



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**SILVERMASTER
(JULIUS ROSENBERG)
SUMMARY**

PART 5 OF 7

BUFILE: 65-56402

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8/24/48

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SILVERMASTER CASE - SUMMARY

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UNDERGROUND SOVIET ESPIONAGE ORGANIZATION
IN AGENCIES OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

PREDICATION

The purpose of this memorandum is to set forth certain charges against officials and employees of the Federal Government. These charges will be dealt with in detail and information arising from other sources and investigation will be coordinated in an effort to give an over-all view of the situation concerning underground Soviet espionage activities in the United States Government.

A time element exists in making a factual approach to the material set forth. Although the majority of the basic charges against the individuals mentioned herein concern activities dating back several years, these charges must be viewed from the fact that they only became available in November of 1945. Consequently the reader must consider the difficulty of actually proving these activities by investigation. The facts are strong in many instances and circumstantial in others primarily because of the disparity in time between the date of the activities and the actual report of these activities to the authorities. A determined effort has been made to produce as much actual and circumstantial evidence as possible, either to prove or disprove the basic charges. At the outset it is considered proper to make a statement concerning the source of the basic charges which will be outlined hereinafter. This source who became available and cooperative in November, 1945, for protective purposes in view of continued assistance being received therefrom, is being given the cover name of Gregory. All material originating with Gregory will be so designated and will be set forth as nearly as possible in the very words used by Gregory in reporting the material submitted.

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Background of Gregory

Gregory is an individual of American origin and descent, and was educated in both American and foreign educational institutions. Gregory possesses far above the average of academic learning. As far as political affiliations are concerned Gregory first came in contact indirectly with the Communist Party while attending one of the leading educational institutions of New York City. Gregory's first activity was as a speaker for the American

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

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League Against War and Fascism in late 1934 or early 1935. The American League Against War and Fascism was succeeded by the American League for Peace and Democracy, both of which have been reported from numerous sources to be and generally accepted as Communist front organizations. From contacts made while appearing as a speaker for the American League Against War and Fascism, Gregory was introduced to and became a member of the Communist Party in 1935 in New York City. Following this affiliation Gregory held numerous temporary positions having no relationship to Communist Party activities but at the same time in an extra-curricular manner participated in many of the activities of the Party and its fringe groups. As an example, Gregory, during the summer of 1936, served as an assistant to the Astorg Camp in Hesperock, New York, a summer camp for the Children of Soviet Nationals, attended by children ranging in age from 2 to 15. In June of 1938 through an employment bureau of the educational institution attended by Gregory, contact was made with the Italian Library of Information, an adjunct of the Italian Propaganda Ministry situated at 595 Madison Avenue, New York City. Gregory there came in contact with information which was thought of interest to the Communist Party. In a then sincere effort to assist the Communist Party, Gregory approached Ferruccio Marini and offered to make available to him what information was learned as a result of employment with the Italian Library of Information. Marini is a former member of the Communist Party of Italy, a former student of the Lenin School, Moscow, USSR; and an individual who since his arrival in the United States in 1928 has been active in the National Administration of the Communist Party. Marini returned to Italy in April 1947. Gregory remained with the Italian Library of Information until March, 1939. In the meanwhile Marini had introduced Gregory to an individual originally known only as "Tim". "Tim" was later identified by Gregory as Jacob M. Golos of World Tourist, Inc. After the introduction to Golos, Gregory delivered all information which was gathered dealing with the Italian Library of Information to him rather than to Marini. The activities of Golos will be set forth in detail hereinafter.

In September, 1939, at the instigation of Golos, Gregory secured a position as secretary to Richard H. Waldo, the President and owner of McClure's Syndicate which published and distributed the "Whirligig". Golos explained to Gregory that Waldo was suspected of being affiliated in some way with the German and the Communist Party was seeking information concerning his activities. Gregory, in fact, was successful in securing considerable information regarding Waldo between September, 1939 and February, 1940, but no facts significant in proving what the Communist Party desired were forthcoming. In April, 1941, the United States Service and Shipping Corporation, 212 - 5th Avenue, New York City, was organized, and Gregory became an official of this organization, which was dissolved in October, 1946. This company was established with money belonging to the Communist Party - USA, or to the Soviet Union, made available by Earl Browder, then National Chairman of the Communist Party. According to Gregory, Browder made available \$15,000 and John Hazard Reynolds, the original President, who was personally selected by Browder for this position, submitted another \$5,000 to augment the capital. While it has been claimed by Communist Party functionaries that the funds supplied by Browder in this connection were funds of the Party, Gregory's superiors in the Soviet Intelligence Service described the funds as "Russian Funds". The United States Service and Shipping Corporation, Gregory states, was a cover firm for Soviet espionage, in the same category with World Tourist, Incorporated, with which Golos was associated

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up to the time of his death on November 27, 1943. The ostensible business purpose of United States Service and Shipping Corporation was to engage in the shipping of parcels and merchandise to Soviet Russia. U

Synopsis of Gregory's Courier Activities

As outlined above, Gregory's first contact with the Soviet Intelligence Service was with an individual known only as "Tim" who, in view of definite identification at a later date will hereinafter be referred to as Jacob M. Golos, former Secretary of World Tourist, Inc. World Tourist, Inc., was a New York corporation chartered on June 10, 1927. It is interesting to note that Golos pleaded guilty to an indictment along with World Tourist, Inc., charging failure to register as agents of the Soviet Government in March, 1940. He received a fine of \$500 and a jail sentence of four months to one year which was later changed to probation. U

After the passage of an initial probationary period, when Gregory was supplying Golos with material secured from the Italian Library of Information, Golos began to use Gregory as a courier for the collection of information from various individuals in Washington, D. C., and New York City. The majority of these persons were employed in the United States Government or had sources therein. During early activities as a courier, Gregory became definitely aware of the connection of Golos with the Soviet Intelligence Service, namely the NKVD as distinguished from the Red Army Intelligence. Regular service as a courier began during the summer of 1941 when Gregory came in contact with a parallel of Soviet espionage headed by Nathan Gregory Silvermaster who held several positions in the United States Government until December, 1946. Silvermaster and his wife, Helen Witte Silvermaster, according to Gregory, were in turn in contact with many other individuals in the United States Government from whom they secured material and made it available to Gregory for transmittal to Golos. This material was delivered to Gregory in the form of written reports, actual documents, exposed but undeveloped film and verbally requiring its recording in shorthand which Gregory later transcribed. Gregory was eventually placed in contact with another parallel of Soviet espionage, headed by Victor Perle, who was formerly employed with the War Production Board and later by the Foreign Economic Administration. Gregory met Perle with others at the apartment of John Abt in New York City who was formerly General Counsel for the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, CIO, and presently connected with the Progressive Citizens of America, and the Henry A. Wallace third party movement. Abt is married to Jessica Smith, the President of the S.E.T. Publications, Incorporated, and editor of its magazine "Soviet Russia Today", Communist and pro-Soviet propaganda organ. Gregory acted as a courier for the collection of information of interest to the Soviet Government from this group and delivered it in the same manner to Golos. Gregory's activities as a courier for both the Silvermaster and Perle groups continued for Golos until his death. Collaterally, while serving Golos, Gregory also served others in a small way. Gregory mentioned specifically that while working with Golos, certain material was delivered to one "John" who has not been further identified to date. "John" was introduced to Gregory by Golos and after having made U

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several contacts he introduced Gregory to an individual known only as "Margaret". Gregory's meeting with Margaret occurred in the latter part of 1941 or the early part of 1942. Subsequent to the introduction Gregory met Margaret five or six times over a period of approximately four months. Margaret did not receive material collected by Gregory but merely arranged for contacts between Golos and "Charlie" who Gregory never saw but is convinced was Golos' superior, to whom the material which Golos received was delivered. Just prior to the death of Golos he instructed Gregory to meet Margaret who would make an introduction to a new person who was to receive the material obtained from the Silvermaster group. This contact was made and Margaret introduced Gregory to an individual known only as "Catherine". Material from the Silvermaster group was only delivered to "Catherine" on one or two occasions when these arrangements were apparently upset by the death of Golos. Taking stock for the moment, the only individual who has been definitely identified in this "John," "Margaret" and "Catherine" series of contacts is "Margaret," who is Olga Borisovna Pravdina, a former employee of Amtorg Trading Corporation, a Soviet purchasing agency. Her husband, Vladimir Sergeevich Pravdin, was the head of TASS News Agency, the official news organ of Russia, in New York City. They both returned to Russia in March, 1946.

Immediately following the death of Golos, "Catherine" introduced Gregory to "Bill" who has not been further identified. "Bill" received all of the material collected by Gregory from November, 1943, until September 1944. In October, 1944, "Bill" turned the operation of Gregory as a courier over to an individual known only as "Jack". Cooperation with Jack continued until December, 1944, when Gregory was removed from duties as a courier for this espionage group. However, during the period of service with "Jack" he introduced Gregory to an individual known only as "Al". Through ordinary investigative procedures it was learned that "Al" contacted Gregory in November, 1945. As a result of this contact he was identified as Anatoli Borisovich Gromov, then First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C. Gromov had been under suspicion for a considerable period as a successor to Vassili Zabilin, reported head of the NKVD in North America until the late summer of 1944 when he returned to Moscow, USSR, following the inspection of espionage facilities of the Soviet Government in North America by representatives of the NKVD and the Red Army Intelligence. Gromov departed from the United States from Moscow, USSR, on December 7, 1945. It is suspected that his position was assumed by Fedor Alexeevich Garanin, an official of the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C., until his departure for the Soviet Union in September, 1946.

Gregory is unable to state specifically in any instance to whom Golos, "Bill", "Catherine", "Jack", or "Al" (Gromov) delivered the material which was collected for them. However, Gregory does state that during the period of associations with Golos he selected those items of a political, economic or social intelligence character and made them available to Karl Browder,

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then National Chairman of the Communist Party. Browder, in no instance kept this information for delivery to a third person since he did not wish to become compromised in the collection of material of this type. It is significant to note, however, that Gregory is definite in stating that Browder was cognizant of the activities of Golos and his use of Gregory as a courier. It is Gregory's opinion that Golos violated his directives in making information available to Browder. This presumably was done on a personal friendship basis. From information submitted by Gregory, "Charlie" whom Gregory never personally observed has been tentatively identified as Dr. Abraham Benedict Weinstein, a practicing dentist at 20 East 53rd Street, New York City. During the course of instant inquiries, Dr. Weinstein has been in contact with several of the individuals prominent in this case and dealt with in full detail hereinafter in addition to other individuals known to be Soviet agents.

It is significant to observe that while working with Golos and his successors, Gregory had specific instructions to have no associations whatsoever with the Communist Party or any of its fringe groups. Gregory's true name had never figured prominently in any of the activities of the Party or its fringe groups until the advent of the current inquiries. It was through Golos that Gregory became associated with the United States Service and Shipping Corporation, New York City, mentioned hereinbefore, and he assisted Gregory from time to time with grants of money plus all traveling and incidental expenses.

As will be seen hereinafter, through the groups previously mentioned as headed by Silvermaster and Perlo, as well as various miscellaneous individuals, it is apparent that the Soviet Intelligence Service was successful in securing material from the Department of State, Office of Strategic Services, the Treasury Department, the War Department, the Department of Justice, the Foreign Economic Administration and numerous other agencies of the Federal Government. In numerous instances the documents themselves were made available from these agencies for copying verbatim or for photographing in the basement of the Silvermaster home where investigation has determined a fully equipped photographic laboratory was located.

As pointed out hereinbefore investigation in this case has only extended over the period November 8, 1945, to the present time. Consequently it has not been possible to show that each and every one of the individuals mentioned by Gregory is interrelated in their activity. The normal practice of espionage would not permit contacts between each and every individual during that period. However, it will be observed numerous contacts between the subjects of instant inquiries have transpired and in some instances under very suspicious circumstances. A studied attempt has been made to establish the basic truth or falsity of Gregory's information and certain observations are apropos in this connection. Gregory has mentioned over 150 names and in no instance has investigation indicated that a non-existent person was mentioned.

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Only in those instances where only a first name was given and no identifying data was available has it been impossible to identify the person to whom Gregory was referring. In addition, the methods by which the passage of information was effected are those which by experience have been tried, tested and used by all effective intelligence services, including particularly the Russian. It is also significant that Gregory, by actual observation, has identified Olga Borisovna Pravdina of Amtorg as "Margaret" and Anatoli Borisovich Gromov of the Soviet Embassy as "Al". Gregory has reported with a high degree of accuracy situations of the United States Government policy which were only known within the Government itself as examples of material which was passed through Gregory to Golos and his successors for use of the Soviet Government. Also reported by Gregory was the existence of a photographic laboratory in the basement of the Silvermaster home during the time Gregory was acting as a courier. This laboratory was used for the reproduction of documents brought to the Silvermaster home by various component elements of that particular espionage group. Investigation determined that such a photographic laboratory sufficiently well equipped for the copying of documents was located in the basement of the Silvermaster home. In few instances has Gregory reported information which could not either directly or circumstantially be verified. A high degree of accuracy has prevailed throughout the revelations made by Gregory. In conclusion, it should be carefully borne in mind that in no instance has the information furnished by Gregory proved false, unfounded, or materially inaccurate despite intensive and searching investigation thereof. J

Set out hereinafter is a summary of the information submitted by Gregory, gathered from other sources and established by investigation concerning the Russians identified to date in this espionage group, the Soviet system of espionage, the espionage agents comprising the Silvermaster and Perlo groups and the miscellaneous personalities serving the Soviet espionage system independent of association with any organized group as far as is known. J

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METHOD OF OPERATION OF SOVIET ESPIONAGE SYSTEM

As a result of the revelations made by Gregory, considerable information concerning the modus operandi of the present Soviet underground espionage organization was obtained. Although these methods are related as pertaining to espionage activities of the USSR, it should be noted they differ little from the method used by any country engaged in effective secret intelligence. As an example, their clandestine activities are cloaked with cover companies such as World Tourist, Inc., and the United States Service and Shipping Corporation in this instance. Pertinent material from numerous sources is collected by the use of couriers and cover addresses. Intermediaries of a primary, secondary and tertiary character are apparent. There is a certain but not necessarily significant absence of advanced technical methods, either in the transmittal of communications or the gathering of information itself. The only technical device apparent in the operations of these espionage parallels was the use of the copying camera.

Soviet espionage has one clear cut advantage over that practiced by any other country within the borders of the United States. This advantage centers in the existence of an open and active Communist Party whose members are available for recruitment for any phase of activity desired. As will be seen hereinafter, in almost every instance Soviet espionage agents, particularly sub-agents, are recruited from among individuals closely associated with the Communist Party, or at least strongly pro-Communist and pro-Soviet, who in the main are native born Americans or individuals not native born but sufficiently familiar with the American way of life to avoid detection. Even the Germans with the large German minority in the United States were not so advantageously placed nor does the fanaticism of the most ardent National Socialist exceed that of the militant members of the Communist Party selected for cooperation directly with the USSR.

Briefly, Soviet intelligence is broken into three branches, namely Military-Naval, Political and General. The first, namely Military-Naval, is handled by Red Army Intelligence. The gathering of political and general information is left in the main to the NKVD, now the MGB, or Ministry of State Security, with which this case deals.

Gregory has described what is referred to as the "pole" method of establishing a ring of individuals for the gathering of information. The term "pole" in reality is the designation of the individual at the apex of the organization which is a self-contained unit. For example, six individuals would be active in the obtaining of information for the Russians. No one of these six individuals would know the identity of the other five. Each individual would have a courier whose identity he did not know and/or a mail drop by which he would dispose of the material which he gathered. None of the individuals in this self-contained unit would know the identity of

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courier or the identity of the person collecting the material from the mail drop. The next step up the ladder would be an individual responsible for receiving the information from three couriers and/or mail drops. He would correlate this material and in turn would have a courier and/or mail drop to which he delivered the edited information. The other three in the unit would operate similarly. The two individuals each handling three sources of information in turn would not know the identity of their courier or the person collecting their edited material from a mail drop if this was used. In this manner a single individual unknown to anyone else in the group would eventually come in the possession of all the information obtained by the original six sources. This individual or "pole" at the apex of the triangle usually knows all the original sources of information, couriers, mail drops and editors in the unit. According to Gregory, the individual designated the "pole" would normally be a Russian who in turn would pass the information on to the proper authorities for transmittal to Moscow by diplomatic coded cable or diplomatic pouch. As will be seen, this system has as its purpose the security of the espionage organization. Any one member of the group with the exception of the "pole" who becomes compromised will be able to directly compromise the minimum of other individuals in the unit. This in intelligence parlance is generally known as the double cutout system. It is possible to vary it, however, by extensions to a triple or quadruple cutout system with little difficulty. U

As will be seen hereinafter, the NKVD was interested in securing all types of information including economic, political, social, industrial, technical and military. Instructions were often given to the courier to relate to the Silvermaster or Perlo group directing them to attempt to secure information on specific matters. Requests for specific material, however, were comparatively limited, resulting in the conclusion that this particular parallel of Soviet espionage was operating more or less as a sponge accepting any type of material that might become available from any source that could be recruited. To gain the full benefit of this type of operation, it is absolutely necessary that effective correlation be made on a higher level. It is not possible to learn whether this actually occurred. It is quite obvious, however, that Gregory's handlers were well schooled in the operation of a secret intelligence service. In this regard some of the cautions expressed to Gregory to avoid detection or compromise are of interest. U

Gregory was issued repeated warnings to take every precaution possible to detect a surveillance. This included a tour of New York City in order that a prior knowledge would be available of the location of drug stores with two exits, rest rooms with two exits, movie theaters and other establishments that could be entered and left quickly eluding a surveillance. U

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Gregory never departed from any premises at the same time with any individual with whom contact was made for Soviet intelligence. Further, with respect to surveillances the instructions were issued to observe automobiles, and their occupants. When on foot, crossing and recrossing the street was recommended and walking the opposite direction on one-way streets when an automobile surveillance was suspected. All contacts were made very cautiously and multiple appointments were the order of the day. For example a rendezvous would be set for 4:00, 6:00 and 8:00 o'clock on a certain date and the contact ultimately consummated at any one of these three times. U

Precautionary measures were taken concerning the maintenance of incriminating material on the premises of the courier and other units in the system. Methods were described whereby subsequent detection of the entrance of these premises clandestinely by outsiders could be determined. All incriminating material following its use was to be burned or flushed down the toilet. Couriers traveled with no marks of identification in their persons or on their clothing. Meeting places in general were such public establishments as restaurants and theaters. Hotels, private homes and bars were avoided. When bulky material was transported it was left in a locker in a railroad or bus terminal and the key delivered to the individual who was ultimately to receive it. Repeated cautions were given to all participants in this group to avoid discussing anything pertinent over the telephone. U

Another interesting factor is the manner in which finances were handled. Couriers and persons serving in other capacities requiring reimbursement did not receive a regular salary but did receive payment for traveling expenses and other incidentals. At least until the fall of 1943 the whole service was operated on a very frugal basis. At least during the probationary period reimbursement for traveling and incidental expenses had to be supported in detail by receipts or sales slips. It is estimated by Gregory that Golos received between \$2,000 and \$3,000 every two months for the operation of his particular parallel. When considering that he only paid traveling expenses and incidentals, it is quite obvious that he was operating other parallels than the one with which Gregory is familiar. Money in some instances came to Golos through Gregory who received it from unidentified individuals believed to have been officially connected with the Soviet Consulate in New York City. Denominations of money were never in larger amounts than \$20 and Gregory's own expenses did not exceed \$100 per month. After the death of Golos, finances seemed to be more readily available and requirements concerning receipts and sales slips were somewhat relaxed. Delays in payments were infrequent and one of Golos' successors commented to Gregory that money was no object as long as it was being used for a worthwhile purpose. U

It is interesting to note that one of the duties exercised by Gregory was to buy Christmas presents for the individuals supplying information, as well as for the members of their family each year. These presents, for

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which Gregory received reimbursement, bore a direct relationship to the usefulness the particular individual had demonstrated to the Russians, and some were of a substantial value, costing approximately \$100. With the exception of one instance, Gregory did not pay for any of the information gathered from Golos' contacts. In this instance payment was made on a regular basis to an individual temporarily in financial straits. While Gregory was dealing with others than Golos, substantial sums of money were received personally as remuneration for services rendered. This may be attributable, at least in some instances, to the fact that Gregory was dealing directly with the Russians rather than with an intermediary such as Golos.

