

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
April 9, 1940

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Reference is made to your communication of March 26, 1940, relative to additional motion picture contacts established by me recently.

Every effort has been made to renew many previous contacts already made and to meet as many new persons in the industry as possible, consistent with my other duties. In connection with several investigations, RUSSELL MINNELL, formerly a newspaper representative and now manager of his own advertising concern, has been contacted by various Special Agents of this office. He handles publicity for many stars, including CAROLE LOMBARD and CLAUDE RAINS. He is most cooperative with this office and while I have not had the opportunity to meet him personally, I have talked to him on the telephone on several occasions and he has rendered every assistance to the Agents.

I have become acquainted with SALVIN PRINZ, 6511 Sunset Boulevard, who is the agent and business manager for a number of motion picture executives, particularly at the Universal Studio, as well as for actor ERIC FLYNN. Through him I have become acquainted with ERIC FLYNN, prominent Warner Brothers motion picture star.

ROBERT CURRIE, actor, who is becoming very prominent, is a close personal acquaintance of mine and is very favorable to the Bureau. I have become acquainted with the following persons and have always offered to be of any assistance to them in connection with any matters within the Bureau's jurisdiction: IRVING BERLIN, RICHARD and CLARK GABLE. I have had several meetings with Mr. CURRIE, former actor and now actor, and have been of some assistance to him.

RECORDED
INDEXED

7-764-21
APR 11 1940
FBI - LOS ANGELES

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

-2-

April 9, 1940

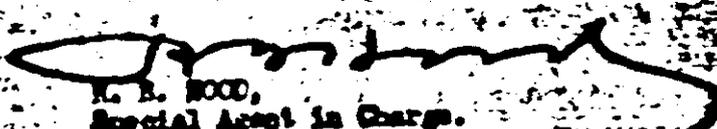
JOSEPH PASTERNAK, producer of Universal Studios, and maker of DEANNA DURPIN and MARLENE DIETRICH pictures, is a very good friend of mine and if it appears desirable at any time he has agreed to make a short moving picture for the Bureau. He is regarded as one of the outstanding producers in the industry.

MARTIN SCOVY, the writer, who has been at the Universal Studio in recent months, is well known to me now and it is believed he is sincere in his attitude towards the Bureau.

At the Warner Brothers Studio I have become acquainted with HARRY HAYES, President, and he is very enthusiastic in his support of the Bureau. WILLIAM TATHRUE, a former Special Agent of the Bureau, is location manager for Warner Brothers and always speaks very highly of the Bureau and is in a good position to be of assistance. It is understood that he does some confidential work for HARRY HAYES from time to time.

I have also become acquainted with ELLER POY, prominent producer at Warner Brothers Studios, as well as one of his assistants, LOU LIDMAN.

Very truly yours,


R. E. HOOD,
Special Agent in Charge.

REH:MO

advising that he had just been joking about that, as he was not so employed.

It was ascertained that a Cadillac car bearing license No. 5U-525 has been parked at this place almost constantly, and it was checked and found to belong to ERIC VLYNN, movie actor; further, that an automobile bearing license No. 6Y-25 also frequents this place. The girls are said to be [redacted] and [redacted] of Detroit, Michigan, ages 27 and 17, respectively.

Mr. BOOB also was informed that they seldom leave the place except to purchase food and [redacted] very willing to talk to officer about these people.

b
7
c

[Large redacted area]

Info does not pertain to Earl Plympton

[REDACTED]

She further related that a big black Cadillac sedan bearing license No. 3U-425, 1940 California, was parked in front of this apartment every day between the hours of three P.M. and five P.M., that on one occasion she had crawled on her knees across the pavement to the driver's side of the automobile and by using a piece of wire which she inserted into the left front door window, she succeeded in opening the door and examined the registration card on the steering wheel. She related that this card was made out to MAROL FLENN, 601 North Lincoln Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Info does not pertain to this

[REDACTED]

Special Agent in Charge E. A. MOON advised the writer that he had ascertained Agent ERIC FLIER was out presently working but would be back on the Warner Brothers lot Friday, February 10, 1940. It was also ascertained from Special Agent [REDACTED] that FLIER has consisted of a reputation as a woman-chaser. It was then decided that since the residence of [REDACTED] was not known, it would be best to follow [REDACTED] from his place of business [REDACTED] the district present residence so that this place could be surveilled to ascertain the activities.

b7c

However, the writer maintained a surveillance at [REDACTED] on February 27 and 28, at which time a 1936 black Cadillac sedan bearing 1940 tags 38-925 was observed, but it was not operated by a person who did not fit the description of [REDACTED]. The writer appeared on the used car lot at 2120 West Pico Boulevard using the pretext [REDACTED] inspected the 1936 black Cadillac sedan bearing California tags 38-925. The salesman showing the writer the car pointed out the registration [REDACTED] 401 North Linden Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

b7c

b7E

The writer observed 601 North Linden Drive, the residence of ERIC FLYNN, and it was noted that parked in front of this place was a 1940 black Cadillac sedan bearing 1940 Michigan tags No. KP-1145.



Info added in connection with Eric Flynn

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that upon arriving in the city with the 1940 Cadillac from Detroit, he immediately turned the same over to ERIC FLYNN, who in turn released his old 1936 Cadillac over to [REDACTED] and that he had been driving this old Cadillac since. He further related that he had driven this car to the Sixth Street Apartment on numerous occasions while the girls were living there; that ERIC FLYNN at no time to his knowledge visited this place. He related that they all registered in the hotels during the trip under their own names and stayed in separate rooms; that [REDACTED] was the person who had driven one of the cars from Detroit for his [REDACTED] and that he did not know where he presently was.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Race
Sex
Age
Height
Weight
Hair
Eyes
Build
Scars
Distinguishing

[REDACTED]

*In to Detroit
gettin to work
Flynn*

INDEX

b7C D

PAGES

[REDACTED]	3 through 9
Review of Los Angeles newspaper clippings covering [REDACTED] affairs over a period January through June, 1943	10 through 16
Summary of a recording made of conversation between [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]	
Recordings made available by [REDACTED]	17 through 29
[REDACTED]	29 and 30
[REDACTED]	31
[REDACTED]	32 and 33
[REDACTED]	34
[REDACTED]	34 through 36
[REDACTED]	37 through 40
[REDACTED]	41
[REDACTED]	41
[REDACTED]	42
[REDACTED]	42 and 43
[REDACTED]	44 through 45
[REDACTED]	46 and

b7C D
No further questions to Earl

17A

had ascertained that ~~JERRY GIBBLEP~~, prominent criminal attorney in Los Angeles, who represented ~~ERROL FLYNN~~ when he was tried on a rape charge early this year

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Errol Flynn's not partner to Errol Flynn

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FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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31-68496-21 p. 26

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221

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 51-4578

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT OKLAHOMA CITY

REPORT MADE AT OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA.	DATE WHEN MADE 12-18-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/20-22, 24-25, 26, 12/1, 2, 3, 4, 1944	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
CHARACTER OF CASE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC ACT CONSPIRACY			b7c

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS
[REDACTED]



Info does not pertain to Earl Flynn

EXHIBITS

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated November 17, 1944 at Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated November 16, 1944 at Los Angeles, California.

31-70448-110

SEARCHED [] INDEXED []
SERIALIZED [] FILED []

JAN 18 1945

3 Bureau Enclosure
1 - Los Angeles
1 - Detroit
1 - Okla. Palm
1 - Oklahoma City

CC F. O.
81-4578

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Victim also said that she and the subject intended to get married in Tulsa and that she was in love with the subject. She admitted that she had received \$250.00 on a two-day house party at HERO FLYNN's place in Hollywood. She said she did not turn a trick at the party, but had to be ready at all times. She asked the Agents if they found her little red address book in her suitcase. Upon being advised that Agents did find it, she remarked: "The names aren't bad, are they?" She said she could not recall how much money she made hustling in Hollywood. She further admitted that [REDACTED] had brought marijuana from Los Angeles to Tulsa in his automobile.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Victim does not mention Grand Flynn

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A highly confidential source has furnished photographs of the index maintained at [REDACTED] and copies are being transmitted to the Bureau.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Info does not pertain to Errol Flynn

TO : MR. V. F. KEAY

DATE: March 10, 1951

FROM : C. A. Moynihan

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: ERROL FLYNN
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AND INVESTIGATION

BY [REDACTED]

(b)(7)(D)

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1GSK/BA/PA
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 11-25-90

BACKGROUND: (b)(7)(D)

[REDACTED] was requested by letter dated February 8, 1951, received at the Bureau March 3, 1951, that he be furnished with whatever information is available in Bureau files, or could be obtained concerning the income, resources, social standing, private means, welfare, behavior, and general activities of the movie actor, Errol Flynn. The request for such information is based on the fact that Flynn has been charged in Monaco with rape and indecent assault.

REVIEW OF BUREAU FILES: DECLASSIFIED BY 6383 JET/AC
ON 1-2-92

Bureau records reflect that in 1943 Flynn was investigated by the Bureau for possible violation of the White Slave Traffic Act in that he reportedly caused to be transported from Los Angeles, California, to Mexico City for immoral purposes Nora Eddington, whom he subsequently married and later divorced. Prosecution in that case was declined by the U. S. Attorney at Los Angeles on December 11, 1943, when no proof of the violation of the provisions of the White Slave Traffic Act was obtainable.

Bureau records also reflect that during the latter part of 1942 and the spring of 1943 Flynn was the victim of two separate extortion cases handled by the Bureau, both of which were closed without prosecution.

Bureau records likewise reflect that Flynn was the subject of a Selective Service inquiry on the part of the Bureau during the summer of 1943, when he had allegedly been improperly deferred by his local board because of a heart ailment. The inquiry was discontinued and the case closed when it was determined that he was disqualified for military service by the examining physician because of pulmonary, chronic tuberculosis of the right apex.

COPIES DESTROYED

2 of 279 SEP 8 1966

Attachments
K:lmw

65 MAR 20 1951

31-68502; 9-9870; 9-10598; and
-25-99812

RECORDED 119

INDEXED 119

CONFIDENTIAL

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S), BY DATE 12-6-80

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Handwritten notes and signatures on the right margin, including a large 'V' and '9'.

Handwritten number '224' at the bottom right corner.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that [redacted] be advised that a review of the records of this Bureau failed to reflect that any investigation of Flynn, pertinent to the inquiry, has been conducted by the FBI. It is also recommended that [redacted] be furnished with a copy of Flynn's Identification Record under FBI number 3069421. It is, likewise, recommended that [redacted] be referred to the Sheriff, Los Angeles County, for information pertaining to Flynn. (b)(7)(D) (b)(7)(D) (b)(7)(D) (b)(7)(D) (b)(7)(D)

The proposed reply containing the above recommendations, together with a copy of Flynn's Identification Record, is attached for your approval. (b)(7)(D)

It is recommended also that the State Department be furnished with a copy of the incoming request from [redacted] with a copy of the Bureau's reply to [redacted] with a brief summary of pertinent data in the Bureau's files, and with one copy of the Identification Record of Flynn. These are attached for your approval. (b)(7)(D) (b)(7)(D) (b)(7)(D) (b)(7)(D) (b)(7)(D)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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32-29595-1

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32-29575-2

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APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) BY
DATE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Date: March 14, 1951

To: Mr. Samuel B. Rosen
Chief
Office of Consular Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY 6-879
ON 6-16-83

From: J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: ERROL FLYNN - Identification - Matters

Transmitted herewith are a copy of a translation of a communication forwarded to this Bureau by [redacted] relative to the music actor, Errol Flynn, and a copy of this Bureau's reply to that communication. (S) U

For your confidential information, the records of this Bureau reflect that in 1945 Flynn was investigated by the FBI for alleged violation of the White Slave Traffic Act, that he reportedly caused Herd Edgington, when he was married and later divorced, to be transported from Los Angeles, California, to Mexico City for immoral purposes. Prosecution in that matter was declined by the U. S. Attorney at Los Angeles on December 11, 1945, on the basis that no proof existed that Flynn or his victim had violated the provisions of the White Slave Traffic Act. (S) U

Transmitted herewith also for your information is a copy of the Identification Record of Flynn which has been prepared by the Identification Division of this Bureau.

