEST [REDACTED] BE INTERVIEWED IN THE UNITED STATES FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS. SHE MAY BE REACHED THROUGH TIME AND LIFE OFFICES, NEW YORK CITY. DETAILED REPORT FOLLOWING.

RECEIVED

[REDACTED] 3:58 PM EWT

not necessary any info as Smith case is covered OK

CLASS. BY SP-8BTJ/MLW

DATE OF REVIEW 10/6/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-43818-419

35 [REDACTED] b1

(5) MLW

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT**

FILE NO. **100-4156**

REPORT MADE AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	DATE WHEN MADE 2-7-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-2-3-44	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] SA RA b7c
TITLE GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was; THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: 1944 Minnesota automobile license plate 337-782 assigned to [REDACTED] b7c

Automobile described as a 1937 model Pontiac, Tudor Sedan. St. Paul indices reflect information that father of [REDACTED] and "one son who is studying for the ministry often express some pretty rough talking in favor of Germany". [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] not registered for Selective Service in [REDACTED] County LDB #1, Moorhead, Minnesota.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

- R U C -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] ^{10/6/92} dated 1-28-44, BY SP-8 BTJ/hk b7c

DETAILS: AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA:

[REDACTED] in the Minnesota Automobile Registration Bureau, State Capitol, St. Paul, advised reporting agent that 1944 Minnesota Automobile license plate was registered in the name of the owner, [REDACTED], which automobile was described as a 1937 model Pontiac, Tudor Sedan, bearing motor #6-361350. b2
b7D

[REDACTED] Minnesota Highway Department, Driver's License Bureau, 1279 University Avenue, advised that there was a registration for an [REDACTED].

The place of business or employment address of [REDACTED] was set out as the Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Mo.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<p>COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 13 1964 Op. 21</p> <p>⑤ - Bureau 2 - Detroit (62-1126) 3 - St. Louis (1 - ONI, St. Louis) (Inf.) 2 - St. Paul</p> <p>76 FEB 22 1944</p>		<p>62-42010-420</p> <p>RECORDED</p> <p>FEB 9 1944</p> <p>1944</p>

100-4156 - St. Paul

The following description was noted on the Driver's license registration:

Age: [REDACTED]
Height: [REDACTED]
Weight: [REDACTED]
Eyes: [REDACTED]
Hair: [REDACTED]
Race: [REDACTED]
Sex: [REDACTED]
Occupation: [REDACTED]

b7c

The previous drivers license issued to [REDACTED] was number 7A1792 with an address of Georgetown, Minnesota.

The indices of the St. Paul Field Division disclosed information submitted by letter dated May 29, 1942 by [REDACTED] Sheriff of Clay County, Moorhead, Minnesota, regarding an [REDACTED] with a reference made to [REDACTED] son, possibly identical with [REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised that an [REDACTED] who operates a farm just on the edge of town, age about 55 years, who had recently moved into the vicinity from North Dakota, has one son who is studying for the ministry and who is often also expressing "some pretty rough talking in favor of Germany - the same as the old man".

b7c
b7D

AT MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA:

[REDACTED] Clay County Local Board #1, advised that her records reflected a registration for an [REDACTED] but that there was no record of a Selective Service registration for an [REDACTED]

b7c

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

100-4156 - St. Paul

INFORMATION

Copies of this report are being sent to the St. Louis Field Division for information purposes only, inasmuch as the undeveloped lead set out in reference report for St. Louis reflects that there may be further investigation in that area of the individuals who would contact subject.

FLR

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

SL FILE NO. **100-6013**

REPORT MADE AT Saint Louis	DATE WHEN MADE 1-28-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1-14, 15, 17, 18, 20-44	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, alias Gerald L. K. Smith; AMERICA FIRST PARTY			CHARACTER OF CASE SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

GERALD L. K. SMITH of Detroit, Mich. and Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER of Denver, Colo., and their wives spent January 14 and 15, 1944 in Saint Louis, Mo. SMITH had written to perhaps sixty-four individuals in the Saint Louis Area for the purpose of private conferences; however, only six people contacted him, all of whom were former Coughlinites and America Firsters. None of them are powerful figures in Saint Louis, but all are of "crackpot type". Newspapers give SMITH little publicity, some of which is unfavorable. One of main purposes of SMITH's visit was to contact Mr. WALTER A. MAIER, Professor, Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, and Director of the Lutheran Hour, which is broadcasted over four hundred stations and reported to have from twelve to fourteen million listeners. They spent considerable time together and MAIER appears in accord with SMITH's ideas. GERALD B. WINROD, indicted Seditonist, telephonically contacted SMITH to find out where he can reach him with an urgent letter. SMITH and SPRINGER are concerned over the outcome of the Sedition trial, and while SMITH is confident prosecution will be unsuccessful, SPRINGER is much concerned about his own future and feels that he will be indicted. SPRINGER cannot understand why he has not been questioned about WINROD as he has openly supported him and accompanied him on a trip to Puerto Rico. Both believe they are furthering CHRIST's cause and if they go to jail it is GOD's will and the outcome is in GOD's hands. SMITH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-2/BJC/MLC

COPIES DESTROYED
205 OCT 13 1964

[Handwritten Signature]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 143818-421
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Detroit 2 - Denver 2 - Saint Paul 2 - ONI Saint Louis 2 - Saint Louis	32 JAN 31 1944 <i>[Handwritten Signatures]</i>

Saint Louis File #100-6013.

makes preliminary plans for meeting of four hundred to five hundred in Saint Louis in March, 1944, and then will later hold a "big rip snorter meeting and raise hell". He is assembling mailing lists of all Isolationists, anti-Administration people, and individuals who have been against the United States entrance into the war. His plan is to consolidate all of the Isolationists and then will support the Republican Party unless WILKIE is nominated, whereupon the America First Party will put up candidates. Indication that SMITH feels he will be its presidential nominee. SMITH and people who contacted him in Saint Louis are Isolationists, anti-British, anti-Semitic, anti-Communist, anti-Russian, anti-New Deal, and anti-ROOSEVELT. SMITH is stressing large mustering-out pay for servicemen and easy benefits for veterans. SMITH says he is distributing petitions to get Father COUGHLIN back on the air. He claims close friendship with Representative CLARE HOFFMANN, ARTHUR WANDENBURG, Mrs. ERNST LUNDEEN, Reverend ISLAND L. MARION, C. NELSON SPARKS (involved in Hopkins mystery letter), and Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS. Former leader of America First Committee in Saint Louis denies that the America First Party has any connection with their movement.

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Details:

I. NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

The afternoon newspapers on January 14, 1944 published short articles on the back pages of this edition that GERALD L. K. SMITH, Organizer and Head of the America First Party in the United States, was in Saint Louis to confer with members of his party preliminary to perfecting the organization in Saint Louis and Southern Illinois. SMITH was accompanied by HARVEY H. SPRINGER of Denver, Colorado, regional Head of the America First Party in the Rocky Mountain Section, Mrs. SMITH,

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who assists her husband in his organization work, and Mrs. SPRINGER. SMITH told reporters that he expected to be in Saint Louis through January 15, 1944 and would confer with sixty-four "key individuals" in Missouri and Southern Illinois, with all of whom he has been in correspondence. He plans to make arrangements for a large mass meeting at which he, SPRINGER, and Captain EARL SOUTHARD of Chicago, Head of the Citizens Committee of America, will speak.

Efforts to organize the veterans of the present war who have been discharged from service are being made by SMITH, who said he is forming a Veterans Committee of the America First Party. He has been distributing petitions to these veterans urging Congress to provide a "mustering-out pay". SMITH said, "We are for more money for the veterans and less money for political 'hoondogging' in other countries".

The morning newspaper, The Saint Louis Globe-Democrat, on January 15, 1944 published a very short article relative to GERALD L. K. SMITH's attempt to organize former members of America First and other Nationalist Groups. It sets out that SMITH is seeking to form an America First Political Party who will enter a third party candidate, probably Colonel CHARLES WINDBERG or Senator GERALD P. WIE, in the November Election "If the Republicans nominate WOODBELL WILKIE or anyone of WILKIE's sentiments". The article reports that a Globe-Democrat reporter interviewed Mr. JOSEPH FORSEMAN, the last President of the Saint Louis Chapter of the America First Committee. Mr. FORSEMAN advised that the America First Party had no connection with the former America First Movement and declared that "Someone is always using the name of an organization for their own purpose".

