

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, N.Y.**

NH

FILE NO. **74-5** AL

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW HAVEN, CONN.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-25-49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/18,21,23,24/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANCIS X. MC BRIDE</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was, Etal</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Records at National Bank of Norwalk, Conn. reflect joint commercial account opened for THAYER and ISABEL HOBSON of Ridgefield Conn. on 5-4-35 with initial deposit of \$320. Examination of ledger cards reveal monthly debits for \$100 checks issued by HOBSON commencing about May 1936 through Sept. 1945. HOBSON checks for \$600, \$605, and \$700 charged to account in Oct. 1940, 1941, and 1942 respectively. (Not possible to identify source of HOBSON's income although examination of deposit slips and recordak film revealed checks issued to THAYER HOBSON by William Morrow & Co., Inc., publishers, NYC. Account balance as of 3-22-49 was \$7129.65.

*ASSB  
BRENT  
MOSSBURG  
JONAS  
Silva NY*

*SP-7 mac/RS 2/21/87 #266,586*

**REFERENCE:**

BUREAU FILE 74-1333.  
Report of SA J. BERNARD COOK (A), dated 3-14-49 at Washington, D. C.  
New York teletype to New Haven of 3-23-49.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1/31/81 BY 10330  
Pwk/led**

**DETAILS:**

Referenced report of SA J. BERNARD COOK (A) indicated that an analysis of the commercial account of ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS at the Riggs National Bank of Washington, D. C. revealed 105 separate monthly deposits of \$100 checks

*cc AAG Campbell  
4-5-49  
ASB:cm*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J. G. Gleason</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED <b>848 DEC 16 1964</b> COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5-Bureau 1-Special Assistant to the Attorney General T. J. Donegan, New York, NY 3-New York (65-14920) 2-New Haven	74-1333-3020  5 ASSB	RECORDED - 125 INDEXED - 125 EX-133

*100 MAY 1 1949*

drawn on the National Bank of Norwalk, Connecticut, commencing May 7, 1936 through September 10, 1945. In addition it was reported that on October 17, 1940 a check for \$600, on October 6, 1941, a check for \$605, and on October 3, 1942 a check for \$700, all drawn on the National Bank of Norwalk, Connecticut, were deposited to the credit of the account of PRISCILLA and ALGER HISS.

On March 23, 1949 the New York Office advised that FRANCIS THAYER HOBSON, father of TIMMY HOBSON, claimed that checks on New York banks as well as the National Bank of Norwalk, Connecticut, were for support and school payments.

Mr. WALTER BASSETT, Assistant Cashier, National Bank of Norwalk, Connecticut, 51 Wall Street, Norwalk, advised that a joint commercial account was opened at the bank for THAYER and ISABEL HOBSON of Mountain Road, Ridgefield, Connecticut, on May 4, 1935 with an initial deposit of \$320. The bank records reflected the employment of Mr. HOBSON as a publisher.

Mr. BASSETT remarked that to the best of his recollection, practically all of the deposits made to the HOBSON account were sent to the Norwalk bank by mail in the form of checks payable to the depositor by William Morrow & Company, Inc., publishers in New York City. Mr. BASSETT pointed out that the bank does not photograph their own checks but merely foreign checks thereby eliminating the possibility of any record of checks issued by HOBSON drawn against the account at the Norwalk Bank. Mr. BASSETT made available 48 separate ledger cards for the joint commercial account of THAYER and ISABEL HOBSON which revealed the account to be quite active. An examination of the cards reflected monthly debits for \$100 checks issued by HOBSON commencing about May 1936 through September 1945. It is to be observed that the account was very active during such period and many checks having been charged to the account. It is to be further noted that on October 17, 1940, a \$600 check drawn on the National Bank of Norwalk, Connecticut, was deposited to the credit of the account of ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS in their Washington, D. C. bank. The HOBSON ledger cards revealed that on October 22, 1940 a \$600 debit was made to that account. A closer examination of the account reflected that on October 14, 1940 a deposit of \$650 was made in the HOBSON account. In an effort to identify the source of the \$650 HOBSON deposit, old bank deposit slips were located and identified the \$650 deposit as a check.

An examination of recordak film which is retained by the bank back to June 1939 showed the check in question as one dated October 11, 1940, payable to THAYER HOBSON drawn on the Bank of Manhattan, Madison Avenue and 43rd Street, New York City, the maker, William Morrow & Company, Inc., publishers. The check was numbered 4424 and was signed by EVA COLBY, Treasurer. The balance after the \$600 debit on October 22, 1940 was \$71.

On October 6, 1941 there was a Washington deposit of \$605 to the HISS account. The HOBSON ledger cards revealed a check for \$605 charged to the account on October 9, 1941, leaving a balance of \$379.04. It is to be noted that examination of the HOBSON ledger cards for the period immediately prior to the

issuance of the \$605 check revealed that on September 20, 1941 there was a deposit of \$750 by HOBSON and on October 7, 1941 a deposit of \$300. Both checks were examined on the recordak film and were found to be identical to the first one examined, namely, that they were both issued by William Morrow & Company, payable to THAYER HOBSON. The checks were numbered 5891 and 5941 respectively and were dated September 19, 1941 and October 6, 1941.

On October 3, 1942 there was a Washington deposit of \$700 to the HISS account. The HOBSON ledger cards revealed a check for \$700 charged to the account on October 8, 1942, leaving a balance of \$691.78. It is to be observed that as of March 22, 1949 the joint account for THAYER and ISABEL HOBSON had a balance of \$7129.65.

It is to be further noted that 105 checks at \$100 each plus checks for \$600, \$605, and \$700 total \$12,405 and not \$22,405 as reflected in referenced report.

- P E N D I N G -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, N.Y.**

NH

FILE NO. **74-5 AL**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW HAVEN, CONN.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-25-49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/18,21,23,24/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>FRANCIS X. MC BRIDE</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was, Etal</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1/31/81 BY 10320 PWT/...  
4/21/87 SP-7 mac/DB

Records at National Bank of Norwalk, Conn. reflect joint commercial account opened for THAYER and ISABEL HOBSON of Ridgefield Conn. on 5-4-35 with initial deposit of \$320. Examination of ledger cards reveal monthly debits for \$100 checks issued by HOBSON commencing about May 1936 through Sept. 1945. HOBSON checks for \$600, \$605, and \$700 charged to account in Oct. 1940, 1941, and 1942 respectively. Not possible to identify source of HOBSON's income although examination of deposit slips and recordak film revealed checks issued to THAYER HOBSON by William Morrow & Co., Inc., publishers, NYC. Account balance as of 3-22-49 was \$7129.65.

- F -

**REFERENCE:**

BUREAU FILE 74-1333.  
Report of SA J. BERNARD COOK (A), dated 3-14-49 at Washington, D. C.  
New York teletype to New Haven of 3-23-49.

**DETAILS:**

Referenced report of SA J. BERNARD COOK (A) indicated that an analysis of the commercial account of ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS at the Riggs National Bank of Washington, D. C. revealed 105 separate monthly deposits of \$100 checks

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **65-2027**

REPORT MADE AT <b>INDIANAPOLIS</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-16-49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3-11-49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>HOWARD A. KING HAK:a</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was. ET AL</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

JESSICA BUCK RHINE, presently residing at Indianapolis, Indiana, denies membership in CP at any time and any knowledge of activities of CHAMBERS or ALGER HISS. She volunteered information that she knew VICTOR PERLO in about 1934 or 1935 but has not seen him for many years.

*Handwritten initials: ASD*

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau File No. 74-1333;  
Teletype from New York to Indianapolis dated March 11, 1949.

**DETAILS:**

*Handwritten notes:*  
Cattaneo Mc  
in connection with  
J. Jeff.

Referenced teletype requested that the Indianapolis Office interview JESSICA BUCK RHINE, 825 Eugene Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, relative to any participation in or knowledge of Communist underground group in Washington, D. C. while she was residing in that city, particularly as to any knowledge of the activities of JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and ALGER HISS.

*Vertical handwritten stamp:* SEARCHING

AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

*Handwritten notes:*  
cc AAG Campbell  
4-1-49  
ASB can

Mrs. JESSICA BUCK RHINE was interviewed by the writer and Special Agent EDWARD V. KNARTZER in the late afternoon of March 11, 1949 at her residence at 825 Eugene Street. It was learned that she is presently employed by an attorney, DON KROGER, Security Trust Building, Indianapolis. She was formerly State Director of the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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	ASB   F B I 34 MAY 6 1949	INDEXED - 125
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*Handwritten signature:* T. L. [unclear]

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Indpls.  
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Progressive Party for the State of Indiana.

Mrs. RHINE stated that she was not acquainted with or does not recall either WHITTAKER CHAMBERS or ALGER HISS. She advised she had been reading the daily newspapers and had rather carefully noted the names of various individuals mentioned in connection with the House Un-American Activities Hearings; allegations of ELIZABETH BENTLEY; and allegations of WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and others. She stated that she was curious as to whether any persons mentioned in the newspaper reports were known to her during her sojourn in Washington, D. C. Mrs. RHINE advised that none of the individuals was known to her; that she had seen photographs of CHAMBERS and HISS and was certain that neither of them was known to her.

Mrs. RHINE volunteered the information that the only individual whose name she had seen in the newspapers with whom she had been acquainted was one VICTOR PERLO. She advised that she had a very casual acquaintance with VICTOR PERLO who was employed with the N.R.A. at approximately the same time she was in about 1933 to 1935; further, that PERLO belonged to the American Federation of Government Employees, to which organization she likewise belonged. She said that as far as she recalls she had not seen PERLO since about 1934; that she knew absolutely nothing about any of his activities outside of the N.R.A. and the American Federation of Government Employees and that, as a matter of fact, she had only seen him infrequently in connection with those two organizations.

She also volunteered the information that she was casually acquainted with a CHARLES KRAMER (GRAEMER) whose name she has seen in the newspapers recently in connection with certain testimony. She advised that she became acquainted with KRAMER recently through her activities in the Progressive Party but that she had no knowledge of any of his activities otherwise.

Mrs. RHINE stated that she was not now and never has been a member of the Communist Party and knows nothing whatsoever about any Communist activities in Washington, D. C. or elsewhere. She stated she was well acquainted with ELEANOR NELSON and HELEN MILLER but that she knew nothing about any organizations to which either of these women might have belonged at the time she knew them in Washington, D. C.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

FILE NO. 65-2027

REPORT MADE AT INDIANAPOLIS	DATE WHEN MADE 3-16-49	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3-11-49	REPORT MADE BY HOWARD A. KING HAK:a
TITLE JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was. ET AL		CHARACTER OF CASE PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: JESSICA BUCK RHINE, presently residing at Indianapolis, Indiana, denies membership in CP at any time and any knowledge of activities of CHAMBERS or ALGER HISS. She volunteered information that she knew VICTOR PERLO in about 1934 or 1935 but has not seen him for many years.  - RUC -  REFERENCE: Bureau File No. 74-1333; Teletype from New York to Indianapolis dated March 11, 1949.  DETAILS: Referenced teletype requested that the Indianapolis Office interview JESSICA BUCK RHINE, 825 Eugene Street, Indianapolis, Indiana, relative to any participation in or knowledge of Communist underground group in Washington, D. C. while she was residing in that city, particularly as to any knowledge of the activities of JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and ALGER HISS.  <u>AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA</u>  Mrs. JESSICA BUCK RHINE was interviewed by the writer and Special Agent EDWARD V. KNARTZER in the late afternoon of March 11, 1949 at her residence at 825 Eugene Street. It was learned that she is presently employed by an attorney, DON KROGER, Security Trust Building, Indianapolis. She was formerly State Director of the			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

FILE NO.

65-975

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAVANNAH, GEORGIA</b>	NEW YORK DATE WHEN MADE <b>MAR 28 1949</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3-7, 9-49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>J. LEROY STEINER</b>
TITLE <b>MAY DAVID WHETTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS., ET AL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY: ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Persons in Columbia, S. C., and Orangeburg, S. C., who are acquainted with DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN, stated that the photograph of DAVID ZIMMERMAN, WA., DAVID CARPENTER, is not identical with DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN. Background information obtained on DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN is being set out.

*BRENT ASB  
E.H.M. MOSSBURG  
J. J. J.*

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau File # 74-1333.

Letter from Washington Field to Bureau dated 2-8-49

Letter from New York to Bureau dated 2-25-49.