As can be seen from the above methods and instructions and handling of finances, the Soviets are not in any sense of the word novices at conducting secret intelligence. The modus operandi, however, is not novel or different from that of any other country where diplomatic relations exist. It is obvious that all of the information gathered eventually filters into the Soviet Embassy or one of its Consulates where it in turn can be forwarded to Moscow by coded cable or diplomatic bag. It is logical to assume that other parallels of Soviet espionage are in operation whereby material can be forwarded to Moscow outside the above indicated methods of transmittal. The present methods of filtering this material through diplomatic establishment is the most efficient during the existence of diplomatic relations and the other systems, although they may be dormant now, will only be used as an alternate means of communication in the event of the breaking of these relations. (S) u

The Soviet organization mentioned by Gregory based upon the "pole" principal was stated to have been the type of organization being put into effect by the Soviets at the time Gregory ceased active handling of the groups discussed in detail in this memorandum. During the period that Gregory was active as a courier and intermediary the personnel of the Silvermaster group, the Perle group and the miscellaneous group in Washington, D. C., mentioned by Gregory and discussed hereinafter, operated on a fairly informal basis, channelling the material to Gregory through the leaders of the groups and occasionally holding group meetings. The gradual elimination of Gregory from active participation as a courier was indicated to have been a part of the Soviet design to place espionage activities in the departments of the United States Government on a more businesslike basis under direct Soviet control.

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THE SILVERMASTER GROUP

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

THE SILVERMASTER GROUP

NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, with aliases
E. Silvermaster, Nathan Gregory Masters,
Nathan Masters and Serge Komov

HELEN WITTE SILVERMASTER, with aliases
Helen Petrovna Silvermaster, Mrs. Nathan
Gregory Silvermaster, Helen Witte, Helen
Volkoff and Helen Volkov

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Allegations of Gregory

To insure clarity in dealing with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Helen Witte Silvermaster, his wife, they are both being included in the same subsection of this memorandum.

Sometime in August, 1941, Jacob Golos, known Soviet agent, informed Gregory that he had had several meetings with a representative of a Russian group in Washington, D. C. Due to his health, he was desirous of having Gregory proceed to Washington, D. C. and meet Mrs. Helen Witte Silvermaster of this group at her home. Gregory executed the desire of Golos after arrangements for this meeting had been made by Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Golos, while the former was in New York conferring with Golos. Silvermaster subsequently told Gregory that upon Germany's invasion of Russia he was desirous of lending active aid to Russia and for this purpose made a trip to New York City, conferred with Earl Browder, then National Chairman of the Communist Party - USA, and requested the latter to place him in contact with someone who might transmit information he obtained to Russia.

On Gregory's first visit to the Silvermaster home, Mrs. Silvermaster was very circumspect and exhibited what appeared to be a certain distrust of her visitor. The conversation was almost wholly of a personal and social nature and included no remarks by her of contemplated activities on behalf of Russia. However, she did mention to Gregory that she and her husband had known Earl Browder for some time. No definite arrangements were made for subsequent meetings, and it is the recollection of Gregory that subsequent contacts were to be arranged between Silvermaster and Golos. After the contact with Mrs. Silvermaster, Gregory returned to New York City and conferred with Golos. After approximately two weeks Gregory made another trip to Washington for the purpose of visiting the Silvermasters. Golos indicated to Gregory that certain material was to be received from the Silvermasters and brought to Golos in New York. Gregory recalls that Silvermaster was

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employed at that time in the Farm Security Administration, United States Department of Agriculture. His wife was unemployed and William Ludwig Ullmann, another prominent subject in this investigation, was then employed in the United States Treasury Department. Ullmann was residing with the Silvermasters and it was through them that contact was had with him. Gregory did not know of the exact nature of the material being received from the Silvermasters other than it came from United States Government sources. U

With reference to background information which Gregory obtained as a result of contacts in the Silvermaster home, it was recalled that Ullmann originally came from the State of Missouri, later worked in New York City and finally secured a clerical position in a Government agency in Washington, D. C. During the latter period he made the acquaintance of the Silvermaster family who recognized his potentialities and facilitated his obtaining a position in the United States Treasury Department. U

Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, according to Gregory, is of Russian-Jewish extraction, born in the Ukraine. At an early age his family migrated to China where he remained until he was about twenty years of age. He then came to the United States and settled in California, attending one of the larger universities and receiving a Ph.D. degree. After graduation he taught for a period of about ten years for a Catholic College in California, and was employed with the State of California in connection with their Division of Labor on the California State Labor Relations Board. Further, Gregory advised during Silvermaster's early years in China he received education at British schools and now speaks English perfectly with a British accent. As a young boy he became involved with certain Russian revolutionaries then in China and his services were utilized in smuggling literature in their behalf. During the longshoremen's strike on the West Coast in 1934 when Earl Browder was being sought by the Vigilantes, he was given haven in the Silvermasters' home. Gregory does not know whether the Silvermasters were previously acquainted with Browder but after this they became close friends. U

In 1935 Silvermaster and his wife moved from California to Washington, D. C., where he took the position in the Farm Security Administration and remained, according to Gregory, until 1942 when he transferred to the Board of Economic Warfare. Silvermaster was only with the Board of Economic Warfare for a few months when he returned to the Department of Agriculture and then shifted in the summer of 1944 to the Surplus Property Division of the United States Treasury Department. The last named position, according to Gregory, was secured for Silvermaster by Harry Dexter White, former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury and a prominent subject of inquiry in this investigation. It is the impression of Gregory that Lashkin Gurrie, who also appears elsewhere in this memorandum, probably had something to do with Silvermaster's securing his position with the Board of Economic Warfare. U

Gregory advised Helen Silvermaster was born in White Russia, the daughter of a Baltic Baron. Shortly after the Russian Revolution she went to China where she married a White Russian. Anatole Volkov, who also figures

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in the present inquiries, was the son of this union. Helen Silvermaster came to the United States with her previous husband and established residence in California, where shortly thereafter she separated from him. She then became acquainted with Silvermaster, with whom she subsequently lived as man and wife. He was desirous of marrying her, and after she secured a divorce, a matter of three or four years, they were formally married. U

In connection with the disposition of material Gregory received from the Silvermasters and delivered to Golos, the latter indicated it was delivered to a Russian contact. Previous to Gregory's association with the Silvermaster group, Golos, according to his own statement, had been meeting a Russian. He informed Gregory that he had observed an individual's photograph in a newspaper, and Gregory recalled that the name ended in "ian." Gregory added the photograph of this individual had appeared in the press in connection with a story of his apprehension on a charge of bribing a Standard Oil Company official. Golos informed Gregory this was the individual he had been meeting, but whose identity he had not known until observing the newspaper photograph. The individual referred to by Golos as his former Russian contact is Gaik Badalovich Ovakimian, an important NKVD agent, who was arrested on May 5, 1941, and charged with being an unregistered agent of the Soviet Government. Following the German invasion of Russia and by agreement of the Department of State, these charges were dismissed and Ovakimian was permitted to return to the USSR, on an exchange agreement for six individuals, all of whom were alleged by the Soviet Government to be citizens of the United States. In this regard, only one American citizen arrived in the United States under the terms of this exchange. However, Pelagya Habicht and Neovila Magidoff, both Soviet nationals, entered the United States pursuant to the exchange. Both of these women are strongly suspected of being Soviet agents, and have been in contact with numerous figures in this investigation. During the investigation of Ovakimian, later leading to his arrest, he was observed meeting Golos on numerous occasions in public places and exchanging correspondence with him in a furtive manner. Obviously the material collected by Gregory in Washington and delivered to Golos did not pass into the hands of Ovakimian since he had already departed from the United States prior to Gregory's first contact with the Silvermasters in August, 1941. U

Gregory advised that Golos paid all traveling expenses necessary for the collection of the material from the Silvermasters in Washington, and its delivery to him in New York City merely by the execution of a simple receipt. Gregory also collected Communist Party dues from persons, both in the New York area and Washington, D. C., and remitted these collections to Golos, who indicated they were delivered to Communist Party headquarters where receipts were received. Gregory eventually received these receipts from Golos and delivered them to the interested parties. Gregory eventually received these receipts from Golos and delivered them to the interested parties. This procedure is in accordance with the current policy of the Communist Party - USA and the Soviet Union to have any Party members involved in the collection of information for the USSR cease active or apparent affiliations with the Party, with the exception of high Party functionaries. U

Gregory stated that for a period of approximately six months subsequent to August, 1941, the only individuals known to have been actually engaged in security data for Golos were the Silvermasters and Ullmann. Sometime in early 1942,

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Gregory realized from remarks made by Silvermaster and Ullmann, that other individuals were involved in a similar manner. The volume of material delivered to Gregory continued to increase. As a result of the illness of Golos he requested Gregory to begin reading this material. It was Gregory's recollection that during this period the material submitted was in the form of typewritten notations made by Ullmann and Helen Silvermaster. The data collected was of an extremely varied nature and appeared to be secured by these individuals, both from discussions with other Government officials, and direct from documents of an official character. As an example, material indicating the policy of the United States, both domestic and foreign, and other information representing a hodgepodge of intelligence was being collected. Golos characterized this information to Gregory as "political." Gregory learned from Silvermaster that at the outset of his service for Golos he secured some information on his own initiative and Golos attempted to guide him in collecting material that would be of the most interest to the Soviet Government. At no time was it apparent, according to Gregory, that either Silvermaster or Ullmann were receiving any compensation for their services. ✓

Sometime in 1942 Golos began to give Gregory verbal instructions for the guidance of the Silvermaster group as to the nature of the information desired. It was not, however, until late 1942 that Golos delivered to Gregory typewritten instructions in Russian furnished him by "Charlie", Golos' superior, to be delivered to Silvermaster. Gregory's knowledge of the Russian language was insufficient to gain an accurate evaluation of the type of information requested. It will be noted that both Golos and Silvermaster spoke Russian fluently. In the fall of 1942 Silvermaster and Ullmann began to bring to the Silvermaster residence documents which they apparently had secured from Government files to which they had access. Gregory advised that Ullmann provided himself with a camera of the 35 mm. type and became proficient in document photography. Silvermaster, at this time, also began to dictate to Gregory various types of information. This dictation was made by Silvermaster after refreshing his recollection from small pieces of paper which he had on his person. Ullmann photographed the documents brought to the Silvermaster home and Gregory delivered the developed negatives to Golos. On one occasion only, sometime in 1944, did Gregory personally witness the photographing of documents at the Silvermaster residence. From conversations, however, on many previous occasions, it was apparent that this photographic work was carried on in the basement of the Silvermaster residence where a more or less permanent photographic laboratory had been established. ✓

After securing the developed negatives of Governmental documents from Silvermaster, they were taken to New York City in lots of two to three rolls and Golos would make an appointment to collect them from Gregory. The negative would be passed through a viewer at Gregory's residence before they were taken by Golos for delivery to his Russian contact. Golos apparently did this in order to keep himself currently apprised of the information being gathered by the Silvermaster group. ✓

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In addition Gregory also delivered to Goles from Silvermaster carbon copies of documents consisting usually of letters from Governmental employees, usually Treasury employees outside the United States reporting on conditions where they were stationed. The dictation given to Gregory by Ullmann and Silvermaster was subsequently transcribed in New York City and delivered to Goles.

Gregory recalls specifically that during Silvermaster's employment with the Board of Economic Warfare he occasionally brought to his residence what appeared to be complete files where they were reviewed and a decision made by him and Ullmann as to the exact correspondence to be photographed.

Sometime in the fall of 1942 Ullmann's induction to the United States Army seemed imminent. According to Gregory, a discussion was had between Silvermaster and Ullmann at that time as to which branch of the service would be most advantageous. It was finally concluded that it would be most desirable for Ullmann to wait for induction in the usual course and then attempt to be assigned to the Air Corps. Gregory recalled that Ullmann did enter the Army as a private, was subsequently promoted to a sergeant and then recommended for Officers Candidate School, ultimately receiving a commission as second lieutenant in the United States Army Air Force. He received certain promotions subsequent thereto. In view of Silvermaster's desire that he be assigned to the Pentagon Building this was ultimately effected through the influence of George Silverman, another prominent figure in this investigation. After Ullmann's assignment in the Pentagon Building he resumed his residence with the Silvermaster family.

Briefly, with respect to George Silverman, Gregory advised he is approximately 45 years of age, Jewish, a graduate of Harvard University and an acknowledged brilliant mathematician and statistician. He came to Washington in the early 1930's and was employed with the Railroad Retirement Board. Gregory was unable to state how he became acquainted with the Silvermasters and Ullmann except that they met later as the result of being members of the same Communist Party unit there. Gregory recalled specifically that Silverman became friendly with the Silvermasters, was at their home often and after being assigned to the Pentagon Building as a civilian specialist began to bring documents to the Silvermaster home for copying. Gregory stated that Silverman did not know these documents were photographed but was under the impression that Silvermaster simply read the documents and from memory later transmitted their contents verbally to Earl Browder.

During the latter part of 1942 or early 1943, Gregory became aware of remarks made by Silvermaster, his wife and Ullmann, that Harry Dexter White, employed in the United States Treasury Department as Assistant Secretary, was supplying them with information consisting of documents obtained during the course of his employment. Gregory definitely recalls

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seeing some documents at the Silvermaster residence delivered there by Ullmann or Silverman, both of whom were receiving material from White for this specific purpose. As regards the nature of this written material supplied by White, Gregory stated it consisted of reports of a varied nature concerning the financial activities of the United States Government, particularly as they related to foreign commitments. Also various memoranda and reports from other Governmental Departments and agencies were made available through this same source. These documents were usually reduced to photographs by the time they were observed by Gregory. On occasions the original documents themselves were seen. According to Gregory, Harry White was considered by the Silvermasters as one of the most valuable assets to their group in view of his ability to place in the Treasury Department those individuals whom the group was anxious to assign there. Among individuals in this category Gregory mentioned specifically Ullmann, William Taylor and Sonia Gold. Gregory never actually observed White, but gained all of the above information from conversations with the Silvermasters and Ullmann. White was also considered valuable because of his close relationship with former Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., and was in a position to secure favorable consideration for the USSR in financial matters, according to Gregory.

During this same period Gregory became aware of the fact that Lauchlin Currie was friendly with the Silvermasters and particularly George Silverman. Currie, according to Gregory, did not supply Silverman or the Silvermasters with any documents, but did inform Silverman orally on various matters. [As an example Currie, on one occasion informed Silverman the United States was on the verge of breaking the Soviet code.] Currie is also known by Gregory to have visited the Silvermaster home as a social guest. After the death of Golos on November 27, 1943, there was a discussion between Silvermaster and "Bill" who is yet unidentified, as to the advisability of introducing Currie and White directly to the Russian contact. Silvermaster was not in favor of this and it is not known if the meeting was ever arranged.

Also during the same period Gregory became aware of the activities of Sol Adler (Sohlomer Adler), a United States Treasury representative in Chungking, China. Gregory observed in the Silvermaster home official letters written by Adler from Chungking to the Treasury Department in Washington, D. C. It is Gregory's opinion these letters found their way to the Silvermasters through Harry White. Adler, according to Gregory, was a member of the Communist Party whose dues were collected by Silvermaster and delivered to Gregory.

Another individual mentioned by Gregory during this period was William Taylor who secured his employment in the United States Treasury Department through Harry White. Gregory recalls that Taylor was sent by the Treasury Department to China and later to Lisbon, Portugal, for the Foreign Economic Administration. He was described as a member of the Communist Party who paid his dues to the Silvermasters. During the interim

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between his return from China and his departure for Portugal, he worked in the Treasury Department and supplied Silvermaster with written and oral information secured by him in that Department. He also made available to Silverman or possibly Silvermaster a report on conditions in China, which was passed on through Silvermaster and Gregory to the Russians. U

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Further, it was learned by Gregory that through Silverman, Silvermaster was receiving information from the War Production Board made available by Irving Kaplan. Kaplan, according to Gregory, is a dues paying member of the Communist Party. U

During the late summer of 1943 Gregory stated a steadily increasing volume of material was obtained by the Silvermaster group which was subsequently photographed for delivery to Golez in New York City. At about this time Ullmann ceased developing the photographs he took, and supplied to Gregory the undeveloped negatives which were delivered to Golez. The apparent reason for this was the increased volume of productiveness of this particular parallel of Soviet espionage. In fact, the volume was so large that Ullmann did not have the time to both photograph and develop the material. Although Gregory could not actually observe the completed photographs, from conversations with Ullmann and Mr. and Mrs. Silvermaster, it was learned that Ullmann and Silverman, both of whom were stationed in the Pentagon Building and assigned to the United States Army Air Force, were obtaining data of the following nature: Aircraft production figures, allocation and deployment of aircraft, results of testing of aircraft, reports on the efficiency of particular types of airplanes, technological developments in aircraft manufacture, statistics regarding high octane aviation gasoline, personal data concerning important Air Force officers, opinions of aircraft personnel on other nations, Army gossip, all pertinent developments concerning the planning, construction and actual completion of the B-29, and proposed movements of these planes when they were completed, data concerning the approximate scheduled date of D-Day, copies of directives issued by General Marshall, and information concerning the production, allocation and development of tanks, guns and motorized equipment. Gregory stated a considerable volume of this material was brought to the Silvermaster home in its original form, namely official United States Army Air Force documents. On some matters, however, Ullmann would copy figures and make notations necessary to record the desired data. Gregory is unable to segregate the information supplied by Ullmann and Silverman. The above situation prevailed from the time of Ullmann's original assignment to the Pentagon Building until Gregory ceased contacts with the Silvermaster group in September, 1944, the volume consistently increasing throughout this period. U

Sometime in the fall of 1943 the Silvermasters believed it desirable to have someone placed as a secretary to Harry White in order to facilitate the obtaining of information from his Office. At that time Gregory advised that Helen Silvermaster approached one of the Communist functionaries in U

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Washington and was supplied with the name of Sonia Gold. Eventually Sonia Gold, through arrangements with White, obtained a position as one of the secretaries in the Treasury Department. As a result thereof, Sonia Gold obtained documents from White's office which she copied and delivered the notes thereof to Helen Silvermaster. It is Gregory's general recollection that the information secured by Sonia Gold consisted principally of United States Treasury Department opinions and recommendations, and particularly recommendations concerning applications for loans from the United States made by the Chinese and French Governments. Some of the material that came through Gold concerned political information regarding General DeGaulle, which apparently found its way into White's office. In the spring of 1944 Gregory alleged that Bill Gold (Bela Gold), the husband of Sonia Gold, entered into the Silvermaster group. He had obtained a position in the Foreign Economic Administration and from conversations with the Silvermasters and Ullmann, Gregory determined that he was supplying excellent material concerning the internal workings of the FEA. During one of the conversations overheard in the Silvermaster home, Silvermaster or Ullmann made the remark that "Bill" had done such a good job that they were thinking of supplying him with a camera so that he could do his own photography. U

With reference to Anatole Volkov, the son of Mrs. Silvermaster by her first marriage, Gregory advised that he was reared as a good Communist. On occasions he would proceed to New York City from Washington and deliver Gregory material originating with the Silvermasters. Anatole was drafted into the United States Navy sometime in 1944, and it is Gregory's recollection that he was assigned to a Naval Training Station near Chicago, Illinois. U

During the period of Gregory's association with Golos, many occasions arose when contacts were had with Barney Schuster (Bernard Schuster). At that time Schuster was associated with the Finance Division of the National Organization of the Communist Party - USA, using the Party name "Chester." He was a social acquaintance of Golos. Late in the spring of 1944 Gregory came into casual contact with Schuster, when the latter inquired concerning the health of Gregory Silvermaster. When Gregory evidenced ignorance of acquaintanceship with Silvermaster, Schuster indicated he was familiar with Silvermaster and other persons engaged in the same type of work. As a matter of fact, Schuster told Gregory that he was irritated over the manner in which some of the Communist Party members have been taken away from the Party and subsequently returned in an extremely nervous state. It is interesting to note that Bernard Schuster, from other sources, was reported in 1938 as Membership Director of the Communist Party for New York State and in 1939 was President of the Fifth Assembly District Club of the Communist Party, Bronx, New York City. In 1943 Schuster was stated to be a member of the Communist Party and Treasurer of the New York State Committee of the Party. Under the name of "Chester" he was employed at Communist Party headquarters in the same office as Charles Krumbain, National Treasurer of the Communist Political Association, the name used by the Communist Party - USA during 1944-1945. U

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Gregory mentioned a number of individuals whose activities were apparent from conversations with Silvermaster. These individuals will be dealt with specifically under other sub-captions in this memorandum. U

Approximately six months prior to the death of Golos he indicated to Gregory that pressure was being placed on him by the Russians to turn over certain of his American contacts directly to them. Specific requests had been made in this regard to make available Mary Price, the Silvermasters and Gregory. This Golos refused to do up to the time of his death. Gregory stated the only concession Golos made in this regard was the delivery of material collected from the Silvermaster group, which was delivered directly to "Catherine" who has not been otherwise identified, thereby theoretically circumventing Golos. Gregory, however, surreptitiously allowed Golos to inspect this material before passing it to "Catherine." U