SMITH is described as head of the so-called "Committee of One Million", and publisher of a magazine, "The Cross and the Flag". His western leader, HARVEY SPRINGER of Denver, Colorado, is described as national head of the "Defenders of the Christian Faith".

The Saint Louis Post Dispatch on January 15, 1944 published a picture of SMITH and SPRINGER and their wives sitting in their suite at the Hotel Statler, and also a very short editorial, which describes SMITH as the "Well known rabble-rouser who is in town to rouse himself a modicum of rabble." The editorial comments that SMITH is not a candidate for a key to the city, but that he will nevertheless find no door locked against him as the spirit of liberalism exists in Saint Louis.

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"Saint Louis has lived through the Big Wind of 1896, the Yellow Fever Epidemic of 1878, and diverse other events of similar nature. It can take in stride the SMITH visit of 1944, which may not even cause enough of a ripple to make a mention in the history books".

During SMITH's stay in Saint Louis frequent mention was made to an article published in the Saint Louis Post Dispatch on December 26, 1943 written by a Staff Correspondent of the Post, Mr. SPENCER R. McCULLOCH, who interviewed SMITH in Detroit, Michigan. The article is entitled, "GERALD L. K. SMITH -- Rabble-Rouser, Fishing the Pools of Native Fascism for Political Power in 1944 and 1943." This long article goes into detail about SMITH's background, taking him back to the days of HUFY LONG and the "Share our wealth" crusade. It sets out the names of individuals with whom SMITH has had contact and his views on national and international affairs. The article mentioned that Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER, Pastor of a Baptist Church in Denver, Colorado, publishes the "Western Voice" and was and still is an ardent America Firster. The article is not complimentary to SMITH.

II. ACTIVITY IN SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI ON JANUARY 14, 1944

The information obtained during SMITH's stay in Saint Louis was obtained from various confidential sources.

GERALD L. K. SMITH registered at the Hotel Statler at 9:50 A.M. on January 14, 1944 and was assigned to a suite of rooms numbered 816 and 815. Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER and his wife also registered and were assigned to Room 806. The SMITHS and SPRINGERS had dinner in SMITHS' suite along with Dr. WALTER A. MAIER, Professor, Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, Missouri, and Director of the Sunday afternoon Lutheran Hour, which is broadcasted over the Mutual Network. After dinner they were joined by another Professor from Concordia Seminary, whose name is possibly [REDACTED] b7c who has been a teacher for twenty-two years. It is believed that [REDACTED] was brought to the hotel by a student at Concordia Seminary whose name is [REDACTED]

During the day SMITH was chiefly concerned with getting in touch with the various Saint Louis newspapers and the only other outside call was made to Delmar 5903, which is the non-published number of the Lutheran Laymen League, 3558 South Jefferson, Saint Louis, Missouri. It is possible

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that this had something to do with contacting Dr. WALTER A. MAIER of Concordia Seminary, which is a Lutheran Institution.

Confidential sources could not determine the discussion which took place during the dinner, however, this office was informed of the following discussions:

MAIER asked SMITH his opinion as to a negotiated peace with Germany, however SMITH made no direct reply to this question. SMITH spoke of a young man whom he had contacted that afternoon, and apparently was not at all in sympathy with him, and mentioned how this young man ridiculed sources of information, which SMITH had quoted, such as HENRY ~~FORD~~. This young man had brought up the rubber question and SMITH said that all of the statements which he had ever made concerning rubber had been checked into by [redacted] or [redacted] of the ~~DU~~ Chemical Company. The essence of SMITH's statements on the rubber situation, apparently had been that the only rubber shortage the United States had had, was that brought on by the English rubber interests, and that there was eight pounds of rubber in every bushel of wheat here, and that the shortage of rubber in the United States, at the present time, is artificially produced by the present government in favor of English interests after the war. b7c

Election

Apparently SMITH was anxious to win over Dr. MAIER to their cause, as MAIER has the largest religious program on the air. SMITH was subtly complimentary to MAIER and MAIER seemed pleased with these comments and to have this opportunity of conferring with SMITH. They started talking about the presidential elections, and SMITH suggested that MAIER hold on until June 1st and allow the "enemy" no opportunity to get him off of the air, and then after June first, he could say most anything he wanted. At this point SMITH also mentioned that after the Republicans were successful in electing their candidate, they would have complete immunity to say whatever they wished. In speaking of the Republican Party, he indicated that their group would support the Republicans, unless they would put up an Internationalist candidate, such as WILKIE, and indicated that then another party would be demanded by the public, because their ideas are so deeply enrooted in this country. When asked by MAIER as to whom SMITH thought would be the Republican candidate, he advised that it would probably be "a compromise between our group and the Internationalists." SMITH said that it had been conceded that their

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side was victorious at Mackinac Island, and that they had served an ultimatum on those meetings at Mackinac (Meeting of Republican leaders); that they had also won a victory in Chicago by having the convention held in that city. He further stated that Col. ~~MCCORMICK~~ was the savior of freedom in the United States, and that only after the "enemy" who is now entrenched in Washington has been removed, would the public know how near they had come to losing their freedom. He also stated that we would never know how close we came to disaster until history has been written. Some of the candidates which SMITH said would possibly be nominated, were BRICKER, MACARTHUR, VAN DINEBERG, DEWEY, all of whom he referred to as weak candidates, in fact, it is his opinion, neither side has a strong candidate, and the "ABRAHAM LINCOLN has not shown up".

This group was against President ROOSEVELT, and the present Administration, and spoke of the influence which the Reds have in our Government. SMITH related the story that he had told LOU ~~MAYON~~ before he went to Washington to take a position in the O.P.A. He warned ~~MAYON~~ that he better be careful of the Reds, and ~~MAYON~~ looked upon him as though he did not know of what he spoke. Subsequently he heard ~~MAYON~~ give a talk before the Advertisers Club in Chicago and after he spoke SMITH approached him and ~~MAYON~~ then acknowledged that SMITH was right, and in fact, had not even painted the picture as bad as it actually is.

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In Commenting on the New Deal and its economics, SMITH told the story, possibly getting it from ~~MAYON~~, that one of the younger economists who had something to do with hiring people for the government, eliminated one individual because he had learned his economics over ten years ago and believed that those principles do not fit in with the new theories of economics.

SMITH explained how he had been a good friend of ~~GEORGE MURPHY~~, the brother of ~~FRANK MURPHY~~, presently on the Supreme Court Bench. He explained that he very seldom writes letters to people, but that he wrote a letter to ~~MURPHY~~, complimenting him upon his criticizing ~~FRANKFURTER~~ for trying to make laws according to his own ideas, regardless of precedent. He explained that ~~FRANKFURTER~~ and his 200 lawyers scattered through the government made these laws which they know were unconstitutional, but ROOSEVELT had supposedly packed the Supreme Court, so that when those laws would be brought up for decision, the packed Supreme Court would hold them constitutional. SMITH said, however, that it shows the genius of our

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scheme of counterbalances in our government in that it was prevented, and that although the Court was supposedly packed, the judges were still individualistic enough that they would not go against what they knew was right. SMITH spoke as though he knows FRANK MURPHY.

The discussion touched on the proposed National Service Act, and SMITH is of the opinion that if it is fully enforced, it will cause a revolution.

SMITH said "If I were diabolic and just wanted revenge, I would pray that the National Service Act would pass because of the repercussions". He also mentioned the fact that if ROOSEVELT does win he will have a Republican Congress which will tie his hands.

The entire group apparently agreed with this, and added individual comment. One of the women appeared utterly amazed that a woman could be placed in some position as dictated by the Government. SMITH explained that they had such an act in England, and one day his friend RAY DENNIS, the Times Correspondent in London, had his young secretary drafted for some war work and he was greatly inconvenienced in being forced to break in a new girl for that work.