**DETAILS:**

Mr. THOMAS L. HINNANT, 2650 River Drive, Columbia, South Carolina, advised that he operated the Brooks Five and Ten Cents Store at Columbia, South Carolina, in 1940 and 1941.

He observed the photographs of DAVID ZIMMERMAN, WA., DAVID CARPENTER, and stated that he is not identical with one DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN who was employed by him at the Five and Ten Cents Store.

*cc AAG Campbell  
4-5-49  
ASB:wm*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAR 30 1949  
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Kisseloff-6994

Mr. AUSTIN BAER, Wanamaker Chemical Company, Orangeburg, South Carolina, observed the photographs of DAVID ZIMMERMAN, WA., DAVID CARPENTER, and stated that he was positive this photograph was not identical with that of DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN who worked for this Company in 1942 and 1943.

Mr. BAER produced a photograph of DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN which was taken during his employment and there is no resemblance to that of DAVID ZIMMERMAN.

The personnel file in the office of the Wanamaker Chemical Company reflects that DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN was born July 19, 1917 at Baltimore, Maryland, is approximately 6' 1", 170 pounds, brown hair bald on top, wears glasses and has a gold bridge on front of teeth; Social Security # 275-07-6435. His mother is ETHEL ZIMMERMAN, address unknown. ZIMMERMAN's address in 1941 was 1813 High Street, Columbia, South Carolina. Military Service: Discharged from the United States Navy at Port Hueneme, California, April 18, 1945.

Employment history as follows:

From March 1937 to February 1940, Woolworth Company, Cleveland, Ohio.

From February 1940 to May 1941, Brooks Five and Ten Cents Store, Columbia, South Carolina.

From June 1941 to December 1941, B. F. Goodrich Company, 1020 High Street, Portsmouth, Virginia.

From February 15, 1942 until September 1, 1943, Wanamaker Chemical Company, Orangeburg, South Carolina.

He quit this employment to enter the United States Navy.

Since persons who are acquainted with DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN state his photograph is not identical with DAVID ZIMMERMAN and the descriptions of the two men are not even similar, it is determined that these men are not identical.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

FILE NO.

65-975

REPORT MADE AT <b>SAVANNAH, GEORGIA</b>	NEW YORK DATE WHEN MADE <b>MAR 28 1949</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>'3-7, 9-49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>J. LEROY STEINER</b> RTQ
TITLE <b>RAY DAVID WHETTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS., ET AL</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY: ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Persons in Columbia, S. C., and Orangeburg, S. C., who are acquainted with DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN, stated that the photograph of DAVID ZIMMERMAN, WA., DAVID CARPENTER, is not identical with DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN. Background information obtained on DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN is being set out.

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:** Bureau File # 74-1333.

Letter from Washington Field to Bureau dated 2-8-49

Letter from New York to Bureau dated 2-25-49.

**DETAILS:**

Mr. THOMAS L. HINNANT, 2650 River Drive, Columbia, South Carolina, advised that he operated the Brooks Five and Ten Cents Store at Columbia, South Carolina, in 1940 and 1941.

He observed the photographs of DAVID ZIMMERMAN, WA., DAVID CARPENTER, and stated that he is not identical with one DAVID WINSTON ZIMMERMAN who was employed by him at the Five and Ten Cents Store.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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5 - Bureau 1 - THOMAS J. DONEGAN, Special Assistant to Attorney General, New York City 3 - New York City (65-14920) 2 - Washington Field 2 - Savannah			

Kisseloff-6996

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

N.O. FILE NO. 65-1836

REPORT MADE AT <b>New Orleans, La.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/28/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/22,23/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>PAUL G. TAYLOR</b> sh
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS with aliases, et al</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

House described by CHAMBERS apparently identical with one which was demolished some time prior to 1932. Kitchen of Arnaud's Restaurant now stands on this spot. Old cash book and former employee of defunct realty company indicate instant building rented to GEORGE NICHOLAS in fall of 1919. This building's existence further verified by old map. Additional photographs and sketch furnished New York.

*Beane Egan*  
*Nicholas*  
*Sp*  
*Cottaneo MC*

RUC

**REFERENCE:** Bureau File #74-1333.  
*cc AAG Campbell* Report of SA PAUL G. TAYLOR dated 3/8/49 at New Orleans.  
*4-5-49* New York letter to Bureau dated 3/18/49.  
*ASB con*

**DETAILS:** AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA ~~DEFERRED~~

As an enclosure with reference letter the New Orleans Office was furnished a chart prepared on the basis of CHAMBERS' recollections as to the precise location of the house in which he stayed during the fall of 1919. A power house was the most prominent landmark appearing thereon. M. C. AERAHM, Principal Engineer, New Orleans Public Service, Inc., advised that but one power substation was maintained in the French Quarter in 1919, as now, that being at 311 Bourbon Street. He indicated that the present station was constructed in about 1923 and is situated about fifty feet back from the sidewalk, whereas the old building which it replaced, and which was torn down, stood on

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>74-1836-3023</b>	RECORDED - 125
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 3 New York (1 Thos. J. Donegan, Sp. Asst. to Atty. Gen., NYC) - 348 DEC 16 1964 #65-14920 - Encls. 8 2 New Orleans		<b>34 MAY 1949</b>	INDEXED - 125
		<b>60 MAY 17 1949</b>	

the very front of the lot.

Through MISS STEPHANIE McCOLLISTER, Secretary of the Vieux Carre Commission, 630 Chartres Street, it was determined that the block in which are located the power substation and Arnaud's Restaurant is known as Square 69. It is bounded by Bienville, Bourbon, Conti and Dauphine Streets. Structures located on the Bienville Street side of this square are in the 800 block and bear odd numbers.

With the assistance of Mr. ERNEST P. MILLER, of the Lawyers' Title Insurance Company, the files of the Notarial Archives, Civil District Court House, were searched with regard to Square 69 but no pertinent records were located.

In the photographs furnished the New York Office with reference report there appears an alleyway between buildings which is about eight feet in width. Forwarded herewith as enclosures to New York are two additional photographs of the alley itself. It leads to what is now the kitchen of Arnaud's Restaurant, which restaurant now includes the building fronting on Bienville Street at this point. According to Mr. ETIENNE DEFELICE, Manager, Arnaud's present kitchen was constructed in 1938 on what was then a vacant lot. He was under the impression that there had been a building back there prior to that. The plot of ground involved had been purchased by the late "Count" ARNAUD from the Mercier Realty and Investment Company, he indicated.

Mr. ANDREW HYNES, Treasurer and Manager, Mercier Realty and Investment Company, 311 Dauphine Street, advised that the above-mentioned alley had once given access to an old house situated in the rear. That house he described as of brick construction with a wooden gallery along the second floor front and a wooden porch in the rear. He said the house was so constructed that a covered archway separated the building into two parts on the first floor level, although above the first floor it was actually one building covered by one roof. Mr. HYNES was unable to state exactly when this house had been demolished but he recalled that prior to its destruction it had twice sustained fire damage and was uninhabited for some time before it was torn down. Part of the plot of ground on which the building stood was sold to ARNAUD in 1932, he stated, and it was definitely a vacant lot at that time. Mr. HYNES did not recall that there had been a wooden fence on Bienville Street at the entrance to the alley which gave access to the old building. He indicated that the alley had also afforded access to the stage door of the old Dauphine Theatre and through it theatrical scenes, props, and heavy baggage were hauled regularly.

Mr. HYNES located a cash book of the now defunct Dauphine Investment Company reflecting that the above-described building was rented to GEORGE NICHOLAS September 1, 1919, the rent for the month of September being \$25.00. The rent was paid regularly by GEORGE NICHOLAS until November 13, 1920, when

the records show MRS. GEORGE NICHOLAS began making the payments. The last entry pertaining to the NICHOLASES was made June 23, 1921, when MRS. GEORGE NICHOLAS paid the rent for February. By that time the monthly rental had been increased to \$30.00.

Mr. HYNES stated that this old cash book of the Dauphine Investment Company had been kept by himself and that the entries were in his own handwriting. In the book the premises rented to NICHOLAS are described as "Rear Building, 821 Bienville", and Mr. HYNES indicated that this definitely refers to the old building previously described by him. He advised he was unacquainted with Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE NICHOLAS and has no personal recollection of them. He stated to his knowledge it was always a very poor class of people who resided in the rear building at 821 Bienville Street. Arnaud's Restaurant did not exist in 1919. As was pointed out in reference report, GLENN EVANS' house of prostitution was in full operation at 823 Bienville Street.

Mr. GEORGE McMURRAY, Assistant Manager of the Mercier Realty and Investment Company, concurred in Mr. HYNES' description of the old rear building at 821 Bienville Street. He could not recall when the building had been torn down. It was his recollection that the place was still standing in 1927 but he stated it was run-down and uninhabited at that time. He stated he remembered there was once a board fence about seven feet high on Bienville Street at the entrance to the alley leading to the house in the rear, the same alley which now leads to Arnaud's kitchen. In the center of the fence was a gate, he said. This fence, according to Mr. McMURRAY, covered only the entrance to the alley and did not extend along the front of the buildings facing directly on Bienville Street. He described it as a "tongue and groove" type of fence.

Miss ANNE ROBERTSON, Secretary of the City Planning and Zoning Commission, New Orleans City Hall, was able to restore the pertinent portion of a map of Square 69 to reflect the physical setup as of 1926, at which time such maps were first maintained by the Commission. The building described by Messrs. HYNES and McMURRAY appeared thereon. A map revision of 1932 showed a vacant lot on the same spot. There is submitted to the New York Office as an enclosure with this report a sketch based on the 1926 map showing the general outlines of the building as well as its relation to the alley leading to Bienville Street and the power substation fronting on Bourbon Street. On this map the buildings fronting on Bienville Street at the entrance to the alley were designated 819 on one side and 823 on the other. The old rear building itself was designated 819-1/2 on one side of its archway and 823-1/2 on the other.

ENCLOSURES: TO NEW YORK OFFICE - 2 photographs of alley at 821 Bienville Street, New Orleans, Louisiana.  
1 sketch showing location and basic outline of building which once stood at end of alley.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW ORLEANS, LA.**

N.O. FILE NO. **65-1536**

REPORT MADE AT <b>New Orleans, La.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/2/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/22, 23/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>PAUL G. TAYLOR</b> <span style="float: right;">sh</span>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID CHAMBERS with aliases, et al</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

House described by CHAMBERS apparently identical with one which was demolished some time prior to 1932. Kitchen of Arnaud's Restaurant now stands on this spot. Old cash book and former employee of defunct realty company indicate instant building rented to GEORGE NICHOLAS in fall of 1919. This building's existence further verified by old map. Additional photographs and sketch furnished New York.

LUC

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau File #74-1333.  
Report of SA PAUL G. TAYLOR dated 3/8/49 at New Orleans.  
New York letter to Bureau dated 3/18/49.

**DETAILS:**

AT NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

As an enclosure with reference letter the New Orleans Office was furnished a chart prepared on the basis of CHAMBERS' recollections as to the precise location of the house in which he stayed during the fall of 1919. A power house was the most prominent landmark appearing thereon. E. C. ABRAM, Principal Engineer, New Orleans Public Service, Inc., advised that but one power substation was maintained in the French quarter in 1919, as now, that being at 311 Bourbon Street. He indicated that the present station was constructed in about 1923 and is situated about fifty feet back from the sidewalk, whereas the old building which it replaced, and which was torn down, stood on

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COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 3 New York (1. Theo. J. Donagan, Sp. Asst. to Atty. Gen., NYC) - #65-14920 - Encls. 2 New Orleans		Kisseloff-7000	



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW HAVEN, CONN.**

FILE NO. **71-5**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW HAVEN, CONN.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/20/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/25/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JANE S. LEVITZ</b>
TITLE <b>JAY BLIVEN BRIDGEMAN (CHURCH) was et al.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

b6  
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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

[redacted] advised first met ALGER HISS in 1945 at [redacted] later had dealings with him at [redacted] Acquaintanceship with HISS very slight.

- P -

**REFERENCE:**

Teletype from New Haven to the Bureau dated 3/18/49.

**DETAILS:**

[redacted] stated that he first became acquainted with ALGER HISS at the time of the [redacted] however, [redacted] pointed out that he met Mr. HISS on only one or two occasions at this time, and that his relationship with him was strictly a formal one. He again met Mr. HISS at the time that he was employed as [redacted] and plans were made by the [redacted] Mr. BRIDGEMAN, to visit Moscow in 1945. The meeting with HISS at this time was also on a strictly formal basis.