In June, 1944, Gregory met Earl Browder who indicated that it would be agreeable if "Bill", Gregory's contact at that time, met Silvermaster not oftener than once a month with the condition that this meeting be held in New York City and not Washington, D. C. At a later meeting with Gregory in June, 1944, Browder agreed that the entire Silvermaster group was to be turned over to the Russians without restrictions of any kind. At one time it came to Gregory's attention from Silvermaster prior to the death of Golos that J. Peters (Alexander Stevens, a known Soviet agent, at one time in charge of the Communist underground in New York City, and Washington, D. C.), had been in Washington attempting to infiltrate into the Silvermaster group. This was brought to the attention of Golos by Gregory and the former made a protest to the New York headquarters of the Communist Party. U

In September, 1944, at the time that "Bill", one of Gregory's handlers, subsequent to Golos' death, indicated that he was moving from New York City to Baltimore, Maryland, or Washington, D. C., he told Gregory that he intended to handle the Silvermaster group personally, and Gregory was no longer to come in contact with any member of the group. These instructions were abided by and Gregory did not see "Bill" subsequent to that time. Gregory's only further knowledge of "Bill" came from questions asked by "Al" (Anatoli Borisovich Gromov, First Secretary, Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C. until December 7, 1945), who in the fall of 1945 asked Gregory if any contact had been made with "Bill". In addition, Gregory on one occasion came in casual contact with Silvermaster in New York City during August, 1945, when Silvermaster was asked whether he had seen "Bill" lately. Silvermaster indicated that he had not seen "Bill" for about two weeks, but that he was still around. U

Background of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster

Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was born in Odessa, Russia on November 27, 1898. He became a naturalized United States citizen at San Francisco, California in 1926. He attended various educational institutions in Seattle,

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Washington, and Berkeley, California, receiving a Ph.D. Degree in 1932. then became Associate Economist with the California State Unemployment Commission and later worked for the California State Department of Labor. His first employment with the Federal Government was as Senior Labor Economist with the Resettlement Administration in August, 1935. Subsequently, he worked with the Maritime Labor Board; the Farm Security Administration; United States Treasury Department Procurement Division; and the Board of Economic Warfare. He was Director of the Economic and Market Analysis Division, War Assets Administration until his resignation on December 1, 1946. U

An investigation of Silvermaster was made in January, 1942, under the provisions of the Hatch Act predicated upon reports that he was a member of the American League for Peace and Democracy and the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, both organizations having been declared subversive by the Attorney General. The reports of the completed investigation were made available to the United States Department of Agriculture in November, 1942, where Silvermaster was then employed. On July 14, 1943, the Director of Personnel of the Department of Agriculture suggested certain additional interviews, including Lanchlin Currie, then Administrative Assistant to the President. This request was complied with and a final decision made by the Director of Personnel of the United States Agricultural Department, that the record in the Silvermaster investigation did not contain evidence sufficient to warrant charges that Silvermaster was a member of an organization which advocated the overthrow of the Government of the United States. U

Information is available to the effect that Nathan Silvermaster, a young Communist of the University District, Seattle, Washington, had departed with one Perlino and one Gundlack, students at the University of Washington on April 9, 1922, for San Francisco. Silvermaster was stated to be a known Communist and an intimate contact of Anna Falkoff, Seattle. It may be significant to note that Silvermaster received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, in 1920. In October, 1923, Nathan Silvermaster, 2314 Dwight Way, Berkeley, California, was a reference of an individual then in Russia, desiring a visa to the United States. Inquiries determined that Silvermaster did not reside at the recited address. U

The files of the Department of Agriculture contain the report which reflects that Silvermaster, in 1935, was in contact with Sam Darcy, Head of the Communist Party in California. This report states "By virtue of his associations, his affiliations and particularly by virtue of his thesis, it can be easily concluded that Silvermaster is an active radical." A confidential U

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Report in the files of the Department of Agriculture mentions Silvermaster as among the proteges of Professor Robert A. Brady who was described by a confidential informant as a member of the Communist Party from 1932 to 1937. Silvermaster was further reported as an underground member of the Communist Party in Seattle, Washington in the early 1920's and editor of the Seattle Union Record. Through a confidential source it is alleged that Silvermaster became friendly with Louis Bloch in California in about 1930 when he reentered the Communist Party, and another source had heard that Silvermaster was a representative of the OGPU which has now been succeeded by the NKVD in the United States. Although Silvermaster, when interviewed under the provisions of the Hatch Act, during the investigation in 1942, denied membership in the Communist Party, it was developed that while a student at the University of Washington, in Seattle, from 1918 to 1920 he was associated with Garrand Ethel who, from 1935 to 1938 was a member of the Communist Party Professional Unit. He also associated with Herbert J. Phillips, also a member of the Communist Party Professional Unit, and Dr. David Hersh, whose home in Seattle, Washington in 1938 was a meeting place of the Young Communist League. In 1932 Garrand Ethel, mentioned above, in discussing the number of Communist Party members securing employment in the United States Government, mentioned Silvermaster who had formerly been at the University of Washington in Seattle.

According to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Silvermaster was enrolled in the Professional Section of the Party in that city during the year 1936. Also in 1936 Silvermaster is reported to have attended a meeting of a women's group at which he spoke as an avowed member of the Communist Party in San Francisco. During the course of his speech Silvermaster made reference to the overthrow of the United States Government and supported Communism. Further, Silvermaster has been reported to be an acquaintance of Lauren W. Casaday an alleged member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, one of the organizations declared subversive by the Attorney General under the provisions of the Hatch Act. Casaday, according to a fellow employee of Silvermaster, with the United States Maritime Labor Board, was a protege of Gregory Silvermaster and Louis Bloch of California. Bloch is known to have been associated with the Professional Section of the Communist Party in San Francisco as early as 1936. Casaday was formerly an analyst in the Division of Monetary Research, United States Treasury Department, which Division was headed by Harry White. In 1942 he was assigned to the United States Embassy, London England. Silvermaster has appeared as an acquaintance of several individuals investigated under the provisions of the Hatch Act. In each instance these

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Individuals have been charged with being closely associated with Communist front groups, Communists, or otherwise active in various phases of the Communist Party program. As an example, during the course of an investigation of the activities of Edwin S. Smith, the former Executive Director of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, it was ascertained that Mary Van Kleeck, a member of numerous alleged Communist front groups, and reported leader in the Communist Party, regularly came to Washington and conferred with Smith and others, including Silvermaster. Silvermaster, in September, 1939, was reported in the "Federal Record", the publication of the United Federal Workers of America, CIO, as a teacher in the Federal Workers School. In January, 1944, Louise Bransten of San Francisco, California, [REDACTED] b7c, NKVD agent, formerly attached to the Soviet Consulate, San Francisco, while in Washington, contacted Silvermaster at his office in the Department of Agriculture Building. In connection with inquiries being made concerning Dr. Louis Bloch, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], stated that during the Maritime difficulties in that port city, during 1934, he met Dr. Bloch at a meeting including other Communists, namely Sam Darcy, Silvermaster and Joseph Gaer. Darcy, at that time, was District Director of District 13, Communist Party - USA. During the investigation of Richard Bransten, estranged husband of Louise Bransten mentioned hereinbefore, and a member of the Communist Party, it was determined that he was a friend of Gregory Silvermaster. Silvermaster transferred December 29, 1944, from the Farm Security Administration to a position at the Treasury Department at a salary of \$8,000 per annum. [REDACTED]

Background of Helen Witte Silvermaster

Helen Witte Silvermaster was born in White Russia, the daughter of Baron Peter Witte. She is approximately 45 years of age at the present time. Her father was counsellor to the Czar and acted as an adviser to the Mongolian Government. After the October Revolution he was released and later became the head of the Rice Institute in the Southern Ukraine. Following the Revolution, Helen Silvermaster traveled to China where she married a Russian named Volkov and in about 1923, emigrated with her husband to California. There are some allegations, rather nebulous, that Volkov eventually became an OGPU agent in the United States. Her only son, Anatole Boris Volkov is the only child of this union. He was born in San Francisco on October 29, 1924. Shortly thereafter Helen Silvermaster separated from her husband and lived with Silvermaster whom she married three or four years later after securing

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a divorce. This marriage was consummated in 1928 or 1929. She came to Washington with her husband and from 1939 to May 29, 1947 resided at 5515 - 30th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. Mrs. Silvermaster is known to be acquainted with Louise Bransten, and Dr. Robert A. Brady mentioned hereinbefore. David Sapos, Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs stated that Helen Silvermaster was one of the leaders in the Washington Book Shop, the American League for Peace and Democracy, the Washington Committee for Aid to China and probably the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties; all of these organizations have been reported from numerous sources to be Communist front organizations. The names of both Mrs. Silvermaster and her husband appeared in the indices of the United American Spanish Aid Committee, making a donation of \$45 to this organization on one occasion. They also, on March 18, 1938, attended a reception in honor of Dr. Gustav Regler given by the Women's Committee of the Friends of Spanish Democracy. Both of these Spanish groups are described by many sources as being Communist controlled. U

Results of Investigation

Investigation to date has verified the fact that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, his wife and William Ludwig Ullmann resided as a family unit at 5515 - 30th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., until May 29, 1947 when they moved to Harvey Cedars, New Jersey. U

It has also been positively determined that a laundry room approximately 12 by 15 feet in the basement of the Silvermaster home was converted into a photographic dark room. This room contained all of the necessary equipment for document photography with the exception of the camera, which could be easily supplied. This included light reflectors, standard enlarger, photographic time clock, cutting boards, and photographic chemicals and supplies. This would seem to bear out the allegations of Gregory that documents purloined from the official files of various United States Government Departments were photographed there. U

Through a highly confidential source it was determined on November 27, 1945, that Marjorie and Charlotte Young were in contact with Helen Silvermaster in such a manner as to indicate they were all mutual friends. Previously it had been determined that Edward Young was a friend of Helen Silvermaster and had stayed at their residence in the past. Charlotte Young, through other inquiries, has been determined to be closely associated with the Communist Party, having been director of the White Collar or undercover group of the Communist Political Association (Communist Party - USA) in Washington, D. C. until January 16, 1945. At or about that time she was elected to the City Executive Committee of the Communist Party, Washington, D. C. Edward Sidney Young, husband of Charlotte Young, has also reportedly been active in the Communist Party. Through a physical surveillance it was determined that U

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Silvermaster, on December 1, 1945 met Alexander Koral in a rather clandestine manner. Silvermaster, at the time, was accompanied by his wife. After the Silvermasters had picked up Koral, in a busy shopping district, the three individuals took an extended ride in the Silvermaster automobile and Koral was finally dropped on a public thoroughfare where he proceeded on his way by street-car. This ride did not have any apparent purpose or destination. After this contact, Koral returned to New York City where he is employed with the Board of Education. Although inquiries have continued, no specific questionable activities of merit have been developed on Koral to the present time. Alexander Koral when interviewed in June, 1947, admitted acting as a courier for an individual known to him only as "Frank", and that he had visited Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, known to him as "Grig", in November and December, 1945. He particularly remembered the contact with Silvermaster on December 1, 1945 mentioned above and stated that at the instructions of "Frank" he told Silvermaster that this would be the last contact with Silvermaster. Mrs. Silvermaster, when interviewed denied knowing Alexander Koral and denied meeting anyone on December 1, 1945 as set out above.

According to a highly confidential source, Helen Silvermaster on December 2, 1945, attempted to contact Mrs. Elisabeth Sasuly, an alleged member of the under cover white collar group of the Communist Party in Washington, D. C., who has also reportedly assisted in many of the alleged Communist front activities. On the same day this source advised that Helen Silvermaster contacted Anne White who indicated that her husband, Harry White, was working on that day on the British Loan matter. Anne White is the wife of Harry Dexter White, former Assistant Secretary of the United States Treasury Department, named by Gregory as one of the primary elements of this particular Soviet espionage parallel.

On December 4, 1945, a highly confidential source reported that Rose Gregg, wife of Joseph Gregg, who was also named by Gregory as being engaged in Russian espionage, was in contact with Helen Silvermaster, and made a luncheon engagement which was subsequently kept. Investigation determined on December 6, 1945, that Phillip O. Keeney, then employed in the Library of Congress, was a visitor at the Silvermaster residence.

On December 10, 1945, a highly confidential source advised that Ruth Gruber contacted Helen Silvermaster and invited her and her husband and the "star bearder" (William Ludwig Ullmann) to her home for the evening. Gruber commented that a friend of hers then in Washington from Chicago was doing some interesting work on Democracy in Education.

On December 14, 1945, the Silvermasters were invited to the home of Harry Dexter White for the evening. This and other contacts of similar nature showed a close personal relationship existed between the Silvermasters and the Whites.

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On December 17, 1945, a highly confidential source reported that Helen Silvermaster was in contact with an individual known only as "Issy." "Issy" indicated that his father-in-law, identity unknown, was proceeding to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to attend a dinner given by American Soviet Friendship. Mrs. Silvermaster indicated that she was familiar with this organization and a good friend of hers runs the organization. She added that she receives communications from this group which has as its purpose "the fostering of cultural relations between these two great countries." U

On December 20, 1945, it was also ascertained confidentially that Helen Silvermaster attempted to contact Sonia Gold with negative results. It will be recalled that Sonia Gold, according to Gregory, was placed in the office of Harry Dexter White during the time he was an Assistant Secretary to the Treasury, for the purpose of facilitating the perusing of documents from that source. U

Silvermaster and his wife, according to a physical surveillance on December 25, 1945, drove to the home of Harry Dexter White where they spent the evening. Information was received that Joseph Gregg and his wife were invited to come to the Silvermaster home for Christmas dinner. However, for reasons unknown, they did not proceed thereto that day. Gregg was one of those prominently mentioned by Gregory as one of the sources of information for Soviet Intelligence just before Christmas in 1945, a highly confidential source referred to contacts between Roger Lewis and Helen Silvermaster. In discussing Anatole Volkov, Mrs. Silvermaster's son by a prior marriage, Mrs. Silvermaster indicated that he was in school in North Carolina, commenting that he was always in trouble about the race question, France and the atomic bomb. In a contact with Barbara Lichtenstein, who is not otherwise identified, Mrs. Silvermaster indicated that her son, Anatole, was returning home for Christmas. Barbara Lichtenstein had invited Anatole to a party to raise money for the Veterans' Citizens Committee to oust the late Senator Bilbo. U

On December 22, 1945, a highly confidential source reported that a Mrs. Fumores (phonetic) was in contact with Anatole Volkov, then residing at the Silvermasters' residence. She advised that her son, Allen, who had over fifty points, and who had only recently had his furlough, which he intended to use to go to Switzerland, cancelled, could not get out of the Army. She requested Anatole to intercede with William Ludwig Wilmann to determine if the latter could assist Allen in being demobilized. Anatole indicated he would do the best he could. On December 29, 1945, this same source reported that an individual known only as "Angus", subsequently identified as Mr. Phillip O. Keeney, contacted Helen Silvermaster to bid her goodbye, stating that he was leaving the following day by air. Angus gave her Mary Jane's address, which was given as Mary Jane Keeney, civilian, Angell, Michigan, Office of Political Affairs, Office of Military Government, United States APO 762, c/o Postmaster, New York City. Angus stated he would send and expressed appreciation for having had the Silvermaster home as a rendezvous. He added that his secretary, a negro girl, had given him a beautiful fur coat present and at Christmas time he had had a telephone call from Mary Jane from Switzerland. U

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On January 8, 1946, Richard Sasuly was reported by a highly confidential source as having contacted Helen Silvermaster and advised that he was then out of the Army and free. Sasuly then contacted Gregory Silvermaster advising that he would be in to see him at his office the following day. Silvermaster indicated that he had recently seen Elisabeth Sasuly, Richard's wife. Elisabeth Sasuly has been mentioned hereinbefore as a prominent functionary of the Communist Party for the District of Columbia. On the same date an individual known only as "Margaret" contacted Helen Silvermaster and inquired about Boris. Mrs. Silvermaster indicated that she had not heard from him, even though they had all sent him Christmas presents. Helen Silvermaster then advised that Ruth Gruber, Ickes' (Harold L. Ickes, then Secretary of the Interior) Assistant in Charge of Alaska, had been there, saw Boris and brought back some very fine pictures. Boris apparently intended to establish a furniture factory in Alaska. This contact apparently refers to the brother of Helen Silvermaster, Boris Witte, who made an expedition into China and Tibet and who until recently resided in Anchorage, Alaska. At the same time Mrs. Silvermaster indicated that Ullmann was proceeding to Germany for the War and Treasury Departments. On the following day Elisabeth Sasuly, contacted Silvermaster and he referred to a conference which he had with her husband, Richard. Elisabeth then indicated that they were not going to California since Richard was remaining with the Treasury Department to work on some current matter. U

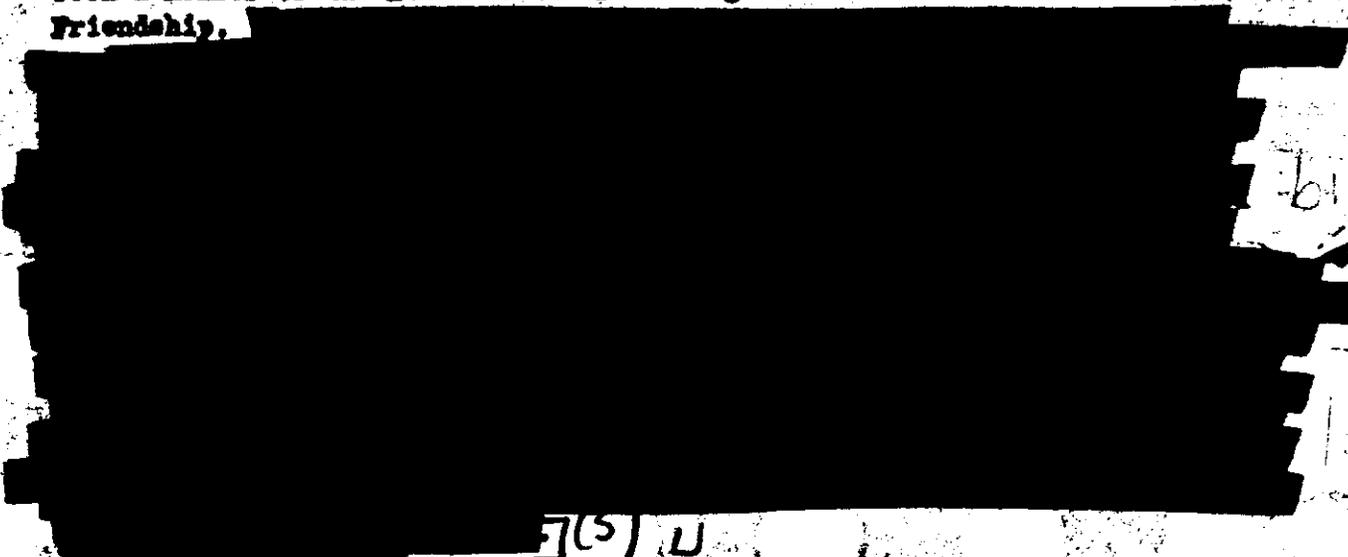
On January 14, 1946, this source again reported that Helen Silvermaster had been contacted by Reba Lewis who advised that she was leaving for Boston and New York. Her husband, Roger, intended to find an apartment in Boston while she, Reba, remained in New York. Reba mentioned that Roger gave her a set of Russian Linguaphone records for Christmas, that she would communicate with Mrs. Silvermaster as soon as she was permanently located. U

On January 15, 1946, Helen Silvermaster received an invitation from the Washington Committee for Russian War Relief, inviting her to attend a dinner at the Mayflower Hotel on February 4, 1946. This dinner was given in honor of Mrs. Harriman, wife of the American Ambassador to Moscow. Speakers included Joseph E. Davies, former American Ambassador to Moscow; Senator Claude Pepper; Secretary of Commerce, Henry A. Wallace and Edward G. Carter. The physical surveillance on the Silvermasters determined that on the evening of February 4, 1946, he and his wife attended the Harriman dinner for Russian Relief. Silvermaster and his wife left their home and proceeded to the residence of Dr. Edward U. Condon and there picked up Mrs. Emily Condon who accompanied them to this dinner. Dr. Edward U. Condon was Technical Advisor to the Senate's Special Committee established October 22, 1945, to study the developments, use and control of atomic energy under the Chairmanship of Senator Brien McMahon, Democrat of Connecticut. He was appointed Director U

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of the National Bureau of Standards in November, 1945. He is a native born American, former professor at Columbia, Princeton, and the University of Minnesota and later in charge of Research of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Research Laboratories, East Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He served as a consultant at the Atomic Bomb Project at the Manhattan Engineer District. His wife since 1945 has been the Correspondence Secretary to the Pittsburgh Council of American-Soviet Friendship, and Dr. Condon himself has been a member of the Board of the Pittsburgh Council of American Soviet Friendship.