SMITH and SPRINGER spoke of having met somebody in Saint Louis who had just come in on the train who, although he was not well versed in the Bible and was rather profane, came very close to predicting the Future Alignment of States in Europe. SPRINGER apparently bases this new alignment as being prophesied in the Bible. He explained that he could never reconcile how Russia, based on Communism, was going to eliminate the Jews, and that STALIN is not a Communist and a worse tyrant than the Czar, and that his next big step would be to eliminate the Jews. This man may possibly be a lawyer for FORD. They spoke of various preachers on the air who preach the full gospel and mentioned [redacted] in Grand Rapids, [redacted] and KAUER as being the only exponents of the true Gospel and in this respect they further complimented Dr. KAUER, in that he was the only one with courage enough to "really fight sin". They spoke of Dr. KAUER having a radio audience of twelve to fourteen million, with a four hundred station hook-up. b7c

SMITH told of an incident happening at the University of Minnesota, when he was there a week or two ago. He explained that they have a few hundred theological students and after SMITH had given a talk at some hall

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in Minneapolis, the president of these students came to SMITH and asked him if he would not talk before them. SMITH was quite amazed that this fellow would stick out his neck to invite him to speak before this group and cautioned him about it. SMITH was very pleased to speak to this group of 100 young people, both men and women, who really believe in CHRIST.

In this entire conversation there was frequent mention made of doing GOD's work, fighting sin, in referring to the present Administration as "the enemies", and indicating that a sinful crowd presently had control of the government and it was their duty as churchmen to recognize that they also had a duty to their country, and that even though they were churchmen, this did not prevent them from engaging in this activity. They spoke very derogatory of politicians, and indicated that in their mind politicians were weak, vacillating individuals with very little mental ability.

As MAIER was leaving, he invited SMITH and SPRINGER to visit him at Concordia Seminary on the following day. As MAIER was leaving, it was found out that this individual [REDACTED] was present as he had not made any comment. Mention was also made by one of the men about "When we get through with the Ozark people". b7c

After Dr. MAIER left, SMITH and SPRINGER started discussing their contact with him. They were surprised that Dr. MAIER had so openly come to the hotel in view of the fact that undoubtedly at least six "operatives" were hanging around the lobby. They explained his coming either because "he was so naive as to not be aware that the newspapers might the next day run an article with headline, "Dr. MAIER confers for Three Hours in a Hotel Room with America's Number One Fascist", or that he was so powerful that he did not care. They were inclined to believe that it was because of the latter. SPRINGER asked SMITH whether he should advise [REDACTED] about their contact with Dr. MAIER, but SMITH indicated that MAIER had several times asked him not to mention that he was going off of the air on September 1st, and if [REDACTED] would then contact Dr. MAIER he would know that they had mentioned it and MAIER apparently does not want this information to get out for ten days. b7c

Reference is made to the "fine mailing list" which would be available through Dr. MAIER and in the course of the conversation, SMITH

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stated that he was going to watch for the slightest opportunity to write a letter in support of SMITH's cause over MAIER's signature. In his words "I am going to work my psychology on him and if he weakens but a moment I will slip it in on him". He stated to SPRINGER that because of the enormous following that MAIER had one such letter might change the history of the United States.

SMITH indicated that he was very reluctant to use the telephone for fear it was tapped. In this regard mention was made several times concerning the fact that their activities may be observed and watched by government agents. They were also very much concerned about the indictments which have been returned against various persons of their own kind, including JOE MacWILLIAMS, et al. They were wondering whether there would be further indictments and they spoke of the possibility that they, themselves, might be indicted. SPRINGER and SMITH both said that they were glad they were doing what they were, and that they felt they were furthering GOD's work and were they indicted it would be GOD's will. SPRINGER said that he would not hire a lawyer, nor spend one cent in defending himself, but would leave it in the hands of GOD. He also made some mention of letting "The Government, the FBI and others do what they will". He said that he possibly would not be able to raise a cent for his defense but SMITH explained to him that although he might lose ninety out of a hundred of his followers, the ten that remained would furnish him more money than all of the rest combined and cited the example of JOE MacWILLIAMS. He explained that JOE MacWILLIAMS was arrested on a trumped up Selective Service charge, as he had moved from hotel to hotel and did not advise his draft board and was arrested on a Friday and held to Monday as there were no judges available over the weekend. However, a woman heiress and her husband from the North Shore of Chicago, came to him and advised him that regardless of how much bail would be, they would put it up and give him as much money as necessary for his defense. SMITH estimated that they might furnish MacWILLIAMS as much as \$25,000, simply because he was a martyr and was being persecuted. One of the women mentioned that it was unthinkable that they would indict preachers and she believed this had caused resentment among the people.

They mentioned Dr. GERALD B. WINROD and spoke as though they were quite friendly with him. They also mentioned Father COUGHLIN, and some other priest. They felt that WINROD was indicted through this priest and pointed out the fact that he was not mentioned in the book, "Undercover",

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although the book mentions even the small fry. Both SPRINGER and SMITH made the statement that there is the possibility that they might have to go to jail, and they are of the opinion that GOD will see them through. They continually mentioned the fact that they were ministers of the Gospel. SMITH apparently fully realizes that association with him may be held against people and especially Dr. MAIER, but he said, "What is wrong in three Christian preachers getting together and having a conference in a downtown hotel room".

Mention was also made of a man named ~~LOEBCK~~, whose contact SMITH seemingly highly rates. SMITH explained to SPRINGER that LOEBCK has available the full list of America Firsters and other sympathizers with their cause in this area. LOEBCK was to meet with them in SMITH's room at 3:00 P.M. January 15, 1944. SMITH cautioned SPRINGER as to mentioning this contact to others whom they were to deal with. Just prior to this conversation some mention was made of a man named [REDACTED] b7c

From the conversation between SMITH and SPRINGER, their chief purpose for coming to Saint Louis was to contact Dr. MAIER because of his large radio following. They were very interested in broadcasting and broadcasting networks. They believed the Administration was tying up the networks and that only Mutual was releasing time. They mentioned an individual by the name of KELLY who they said is presently staying on a lower floor in the hotel and that this fellow KELLY was the president of some new broadcasting organization which was gathering up radio time. SMITH explained that KELLY had built up several radio preachers--the inference being that these preachers were of the same type as SMITH. They mentioned in this respect the fact that Dr. MAIER would be off the air in September and also that Mutual was taking away the time from some of the other preachers previously mentioned, but that as far as they know this time was sold for commercial broadcasts. SMITH and SPRINGER were very much concerned about this radio broadcasting setup and were apparently trying to see that their interests would be protected. KELLY's exact place in this conversation could not be clearly determined. There was some indication that KELLY might be the agent for some unknown person in getting together ~~this various radio time~~ or was possibly trying to form a new network.

Regarding Dr. MAIER, SMITH also mentioned that their visit to Saint Louis had been very worthwhile, because talking to him was the same as speaking to four hundred preachers ~~in an auditorium inasmuch as his talks~~

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are broadcasted through four hundred stations. Apparently June 1st is the time when MAIER is to open up politically in his radio sermons.

SMITH is apparently planning a tour of the southern states with talks at Mobile, Saint Petersburg, Tampa, and then back to Mobile. SPRINGER is to be the advance agent for this speaking tour and asked SMITH for leeway so that he could work out a proper schedule. They also mentioned the fact that the southern newspapers did not play up the indictments of JOE MacHILLIANS, et al, and SMITH was apparently in the South at the time these indictments were announced, and had to rouse an A. P. man out of bed to get the original teletype ticker to obtain the names of those indicted. They apparently feel that the South is not very much concerned about these indictments. SMITH feels that the cases will not be brought to trial until June and although he apparently was concerned over the fact that prosecution might be successful, one of the women felt as though there was considerable doubt to that. SMITH was concerned over the fact that if those cases are successfully prosecuted, there will be further indictments and said it is possible that he might have to go to jail.

SPRINGER has a congregation of his own in Denver, and was concerned over the fact that he might lose this congregation, and asked advice from SMITH as to what he did when he lost his. SMITH explained that he had had clandestine meetings with HUEY LONG in Washington, D. C. just as these clandestine meetings and that when it was published and he got back to Louisiana, his congregation was divided and he did not know whether to immediately resign, or wait until later. He was apparently proud of his association with HUEY LONG. He commented that it seems that every time he lifts his head GOD rubs it in the dirt. In this connection he was talking about some young preacher protege of his who was apparently quite egotistical and needed "humbling by GOD".

III. ACTIVITY IN SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI ON JANUARY 15, 1944

GERALD L. K. SMITH and Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER were occupied until about 10-15 A.M. on the morning of January 15, 1944 preparing a newspaper release, which set out the purposes of their visit in Saint Louis in connection with organizing the America First Party and also sets out the objectives of this group.