[redacted] stated that in about 1947, while Mr. HISS was head of the [redacted] a group of persons interested in international relations was formed under the sponsorship of the Carnegie Foundation to study certain aspects of the veto power in the United Nations Charter. Included in this group besides [redacted] [redacted] presently Acting Director of the Carnegie Foundation. It was [redacted] belief that ALGER HISS

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, N.Y.**

NH FILE NO. **74-5 DB**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW HAVEN, CONN.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/29/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/25/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JAMES T. HAVERTY</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS was et al,</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

[redacted] advised first met ALGER HISS in 1945 at [redacted].  
 [redacted] Later had dealings with him at [redacted].  
 [redacted] Acquaintanceship with HISS very slight.

- P -

**REFERENCE:**

Teletype from New Haven to the Bureau dated 3/18/49.

**DETAILS:**

[redacted] stated that he first became acquainted with ALGER HISS at the time of the [redacted] [redacted] however, pointed out that he met Mr. HISS on only one or two occasions at this time, and that his relationship with him was strictly a formal one. He again met Mr. Hiss at the time that he was employed as [redacted] and plans were made by the [redacted] Mr. BURNS, to visit Moscow in 1945. The meeting with Hiss at this time was also on a strictly formal basis.

[redacted] stated that in about 1947, while Mr. Hiss was head of the [redacted] a group of persons interested in international relations was formed under the sponsorship of the Carnegie Foundation to study certain aspects of the veto power in the United Nations Charter. In cluded in this group besides [redacted] presently Acting Director of the Carnegie Foundation, it was [redacted] belief that ALGER HISS

*Brunt ASB  
Callahan  
1/11/49  
Joan*

*CC AAG Campbell  
4-5-49  
AS Rosen*

*J. J. Gleason*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>J. J. Gleason</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED 3 COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3/28 DEC 16 1964 5 - Bureau 1 - Spec. Asst. to the Atty. General, T.J. Donegan, New York, N.Y. 3 - New York (65-14920) 2 - New Haven.	3024 RECORDED - 125 INDEXED - 125
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called this group together, but he pointed out that the group never undertook to do any work and only met on one or two occasions. [redacted] stated that he never knew Mr. Hiss prior to 1945 and that he had no personal correspondence with him.

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T-1 stated that in about January, 1949 he was discussing the Hiss-Chambers case with a group of persons interested in international relations in New York City, and the question arose as to Mr. CHAMBERS' veracity, and T-1 advised that he made the remark that it would be strange if it came to light that Chambers was found to have made accusations against several Wall Street bankers and lawyers. T-1 stated that shortly after this conversation, he received a letter from ALGER HISS in which Hiss stated that he had heard that T-1 had information to the effect that Chambers was making accusations of Communist Party membership against Wall Street bankers and lawyers, and Hiss wondered whether T-1 could give definite proof of such allegations. T-1 stated that he had informed Hiss that he knew of no such proof, and at the time that he made the statement concerning Chambers, it was merely said in jest and was not made as a definite statement of fact. T-1 stated that he believed that the person who gave the garbled version of his statements to Hiss was ~~RAY DEBRET~~ of the World Peace Federation.

- P E N D I N G -

LEADNEW HAVEN OFFICEAT THOMASTON, CONNECTICUT

Will continue efforts to ascertain the tourist home at which WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS stayed in the summer of 1937 on their trip to Peterboro, New Hampshire. (It will be noted that on Tuesday, March 29, 1949, WHITTAKER CHAMBERS actually viewed the tourist home in Plymouth, Connecticut, which was believed might be identical with the home in question and he indicated that this was not the tourist home at which he and the HISSES Stayed.

74-5

IDENTITY OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT

Confidential Informant T-1 mentioned in the report of SA JAMES T. HAVERTY dated 3/29/49 at New Haven, Conn. entitled "JAY DAVID WHITAKER CHAMBERS was et al - PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R, INTERNAL SECURITY - R", is



who advised that he did not want his identity revealed concerning the discussion he related.

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK, N. Y.

FILE NO.

NH

74-5

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REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW HAVEN, CONN.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-18-49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3-17-49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JAMES T. HAVERY</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS, ET AL</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

BERNARD BRODIE, Professor, Yale University, advised JOSEPH E. JOHNSON and not ALGER HISS was primarily responsible for his, BRODIE's, working as State Department official at San Francisco Conference. Stated he was distant acquaintance of HISS and never corresponded with him. Mr. and Mrs. WILMARTH S. LEWIS of Farmington, Conn., who resided at 3201 P Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 1943-1947, not acquainted with HISSSES.

*ASB  
Present  
Catholics  
E.H. Johnson  
J.P.*

-P-

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

**REFERENCE:** Letter from Washington Field Office dated March 8, 1949.  
Letter from Washington Field Office dated March 11, 1949.

**DETAILS:** BERNARD BRODIE, Professor of International Relations at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, advised that in March, 1945, at which time he was a Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, he was assigned by the Navy Department to work in the Division of International Security of the State Department. He advised that his work in this department pertained to the setting up of norms for international security which would be considered by the San Francisco Conference. Mr. BRODIE stated that his assignment from the Navy to the State Department was asked for by JOSEPH E. JOHNSON, Chief of the Division of International Security of the State Department. However, Mr. BRODIE believed that the request was personally signed by ALGER HISS who was Mr. JOHNSON's superior. Mr. BRODIE, however, pointed out that

*ASB  
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NH 74-5

he was unacquainted with ALGER HISS at this time and that during the time that he worked for the State Department at the San Francisco Conference his contacts with HISS amounted to not more than a total of fifteen minutes. He advised that from these contacts he was not able to judge as to HISS' loyalty to the United States. He further pointed out that he had received no personal correspondence from HISS and has never corresponded with him.

Mr. BRODIE further stated that he vaguely remembered that another Navy Lieutenant named CHEEVER was also assigned by the Navy Department to the Division of International Security of the State Department at the time of the San Francisco Conference but he knew nothing concerning CHEEVER's whereabouts or background. According to BRODIE, another individual who worked in the Division of International Security at the time of the San Francisco Conference was HOWARD JOHNSON, cousin of the Division's Chief, JOSEPH E. JOHNSON. He stated that JOSEPH E. JOHNSON was presently a professor at Williams University but was unable to state the whereabouts of HOWARD JOHNSON.

Mr. and Mrs. WILMARTH S. LEWIS, South Main Street, Farmington, Conn., advised that although they had resided at 3201 P Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., from 1943 to 1947, they were not acquainted with Mr. and Mrs. ALGER HISS.

- P E N D I N G -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK, N. Y.

FILE NO.

NH 74-5 015

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW HAVEN, CONN.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-18-49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3-17-49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JAMES T. HAVERTY</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS, ET AL</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

BERNARD BRODIE, Professor, Yale University, advised JOSEPH E. JOHNSON and not ALGER HISS was primarily responsible for his, BRODIE's, working as State Department official at San Francisco Conference. Stated he was distant acquaintance of HISS and never corresponded with him. Mr. and Mrs. WILMARTH S. LEWIS of Farmington, Conn., who resided at 3201 P Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 1943-1947, not acquainted with HISSES.

-P-

**REFERENCE:** Letter from Washington Field Office dated March 8, 1949.  
Letter from Washington Field Office dated March 11, 1949.

**DETAILS:** BERNARD BRODIE, Professor of International Relations at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, advised that in March, 1945, at which time he was a Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, he was assigned by the Navy Department to work in the Division of International Security of the State Department. He advised that his work in this department pertained to the setting up of norms for international security which would be considered by the San Francisco Conference. Mr. BRODIE stated that his assignment from the Navy to the State Department was asked for by JOSEPH E. JOHNSON, Chief of the Division of International Security of the State Department. However, Mr. BRODIE believed that the request was personally signed by ALGER HISS who was Mr. JOHNSON's superior. Mr. BRODIE, however, pointed out that

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<p style="text-align: center;">COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>5-Bureau 1-Special Assistant to the Attorney General T. J. Donegan, New York, N.Y. 3-New York (65-14920) 2-New Haven</p>			

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **65-1836**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW ORLEANS, LA.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-8-49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/11,15/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>PAUL G. TAYLOR</b> <span style="float: right;">enc</span>
TITLE <b>J. EDWIN TRITTA, CHAIRMAN, was., et al.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Investigation disclosed Dr. **MARGARET FRANCES GUTELIUS**, aka Mrs. **JAMES WATT**, presently residing at 1730 Napoleon Ave., New Orleans, La. Background information secured from applications on file with Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

- R U C -

**REFERENCE:** Bureau File 74-1333  
Teletype New York to New Orleans and Albany, dated 2/11/49;  
New York teletype to New Orleans dated 2/12/49;  
New Orleans teletype to Bureau, Washington Field, Los Angeles, and New York, dated 2/15/49.

**DETAILS:** AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

By referenced teletypes from New York, the New Orleans office was requested to ascertain discreetly whether **MARGARET FRANCES GUTELIUS**, as Mrs. **JAMES WATT**, was still residing at 1311 Valmont St., New Orleans, the home of an unknown friend.

The current New Orleans Street address telephone directory lists Dr. **MYRON E. WEGMAN** as residing at 1311 Valmont St. The current New Orleans Telephone Directory lists no one by the name of **GUTELIUS** and no **JAMES WATT**. The most recent New Orleans City Director (1947) lists **JAMES WATT** as a lecturer at Louisiana State University and shows his residence as the Quarantine Station. In the same directory, **MYRON E. WEGMANN** is listed as "dept dir ISU". No residence address is shown for him.

It should be noted that while the main campus of Louisiana State University is located at Baton Rouge, La., the L.S.U. Medical School is

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situated in New Orleans, operating in conjunction with the State Charity Hospital.

Through Mr. L. C. SKIDMORE, Office of the Superintendent of Mails, Main Post Office, it was ascertained that Dr. and Mrs. JAMES WATT moved about Feb. 5, 1949 from 1311 Valmont St. to 1730 Napoleon Avenue, first floor, left.

Records of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, 812 Gravier St., as made available by Miss MILDRED DURR, Assistant to the Secretary, reflect that a license to practice medicine in the State of Louisiana, was granted MARGARET FRANCES GUTELIUS Dec. 4, 1948. Her place of employment is shown to be Department of Pediatrics, L.S.U., 1542 Tulane Avenue, New Orleans. Her application dated Sept. 10, 1948 contains the following data:

Place of birth:	Corning, Iowa
Date of birth:	10/20/07
Home address:	388 Magee Avenue, Rochester 13, N.Y.
Preliminary Education:	Dansville High, Dansville, N.Y., 1921-23; Diploma from Kodak High, Rochester, N.Y., 1923-25;
Pre-medical	Wooster College, Wooster, Ohio, 1925-29; B.A. 6-17-29; Medical University of California, Berkeley, Calif., 1934-35
Graduate of:	Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons.
Date:	M.D. 6-1-38
Examination by:	New York State Board of Medical Examiners 6/27 - 30/38
Certificate Dates:	6-30-38
Remarks:	Internship Bellevue Hospital, N.Y., 1/1/39 to 7/1/40. No practice 1940-45. Assistant Department of Pediatrics, Tulane University 2/45 to 5/46. Practiced Pharr, Texas, Hidalgo County Health Unit, various clinics 9/46 to 9/48.
Description:	Complexion fair Height 5' 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Weight 105# Hair light brown Eyes hazel

A photograph of this individual is attached to her application.

The files of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners contain an earlier application submitted by GUTELIUS August 3, 1945. She was issued a temporary permit to practice Sept. 21, 1945 and her application was withdrawn in March, 1946 because of her leaving town.

Notes made by Mrs. DURR subsequent to the interview had with GUTELIUS March 10, 1945 are quoted as follows:

"Stated that she married Dr. JAMES WATT in 1929. Licensed in New York on written exam 1938. Never practiced due to marriage - she has been with her husband in Puerto Rico, Washington, D.C. and has been in New Orleans for past two years."

The records reflected that at the time of her 1945 application GUTELIUS was residing at the U. S. Quarantine Station, New Orleans, La. and was employed as an Assistant Director in the Department of Pediatrics, Tulane University. On this earlier application GUTELIUS had written "Did not practice due to marriage - husband, Dr. JAMES WATT, has been in U.S. Public Health Service and has been located in various places."