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On January 24, 1946, a highly confidential source advised that Seth Gaer, previously referred to hereinbefore as Joseph Gaer, contacted Silvermaster, stating he had just arrived in town and requesting that Silvermaster lodge him for the night. Silvermaster indicated that this would be satisfactory but that they, the Silvermasters, were going to the Lee Pressmans that evening and wanted to know if Gaer could come with them. Gaer indicated that if it would not inconvenience the Silvermasters he would accept. Subsequently Lee Pressman was contacted and told that Gaer was in town and wanted to know if it would be satisfactory for Gaer to accompany them in

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order that they would not have to postpone "it" again. Pressman agreed to the acceptance of the additional guest. Lee Pressman is the former General Counsel of the CIO, Washington, D. C. Joseph Gaer was then working with the CIO Political Action Committee in New York City and is connected with the publishing house of Boni and Gaer, Inc.

Joseph Gaer was born on March 16, 1897 in Bessarabia, Rumania, (now USSR). He emigrated to the United States at an early age and was educated in American collegiate institutions. He was finally naturalized in 1926 or 1927. He has been variously reported as a registered member of the Socialist Party in 1930 and 1932 in California, member of the Hammer and Sickle Club, Chairman of the John Reed Klub and allegedly a member of the Communist Party in the State of California. He was described by one individual as being adept in "covering up" his membership in the Communist Party. When making an application for employment in the Treasury Department, prior to May, 1942, that Department developed information to the effect that Gaer was a Communist, propaganda chief for the Communist Party, while employed in the Federal Writers Project in New York City. In 1944 he was a subject of an investigation for employment in the Office of Emergency Management, which disclosed he was reported as a Communist or a former Communist by several individuals contacted. Gaer was actually employed by the United States Treasury Department for a considerable period preceding May 17, 1944, when his resignation took effect. He had attempted a transfer to the Office of War Information which was cancelled for reasons not apparent. It is also interesting to note that while Gaer was staying with the Silvermasters, Richard and Elizabeth Sasuly and "Iszy" Salkind visited the Silvermasters.

On January 25, Otto Saul contacted Mrs. Silvermaster, according to a highly confidential source, stating that he had been in Moscow, USSR and Potsdam, Germany, where he had made some nice connections. Saul indicated that he had received a request from the War Department inquiring for a Public Relations Man to be assigned to the Civil Affairs Committee in Germany. It was required that he speak Russian. Saul indicated he had in mind Jack Marsalka, and they then discussed difficulties Marsalka had previously had, agreeing he was a victim of a miscarriage of justice.

John Paul Milan Marsalka was born on June 23, 1906, in Washington County, Pennsylvania. He was educated in the United States and at the University of Prague, Prague, Czechoslovakia in the early 1930's. From May, 1934 to August 1939 he was a clerk in the American Embassy in Moscow, USSR. He was finally discharged for inefficiency, and because his associates had suspected Communistic tendencies he could not be trusted with confidential matters. He is married to Milada Friedel who was born in Brunn, Czechoslovakia on October 7, 1904. Their marriage was consummated on March 3, 1930, and in her naturalization record Milada Friedel indicated that her last residence abroad was Moscow, Russia. Marsalka's father, George Marsalka, was also born in Czechoslovakia. Information from many sources reflects strong pro-Soviet tendencies and possible affiliations with the Communist Party.

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On January 26, 1946, Elizabeth Sasuly was again in contact with Mrs. Silvermaster, at which time she advised that she had had a party the previous night for Congressmen which was strictly business. She indicated that Congressmen John M. Coffee, Democrat of Washington; Charles R. Savage, Democrat of Washington; and James P. Coelan, Democrat of Connecticut, as well as Bowen of Chicago, Land of Ohio and Webb of Michigan, not otherwise identified, who were in Washington with R. J. Thomas, President of the UAW, CIO, were present. Both Sasuly and Mrs. Silvermaster agreed Coffee was "nice." U

On January 30, 1946, the Silvermasters were invited to the home of Elizabeth Sasuly for dinner on the following evening. A physical surveillance on January 31, determined that the Silvermasters proceeded to the Sasuly apartment, 436 Alban Towers, Washington, D. C., and at 12:35 a.m., on February 1, 1946, left this apartment in the company with Congressman Vito Marcantonio and an unidentified woman. Congressman Marcantonio was taken to the Ambassador Hotel where he left the group. A highly confidential source advised on February 2, 1946, that Elizabeth Sasuly was again in contact with Helen Silvermaster, at which time the latter indicated that her husband had not proceeded to New York since he could not get reservations. Mrs. Silvermaster stated that the Joseph Saers were out of New York City and her husband preferred the hotels in any event. She also mentioned that when Louise Bransten, mentioned hereinbefore, had her big house in New York they used to stay with her when visiting that city. Louise Bransten, as previously indicated, has been closely associated with official representatives of the Soviet Government and in contact with suspected Soviet Agents and numerous individuals prominent in national and local Communist Party activities. It was determined through investigation that Silvermaster received a communication on or about January 30, 1946, from the National Citizens Political Action Committee, 205 East 42nd Street, New York City. Mrs. Silvermaster received a communication at about the same time from the American Society for Russian Relief, Incorporated, Washington, D. C. U

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On February 20, 1946, a confidential source advised that an individual identified as Bob, who is believed to be identical with Robert A. Brady, was in contact with Mrs. Helen Silvermaster and he advised that he had arrived in town the previous night. He stated that since he had not been in Washington for a long time he was very anxious to see the Silvermasters. This individual stated that he intended to leave Washington shortly for Knoxville, Tennessee. He stated that he was looking for material for some of his writings and was also discussing politics while in Washington. Bob stated that he is going to take his sabbatical year of leave in 1947 and 1948 and intends to take his family to England. U

Robert A. Brady mentioned above is believed to be identical with an individual of the same name who is employed as an Associate Professor of Economics at the University of California at Berkeley. Brady is a member of various organizations that have been described as Communist front organizations. On the basis of charges made by the Dies Committee on December 30, 1941, Leon Henderson, then Administrator of the Office of Price Administration, requested Dr. Robert A. Brady's immediate resignation from his position in the Consumers Digest in the Office of Price Administration. U

On February 28, 1946, a reliable source advised that one Louis Bloch, whose identity is unknown, was in contact with Mrs. Helen Silvermaster and he advised that he had heard a rumor in San Francisco that Bruce Minton had issued a statement recently saying that he has abandoned his former ideas. Mrs. Silvermaster stated that she had not heard of this. Bloch advised that there is an indication that Minton's family difficulties have been settled out of court; that he now has custody of the children and is living in the East. Louis then suggested that Mrs. Silvermaster tell her husband of the rumor he had heard concerning Minton and that the statement Minton allegedly made was similar to Earl Browder's statement. U

Bruce Minton is the pen name used by Richard Bransten, the divorced husband of Louise Rosenberg Bransten of New York City, who is a strongly suspected Soviet espionage agent who formerly resided on the West Coast. U

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On March 1, 1946, a highly reliable source informed that Norman Chandler Bursler was at the Silvermaster residence on that date and contacted the Railway Express Agency indicating that he would like a trunk shipped to Chicago, Illinois, and that the trunk could be picked up from the rear porch of the Silvermaster home. It was subsequently learned that this trunk was the property of Bursler and it was shipped under his name to the law school at Chicago University, Chicago, Illinois. Bursler is a principal subject in this matter and he will be dealt with in more detail in another portion of this memorandum. U

On the same date, according to a reliable informant, information was received that an individual identified as Herbert Resner was in contact with Mrs. Helen Silvermaster and advised that he was leaving for New York on the following morning. He invited the Silvermasters to come to room #1441 at the Statler Hotel and mentioned that he had just completed a case in the Supreme Court here. Apparently the Resners and the Silvermasters had been in contact with one another for the past five years. It was subsequently determined that Herbert Resner is an attorney from San Francisco, California, and is active in Communist endeavors in that locality. U

This same reliable informant advised that on March 3, 1946, Henry Morgenthau, Jr., former Secretary of the Treasury, who was in New York City, was in contact with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Morgenthau indicated that he was about to produce or edit a weekly radio program and was endeavoring to secure some Washington contacts. Morgenthau stated that Charles Malcolmsen was working for him in Washington. Malcolmsen was recommended to Morgenthau by one Bob Allen. Morgenthau regarded Malcolmsen as an excellent man and thoroughly reliable. Morgenthau had previously asked Malcolmsen to check with Silvermaster if he wanted any information concerning the sale of surplus property, particularly if the property affects the veterans. Silvermaster agreed to assist Morgenthau on this matter. U

Mr. Morgenthau also advised that he needed a little scandal in order to make his program interesting. Morgenthau also asked Silvermaster to tell Ullmann what he was interested in and stated that they would like to think of him as an outlet and a crusader for them. Morgenthau requested Silvermaster and Ullmann to keep him advised if there was any indication of something going wrong and where a little publicity might straighten things out. Morgenthau said the only individual who has access to his mail is an old friend of Silvermaster, Henrietta Klotz, who was the one who suggested that Morgenthau recontact Silvermaster and Ullmann. U

Henrietta Klotz is a close contact of Silvermaster and was Morgenthau's personal secretary while he was Secretary of the Treasury. U

Mr. Morgenthau advised that he received figures from Anna Rosenberg that 600,000 veterans have applied for loans and that only 3,000 were successful. U

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Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. Boardman _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Belmont _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Egan _____
 Mr. Gurnea _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Pennington _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

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Silvermaster and Morgenthau discussed prices of farms for veterans at some length and Morgenthau stated that the Government could purchase large tracts of property in the Central Dairies and Poultry Houses such as the one in operation in Florence, Arizona. Silvermaster has worked on that project and in fact initiated it, and Morgenthau indicated that they would call it Communistic but he believes it to be the right answer. ✓

Morgenthau advised that he would be visiting Washington several times a month and that he wants to keep in contact with Silvermaster. Silvermaster assured Morgenthau that he should consider him as an outlet and a crusader. He also said that he would be glad to use any of the information that Ullmann brought back with him from Germany. ✓

On March 9, 1946, a confidential source advised that Morgenthau again was in contact with Mr. Silvermaster, and Morgenthau stated that his experience in farm credits leads him to believe that he has a good solution to the wheat problem suggesting that the Government tell the farmers how much wheat to plant and the Government would take it all at a fixed good price, that is, all over the average consumption of wheat in the United States in the next five years. ✓

A source regarded as highly reliable informed that on March 11, 1946, an individual identified as Mrs. Mary Jane Keeney was in contact with Mrs. Silvermaster and they discussed Mary Jane's recent return from abroad and Mrs. Keeney had seen Lud over there, referring to William Ludwig Ullman who had just recently returned from Frankfurt, Germany, and they agreed to visit each other the following week. Mrs. Mary Jane Keeney is the wife of Philip Olin Keeney, who was in Japan on a mission for the United States Government until May, 1947. Mrs. Keeney until July, 1946, was employed by the State Department. Both Mr. and Mrs. Keeney are strongly suspected Soviet espionage agents. ✓

On March 15, 1946, it was determined through a reliable source that Mrs. Silvermaster received a communication which bore the return address 908 Clinton Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, which is the known residence of Alexander Portnoff, the Philadelphia representative of the American-Russian Institute, a propaganda channel of the Soviet Government. It will be set out hereinafter the Silvermasters are close friends of the Portnoffs and have in the past rented their summer cottage at Harvey Cedars, New Jersey. ✓

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A highly reliable source stated that on March 17, 1946, Mrs. Jane Keeney contacted Mr. Silvermaster and indicated that she would like to see the Silvermasters sometime that day. A dinner invitation was extended to her and it was arranged that they would dine at about four o'clock that evening. Mrs. Keeney accepted the invitation but advised that it would be necessary for her to leave at about 7:00 P.M. U

This source advised that on the same date an individual identified only as Mrs. Condon, believed to be identical with the wife of Dr. Edward U. Condon, Director of the Bureau of Standards, attempted to contact Mr. Silvermaster with negative results. Ludwig Ullmann subsequently advised her that the Silvermasters were expected to return at about 9:30 P.M. that evening and that Mrs. Condon would be able to reach them at that time. U

A source regarded as highly reliable has advised that on March 21, 1946, Elizabeth Sasuly contacted Helen Silvermaster and inquired if her husband, Richard Sasuly, was at the Silvermaster residence. Mrs. Silvermaster stated that he was and thereafter Mrs. Sasuly stated that Slim Connolly was in town and referred to himself as "Young Tom Mooney." He said he was sentenced to three years for being in a picket line and now considers himself a labor martyr, according to Sasuly. Richard Sasuly stated that he was developing pictures with Ludwig Ullmann and he would return home as soon as he had completed them. U

Through a source regarded as completely reliable it was learned that on March 26, 1946, Mr. Silvermaster received an announcement from Bernard Bernstein to the effect that he was recently the financial adviser to General Eisenhower for Civil Affairs and Military Government, Caribbean and Mediterranean Theaters, and Director of the Division of Investigation of Cartels and External Assets, Office of Military Government, Germany, and formerly Assistant General Counsel of the United States Treasury Department; that he announced his resumption of the general practice of law, specializing in matters before the United States Government and in international property and financial problems, with offices at 165 Broadway, New York City. He further announced that he had a Washington Office which would be maintained in the Tower Building. U

It should be noted that Bernard Bernstein is a known contact of Harry Dexter White, former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, and worked under White while they were both employed at the Treasury Department. This same source revealed that on March 31, 1946, Helen Silvermaster contacted Henrietta Klotz and they agreed to meet at nine o'clock that evening. U

According to a source regarded as completely reliable on April 1, 1946, Mrs. Jenny Miller, wife of Robert Talbott Miller, another subject in this case, U

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

contacted Helen Silvermaster and extended an invitation to the Silvermasters to attend a birthday dinner for her husband on Friday, April 5, 1946. Mrs. Silvermaster accepted on behalf of her husband and herself. U

The informant stated that on the same date Mrs. Mary Jane Keeney was in contact with Helen Silvermaster and she indicated that she is making plans for a "gathering of the clan" and extended an invitation to the Silvermasters to attend this gathering on Saturday, April 6, 1946, at her apartment, however, the date at this time was indefinite and subsequent arrangements would be made. On the following day Mrs. Keeney told Mrs. Silvermaster that the party would be held on Sunday evening, April 7, 1946. U

On April 7, 1946, Mr. Robert T. Miller contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and inquired as to how he could reach Mr. Lud Ullmann. He was advised that Lud was at home and Miller indicated that he would call upon him shortly. U

A physical surveillance reflected that Mr. and Mrs. Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullmann left their residence at approximately 7:17 P.M. and arrived at the apartment of Mrs. Mary Jane Keeney at 215 B Street, Northeast, at approximately 7:35 P.M. on the night of April 7, 1946. U

Information has been received from a reliable informant that on April 17, 1946, Mrs. Helga Wolski Dudman, who has recently returned from an assignment in Germany, contacted Mrs. Helen Silvermaster and advised that she was still living at her same apartment at 2001 Second Street, Northeast. She mentioned that she had enjoyed her visit to the West Coast from which she recently returned. Helga stated that she was seriously thinking of going back to Germany inasmuch as she could now take her husband with her and stated that she had enjoyed her last visit to Germany very much. Helga stated that her office is now in the Dupont Central Building of UNRRA where she is afforded the opportunity of seeing lots of interesting cables and memoranda from abroad, but she doesn't like it nearly as much as being in Germany where she felt she was accomplishing something. U

A surveillance at the residence of Robert Talbott Miller, III, on the night of April 23, 1946, reflected that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and his wife, Helen, and William Ludwig Ullmann were all guests of the Millers on that evening. A reliable source stated that on May 1, 1946, Mrs. Cynthia Dierkes discussed with Helen Silvermaster the latter's trip to Chapel Hill, North Carolina, where Mrs. Silvermaster visited her son Anatole Volkov, a student at the University of North Carolina. There was some indication that Cynthia and John Dierkes together with Ludwig Ullmann and the Silvermasters would arrange to meet sometime the following week. U

Concerning Cynthia and John Dierkes it is of interest to note that their names appeared in an address book located among the personal effects of

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Ursula Wasserman, a strongly suspected Soviet espionage agent upon her departure from the United States for Buenos Aires in March, 1946. Cynthia Bierkes until recently was employed by the National Committee for Atomic Information in Washington, D. C. John Bierkes is a former employee of the Treasury Department.

Also, according to the informant, on the evening of May 1, 1946, an individual named Joseph Gaer contacted Helen Silvermaster from the airport and advised that he had just arrived in town and thereafter he was invited to come to the Silvermasters to have dinner with them.

On the same evening an individual believed to be William Green contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and indicated that he would like to visit with William Ludwig Ullmann that evening for the purpose of using some of Ullmann's equipment to prepare a lock for his automobile. It was not indicated to Green that Joseph Gaer was at the Silvermasters.

A reliable informant advised that on May 6, 1946, an unidentified woman contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and they had a lengthy discussion of the place in New Jersey that the Silvermasters were interested in buying about forty miles above Atlantic City. Mrs. Silvermaster is trying to interest her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Boris P. Witte, in buying a neighboring home in that vicinity and thought it would be a splendid financial investment for him. On the same evening Boris P. Witte contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullmann and they discussed the advisability of his purchasing this home. Witte stated that he would be in New Hampshire for some time as he had some individuals to visit there, but he might consider coming down to New Jersey and might be interested in the property that they had mentioned.

This same reliable source related that on May 8, 1946, Mrs. Edna Friedman was in contact with Mrs. Silvermaster and advised that she and her husband, Irving, may be interested in a summer place for a while and they discussed the possibility of visiting Helen Silvermaster in the event the Silvermasters kept their arrangements for obtaining a summer home. Irving Friedman is a known acquaintance of Harry Dexter White having worked under White in the Division of Monetary Research while White was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

This same source stated that on May 11, 1946, Helen Silvermaster was in contact with Mrs. Polya Habicht and the informant advised that they spoke in Russian and discussed the inability of the Silvermasters to attend the Habicht party on the following Saturday night.

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A highly reliable source of information stated that on May 12, 1946, Mrs. Dorothy Taylor, the wife of William H. Taylor who was then an employee of the Treasury Department, was in contact with Helen Silvermaster and Mrs. Taylor advised that she and her husband and their children had arrived in Washington and were stopping at the Washington Hotel. They had been in England and they hoped to enjoy a brief vacation in the United States, if possible, travelling to California and probably returning to Washington shortly thereafter. They discussed their mutual friends, the Robert Bradys, mentioned hereinbefore and Mrs. Silvermaster advised that the Bradys had recently been in Washington. Subsequently, William Taylor contacted Ludwig Ullmann and they arranged to meet on the following day in Ullmann's office at the Treasury Department. U

The same informant advised that on the same date Mrs. Mary Jane Keeney contacted Helen Silvermaster and advised that she was in New York City the preceding week and that she had driven up there with two friends from the Red Cross. Mrs. Keeney requested Mrs. Silvermaster to advise William Ludwig Ullmann that she had a letter from Herman Zapp, who was then in Paris, but who expected to return to Germany shortly thereafter. U

On May 13, 1946, the informant stated that Mrs. Cynthia Dierkes and her husband, John, were visitors at the Silvermaster residence where they were guests for dinner. U

The same source advised that on that date one Oliver Kissock advised Gregory Silvermaster that Lauchlin Currie had told him to be sure and get in touch with Silvermaster when he came to Washington, he regretted that he had been unable to contact Silvermaster at his office and further indicated that he had some information on activities in Mexico which might be of interest to him and also one or two other items. Kissock stated that Currie is enjoying better health now, but he was very ill while he was in Switzerland. Lauchlin Currie is a subject in this case who will be mentioned more fully in another portion of this memorandum. U

A highly reliable informant stated that on May 15, 1946, Mrs. Silvermaster received a confirmation for a reservation that had been made for her for a dinner sponsored by the Southern Conference for Human Welfare on Saturday, May 23, 1946, at the Hotel Statler, Washington, D. C. The Southern Conference for Human Welfare is an organization subject to a considerable amount of Communist control. U

On May 20, 1946, according to a reliable source of information, Mrs. Cynthia Dierkes contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and accepted an invitation U

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for herself and her husband to dine at the Silvermasters that evening, but mentioned that her husband would have to leave early in order to catch a plane at 10:30 P.M.