Enclosure

RECORDED - 140
INDEXED - 140

132-29575-3
MAR 16 1951

Handwritten initials and signatures

EX-47

MAR 15 1951
CONFIDENTIAL

Handwritten notes and stamps
BASE OF EXTENSION 11-25-51
FIVE 7-MV UDON

RECORDED
MAR 14 4 25 PM '51

MNB:EPB
U.S. Censorship

Date:

To: March 11, 1943

SAC, San Diego

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:

[REDACTED]
(40-17511) **b7c**

Refer to Bureau letter of January 26, 1943, captioned as above, wherein you were requested to ascertain the background and activities of the subject.

There are enclosed photostatic copies of an intercept submission in connection with a letter dated December 28, 1942, from [REDACTED]. This communication indicates that the subject is presently residing in Mexico, D. F. It will therefore be unnecessary to conduct the investigation requested in the letter of reference, and you may consider the case closed.

Enclosures *2R*

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-25-80 BY 6561/RB

RECEIVED READING ROOM
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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAR 12 2 03 PM '43

ENCL. 2
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just

RECORDED & INDEXED
21163

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
★ MAR 12 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

17911

MAR 15 1943

[Handwritten signature]

50 MAR 22

231

photographed:	To whom photograph is to be sent:	DISPOSAL OF ORIGINAL COMMUNICATION: Held (H). Released (R). Condemned (C). Returned to sender (RS). Or sent with comment to:
For interoffice use by A. C. or D. C. only:	Station distribution: DII CPLA	
Previous relevant records: SA 109051	Language: ENGLISH	Previously censored by: NONE

Division (or Section)	Table	Examiner	D. A. C.	Exam. date	Typing date
2	2	12045	A/12316	JAN. 4, 1943	tl JAN. 5, 1943

RECROQUIMENT

- AD-E
- AG
- BEW
- BF
- BR
- BP
- CAA
- CAN
- XCC
- CAA
- XOI
- XOM
- XPC
- DL
- ED
- FBI
- XCC
- FE
- FA
- TC
- MM
- NT
- SM
- C
- IC
- LSW
- LD
- NI
- PA
- O
- PC
- C
- D
- VFB

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**b
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c**

There is a Frederick J. McEvoy, a ponderer, who is a friend of Hilda Kruger, and also a friend of Bruce Cabot and Errol Flynn.

Spelling and punctuation in quotations are those of writer.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Enclosures: None

GHD
AC - 2070
1/4/43

- Mr. Alden _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Cunningham _____
- Mr. Fitch _____
- Mr. Kimball _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Laboratory _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Strickland _____
- Mr. Traynor _____
- Mr. Tamm _____

FORM OC-8 (a)
Rev. 10-10-42

SPECIAL NOTICE—The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confined only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to the prosecution of the case, or to those who are directly concerned with the case, or to those who are directly concerned with the case, or to those who are directly concerned with the case.

CONFIDENTIAL

BYRON PRICE, Director

FROM: [REDACTED] TO: [REDACTED]

12-6-42

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP

12-6-42

LIST:

Date of letter (or postmark if letter undated): DEC. 23, 1942

To be photographed: NO

To whom photograph is to be sent:

DISPOSAL OF ORIGINAL COMMUNICATION:

Previous relevant records: SA 109051

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Language: ENGLISH

Previously censored by: NONE

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Released (R). R
Condemned (C).
Returned to sender (RS).
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Division (or Section) RE Table 2 Exam 12045 D. A. C. 1/12/116 Exam. date JAN. 4, 1943 Typing date JAN. 5, 1943

DECLASSIFIED BY 1125/80 ON 5/16/82

COMMENT ACCOUNT

- DR
- G
- EW
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- AA
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- 1-CZAA
- 1-FBI
- 2-SD
- 1-T
- 4-IC

11/1/43

SA C. San Diego

11/1/43

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mr. Alden
Mr. Cason
Mr. Cunningham
Mr. Fitch
Mr. Kimball
Mr. Kramer
Mr. Laboratory
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Strickland
Mr. Traynor
Mr. Tamm

Writer states that his Christmas was more than sad at the beginning but a bottle of Tequila made him feel like a million dollars and he ended in Cuernavaca, where he met Predy Kchvov (G 6418) and Eroll Flynn, with whom he spent several very amusing hours.

[REDACTED]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA**

N.O. FILE NO. 100-10835

REPORT MADE AT NEW ORLEANS	DATE WHEN MADE 5/15/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/30/43	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] H:lef
TITLE [REDACTED]		CHARACTER OF CASE FOREIGN TRAVEL CONTROL - M	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Passenger, journalist and Argentine citizen, arrived at New Orleans from Buenos Aires and is proceeding to Beverly Hills, California where he plans to write for Argentine and American newspapers. Passenger's father, [REDACTED] is president of Buenos Aires Stock Exchange, director of Transradio and alleged pro-Nazi. Physical description of passenger set out.

- C -

DETAILS: [REDACTED] arrived as a passenger aboard SS [REDACTED] at New Orleans on April 29, 1943. This passenger was afforded an interview on April 30, 1943 by a panel board consisting of [REDACTED]

The following information was obtained during this interview:

This passenger stated that he was born on [REDACTED] and that his last permanent address was [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Return to [REDACTED]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *[Signature]* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES DESTROYED

40-44994-7

- 854 MAR 24 1943
- COPIES OF THIS REPORT
- 5 - Bureau
 - 1 - CNI, New Orleans
 - 2 - G-2, New Orleans
 - 1 - Los Angeles
 - 2 - New Orleans

*cc 5/11/43
6-22-43
J*

25 MAY 20 1943

b7c

This passenger informed that his grandfather, [redacted] was a senator in Argentina on two or three different occasions and was once the Governor of the Province of Buenos Aires. He also stated that another grandfather, [redacted] was the first Argentine diplomatic agent to the United States. [redacted] further stated that this grandfather bought three warships from the United States Government, paying for them with his own money.

[redacted] stated that he was acquainted with number of the personnel of the movie industries at Hollywood, among whom are ERROL FLYNN and [redacted] also that he is acquainted with the head of the Latin American Department of the Associated Press, former Associated Press correspondent in Buenos Aires.

Inasmuch as this passenger's baggage was in the custody of customs officials during the interview, it was not possible to ascertain the contents of [redacted] letter of introduction from [redacted]

This passenger's baggage was searched by customs officials and nothing of a derogatory nature was found.

Following is a description of this passenger as obtained through interview and personal observation.

Name:	[redacted]
Age	[redacted]
Born	[redacted]
Nationality	[redacted]
Height	5'6"
Weight	140
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Fair
Marital status	Single
Identifying documents:	[redacted]

b7c

Failure to develop any derogatory information during the interview with this passenger does not constitute an endorsement or approval of this individual's admittance into this country.

C L O S E D

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61-7559-2122 p.2

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61-7561-227 and 228

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SANS SOUCI CASINO:

b7D

On February 13, 1959, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] advised that the gambling element had received information that FIDEL CASTRO, Prime Minister of Cuba, did not desire that [REDACTED] continue his gambling operations at the Sans Souci Night Club because it was well known that [REDACTED] had been closely associated with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] brother-in-law of former Cuban President FULGENCIO BATISTA. Source stated that movie actor ERROL FLYNN had apparently endeared himself to FIDEL CASTRO by publicizing a visit he had made to CASTRO when CASTRO was in Oriente Province prior to the overthrow of the BATISTA Government. Source stated that CASTRO had asked ERROL FLYNN to recommend a reliable person to operate the Sans Souci casino. FLYNN, according to source, got in touch with [REDACTED] P. O. Box [REDACTED] Washington. Source described [REDACTED] as a [REDACTED] operator in the Washington-Oregon area. Source stated that [REDACTED] subsequently came to Cuba and offered [REDACTED]

Info not pertinent to report subject



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

July 27, 1943

AE/bw

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Acers
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Starke
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

With reference to the recent news comment concerning the situation in Hollywood, California, wherein it is alleged that 300 or more girls each month disappear, and the story of vice existing there, the Bureau has had no directed activity toward this condition. White Slave Traffic Act violations have been sporadically reported in the area. They do not appear to be tied in to any pattern in the movie colony.

Action to be taken:

In view of the article, we are requesting the Los Angeles Office to furnish the details with reference to the news item and the cases which have been recently brought to their attention which may tie into Hollywood vice. It does appear from the article that these girls come from all sections of the country and end up in the Hollywood colony, and because of reverses and failure to obtain employment they turn to vice. This is not in violation of the White Slave Traffic Act but does reveal, if true, an aggravated condition and a failure on the part of local law enforcement to properly perform its duty.

Respectfully,

*I do think our
S. A. office ought to
be particularly alert*

A. Rosen

Attachments

H. J.
[Handwritten signature]

62-48833-5



Celluloid Boomtown:

Reporter Finds Hollywood Lives 'Outside the Law'

Denizens Justify Colony's Excesses By Comparison With Gold Rush Days

This is the third of a series of 10 articles by a Chicago Tribune writer who went to Hollywood to see what was happening there.

By **MARCIA WINN**

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., July 26 (C.T.P.S.)—In a community the essence of which is blackmail, anything can go. In Hollywood almost anything does go. Laws, say the denizens

of this strange world, with that rapid platitudinous wit that passes for sophistication, are made to be broken.

W Analyses Attempted

Few ever bothered to analyze the peculiar moves here. A man came out not long ago and wrote a book about Hollywood, a book reporting to be a sociological study. No one bothers to mention that the resulting apologia should have been taken with a box of salt, for he ended up writing for a major studio. Nevertheless, in his subsidized volume he justifies Hollywood excesses on the ground that Hollywood is just like Alaska in the gold rush, Oklahoma in the oil rush, Newport in the days with its nouveau riche.

The movie people lap this up. They feel just the same way. "Aw," they'll say, "this is just like Oklahoma in the oil boom. Give the place time." No one adds that the local boom has been going strong for 30 years.

Some Remain Nice

Many perfectly nice, normal people gravitate out here. Some remain that way. The majority go along for a few weeks, and suddenly it hits them: Trauma and amnesia. Forgotten is all of good, of modesty, of dignity, or any so-called homely virtue they once knew—and some never knew any.

In their stead emerges the "new

(Turn to Page 13, Col. 2)

Laws Are Made To Be Broken, Hollywood Tenet, Says Writer

(Continued from First Page) being" the star so great he can pull down \$7,500 a week and thereby hold up a picture 10 days by muffing his lines; the studio president so powerful he can have a \$250,000 picture made on his lot and never even look at it or know it has been made, because he has a personal feud with the producer; the producer so good he can afford to make a \$3,000,000 picture, call it a "mistake" and put it on a shelf.

The new being is characterized by exhibitionism, egocentricism, and a wanton disregard of the laws and moral codes binding those poor, benighted beings of the land as a whole. He thinks he can do anything and get away with it. For much of this the movie-going public is responsible, for it sets these beings on a plane far above that of mortals. Most of it is produced by the colony itself, its spotlights—those strong lights under which character as well as biemish disintegrates—and its wealth which corrupts all it touches.

