

Memo from Ladd to Hoover, Feb. 28, 1951,

prepared by Lamphere.

~~TOP SECRET~~

Attache in Mexico, but there is no indication that she intends to return to the United States. The second individual who actually recruited Coplon was Flora Don Wovschin. She married a Russian National and went to the Soviet Union. She was formerly employed by OWI and by the State Department.

~~Alger Hiss~~ (U)

(S)

Information from [redacted] (S) reflects that on March 30, 1945, Anatoli B. Gromov, First Secretary and MGB representative at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D.C., advised his Moscow headquarters concerning one "Ales." Gromov stated that in a conversation with "Ales" it was learned that he had for some years been the leader of a little group working for Soviet Military Intelligence. It was stated that this group was composed mainly of "Ales'" relatives. It was also stated that after the Yalta Conference a certain responsible Soviet channel got in touch with "Ales" and on behalf of the Soviet Military Intelligence had thanked "Ales."

2-28-51

The above information very closely corresponds to the information available through our investigation of Alger Hiss. The information from Whittaker Chambers does indicate that Hiss was active in Soviet espionage and that his wife, Priscilla, assisted him. We also know that Donald Hiss, the brother of Alger, was an employee of the State Department. We also know that Hiss did attend the Yalta Conference as a special advisor to the late President Roosevelt. The information from [redacted] is being considered in connection with our continued interest in Alger Hiss.

A

~~Harry Dexter White~~ (U)

While Harry Dexter White was mentioned above in connection with the Silvermaster network, the information concerning him from [redacted] is of some special interest. He was designated under the cover name of "Jurist" and was in a position to furnish high-level information to the Soviets involving such persons as President Roosevelt, Henry A. Wallace, Cordell Hull, and Henry Morgenthau, Jr. On April 29, 1944, he furnished to the Soviets information that Vice President Wallace was to go to China. The [redacted] information also indicates that [redacted]

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Memo from Belmont to Ladd May 15, 1950.

prepared by Lamphere

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Another individual who apparently was close to Wallace, and who is mentioned in the information from [redacted] was an individual designated by the cover name of Frank. Frank was reported to be considering resigning from the State Department as of July 22, 1944, for "personal reasons." The identity of Frank has not been developed to date in view of the fact that the only available information is to the effect that he was well acquainted with Wallace and was to resign as of that date. However, it is interesting to note that Laurence Duggan (deceased), mentioned by Whittaker Chambers and Heda Massing, did resign from the State Department in the latter part of July, 1944. We have investigations in progress to identify both Jurist and Frank. (S)

ALGER HISS (S)(u)

Bride (S)

According to [redacted] on March 30, 1945, Anatoli B. Gromov, First Secretary and MGB representative at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C., informed his Moscow headquarters that Ales had, for some years, been the leader of a little group working for Soviet Military Intelligence. It was stated that this group was composed mainly of Ales' relatives and that the group, which apparently was centered in the State Department, was working mainly on developing military information only and the information from the State Department interested them very little. It was stated that Ales, after the Yalta conference, had been in touch with a high Soviet official whom Ales implied was Comrade Vishinsky who thanked Ales on behalf of Soviet Military Intelligence. It would appear likely that this individual is Alger Hiss in view of the fact that he was in the State Department and the information from Chambers indicated that his wife, Priscilla, was active in Soviet espionage and he also had a brother, Donald, in the State Department. It also is to be noted that Hiss did attend the Yalta conference as a special adviser to President Roosevelt, and he would, of course, have conferred with high officials of other nations attending the conference. An attempt is being made by analysis of the available information to verify this identification. (S)

A

5-15-50

THE COMMUNIST PARTY (S)(u)

The [redacted] information reflects that the Soviets were able to make extensive use of the Communist Party, USA, both for recruitment and for checking on various individuals regarding whom the MGB wanted information. Earl Browder was known by the MGB under the cover name [redacted]

At the end of the memo, Hoover writes

"Very important to press all angles. Please bring this memo up to date from time to time for my information."

(u) CAUTION: This must not be disseminated without approval of Mr. Ladd

~~TOP SECRET~~