On May 21, 1946, a reliable informant advised that Mrs. Dorothy Taylor, wife of William H. Taylor, advised Mrs. Silvermaster that they were leaving Washington on the following Thursday night and regretted that they had not been able to see each other again. Mrs. Taylor said that they were going to Vancouver, British Columbia, and expected to be back in Washington later on in the summer.

A physical surveillance reflected that the Silvermasters visited the home of Alexander Portneff at Harvey Cedars, New Jersey, on May 24, 1946.

A highly reliable informant stated that on May 26, 1946, he had learned that Mr. and Mrs. Robert F. Miller had contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and later it was learned that Miller was at the Silvermaster home on that date assisting Silvermaster in painting a portion of the interior of their house.

An individual identified by the same informant as Anna Berenson on May 29, 1946, contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and desired to reach Gregory Silvermaster as soon as possible. She was advised that he would not be back in Washington until the following Sunday night. Anna Berenson desired to discuss the housing situation with Mr. Silvermaster as she had occasion to talk to Wilson Wyatt, the National Housing Administrator, on that date and she was very anxious to discuss the matter with Mr. Silvermaster. She said she was going away for a few days and was afraid that Wyatt might do some checking around to talk to some people, so she wished to advise Silvermaster and also ask his advice on some other matters. She said she was proceeding on the premises that she did not know Silvermaster very well because she did not want him to be identified with the CIO since in that group one has to work with the AFL so much. She said she just told Mr. Wyatt that she had only met Silvermaster on one or two occasions, but that she knew several people who worked with him and could recommend him for the type of work he does. Anna Berenson mentioned Harry Dexter White's name to Wyatt as well as an individual named "Beanie" Baldwin and Jack Bryan. Mrs. Silvermaster mentioned that her husband had very good contacts in the AFL and his relations there were very friendly particularly with the building trades.

This conversation apparently pertained to a job which was open at the National Housing Administration and which Anna Berenson was attempting to

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obtain for Mr. Silvermaster. Anna Berenson insisted that the job was still open.

Anna Berenson is a suspected Communist who has been interested in housing matters having formerly been employed by the National Housing Administration. She is presently employed by PDA in Washington, D. C. She is a known contact of Jules Korchian, an intimate of Ursula Wasserman, a suspected Soviet espionage agent in New York City. She is also a close contact of Richard and Elizabeth Sasuly, friends of the Silvermasters in Washington.

On June 2, 1946, according to a reliable source of information, Bernie Foneroff contacted Helen Silvermaster and advised her that the Foneroffs had just returned to Washington from New Jersey. Mr. Foneroff invited the Silvermasters to dinner on the following Friday night at their residence. He described the dinner as a Russian dinner that his mother wanted to prepare for them. Subsequently, the Silvermasters accepted this invitation. It was indicated that Ludwig Ullmann and the Silvermasters' son, Anatole Volkov, would also attend. The Foneroffs reside at 1427 West Virginia Avenue, Northwest.

Bernard Foneroff was born March 26, 1919, in Washington, D. C. He was at one time on the Executive Committee of the Washington Youth Congress and his name appeared on the active indices of the American Peace Mobilization, an organization which has been declared subversive by the Attorney General. Foneroff when interviewed under the provisions of the Hatch Act refused to answer questions propounded to him regarding the Washington Committee for Democratic Action and declined to sign a transcribed statement of the interview made in connection with the Hatch Act investigation. Foneroff's name was also included on a list of active members of the Washington Cooperative Book Shop Association, which has been declared as a subversive organization by the Attorney General.

A reliable source of information stated that on June 4, 1946, William Ludwig Ullmann contacted Helen Silvermaster and Mrs. Silvermaster advised that she had invited Isadore Salkind, Bruce Waybur, and his wife, and Richard and Elizabeth Sasuly out to the Silvermaster's house that night. Later she also invited Helga Walski Budman. When Helga was advised that Isadore Salkind would be there she indicated that she would be glad to see him as she hadn't seen him for some time.

Concerning Isadore Salkind, it has been reported that he has been affiliated with and has been a member of various Communist front organizations in Washington, D. C., while employed by the Government prior to his entrance

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into the Armed Forces of the United States. He has recently been released from the Army and has resumed his frequent contacts with the Silvermasters. U

A reliable source stated that on June 5, 1946, an individual referred to as Seth Gahr, who is probably identical with Joseph Gahr, was in contact with Helen Silvermaster and he stated that he would be at the Sasuly residence at about 9:00 P.M. on that date. He was advised that Mr. Silvermaster was out of town and that he would be gone about a month. Gahr expressed his regrets at not being able to see Mr. Silvermaster because there was so much he wanted to tell him, but he would make a point to contact him at the first available opportunity. U

On June 6, 1946, Mrs. Mary Jane Keeney told Mrs. Helen Silvermaster that she had spent the preceding weekend at Cape Cod and indicated that her trip to Japan was still indefinite it being recalled that her husband, Philip Olin Keeney, was then in Japan on a mission for the United States Government. She stated that her husband would be in Japan until the end of September, but that he feels that he is not accomplishing enough there and that there is much more to be done in the United States. U

On June 7, 1946, Henrietta Klots, mentioned hereinbefore, contacted Helen Silvermaster and Mrs. Silvermaster extended an invitation to Henrietta to spend the following weekend at the beach with them. Mrs. Silvermaster told Henrietta that she hoped that Ludwig Ullmann would be able to spend some time with them at the beach, but at that time changes were being made in his place, probably referring to the Treasury Department. U

On June 26, 1946, Mrs. Mary Jane Keeney again contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and said that she was unable to call upon her that evening as had been previously arranged. It was agreed that they would arrange to see each other at an early date. U

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On June 28, 1946, Mrs. Silvermaster contacted Mrs. Cynthia Dierkes and arrangements were completed for Cynthia and her husband, John, to spend some time at the Silvermasters' beach home at Harvey Cedars, New Jersey. Subsequently, on July 1, 1946, Ludwig Ullmann was in contact with Mrs. Silvermaster and told her that he had talked to John and Cynthia Dierkes about their contemplated visit to the beach and it was not definitely established whether they would spend the following week end with them, but if not they would do so in the near future. It was determined later from the same source that the Dierkes did in fact, spend considerable time at the Silvermaster beach home during the summer of 1946. The highly reliable source advised that on July 8, 1946, Anna Berenson, mentioned before, contacted Helen Silvermaster and advised her that she would be over to the Silvermasters' residence that evening in order to talk with Mr. Silvermaster. The nature of this appointment was not known. J

A highly reliable source stated that on July 9, 1946, Mrs. Silvermaster contacted Mrs. Klizabeth Sasuly and discussed the number of guests that the Silvermasters had been having during the summer at their beach home in New Jersey. Mrs. Sasuly stated that she and her husband, Richard, intended to visit the Bernsteins in Connecticut and some other friends in New Hampshire later on in the summer. The Bernsteins are apparently Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Bernstein mentioned previously in this portion of the memorandum. J

On July 16, 1946, according to a highly reliable source, Mrs. Helen Silvermaster was in contact with Henrietta Klots in New York City and extended an invitation to Henrietta and her husband, Herman, to spend the following week end at the Silvermasters' beach cottage. Helen at that time indicated that Alexander Portnoff is very anxious to see Henrietta inasmuch as he has not visited with her for some time. J

On July 24, 1946, according to an informant, Joseph Gaer contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and said that there were several things coming up that he was doing and that he wanted to see Gregory Silvermaster about them and to let him know that he was doing them. Helen then suggested that Gaer contact Greg at his office and arrange to meet him there. Helen then told Gaer that she would welcome him at their beach cottage any time at his convenience. J

On July 30, 1946, a reliable informant stated that an individual identified only as Dotty Black Ewing contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and requested Ruth's address saying that she went to college with her and has several of her books, which Ruth autographed for her at the book shop at Nineteenth and H Streets, Northwest. Dotty said that Ruth's name is Mrs. Ruth Bransten and that the last time she saw her was at the Silvermaster home. Helen said that Ruth had moved to Westport, Connecticut, three years ago and that she had not heard from her or seen her for some time. Helen said she would make some inquiries and that if she learned Ruth's present address she would advise Dotty. It was determined that Dotty Ewing resides at 212 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, Maryland. J

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On October 26, 1946, a highly reliable source advised that Dorothy Taylor, wife of William H. Taylor, was in contact with Helen Silvermaster. She advised that she had just returned from Sacramento, California; that she and her husband and two children were staying at the Hamarok home at 6905 Beverly Road, where they are remaining for three weeks. Mrs. Silvermaster indicated that she would visit them sometime during the week. (Report of SA Lambert G. Zander, WFO 9-17-46, p. 195)

In a pamphlet published by the New Council of American Business, Incorporated, covering their First Washington Conference - 1946, there appeared a section devoted to views of various Government officials on the business outlook. Among these Government officials were the photographs and comments of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Harry Magdoff, and Victor Perlo. Magdoff was listed as a Special Assistant to the Secretary of Commerce (Program Planning) and Victor Perlo was listed as an Economist, Division of Monetary Research, Treasury Department. Silvermaster was listed as "Chief Economist, War Assets Administration." (Report of SA Lambert G. Zander, WFO 11-5-46, p. 100) U

On October 10, 1946, a reliable source of information advised that Joseph Gaer contacted Mrs. Silvermaster and advised that his plane had been grounded in Washington and he would like Mrs. Silvermaster to accommodate him for the night since he was on his way back to New York City. Mrs. Silvermaster extended an invitation to Gaer to spend the night with them. Other contacts with Gaer have been noted whenever he is in Washington. (Report of SA Lambert G. Zander, WFO 11-5-46, p. 135) U

The same source stated that on October 11, 1946, Elizabeth Sasuly was in contact with Mrs. Silvermaster, and Sasuly mentioned that Sonia and Bela Gold had not found a place to live but they were staying temporarily with Henry H. Collins, Jr. The Golds, it will be recalled, are subjects of this memorandum and Henry H. Collins, Jr. is a known contact of numerous subjects of this memorandum, and is a reported Communist. (Report of SA Lambert G. Zander, WFO 11-5-46, p. 135) U

On November 14, 1946, a reliable and confidential source advised that Helen Silvermaster stated that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster had resigned his position with the War Assets Administration; that he had no definite plans for the immediate future; however, he was conferring with some engineers from an unidentified airplane factory and these individuals were attempting to interest him in their project. She stated that William Ludwig Ullmann was extending Silvermaster moral support in the matter. On this occasion, Mrs. Silvermaster indicated that Ullmann was anxious to sever his relations with the Treasury Department and added that it was her impression that everyone was trying to get out of the Treasury Department at that time. (Report of SA Lambert G. Zander, WFO, 12-6-46, p. 126)

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With further respect to Silvermaster's resignation from the War Assets Administration, a highly confidential source advised that on November 25, 1946, Mrs. Silvermaster stated that her husband had submitted his resignation and would leave War Assets on December 1, 1946. U

A physical surveillance on December 11, 1946, reflects that Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, while in New York City on that date, consummated a pre-arranged meeting with Sava N. Kosanovic, the Yugoslav Ambassador to the United States. This meeting was held in the lobby of the Hotel New Yorker at 34th Street and 8th Avenue, New York City. Another individual present during the meeting was Palmer Weber, who arranged the meeting between Silvermaster and Kosanovic. Weber is known to be active on behalf of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare which has been described as being subject to Communist influence. He is presently Research Director for the Progressive Citizens of America located in Washington, D. C. (S) (U)

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Interview (Nathan Gregory Silvermaster)

When interviewed by Agents on April 15, 1947, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster advised that he came to Washington from California in 1935 when he accepted employment in the Labor Relations Division of the Resettlement Administration, United States Department of Agriculture. Immediately upon his arrival in Washington he met William Ludwig Ullmann at the residence of his friend Mr. Arthur Stuart in Bethesda, Maryland, where Ullmann was living. Silvermaster said he had resided at 5515 - 30th Street, N.W. since 1938, and that Ullmann had resided at this residence during this same period. He said that Ullmann was half owner of the property which was in the name of both Silvermaster and Ullmann. U

Silvermaster said that Ullmann has been interested in cameras since 1937 and is quite proficient in the use of them; that Ullmann considers photography a hobby and is considering photography as a profession. He stated that Ullmann has a Roliflex Contax and several other cameras in his possession and has used one of the rooms in the basement of the Silvermaster home as a dark room for developing, printing and enlarging photographs. Silvermaster said that he did not know of Ullmann ever receiving any documents for the purpose of photographing them and doesn't know of Ullmann ever photographing any documents on any occasion. U

Concerning Jacob Golos, Mr. Silvermaster said that he met him in New York in about 1936 while attending a party possibly at the home of Richard Bransten, and while there Golos was pointed out to him as being connected with World Tourists, Inc. He said that since he was thinking about taking a trip to the Soviet Union he talked to Golos at this party concerning this U

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proposed trip. He advised that this was the only occasion he has ever seen Golos and that he does not know him by any other name. Silvermaster denied that a mutual friend of Golos had ever called at the Silvermaster residence and further he stated he did not know any friends, representatives, associates or agents of Golos. U

Silvermaster denied and regarded as preposterous the allegation that a group of individuals in Washington had been furnishing him or Mr. Ullmann with vital information, both verbal and documentary, which he had passed on to agents or representatives of a foreign power or organization. He also denied that such information was ever compiled by himself, his wife or Ullmann, or that any of them had obtained information from any source within or without government circles for such group of individuals. U

Mr. Silvermaster stated that he met Earl Browder in San Francisco in 1936 while Silvermaster was making an official government trip to the West Coast. He said he heard Browder make a presidential campaign speech in San Francisco and at the conclusion of the speech he met Browder and talked with him. Silvermaster denied that he had ever seen Browder previous or subsequent to this occasion. Silvermaster denied ever being a member of the Communist Party and stated that as far as he knew, Mrs. Silvermaster and Ullman had never been members of the Party. He stated that he is a citizen of the United States and that his loyalty is to this country and not Russia. It was his opinion that the Communist Party does not have a following in this country as a political party but as a philosophy of life. He stated that he had not actively aided the Russian Government until June, 1941, with the exception of making contributions to Russian War Relief. Silvermaster denied knowing Anatole B. Gromov, a former official of the Soviet Embassy, but admitted knowing Mikhail Vavilov, the former First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, having met him recently at the residence of David R. Wahl in Washington. He said that he had met the former Russian Ambassador Constantine Goumansky in 1936 or 1937 in Washington, and that in 1934 he met the Russian Consul in San Francisco. He denied knowing any other Russian officials in this country. U

Silvermaster admitted knowing subject Robert Talbott Miller III, and advised that he had known him for approximately two years. U

At the conclusion of the interview Agents accompanied by Silvermaster observed a small room in the northwest corner of the basement of his house which, according to Silvermaster, has been used by Ullmann as a photographic dark room. In this dark room were observed one Multifax Enlarger, a cutter for prints, and one developing pan. Silvermaster said that the remainder of the equipment that had been used by Ullmann for developing and printing is presently dismantled. (65-56402; report of SA Lambert G. Zander, WFO, dated 4-21-47, pages 37 thru 41) U

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Interview (Mrs. Helen Witte Silvermaster)

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Mrs. Helen Witte Silvermaster when interviewed on April 15, 1947, advised that she may have met Earl Browder on one occasion after a speech; however, she was vague as to this and could not recall whether the place that she met him was on the West Coast or East Coast and stated that if she did meet him it was because of the usual interest of people meeting celebrities or people who frequently have their names in the paper.

Mrs. Silvermaster advised that she had once been termed a Communist but said this was ridiculous. She said that she did not know any people who are members of the Communist Party or who associate with Communists in Washington, D. C. At the conclusion of the interview, however, she admitted knowing some Communists in Washington but declined to furnish their names, stating, "They are my friends and they are nice people."

Mrs. Silvermaster said that she had heard of the organizations World Tourists, Inc., and the U. S. Service and Shipping Corporation but does not know any of the employees of these organizations. She denied also having ever met Jacob Golos but stated his name sounded familiar.

Mrs. Silvermaster stated that she is very well acquainted with Gregory by his true name, having first met Gregory at a Spanish Aid Ball in New York City in 1937 or 1938. Thereafter she did not see Gregory for several years, but during the war period she saw Gregory quite frequently. It was Mrs. Silvermaster's impression that Gregory was employed during that period by William Donovan of the Office of Strategic Services. She said that Gregory frequently stayed in the Silvermaster home on week-ends because of the lack of hotel accommodations; that on those occasions Gregory would bring with him a brief case or a suitcase but she had no knowledge of what was contained in either. Mrs. Silvermaster said that Gregory was engaged in contacting various government departments in what she termed "research work" for speeches which, according to her impression, Gregory wrote for the Office of Strategic Services. Mrs. Silvermaster said that she did not know definitely where Gregory's headquarters were since Gregory was frequently in Washington and also in New York City on many occasions. Mrs. Silvermaster said that she never heard Gregory mention the name of Jacob Golos and that to her knowledge Gregory had never been employed by World Tourists, Inc. or U. S. Service and Shipping Corporation. Mrs. Silvermaster had no knowledge of individuals in Washington or New York with whom Gregory was acquainted. She assumed, however, that Gregory was acquainted with most of her friends since he was frequently in the Silvermaster home.

Mrs. Silvermaster said that she was a great admirer of Gregory although she did not specify why. She said the reason she knew nothing concerning the work Gregory was doing was because it was during the time of war and she considered that Gregory's work was secret and confidential and she did not feel she should pry into his affairs. Mrs. Silvermaster denied ever furnishing Gregory with any information or documents containing information concerning the government at any time.

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Mrs. Silvermaster stated that although William Ludwig Ullmann had several cameras he has never taken up document photography and that to her knowledge the only document photography he had ever done was to photograph her son's discharge papers, and that this operation was difficult since Ullmann had no facilities for document photography, therefore she had to hold the documents while he photographed them. She said that she originally taught Ullmann photography as it had been a childhood hobby with her while she resided in Russia. She denied that Ullmann had ever brought any information to the Silvermaster home from government files or that he had ever copied same or any such operation had ever taken place in the Silvermaster home. U

Names of other individuals in the Silvermaster group were mentioned to Mrs. Silvermaster and she admitted knowing all of them and stated that they were social acquaintances of hers and her husband. U

With particular respect to Sophie Gold she advised that she did assist Gold in obtaining a position with the United States Treasury Department but she refused to amplify on this information, stating that she had on various occasions assisted or attempted to assist other capable young people in obtaining positions. (65-56402, rept of SA Lambert G. Zander, WFO, dated 4-21-47, U

Mrs. Silvermaster stated that she had never heard of or seen a person by the name of Alexander Koral. It should be recalled that Mr. and Mrs. Silvermaster were observed meeting Koral in Washington on December 1, 1945, under peculiar circumstances. (Ibid) U

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SCHLOMER ADLER, with aliases
Solomon Adler, Sol Adler

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Allegations of Gregory

Gregory related that during the latter part of 1942 and through the early part of 1943 mention was made by individuals connected with this investigation of Sol Adler, who was a United States Treasury Department representative in Chungking, China. Gregory further related that Gregory had seen at the Silvermaster home official letters written by Sol Adler from Chungking, China, to the United States Treasury Department in Washington, D. C. Gregory stated that presumably these official documents had found their way to the Silvermaster home through Harry Dexter White, an official in the Treasury Department and a prominent figure in this investigation. Gregory stated that Silvermaster had characterized Sol Adler as an opportunist but further indicated that they would like to place him in some strategic location in the United States Government. Gregory also stated that Sol Adler was a member of the Communist Party and that his dues were collected by Silvermaster and turned over to Gregory. U

Background

The records of Selective Service Board No. 9, Washington, D. C., reflect that Schlomer Adler was born on August 6, 1909, at Leeds, England, and that he immigrated to the United States on February 20, 1935. It is further known that Adler was naturalized on September 3, 1940, in Federal Court, District of Columbia, and had resided continuously in the United States from 1935 to 1941. He married Dorothy Richardson on April 27, 1945, who was an employee of the United States Treasury Department. In securing his naturalization, Adler listed Lauchlin Currie as a reference. This individual is a prominent figure in this investigation. A reliable source who was a prominent member of the Communist Party stated in 1939 that Solomon Adler, an employee of the United States Treasury Department, had sent weekly reports to the Communist Party. U

This same source advised that Solomon Adler was definitely known by him to be a Communist. He further advised that he knew Solomon Adler to have been in close contact with J. Peters and to have made reports of a financial nature to Peters. He stated that he suspected the Communist Party was playing the stock market and they utilized Sol Adler's financial information in this connection. It is to be noted that J. Peters is identical with Alexander Stevens, a known Comintern agent. U

During the course of investigation conducted on Philip Jaffe, John Service, Andrew Roth, et al, relating to these individuals having obtained confidential documents from the State Department and other Government depart-

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ments, Solomon Adler of the United States Treasury Department was questioned at which time he admitted that he was acquainted with John Service, having first met him in the fall of 1941 in Chungking, China. Adler stated that he was also acquainted with Andrew Roth but denied ever having furnished confidential information to him. U

Results of Investigation

From the time of the commencement of this investigation until July 14, 1946, Adler was in China where he was a representative of the United States Treasury Department in Chungking. U

One of Adler's first acts upon arriving in Washington, D. C., was to contact George Silverman, one of the principal subjects of this case, to arrange for an interview which was held the same day. Adler was also a guest at Silverman's apartment for dinner on July 17, 1946, and spent the evening there. On the evenings of July 22 and July 31, 1946, Adler was with Silverman. U

On July 19, 1946, Adler was observed to have visited the room of William H. Taylor at the Washington Hotel, where both Adler and Taylor were at that time staying. Taylor is a principal subject in this case. U

On July 25, 1946, Adler was present at a party at the home of Harold Glasser, a subject of this investigation, at which time he is also known to have contacted Allan Rosenberg, who is a subject of this case. U

Adler left Washington, D. C., on August 6, 1946, on a special mission by ATC airlines. On this flight he was accompanying the then Assistant Secretary of War Howard C. Peterson on a mission to Hawaii, Kwajalein, Guam, Manila, Shanghai and Tokyo. Adler was to serve as an advisor to Peterson on the trip and upon arriving at Shanghai or Tokyo was to leave for Nanking, China, where he was to resume his duties as Financial Attache of the United States Treasury Department. It was later learned that Adler arrived in Shanghai on August 15, 1946. U

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Interview

Solomon Adler was interviewed by Agents of the FBI on December 19, 1947, and furnished the following information:

Adler stated he became acquainted with Laughlin Currie in approximately 1936 at which time the former visited in Washington, D. C. At that time Currie was employed by the Federal Reserve Board and they had conferences regarding monetary matters. Adler stated that he had heard of Currie in England and had had the opportunity to read several books written by Currie prior to their meeting, and that he admired his ability as a financier. The contacts between Adler and Currie ripened into a friendship and they continued seeing each other periodically on a professional basis.