Hundreds of cases could be cited in illustration of this, but the two most flagrant examples of the year, two which managed to get into the public prints over the dead bodies of a good many Hollywood connivers, are Charles Chaplin and Errol Flynn.

Want Chaplin Matter Dropped

Hollywood thinks the Chaplin matter should be dropped now. Hasn't Chaplin taken a new bride? Aren't they living quietly in the Chaplin mansion, half Spanish, half Mediterranean, half early Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, up on Summit Drive in Beverly Hills?

Chaplin is one of the wealthiest members of the movie colony. Other members say he should be, for he is notoriously stingy, contributing neither to local charity nor any other. He is a British citizen who has never attempted to become a naturalized American, and among the Chapliniana now being investigated by assorted Federal agencies is his income tax.

His remark that he is "a citizen of the world" is well known. Not known at all is the reply he made to a friend who suggested it really was time he took out citizenship papers here.

"They have statues to me in

Japan," Chaplin said with that curious egomania of Hollywood. "They named streets after me in China. In India, Hindus worship me as a god. The Caucasians made a star out of me. Why should I?"

He has some curious friends. One of them met Joan Barry, who had been waiting tables when ignored by the movie-makers, and gave her a letter of introduction to a Hollywood playboy, who wanted her to meet Chaplin. He arranged a cozy dinner party and Chaplin told the girl, in her words, that she "had what it takes."

Chaplin gave her a movie contract and undertook her dramatic instruction. He declaimed Shakespeare for hours on end with the enchanted girl as audience. The rest of the story is well known and sordid. After the girl underwent two illegal operations she was arrested by Beverly Hills police for "annoying" Chaplin and booked as a vagrant. Here Municipal Judge Charles Griffith sentenced her to 90 days' servitude, but suspended the sentence on condition she "never bother Chaplin again."

Chaplin Buddie in Court

While in court the girl spied Chaplin's buddie, Robert Arden, an ex-radio small talk gentleman whose real name is Richard Kliqler. Kliqler was arrested by the FBI in 1941 on charges of entering the United States illegally from Austria in 1938. A movie magnate was instrumental in having a bill introduced in Congress asking that his citizenship be established by act. This failed to pass. The Department of Immigration refuses to say whether Arden is scheduled to be deported after the war or whether his case has yet to be heard.

After the hearing a detective, Capt. W. W. White, gave Joan \$100 and a tourist ticket to New York. White told her Arden (Kliqler) left the money and ticket for her. She was to get out and stay out.

She didn't, she met a friend in Omaha who told her to come back and fight. She tried to reach Chaplin again, again was arrested and sentenced to 30 days. The rest of the story is well known.

Various investigations into Chaplin's life were begun. Had no

243

contributed to the delinquency of August 1941. She made no head-
 onors by having the Barry girl way. In fact, a group of officials
 his home where he has two went to her parents in Santa Bar-
 long sons? Had he been an bara and obtained a letter asking
 cessary to two illegal operations the parents did not want to prose-
 formed on Joan Barry? cute, as the girl "was so young,
 His marriage to Oona O'Neill the scandal would be humiliating."
 lo was 18 years old in May. The matter was dropped.
 appears to have slowed up these
 investigations. Whether more is
 me with the others depends on
 the zeal or integrity of the district
 attorney's office.

Flynn Technique

The Flynn technique, in which
 was acquitted of statutory rape
 three counts, may be related
 each more briefly. The girls in
 the case were Peggy Satterlee,
 low girl, and movie-struck Betty
 Hansen.
 The Satterlee girl first attempted
 press charges against Flynn in

Betty Hansen Case

A year later Betty Hansen, 17,
 was reported missing. As she was
 a juvenile the juvenile court looked
 her up. In her pocketbook they
 found Flynn's private telephone
 number. In the subsequent grand
 jury investigation three youths,
 two of whom were employed by
 the same studio (Warner Brothers)
 as Flynn, admitted sexual rela-
 tionship with the girl. Flynn de-
 nied it.
 On the grand jury was Harry
 Wurtzel, an actor's agent. Wurtzel

er of Sol Wurtzel, a pro-
 at 20th Century-Fox. The
 jury, including Wurtzel, went to
 work and reported a no bill on all
 the defendants—the three who had
 admitted guilt as well as Flynn
 who denied it.
 This was too flagrant a miscar-

riage to be overlooked. Moreover,
 an energetic district attorney was
 then in office, John F. Dockweiler.
 "Issue the complaint," he ordered.
 "We have as much evidence as we
 ever do."
 Everyone in the film industr

went to town on Dockweiler, but
 the Flynn case went to trial. Flynn
 was acquitted, and movie-struck
 ladies cheered, but that's the way
 it goes out here in this merry,
 amusing town called Hollywood.
 And Dockweiler died of a heart
 attack.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. A. E. Belmont

DATE: October 30, 1953

FROM : W. A. R. Neely

SUBJECT: BOB HOPE, et al
NAME CHECK REQUESTS
SECRET SERVICE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Gearty	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Miss Gandy	

Mr. Joseph Ellis, Secret Service, called Mr. Roach at 6 P.M. on October 30, 1953, and stated that he had just received a list of sixteen prominent movie actors and entertainers who were to be invited to the White House on Monday, November 2, 1953. Ellis stated that such persons as Bob Hope, Errol Flynn, Mickey Rooney, Eddie Fisher, Roscoe Ates, and other very prominent persons were included on the list and he desired that the Bureau files be checked, particularly the criminal files, to determine if there was any criminal or subversive data in our files and that the results be made available no later than Monday morning, November 2, 1953. Mr. Ellis stated that he did not have the fingerprints of these persons nor any identifying data concerning them nor did he have any information regarding their true names. He stated that the White House was particularly interested to know if there were any moral charges being filed against these persons as they did not want to cause embarrassment to the White House by inviting some undesirables. Ellis stated that time was of the essence and that they realized there was little or nothing to do on the name checks, particularly the criminal checks. Mr. Roach explained to Mr. Ellis that without any identifying data whatsoever and particularly the fingerprint records of these people and in view of the time limit involved, a worthwhile check could not be made through our records within the time allotted.

Pursuant to your instructions Mr. Ellis was told that if he would supply identifying data, in particular the true names of the persons involved, the Bureau would do what it could but that in view of the numerous references to these persons under their professional names, it would take time to complete the check thoroughly. Mr. Ellis stated that he appreciated the Bureau's position and that we need take no further action in the matter until he had obtained more identifying information on which to base a reasonable check.

ACTION:

None. For your information.

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NOV 18 1953

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GENERAL CRIME SURVEY

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Period from October 10, 1944 to April 10, 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/26/80 BY SP4 JMT/ATC

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SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

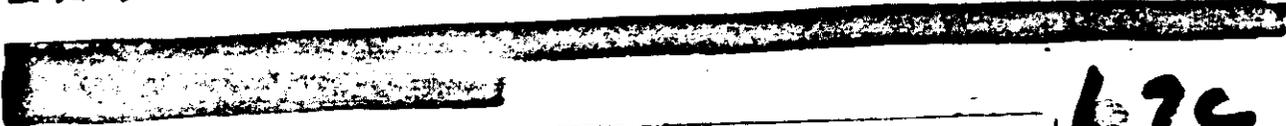
Subsequent to statements in the newspaper prepared by services of JERRY GEISLER, noted criminal attorney, Pacific Coast, who, as a matter of interest, defended ERIC FLYNN and defense counsel.

[REDACTED]

Info does not pertain to Evid. Program

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One of her associates in crime is a prostitute by the name of [redacted] with alias [redacted]. The latter is known to do business in San Francisco "Bookie" and gambler and fellow traveler of [redacted] at present, [redacted] and [redacted] are using the phone number of [redacted] in their exclusive "call system" business.

Info does not pertain to Earl Hyman

PRINCIPAL CENTERS OF PROSTITUTION IN LOS ANGELES AND VICINITY

HOLLYWOOD AND BEVERLY HILLS

b7D

[redacted] was quoted recently in the Los Angeles Herald-Express, that thousands of girls from surrounding states are lured to Hollywood and vicinity each year by the "bright lights" and visions of fame and fortune in the cinema, radio and modeling professions. About 500 per year are lost and many are found as waitresses, clerks and stenographers in the Los Angeles area. [redacted] and others admit this to be true but specify that most of the girls are located in the subterranean recesses of commercialized vice.

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[redacted] reiterate that legitimate fronts



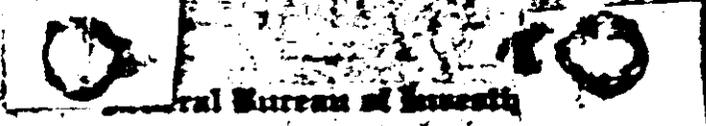
like [redacted], Holly-wood, turn out the disillusioned young beauties as prostitutes in the following manner.

After several legitimate jobs, this agency sponsors private modeling shows at the Hotel Knickerbocker or their own quarters. Movie stars like TROLOPE WOODMAN attend. The potential prostitutes are wine, dine, flattered and promised careers until gradually demoralized. When ripe, they are developed into obscene models and from there "party girls" and finally down the ladder of prostitution and immorality to Skid Row and Central Avenue dives.

[redacted] Los Angeles, has also been reported as a similar establishment as [redacted]. His agency is commonly known as a "flesh peddler" in the Hollywood Movie Guild and he also supplies strip tease artists for stag affairs.

On February 6, 1943, SA [redacted] was reliably informed that [redacted] Beverly Hills prostitute, uttered the following statement: "I have paid [redacted] Beverly Hills, California, \$100.00 per month over a period of time but now [redacted] has raised my protection fee to \$250.00 per month. I have no alternative but pay him or lose my protection and "practice".

[redacted] claims that [redacted] Hollywood columnist, was a former Hollywood "madam". She is now no. 1 "shakedown" artist of prominent West Coast personalities. Her modus operandi is to invite starlets to her home on the pretext of writing a column about them. There, like a magnet, she draws her blackmailing gossip from her unsuspecting starlets whom she wines and introduces to the right people, while tapping every source of extortion information.



Central Bureau of Research

United States Department of Justice

510 South Spring Street, Room 900
Los Angeles 13, California

June 27, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE INTELLIGENCE
REPORT
LOS ANGELES DIVISION
JANUARY 1, 1952

4/30/87
CLASS. BY SP-11/STP
EXEMPT FROM GDS, 1-2-80
DATE OF REVIEW 6-27-80

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S)
DATE 9/23/80

DIRECTOR, FBI

Dear Sir:

The captioned report is transmitted herewith.

This is an Administrative Report in its entirety.

The report was prepared by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted]. The section on Juvenile Delinquency for the [redacted] city was prepared by SA [redacted]. The contributions of various Resident Agents are indicated in the appropriate sections of the report.

The identities of confidential informants represented by symbols in this report are furnished to the Bureau on this date by separate letter.