No record which could be identified with Dr. GUTELIUS's husband could be located at the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners. Miss DURR explained, however, that as a Public Health Service doctor, Dr. WATT would not require a Louisiana license.

The file regarding MYRON EZRA WEGMAN reflects he was granted a license to practice medicine in Louisiana 12/6/47. According to his application Dr. WEGMAN was born in Brooklyn, N.Y. July 23, 1908. He was educated at Manual Training High School, Brooklyn, N.Y., College of the City of New York, and was graduated from the Yale University School of Medicine with an M.D. Degree June 22, 1932. The application shows his address as L.S.U. School of Medicine, Department of Pediatrics, and his residence is shown as 1311 Valmont St., New Orleans.

Under "Remarks" on Dr. WEGMAN'S application the following data is set forth:

Internship New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn. 7-1-32 to 7-1-33.  
Residency in Pediatrics, New Haven Hospital, New Haven, Conn.,  
7/33 to 7/36.

Practiced Pediatrics Consultant, State Board of Health, Baltimore,  
Md., 7/36 to 1/41.

Assistant supervisor of Child Hygiene, School of Tropical Medicine,  
San Juan, P.R. 1/41 to 6/42.

Director of Training and Research, New York City Department of  
Health, N.Y., 6/42 to 9/46.

The application contained the following descriptive information pertaining to Dr. WEGMAN: Complexion medium; height 6'0"; weight 185#; hair brown; eyes brown. A photograph of this individual is attached to his application.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **65-1836**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW ORLEANS, LA.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-8-49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/11,15/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>PAUL G. TAYLOR</b> <span style="float: right;">emc</span>
TITLE <b>JAN DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was., et al.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Investigation disclosed Dr. MARGARET FRANCES GUTELIUS, aka Mrs. JAMES WATT, presently residing at 1730 Napoleon Ave., New Orleans, La. Background information secured from applications on file with Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

- R U C -

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau File 74-1333  
Teletype New York to New Orleans and Albany, dated 2/11/49;  
New York teletype to New Orleans dated 2/12/49;  
New Orleans teletype to Bureau, Washington Field, Los Angeles, and New York, dated 2/15/49.

*Letter to R.A. N.O. W.P.D. 3-18-49*

*ASB  
Mossburn  
Cassidy*

**DETAILS:**

AT NEW ORLEANS, LA.

By referenced teletypes from New York, the New Orleans office was requested to ascertain discreetly whether MARGARET FRANCES GUTELIUS, as Mrs. JAMES WATT, was still residing at 1311 Valmont St., New Orleans, the home of an unknown friend.

*1 cc Balto  
by let 2-6-56  
TC-m*

*cc AAG-Campbell  
4-1-49  
ASB cum*

The current New Orleans Street address telephone directory lists Dr. MYRON E. WEGMAN as residing at 1311 Valmont St. The current New Orleans Telephone Directory lists no one by the name of GUTELIUS and no JAMES WATT. The most recent New Orleans City Director (1947) lists JAMES WATT as a lecturer at Louisiana State University and shows his residence as the Quarantine Station. In the same directory, MYRON E. WEGMANN is listed as "dept dir LSU". No residence address is shown for him.

It should be noted that while the main campus of Louisiana State University is located at Baton Rouge, La., the L.S.U. Medical School is

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Percy W. [Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED <b>848 DEC 16 1964</b>		<b>74-1333-3026</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 - Bureau <i>1 cc to N.Y.C. 3-18-49</i> 2 - New York 1 - Los Angeles (inf.) 1 - Washington Field (inf.) 2 - New Orleans		<b>ASBA MAY 6 1949</b>
<b>60 MAY 17 1949</b>		<b>Kisseloff-7015</b>

RECORDED - 98  
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Originated at: NEW YORK		File No. 65-3251 MCG	
Report made at: BOSTON, MASS.	Date made 3-21-49	Period 2-22-49; 3-16, 17-49	Report made by: FREDERICK M. CONNORS
Title: JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was; ALGER HISS, et al		Character of Case PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R	

Synopsis of Facts: WHITTAKER CHAMBERS in visit to Peterborough, N.H., 2-22-49, advised Bleak House best possibility and Knight Homestead next best possibility of being tourist home where ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS and CHAMBERS stayed during visit to New Hampshire in 1937. Both tourist homes located on Route 101, Peterborough, N.H. Guest registration obtained and examined by FBI Laboratory. Handwriting examination failed to reflect known handwriting of either HISS or CHAMBERS. Other locations pointed out by CHAMBERS private residences. Home of ERLE BISHOP on Route 101 used for tourist home in 1937. BISHOP advises guest books apparently destroyed. Guest book of Peterborough Players covering period August 10-15, 1937 located and forwarded FBI Laboratory. Poster, subscription blanks and programs regarding play "She Stoops to Conquer" located at Stearns' Farm, Peterborough and forwarded to New York. August 5 and August 12, 1937 editions of "Peterborough Transcript" containing data regarding foregoing play obtained and sent New York. 1937 home of HARRY D. WHITE, allegedly visited by HISS and CHAMBERS, known as "Marginal Acres," located in isolated, wooded area, one-third mile off Route 123, Township of Hancock, N.H. Instant dwelling reportedly owned by LAUGHLIN CURKIE in 1937. OSCAR M. SHAW, former associate of ALGER HISS, could furnish no information concerning Communist or espionage activities of ALGER HISS. HOWARD A. MYERS, former supervisor of A. GEORGE SILVERMAN, states he can furnish no information concerning associates or activities of SILVERMAN. JOHN R. CARROLL believed to be in U.S. Army stationed at Eglin Field, Fla. Mrs. JOHN ALFORD (formerly ROBERTA FANSLER) reinterviewed. Correspondence from HISS furnished by ROBERT DENNETT not identical with Q5 through Q69. No additional correspondence emanating from HISS located.

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*BASE  
Cattaneo  
Mossburg  
J. [unclear]*

*CC AAG-Campbell  
4-5-49  
ASBccm*

- P -

REFERENCE: Bureau File 74-1333.  
Report of SA FREDERICK M. CONNORS, Boston, 2-23-49.

APPR. & F.D. SAC

*H 74-1332-30/27* RECORDED - 116

- 5 - Bureau
- 1 - THOMAS J. DONEGAN, Sp. Asst. to Attorney General, NYC
- 3 - New York 65-14920
- 2 - Washington Field 74-94 (Info.)
- 2 - Mobile

*5 ASB. 30 MAY 6 1949*

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*James P. ...*

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BOS. 65-3251

Unless otherwise indicated, all investigation at Peterborough and Hancock, New Hampshire, was jointly conducted by Special Agent FRANCIS D. O'BRIEN and the reporting Agent.

I. INVESTIGATION CONCERNING ALLEGED VISIT  
OF HISS AND CHAMBERS TO PETERBOROUGH,  
NEW HAMPSHIRE IN 1937

Under date of February 22, 1949, reporting Agent met J. D. WHITTAKER CHAMBERS at Peterborough, New Hampshire. At this time Mr. CHAMBERS was accompanied by Special Agents THOMAS G. SPENCER and JOHN J. WARD of the New York Office.

The foregoing Agents accompanied Mr. CHAMBERS while he viewed both Bleak House and Knight Homestead on Route 101, Peterborough. Mr. CHAMBERS also pointed out as a possibility a yellow house on Route 101, believed to be owned by Mr. ERLE BISHOP, real estate agent at Peterborough, New Hampshire. He indicated also as possibilities a white house at the junction of Pine Street and Route 101, and two houses on Pine Street, one with the name SCOTT, which were immediately adjacent to the white house at the junction of Pine Street and Route 101.

Following this, the Agents took Mr. CHAMBERS to the Stearns' Farm where he saw the adjoining shed which contained the wooden sign indicating the play "She Stoops to Conquer" had been put on by the Peterborough Players at Peterborough, New Hampshire in the Summer of 1937.

The Agents and Mr. CHAMBERS then proceeded to Fitzwilliam Depot, New Hampshire, for the purpose of locating the Summer residence of HARRY LEXTER WHITE and, further, to ascertain if this residence were identical with the Summer residence of WHITE in 1937.

Inquiry was made at the local store and directions obtained by Agents SPENCER and CONNORS, after which the house was located on a road running parallel to the main road in Fitzwilliam Depot and approximately a mile from the general store. Mr. CHAMBERS, on viewing this house, stated it was not identical with the residence which he had visited in 1937. CHAMBERS further indicated that the Post Office at Fitzwilliam Depot was not identical with the Post Office at which he had stopped to obtain directions to WHITE's place in 1937.

Mr. CHAMBERS and the Agents then proceeded to Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire, at which time Mr. CHAMBERS viewed the Fitzwilliam Post Office and stated that it was not identical with the Post Office at which he had stopped

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in 1937. He stated that it was his recollection that he had visited HARRY DEXTER WHITE at a Summer home which was located somewhere north of Peterborough. It is pointed out that Fitzwilliam and Fitzwilliam Depot are located to the south of Peterborough.

Mr. CHAMBERS tentatively identified the Bleak House, which is located at the junction of Route 101 and Pine Street, as being the house in which PRISCILLA and ALGER HISS and he stopped in August, 1937, while visiting Peterborough. Mr. CHAMBERS viewed the interior of the Bleak House, accompanied by Agents SPENCER and CONNORS. While there, he inquired of Mrs. ELIZABETH BINGHAM, the present custodian of Bleak House, as to whether or not a driveway had formerly entered the Bleak House grounds from Route 101. It is noted that the present driveway enters Bleak House from Pine Street. Mrs. BINGHAM stated that at one time when Bleak House was owned by Professor MORISON, presently of Harvard University, there had been a driveway opening onto Route 101, but that Professor MORISON had it removed. It appeared that Mr. CHAMBERS was somewhat influenced in his decision regarding the tentative identity of Bleak House by the possibility that a driveway had existed at the time he had visited Peterborough. On viewing the stone wall which runs along the Bleak House grounds on Route 101, it was noted that the wall had apparently been patched for a section which would be large enough to have admitted a driveway.

Inasmuch as previous investigation had indicated that the Bleak House was owned by the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, Special Agent CONNORS contacted BERTRAM LITTLE, Director of the Society, for the purpose of verifying the actual ownership of Bleak House and to further establish, if possible, whether one LUCY ELLIOTT had been the owner in 1937.

Mr. LITTLE and his secretary, FLORENCE E. ADDISON, located a deed reflecting that Bleak House had been deeded to the Society on September 12, 1935 at Hillsboro County Registry of Deeds, Nashua, New Hampshire, by SAMUEL ELIOT MORISON. The records of the Society further reflected that a lease had been signed by LUCY ELLIOTT on July 15, 1937 to be effective for a period commencing July 1, 1937 and extending to April 1, 1938. This lease was in the amount of \$300 at a rate of \$33.34 per month. The foregoing deed and lease are part of the official records of the Society. It was noted that the witness to the lease was E. G. BISHOP, of Peterborough, New Hampshire, and the attorney for the Society was listed as JOSEPH A. LOCKE, 15 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

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Chief ALBERT PICARD, N.A., Peterborough, New Hampshire, furnished Special Agent CONNORS with the name of a relative of LUCY ELLIOTT by the name of THEODORE F. WEBER who had signed a paper regarding the tenancy of the Bleak House by LUCY ELLIOTT. This was dated 1942 and indicated that THEODORE F. WEBER resided in Brighton, Massachusetts.

Reference to the Boston City Directory for 1942 reflected that THEODORE F. WEBER, wife ELIZABETH, occupation real estate, with office at 535A Washington Street, Brighton, Massachusetts, resided at 75 Berkeley Street, Newton, Massachusetts.

Reporting Agent contacted the present occupant of 75 Berkeley Street, West Newton, Massachusetts. It was there ascertained that one THOMAS E. MacRAE, who resided at 96 Washington Street, Brighton, Massachusetts, had indicated that THEODORE F. WEBER was presently residing in Texas;

SADIE MacRAE, wife of the aforementioned THOMAS E. MacRAE, advised that she knew LUCY ELLIOTT. She stated that LUCY ELLIOTT had been a spinster but had married within the last year or two and was presently residing somewhere in New Hampshire. She further advised that LUCY ELLIOTT was related to the WEBERS and that the brother of THEODORE WEBER, ELLIOTT WEBER, presently resided at 31 Walcott Road, Brookline, Massachusetts. She provided the following address for THEODORE and ELIZABETH WEBER: Route 1, Box 35, 305 Claremore Street, Corpus Christi, Texas.