Adler stated his acquaintance with Harry Magdoff began in Philadelphia during 1936. Their meetings were of a business nature due to their mutual interest as co-employees of the National Resources Administration under the direction of the Works Progress Administration. Subsequently, Magdoff and Adler moved to Washington, D. C., where they met infrequently. Their meetings in Washington were casual and were of a purely social nature. Adler failed to recall he had ever furnished any information regarding his work to Harry Magdoff.

In regard to George Silverman, Adler stated he met him in 1933 at Washington, D. C., when each of them lunched at Brookings Institute. They had a mutual interest in economic problems and would often have lunch together and discuss such matters. Adler stated after 1933 he did not see Silverman until the Christmas holiday season in 1935. The next meeting was sometime later. Adler recalled visiting the Silvermans when Adler returned from China in 1946. He described Silverman as being intellectually brilliant stating he has one of the best minds of any individual with whom he is acquainted. Adler was asked if he had ever discussed his employment with George Silverman and he answered in the affirmative qualifying it by stating it was possible he might have discussed the details and nature of his work with him due to their common interest in the field of finance. He was asked if he believed he could have discussed a specific problem in detail with Silverman to which he replied it was possible.

Adler stated he became acquainted with Sol Lischinsky during 1935 in China. Their acquaintance stemmed from a mutual interest in economics

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and finances, and they became good personal friends. Adler could have discussed his work and assignments in the Treasury Department with Lischinsky but if so it would have been to a very limited degree. U

Adler admitted he was well acquainted with Harold Glasser due to the fact that Harold Glasser as director of the Division of Monetary Research was at one time one of his immediate superiors. Adler, in answer to the question how he was originally employed by the Treasury Department, replied in 1936 he came to Washington, D. C., to see a friend Lawrence Seltzer who was employed at the Library of Congress. At that time Adler expressed a desire to enter into the government service and was referred by Seltzer to Harry Dexter White. Adler was interviewed by White at great length, submitted an application, and was hired. U

In regard to Frank Coe, Adler stated his acquaintance stemmed from their employment and to the fact that Coe was one of his superiors. U

He advised that he became acquainted with Irving Kaplan at the same place as Magdoff; that is, at the National Research Project at Philadelphia. This acquaintance has been of a casual nature. U

Adler stated he became acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and Helen Silvermaster in 1938 or 1939. This meeting was made possible through William Ludwig Ullmann who was a co-employee at the Treasury Department. Ullmann invited Adler for dinner at the Silvermaster home, and he frequently was a guest at the Silvermaster residence to such extent these meetings averaged once a month until 1945, at which time his marriage precluded social activities. Adler denied he ever corresponded with the Silvermasters or with Ullmann while in China or that he had directed any correspondence of an official nature to them either directly or indirectly through channels available to him. U

He denied he ever discussed the details of his assignment or employment with the Silvermasters and indicated further, although Silvermaster was considered in certain channels as a great intellectual, he personally did not hold such high regard for his ability. He failed to recall whether the Silvermasters had ever questioned him with regard to his assignments in China and believes his conversations with the Silvermasters were wholly on a social plane. Adler stated the Silvermasters, both Helen and Gregory, were very pro-Russian in their attitude but he was not in a position to make any statement as to their loyalty to this government. U

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Adler stated he is acquainted with Nathan Witt, Charles Bremer, and John Abt, but his acquaintance had been confined to Washington, D. C., and was of a purely social nature, and he does not recall ever having met them anywhere but in Washington, D. C. Adler further denied acquaintance with J. Peters and said he had never heard of him. U

Adler denied knowing anyone by the name of Allan Rosenberg. U

Adler denied furnishing any restricted or classified information or forwarding any official documents to any unauthorized individual at any time. U

He stated he was not a member of the Communist Party nor has he ever been a member of the Party. As far as he knows, he is not acquainted with any member of the Communist Party or anyone who might be a member of the Party. He said further he had never contributed any money to the Communist Party nor to any organization that might be construed as being dominated by the Communist Party. U

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NORMAN CHANDLER BURSALER

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Allegations of Gregory

In February, 1946, Gregory recalled that during 1942 Helen Silvermaster mentioned that she was acquainted with Norman Bursaler, an attorney in the Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, and indicated that Bursaler might be a good prospect for intelligence work. Gregory then conferred with Jacob H. Golos concerning the recruitment of Bursaler, but Golos indicated that he was skeptical and feared Bursaler might be a "plant". At a later date Gregory instructed Helen Silvermaster to handle Bursaler personally and apparently, according to Gregory, arrangements were made between Helen Silvermaster and Norman Bursaler inasmuch as in the summer of 1943 Gregory saw reports on German cartels among the material turned over to Gregory by the Silvermasters. Helen Silvermaster had stated that Bursaler's work was in the Antitrust Division and principally concerning investigation of German cartels and when Gregory indicated that the source of these cartel reports was known to Gregory, Helen Silvermaster admitted that they had come from Bursaler. Gregory has never met nor seen Bursaler and had no further information concerning him.

Background

Norman Chandler Bursaler was born February 28, 1904, at Wilmington, Delaware. He was one of nine children and three of his brothers possess criminal records at Wilmington, Delaware.

He also did graduate work in economics at the University of California.

Bursaler's employment background reflects that he obtained his first employment in 1918 with the E. I. DuPont de Nemours Corporation and his first Government employment was from August, 1931, to May, 1932, as Secretary to the American Commercial Attache in Shanghai, China. He has also been employed by the National Recovery Administration, the Works Progress Administration and the Departments of Labor and Agriculture.

On August 5, 1938, Bursaler obtained employment as an expert in the Antitrust Division, Department of Justice, and continued that employment to March 1, 1946, with the exception of the period from October 27, 1942, to January 25, 1943, during which time he was in the United States Armed Forces.

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

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Bursler also, on his own record, admitted he had been in China in 1930 and while there had been a member of the Communist Party.

[REDACTED]

Another confidential source revealed that Norman Bursler received Communist papers and that as late as August, 1938, these papers came to 2511 Herst Avenue, Berkeley, California, addressed to Bursler.

[REDACTED]

It is not known whether this individual is identical with Norman Bursler but it is noted that Bursler was an undergraduate student at the University of California at that time.

[REDACTED]

In a personal history statement executed in Bursler's own handwriting for the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, Bursler set out that the person to be notified in case of emergency was Dr. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster who he identified as a "friend." Bursler also listed Dr. Gregory Silvermaster, Farm Security Administration, Washington, D. C., as one of his references in his application for employment with the Department of Justice.

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

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In a memorandum to Mr. Thurman Arnold dated November 30, 1938, Norman Bursler, in giving information as to where he was on November 7, (election day) 1936, advised that he left the office and went to dinner at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Gregory Silvermaster. He also advised that others in the party were Boris Witte who was identified as a member of the Russian aristocracy, and William L. Ullmann. It is pointed out that Ullmann is one of the principal figures in this investigation and Boris Witte is Helen Silvermaster's brother.

In a letter dated December 5, 1938, from Gregory Silvermaster, Senior Economist, Maritime Labor Board, to Mr. Thurman Arnold, Silvermaster advised that he had known Mr. Bursler since 1932 and that since 1935 he had the opportunity of knowing Mr. Bursler more intimately as Bursler had been a frequent visitor at his home.

Bursler has been a member of several search teams sent to the European Theater investigating German cartels and submitted a confidential report to the Department of Justice dated September 18, 1943, on "The Iron and Steel Industry: Activities of European Cartel Members in South America."

Results of Investigation

Information concerning his affiliation with this group was not obtained until February 1, 1946. On March 2, 1946, a trunk containing personal effects of Bursler was shipped to him in Chicago from the home of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. The investigation has failed to reflect any contact between Bursler and other subjects of this case since he went to Chicago.

Bursler is presently employed as a research associate with the rank of Assistant Professor, Law School, University of Chicago.

Interview

Norman Chandler Bursler was interviewed by Agents of the FBI on June 7, 1947, and furnished the following information:

He denied being a member of the Communist Party and other organizations with which he has been reportedly connected, maintaining that he could not recall any information concerning the allegations made against him. He claimed that in about 1934 he met Helen and Gregory Silvermaster once in California at the home of a member of the University of California faculty whose identity he could not recall. He does not recall exactly when, where or how he again met the Silvermasters in Washington, D. C., but admitted living with them in the Chevy Chase section of Washington for about one month, but he could not recall the month or the year. He stated that he saw the Silvermasters a few times while working for the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice. Bursler denied that he was ever questioned by Helen or Gregory Silvermaster about his work or that he was ever asked for or furnished information to them concerning any

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matter in connection with his official duties. He stated that he may have discussed the general nature of his work in casual conversation with them but he did not discuss any specific phase of it. U

Bursler stated that he met George Perazich on two or three occasions previous to the time that Perazich came to the University of Chicago, but he did not know whether or not Perazich knows the Silvermasters. U

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Virginus Frank Coe

Allegations of Gregory

Gregory has recalled another individual who was associated with the Silvermaster group. This individual is Frank Coe, who at the time Gregory first became aware of his identity, was in the United States Treasury Department, although his exact title and position are not now recalled.

Coe, according to Gregory, was in South America on a mission for the Treasury Department during all but about two months of the time that he was known to be in contact with the Silvermasters. It was also recalled by Gregory that Coe was communicating directly from South America with the Silvermasters in Washington, D. C., and sending them reports and other information which he gathered while there on assignment for the Treasury Department. It is Gregory's opinion that Coe also sent information to Harry White, Assistant Secretary of the United States Treasury in Washington, D. C., while he was in South America. It is also Gregory's belief that Coe made information available to White while he, Coe, was in the United States, and that the information supplied to White eventually was furnished by him to the Silvermasters. Gregory could not recall definitely having seen any material which could be identified at this late date as having definitely originated with Coe, but does state the information supplied by him in his personal communications to the Silvermasters was digested and made available for transmittal to Gregory's superiors. Gregory's recollection as to the type of information supplied by Coe is vague other than that it was economic data.

Gregory advised in conclusion that Coe was considered relatively unimportant to the Silvermaster group.

Background

Coe was born January 5, 1907 in Richmond, Virginia, the son of Joseph Lawrence Coe and Charlotte Kerr Coe. He attended Lake View High School, Chicago, Illinois from 1919 to 1923 and entered the University of Chicago in 1923. He majored in economics and obtained a Ph.D. Degree. From September, 1926 until September, 1928 he was employed at the University of Chicago as a research assistant, receiving an annual salary of \$750.00. From September, 1928 until June, 1930 he was employed at John Hopkins Institute of Law, Baltimore, Maryland as a research assistant and was again employed as a research assistant at the University of Chicago from 1930 until July, 1933. From August, 1933 until June, 1934 he was employed by the Brookings Institute in Washington, D. C. as an economist and from June to September, 1934 he was employed by the United States Treasury Department as an economic consultant. During the five-year period from

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1934 to 1939 Goe was on periodic leave from the Government and was on the teaching staff at the University of Toronto at Toronto, Canada devoting his time to lectures on money and international finance. From June to September, 1936 he was employed as a principal economist by the United States Treasury Department and held the same position from September, 1939 to July, 1940. From July to September, 1940 he was an economic consultant with the Federal Security Agency. From September, 1940 to 1942 he was employed as an Assistant Director of Monetary Research at the Treasury Department. From June, 1941 until December, 1941 he was in London, England for the purpose of assisting Ambassador Winant, charged with the duties of advising the Ambassador on financial and economic matters. He submitted a report on the method of distributing Lend Lease goods by the British authorities and on the policies to be followed in the export of Lend Lease goods.

While associated with the Treasury Department in Washington in the Division of Monetary Research Goe conducted independent research and carried out special tasks under Harry Dexter White, the Director of this Division. In addition he lectured and edited manuscripts on a variety of subjects including international trade and finance, economic conditions in foreign countries, exchange control and foreign trade control.

In January, 1942 Goe was appointed as Executive Secretary with the Board of Economic Warfare which position he was to keep for the duration of the emergency. For the past two and a half years he was an Assistant to Harry Dexter White in the Division of Monetary Research of the Treasury Department and succeeded White as head of this Division when White left to become associated with the World Bank. He held this position until recently at which time he was named Secretary of the International Monetary Fund, which has headquarters at 1818 H Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

[REDACTED]

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Highly confidential source has advised that Goe is closely associated and friendly with Irving Berlin, Helen Mirra, Harry Dexter White, George Shinn, Harry Dexter, and William Joseph Winant, all subjects of this investigation.

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On December 11, 1945, through a highly confidential source it was learned that Dorothy Kaplan received a cablegram from her husband, Irving Kaplan, who was then with the United States Army in Europe, instructing her to tell Frank Coe that no confirmatory cable had been received by him as yet. Further, an individual named Nixon, believed to be Russell Nixon, had cabled Bernard Bernstein and Harry Dexter White on December 11, 1945, requesting Kaplan's immediate recall on account of urgent matters. Irving Kaplan is the subject of a separate subtitle in this memorandum. (S) u

This same source also reported on December 11, 1945, that Dorothy Kaplan had contacted William Ludwig Ullmann, at which time she made reference to a discussion she had had with Frank Coe concerning the time schedule for her husband's return, and the fact that she had received a cable from Irving Kaplan indicating he had not received any cable from the War Department. Ullmann told Mrs. Kaplan there was nothing he could do; that the War Department was being requested by the Treasury Department to return Kaplan to the United States immediately. Later Dorothy Kaplan contacted Abraham George Silverman and indicated that she was emotionally upset concerning Ullmann's attitude and because a cable was not sent to have her husband return to the United States until December 7, 1945. Mrs. Kaplan blamed Frank Coe for not sending this cable sooner and then added that Coe was deeply concerned over her husband and was trying to find an important position for him at the Treasury Department. Silverman indicated to Mrs. Kaplan that he had contacted Frank Coe and tried to impress him with the urgency of effecting Kaplan's return. At or about this same time, Mrs. Kaplan also contacted Frank Coe regarding the cable to her husband to recall him from Europe, at which time Coe advised her to send a cable telling him they are doing everything possible; however, there was some red tape involved. Through the activities of this group, Irving Kaplan actually returned to the United States from Europe on or about December 24, 1945. (S) u

On December 18, it was determined through a highly confidential source that Lauchlin Currie conferred with Frank Coe. The latter wanted to know if Currie was coming to Washington, stated there was a gathering of old timers on the following Thursday, and that Lawler had asked Coe to contact Currie. Although Coe indicated that a number of Currie's friends would be at this gathering, Currie did not indicate he would be present. (S) u

A physical surveillance of Lauchlin Currie on January 8, 1946, determined that he had dinner at the Cafe Parisienne, Washington, D. C., with Virginus Frank Coe. Currie is the subject of a separate subtitle of this memorandum. (S) u

Confidential sources have stated that Coe is in frequent contact with Harry Dexter White and on numerous occasions in the past discussed Treasury Department matters with White. He has visited at the White home on several occasions. The same source has advised that Coe has been in frequent contact with George (S) u

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Silverman, a subject of this investigation, and that Silverman has visited in the Coe home. (X)u

Interview

Virginia Frank Coe was interviewed by Agents of the FBI on May 29, 1947, at his office located in Room 801, 1818 H Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C. U

Coe emphatically denied furnishing information of any nature to anyone which would be of a detrimental nature to this country. Coe particularly stated that no information concerning any official activity was passed on to any individual for transmittal to a Russian contact. U

Coe was questioned concerning the statement of Gregory that he had corresponded with the Silvermasters directly from South America, sending them reports and other information. Coe denied furnishing any information or reports to the Silvermasters. He elaborated on this allegation by stating that the only time he was out of the country other than in Canada and England was during the time he was connected with a Government assignment in Mexico, known as the Government Committee on Economic Cooperation. He was unable to recall ever having corresponded with the Silvermasters particularly while he was in Mexico. He said he was not closely associated with the Silvermasters but only knew them while travelling in "economic circles". He advised that there was a possibility that while discussing general problems with Mr. Silvermaster or other individuals he may have discussed some particular phase but at no time could he recall furnishing any information which he regarded as detrimental to this country. U

Coe was questioned at length concerning his association and activities with Irving Kaplan, Helen Silvermaster, Harry Dexter White, Abraham George Silverman, Harry Magloff, Allan R. Rosenberg, and William Ludwig Ullmann, and he denied close association with any of these individuals. It was pointed out to Coe that he had given a personal recommendation concerning the character, loyalty and reputation of Ullmann in the latter's application for a position with the U. S. Coast Guard. Coe said this may have been possible but he recalled that Ullmann had worked in his division while he was employed with the United States Treasury Department and since "all of my employees were good guys" he did not hesitate to recommend any one when requested. U

With respect to P. Bernard Mortman, Coe stated that he knew him as a member of a car pool, having met him about six months previous to the interview when their respective children enrolled in the same nursery school. He said U

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they had nothing in common and were practically strangers. He also denied that Norton had discussed with him the fact that Norton was interviewed by FBI Agents on April 15, 1947. U

Coe denied being a member of the Communist Party and denied associating with any known members of the Party. (65-56402-2530, Pgs 3 & 4) U

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LAUCHLIN BERNARD CURRIE

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Allegations of Gregory

Gregory advised that Lauchlin Currie orally furnished George Silverman information on various matters. (Silverman was formerly employed as a Chief Production Specialist, Material Division, Army Air Forces, from March 26, 1942, until August 18, 1945, at which time he left to work for the French Supply Council at 1800 Massachusetts Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C. He is a subject in this case.)

[For example, on one occasion between the latter part of 1942 and the early part of 1943, Currie advised Silverman that the United States was on the verge of breaking the Soviet code. Gregory also advised that after Golos' death, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster discussed with "Bill," a Soviet agent whose true identity has not yet been established, the advisability of introducing Currie directly to the Russian contact. Gregory advised, however, that such a meeting was probably never arranged. Gregory also believes Currie had something to do with Silvermaster's securing the position he held with the Board of Economic Warfare in 1942.]

(65-56402-220)

Background

Lauchlin Currie was born in West Dublin, Nova Scotia, October 8, 1902. He attended the London School of Economics and received a B.S. degree in 1925. In 1931 he received a Ph.D degree from Harvard. He is married and has two children. Currie first came to the United States in 1925 and was naturalized in 1934. He was an instructor and a tutor at Harvard University from 1927 to 1934.