Very truly yours,

C. H. CARSON
Special Agent in Charge

ENCL.
LJL
94-250

- Copies:
- ③ - Bureau
 - 1 - Cleveland
 - 1 - San Diego
 - 1 - Salt Lake City
 - 1 - San Francisco
 - 4 - Los Angeles

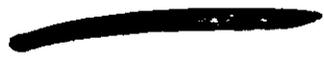
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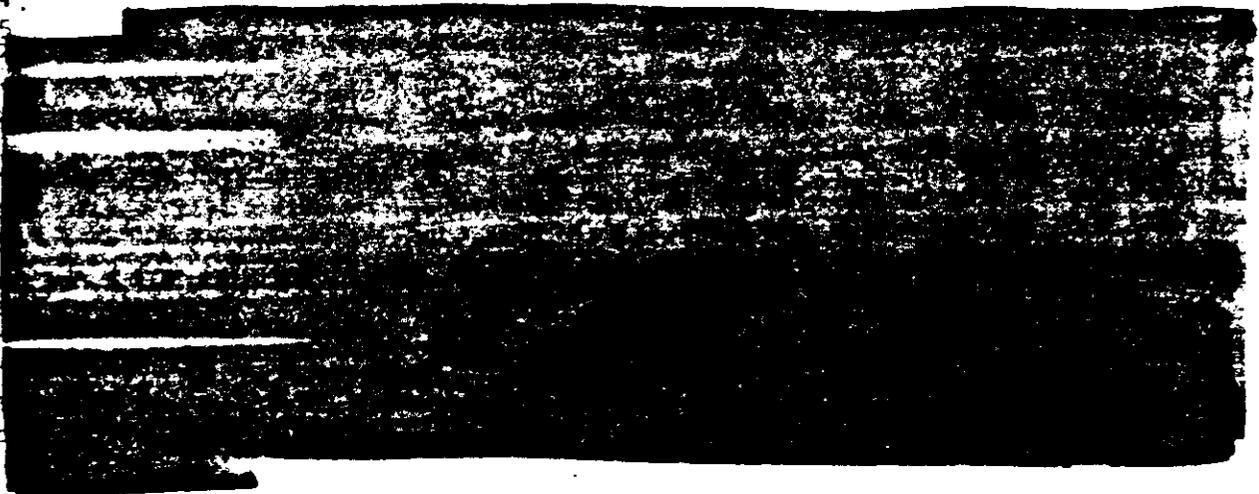


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For an alleged offense occurring on September 27, 1942, at the residence
 of the late FREDERICK LLOYD in a suburb of Beverly Hills, the actor FREDERICK
 LLOYD was charged with the commission of statutory rape. The victim was FREDERICK
 LLOYD. She was a 17 year old visitor from Berkeley, California, at the home of her
 sister, Mrs. FREDERICK LLOYD. It was then discovered that FREDERICK LLOYD, a
 well known old girl, had also been a victim of FREDERICK LLOYD's actions. FREDERICK LLOYD
 had had FREDERICK LLOYD as his attorney. The way out of the difficulty was
 such that the case against FREDERICK LLOYD was held in abeyance pending the
 victims had reverted around a mortuary. The case was in a most unusual
 manner; FREDERICK LLOYD was able to sway the jury and FREDERICK LLOYD was
 the result, FREDERICK LLOYD always manages to do just what he wants in all
 circumstances beyond their control. But it appears very helpful to his
 of his important clients are either involved in a struggle to
 dispute.

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Info deleted
pertaining to
Allyson
C-7-D

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: May 9, 1945

FROM : A. Rosen

b7c

SUBJECT:

[REDACTED] COLLUSIONS,
[REDACTED] CONCERNING

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

BACKGROUND OF SUBJECT

b7c

[REDACTED] was born in [REDACTED] and is the son of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Although his true name is [REDACTED] he is generally known as [REDACTED].

ASSOCIATION AT WARNER BROTHERS STUDIO

When employed at the Warner Brothers Studio in Los Angeles, California, [REDACTED] submitted, among his several references, the name of [REDACTED]. This person is undoubtedly the motion picture actor [REDACTED]. In 1934 [REDACTED] was placed on the payroll of Errol Flynn after he had ceased employment with [REDACTED] which operated off the coast of Santa Monica, California, by [REDACTED]. When [REDACTED] originally associated with Errol Flynn he was given a pass to the Warner lot and frequently brought young girls to Flynn on the set. It was well known in Los Angeles that Flynn was having relations with these girls, at the Warner Studios and Jack Warner personally instructed Flynn to cease this practice since it had become so notorious. [REDACTED] general reputation during this period was that of a personal pimp for Flynn. About 1939, Flynn had [REDACTED] placed on the Warner Brothers payroll in the publicity department. However, his principal activity continued to be the obtaining of girls for Flynn and for movie executives and producers.

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When at the Warner Brothers Studio [REDACTED] is said to have taken over the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was inducted into the Army. [REDACTED] principal activity was to furnish girls to the Hollywood circles. [REDACTED] has been engaged in this activity as well as furnishing girls for parties in New York, Chicago, and other cities. He is considered a high-class procurer.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-78335-4

ALLEGED RAPE OF [REDACTED]

It is alleged that when a private train of Warner Brothers personnel proceeded to the East for a routine showing of a film believed to be [REDACTED], [REDACTED] gave movie actress [REDACTED] Mickey Finn. Following this, she allegedly raped by Flynn who is said to have made bets with certain [REDACTED] on the train that he could accomplish this feat. As a result, [REDACTED] attempted suicide and had to be flown back to Los Angeles for hospitalization.

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[REDACTED]

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211 NOV 13 1964

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Los Angeles, California
April 27, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR:

b7c

Re: [REDACTED]

In accordance with your request, the following information is submitted concerning the above individual.

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

In 1938 [REDACTED] was placed on ERROL FLYNN's personal payroll. Just prior to that he had been working on one of the gambling ships owned by [REDACTED] off the coast of Santa Monica. He had acted as master of ceremonies and saw that lone men and women gambling on the ship became acquainted. When he was first associated with FLYNN he was given a pass to the Warner lot and frequently brought young girls to FLYNN's set and it was well known that the actor was having relations with these young girls at the studio and it finally became so notorious that it is reported JACK WARNER personally instructed FLYNN to cease bringing these girls on to the studio property. It is alleged that when a private train of Warner Brothers personnel proceeded eastward for a premiere showing of a film believed to be "Santa Fe," [REDACTED] allegedly gave [REDACTED] a Mickey Finn following which she was raped by ERROL FLYNN. FLYNN allegedly made bets with certain friends on the train that he could accomplish this feat and as a result the actress attempted to commit suicide and had to be flown back to Los Angeles for hospitalization.

b7c

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62-78335-6

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Memo for the Director

April 27, 1945

Re: [REDACTED]

wa

b7c

[REDACTED] general reputation at that time was as personal pimp for ERROL FLYNN. About 1939 FLYNN had him placed on the Warner Brothers payroll in the publicity department although he actually never did any work in connection with it and his principal function appeared to be to obtain girls for certain executives and producers as well as for FLYNN.

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

was also out for them
by Errol Flynn

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: May 23, 1945

FROM : J. A. ROSEN **b7c**

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] with alias,
[REDACTED] SOCIETOUS,
INFORMATION CONCERNING

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

PURPOSE OF MEMORANDUM

This is a status memorandum to acquaint you with the information thus far developed regarding [REDACTED] with alias.

BACKGROUND OF CASE

[REDACTED] more commonly known as [REDACTED] has for the past several years been associated with movie actor Errol Flynn, and Warner Brothers Studios. While at Warner Brothers [REDACTED] is said to have provided girls for Flynn and for other movie executives and [REDACTED] [REDACTED] contact [REDACTED] has been with [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

*Info. has not
been
checked*

RECORDED & INDEXED
EX - 53

162-78335-13

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211 NOV 13 1964

58 JUN 2 1947

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: May 24, 1945

FROM : A. ROSEN **b7c**

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] with alias,
[REDACTED] SUBVERSIVE,
[REDACTED] CONCERNING

Re

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

Walter

PURPOSE OF MEMORANDUM

This is a status memorandum to further acquaint you with the alleged immoral background and activities of [REDACTED]

BACKGROUND OF CASE

[REDACTED] an associate and alleged procurer for Errol Flynn and [REDACTED] seen recently on several occasions in the company of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RECORDED & INDEXED 62-78335-18

[REDACTED]

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MAY 13 1965

Info also sent per memo to [unclear] Flynn

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: June 16, 1945

CONTROL TO

THE DIRECTOR

FROM :

Mr. Rosen

b7C

SUBJECT:

[REDACTED] with alias,
[REDACTED] US;
[REDACTED] CONCERNING

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

PURPOSE OF MEMORANDUM

b7C

This is a status memorandum to furnish you with the background, past and present activities, of [REDACTED]

BACKGROUND OF CASE

[REDACTED] an associate and alleged procurer for Errol Flynn and [REDACTED] recently on several occasions in the company of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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RECORDED

INDEXED

EX-111

62-78335-29

JUN 21 1945

50 JUN 26 1945

b
7
c

copy of this report

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

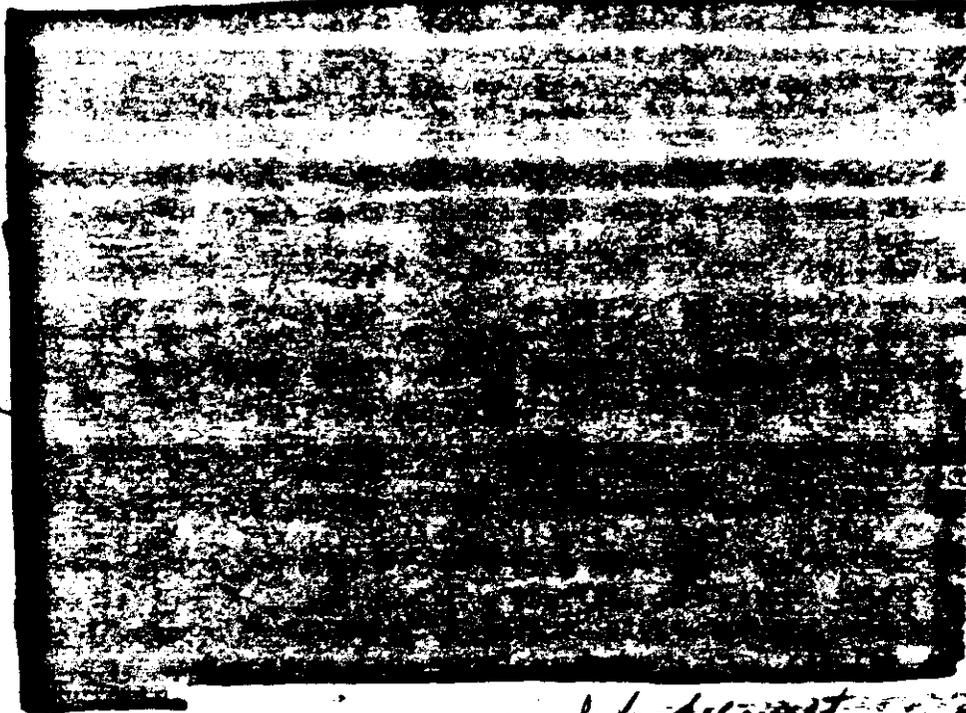
OFFICE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 62-2682

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 6/4/45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/14-20 6/1-4/45	REPORT MADE BY <i>b7c</i> [REDACTED]	-PLB
SUBJECT [REDACTED] with aliases [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i>			CHARACTER OF CASE MISCELLANEOUS, INFORMATION CONCERNING.	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

51910



b7c

P.

*Info to be met
return to Cyril Allyn*

REFERENCES:

- Bureau letter dated May 10, 1945.
- Los Angeles Memorandum for the Director dated April 27, 1945.
- Los Angeles Teletypes dated May 19, 21, 23, 26, 1945.

SEARCHED <i>[initials]</i>	SERIALIZED <i>[initials]</i>	INDEXED <i>[initials]</i>	FILED <i>[initials]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 62-78335-34	SE 17
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Bureau	1 - New York (Info.)				
Los Angeles					
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DETAILS:

b7c

This is a joint report of the writer and Special Agent [redacted] together with Special Agent [redacted]

[redacted] states that he has known subject over a period of seven years, and that in 1938 [redacted] came on ERROL FLYNN'S personal payroll as the letter's procurer. Just prior to that time [redacted] connected with [redacted]

b7D.
C

Upon becoming associated with FLYNN, [redacted] was given a pass which enabled him to drive on and off the Warner lot, and he would frequently bring young girls on to the set where FLYNN was acting. No secret was made of the fact that FLYNN had sexual relations with these girls in his dressing room on the set and in his permanent dressing room on the lot. It finally got to the point where JACK WARNER himself told FLYNN that he would have to stop bringing these girls on to Warner's property.