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Visit to Concordia Seminary and Interviews by Star-Times Reporter

About 10:30 A.M. [REDACTED] a student from Concordia Seminary, called by Hotel Statler to pick up SMITH and SPRINGER. He was driving a 1939 or 1940 Gray Pontiac Coach bearing 1943 Minnesota License No.337-783. He took them to Concordia Seminary and brought them back to the Hotel about 12:15 P.M. b7c

SPRINGER and SMITH were very pleased with the "fine thing at Concordia" and what a fine experience it was to see these young men who have so much faith in CHRIST. SPRINGER commented, "It was a great treat for them to meet you (SMITH)". "They looked at you as though they were meeting the next president of the United States".

Mr. O'LEARY, a reporter for the Saint Louis Star-Times, had been in to interview SMITH earlier in the morning. However, inasmuch as SMITH could not give him very much time, arrangements had been made for O'LEARY to come back at 12:30 P.M. O'LEARY had been a reporter for a newspaper in New Orleans, possibly the New Orleans Item, and used to follow SMITH and HUEY LONG all over Louisiana.

O'LEARY was late in coming and SMITH was aware of the fact that the City Editor of the Star-Times is a Jew and SPRINGER believes "It is a real mean paper. It is a New Deal paper". SMITH commented that the newspaper is full of Jewish lies and the reporter was probably late because of a conference with his editor as to questions to ask him.

SMITH, however, waits for this interview and O'LEARY does come about twenty minutes late. SMITH told O'LEARY that it is not their purpose to split the Republican Party, however, should WILKIE be nominated, their entire movement would become a separate political party because the people of the United States would demand it. O'LEARY inquired how they expected to get on the various state ballots and SMITH explained that that is one of the purposes of his present tour--to study the election laws of various states and see how this can be accomplished. SMITH furnished O'LEARY various publications and articles giving information about his background and views. SMITH explained that they are for relaxation in the war effort and that the America Firsters are not traitors. SMITH particularly points out an article written about him by RAY PUCKER, a commentator. SMITH in answer to the direct question said that they are against subsidies and that this is a scheme of the

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Government to hold the people in line for the next election. When asked how else inflation can be controlled, SMITH said that inflation can be controlled by price control.

O'LEARY asked about SPRINGER's background and it was explained that SPRINGER came to Saint Louis specifically to confer with SMITH. He is pastor of the largest Baptist Church in Colorado, and is also head of eleven hundred ministers of the Gospel who are backing SMITH. These eleven hundred preachers are from all over the United States. SPRINGER explained that when the persecution of preachers began, he sent out a five page letter to 228,000 persons suggesting that they band together to "preserve CHRIST'S cause in America". 89,000 of these 228,000 were preachers. O'LEARY, in his questioning, tried to bring out that of this large number, 1100 was a very small percentage who were in sympathy with the idea, but SPRINGER and SMITH explained that they did not ask all of the preachers who answered to become members of the Committee. They explained that every time a preacher speaks against the New Deal over the radio, his radio time is taken away, and that they as preachers think that they have a part in changing things in the next election.

O'LEARY said that one of their men thought that he saw SPRINGER at Concordia Seminary and SPRINGER immediately replied that that had no connection whatsoever with the America First Party, and that SPRINGER had a personal friend who was showing him the buildings out there. He emphasized that it had no connection with the movement and that any statement to the effect that it did would be entirely false. He explained that he went out there for relaxation inasmuch as they had heard that it was a wonderful institution.

SMITH explained that there was a steady stream of people coming in to see him from Southern Illinois and Missouri and that he is ascertaining the best possible place to hold a meeting (It is to be noted that very few people did actually come to see SMITH and that he was continually exaggerating the number of people he was conferring with, and to the people who contacted him he exaggerated the importance of other individuals whom he had seen).

Just as O'LEARY left, there was a telephone call for SMITH from Dr. MAIER's office. A Star-Times Reporter had been there and Dr. MAIER wanted to make sure that SMITH would not say anything showing his connection with him. SMITH told him that they had explained to the

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reporter that they were out there looking at the architecture.

In the conversation which followed, SPRINGER said, "I cleared that up to the reporter. I took that idea out of his mind (the idea that Dr. MAUER had anything to do with their movement). SMITH answered, "No you didn't. You told him what you hoped he would believe, but you didn't take it out of his mind. My hunches are always right. We should never have gone out there. I refused Dr. MAUER three times, but he insisted." They then conjecture as to how the reporters found out that they had been at Concordia Seminary and apparently were not aware of the fact that the Star-Times Reporter had tailed them out to the seminary.

SMITH believes that he is being watched and Mrs. SMITH related an incident which happened to her in Buffalo, New York, which convinced her that she was being followed and checked upon.

Subjects' Comments Relative to Newspaper Articles
Published During Stay in Saint Louis

Relative to the short article which appeared in the morning edition of the Globe-Democrat, the comment was made by SPRINGER and Mrs. SMITH that "At least they didn't 'smear' us."

Mr. and Mrs. SMITH laughed at the editorial which appeared in the Post Dispatch on January 15, 1944, which called SMITH a "rabble-rouser", he commenting, "We made it. At least they didn't 'smear' me. That is what I came for."

SMITH and SPRINGER did not know the identity of CARL SCHURZ, the German-born naturalized citizen who was a member of Congress for many years and theorize that he is probably a Jew.

SMITH was also very anxious to determine from the people whom he contacted what the reaction was to McCULLOCH's article in the Post on December 26, 1943. He could obtain very little information about this, but mention was made that it probably did him more good than harm. It did attract the attention of individuals who were sympathetic with his ideas and at least one of these individuals did write to him in Detroit because of this article (JOSEPH W. KOESTERS).

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Miscellaneous Comments Made by the SMITHS and SPRINGERS

SMITH told O'LEARY, the Star-Times reporter, that the America First party had no local branch, but that plans were being made for this. He explained that the people who are interested in their movement are the Republicans and the America Firsters. He referred O'LEARY to an article concerning himself in Times Magazine where the Governor of Vermont called SMITH and several other individuals of his type, "The four year locusts". SMITH explained that he, himself, "is not a candidate for anything". He refused repeatedly to announce any names of individuals with whom he was working.

While Mrs. SMITH and SPRINGER were engaged in a general conversation she commented that RUSSIA is doing so well because so much of the war material is being furnished by the United States. She commented relative to an article in the newspaper giving the number of men who will be inducted into the United States Army in the coming months and she is against having such a large number of men called into the armed forces. SPRINGER related an incident which happened to him in the lobby--the cashier mentioned that "Undercover" must be a good book because WALTER WINCHELL recommends it, whereupon SPRINGER told her that "This is the reason why it undoubtedly is no good". When Mr. and Mrs. SMITH discussed the large number of men to be inducted by July 1, 1944, SMITH commented in derogatory terms about the Internationalists and the United Nations crowd.

While SMITH and SPRINGER were discussing plans of their movement, SPRINGER inquired as to what the smart thing might be in regard to publications, and SMITH merely commented, "More than we have done". SMITH and SPRINGER were concerned with the coming Sedition trials. SPRINGER is of the opinion that five or six Nazis have been thrown in as defendants with the rest of those indicted in order to confuse the issue. However, SMITH believes that the lawyers will not permit this. SPRINGER wonders whether the government thinks that Reverend GERALD B. WINROD, one of the indicted Seditionists, has no followers and SMITH explains that the followers are isolated and therefore they feel that these followers can do no harm. SPRINGER asks, "Suppose those who have been tried are found guilty and have to go to jail?", but SMITH is of the opinion that they will not go to jail as they will appeal any such conviction.

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SMITH then explained to SPRINGER his position in this matter, especially in regard to his connections with the individuals who had been indicted. His mind has not been made up as yet and it will depend upon the evidence which is introduced. If from that evidence he thinks that WINROD and the others are guilty, then he will issue a statement to such effect and show that he had no connections with this group. If he does not believe that they are guilty, he will organize meetings, give speeches, et cetera for their defense. However, he believes that if they are convicted, it will be upon perjured evidence and technicalities.

