



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

FBI 8/18/41
10/4/76

WC-6

PJM:MES
62-62107

August 18, 1941

9127

MEMORANDUM FOR J. FOXWORTH

- RE: ① WHITTE, CHAMBERS; - 1942 statement
- ② Ludwig Lore, Confidential Informant;
- ③ FBI pre-48 investg's
- ④ Balt Docs

A review of the Bureau indic-s reveals the following information concerning the above-named individual:

On September 16, 1940, Confidential Informant ~~XXXXXX~~ submitted to the New York City Field Office information to the effect that a confidential informant, Ludwig Lore, knew an individual who "has been a high GPU officer for eight years abroad and for seven years in this country."

deletion
6-7-D

On May 9, 1941, pursuant to Bureau instructions, Special Agent George J. Starr, after several futile attempts to contact Lore, finally succeeded in interviewing him regarding the unknown OGPU agent. At that time Lore advised the OGPU agent above-referred-to, is a native born American, married and has two children about eight and eleven years of age; that the OGPU agent is employed on the editorial staff of a popular magazine. Lore further advised that this individual is afraid to reveal the true story of his OGPU activities in the United States, believing he will encounter serious trouble. Lore also stated that this individual was in contact with two girls who were private secretaries to Assistant Secretaries of State and was also in touch with a girl who was employed in a secretarial capacity with one of the high officials of the Department of Commerce; that the OGPU agent obtained from the latter girl all necessary statistical data.

WC-6

Mr. Lore also advised that the practice in preparing confidential correspondence in the Department of State was to make three copies of the correspondence, one original and two carbon copies; that the above-mentioned contacts of the OGPU agent in the Department of State would prepare two extra copies of pertinent letters which would be delivered to the OGPU agent. Lore at that time described the OGPU agent as a supervisor who had approximately seventy OGPU agents and other individuals working under his supervision. Lore also advised that this OGPU agent had received information to the effect that a list of employees of the United States Government had been submitted to the President of the United States; that this list contained the names of various employees of the Government who were Communists or possessed pro-Russian political

and who

COPIES DESTROYED 7-11-53
COPIES DESTROYED

4-p memo detailing interview w/ Lore, who said that W.C. ...

5 6 OCT 16 1973

Mr. Foxworth

Page 2

sympathies to the extent that their employment would be a serious menace to the Government; that the above-mentioned list had been on the President's desk for several weeks and that nothing had been done about it.

Lore also advised that the OGPU agent had informed him, Lore, that this case had been discussed with the Director some six or seven months prior to the interview; that when the intermediary suggested a guarantee of immunity regarding the OGPU agent, the Director stated no such agreement or guarantee could be arranged.

On May 16, 1941, the New York Office was advised that the Director was never approached regarding a guarantee of immunity in connection with this individual.

On August 3, 1941, the Bureau was advised that Mr. Lore had been reinterviewed by Special Agent Starr, at which time Lore stated in strictest confidence that the man he referred to as being a former OGPU supervisor is Whittaker Chambers, an associate editor of "Time" magazine; that Chambers spends Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays of each week at the offices of the above-mentioned publication. During this interview Lore repeated his previous statement that until fairly recently Chambers had held an important position in the OGPU; that he definitely handled arrangements for placing agents in the Government service at Washington or for making contacts through which the OGPU agents could obtain information at Washington. Lore also reiterates the fact that he understood Chambers had approached either the Director or someone representing the Director to ascertain whether he could secure some sort of a promise of immunity; that Chambers had been told it would be necessary for him to furnish the information before any such matter could be discussed. The New York City Office advised that "unless instructions to the contrary are received from the Bureau, arrangements will be made to interview Chambers."

An examination of the Bureau files indicates Chambers is the author of a short story entitled "Can You Hear Their Voices?" published by the International Pamphlets, 799 Broadway, New York City. The pamphlet bears number twenty-six. It is noted that the above-mentioned short story bears a subcaption "The Arkansas Farmers' Fight for Food" and concerns itself with the difficulties experienced by the Arkansas dirt farmers during a severe drouth. The article suggests that Communism is a solution to the evils of economic inequality. A brief note appearing on the last page of the pamphlet indicates the story was first published in the March, 1931 issue of the "New Masses" and was rendered into a play produced at Vassar College and by a number of workers' dramatic groups. According to a list of articles appearing on the back page of