At the time the picture "Santa Fe" was previewed and a special train was hired for the premiere, [redacted] is alleged to have given [redacted] the nicky finn which resulted in her being raped by ERROL FLYNN. [redacted] allegedly made bets with certain friends and associates on the train that he could accomplish this feat. As a result, [redacted] tried to commit suicide and had to be flown back to Los Angeles for hospitalization. In describing [redacted] stated "everybody knew him as the Number 1 pimp for FLYNN."

b7c

About 1939, FLYNN and [redacted] broke up, at which time FLYNN gave [redacted] a new Cadillac and induced JACK WARNER to put him on the payroll of the studio in the Publicity Department. While so engaged, [redacted] never did any work in connection with publicity; his principal function was to supply girls for certain executives and personalities of the studio, and subject was characterized as being "a girl-getter; that's all he ever did."

b7c
D

[redacted]

Info does not pertain to Errol Flynn

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: July 26, 1945

FROM : A. ROSEN *R*

CC: moc

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

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

b7c

Purpose

b7c

This memorandum is to advise you of the current developments regarding the activities of [REDACTED] a former close associate of Errol Flynn, who is presently connected with [REDACTED]

Current Activities

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-78335-71

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

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211 NOV 13 1964

56 AUG 9 - 1945

Info does not pertain to Errol Flynn

med

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

CCN:abk

TO : The Director

DATE: August 25, 1945

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] alias [REDACTED] MISCELLANEOUS; INFORMATION CONCERNING

b7c

98
 Mr. Tolson
 Mr. E. A. Tamm
 Mr. Clegg
 Mr. Glavin
 Mr. Ladd
 Mr. Nichols
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Tracy
 Mr. Carson
 Mr. Egan
 Mr. Hendon
 Mr. Pennington
 Mr. Quinn Tamm
 Tele. Room
 Mr. Nease
 Miss Gandy

W. J. [unclear]

PURPOSE

This memorandum is to advise you of the current activities of [REDACTED] who was a former close associate of Errol Flynn and who is presently connected with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

[REDACTED]

b

[REDACTED]

Info does not pertain to Errol Flynn

7
c

[REDACTED]

ACTION TO BE TAKEN

These data are supplied for your information. The Los Angeles Office is closely following the activities of subject [REDACTED] and you will be promptly advised of future pertinent developments.

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-78335-86

b7c W

Press

[REDACTED]

investigation vigorously.

3/6

57 SEP 3 1945

W.

Wd

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

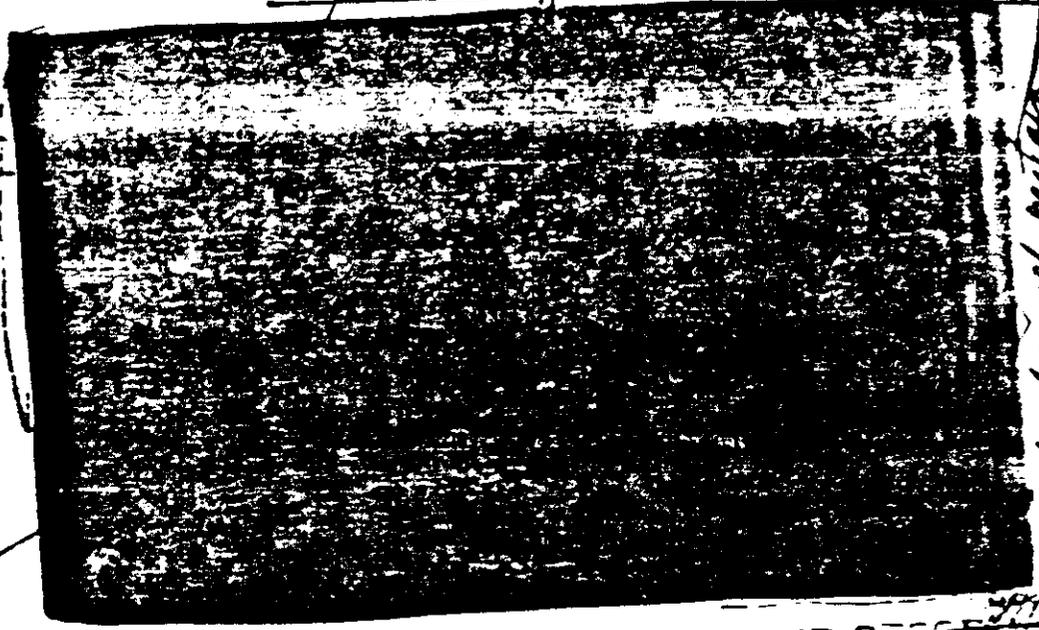
FILE NO. 62-2682

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 9-6-45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/5-8/30/45	REPORT MADE BY b7c [REDACTED]
TITLE (b)(7)(C) [REDACTED]			CHARACTER OF CASE MISCELLANEOUS; INFORMATION CONCERNING

Mr. Egan
Mr. Fox
ESP
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL



DECLASSIFIED
ON 11/11/01
BY SP-10/MS

info does not pertain
to Eval Flynn

REFERENCE:

Report of Special agent **[REDACTED]** Los Angeles, 7-6-45;
 Report of Special agent **[REDACTED]** New York, 7-10-45.
(b)(7)(c)

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: _____ SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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 9 - Bureau
 2 - El Paso
 1 - New York (Info.)
 3 - Los Angeles

62-78355-88	RECORDED
SEP 19 1945	INDEXED

316
51 SEP 28 1945

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Info here does not pertain to Errol Flynn

(S) (S) (S) (S)

It was later determined through [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] is a Beverly Hills playgirl who has recently appeared in motion picture circles under the tutelage of ERROL FLYNN. [REDACTED] is introduced to [REDACTED] through ERROL FLYNN who stated that [REDACTED] wanted a job in motion pictures. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that she had lived in Mexico City for sometime and knew ERROL FLYNN there; further, that she comes from a wealthy eastern shipbuilding family. She also advised [REDACTED] that she had been attending several parties for visiting Russians recently. She affected an English accent. It was [REDACTED]'s impression that Miss [REDACTED] is in need of funds. He advised that he was not interested in helping to start her on a motion picture career as she appeared unstable and difficult to get along with. During [REDACTED]'S interview with [REDACTED] ERROL FLYNN was present, and [REDACTED] stated that Miss [REDACTED] and FLYNN looked at each other during the entire interview so that he felt like a stranger.

[REDACTED]

Info does not pertain to Errol Flynn

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: 10/4/45
CON:END:RH

FROM : A. ROSEN

601 b7c

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] with aliases
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

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

PURPOSE - This memorandum is to acquaint you with recent information which has been received from the Los Angeles Division regarding the activities of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] RECORDED & INDEXED 62-78335-95

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

copy del. not pertain to Eval Division

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211 JUL 13 1964

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b7c

204

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ACTIVITIES FILE [REDACTED] It has been determined that on August 23, 1945, [REDACTED] a girl later identified as [REDACTED] Beverly Hills, California, and drove her to [REDACTED] where she apparently boarded a plane for the East. Another individual, one [REDACTED] of Beverly Hills, was

Handwritten notes on the right margin, including "b7c" and other illegible text.

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b7c

present when [redacted] picked up the [redacted] girl and the Los Angeles Division believes that [redacted] had, perhaps, stayed at the [redacted] address [redacted] the preceding [redacted]. The Los Angeles Division has learned through [redacted] that [redacted] is a Beverly Hills play girl who has recently appeared in motion picture circles under the tutelage of Errol Flynn.

[redacted] was introduced to [redacted] through [redacted] Flynn, who stated the [redacted] wanted a job in the film pictures. She has told [redacted] that she lived in Mexico City for some time and knew Flynn there and that she comes from a very wealthy eastern ship-building family.

b
7
c

[redacted], who knows [redacted], believes she is in need of funds. He stated he was recently contacted by Errol Flynn and [redacted] regarding her motion picture career but that he was not interested. [redacted] commented that Flynn was present during his interview with [redacted] and that Flynn or [redacted] showed up at each other during the entire [redacted] contact. [redacted] felt like a stranger.

Info does not pertain to Errol Flynn

[redacted]

ACTION TAKEN - The Los Angeles Division has been repeatedly advised of the urgency of this inquiry and is affording it preferred attention.

266

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California
November 6, 1945

Director, FBI

b7c

RE: [REDACTED] with aliases;

Dear Sir:

INFORMATION CONCERNING

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was placed on the payroll of ERROL FLYNN, motion picture actor, and reportedly he was nothing more than a procurer of women for FLYNN. In 1939, he left FLYNN's employment and became associated with Warner Brothers Studio in the publicity department, and in 1941 he became closely associated with [REDACTED] and was given a position as

Info does not pertain to Errol Flynn



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211 NOV 13 1964

62-78335-102

9/11/45
3/15/45
11/11/45

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

62-78335

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: December 4, 1951

FROM : [Redacted]

SUBJECT: [Redacted] IS.;
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

b7c

PURPOSE

To acquaint you with the recent developments in this case and to call to your attention the Los Angeles Division's recent request that consideration be given to closing this case.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

BACKGROUND

b7c

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

employed by [Redacted], motion picture actor. His work with Flynn appears to have been limited to the procurement of women for Flynn. In 1939 he became associated with Warner Brothers Studio in the publicity department and at that time gave as a reference [Redacted], apparently Walter Pidgeon.

[Redacted]

91

3

62-78335-1038
268

Indefinite period of time to be used in [Redacted]

Mem to the Director

Re Detroit report to Errol Flynn

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

17C

Everything indicates that [REDACTED] is a complete scoundrel and is reported, on one occasion, to have entered into a conspiracy whereby [REDACTED] was given a mickey finn and while she was incapacitated, she was raped by Errol Flynn.

It has been shown that [REDACTED] is a very close contact of [REDACTED]. He frequently arranges pleasure and business trips for him and, in addition, appears to act as a liaison man for [REDACTED] enterprises. He always is designated to entertain outstanding persons coming to Los Angeles, who have contact with the Hughes' organization.

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242 NOV 15 1964*

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March 14, 1951

CONFIDENTIAL
AIR MAIL

Director of the Public Surete
Principality of Monaco

Attention: Subdirector of the
National Surete

Dear Sirs:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/27/80 BY SP4 JRM

Reference is made to your letter dated February 8,
1951, your file number 2099/025237, wherein you requested that
you be furnished with information available or information that
could be secured by this Bureau relative to Mr. Errol Flynn,
the film artist.

Please be advised that a review of the records of
this Bureau has failed to reflect that the FBI has conducted
any investigation of Flynn pertinent to your inquiry.

There is enclosed, however, for your confidential
information, a copy of the Identification Record of Flynn
under FBI number 3069421. You will note from that record
that Flynn was fingerprinted on two occasions in 1942 by the
Sheriff's Office, Los Angeles, California. Accordingly, you
may desire to communicate directly with Mr. Eugene W. Biscalluz,
Sheriff of Los Angeles County, Los Angeles 12, California, for
the purpose of securing the desired information.

Please be assured of my desire to cooperate in all
matters of mutual interest.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMM - FBI
MAR 14 1951
MAILED 19

RECEIVED DIRECTOR
MAR 14 5 08 PM '51
MAR 14 4 35 PM '51
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAR 14 3 11 PM '51
VED DIRECTOR
FBI
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECORDED - 24

INDEXED - 24

164-29833-1031-146
MAR 29 1951

Mr. Samuel D. Poykin (detached and with letter to Poykin)

State Department Service Desk (detached)

50 APR 10 1951

Q
vph
211

ERBEN, Dr. Herman F.