During the latter part of 1934, he was appointed an analyst for the United States Treasury Department and later was made Assistant Director of Research and Statistics for the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, which position he retained until 1939. He became Administrative Assistant to the President in July of 1939, and in 1941 was named Head of the Economic Mission to China. In 1942 he went to China as the President's personal representative on a diplomatic mission. During this trip he spent a few days in New Delhi and returned to the United States on August 20, 1942. He attended the Institute of Pacific Relations Conference held at Mont Tremblant, Canada, in December, 1942. In the early part of September, 1943, he was appointed as Acting Deputy Administrator, which position he held until the early part of 1945 after which he resumed his former White House duties.

In February, 1945, Currie went to London as Head of the American Mission conferring with British officials. At this time he was also reported as heading a mission to Switzerland for the purpose of curtailing Swiss exports to Germany. He returned to the United States on March 19, 1945.

It has been reliably reported that the International Development Company, headed by Lauchlin Currie, opened offices at 19 Rector Street, New York City,

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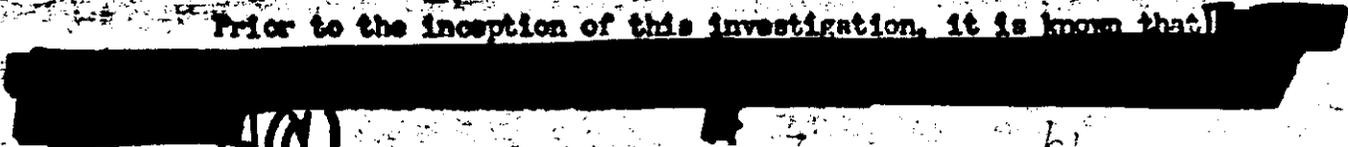
in July of 1945. This company allegedly engages in industrial, advisory, engineering and management export business with representation in various points abroad.

It is interesting to note that Lauchlin Currie was interviewed during a Hatch Act investigation of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and when asked to comment upon Silvermaster's political philosophy, Currie stated that in his mind conclusive evidence of whether or not a person is Communistically inclined was the individual's attitude up to June 22, 1941, when Germany invaded the Soviet Union. Currie stated that inasmuch as Silvermaster was an advocate of war prior to that time, he did not regard him as Communistic but stated that he was a "liberal" and a "New Dealer" in his political leanings.

It is also interesting to note that Lauchlin Currie was a sponsor on the visa application of Karl Borromaeus Josef Frank, better known as Paul Hagen. Hagen is alleged to be a secret agent of the Soviet Government. Hagen also admitted that he was a member of the Communist Party in Europe from 1919 to 1929. Currie appeared as a witness in behalf of Paul Hagen on his application for a visa on April 30, 1942. He stated that he knew Paul Hagen was a member of the Communist Party at one time. However, he did not feel that there would be any danger to the country through the admission of Paul Hagen. Currie was asked if he would advocate the policy of granting a visa to an individual who admittedly is of the opinion that if there happens to be a conflict between his decisions and the government to which he owes allegiance, he would follow his own decisions. Currie stated that he was not altogether in favor of such a policy, but indicated that it would depend upon the specific case. He stated that Paul Hagen advocated a democratic regime in Germany.

A former member of the Communist Party underground, who is known to be reliable, advised that Lauchlin Currie was a "fellow traveler" who helped various Communists but never went the whole way.

Prior to the inception of this investigation, it is known that



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Results of Investigation

Since November, 1945, when an investigation was started with regard to the activities of Lauchlin Currie, it was learned that he had been primarily interested in the affairs of the International Development Company and had been making plans to travel abroad. On December 11, 1945, he was issued passport number 27181 for a business trip to the British Isles, France, Belgium, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, Spain and Portugal. The passport was later amended to

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include Italy. Currie advised the State Department that his visit to Europe would be closely allied with the work of the International Development Company of which he is the president. He stated that he was particularly interested in laying a pipe line from Italy to Switzerland and constructing an oil refinery in Switzerland.

On January 14, 1946, it was ascertained that Currie departed from LaGuardia Field by way of a Pan-American Airlines plane for Hurn, England, with a business associate. It was reliably ascertained that Currie returned to the United States about May 1, 1946, and was then residing at 61 East 87th Street, New York City, at which address he is also residing at the present time. Since that time he has also continued his work with the International Development Company.



Interview

Lauchlin B. Currie was interviewed by Agents of the FBI on July 31, 1947, in New York City.

Currie admitted knowing Abraham George Silverman since 1927 on a rather friendly basis and stated that he had heard from him within the past month. He advised he first met Nathan Gregory Silvermaster in Washington, D.C. in 1940, and had been at his house on several occasions. On the occasion of one of these visits to the Silvermaster home, at which time William Ludwig Ullsman was present, Currie was shown a photographic workshop in the Silvermasters' basement.

He stated that he first met Anasteli Gromov, who has been identified as the unknown "Al" in this matter, some time in 1944, through an introduction by one Luther Galick. He stated that he visited Gromov's home once in 1945 and that the visit was returned by Gromov. He also said that he saw Gromov on at least two other occasions after he, Currie, left the Government service in June, 1945.

With reference to the allegation that Currie on one occasion advised Abraham George Silverman that the United States was on the verge of breaking the Soviet code, Currie stated that he did not recall ever having discussed with Silverman such a matter. He stated, however, that in view of his contacts it was possible that he had heard that the United States was about to break

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the Soviet side and further, he might possibly have discussed it with Silverman because Silverman also held a highly responsible Government position.

Currie denied that he had furnished any information knowingly or otherwise to the Russians or anyone remotely connected with them. Currie said that he had been expecting to be interviewed by the FBI as he had heard from Virginia Frank Coe, another subject in this investigation, that Coe had told him that he had received a subpoena to appear before a Federal Grand Jury and that it would be necessary for him, Coe, to mention the fact that he knows Currie. Currie said he had also recently been in contact with Silverman and Silverman mentioned something about the investigation and advised Currie that he, Silverman, was not discussing this matter as advised by his attorney. U

(65-56402) teletype from New York 7-30-47
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Currie was reinterviewed in New York City on September 23, 1947. He stated that in 1940 while he was employed in the White House, the President asked him to conduct an inquiry into a mutiny, the details of which he could not recall. While conducting this inquiry, he was assisted by the Chief Economist of the Maritime Mediation Board who was introduced to him as Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. As a result of this official association, he became friendly with Mr. Silvermaster and subsequently visited Silvermaster's home several times during 1940 and 1941. He stated that the Silvermasters returned these visits to his home on several occasions. He stated that from 1942 to 1945, he visited the Silvermasters' home occasionally, and he last saw Silvermaster in the spring of 1945. U

Currie recalled that William Ludwig Ullmann, who was residing with the Silvermasters, photographed his children in 1942 when Currie was in China as the President's personal representative. He stated that some of the social visits to the Silvermasters' home occurred when a number of people were present although the majority of these visits consisted of only Currie's family, the Silvermasters and Ullmann. The visitors were mostly officials of the United States Government who were associated with Silvermaster or Ullmann in connection with their official positions. He said these parties were strictly social and none of the activities of these parties indicated that any of the individuals were involved in Russian espionage and no discussions took place to indicate that any of the individuals present were members of the Communist Party or were interested in Party activities. U

Currie stated that he did not know Luther Gulick intimately since his associations with him were at large committee meetings or at luncheons where a number of people attended. He thought that Gulick had been employed by the Public Administration Clearing House and as a political adviser for the War Production Board. He stated that Gulick had been employed by WPPA and visited Europe and Russia while so employed. Currie felt that Gulick probably came in contact with Soviet officials due to his position in the United States Government. U

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Gulick telephonically contacted him during the fall of 1944 at the White House to make an luncheon engagement. Gulick told him at that time that he wanted him to meet Anastol Gromov, an interesting Russian who spoke rather openly. Currie said he was introduced to Gromov by Luther Gulick and at that time he did not know Gulick's position in the United States Government. He stated he had luncheon with Gulick and Gromov at the May-Adams Hotel in Washington, D. C., within a day or two after receiving the telephone call from Gulick. He recalled at this luncheon that there was a discussion between Gulick and Gromov relative to the freedom of speech in Russia. He described Gromov as an interesting conversationalist who was very friendly. He said no mention was made at this luncheon concerning his work at the White House and that Gromov did not appear to seek any information from him. Also at this luncheon Gromov invited Currie and his wife to Gromov's home for dinner which engagement took place several days thereafter. The only persons present at Gromov's home were Gromov and his wife, and Mr. and Mrs. Currie. Conversation dealt mainly with the various forms of culture and the contrast between American and Russian culture.

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Shortly after this dinner, he received four or five publications from Gromov written in the English language discussing Russian life. Currie stated he called Gromov on the telephone at his home about one month after visiting Gromov's home and invited him and his wife to dinner at Currie's home which was to take place a few days later. At this dinner Currie stated Gromov and his wife were the only persons present and their discussion was continued generally on cultural matters. The only other discussion that took place as far as he could recall was a discussion of importations. He said that it was Gromov's opinion that there should be an exchange of Russian and American periodicals and scientific magazines. Currie stated that he was unable to explain why Gromov would be interested in associating with him socially. He said that Gromov did not express any interest in obtaining information from the United States Government and Currie does not believe that Gromov appeared interested in the type of work that was handled by him.

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During the spring of 1945, Currie was making arrangements to establish the International Development Company. One of his interests in this company was to secure an exchange of movies with various European countries. In order to arrange such an exchange, he contacted Gromov from New York City and made a luncheon appointment with him some time during the fall of 1945. He said he met Gromov at the Cafe Parisienne in Washington, D. C., and discussed with him the possibility of making an exchange agreement for motion pictures. Gromov was friendly and expressed some interest. They again had luncheon at the same place about two weeks hence and Gromov discouraged him regarding the exchange agreement for motion pictures. The only other things discussed by them were of a social nature. He said he has not seen or spoken to Gromov since that time.

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With further reference to Abraham George Silverman, Currie stated that he had given considerable thought in trying to recall whether he heard that the United States was about to break the Russian code and he could not recall hearing such a statement and was at a loss to explain how such information could possibly have gotten into Silverman's possession. However, he stated that he would make the hypothetical statement that if he had heard that the United States was about to break the Russian code he would have had no hesitancy in discussing this with Silverman because of the highly responsible Government position held by the latter. He said that Silverman had been employed by the Statistical Section as the Chief of the Material Section of the Army Air Force and even though he was a civilian such a position was considered a highly responsible one and he was entrusted to highly confidential information. (65-56402, report of SA Lawrence W. Spillane, NYC, 9-25-47)

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BELA GOLD, with alias
Bill Gold

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2/18/44 PR 100-365891-2 P4

Allegations of Gregory

Gregory advised that in the spring of 1944 he met Bill Gold, the husband of Sonya Gold, another subject in this case. Late in 1944 Bill Gold obtained a position with the Foreign Economic Administration. Thereafter Gregory ascertained from conversations had with Mr. and Mrs. Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullmann that Bill Gold had been supplying the Silvermaster group with what they indicated was excellent information regarding the activities of the Foreign Economic Administration. During one of these conversations Gregory advised that either Nathan Gregory Silvermaster or William Ullmann made the remark that Bill Gold had done such a good job that they were thinking of supplying him with a camera so that he could do his own photographing at home.

Background

The records of Selective Service Board No. 2, Arlington, Virginia, reflect that Bela Gold registered on October 16, 1940, giving his address as 3007 North Pershing Drive, Arlington, Virginia. He was born on January 30, 1915 at Colossvar, Hungary. He listed his employment as United States Department of Agriculture, South Building. He stated that he was married in New York City to Sonya Gold on July 5, 1938.

In a questionnaire which he filled out in June, 1942, Gold stated that his job at that time was Principal Social Science Analyst and that his duties were to direct general economic and social research for the Chief of the Bureau of Intelligence, Office of Facts and Figures, and for the Head of the Division of Program Surveys, Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The Selective Service file reflects further that on April 16, 1945, Form 42-A requesting deferment was submitted on behalf of Bela Gold by Kenneth O. Warner, Chairman of the Agency Deferment Committee, Foreign Economic Administration, which stated that Gold's position as Adviser (Foreign Development Policy) began on September 18, 1944. The request for deferment stated that his position started on February 1, 1945, and it was his duty to act as an adviser on foreign economic development problems and programs. His place of employment with the Foreign Economic Administration was given as Temporary Building T, 14th and Constitution Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D. C. The Selective Service file also reflects that Bela Gold was rejected for Army Service because of subminimal vision.

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Results of Investigation

In November, 1945, an investigation of Bela Gold was instituted. It was ascertained that he was employed by the Foreign Economic Administration, at Temporary Building T, Washington, D. C.

Through a physical surveillance it was learned that on November 26, 1945, Bela Gold, after leaving work, met Mrs. Elisabeth Sasuly, who apparently had been waiting for him. He drove this woman to his residence where she remained until 11:25 p.m. the same day. Thereafter she proceeded alone to her apartment in the Alban Towers Apartments, 3700 Massachusetts Avenue, Northwest. It should be noted that Mrs. Elisabeth Sasuly entertained William Z. Foster, National Chairman of the Communist Party, at her apartment during the spring of 1945 when he was visiting in Washington, D. C. It is also alleged that Elisabeth Sasuly is a member of the White Cellar Unit of the Communist Party. She is also a close contact of Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and his wife, Helen.

A highly reliable confidential source advised that on December 12, 1945, Sonia Gold mentioned to her husband, Bela Gold, that Victor Perle had just been hired for a position in the Treasury Department and further mentioned that she was not acquainted with him. It is noted that Victor Perle is a subject in this case and an associate of the Perle Group. Bela Gold at this time informed his wife that he was acquainted with Victor Perle.

A very reliable informant has advised that on numerous occasions since November, 1945, Bela Gold has been in frequent contact with Mrs. Elisabeth Sasuly and her husband, Dick. A highly confidential and reliable informant advised that on June 7, 1946, Bela Gold was in conversation with Dick

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Sasuly, and on that date Bela told Dick to be sure and visit him and his wife, Sonia, at their new home in New Hampshire. Dick and Bela also discussed the writing of their books. The informant stated that both of these individuals were apparently writing books, the nature of which he did not, however, know. In this conversation with Dick, Bela added that in spite of the bad days of an author it was better than going to work for John Snyder as poor Sonia had to do every day, but he indicated that Sonia hoped to get out of the Treasury Department before Snyder came in. *q u* *D*

The records of the personnel office of the International Trade Organization show that Bela Gold was placed on furlough without pay due to the reduction in force as of May 30, 1946. It was further indicated by the personnel office that he would be released or transferred to another agency. *U*

On June 14, 1946, a highly confidential and reliable informant advised that Bela Gold and his wife, Sonia, had departed from their home in Arlington, Virginia, and intended to spend the summer months at Echo Point Cottage, Meredith Center, New Hampshire. It was expected that they would remain at this new address until October 15, 1946. The informant advised that Bela Gold had indicated that he would spend considerable time in writing a book and resting. It was later ascertained through a confidential source that the Golds remained at this vacation spot until September 10, 1946, where Bela apparently spent all of his time writing a book tentatively titled "How to Feed the World". After September 16, 1946, they returned to Washington where they took up residence with Henry Hill Collins, Jr., Crandall Road, Lanham, Maryland. On October 25, 1946, the Golds moved to apartment 2-C, 3416 10th Place, Southeast. The Golds are presently residing at 2404 Wenzell Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Bela Gold is a professor at the University of Pittsburgh. *q u* (65-56402-2985-5) *D*

Interview

Bela Gold was interviewed on April 15, 1947 and denied that he had ever furnished any information of any nature which had come into his possession in connection with his positions in the United States Government, to any person not authorized to receive such information. He specifically denied having furnished such information to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Helan Silvermaster, William Ludwig Ullmann, Jacob Golos, or to Gregory. He also denied ever having met, known or heard of Golos or Gregory. *U*

Bela Gold stated that he became acquainted with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster when they both worked in the United States Department of Agriculture. Thereafter he visited Silvermaster in the latter's home and became acquainted with Mrs. Silvermaster and William Ullmann. He stated that when he prepared a thesis for a doctorate in 1945 he consulted Silvermaster concerning certain phases of it. Other than that all of his contacts with Silvermasters and Ullmann have been on a social basis. *U*

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After the birth of Gold's son in 1945, Bela Gold borrowed a thirty-five millimeter camera from Ullmann to take some photographs of the child. He said that Ullmann was a camera enthusiast and owned some equipment. Gold does not recall ever having seen any equipment in the Silvermaster home which was set up for the purpose of doing document photography. He advised that while employed by the Foreign Economic Administration in 1944 he had access to considerable information classified as confidential. He admitted that such information, if it fell into the hands of a person working against the interests of the United States, would result in injury to this country. He denied, however that he had ever made any such information available to anyone who was not authorized to receive it.

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In November, 1945, the records of the Treasury Department reflected that Sonia Gold was formerly employed as secretary or assistant secretary to Harry White of the United States Treasury Department and her address was given as 3007 North Pershing Drive, Arlington, Virginia. It was further ascertained at this time that Sonia Gold was employed by the Treasury Department in the Monetary Research Branch, Room 3449, at the Main Treasury Building, 15th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., but that she was then on maternity leave and had been on maternity leave for approximately two months. U

A confidential informant has advised that one Sonia Gold was a member of the Professional Section of the Communist Party, USA, District No. 13, at San Francisco, California. It is not known whether or not this Sonia Gold is identical with the above captioned individual. U

Results of Investigation

In November, 1945, it was ascertained that Sonia Gold was staying at her home, 3007 North Pershing Drive, Arlington, Virginia, where she was taking care of a young baby. U

On December 28, 1945, it was ascertained as a result of a physical surveillance that Sonia Gold had lunch at Garfinckel's in Washington, D. C., with Helen Silvermaster. U

A very reliable informant has advised that on numerous occasions since November, 1945, Sonia Gold has been in contact with Mrs. Elisabeth Sasuly and her husband, Dick Sasuly. Information regarding Mr. and Mrs. Sasuly is set forth in the portion of this memorandum relating to Elisabeth Sasuly. U

Information received from an informant believed to be reliable indicated that Sonia Gold returned to her former position at the Treasury Department in January, 1946. U

On June 7, 1946, a highly confidential and reliable source advised that Sonia Gold informed her husband Bela that she had spoken to Elisabeth Sasuly and had advised Elisabeth that they were going to New Hampshire and had also furnished Elisabeth with their New Hampshire address. At this time, both Sonia and her husband Bela agreed that they did not wish to see many people before they left for New Hampshire, but they certainly wanted to see Elisabeth and Dick Sasuly. X (u) X

On June 14, 1946, a highly confidential and reliable informant advised that Sonia Gold left her home in Arlington, Virginia, with her husband, Bela, and young baby for their new home in New Hampshire, the address of which was Echo Point Cottage, Meredith Center, New Hampshire, where she expected to remain until October 15, 1946. X u X

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According to Treasury Department records, Sonia Gold was placed on leave without pay status on July 12, 1946, and from available information it appeared that she contemplated returning to her employment at the Treasury Department upon her return to Washington in the fall of 1946. ✓

Through confidential sources it was ascertained that Sonia Gold and her husband remained in New Hampshire until September 16, 1946, at which time they returned to Washington and took up residence with Henry Hill Collins, Jr., Crandall Road, Lanham, Maryland. Sonia Gold returned to her position in the Treasury Department and worked in the office of Mr. Morris Friedberg, Room 3437. The Golds moved on October 25, 1946, to Apartment 2-C, 3416 10th Place, Southeast, Washington, D. C. Mrs. Gold resigned from the Treasury Department on August 22, 1947. She and her husband are now residing at 2404 Wenzell Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Her husband, Bela Gold, is employed as a professor at the University of Pittsburgh. (65-56402, Repts SA Lambert G. ✓
Zander, 12-6-46 & 12-23-46;
65-56402-2985, p. 5)

Interview

When Sonia Gold was interviewed on April 15, 1947, she denied that either she or her husband had furnished any information of any nature which had come into their possession and attention while working in the United States Government, to any person not authorized to receive it. She also denied having furnished any such information to Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Helen Silvermaster, William Ullmann, Jacob Golos or Gregory. She likewise denied ever having met, known or heard of Golos or Gregory. ✓

Mrs. Gold said that she transferred from the War Manpower Commission to the Division of Monetary Research, United States Treasury Department, in August, 1943 because she felt that it would be to her best financial interest to do so. She said she learned of the opening in the Treasury Department through Jeannette Kipp Tennenbaum. She said she did not discuss this position with Mrs. Helen Silvermaster and was of the opinion that she did not meet Mrs. Silvermaster until after she had begun working for the Treasury Department. She said she has no reason to believe that Mrs. Helen Silvermaster had suggested to Jeannette Tennenbaum that she, Mrs. Gold, be approached to take the position in the Treasury Department and believes that such was not the case. ✓