SPRINGER feels as though he has a great decision to make as he is concerned that he might become involved in these indictments, especially because of his contact with WINROD. SMITH says that WINROD was not the man, as he does not impress people when they meet him. He does not believe that WINROD's skirts are entirely clean, but that the things that WINROD said were said in peace time when we were at war with no nation and he does not believe that a man can be condemned for accepting help--no matter where the help comes from (apparently meaning help from Germany). SMITH commented that [REDACTED] (phonetic) looks very downcast and acts very strangely when he is around SMITH. b7c

SMITH tells SPRINGER, "Even if they convict WINROD, they can't get you". SPRINGER then explains that he was the only public figure who supported WINROD and that if WINROD is convicted, it will ruin SPRINGER in certain circles. SMITH encourages SPRINGER, but SPRINGER is very much worried. Apparently SPRINGER had arranged for WINROD'S meetings in the Denver Area. SMITH stated that WINROD had "two strikes against him", but when he started enumerating them, he ended up with three strikes, listed as follows: (1) He visited Germany; (2) His wife (apparently either comments that the wife has made or some activity of the wife; and (3) Three former employees of WINROD will testify against him.

SPRINGER is very surprised that the FBI has never asked him about WINROD inasmuch as he went to Puerto Rico with him and helped him in Denver, Colorado. SMITH is of the opinion that SPRINGER has not been questioned as he is in favor of WINROD. SMITH also commented that he has had no direct contact with WINROD since 1932.

Although SMITH and SPRINGER sometimes wandered off of the topic of the indictments, it apparently was uppermost in their mind as the conversation always came back to this topic. SMITH said, "They indicted

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[REDACTED] (phonetic) in New York and then dropped it". SMITH wonders if the defendants have any good lawyers and believes that SPRINGER will be subpoenaed as a defense witness for all of the defendants. They have not heard anything concerning this, but both of them feel as though they will be subpoenaed to Washington, D. C. for the trials. b7c

SMITH commented about the local situation in Saint Louis and apparently he had asked someone in Saint Louis to hold a meeting and preside over it, but that this individual refused. SPRINGER is afraid that he will be "smeared" in Denver. He comments about his congregation and said that he has mentally taken his congregation from small ideas to bigger things and that this year, 1944, he will bring them up to still bigger things. SPRINGER is very much concerned about his own future and the fact that if the Seditionists presently under indictment are successfully prosecuted, he will then be indicted. SMITH also has some concern about this, but feels as though the prosecutions will not be successful. SPRINGER says that he has vowed that he will not spend any money for his defense, but will leave everything in the hands of GOD as he sincerely feels that he is doing GOD'S work. Both of these men are convinced that they are doing the right thing and will follow along the course which they have begun.

Another one of the purposes for SMITH's visit to Saint Louis was to decide on some individual in this city who could rent a hall for him and then "sit on it" so he wouldn't lose it. He also wants to concentrate on Saint Louis inasmuch as "It is right in the middle".

Miscellaneous: Persons Referred to in Conversations

SMITH is apparently on friendly terms with Reverend IRLAND L. MARION of Pontiac, Michigan, and some reference was made to him defying the O.P.A. in regard to gasoline rationing. This individual is believed to be identical with the MARION who addressed a Detroit meeting of the America First Party on June 8, 1943 in Detroit, Michigan. SMITH and SPRINGER feel as though the Administration is trying to suppress preachers.

SPRINGER inquired of SMITH whether he had written to Senator JOHNSON. SMITH said, "You mean the Ultimatum?" and then answered that he had written to the Senator.

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SMITH commented that he had received a letter from BOB RENOLES, (United States Senator) and SPRINGER asked, "Will he be hearing from JERRY?", to which SMITH answered, "He is working on it for me".

Some camera man for Collier's Magazine has been trying to see SMITH.

Telephone Call from GERALD B. WINROD

GERALD B. WINROD tried to get in touch with SMITH by telephone calling long distance; however, SMITH was out of the room and SPRINGER spoke with him. SPRINGER said that he expects to be in Florida in March, but was leaving for home (Denver, Colorado) on the afternoon of January 15, 1944 so that he could be at his church for services Sunday morning. He explained that SMITH was leaving for Chicago on the night of January 15 and would be there on January 16 and 17 at the Blackstone Hotel. SMITH intended leaving for Detroit on Monday night, January 17. SPRINGER commented to WINROD that they had had favorable statements in the newspapers in Saint Louis and that up to that time there had been no "smearing".

After the telephone conversation was completed, SPRINGER explained that it was WINROD and that WINROD had tried to get him in Florida. WINROD would not discuss anything over the telephone but wanted to know where an airmail special delivery letter could reach SMITH at the earliest possible moment and SPRINGER told him to send it to Chicago. WINROD had related a story to SPRINGER concerning a small weekly paper which was published in Wichita, Kansas. The editor of that newspaper ran an editorial on the front page which had appeared in the Chicago Tribune relative to the indictment of WINROD and the other Seditonists. Apparently this was an editorial upholding those indicted. The editor of this small weekly said that as he walked down the street the day after his paper came out seventeen business men stopped him and gave him cigars for running the editorial.

Persons Who Conferred with GERALD L. K. SMITH

1. [REDACTED] About 2:30 P.M. [REDACTED] apparently one of the individuals to whom SMITH had written prior to his coming to Saint Louis, telephonically contacted SMITH. [REDACTED] had heard SMITH talk at the Coliseum on some occasion. SMITH inquired of [REDACTED]

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where a meeting could be held for about four to five hundred people and asked [redacted] to send him a list of the names of his friends. Arrangements were made for [redacted] to come to the Hotel Statler and [redacted] was to try to bring all of the America Firsters names.

In the late afternoon [redacted] came to the Hotel Statler and SMITH inquired whether he had gotten to the Cleveland Convention. [redacted] answered that he had not, but that [redacted] (phonetic) had been the representative. [redacted] explained that he had been active in the America First Committee and lives in Lemay, Missouri, next door to his sister, [redacted] who was also very active in the America First Committee. [redacted] operates a general merchandise store in Lemay and has a small hall available there. [redacted] was a Coughlinito and held a membership card. SMITH wanted a list of the Coughlinites and [redacted] advised that he had a list of names and could get his daughter-in-law to copy them.

[redacted] explained that the FBI had investigated him as he had been charged with holding meetings. He admitted that he talked a lot and that he is radical. SMITH started stressing the point that the men were released from the armed services without a cent and that the Government was spending six million dollars in South America--wasting money on foreigners and not giving the American soldiers anything.

SMITH said that under FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, in order to be a good American you could not be an America First, but a Russia First, or England First. He also started playing on [redacted] emotions with such phrases as "Our boys first", etc. SMITH asked [redacted] whether he thought it would be possible to get enough names to circularize in order to get four hundred or five hundred people together for a meeting. [redacted] thought this possible and when asked where he thought would be a good place suggested the Triangle Hall.

In answer to the question, [redacted] said he was willing to act as SMITH's agent to rent a hall. SMITH and [redacted] talked of plans for this meeting. SMITH does not want anyone to come to the meeting, which would be small, except those who were in possession of an invitation. After the small meeting they would have a "big rip snorter of a meeting and raise hell". [redacted] agreed to help SMITH obtain a hall and the details would be worked out in correspondence between them. [redacted] advised that he did not have a telephone, but his sister's number is Watson 2921. He had tried to get in touch with his sister to come down

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to the hotel with him as she would have been glad to meet SMITH and talk with him. However, he could not get in touch with her. [REDACTED] explained that he had tried to get people to come to meetings before the war and that he told all of the men then that "You have no time for meetings now, but you will have time later on to die" (He apparently meant die in war).

SMITH explained that they were forming a big movement of men just like [REDACTED]-no stuffed shirts. He said that Saint Louis was the only town which has not had a nucleus of America Firsters or some other Isolationist group who continues to meet, upon which he could build a meeting. SMITH was also seeking to get names of other individuals who were "their kind of people" and [REDACTED] suggested a priest in Mattesa, Missouri, who is a scrapper, and also a pastor by the name of [REDACTED] who resides in a small town in Illinois. [REDACTED] agreed to get these names for SMITH and send them to him. [REDACTED] attended all of these types of meetings and SMITH told him that maybe he would send Mrs. LUNDEMAN down to Saint Louis for a meeting. In explaining who Mrs. LUNDEMAN is, he said that her husband, the Senator, had died in that "mysterious airplane crash". [REDACTED] was making some anti-semitic remarks and SMITH said, "They just don't realize how people are feeling". [REDACTED] explained that his sister had all of the names of the America Firsters and also stated that they were followers of Father COUGHLIN. SMITH commented that they were figuring on getting up a petition to get COUGHLIN on the air again. This was in answer to [REDACTED] question as to whether Father COUGHLIN would again be on the radio. SMITH also mentioned that he had sent out 100,000 petitions regarding mustering-out pay.