ONI

Recently ship's physician, S.S. ~~USSUKUMA~~, who departed Argentina for Chile 12-24-39, intending to sail via Grace Line for U. S. Sent baggage to San Francisco via S.S. ~~GRENANGER~~. Stated he could be reached through Errol ~~LYNN~~, movie actor; c/o [redacted] N.Y.C.; or c/o [redacted]

b7C

[redacted], San Francisco.

Reported to have stated that Tito ~~MARTENS~~, North German Lloyd Agent, Buenos Aires, who is prominent Nazi in Argentina, suggested SUBJECT would "make a good agent" and that he had offered his services to the German Embassy, Buenos Aires.

ND-3, -8, -11, -12, -13 - FBI ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
29 Jan. 1940

Declassified per N1's letter
1-27-82 SP-4 EW 11-382

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

5-692-20
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
2 FEB 1 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ONE 3/3

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

January 26, 1940

In reply refer to
A-M 862.8591/736

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

My dear Mr. Hoover:

Referring to a telephonic request from your Bureau made some weeks ago in a conversation which Mr. Warren of my office had with a member of your staff, I am pleased to enclose a copy of strictly confidential despatch no. 754 of January 11, 1940 from the American Consul General at Buenos Aires, Argentina, in regard to the steamship Mssukuma and one Dr. Hermann F. Erben who already has a record in your Bureau. Should additional information of value regarding Dr. Erben be received I shall be pleased to send a copy thereof to you.

*Declan per
State Dept
letter 10-26-32
+ Telcall 11-3-32
SP-4 Edw
11-3-32*

Sincerely yours,

George S. Messersmith
Assistant Secretary

Enclosure:

From Consulate General, Buenos Aires
no. 754, January 11, 1940, with
enclosure.

J. Edgar Hoover, Esquire,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice.

65-682-21

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1 JAN 25 1940

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten initials and signatures]

c 16

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AMERICAN CONSUL GENERAL
Buenos Aires, Argentina, January 11, 1940.

Strictly Confidential

SUBJECT: Activities of German Vessels in Argentine Ports.

THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor, with reference to my despatch no. 622 of November 17, 1939, and other reports relating to the German vessel Ussulama which was at the port of Ingeniero White at Bahía Blanca prior to being scuttled off the east coast of Argentina, to transmit herewith a memorandum prepared by Vice Consul Clifton P. English regarding the departure for Chile of Dr. Hermann F. Erben, an American citizen who was serving as ship's surgeon aboard the Ussulama. It will be noted that Dr. Erben's record and conduct have been such as to give rise to some suspicion with respect to his trustworthiness and loyalty.

Respectfully yours,

Monnett B. Davis
American Consul General

Enclosure:

No. 1. Memorandum.

1939015 RIG file no. 885.91
10:11 AM

CALL DELETED

Original and four copies to the Department by air mail.
Confirmation copy to the Department by regular mail.
Copy to the Embassy.

*Declass. for
State Dept.
letter 10-26-82
+ Tel. call 11-3-82
SP-4 EFW
11-3-82*

Rm

15-682-21

Enclosure No. () to despatch No. 754 dated January 11, 1940, from Vonnett P. Davis, Consul General at Buenos Aires, Argentina, on subject "Activities of German Vessels in Argentine Ports".

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL
Buenos Aires, Argentina, January 11, 1940.

MEMORANDUM

~~Strictly Confidential~~

TO: The Consul General.
FROM: Vice Consul Clifton P. English.
SUBJECT: Dr. Hermann P. Erben of the German Merchant Vessel Ussukuma.

Reference is made to the memorandum transmitted with despatch no. 682 of November 17, 1939, setting forth information obtained from the naturalized American citizen, Dr. Hermann P. Erben. It will be recalled that Dr. Erben was ship's physician on the German vessel Ussukuma. This person recently departed for Chile, stating that he intended to take a Grace Line ship for the United States.

When Dr. Erben left the Ussukuma in Bahia Blanca, he came to Buenos Aires and reported to the Consulate General his desire of returning immediately to the United States. He then made several attempts to secure passage on ships in Buenos Aires, but without success. In this connection reference is made to despatch no. 607 of November 21, 1939, in which it was reported that Dr. Erben's activities as an "ardent Nazi" while serving as ship's physician on the S.S. Wahwah, an American vessel, in 1936 allegedly had occasioned so much trouble that it was necessary for the master to return him from Rio de Janeiro to the United States on a ship of another line; and that Erben was met in New Orleans by Immigration and Department of Justice officers.

After he had been in Buenos Aires several days, Dr. Erben received a telegram in care of the Consulate General and announced that he had received good news, that he was about to receive a sum of money, that he no longer wished to take a ship from Buenos Aires and that he would soon leave for Chile. Subsequently he stated that he was going to Chile to see a "doctor friend who has recently arrived there", and that he was not certain just how he would go to the United States but that he would try to go on a vessel of the Grace Line.

Before he left he gave me several pictures of the Admiral Graf Spee and the Ussukuma, and promised to send me more of the Ussukuma which had been taken while that vessel was at sea between Lourenco Marques and Bahia Blanca. These pictures showed the vessel flying the Portuguese flag, with the name Ussukuma obliterated and the name "Quansa" (for a Portuguese ship) painted over the former. He stated that he would have given them to

me

*Plenary
State Dept.
letter 11-26-39
7-11-39
11-3-39
SP4 EPE*

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me earlier but that he had sent them with some baggage to San Francisco on board the S.S. Grenanger. Finally, the day before he left for Chile he let slip a remark to the effect that Tito Martens, who is the agent in Buenos Aires for the North German Lloyd and who is reported to have much influence in Nazi circles in Argentina, had said to him that he would make a "good agent". He asserted that he had not understood what Martens had meant at first, but that he had gone to the German Embassy the afternoon of the same day and placed his services at its disposal.

Dr. Erben left for Chile on December 24, but before departing gave me two addresses at which he might be reached in the United States. He said also that he was a good friend of Errol Flynn, the motion picture actor, and that he might be found through him. The addresses he gave me are as follow:

/ c/o Rudolph Scharf,
850 Park Avenue,
New York, New York.

/ c/o Chauncey Tramutolo,
Alexander Building,
Montgomery Street,
San Francisco, California.

C.F.E.

File no. 885.91

CPE:fm

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

February 20, 1940

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. McIntire
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Egan
- Adm. Files
- Per. Files
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

Dear Mr. Hoover:

With reference to previous correspondence in the case of Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben I hasten to enclose a copy of air mail despatch no. 55 of February 10, 1940 from the American Consulate at Antofagasta, Chile. I shall not fail to supply you with copies of any later reports in this case received by this Department from abroad.

A copy of this despatch is also being sent to the Office of Naval Intelligence.

Sincerely yours,

Adolf A. Berle, Jr.
Assistant Secretary

ENCLOSURE

Enclosure:

From Antofagasta, Chile,
No. 55, February 10, 1940.

J. Edgar Hoover, Esquire,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-088-21

FEB 22 1940

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Antofagasta, Chile, February 10, 1940

SUBJECT: Erben, Dr. Hermann Frederick

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to this Consulate's despatch No. 52 of January 26, 1940 entitled "Erben, Dr. Hermann Frederick" and to report further to the Department regarding the person who is the subject of this despatch.

On January 26 ultimo the American SS NIGHTINGALE called at this port and the master reported that he needed a messman for the crew and requested this Consulate to provide one if any was available. Dr. Erben was then in this port as a passenger from Valparaiso to Callao on the Japanese MS HEIYO MARU, and, since he had requested this Consulate's assistance in signing on an American vessel, stating that he would do anything, for the purpose of returning to the United States, he was told about the vacancy in the NIGHTINGALE's crew and he promptly requested to be signed on the vessel to fill the vacancy. The master of the vessel, Captain Laurence B. Parker, was agreeable so Dr. Erben became a member of the vessel's crew, and sailed southbound on the above date.

The NIGHTINGALE called at this port northbound on February 7th and Dr. Erben called at this Consulate to ask the undersigned to persuade Captain Parker to discharge him from the vessel when it reached the Panama Canal, stating that when he left the German vessel USUKAMA at Buenos Aires, in which he claimed to have been serving as a ship's surgeon, he had been permitted only to bring the khaki uniform he was wearing* and that with only this clothing he could not brave the rigor of winter in New York. He thought if he could be discharged from the NIGHTINGALE at the Panama Canal he would be able to support himself with the wages he had earned (some \$25.00) until he could catch a vessel bound for California where the climate would be milder, and where he had friends

who

* It was observed, however, that he managed to save a very good camera.

65-683-26 278

who would help him. When asked who the friends were he mentioned the names of Errol Flynn, the actor, and Ernest Hemingway, the author, with whom he had gone to Spain to fight in the recent civil war in that country. Dr. Erben was informed that the Consulate had no authority to induce Captain Parker or the Canal Zone authorities to let him sign off there. He returned to the vessel and sailed north in it when it departed from this port on February 8th.

Captain Parker also called at the Consulate on February 8th to report that he had become very suspicious of the man (Dr. Erben) which he had signed on here while southbound. He reported that upon reaching Valparaiso Dr. Erben was met by a large delegation from the members of the crew of the German sailing ship PRIEWALD, which is taking refuge there, and that the impression he gained was that Dr. Erben was a man of considerable importance to them judging by the deference they showed him and the number of Nazi salutes given to him. While in Valparaiso Dr. Erben, when not doing his job on the NIGHTINGALE, spent all of his time aboard the German vessel or photographing anything he could train his camera on. Captain Parker said he obtained a boat and went around the Chilean battleship LATORRE photographing it from stem to stern. When the NIGHTINGALE called at Coquimbo northbound Dr. Erben was again met by a large delegation of Germans, and Captain Parker gained the impression that he was well known and appeared to be a man of importance to most members of the delegation. At this port Dr. Erben busily photographed everything in sight including the American vessel in which he was serving. Captain Parker's suspicion of Dr. Erben increased and, since he knew he was coming to Antofagasta to ship a cargo of 4,800 tons of copper which will probably eventually find its way to the allies in the European war, he gave orders to the ship's officers to keep a sharp watch over Dr. Erben and not permit him access to certain parts of the ship. Afterward, the Chief Engineer reported that Erben attempted to gain access with his camera to the engine room. This was not permitted because the NIGHTINGALE is one of the new Maritime Commission freighters said to have some new developments in the engine room. Strict orders were imparted to keep Erben out of the engine room.

Captain Parker said that Erben had taken up with him the question of his discharge at the Canal Zone, and had been told that since the vessel would not make formal entry there but only stop to bunker, the appropriate officials would not be on hand to effect his discharge and that it could not be done.

However, Captain Parker stated to the undersigned that the discharge could be effected while his vessel was bunkering provided it should be agreeable to the authorities, and requested this Consulate to communicate with the authorities of the Canal Zone and request them to inform him upon his arrival there if

the man mentioned discharged. Captain Parker feels sure that Erben is a German agent, despite his status as a naturalized American, and he wishes to proceed accordingly. Therefore, he wishes advance notice from the Canal Zone authorities so if they refuse to allow Erben's discharge there he can take action which would not tend to arouse Erben's suspicion that he is suspected of being the agent of a foreign power attempting to gain access to the Canal. No communication has been sent to any authorities of the Canal but a copy of this despatch has been sent to our Embassy at Panama for any action deemed by it to be appropriate.