ISOBEL WEBER, 31 Walcott Road, Brookline, Massachusetts, stated that LUCY ELLIOTT was the aunt of ELIZABETH WEBER. She stated that neither she nor EMMOTT WEBER was related to LUCY ELLIOTT and suggested that ELIZABETH WEBER would probably be the only person who could provide the present name of LUCY ELLIOTT together with her address in New Hampshire.

Boston, by teletype dated February 24, 1949, requested Houston to interview Mrs. THEODORE WEBER of Corpus Christi. By teletype dated February 28, 1949, Houston advised that LUCY ELLIOTT is now Mrs. CHARLES DAVIS, Hancock, New Hampshire, according to her niece, Mrs. THEODORE WEBER.

Professor SAMUEL ELIOT MORISON was contacted at his home, 44 Brimmer Street, Boston, Massachusetts, on February 24, 1949. He stated that he had acquired Bleak House in the early 20's; that his mother died in 1925 and about 1926 or 1927 he had the driveway entering Route 101 removed because of the possible danger to his children. He stated that the rear driveway, which is presently the only driveway entering from Pine Street, was always there. Professor MORISON stated that after he deeded the property to the Society he had no further contact with Bleak House.

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In view of the fact that Mr. CHALBERS based at least a portion of his decision that Bleak House was the tourist home and that this decision appeared to rest somewhat on the impression that a driveway was in existence between Bleak House and Route 101 in 1937, it is pointed out that on the basis of information received from Professor MORISON this driveway had been blocked up and the stone wall built some twelve years previous to the time of CHALBERS' visit to Peterborough.

On March 3, 1949, Special Agent FRANCIS D. O'BRIEN and the reporting Agent obtained from LUCY ELLIOTT DAVIS, Box 42, Hancock, New Hampshire, the guest registration of Bleak House covering the period from July 22, 1937 until June 8, 1940. On the same date, this guest book was forwarded to the FBI Laboratory.

The FBI Laboratory report dated March 7, 1949, designated this guest registration book as Q163. The Laboratory report stated: "The entries in the Bleak House guest registration book for the month of August, 1937, have been compared with the known handwriting specimens of PRISCILLA HISS, ALGER HISS and WHITTAKER CHALBERS, but nothing of significance was noted."

It is also noted that Boston previously submitted to the FBI Laboratory the guest book of the Knight Homestead, also located on Route 101, Peterborough, New Hampshire. In this connection, the Laboratory by letter dated February 21, 1949, designated the Knight Homestead guest registration book as Q161. The results of examination, as set forth by the Laboratory were as follows:

"The handwritings of ALGER, PRISCILLA HISS and CHALBERS were compared with all the entries appearing in the Knight Homestead register, Q161, but nothing of significance was noted except the entries of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. FAST, ROBERT FAST and BETTY ANN FAST, under date of August 29, 1937, which bear certain style characteristics to those of ALGER HISS' writing."

The Bureau, by letter dated March 14, 1949, advised Boston that since the FBI Laboratory had been unable to reach a definite conclusion as to the handwriting in the guest registration books of the Knight Homestead and Bleak House, the Boston Office should return these books to their respective owners.

Chief ALBERT PICARD (N.A.), of Peterborough, New Hampshire, was questioned concerning certain residences which had been pointed out by WHITTAKER CHALBERS on his visit to Peterborough, February 22, 1949.

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The first residence, a large white house on a hill, was identified as the home of Mrs. AUGUSTA FIELD, 14 Pine Street. The remaining two dwellings at 16 and 18 Pine Street, respectively, are owned by Miss JENNY SCOTT. With reference to these owners, it was ascertained they are both elderly ladies. The dwellings in question have been used as residences and not for tourist purposes, according to Chief PICARD.

This same matter was later referred to Mr. ERLE BISHOP, real estate dealer, who has resided at Peterborough all his life. He agreed with Chief PICARD that none of these houses had been used for other than dwelling purposes and, further, that they had not been used as tourist homes.

Mr. CHAMBERS had pointed out the home of Mr. ERLE G. BISHOP, which is located at 14 Granite Street, Route 101, which is a large yellow house on the side of the hill. Mr. BISHOP stated that his mother had taken sick about 1936, according to his recollection, and died in 1943. He said prior to her illness, they had taken in guests but because of her serious illness, which required 24-hour care, they had discontinued the practice of taking in tourists. Mr. BISHOP stated he had never maintained this dwelling as a tourist home but that it had been maintained by his parents, EDGAR A. and LABEL BISHOP. Both parents are deceased.

Mr. BISHOP and his wife ESTHER endeavored to locate the guest book for the BISHOP residence, but were unable to do so. They agreed to make a further search and advise.

Under date of March 14, 1949, Mr. BISHOP advised that he had communicated with his sister, Mrs. HENRY SCHENNERHORN, of 38 Convent Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Mr. BISHOP stated that according to the recollection of his sister, guests had been taken in by their parents in 1937. She advised that she had no knowledge as to the disposition of the guest book and presumed that if it is not in the possession of her brother, Mr. ERLE G. BISHOP, that it must have been destroyed during the settlement of the parents' estate. Mr. BISHOP stated that he and his wife had made an exhaustive search of the premises and that this search had failed to disclose the guest book. It was his belief that the guest book must have been destroyed.

Based on information received through MARTIN J. KEENAN, Postmaster, Peterborough, New Hampshire, Boston advised New York that the owner of the Stearns' Farm, Middle Hancock Road, Peterborough, New Hampshire, Mrs. EDITH VON STEARNS, resided at the Hotel Marlton, New York. Boston requested New York to contact Mrs. STEARNS, who had apparently directed

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the Peterborough Players, for the purpose of ascertaining if she could possibly testify as to the exact dates on which the play "She Stoops to Conquer" had been put on by the Peterborough Players and to ascertain if she could further state that the instant play was at a farm owned by her at Peterborough, New Hampshire.

New York, by teletype dated March 1, 1949, advised that Mrs. STEARNS stated she maintained a register which was signed by people attending all shows at the Stearns' Farm. Mrs. STEARNS advised that this register had probably been in use during the period HISS and CHAI BERS visited New Hampshire in 1937. The teletype authorized Boston to enter her home to look through the register provided that they contact RICHARD NOYES, Middle Hancock Road, Peterborough. This teletype further indicated that Mrs. STEARNS was telephonically contacting RICHARD NOYES advising him as to the probable location of the register. The New York teletype further requested Boston to obtain photostatic copies of advertisements carried in the "Peterborough Transcript" which had been previously located by Boston reflecting the running dates of this play.

Under date of March 3, 1949, RICHARD NOYES, Middle Hancock Road, Peterborough, New Hampshire, was contacted. At that time, Mr. NOYES indicated that he was a part-time reporter for the "Keene Sentinel," a daily newspaper at Keene, New Hampshire. He stated that he had been in telephonic contact with Mrs. STEARNS of New York City and that she had indicated to him the possible places where the guest book might be located. A search, as indicated by Mr. NOYES, was conducted. This search failed to reflect the pertinent guest book, although two other books were located by Boston Agents. In addition, from a bureau drawer in a room which Mr. NOYES identified as being the bedroom of Mrs. STEARNS, Agents obtained copies of the program of "She Stoops To Conquer." These programs were undated. In addition, four copies of a form soliciting subscribers to a series of plays being produced at the Stearns' Farm by the Peterborough Players for the 1937 Summer season were taken. On this form was listed the play "She Stoops To Conquer," by OLIVER GOLDSMITH, with dates of August 10 to August 14. It is noted that this form set the year as 1937, although there was a conflict in running dates as between a poster subsequently located and newspaper advertisements in the "Peterborough Transcript." The cardboard placard advertising the play "She Stoops to Conquer" indicated the dates of this play to be August 10 through August 15. The placard was located in an adjoining building which Mrs. NOYES described as "the office."

The aforementioned exhibits were made available to New York by Boston letter dated March 9, 1949, with the request that Mrs. STEARNS be re-interviewed to obtain from her any additional suggestions as to the possible location of the 1937 guest registration book of the Peterborough Players.



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New York teletype to Boston dated March 12, 1949, reflected that Mrs. STEARNS had been reinterviewed at which time she advised she had retained only two registers covering a three-year period. This teletype also authorized Bureau Agents to conduct any search they deemed necessary provided they contacted RICHARD NOYES.

On March 14, 1949, Special Agent FRANCIS D. O'BRIEN and the reporting Agent accompanied by Mr. NOYES located in the bedroom of Mrs. STEARNS at the Stearns Farm, Peterborough, New Hampshire, the large register pointed out in New York teletype to Boston dated March 12, 1949. This register was located under a box on the lower shelf of a table in the bedroom of Mrs. STEARNS. It was noted that this register contained specific reference to the play "She Stoops to Conquer," and it was indicated that this play had been produced by the Peterborough Players from August 10 through August 15, 1937.

By letter dated March 15, 1949, Boston transmitted to the FBI Laboratory the pertinent register with the request that the Laboratory ascertain whether or not it contained known handwriting specimens of PRISCILLA and ALGER HISS and WHITTAKER CHAMBERS. The Laboratory was further requested to furnish to the New York Office photostatic copies of this register.

In addition to the foregoing, there was also transmitted to the Laboratory for examination two additional books previously located by Boston, one commencing with the date July 16, 1935 and with the final date of August 30, 1938, and a guest book covering 1939. The Laboratory was requested to also process these two books for handwriting specimens.

On March 14, 1949, Chief ALBERT FICARD, NA, advised Agents that he had ascertained that ALGIE HOLT, Town Clerk of Peterborough, had for years maintained in his office original copies of the "Peterborough Transcript" and there was a possibility that he might have copies covering the 1937 season. Mr. FICARD telephonically contacted Mr. HOLT after working hours and he authorized the Agents and Chief FICARD to conduct a search. This search reflected the following pertinent editions of the "Peterborough Transcript" which contained data concerning the play "She Stoops to Conquer."

1. The August 5, 1937 publication which carried on page 1 an advertisement of the Peterborough Players concerning the play "She Stoops to Conquer."

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2. The August 12, 1937 edition which carried information concerning this play on pages 1 and 8.

These editions were left in the possession of Chief FICARD overnight and on the following morning Mr. ALGIE HOLT, when interviewed, advised Special Agents O'BRIEN and CONNORS that the FBI was welcome to these editions as he would probably throw them out in a short time and, accordingly, he did not desire to have them returned to him.

The foregoing editions of the "Peterborough Transcript" were forwarded to the New York Office by Registered Mail under date of March 15, 1949.

## II. INVESTIGATION AT HANCOCK, NEW HAMPSHIRE TO LOCATE "MARGINAL ACRES"

New York by teletype dated March 2, 1949, advised Boston that Mr. BERNARD JAFFE, attorney who was representing Mrs. ANNE TERESA WHITE, widow of HARRY DEXTER WHITE, advised that his client's memory had been refreshed and that to the best of her recollection the WHITES had spent the summer of 1937 in a rented cottage called "Marginal Acres" at Hancock, New Hampshire. This cottage was rented from LAUGHLIN CURRIE, the owner at that time.

In connection with the foregoing, it is pointed out that WHITTAKER CHAMBERS stated that the purpose of his trip with PRISCILLA and ALGER HISS to New Hampshire in 1937 was to contact HARRY DEXTER WHITE at his summer home.

New York letter to Bureau dated March 4, 1949, a copy of which was forwarded to Boston, stated that WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, when interviewed concerning "Marginal Acres" at Hancock, New Hampshire, stated that the name Hancock seemed somewhat familiar to him. CHAMBERS related that WHITE's farm was located, to the best of his recollection, on a secondary road leading off the main road on Route 202 that went through Hancock, New Hampshire, and probably about four or five miles from the junction of Route 202 and this secondary road. The farm was located on the left-hand side of this secondary road and the property was approached by entering a dirt lane which left the secondary road to the left at an acute angle. At the junction of this lane and the secondary road were second growth woods. The WHITE place could not be seen from this secondary road. CHAMBERS recalled that it was a good size colonial style home and recently built (in 1937) He can recall that it had one large living room that occupied most of the ground floor.

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on the left-hand side of the house as one faced it. He has somewhat of a recollection of the porch in the front which may have had a concrete floor. The living room, which is the only one he was in, had a door in front and a door in the rear. He recalled that for some reason he went into this living room through the rear door.

Boston was requested to attempt to locate "Marginal Acres" and obtain suitable photographs.