SMITH told [REDACTED] that he was going to Chicago from Saint Louis, but that his meeting in Chicago was a little different than here in Saint Louis as he was going up there to discuss strategy with other leaders in that city. He gave [REDACTED] four magazines, "Cross and Flag", and also a copy of some book. [REDACTED] commented that he would distribute them "at the shop". ([REDACTED] is now employed at Busch-Sulzer, Saint Louis).

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2. [REDACTED] first introduced himself to SMITH as [REDACTED] however, handed him a card which showed him his true name. He explained that he is 38 years of age and is employed in the office of the Public Welfare for the City of Saint Louis under [REDACTED]. In 1935 he was one of the young men who put on some meeting for SMITH here in Saint Louis, probably one of the Share-the-wealth meetings. SMITH asked [REDACTED] whether he was acquainted with [REDACTED] but he was not (In this respect it must be noted that SMITH tried to get a line on all of the individuals who contacted him as he was afraid that some person not in sympathy with his ideas might try to get his confidence in order to work against him).

[REDACTED] explained that he was active in the America First Committee, but that he also felt as though their cause was hopeless. He is a Republican and organized his ward for the mayor. He also explained that another individual with whom he worked in 1935 was a little fellow, an attorney, named [REDACTED] (phonetic). He explained that he is trying to get MILLER a job in the Collector's Office in the Saint Louis City Hall and that [REDACTED] is presently "pretty low financially" and drinks too much.

[REDACTED] is an egotistical individual who thinks that he is more or less of a power in Republican circles and he and [REDACTED] are going to get out a newspaper, size 8 X 12, containing eight pages. It will concern politics and [REDACTED] going to "raise hell with the Democrats". SMITH called [REDACTED]'s attention to his magazine, "Cross and Flag" and gives him a couple of copies. He informs [REDACTED] that he may use any of the material which he may read in "Cross and Flag" in his own newspaper without acknowledging the source.

SMITH said that he has always been anti-ROOSEVELT and asked what the reaction was in Saint Louis to McCULLOCK's article in the Post Dispatch. [REDACTED] believes that it had done more good than harm. SMITH then presented a book to [REDACTED] and said something about a man who had exposed Nazis in Washington, D. C. and referred him to page 42. On this page there is some story about ELEANOR ROOSEVELT's personal lawyer trying to get someone released.

SMITH inquired as to the nicest place a meeting could be held for about five hundred people and [REDACTED] suggested the Ivory Room at the Jefferson Hotel, or the Municipal Auditorium. SMITH likes to hold a

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meeting at hotels because the "sheenies" (Jews) do not object so much. SMITH inquired as to the leader of the Coughlinites in Saint Louis. However, [redacted] could not furnish this information, but mentioned an individual named [redacted] or [redacted] who held meetings a long time ago. SMITH also inquired if any "Isolationists or Nationalistic Groups are holding meetings in Saint Louis and [redacted] advised him that there was nothing going on lately except the regular Republican and Democratic meetings. SMITH wanted the names of some other active members of the America First Committee and [redacted] suggested [redacted]

[redacted] has just gotten [redacted] a job at the City Hall. SMITH was anxious to get some lists of former America First members and [redacted] was of the opinion that [redacted] might have such lists of former America First members and [redacted] was of the opinion that [redacted] might have such lists.. SMITH inquired, "What became of the boys at the Deutsches Haus (German house)? Are any of them in Jail?" [redacted] was unable to furnish any information.

SMITH then had [redacted] call [redacted] on the telephone and SMITH talked to him. He explained that he wanted a list of the America First members and said, "I mean a list of our kind of people--not the stuffed shirts--but the real folks". He asked [redacted] to come down to the hotel and have a chat with him and "See if we are going to keep our country this fall or give it to the Chinese or someone else. We America Firsters will show strength and will support the Republicans and get what we deserve from them".

After arrangements had been made with [redacted] for him to come to the hotel, SMITH showed [redacted] an article written by RAY TUCKER. [redacted] is very anti-semitic and made frequent reference to the Jews. He told of the newspaper he was going to publish and said that he would be helped in it by [redacted] who was formerly in the advertising business. He advised that the Saint Louis Post Dispatch and the Star-Times are New Deal papers, but that his newspaper will "kick the Democrats". He intends to first mail it out to about 1,000 people and then get subscriptions and then send it out to 2,000 the next month and keep it growing in that way. SMITH again told him that he could use any of the material which he wanted out of his magazine, "Cross and Flag".

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SMITH also explained that he wanted the name of some bright young fellow who is a sincere America Firster to use as a keyman in arranging to rent a hall. [REDACTED] had a young fellow in mind who has just been mustered out of the armed services with a medical discharge, who is about twenty-five years old and is anti-semitic. [REDACTED] also advised that maybe his brother-in-law, who is a chiropractor, may be able to serve in that capacity.

In further conversation SMITH said that he was against millions of dollars being spent in South America and that less money should be spent in foreign "boondoggling" and more money given to the veterans. He explained how men just getting out of the service do not get any money at all and for the disabled veterans, there is too much red tape before they can get any disability payments. He said that the proper care of veterans is real America First philosophy--our soldiers before anyone. He believes that the worst enemy of the soldier is FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT. [REDACTED] apparently is a HUEY LONG admirer and they started reminiscing about old days and SMITH commented that "It is too bad our man LONG was killed".

Along with other anti-semitic remarks, [REDACTED] stated, "The people can't see how there is a concentration of wealth in the hands of a few Jews". SMITH said, "We must be ready to mobilize the people at the end of this war and if we do not do it the keds will get them".

[REDACTED] has a son seventeen years old, who is in the army. His first name is [REDACTED]

SMITH was still anxious to get the names of other individuals who could go to the front for him in Saint Louis and [REDACTED] felt he could not do this because of his job at the City Hall. He did, however, say that there was a Holy Roller preacher by the name of [REDACTED] who used to live around Delmar and Euclid, and on one occasion [REDACTED] visited him in the Sir WALTER R. LEHIGH apartments. SMITH had [REDACTED] try to reach [REDACTED] at the RALPHIGH apartments, however, no one seemed to know him there. There was a [REDACTED] in the telephone book listed as living in Eureka, Missouri so SMITH had [REDACTED] try to get this individual to see if this was the man [REDACTED] had in mind. It appeared as though SMITH was anxious to get any kind of a person to come down to talk with him and appeared to be grasping at straws.

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█████ explained that in 1935 when SMITH was in Saint Louis he, the attorney named █████ and a fellow named █████ who is a little fellow and a conscientious worker, arranged for the meeting. █████ lives at █████ informed SMITH that there was a lot of unemployment in Saint Louis and when the big lay-off comes then is when SMITH's philosophies will come into their own.

SMITH was apparently playing for the support of the Coughlinites and asked █████ if they were holding any meetings. █████ advised in the negative. SMITH started bragging about his movement and said that he had had people coming in to see him all day (It is to be noted that this was not true).

As SMITH started blowing himself up, █████ followed suit and said, "I am an important young man in the Republican Party". SMITH asked █████ if he thought that BENNETT CLAY CLARK, Senator from Missouri, would be re-elected as "He is sort of our kind of a guy". █████ had no opinion about this. █████ also brought out that in 1935 he was one of the leaders in the Greater Saint Louis "Share The Wealth" Society.

█████ didn't want to become personal, but he wondered how SMITH managed to finance his movement. SMITH was more than glad to tell him and explained how many followers he has. He claimed that he had about 10,000 people who would send him from \$1.00 to \$5.00 whenever he launched a program. SMITH bragged as to his power in the Republican Party and explained that ARTHUR VANDENBERG was a close friend of his and that they had issued an ultimatum to the Republicans at Mackinac Island at Chicago telling them just on what basis they would support the party. SMITH explained that his greatest strength lay in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. He spoke of himself as being a power in the Republican Party and one of those who has undermined WILKIE.