In addition to Captain Parker's report that Erben photographed everything around the port works at Antofagasta including the copper loading operations on the NIGHTINGALE, the undersigned observed certain activity on his part which was interesting. During the afternoon of February 7th at about 3:00 o'clock Dr. Erben was seen entering the German bank together with the leader of the German Nazi party here, who is a German national. Had Dr. Erben wished to obtain exchange of money it seems likely that he would have effected the transaction in the street where a more favorable rate could be had. In any case it does not seem necessary that he should have been accompanied by the Nazi leader in order to effect a simple exchange operation. The deduction drawn is that he was either receiving money from the bank or using it as a means of transmitting and receiving messages.

During the conversations had with Dr. Erben certain interesting information was received, but it must be taken into account that it was all the result of his own statements. His mother, Johana Erben, resides in Vienna at III Arenbergring 19, and he has two sons in the German army now on active duty after serving in the Polish campaign. Just before the Munich crisis he was visiting his mother, and he received instructions to report to army headquarters. He did and he was given a rank in the medical corps, outfitted with a uniform and accoutrements, and told if war should break out he was to report at a certain hospital bringing 5-day's rations. He said that he protested on the ground that he was an American citizen, but he was told "you were born a German, you are of German race, you are a German, and you always will be a German". Dr. Erben admitted participation in the Spanish civil war and the present conflict in China. He reported that the only way he could get out of Germany was to place himself under the orders of the German Admiralty and ship as surgeon on a German ship. He stated that when he reached Buenos Aires on a German ship, presumably the USUKAMA, after the outbreak of war, and learned that it had become unlawful for American citizens to serve in belligerent

vessels

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vessels h/ ft the vessel voluntarily. However, he was considered by German officials at Buenos Aires to be on active duty and was told to prepare to be returned to Germany for further service. He then received orders to report to the German TACOMA but he never did this because the vessel became embroiled in the GRAF SPEE affair and was interned in Uruguay. He reported that he then asked the German officials at Buenos Aires (not stating whether of the German Embassy or others) for permission to return to Germany by his own means. His petition was granted so he said because "I am on active duty with the German Admiralty" and it realized that I would have a better chance of returning to Germany and resuming service that way than if I went to sea from Buenos Aires on a German vessel which would almost certainly be sunk". He said that he adopted this procedure to get away from the Germans and reach the United States. His subsequent conduct along the west coast of South America does not bear out his desire to liberate himself from contact with Germans, but he claims that he must continue "to put on an act to obviate reprisals against those I love who are residing in Germany". When he reached Valparaiso Dr. Erben reports that he received orders to report to a German vessel in Talcahuano and put to sea when it did. He claimed that he disregarded these orders and embarked as a passenger on the Japanese HEIYO MARU in an attempt to return to the United States. If he fears reprisals against relatives in Germany it appears that disregarding orders will be an excellent way to bring them about. Dr. Erben is not, of course, telling his whole story. The fact that Dr. Erben is on the British list of suspected German agents, as reported by the British Consul here, is also significant.

Respectfully yours,

GEORGE H. ADAMS

American Vice Consul

820.02 (In triplicate to Department; original direct by airmail; two copies by airmail pouch from Santiago, Chile)

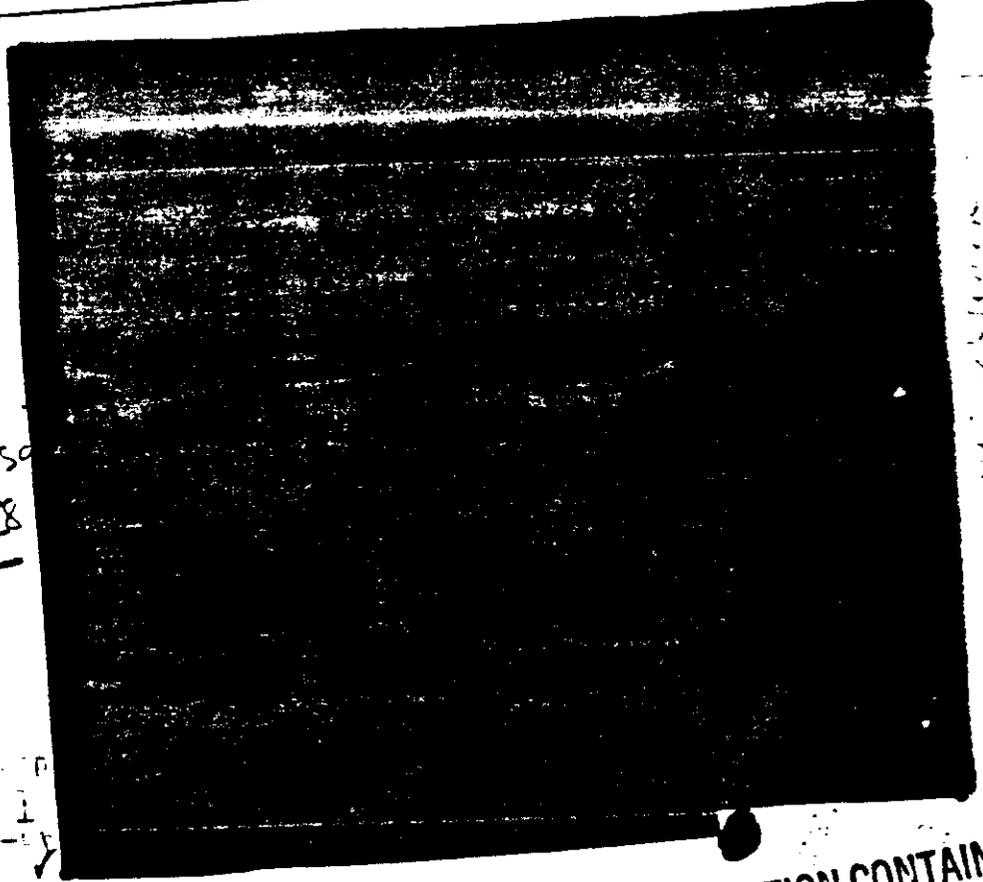
GHA:rc (Copies to: American Embassy, Santiago, Chile
Consulate General, Santiago, Chile
American Embassy, Panama, Panama).

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 65-103 hqs

Form No. 1 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CANAL ZONE	DATE WHEN MADE 2-19-40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-17-40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
REPORT MADE AT CANAL ZONE		CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE	
TITLE [REDACTED] 67c			

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:



AGENCY - State - Visa
 REC. REC'D 4-10-58
 REP'S FORW. 5-21-58
 BY 415-100

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 197 JUL 29 1970

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**
 BY SP4 [Signature] 6/24/80
 PER [Signature]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	65-1682-129	MAR 5 1940
ENCL. 0 COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 Bureau 2 Washington Field 2 New York AMSL 2 Canal Zone	[Handwritten initials and marks]	

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[REDACTED] stating that when he left the German vessel USAIAA at Buenos Aires, in which he claimed to have been serving as a ship's surgeon, he had been permitted only to bring the khaki uniform he was wearing* and that with only this clothing he could not brave the rigor of winter in New York. He thought if he could be discharged from the NIGHTINGALE at Panama he would be able to support himself with the wages he had earned (some \$25.00) until he could catch a vessel bound for California where the climate would be milder, and where he had friends who would help him. When asked who the friends were he mentioned the names of Errol Flynn, the actor, and Ernest Hemingway, the author with whom he had gone to Spain to fight in the recent civil war, in that country. Dr. Erben was informed that the Consulate had no authority to induce Captain Parker or the Canal Zone authorities to let him sign off there. He returned to the vessel and sailed north in it when it departed from this port on February 8th.

[REDACTED]

*Errol Flynn
Ernest Hemingway*

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT SAN FRANCISCO

NY FILE NO. 65-1715

MER

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK	DATE MADE 3/18/40	PERIOD 2/24, 29/40; 3/1, 4, 5, 6/40	REPORT MADE BY
TITLE DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, with aliases			CHARACTER ESPIONAGE b7c

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject arrived New York City 2/20/40 as mess man on the S. S. Nightingale from Antofagasta, Chile, and is presently residing at 64 Hudson Street, Hoboken, New Jersey. Background of subject obtained. On 3/5/40 subject voluntarily called at the New York Division furnishing his account of activities, claiming that he is presently motivated by a desire to maintain his good standing in the eyes of the German government in order that the safety and freedom of his mother and two sons who now reside in Germany may be protected. Denies any espionage activity and explains friendship with various German agencies due to his advertised loyalty to Germany. Claims to be loyal American citizen and presently desirous of obtaining employment as a ship's doctor. *u*

- P -

b7c

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent New York City, 2/15/40.
Report of Special Agent Canal Zone, 2/19/40.
Telegram to New York Office from Washington Field Office, 3/6/40. *u*

DETAILS: AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

At the Boarding Division, Bureau of Immigration, South Ferry, agent examined a copy of the arrival manifest of the S. S. Nightingale of the Grace Line which arrived at New York City on February 20, 1940. According to the record there appears the supplementary *u*

COPIES OF THIS REPORT:

- 5 Bureau
- 2 San Francisco
- 2 Los Angeles
- 2 Washington Field
- 2 Newark (Information)
- 5 New York
- (1 Col. F. K. Ross, G-2, Governors Is., N.Y.)
- (1 Commander D. B. Dowler, O.N.I., 3rd Naval District, NYC)

65-682-40
MAR 21 1940
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*cc Berke 4/2/40
cc Commissioner Wood 4/1/40*

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visiting various towns in Paraguay, Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, Buenos Aires in the Argentine, and various other places in South America, his work at this time consisting of lectures on various tropical diseases. u

In 1931 he returned to the United States and became a surgeon on the S. S. President Garfield of the Dollar Line. He stated that this was the position in which he took the most pride inasmuch as he held it for a year and a half to December 23, 1932, at which time he was discharged. In explanation of his discharge, he stated that he had become acquainted with one HELEN HASKIN SOUTH, a newspaper woman, who regarded herself as engaged to him and who became very much enraged when he became engaged to someone else as a result of which she informed the Bureau of Narcotics that he was a dope smuggler, and in the resulting investigation, which lasted from 1932 to 1936, he was continually under a cloud of suspicion. u

In the early part of 1933, following his discharge from the President Garfield, Doctor ERBEN stated that he enlisted as a war surgeon in the Chinese Red Cross under promises as to compensation which to him seemed very attractive. He proceeded to Shanghai, China, but on his arrival found that the promises would not be kept and he accordingly ceased his connection with the Chinese Red Cross. u

Hearing of the development of new gold fields in New Guinea, he thought that they offered some possibility to him, and he accordingly proceeded to New Guinea, and there met a man attired in one torn shirt and one torn pair of pants who is the individual who is now known as ERROL FLYNN, the movie actor. He stated that he and ERROL FLYNN burned around together, traveling finally from New Guinea to India, to Abyssinia, and then to Vienna, Austria, arriving in the spring of 1934. In Vienna he spent the next year in postgraduate work at the University of Vienna and at the same time obtained his divorce. u

In 1935, following his completion of postgraduate work, he was appointed surgeon for the Austro-American trans-Asiatic expedition which was backed by the University of Vienna and an automobile association in Vienna, the object of which was to map a route from Burma up through China, and the route so mapped by this expedition ERBEN claimed to be the one presently used by Chiang Kai Shek, Chinese generalissimo, in obtaining his supplies from French Indo-China. u