It is noted that in the interview with Mrs. Helen Silvermaster she admitted having assisted Sonia Gold in obtaining her position with the Treasury Department. ✓

While at the United States Treasury Department, Mrs. Gold said she assisted William H. Taylor, the Assistant Director of Monetary Research, and subsequently worked under Virginus Frank Coe. Both of these men were directly under Harry Dexter White, the Director of the Monetary Research, therefore, she said she worked under White but her duties were always those of an economist and she never did secretarial work for Harry White or anyone else. She said in fact, that she is not a stenographer or typist. Mrs. Gold stated ✓

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that in the course of her work she had become acquainted with Sol Adler, the Treasury Department representative in China, and has seen him upon each of his return trips to this country, with the exception of his most recent one. She stated that Adler submits confidential reports concerning economic and financial conditions in China but she has never seen these reports. She has, however, seen cables submitted by Adler as these have wider distribution than his reports. She stated that she worked on European matters which included economic conditions in France. She had access to confidential reports concerning such conditions as well as other confidential information concerning Treasury Department matters. U

Mrs. Gold said that she occasionally met Mrs. Helen Silvermaster for luncheon down town but denied that Mrs. Silvermaster had ever requested her to furnish information about matters coming to her attention in the Treasury Department. She also denied making notes concerning these matters and turning them over to Mrs. Silvermaster or to anyone else. U

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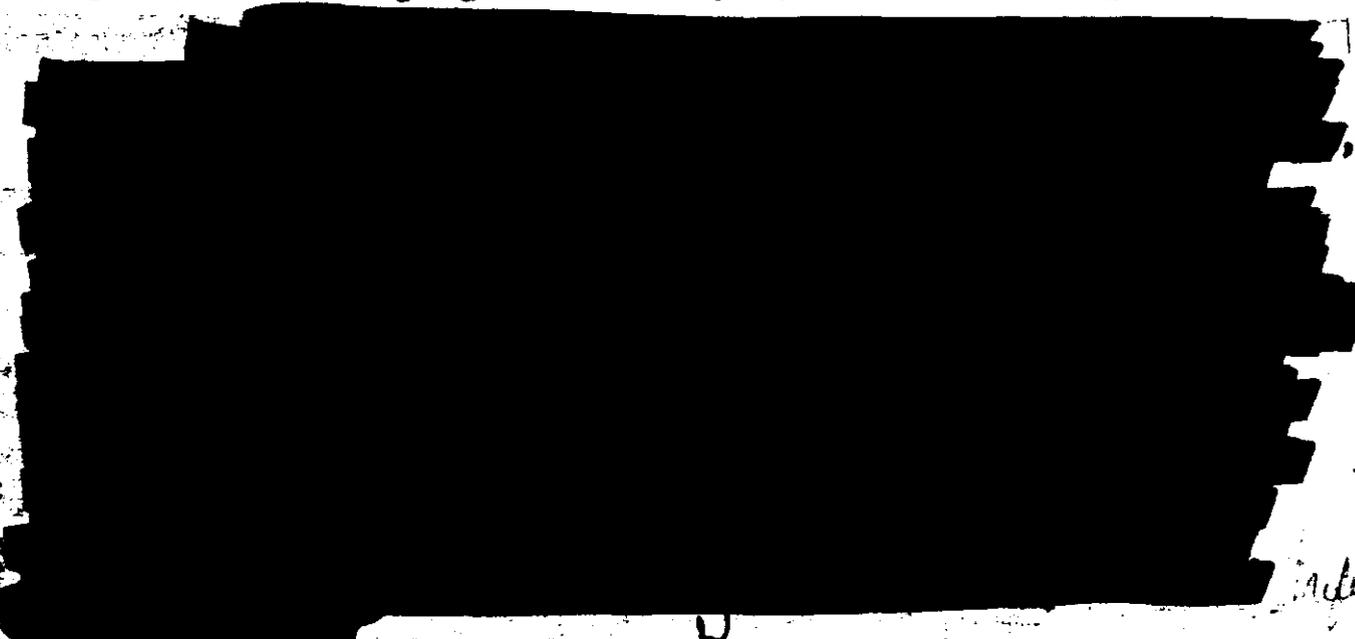
IRVING KAPLAN, alias "Kappie"

Allegations of Gregory

Gregory advised that in the latter part of 1942 or the early part of 1943, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster stated that certain information was coming to the Silvermaster Group from the War Production Board through George Silverman. It is noted that George Silverman is identical with Abraham George Silverman, who is a subject in this case. Gregory further advised that through conversations with Mr. Silvermaster it was learned that Irving Kaplan was connected with the War Production Board at this time and was giving information which he obtained through this agency to George Silverman who in turn passed it on to the Silvermaster Group. Gregory also stated that Kaplan was a dues paying Communist Party member. W

Background

Irving Kaplan was first employed by the Federal Government in 1935 when he was connected with the Works Progress Administration. In August 1938, he was named as a Special Assistant to the Attorney General, Department of Justice. In February 1940, he became a Research Economist for the Federal Works Agency. In February 1942, he was Head Program Progress Analyst for the War Production Board. He went to the Foreign Economic Administration in September 1944, where he was in charge of Reconstruction and Foreign Economic Development. In June 1946, it was ascertained that Kaplan was employed in the Office of War Mobilization. Prior to this time he had been employed in the Treasury Department. He made at least one trip to Europe on Treasury business. He was employed in the Foreign Economic Administration before going to the Treasury Department. U



Irving Kaplan was investigated on several occasions when being considered

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War Department had sent a cable to Europe at the request of the Treasury Department, asking that Kaplan be returned to this country. He also told her that he had sent a personal cable requesting Kaplan's return. On the same day, Dorothy Kaplan contacted George Silverman, and requested his assistance in having her husband returned to this country from Europe. George Silverman told her that he would put pressure on Ullman. *qu*

It was later ascertained that Irving Kaplan was to fly home from Europe and he arrived at New York City on December 23, 1945. On the same day Mrs. Dorothy Kaplan went to New York City to meet her husband. Prior to departing from Washington, D. C., she had lunch with George Silverman. *(u)*

A highly reliable and confidential source advised that on January 24, 1946, Irving Kaplan and his wife had dinner at the home of George Perazich in Washington, D. C. It is noted that George Perazich is a subject in this case and a member of the Parlo Group. *(u)*

On February 6, 1946, a highly confidential and reliable source advised that Irving Kaplan contacted George Silverman and requested that Silverman have lunch with him. Silverman was too busy at this time to have lunch with Kaplan but stated that he would try to get together with him some evening in the very near future. On the same day a reliable source advised that Kaplan had a noonday meeting with Harry Dexter White in White's office at the Treasury Department. Sarah Silverman, wife of George Silverman in a conversation in July 1946, with Dorothy Kaplan, wife of Irving Kaplan, stated that her husband was intervening on behalf of Murray Latimer who was seeking to become Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Frequent contacts between subject Silverman and Kaplan have been observed during the course of the investigation. The two families are on very cordial terms. *qu*

On February 2, 1946, a contact between Kaplan and Russell A. Nixon was observed at which time Kaplan inquired, "How do I get this stuff to you?" It was stated by Nixon that this is "on the Cartel thing". Arrangements were made for Kaplan to leave the material at Nixon's home. Nixon is a former employee of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers Union and also of Labor's Non-Partisan League. He was at one time a member of the Washington Book Shop Association and was a signer of an appeal for the dismissal of charges against Sam Adams Darcy, a Communist leader. He is one of the authors of the book published by the 20th Century Fund, entitled, "Labor and National Defense". He is stated to be closely associated with members of the Communist Party.

Kaplan and Virginus Frank Coe, a subject in this case, kept an engagement to meet subject George Silverman at his home on February 8, 1946. *(u)*

Kaplan has been in contact, on several occasions, with George Perazich, one of the subjects of this investigation. On one of these occasions, on February 5, 1946, they were joined by Lou Goldblatt. Kaplan also contacted Goldblatt on June 3 and visited him at his home on June 15, 1946. Goldblatt *(u)*

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

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is known to be an associate of Harry Bridges and has, on numerous occasions, been in contact with persons of known Communistic sympathies. He is an attorney for the National Maritime Union. *MW*

Several contacts have been observed between the Kaplans and Frances and Herbert Fuchs. They are also in contact with the Fitzgeralds and the Magdoffs, subjects of this case. The Kaplans are on excellent terms socially with Leonard D. Mierenberg and his wife, Peggy, who are closely associated with the Harry Magdoffs and the Edward Fitzgeralds. The Magdoffs and Fitzgeralds are in turn on friendly social terms with the Kaplans. *U*

On July 30, 1946, Kaplan had lunch with Sol Lischinsky and Sol Adler joined them for awhile. Both Lischinsky and Adler are the subjects in this case whose activities are more fully described elsewhere in this memorandum. *U*

On August 2, 1946, a highly confidential source advised that Dorothy Kaplan, the wife of Irving Kaplan, spent most of the day contacting Senators on behalf of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare in connection with the memorial funeral services which were being held at the Lincoln Memorial for the four negroes killed the preceding week at Monroe, Georgia. She was seeking telegrams from several Senators which she wished to be read at the service. *KU*

(Report of SA Lambert G. Zander, WFO 9/17/46, page 54)

On January 14, 1947, information was received from an official of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion that Irving Kaplan would be separated from that agency on January 31, 1947, since the agency would be discontinued on that date. He was to be furloughed through June 30, 1947, unless he obtained another Government job in the meantime. (Letter from WFO dated 1/14/47, captioned "Gregory; Espionage - R") *U*

Irving Kaplan, while in Washington, continued his contacts with Solomon Adler, George Perasich, Edward J. Fitzgerald, Abraham George Silverman, Harry H. Collins, Jr., and Harry Dexter White, all mentioned previously herein. *U*

The Kaplans are presently residing at 250 West 75th Street, Apartment 6-B, New York City. Kaplan is presently the Economic Affairs Officer in the Economic Development Section, United Nations. *U*

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

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Interview

Irving Kaplan was contacted on the night of April 15, 1947 by Agents of the FBI for the purpose of an interview in connection with his alleged activities relating to this investigation. U

Kaplan emphatically refused to be interviewed, denying that he knew anything about his alleged implications in this matter. He stated that he had heard of previous interviews and termed them "witch hunts, ridiculous, and an attempt to force those interviewed to perjure themselves." (WFO report dated 6/4/47, pg. 13; 65-56402) U

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ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN, with alias
George Silverman

Allegations of Gregory

Gregory advised that George Silverman is Jewish, is a graduate of Harvard University and is acknowledged to be a brilliant mathematician and statistician. Gregory stated that Silverman went to Washington, D. C. in the early 1930's and was employed by the Railroad Retirement Board. Gregory believes that Silverman probably met William Ludwig Ullmann in Washington, D. C., because both Silverman and Ullmann were members of the Communist Party in Washington, D. C. Gregory believes that through Ullmann, Silverman became acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Gregory Silvermaster. Gregory advised that after George Silverman was assigned to the Pentagon Building as a civilian employee in 1942, he became very friendly with both the Silvermasters and Ullmann and was frequently at the Silvermaster home. Gregory stated that shortly after being assigned to the Pentagon Building, Silverman began to bring documents to the Silvermaster home. Gregory stated that he did not believe Silverman actually knew that these documents were photographed. Gregory believes that Silverman was probably under the impression that Silvermaster would read the documents, commit them more or less to memory, and then verbally pass on the contents thereof to Earl Browder.

In the latter part of 1942 through the early part of 1943, Gregory stated that from remarks made by Silvermaster, his wife and Ullmann, it was learned that Harry Dexter White, former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, was supplying the Silvermaster Group with information consisting of documents presumably obtained by him in the course of his duties in the Treasury Department. Gregory stated that some of these documents were delivered to the Silvermaster residence by Ullmann and others by Silverman, both of whom were receiving material from Harry White.

Gregory further stated that during the same period, Lauchlin Currie, a subject in this case, was friendly with the Silvermasters and was particularly friendly with George Silverman. Gregory stated that Currie did not supply Silverman or the Silvermasters with any documents but did give information to Silverman orally on various matters. [For example, on one occasion Currie informed Silverman that the United States was on the verge of breaking the Soviet Code.]

Gregory advised that also about this time he learned that Irving Kaplan, a subject in this case, who was at that time connected with the War Production Board, was giving information that he obtained through the War Production Board to George Silverman. Silverman in turn gave the information to Silvermaster.

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Gregory informed that in the Summer of 1943 a steadily increasing volume of material was obtained by both Ullmann and Silverman which was subsequently photographed and turned over to Gregory to be transmitted to Jacob M. Sales.

Gregory stated that about this time, in the summer of 1943, Ullmann ceased developing photographs which he took and only gave Gregory undeveloped negatives which were turned over to Golos. Gregory advised that the reason for this was that the number of rolls had increased to such an extent that Ullmann did not have the time or opportunity to develop them. Gregory also stated that he did not have the occasion to actually see what was on the negatives, but from conversations had with Ullmann and Mr. and Mrs. Silvermaster, it was learned that the material which Ullmann and Silverman were obtaining and photographing included data on the following: Aircraft production figures, allocation and development of aircraft, results of testing of aircraft, reports on the efficiency of particular types of airplanes, technological developments in aircraft manufacture, statistics regarding high octane aviation gasoline, personal data concerning important Air Force officers, opinions of aircraft personnel on other nations, Army gossip, all pertinent developments concerning the planning, construction and actual completion of B-29's and proposed movements of these new planes when they were completed, data concerning the approximate scheduled date of D-Day, copies of directives issued by General Marshall, and information concerning the production, allocation and development of tanks, guns and motorized equipment. Gregory stated that almost every conceivable type of information relating to the Air Force's part in the war was included. A considerable volume of this material was brought to the Silvermaster home in its original form, that is, the documents themselves.

Gregory pointed out that during this entire period George Silverman was a civilian employee of the War Department stationed in the Pentagon Building, and Ullmann was also stationed in the Pentagon Building at the same time. Therefore, Gregory advised that it was not possible to state definitely what information was supplied to the Silvermasters by Silverman and what was supplied by Ullmann. Gregory stated that both Ullmann and Silverman continued to bring documents and papers from the Pentagon Building to the Silvermaster home until at least September, 1944, and the volume of material consistently increased.

Background

Abraham George Silverman was born on February 7, 1900, at Przasnysz, Poland, and was naturalized in Boston, Massachusetts, June 24, 1921. He is a graduate of Harvard University and holds the following degrees: M.A., Ph.D. and a B.S. degree from Leland Stanford University. Silverman was formerly employed as a Chief Production Specialist, Material Division, Army Air Forces, from March 26, 1942, until August 18, 1945, at which time he left this employment to work for the French Supply Council, a part of the French Government,

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with offices at 1800 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. Silverman is presently employed in an executive capacity by Ohrbach's, Incorporated, a large department store in New York City. He presently resides in New York City at 255 West 23rd Street. He has been residing there since June 30, 1947. U

Prior to being employed with the United States Army Air Forces, he was employed by the Railroad Retirement Board, the Federal Coordinator of Transport, the United States Tariff Commission, and the Labor Advisory Board of the National Recovery Administration in Washington, D. C. U

Results of Investigation

On December 10, 1945, a highly reliable source advised that Dorothy Kaplan, the wife of Irving Kaplan, who is a subject in this case, contacted Silverman and requested Silverman's assistance in helping to have her husband returned from Europe soon. U

On December 22, 1945, it was reliably reported that Dorothy Kaplan had lunch with George Silverman at Fan and Bill's Restaurant, 1132 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., after which she departed for New York City to meet her husband, Irving Kaplan, who was returning from Europe. U

On December 23, 1945, a reliable and confidential source advised that Irving Kaplan contacted George Silverman and advised that he, Kaplan, would return to Washington, D. C., on Christmas Day. U

On December 31, 1945, a highly confidential and reliable source advised that George Silverman had breakfast at the Savoy Plaza Hotel, New York City, with Lauchlin Currie, who is also a subject in this case. U

On February 7, 1946, a highly confidential and reliable source advised that George Silverman contacted Irving Kaplan and informed Kaplan that he had just returned to Washington on the previous evening. Thereafter Silverman and Kaplan agreed that they would get together some evening in the near future. U

Silverman has been a member of a business organization which is dealing in Government surplus commodities composed of the following persons: Christopher J. Wagner, Erwin M. Shaefer, Joe Gould and Frank Genolly. He is consequently in frequent contact with these persons and through the operations of this outfit he has also been in contact with Charlotte Slavitt and Nat Murray. It is not indicated that these contacts have significance so far as possible espionage activities are concerned. U

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On March 12, 1946, Silverman left his office at the French Supply Council and proceeded to the home of David Weintraub. When Silverman entered the Weintraub house he was carrying a brown paper package about the size of a book. He did not have the package when he left the house. David Weintraub was formerly connected with the United States State Department. He is an associate of the Kaplans, Magdoffs, Fitzgeralds, and George Perazich, all of whom are subjects of this investigation. Weintraub was observed to have had lunch with the former first secretary of the Soviet Embassy, Gromov, on January 3, 1945. W

A particularly cordial social relationship exists between the Silvermans and the Kaplans. They visit each other and go out together frequently. On April 5, 1946, a reliable confidential informant reported that Irving Kaplan talked to Silverman concerning the preparation of photostatic copies of an unidentified document. Silverman and his wife are on good terms socially with Virginias Frank Goe and his wife. Several contacts which may be social only have been observed. The Silvermans are on a friendly social basis with the Magdoffs also. George Silverman is known to be a confidant of Harry Dexter White. White has been reported to have sought Silverman's advice on personal problems and had several private conferences with him. Lauchlin Currie is a colleague of Silverman and has been observed to be in contact with him during the investigation in Washington and New York. He has sought the advice of Silverman on his business problems and apparently has great confidence in Silverman's judgment. Solomon Adler was in contact with Silverman immediately when he returned to the United States from China in July, 1946. They were together several times in the ensuing days before Adler returned to China in August. On May 1, 1946, William Ullmann told Mrs. Silverman that he wished to see George right away, a confidential informant has reported. *qu*

On October 23, 1946, Silverman and George Perazich, another subject in this case, were observed by Agents of this Bureau meeting a third individual for lunch. This third individual has now been definitely identified as Vaso Sarentich, who is alleged to be a member of the Central Committee for Serbia and an agent for the International Communist Party. It has been reported that one of his purposes in the United States is to contact Communist leaders. U

On October 26, 1946, it was ascertained from a highly reliable confidential source that Silverman talked with Harry Dexter White at which time they agreed to meet the next morning in an unnamed park about 10:30 A.M. *qu*

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Silverman stated that he wanted to talk to White about several things and that he would know about it the next day because Harry Magdoff had gone to New York. On November 4, 1946, it was observed that Magdoff, Silverman and White were in conference at White's apartment. The subject matter of this conference is not known. *dxu*

Repeated contacts have been observed with the following persons who are principal subjects of this investigation: Irving Kaplan, Virginus Frank Coe, Harry Dexter White, Lauchlin Currie, Sol Adler, Harry Magdoff and William Ullmann.

Interview

When Abraham George Silverman was interviewed by Agents of the FBI on April 15, 1947, he furnished the following information:

He stated that he went to Washington with the advent of the New Deal and had held various Government positions from 1933 until shortly after VJ Day, at which time he terminated his Government employment. He mentioned having been with the Labor Advisory Board of the NRA, later on the staff of the United States Tariff Commission and for a very brief period had been on the staff of the Federal Coordinator of Transport, and also served as Chief Statistician of the Railroad Retirement Board. He said that he spent a short period in the Monetary Research Division of the U. S. Treasury Department and on March 6, 1942, assumed the duties of Chief Analyst to the Materiel Command, U. S. Army Air Forces, retaining this position until VJ Day. For a short time thereafter he was connected with the French Supply Council and for several months has been employed by Ohrbach's, Incorporated, in the capacity of Vice President. He obtained his present position as the result of a close personal friendship which originated when Jerome K. Ohrbach was attached to the Army Air Forces as a Colonel during the recent war and Silverman in the course of his duties became acquainted with him.

Silverman denied that anyone had ever asked him for any information of a restricted nature which he may have possessed in connection with his Government employment. He also maintained that he never suspected anyone with whom he has ever been in conversation of attempting to elicit such information from him indirectly. He contended that throughout the period from 1940 until he concluded his Government employment he was always very "security conscious"; that he had been alarmed several times by the rather careless handling of

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