SMITH asked █████ if anyone listens to Dr. MAIER of the Lutheran Hour. █████ did not know much about it, but stated he, himself, did not listen and did not know what support Dr. MAIER has.

3. DONALD LOHMECK: LOHMECK had apparently made arrangements on January 14 to come to the hotel to see SMITH the following day and they conferred for about a half-hour before confidential informants could furnish the text of their conversations. Mrs. VIRGINIA LOHMECK accompanied her husband. LOHMECK commented that Michigan was fortunate in having a

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representative like CLARE HOFFMANN, whereupon SMITH replied that he might send him down to Saint Louis as a speaker. SMITH exhibited to LOEBECK a bound volume of all of the issues of "Cross and Flag". He believes that it is a monthly test of the freedom of speech in the United States and every month that one sees it published one can feel assured that the freedom of speech has not completely died in this country. He said, "the enemy" controls the radio, press and motion pictures and that those means of expression are holding off the natural feelings of the true Americans. SMITH frequently mentioned RAT DEFEIS, who was in London since 1939 and who did an article recently on SMITH for the New York Times. LOEBECK made remarks which showed that he is anti-Churchill and anti-British. He explained that he had come from Paris in 1939 where he had studied piano. Prior to this conversation they were talking about the Jews and LOEBECK explained that he gave up the Piano because of his name--it not being Jewish.

SMITH told a story of how he suggested to members of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra that if they would get someone other than a Jew to direct it that the people would support it. He claims that this was done in Detroit and that they are having the biggest season they ever had. SMITH related the following story, apparently for LOEBECK's benefit as he took LOEBECK to be German: Information had come to certain medical circles that in Central Europe devils were being born, in Austria one with a tail, and in Berlin one with horns. However, the latest report was that a baby had been born in England with wings. SMITH commented that it was very sad, indeed, if everyone with German blood was to be considered a degenerate.

The LOEBECKS were active in America Firsters and VIRGINIA LOEBECK worked at the office. LOEBECK has a list of those who volunteered for work at the America First Headquarters.

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The LOEBECKS were invited to go out to dinner with the SMITHS and they went to the Castilla at 1115 Washington Street to eat. However, they had no contact with anyone there.

When they returned to the Statler Hotel SMITH told them that he felt that they were his friends and were with him (It is to be noted that SMITH was at first very cautious with the LOEBECKS). SMITH believes that the LOEBECKS are interested in "the crusade". LOEBECK is supposed to have 15,000 names which he is going to furnish to SMITH.

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4. [REDACTED] conferred with SMITH at the Statler Hotel, however, full details of the conference are not available. They did seem to get along quite well and [REDACTED] appeared to be a loud sort of individual and both he and SMITH heartily enjoyed each others company. [REDACTED] is supposed to have lectured through small towns in Missouri for the America First Committee and is quite enthusiastic. He is alleged to have lectured up to the time of the war. He is not known by the LOHECKS. b7c

5. JOSEPH W. KOESTERS: KOESTERS contacted SMITH early in the evening by telephone and some mention was made of a [REDACTED] (?) who has subscribed to SMITH'S magazine. He later came to the hotel and explained that he was active in the America First Committee, but when the war came "got cold feet" and his wife prevailed upon him to destroy a list of 200 to 300 names which he had. SMITH commented in this regard that if one confesses he is a real American, he is called a Kazi and the FBI is "sicked" upon him. He also said that it was the "sheenies" who "sicked" the FBI on those people, KOESTERS explained that he had formerly worked as a clerk in the Police Department and at the present time is engaged in the bicycle business. He had written to SMITH after he read the MCCULLOCH article on him in the Post Dispatch and he has six or more requests for SMITH'S magazine, whereupon SMITH gives him several copies. KOESTERS explained how prior to the war they had tried to hold a meeting at the Riverside Club, but a bunch of hoodlums from the V.F.W. or American Legion had tried to cause them trouble. SMITH commented, "The Jews have a way of getting Veteran organizations to do that". He explained that Captain MARL SOUTLARD, the leader of their group in Illinois, is a veteran and was wounded seventeen times in World War No. I, and is still getting medical treatment. b7c

KOESTERS believed LOHECK to be a sincere America Firster. KOESTERS explained that he has a lot of Father COUGHLIN'S newspapers and that recently he has written letters against the National Service Act. He again explained how he had lists of names, but that they were destroyed when his wife became afraid that it might cause them trouble. SMITH commented, "How the mothers would now have liked to have been in such an organization and kept their sons from war".

KOESTERS explained that he has traveled around the world twice and has lived in Africa and is thirty-six years old. He further contends that the British spend less than the United States for the war effort and the

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British were the ones who pushed our boys into it.

SMITH asked KOESTERS how many there were in his circle of friends who felt the same way he did. He answered thirty or forty. KOESTERS believes that he could probably get from seventy-five to one hundred people together should there be a meeting held in Saint Louis for about four hundred to five hundred choice people. He has key-men who are hard workers. SMITH inquired whether the Coughlinites were doing anything in Saint Louis and KOESTERS explained that the DeMOOR Brothers were most active in this field and that they used to publish the Social Justice Digest, but that now they were putting out some kind of new publication.

As the conversation continued, SMITH commented, "We are over the hump. There are too many of us". KOESTERS answered, "They can't do anything because if they would send us all to jail the jails would be filled". KOESTERS heartily recommended that the DeMOORS be contacted and advised that they were still holding Social Justice meetings, he thought, on the first Wednesday of each month. SMITH was very glad to hear this and was given DeMOORS address. KOESTERS personally acquainted with the DeMOORS and SMITH asked him to contact them and to write to him about it. KOESTERS gave his full name as JOSEPH W. KOESTERS, 4713 Virginia, Tel. No. Lockhart 2051. SMITH told KOESTERS that he would send him seventy-five invitations and the card would read, "This card will permit bearer to hear GERALD L. K. SMITH on (date) _____". KOESTERS told how he had been reported to the FBI and had been investigated. However, he had been a clerk in the Police Department and had found out about this investigation. He said, "How I got that information is nobody's business-- but I got it". He also explained that he was an air raid warden.

SMITH inquired of KOESTERS if he knew [redacted] and [redacted] who were HENRY LONG followers, but this was before KOESTERS' time. KOESTERS made comments which showed that he is extremely anti-New Deal and also against the British. He feels that ROOSEVELT follows the British in everything they do and that we followed them in such things as rationing and mobilization. KOESTERS had been told by DeMOOR to watch out for the British. KOESTERS explained that he had worked very hard for the America First Committee and had handed out pamphlets which he and another fellow printed on the steps of some church. Some man had come up to him and threatened to "knock his block off". The pamphlets read,

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"This is not our war". SMITH immediately asked very interestingly, "was he of military age?" KOISTERS advised that he probably was not as he looked to be rather old.

KOISTERS advised that he is married but has no children. His father and mother are dead and he is one of nine children.

They started talking about the Jews again and SMITH tells the story of a big meeting which had been arranged for him in Denver, Colorado but the day before it was held a Jewish Councilman had their permit revoked. One of the newspapers wrote an editorial questioning who ran the city--inasmuch as the city auditorium was involved--the citizens or the Negroes, Jews and Communists. Because of the pressure brought to bear the Mayor then permitted it to be held. However, the Communists gathered outside of the place and 300 police were there for protection. The house was filled and the Chief of Police came to SMITH and told him that they did not want any rough stuff, and SMITH told him that he would "cuss" ROOSEVELT and tear into the New Deal. The Chief of Police was skeptical but listened to the speech from behind the curtain, and during the intermission, SMITH went back there and the Chief of Police complimented him on the fine speech saying that it was the best speech he had ever heard. The Chief declined SMITH's invitation to come out on the stage, however, when SMITH got back in front of the audience he told them what the Chief of Police had said and called upon the Chief to come out and make a bow. The Chief did this and also said a few words.

SMITH advised that he and his followers were doing nothing to hurt the war effort, but they thought that America should be first and that the American veterans should be first.

KOISTERS told SMITH that his father-in-law is a distant relative of SMITH's, but no relationship could be established.

KOISTERS furnished SMITH a list of names which he had already written on a piece of paper who wanted to subscribe to the "Cross and Flag". He also had two other people "both brought from the other side" (apparently Germans), who would like to get copies, but who were afraid it would prejudice their positions. SMITH suggested that KOISTERS subscribed to three copies and then personally give the copies to these two persons.