On March 9, 1949, DOROTHY D. CLARK, Postmaster, Hancock, New Hampshire, advised that there was located in an isolated section off the Stoddard Road a summer place which was known as "Marginal Acres." She furnished directions to this place. Mrs. CLARK further advised that the present owner of this property was a Mr. GEORGE BABBITT, of Cambridge, Massachusetts.

On the same date Agents located a dwelling which answered the description supplied by Mrs. CLARK as being "Marginal Acres."

On March 9, 1949, GEORGE K. BABBITT, of Cambridge, Massachusetts, was contacted by reporting Agent at his place of business, H. P. Hood & Company, Charlestown, Massachusetts, at which time he gave permission for Bureau Agents to enter his property for the purpose of taking appropriate photographs.

Mr. BABBITT stated that this property was acquired by him in 1943 from LAUGHLIN CURRIE. He stated that arrangements for the purchase of the property had been made through Mr. ERLE G. BISHOP, a real estate dealer residing in Peterborough, New Hampshire. Mr. BABBITT stated that at the present time he does not call this property "Marginal Acres" but indicated it had been apparently known by that name. It was Mr. BABBITT's understanding that "Marginal Acres" had been owned by LAUGHLIN CURRIE for a period of approximately ten years. He understood that CURRIE had used the property for approximately three or four years after which time he had rented it for the season to various individuals.

To reach this dwelling, Mr. BABBITT stated you proceed on Route 123 for approximately a mile in a westerly direction from the Town of Hancock, after which you leave Route 123 entering a dirt road at an angle near a chicken farm. "Marginal Acres," according to BABBITT, was located just off this dirt road approximately one-third mile in a northerly direction from Route 123. The house is painted red with white trim and is in a completely isolated, wooded section. The description as furnished by Mr. BABBITT indicated that the dwelling was identical with the building which had been located on the previous day by Boston Agents. At this time, it is pointed out that Agents observed

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on Route 123 at the entrance to the dirt road leading to "Marginal Acres" a mail box carrying two names. One side of the mail box carried the name BABBITT, and the other side carried the name CURRIE. It is pointed out that Mr. BABBITT, in his interview, stated that this dirt road leading off Route 123 to the dwelling was a public road which the Town of Hancock kept in repair and kept ploughed during the winter months.

Under date of March 14, 1949, photographs were taken of "Marginal Acres." On the same date Boston received a telephone call from New York advising that Mr. E. J. CONNELLEY, Assistant Director, had requested that these photographs of "Marginal Acres" at Hancock, New Hampshire, be expedited to New York. On the same date, Special Agent in Charge E. A. SOUCY instructed reporting Agent to forward the undeveloped film direct to the New York Office. Four undeveloped film packs were forwarded first class, registered, special delivery to New York on the same date by the reporting Agent together with a long-hand note to the Special Agent in Charge at New York from Peterborough, New Hampshire.

### III. INTERVIEW WITH OSCAR M. SHAW

RICHARD HINCKLEY FIELD, Professor of Law, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, suggested Mr. OSCAR M. SHAW as a possible source of correspondence emanating from ALGER HISS.

Mr. OSCAR M. SHAW, attorney, 50 Federal Street, Boston, Massachusetts, was contacted by reporting Agent on February 24, 1949, at which time he stated he had a very close friendship with ALGER HISS while both attended Harvard Law School in the late 20's but had only one luncheon contact with him since that time. He was unable to furnish any information regarding alleged espionage or Communist activity on the part of PRISCILLA and ALGER HISS, CHAMBERS or other named Subjects in instant case.

He stated he had never visited the HISS home and knew nothing of a Woodstock typewriter and had received no typewritten communications from ALGER HISS. Because of his contact with HISS, he stated he was convinced that ALGER HISS is innocent because he did not appear to be the type of individual who would betray his friends and his country. He suggested as possible sources of information concerning the friends of HISS, the following persons: Judge CHARLES WYZANSKI, Jr., of Boston, and Professor RICHARD HINCKLEY FIELD, of Harvard University.

Both of these individuals have been previously contacted.

IV. ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN CORRESPONDENCE  
EMANATING FROM HISS AT PERKINS  
CABINS, HOLDERNESS, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Washington Field Office letter to the Bureau dated February 18, 1949, a copy of which was designated for Boston, reported information to the effect that one WILLIAM H. TRIPPLETT furnished information to the effect that he recalled vaguely ALGER HISS was in New Hampshire probably during the 1938 season, at which time he contacted a camp which at that time was known as Perkins Cabins, Holderness, New Hampshire, operated by HAROLD PERKINS. Boston was requested to ascertain if any documents were available at Perkins Cabins or in the possession of HAROLD PERKINS emanating from ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent BURTON L. BRUCE at Holderness, New Hampshire:

Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR D. CHRISTIE, proprietors, Perkins Cabins, Holderness, New Hampshire, advised that they purchased the cabins from HAROLD F. PERKINS in June, 1947. They further advised that they have no records or correspondence of any nature pertaining to the Perkins Cabins' business dated prior to 1947.

AT LAKEPORT, NEW HAMPSHIRE

HAROLD F. PERKINS, 47 Paugus Street, employed as a tool designer at Scott & Williams Company, advised that he owned and operated Perkins Cabins at Holderness, New Hampshire, from 1929 until June, 1947, when he sold the business to Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR D. CHRISTIE. He also stated that prior to 1937, his mother, LENA E. PERKINS, deceased, was also active in the business. PERKINS advised that he was unable to recall that ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS were ever at his cabins and that he could not recall ever hearing of either of them. PERKINS further stated that all books, records and correspondence pertaining to the business were handled by his wife, EVELYN E. PERKINS.

Mrs. EVELYN E. PERKINS, 47 Paugus Street, advised that all correspondence pertaining to the Perkins Cabins' business, which she formerly assisted her husband in operating, had been destroyed. Mrs. PERKINS also advised that she was unable to recall that ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS were ever guests at Perkins Cabins, or that she ever had any correspondence with either of them.

Mrs. PERKINS produced an undated guest register book, which she advised she is quite sure contains the names of guests at Perkins Cabins during the 1938 and 1939 seasons. An examination of this register failed to reflect the names of ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS.

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V. REINTERVIEW OF ROBERTA FANSLER ALFORD

New York teletypes dated March 7 and 11 and Baltimore teletype of March 11, 1949, requested that Mrs. ROBERTA ALFORD be interviewed for any information concerning Mrs. ALFORD's knowledge of the acquaintanceship between LENORE STRAUS and ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS. Boston was also requested to determine whether Mrs. ALFORD had any knowledge of ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS ever visiting at Longview, Accokeek, Maryland, where LENORE STRAUS and SALLY RINGE resided and to determine if Mrs. ALFORD had any knowledge of acquaintanceship between ALFRED or PRISCILLA HISS and SALLY RINGE.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agents EDMUND G. VIVIAN and HAROLD V. LANGLOIS on March 15, 1949.

Mrs. ROBERTA ALFORD was interviewed March 15, 1949 at the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, Rhode Island, where she is Acting Head of the Museum of Arts. When contacted on March 14 for an appointment, she stated she was too busy and would be unable to see Special Agent VIVIAN for three or four weeks. She subsequently advised that she would be available for interview for ten minutes on Tuesday, March 15, 1949, which time was refused by Special Agent VIVIAN. She then granted an appointment for half an hour from 10:00 to 10:30 AM on March 15.

Mrs. ALFORD was very uncooperative during the interview. She was evasive, extremely nervous and denied knowing any of the persons named in referenced teletypes with the exception of LENORE THOMAS, whom she eventually recalled as a sculptress whom she met in New York at the Metropolitan Museum. She claimed she did not remember if she introduced LENORE to PRISCILLA HISS in Washington, D. C., or whether the HISS family are friends of LENORE THOMAS. MRS. ALFORD stated she had never heard of Longview Farm in Accokeek, Maryland and that SALLY RINGE is unknown to her. She recalled a friend of the HISS family named HORTON who wrote a cook book. Mrs. ALFORD stated, "He (ALGER HISS) is being framed." He is entirely innocent and his character is impeccable. When asked who she believed was framing HISS, she stated she did not know. Mrs. ALFORD advised she has visited Washington, D. C. at various times, attending meetings of the College Arts Association, but has never resided there.

The foregoing information was made available to the Bureau and New York by Boston teletype dated March 15, 1949.

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VI. INTERVIEW WITH PETER E. PRATT,  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Philadelphia report of Special Agent JAMES L. KIRKLAND dated March 8, 1949, requested Boston to contact PETER E. PRATT, Director of Harvard Alumni, to determine if he had in his possession any correspondence received from ALGER HISS.

PETER E. PRATT, Director of the Harvard Alumni, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, on March 17, 1949, advised Special Agent CONNORS that he did not have in his possession any correspondence emanating from ALGER HISS. With reference to the speech ALGER HISS made at the Harvard Law School Association at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, May 14, 1949, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Mr. PRATT stated that JOSEPH L. HENDERSON, of the Harvard Law Association, 1910 Packard Building, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, a prominent Philadelphia attorney, had obtained the speakers. He stated that if any correspondence existed, he believed it would be in the possession of Mr. HENDERSON. Page 4 of referenced report indicates that JOSEPH L. HENDERSON has already been interviewed by the Philadelphia Office.

With reference to general correspondence emanating from HISS to Harvard Law School, a previous search was made by Mr. PRATT, as well as by Dean ERIN GRISWOLD of Harvard Law School. The results of this search were set forth in a previous report emanating from Boston.

VII. INTERVIEW WITH HOWARD A. MYERS  
RE ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN

Washington Field Office letter to the Director dated February 25, 1949, instructed Boston to contact HOWARD A. MYERS, who was SILVERMAN's immediate supervisor at Washington, D. C. Mr. MYERS advised Special Agent FRANCIS D. O'BRIEN and the reporting Agent that his contact with SILVERMAN was wholly of a business nature and that he did not know SILVERMAN's friends or his associates. He also stated he was unacquainted with SILVERMAN's ideologies. MYERS was questioned concerning the other Subjects of this case but stated they were unknown to him and he had no knowledge of the association of any of these individuals with ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN.

Mr. MYERS further advised that SILVERMAN's dismissal from the NRA came about as a result of a difference in policy between SILVERMAN and SIDNEY HILLMAN, the nature of which he advised he was unable to recall.

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However, he stated this difference of opinion received publicity and, according to MYERS, SILVERMAN was requested to resign. MYERS stated that Mr. GUSTAVE PECK, who referenced letter indicates has been previously interviewed, would probably be the individual who could furnish the most information concerning SILVERMAN. Mr. MYERS indicated he had been attached to the NRA from sometime in 1933 until December, 1935, at Washington, D. C., after which he came to Boston.

VIII. RE WHEREABOUTS OF JOHN R. CARROLL

Washington Field Office letter to the Director dated February 24, 1949 and the report of Special Agent JOSEPH E. KELLER at Washington, D.C., dated March 10, 1949, requested Boston to locate and interview a JOHN R. CARROLL concerning DAVID VERNON ZIMMERMAN. According to information received by the Washington Field Office, CARROLL was residing at 69 Mason Drive, Brookline, Massachusetts.

Investigation at Boston failed to reflect a JOHN R. CARROLL at this address.

Under date of March 16, 1949, reporting Agent was advised by Miss RUTH COPELAND, Town Clerk, Brookline, Massachusetts, that the voting records reflected a JOHN R. CARROLL who resided at 60 Mason Terrace. The present directory and street list of Brookline failed to reflect a CARROLL residing at this address and no forwarding address was obtainable through the usual sources. It was also noted that the JOHN R. CARROLL who was a registered voter at Brookline, Massachusetts, was 29 years of age in 1946. Referenced report of Special Agent JOSEPH E. KELLER at Washington, D. C., on page 16, reflected certain background data obtained from a Credit Bureau report indicating that the JOHN R. CARROLL Washington Field Office requested Boston to interview was born May 3, 1916.

According to Mrs. WINIFRED SIBLEY, 60 Mason Terrace, Brookline, Massachusetts, JOHN R. CARROLL left Massachusetts approximately two years ago and was located in Florida. She stated JOHN R. CARROLL had a half brother, one ARNOLD DRAKE, who could be reached at telephone Decatur 2202, Newton, Massachusetts.

Mr. DRAKE stated that JOHN R. CARROLL is a Staff Sergeant, ASN 13049316. He also furnished the following address: 3200 Photo M & A Squadron, Eglin Field, Florida. Mr. DRAKE further advised that JOHN R. CARROLL had worked at Washington, D. C.



