

Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~TOP SECRET~~

TO : Mr. Ladd
FROM : Mr. Belmont
SUBJECT: [REDACTED] ESPIONAGE - R [REDACTED] (u)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE May 15, 1990 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this memorandum is to briefly summarize the important investigative developments in this case and individual cases related thereto, based on [REDACTED] information.

INTRODUCTION:

[REDACTED] has been able to furnish to us certain fairly detailed information regarding MIB (Soviet Intelligence) activities in the United States in the period April, 1944, through March, 1945. The [REDACTED] information indicates the extensive use of cover names by the MIB which often makes identifications difficult where we have little information available from the source. In the following material an effort has been made to break down the information from [REDACTED] into individual networks, particularly in those instances where we previously had investigated certain ramifications of the Soviet espionage activity in this country.

THE SILVERMASTER NETWORK

The [REDACTED] information deals in part with the operations of the MIB in their recruitment and use of personnel in various Government agencies previously known to us through our investigation in the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster case. The individuals positively or tentatively identified from [REDACTED] include Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, Helen Silvermaster, Ludwig Ullman, Bela Gold, Sonia Gold, Victor Perlo, Elisabeth Bentley, Jacob Golos, Harry Magdoff, Peter Rhodes, Allen Rosenberg, Harold Glasser, Anstoli B. Gromov, Joseph Katz, and Vladimir S. Pravdin, all of whom were implicated in the information furnished to us by Elisabeth Bentley.

In addition to the foregoing, we have a considerable number of individuals attached to the same network, identified only through cover names, whom we are attempting by investigation to identify. The most important of these is an individual by the cover name of Albert, who, from the [REDACTED] information, operated

Classified by [REDACTED] Declassify on: OADR 3/17/81

[REDACTED] (u)

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RECORDED INDEXED

AUG 8 1950

CLASS. & EXT. BY [REDACTED] DATE OF REVIEW [REDACTED]

5268 SLD/GCL (1)(6) (Per NSA LTR. DTD. 7/9/97)

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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.

ALGER HISS (S)(u)

According to [redacted] (S) 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.

THE COMMUNIST PARTY (S)(u)

The [redacted] (S) 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

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