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SMITH gave KOESTERS about a dozen copies of his magazine and also a copy of what he called a "sensational book" and referred him to Page No.42. He asked that these publications be placed wisely as he does not throw his literature away but places it where it can do the most good. KOESTERS agreed to be careful and strategically place the literature and stated that he had studied this situation and has a few friends whom he can really trust. He explained at this point that one person whom he thought was his friend reported him to the FBI and that the FBI did investigate him, but found nothing wrong as he had never done anything wrong and that this same friend later came back on his knees begging forgiveness.

SMITH, thinking that KOESTERS had been interviewed by the FBI, asked "what does the FBI say? what did they ask you about?" KOESTERS explained that he had not been interviewed by agents.

KOESTERS told SMITH that he had had an article published in the newspaper the day before and an examination of the Saint Louis Post Dispatch for January 14, 1944 shows an article published in the People's Column signed by JOSEPH W. KOESTERS. In this article he attacked an editorial which he believed advocated the Republican nomination of WENDELL WILKIE that on the basis to vote for WENDELL WILKIE would be practically the same as voting for the New (raw) Deal ticket. He set out in this article that he believed that if WILKIE is nominated and that ROOSEVELT runs for the fourth term the Republicans might just as well not vote at all "Unless a Nationalist Party comes into the picture".

6. [REDACTED]: A [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] telephonically contacted SMITH the morning of January 15, 1944. There is some indication that this woman was calling from Southern Illinois, and she asked whether she should have anything to do with the League of Women Voters. SMITH advised against this and described them as Internationalists, and inasmuch as they are not Nationalists, they would not be supported. SMITH is also against them because they are New Dealers. SMITH comments that the Administration apparently thinks that to be intelligent one must agree with them that millions of dollars should be sent to South America while the United States Veterans are released from the Army penniless. He claims the way to counteract Communism is with Christianism. Their position of isolationism and America Firstism is real basic Americanism and if the Republican Party does not base its candidate and platform on this basic Americanism, the America First Party will be formed. This, b7c

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SMITH explains, is why he is in Saint Louis. SMITH commented, "A lot of Protestant preachers mean well, but they have to depend upon their congregations."

This woman is one of the people to whom SMITH sent letters prior to his coming to Saint Louis and he explains that he sent letters to a group covering a one hundred mile radius around Saint Louis, including Southern Illinois. He asked this woman to write to him at Box 459, Detroit, Michigan, and that she should furnish him the name of some other woman and he will answer her letter.

7. [REDACTED]: [REDACTED] telephonically contacted SMITH and told him that she had been a member of the America First Committee. He reads to her a copy of the news release regarding the purposes of his visit to Saint Louis and the object of the America First Party. During the conversation, he mentioned that he is a good friend of Mr. SPARKS (very possibly C. WILSON SPARKS, former Mayor of Akron, Ohio, who has recently written the book discrediting WILKIE entitled "One Man-- WENDELL WILKIE". He also published in this book, "The Mystery Letter", which is presently in the newspaper. This letter tries to tie WILKIE in with HARRY HOPKINS). [REDACTED] furnished the following information concerning names of individuals:

[REDACTED] - Vinita Park
(phonetic)
Mrs. [REDACTED]
Address - 6 [REDACTED]
(who resides approximately 15 miles from downtown)

In regard to [REDACTED] the name [REDACTED] was mentioned. SMITH told [REDACTED] to send any names she had to him at Box 459, Detroit, Michigan. SMITH seemed to have considerable difficulty in getting rid of [REDACTED]

* * * * *

On January 15, 1944, calls were made from SMITH's room to Cabany 7094, which is listed under Cabany 1253 for the Dean's Office, Concordia Seminary, 801 Demund Street, Saint Louis County, Missouri.

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another call was made to [REDACTED] which is listed for [REDACTED] This is possibly a telephone call made by [REDACTED] b7c

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

There is some indication that SMITH tried to call Tel. No. Randolph 9547. However, there is no Saint Louis exchange by this name or anything similar.

SPENCER R. McCULLOCH, 115 Edwin, Kirkwood, Missouri, and his office at the Saint Louis Post Dispatch were trying to make arrangements for an interview with SMITH, and apparently there is some indication that McCULLOCH might go to Chicago or Detroit to see him.

The SMITHS made frequent mention of the fact that their son is in the United States Army and that they had not heard from him for eleven weeks.

HARVEY SPRINGER's wife's first name is EVELINE and she also has a brother (probably a step-brother) in the United States Army. Her real father lives in Downing, Missouri, and she is apparently on friendly terms with him. When quite young, her mother married her step-father, whom she also regards highly.

V. DEPARTURES

Reverend and Mrs. HARVEY SPRINGER left Saint Louis on the 10:15 P.M. Missouri Pacific train for Denver, Colorado, and Mr. and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH checked out of the Statler Hotel at 10:30 P.M. on January 15, 1944 and caught a midnight train for Chicago.

Just before SMITH left, a newspaper man contacted him and SMITH explained that a meeting would probably be held in the middle of February and that every active member of the Committee arranging for the meeting is a former America Firster. He said that the Committee of Preparations consisted of seventeen people, including business men, workers, Protestants and Catholics--a good cross section of America (It is to be noted that this is probably a typical SMITH exaggeration).

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XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

10 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) b7c, 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.
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- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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62-43818-421 pgs 32-41

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

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[REDACTED]

b7c

VII. MISCELLANEOUS

On January 14, 1944 a telephone call was shown on the hotel records coming from SMITH's room to Grand 1212. This number is listed to [REDACTED]. It is believed that the record is probably in error as the Globe Democrat Newspaper has the Telephone No. Garfield 1212. [REDACTED] is not shown on the list of the America First Committee.

b7c

[REDACTED]

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P E N D I N G

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U N D E V E L O P E D L E A D S

THE DENVER FIELD DIVISION

At Denver, Colorado, will furnish the Detroit Field Division with all pertinent information relative to Reverend HARVEY SPRINGER, if this has not already been done, especially as it might relate to GERALD L. K. SMITH and the present America First Party.

It is to be noted by the ^{NEVER} Detroit Field Division that SMITH claimed that the Chief of Police of Denver, Colorado was quite enthusiastic over SMITH's speech.

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION

At Detroit, Michigan, will furnish the Saint Louis Field Division with the background to this case, which may be of assistance. Will especially advise if there is any specific investigation desired and what the particular objective of the investigation is, if it is other than just observation and the development of a possible Sedition case.

THE SAINT PAUL FIELD DIVISION

At Saint Paul, Minnesota, will ascertain to whom 1943 Minnesota License tag No. 337-783 has been issued. It is to be noted that this is the automobile which an individual by the name of [REDACTED], a student at Concordia Seminary in Saint Louis was driving. The automobile was described as a 1939 or 1940 Gray Pontiac Coach. b7c

THE SAINT LOUIS FIELD DIVISION

At Saint Louis, Missouri, will keep in touch with the development of this movement in Saint Louis and the individuals connected with it.

Will conduct investigation regarding all of the individuals mentioned in the body of this report and correlated in the individual files of these subjects.

Will ascertain whether [REDACTED] was contacted by SMITH, or whether it was Mrs. DORLAND LONBCK, who made the call. b7c

SL File No.100-6013.



is: Office of Naval Intelligence
Saint Louis, Missouri

b7D

421

TITLE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,
alias Gerald L. K. Smith;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
CASE: SEDITION
SA: [REDACTED]
DATE: 1/28/44

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1-7-44
Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

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

For your further information in your consideration of the instant case, there is attached hereto a copy of a report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Saint Louis, Missouri, on January 28, 1944.

You will note that this report describes Smith's recent visit to St. Louis, Missouri, and especially his contacts there with Reverend Harvey Springer of Denver, Colorado, who is, you will recall, the subject of a separate pending investigation. You will further note that throughout the report several references are made to subject's and Springer's conversations concerning Gerald B. Winrod of Wichita, Kansas, who is one of the thirty defendants currently under indictment in the case, "United States vs. Joseph E. McWilliams, et al."

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/6/82 BY SP805/ah

62-43818-421

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- Clegg
- Coffey
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Carson
- Harbo
- London
- Murphy
- Quinn Tamm
- Nease
- Tracy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE: 10/24/57