BOS. 65-3251

Accordingly, there were transmitted to the Mobile Field Office, by Boston letter dated March 17, 1949, Washington Field Office letter to the Director dated February 24, 1949 and a copy of the report of Special Agent JOSEPH E. KELLER at Washington, D. C., dated March 10, 1949, instructing Mobile to cover the interview with JOHN R. CARROLL, as indicated above.

IX. LABORATORY REPORT ON DOCUMENTS RECEIVED  
FROM RAYMOND DENNETT, Boston, Mass.

Under date of February 17, 1949, RAYMOND DENNETT, World Peace Foundation, 40 Mount Vernon Street, Boston 8, Massachusetts, furnished to reporting Agent sixteen letters emanating from ALGER HISS. These letters were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory by Boston letter dated February 17, 1949.

FBI Laboratory report dated February 21, 1949, identified these sixteen letters as being K606 through K621, inclusive. The Laboratory reached the conclusion that the machines which were used to type K606 through K621 were not used to type Q5 or Q6 through Q69 in instant case.

- P E N D I N G -

BOS. 65-3251

LEADS

THE MOBILE DIVISION

AT EGLIN FIELD, FLORIDA.

Will locate and interview JOHN R. CARROLL, ASN 13049316 of the 3200 Photo M & A Squadron, as set forth on pages 15 and 16 of instant report.

THE BOSTON DIVISION

AT BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Will cover outstanding leads requested by other offices.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Originated at: NEW YORK		File No: 65-3251 MCG	
Report made at: BOSTON, MASS.	Date made 3-21-49	Period 2-22-49; 3-16,17-49	Report made by: FREDERICK M. CONNORS
Title: JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was; ALGER HISS, et al		Character of Case PERJURY; ESPIONAGE - R; INTERNAL SECURITY - R	

Synopsis of Facts: WHITTAKER CHAMBERS in visit to Peterborough, N.H., 2-22-49, advised Bleak House best possibility and Knight Homestead next best possibility of being tourist home where ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS and CHAMBERS stayed during visit to New Hampshire in 1937. Both tourist homes located on Route 101, Peterborough, N.H. Guest registration obtained and examined by FBI Laboratory. Handwriting examination failed to reflect known handwriting of either HISS or CHAMBERS. Other locations pointed out by CHAMBERS private residences. Home of ERLE BISHOP on Route 101 used for tourist home in 1937. BISHOP advises guest books apparently destroyed. Guest book of Peterborough Players covering period August 10-15, 1937 located and forwarded FBI Laboratory. Poster, subscription blanks and programs regarding play "She Stoops to Conquer" located at Stearns' Farm, Peterborough and forwarded to New York. August 5 and August 12, 1937 editions of "Peterborough Transcript" containing data regarding foregoing play obtained and sent New York. 1937 home of HARRY D. WHITE, allegedly visited by HISS and CHAMBERS, known as "Marginal Acres," located in isolated, wooded area, one-third mile off Route 123, Township of Hancock, N.H. Instant dwelling reportedly owned by LAUGHLIN CURRIE in 1937. OSCAR M. SHAW, former associate of ALGER HISS, could furnish no information concerning Communist or espionage activities of ALGER HISS. HOWARD A. MYERS, former supervisor of A. GEORGE SILVERMAN, states he can furnish no information concerning associates or activities of SILVERMAN. JOHN R. CARROLL believed to be in U.S. Army stationed at Eglin Field, Fla. Mrs. JOHN ALFORD (formerly ROBERTA FANSLER) reinterviewed. Correspondence from HISS furnished by ROBERT DENNETT not identical with Q5 through Q69. No additional correspondence emanating from HISS located.

- P -

REFERENCE: Bureau File 74-1333.  
Report of SA FREDERICK M. CONNORS, Boston, 2-23-49.

APPR. & FWD.	SAC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 - Bureau</li> <li>1 - THOMAS J. DONEGAN, Sp.Asst. to Attorney General, NYC</li> <li>3 - New York 65-14920</li> <li>2 - Washington Field 74-94 (Info.)</li> <li>2 - Mobile</li> <li>2 - Boston</li> </ul>	<p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 7/21/87 BY SP-7/mme/ab #266,586</p>

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

DE

FILE NO. 74-77

REPORT MADE AT <b>DETROIT, MICHIGAN</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/17/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/15,17/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>EMILION F. COLLIER</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, WAS, ET AL</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY, ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

*Robinson  
Mortin  
Chambers  
J. Donegan*

ROBINSON MORTIN, 3140 Lasher Road, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, first met CHAMBERS while attending Columbia University in 1923. CHAMBERS visited at MORTIN's home in Seattle, Washington, winter of 1924 - 1925. MORTIN always regarded CHAMBERS as Communist up until 1939 at which time CHAMBERS informed MORTIN that he had broken with the Communist Party because of Russia's pact with Germany and that "the Socialists' dream had been sold down the river". MORTIN has no knowledge of CHAMBERS activities in Communist Party or underground.

- P -

**REFERENCE:**

(74-13339). New York teletype to Detroit, March 12, 1949.

New York teletype to Detroit, March 16, 1949.

**DETAILS:**

*cc AAG Campbell  
4-1-49  
ASB*

Referenced teletype of March 12, 1949, from the New York Division to Detroit advised that JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS was acquainted with ROBINSON MORTIN and had visited at MORTIN's home in Seattle, Washington, during the summer of 1924. Detroit was requested to interview ROBINSON MORTIN and determine the exact date of the contact between ROBINSON MORTIN and CHAMBERS in Seattle, Washington, and any knowledge of CHAMBERS' membership in the International Workers of the World.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>H. A. O'Connor</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED 828 DEC 16 1964	74-1-3028 RECORDED - 116
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 4 - New York (1-S...A.G. THOMAS J. DONEGAN) 2 - Detroit	INDEXED - 116
161	Kisseloff 7036

(DE 74-77)

ROBINSON MORTIN was interviewed in the office of Life and Time Magazine by the Reporting Agent and Special Agent JAMES PATTON on March 15, 1949. Mr. ROBINSON MORTIN stated that he first became acquainted with CHAMBERS in about 1923 at which time he, MORTIN, was attending Columbia University. He stated that CHAMBERS at that time was doing graduate work and was earning his living by making translations. He specifically recalled that CHAMBERS was of great help to him in a course in Greek that he, MORTIN, was taking.

MORTIN stated that he and CHAMBERS became quite friendly while at Columbia University and that he was quite amused with CHAMBERS because of CHAMBERS conspiratorial manner which was the cause of some comment amongst his fellow students.

At this time and throughout the years, MORTIN had the impression that CHAMBERS was a Communist and a "parlor pink". MORTIN stated that he has no direct knowledge of CHAMBERS' Communist Party membership but that he had always assumed it and had never hesitated in speaking to CHAMBERS as though he were a member of the Communist Party. MORTIN stated that he can recall greeting CHAMBERS in a friendly manner by making statements such as "How's the revolution coming". MORTIN stated that to the best of his recollection, during the winter of 1924 to 1925, CHAMBERS hitch-hiked to Seattle, Washington, at which time he stayed for a period of three or four days in the home of MORTIN's mother at 5203 13th Street, Northeast Seattle, Washington.

The purpose of CHAMBERS' trip, to the best of MORTIN's recollection, was to gather material regarding the Centralia, Washington, massacre which had taken place at Centralia, Washington, involving members of the I.W.O., referred to as "wobblies". MORTIN had no knowledge of CHAMBERS joining the I.W.O. while in Seattle.

Mr. MORTIN stated that in 1929 or 1930 he, MORTIN, took a job with the Life magazine in New York City and by chance met one LEWIS ZUKOFSKY, a former classmate at Columbia. ZUKOFSKY was referred to by MORTIN as a branch village poet, who had met with no great success. ZUKOFSKY advised MORTIN that CHAMBERS was then in New York doing free lance writing and working for some Communist publication, which MORTIN believed to be the "Daily Worker".

A luncheon date was agreed upon between MORTIN, ZUKOFSKY and CHAMBERS and this was the first time MORTIN saw CHAMBERS since the Seattle visit. MORTIN stated that following this, he met CHAMBERS at infrequent intervals and without pre-arrangement. He recalled that on one occasion, the date of which he does not recall, he asked CHAMBERS how the Russian Government could afford to have such a large number of agents working throughout the world as he did not believe

(DE 74-77)

that Russia could afford to pay the agents' salaries. MORTIN was advised by CHAMBERS that the agents did not receive money from Russia but on the contrary in most instances the agents sent funds to Russia.

MORTIN stated that he had no knowledge of CHAMBERS underground or espionage activities and that he had never heard of ALGER HISS up until the time of the recent publicity concerning him.

MORTIN stated that in 1939 he met CHAMBERS in New York at which time CHAMBERS informed him that he, CHAMBERS, was then working for Life magazine. MORTIN asked CHAMBERS how he could reconcile himself to working for the Press and was told by CHAMBERS that "the Socialists' dream was sold down the river by Russia at the time of the Russian - German pact and that the Russians were now as black Fascists as the Nazi Regime". CHAMBERS continued in his statements along this line and stated that he had broken with the Communist Movement in view of the pact Russia had made with Germany.

MORTIN stated that he has always regarded CHAMBERS as a brilliant student with an excellent reputation for veracity. CHAMBERS, during his employment with Life magazine, according to MORTIN, was highly regarded as a research man, and because of his previous experience in political matters, could give excellent interpretations on news matters.

MORTIN stated that in his opinion, CHAMBERS is an extremely conscientious man and he feels that CHAMBERS is now trying to atone for his previous activity and to render a service to the United States Government in making the allegations and revelations which he, CHAMBERS, has made.

- P E N D I N G -

(DE 74-77)

LEADS

THE DETROIT DIVISION

at Detroit, Michigan:

Will interview RUTH YANOVER as instructed by Bureau teletype dated March 16, 1949.

- P E N D I N G -

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

FILE NO. **100-30409**

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/11/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/7, 8, 10, 11/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>HAROLD F. DODGE</b>	<b>KH</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was. ALGER HISS, et al.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Miss ELIZABETH HARRIS, who resided at 2138 California Street, Washington, D. C., in 1936-1937, when ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN lived there, does not recall SILVERMAN or recognize photographs of him or any of his activities. Mrs. JOHN W. (MARGARET) PORTER, Sierra Madre, California, states she knows both ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS, but not closely acquainted with them and cannot recall seeing them since about 1935; she has no correspondence from them and knows nothing about their typewriter, car, servants, or social acquaintances; said she has no knowledge or information that ALGER HISS is CP member or sympathizer or ever engaged in espionage activities.

- P -

**REFERENCE:** Bureau file 74-1335.  
Washington Field letters to Bureau dated March 4 and February 25, 1949.  
Report of SA Harold F. Dodge, Los Angeles, 3/7/49.

**DETAILS:**

**Re: ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN**

Interview with Miss ELIZABETH HARRIS

Referenced letter from Washington Field to the Bureau dated March 4, 1949, advised that ELIZABETH HARRIS had resided in Apartment 406, 2138 California Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., in 1936 and 1937, and that ABRAHAM

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT ⑤ Bureau 3 New York (65-14920) (1 Thomas J. Donegan, Spec. Asst. to Atty. General) 2 Washington Field (info) (74-94) 2 Los Angeles		Kissetoff-7040	



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

FILE NO. **100-30409**

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/14/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/7,8,10,11/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>HAROLD F. DODGE</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was. 256,588 ALGER HISS, et al.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

**7-21-87 SP?MACHTP**

Miss ELIZABETH HARRIS, who resided at 2138 California Street, Washington, D. C., in 1936-1937, when ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN lived there, does not recall SILVERMAN or recognize photographs of him or any of his activities. Mrs. JOHN W. (MARGARET) PORTER, Sierra Madre, California, states she knows both ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS, but not closely acquainted with them and cannot recall seeing them since about 1935; she has no correspondence from them and knows nothing about their typewriter, car, servants, or social acquaintances; said she has no knowledge or information that ALGER HISS is CP member or sympathizer or ever engaged in espionage activities.

- P -

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau file 74-1333.  
Washington Field letters to Bureau dated March 4 and February 25, 1949.  
Report of SA Harold F. Dodge, Los Angeles, 3/7/49.

**DETAILS:**

**Re: ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN**

Interview with Miss ELIZABETH HARRIS

Referenced letter from Washington Field to the Bureau dated March 4, 1949, advised that ELIZABETH HARRIS had resided in Apartment 406, 2138 California Street, N.W., Washington, D. C., in 1936 and 1937, and that ABRAHAM

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. B. Good</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<p><b>COPIES DESTROYED</b></p> <p>DEC 18 1964</p> <p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 Bureau</li> <li>3 New York (65-14920)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1 Thomas J. Donegan, Spec. Asst. to Atty. General)</li> </ul> </li> <li>2 Washington Field (info) (74-94)</li> <li>2 Los Angeles</li> </ul>		<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">3029</p> <p>RECORDED - 116</p> <p>INDEXED - 116</p>
		Kisseloff-7041

LA 100-30409

GEORGE SILVERMAN was living in this apartment house at that time. The letter requested that the Los Angeles Office interview ELIZABETH HARRIS, whose present address they furnished as 81 West Home Street, Long Beach, California.

On March 10, 1949, Miss ELIZABETH HARRIS was interviewed at the Home Street address, where she is visiting, by Special Agent Ernest J. Van Loon and the writer. She was shown two photographs of SILVERMAN but failed to recognize them as anyone she had ever known.

Miss HARRIS recalled living at 2138 California Street N.W., Washington, D. C., in 1936 and 1937, at which time she was employed by the Federal Board for Vocational Education. She stated that she could not recall the name ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN and does not believe she was ever acquainted with him; neither was she acquainted with the names VIRGINIA FOX or BENJAMIN FOX. She recalled a music teacher who lived in one of the apartments on her floor, as well as a Miss ZIMMERMAN who lived for a short time in the apartment next to hers. Miss ZIMMERMAN, she related, was in her opinion a girl of rather low moral habits and she had no contact with her.

Miss HARRIS stated that she usually left her apartment before 7 o'clock in the morning and did not return until after dinner in the evening; that she is inclined to be reserved and did not mix with the other people in the apartment house. She could recall nothing concerning the three rugs which SILVERMAN is alleged to have handled.

Re: ALGER HISS

Interview with Mrs. JOHN W. (MARGARET) PORTER

The referenced letter dated February 25, 1949, requested the Los Angeles Office to interview Mrs. MARGARET B. PORTER, nee Bennett, wife of JOHN W. PORTER. Mrs. PORTER was employed from 1933 to 1935 as an attorney for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in Washington, D. C., and during the time she was so employed ALGER HISS was employed as principal attorney for the AAA.

On March 8, 1949, SA Ernest J. Van Loon and the writer contacted Mrs. PORTER at her home, 177 Grand View, Sierra Madre, California. At this time she stated that she was too busy to talk to the agents, but remarked that she knew ALGER HISS, having worked in the same office with him, and that she had also gone to school with PRISCILLA HISS. However, she stated that the agents were wasting their time talking to her as she did not know anything about HISS and knew him only slightly socially.

An appointment was made and an interview with Mrs. PORTER was again conducted on March 11, at which time her husband, JOHN W. PORTER, was present.

LA 100-30409

He stated that he was present during the interview in a dual capacity of husband and attorney for Mrs. PORTER.

Mrs. PORTER recalled working for the AAA from 1933 until 1935 and recalled that ALGER HISS was also employed there during this period.

Mrs. PORTER first met PRISCILLA HISS at a summer school session at Bryn Mawr College sometime in the 1920's. Later when Mrs. PORTER went to Washington, D. C., she looked up PRISCILLA, who had in the meantime married ALGER HISS, and it was at this time that she first met ALGER HISS.

Mrs. PORTER stated that during her employment at the AAA, she worked for a short time directly under ALGER HISS in the Benefit Contract Section, but she did not come in very close contact with him in connection with this work.

She advised that she had probably visited the ALGER HISS home on two or three occasions; that the first trip, she believed, was a dinner engagement and that all of them were purely social functions. She said that she did not recall having observed a typewriter in the HISS home, does not recall what, if any, car ALGER HISS was driving, and was never introduced to any of the servants in the HISS home. She recalled that the HISS home at this time was located in Georgetown, but she did not recall the street. She said that she had invited ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS to her home during this period, but that neither of them ever visited her home, to her knowledge. She recalled, however, that she had met Mrs. HISS's son, TIMOTHY, during her visit to the HISS home.

Mrs. PORTER said that she never knew PRISCILLA HISS intimately, but that she liked her and thought she was a very attractive woman. She further stated that she was not a close acquaintance of ALGER HISS; that ALGER HISS was admired and respected by everyone and moved in New Deal circles.

Mrs. PORTER remained in Washington, D. C., until 1940 or 1941, but could not recall having seen either PRISCILLA or ALGER HISS since about 1935. She said that she did not believe she ever corresponded with PRISCILLA HISS and has no definite recollection of doing so with ALGER HISS, although she might have written to him on some occasion with reference to his recommendation of her when she was applying for a job. She definitely stated that she has no letters in her possession at the present time from either of these individuals.

Mrs. PORTER was unable to furnish the names of any of the social acquaintances of ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS and stated that the only professional contacts of ALGER HISS whom she knew were those employed at the same time in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.

Mrs. PORTER was asked whether she had had any indication or if she has any knowledge indicating that ALGER HISS was a member of the Communist Party or a Communist sympathizer, to which she replied, "Certainly not"; that he was just the contrary, that she recalls he was a Democrat and she had never heard a breath of suspicion about him. She also stated that she had never heard any rumors and had no knowledge of espionage activity on the part of ALGER HISS at that time. She remarked that if people had known at that time that he was engaged in espionage activities, it would not have been kept secret. Mrs. PORTER was then asked whether she knew or had heard information to the effect that PRISCILLA HISS was a Communist Party member or sympathizer. She stated that she did not think this was a proper question to ask, that it was political in nature. She said that she had never heard of anything about PRISCILLA HISS to which the Government could possibly take exception and that she had never heard anything about PRISCILLA HISS's political views. Prior to answering the above question, Mrs. PORTER consulted her husband, who said that her answer should be that she has no other information concerning PRISCILLA HISS than had already been stated to the agents.

Mrs. PORTER said that she had never heard any information indicating espionage activities on the part of PRISCILLA HISS.

Photographs of ALGER HISS were shown to Mrs. PORTER and she stated that they looked something like him. She said that she could not recall ever having met WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and did not recognize photographs of him as anyone she had ever known.

Prior to this interview, Mrs. PORTER was advised that she did not have to make any statements to the interviewing agents and that any statements she did make might be used against her in court.

- PENDING -

LA 100-30409

LEADS

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

Copies of this report are being furnished to the Washington Field Division inasmuch as they are presently conducting investigation in this case and the material herein may be of assistance to them.

LOS ANGELES DIVISION

At Long Beach, California:

Will continue the interview of WILLIAM EDWARD CRANE.

Will interview Major General OLIVER ECHOLS regarding ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN's employment and associates. (See Washington Field letter to the Bureau dated March 3, 1949.)

At Culver City, California:

Will interview Colonel CHARLES THORNTON, Used (Hughes) Aircraft, regarding ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN's association and duties while employed by the Army Air Forces during the war. (See Washington Field letter to the Bureau dated March 9, 1949.)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

FILE NO. **100-30409**

REPORT MADE AT <b>LOS ANGELES</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/11/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3/7, 8, 10, 11/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>HAROLD F. DODGE</b>	<b>KH</b>
TITLE <b>JAY DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS, was. ALGER HISS, et al.</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>PERJURY ESPIONAGE - R INTERNAL SECURITY - R</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

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- P -

**REFERENCE:** Bureau file 74-1333.  
Washington Field letters to Bureau dated March 4 and February 25, 1949.  
Report of SA Harold F. Dodge, Los Angeles, 3/7/49.

**DETAILS:**

Re: ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		Kisseloff-7046		
5 Bureau 3 New York (65-14920) (1 Thomas J. Donagan, Spec. Asst. to Atty. General) 2 Washington Field (info) (74-94) 2 Los Angeles				

LA 100-30409

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Re: ALGER HISS

Interview with Mrs. JOHN W. (MARGARET) PORTER

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LA 100-30409

He stated that he was present during the interview in a dual capacity of husband and attorney for Mrs. PORTER.

Mrs. PORTER recalled working for the AAA from 1933 until 1935 and recalled that ALGER HISS was also employed there during this period.

Mrs. PORTER first met PRISCILLA HISS at a summer school session at Bryn Mawr College sometime in the 1920's. Later when Mrs. PORTER went to Washington, D. C., she looked up PRISCILLA, who had in the meantime married ALGER HISS, and it was at this time that she first met ALGER HISS.

Mrs. PORTER stated that during her employment at the AAA, she worked for a short time directly under ALGER HISS in the Benefit Contract Section, but she did not come in very close contact with him in connection with this work.

She advised that she had probably visited the ALGER HISS home on two or three occasions; that the first trip, she believed, was a dinner engagement and that all of them were purely social functions. She said that she did not recall having observed a typewriter in the HISS home, does not recall what, if any, car ALGER HISS was driving, and was never introduced to any of the servants in the HISS home. She recalled that the HISS home at this time was located in Georgetown, but she did not recall the street. She said that she had invited ALGER and PRISCILLA HISS to her home during this period, but that neither of them ever visited her home, to her knowledge. She recalled, however, that she had met Mrs. HISS's son, TIMOTHY, during her visit to the HISS home.

Mrs. PORTER said that she never knew PRISCILLA HISS intimately, but that she liked her and thought she was a very attractive woman. She further stated that she was not a close acquaintance of ALGER HISS; that ALGER HISS was admired and respected by everyone and moved in New Deal circles.

Mrs. PORTER remained in Washington, D. C., until 1940 or 1941, but could not recall having seen either PRISCILLA or ALGER HISS since about 1935. She said that she did not believe she ever corresponded with PRISCILLA HISS and has no definite recollection of doing so with ALGER HISS, although she might have written to him on some occasion with reference to his recommendation of her when she was applying for a job. She definitely stated that she has no letters in her possession at the present time from either of those individuals.

Mrs. PORTER was unable to furnish the names of any of the social acquaintances of ALGER or PRISCILLA HISS and stated that the only professional contacts of ALGER HISS whom she knew were those employed at the same time in the Agricultural Adjustment Administration.



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Mrs. PORTER was asked whether she had had any indication or if she has any knowledge indicating that ALGER HISS was a member of the Communist Party or a Communist sympathizer, to which she replied, "Certainly not"; that he was just the contrary, that she recalls he was a Democrat and she had never heard a breath of suspicion about him. She also stated that she had never heard any rumors and had no knowledge of espionage activity on the part of ALGER HISS at that time. She remarked that if people had known at that time that he was engaged in espionage activities, it would not have been kept secret. Mrs. PORTER was then asked whether she knew or had heard information to the effect that PRISCILLA HISS was a Communist Party member or sympathizer. She stated that she did not think this was a proper question to ask, that it was political in nature. She said that she had never heard of anything about PRISCILLA HISS to which the Government could possibly take exception and that she had never heard anything about PRISCILLA HISS's political views. Prior to answering the above question, Mrs. PORTER consulted her husband, who said that her answer should be that she has no other information concerning PRISCILLA HISS than had already been stated to the agents.

Mrs. PORTER said that she had never heard any information indicating espionage activities on the part of PRISCILLA HISS.

Photographs of ALGER HISS were shown to Mrs. PORTER and she stated that they looked something like him. She said that she could not recall ever having met WHITTAKER CHAMBERS and did not recognize photographs of him as anyone she had ever known.

Prior to this interview, Mrs. PORTER was advised that she did not have to make any statements to the interviewing agents and that any statements she did make might be used against her in court.

- PENDING -

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LEADS

WASHINGTON FIELD DIVISION

Copies of this report are being furnished to the Washington Field Division inasmuch as they are presently conducting investigation in this case and the material herein may be of assistance to them.

LOS ANGELES DIVISION

At Long Beach, California:

Will continue the interview of WILLIAM EDWARD CRANE.

Will interview Major General OLIVER ECHOLS regarding ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN's employment and associates. (See Washington Field letter to the Bureau dated March 3, 1949.)

At Culver City, California:

Will interview Colonel CHARLES THORNTON, Used (Hughes) Aircraft, regarding ABRAHAM GEORGE SILVERMAN's association and duties while employed by the Army Air Forces during the war. (See Washington Field letter to the Bureau dated March 9, 1949.)