In 1935, returning from this expedition to India, Doctor ERBEN stated that he was arrested on a revolver charge and fined 300 rupees, which he paid. He explained that the revolver charge was merely a trumped-up matter and that the real difficulty arose out of the narcotic investigation instituted two years before; that

board the S. S. West Bahua, Doctor ERBEN stated, his troubles began in connection with a call which the ship made at Puerto Rico as a result of which four Puerto Ricans were discovered as stowaways. He stated that the captain of the ship, instead of putting back to port to have the stowaways removed, ordered them tossed overboard to swim ashore, and when it turned out that one of the stowaways had important connections there were violent repercussions in Puerto Rico inasmuch as an election was brewing about that time. As a result of the friction which developed he stated that the captain of the ship made various charges against him and on January 6, 1937, he was discharged from the ship at Rio de Janeiro, returning to the United States via New Orleans where he was met by various narcotic and naval intelligence agents and questioned, finally being released. He stated that also in New Orleans he met Mrs. MALONEY, who was then using the name of Mrs. EDWARDS, she having come to New Orleans for the racing season and the two of them living at the Hotel Jung in New Orleans for several days. u

Doctor ERBEN stated that he evidently had been under observation inasmuch as Mrs. EDWARDS' room was searched immediately after his departure, she being suspected of having in her possession narcotics which he had given her. u

After remaining only a few days in New Orleans, Doctor ERBEN next went to Los Angeles, where he stayed for a few days with EROL FLYNN. He and FLYNN, becoming bored with lack of activity, then decided to go to Spain and participate in the Spanish Civil War. They first intended to join the forces of General FRANCO, but on reaching England found that they could not make proper connections, whereupon Doctor ERBEN endeavored to make arrangements through Germany, still being unsuccessful, and still desiring to participate in the activities, they thereupon went to Paris and joined the Loyalist forces. Doctor ERBEN stated that this changeover indicated that they had no definite Fascist or Communist leanings in connection with the matter but were merely anxious to participate in the conflict in some capacity. u

Doctor ERBEN stated that he personally did war surgery at an anarchist hospital, explaining that there were two classes of hospitals - anarchist and Communist - in the Loyalist forces. After about four months EROL FLYNN was subject to falling plaster caused by shell fire, and from the resulting publicity determined to return to the United States, which he did. Doctor ERBEN stated that although FLYNN was not actually injured he did get a bump on the head, and first reports had it that he was killed. u

Doctor ERBEN continued in Spain for about eight months, during which time he became acquainted with such persons as ERNEST HEMINGWAY, ANNA LOUISE STRONG (the Communist writer), DOS PASSOS,

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA** FILE NO. **65-32**

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE 3/28/40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/9, 26; 3/9, 18/40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] MJD
TITLE DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, with aliases.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: State Department reports ERBEN made suspicious contacts Valparaiso, Chile, engaged in considerable photography through Canal Zone. ERBEN'S baggage presently in Customs warehouse, San Francisco, contains small quantity of morphine. Hearing in U. S. District Court, San Francisco, for purpose revocation ERBEN'S naturalization continued to 5/6/40. ERBEN arrested Sept. 1935 Calcutta, India, on charge of possession of revolver and cartridges without license, fined 300 rupees and ordered deported.

AGENCY *1cc - State - Use*
 REQ. REC'D *4-30-58*
 REP'T FORW. *5-21-58*

Reference: Letter from Bureau to Los Angeles 2/9/40 (65-682) report of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, 2/15/40; Letter from Bureau to New York City office 3/9/40.

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Details: It was determined from a confidential source whose name is being furnished the Bureau that the subject had several pieces of luggage in the Customs warehouse at San Francisco, which had arrived February 7, 1940, aboard the S. S. GRENANGER. In the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 65-682-147	APR 6 1940
COPIES DESTROYED COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 1 - Bureau 2 - New York City 2 - Wash. Field 2 - Los Angeles 2 - San Francisco	APR 20 PM ONE - [REDACTED]	

DIVISION ONE RECEIVED
 APR 20 1940
 FBI

luggage were five small paper packages described as bindles of morphine. In the luggage also was a scrapbook containing newspaper clippings and photographs of ERBEN'S various travels around the world. Most of the data contained therein already appears in the San Francisco file of this case; however, various clippings showed the following criminal record for ERBEN:

In September 1935 he was arrested by the Calcutta, India, Police under Section 19F of the Indian Arms Act on the charge of possession of revolver and cartridges without license. He was sentenced to pay a fine of 300 rupees or three months in jail. He paid the fine and was ordered deported from India.

A clipping from a Barcelona, Spain, newspaper, date not shown, but it would appear to have been published during the period that ERBEN was in Spain with ERROL FLYNN, the motion picture actor, inasmuch as one photograph shows FLYNN and ERBEN at dinner with the Commissar of Propaganda in Barcelona, states that ERBEN is a "militant Communist".

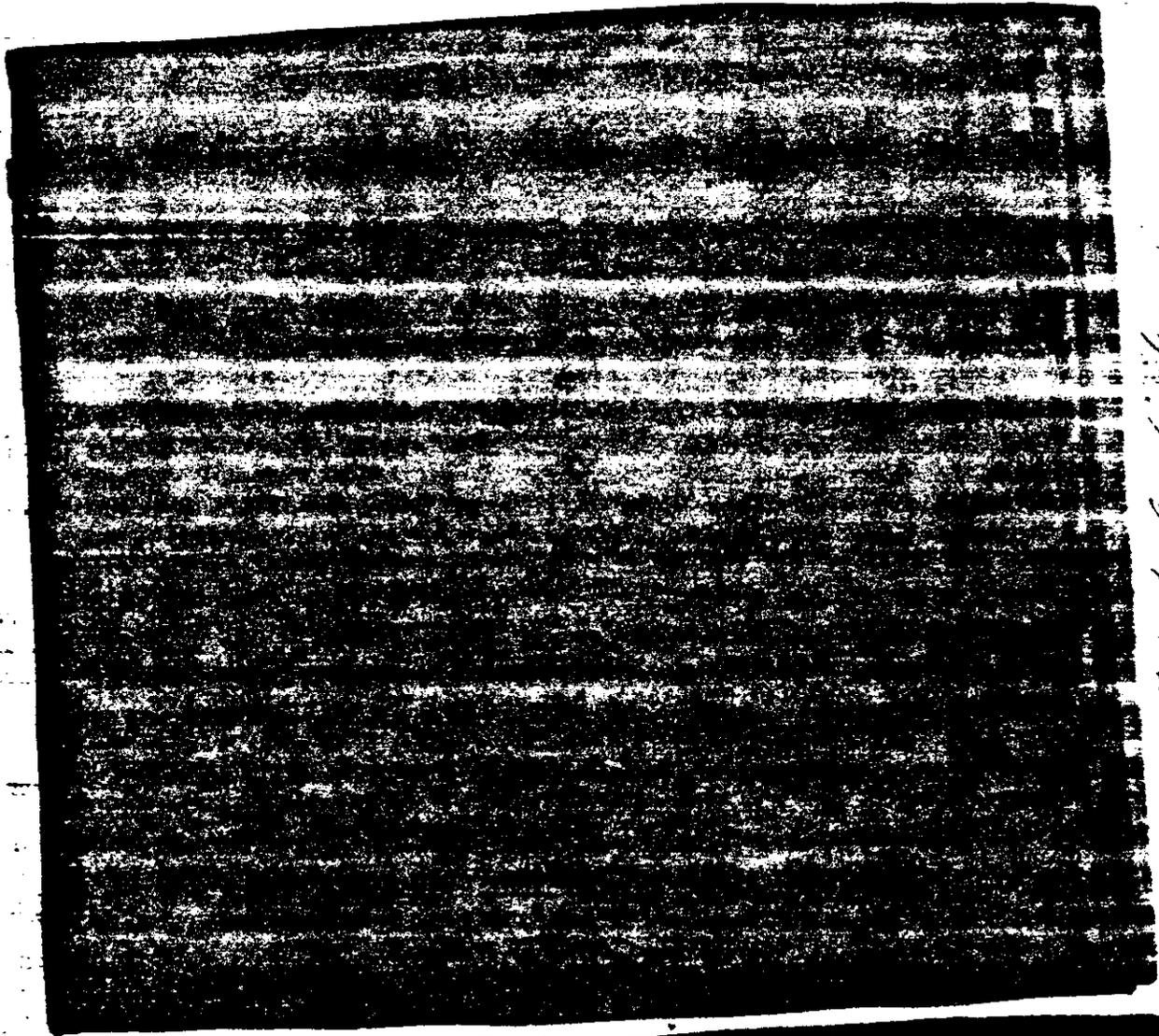
The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent

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CHAUNCEY TRAMUTOLO, attorney at law, 607 Alexander Bldg., stated that he had been representing ERBEN in connection with his hearing for the purpose of revocation of his naturalization. The hearing has been continued to May 6, 1940, in the U. S. District Court at San Francisco before Federal Judge MARTIN I. WELSH. TRAMUTOLO stated that the last letter he received from the subject gave his address as c/o DR. RUDOLPH SCHARF, 850 Park Ave., New York City. According to TRAMUTOLO, ERBEN'S permanent address is DR. HERMANN ERBEN (Marinearzt) Wlien 111 Arenberggring 19, Germany, telephone B55-8-24. u

A confidential informant of the San Francisco office stated that although he had no proof, he believed ERBEN to be a Nazi spy and knew that ERBEN was making it a point to contact prominent doctors of German extraction throughout the United States. u

The State Department has furnished the following information concerning DR. ERBEN:

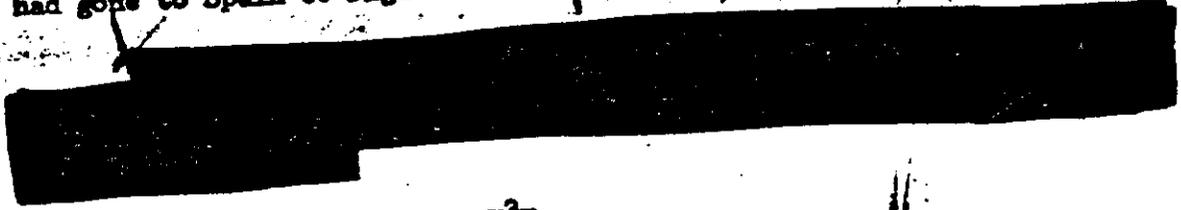
ERBEN was in the Port of Antofagasta, Chile, enroute from Valparaiso to Callao on the Japanese motor ship HEYO MARU and because of a vacancy in the crew of the S. S. NIGHTINGALE, an American vessel, signed on as a messman. It was determined that ERBEN claimed to have



copy not return to Errol Flynn



When asked who his friends were, he mentioned the name of ERROL FLYNN, the actor, and ERNEST HEMINGWAY, the author, with whom he had gone to Spain to fight in the Spanish Civil War.



According to the report received from the Department of State from the American Consul at Antofagasta, Chile, ERBEN'S mother, JOHANA ERBEN, resides at Vienna 3 Arenbergring 19. ERBEN is reported to have two sons in the German Army, now on active duty, who served in the Polish campaign. ERBEN admitted to the Consulate participation in the Spanish Civil War and in the present conflict in China.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK CITY OFFICE

*AT NEW YORK CITY, will keep in touch with the Bureau of Navigation and Marine Inspection to determine when Subject ERBEN obtains his seaman's papers for departure from the United States.

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

*AT WASHINGTON, D. C., at the Bureau of Narcotics will conduct appropriate investigation to ascertain results of investigation purportedly made by the Bureau of Narcotics relative to Doctor ERBEN between 1932 and 1936.

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

*AT LOS ANGELES, CALIF., will tactfully interview ERROL FLYNN relative to the background and activities of DR. ERBEN.

Will endeavor to ascertain from FLYNN the present location of ERNEST HEMINGWAY, whom the subject has named as the other individual to whom he would turn in the United States for assistance.

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE

AT SAN FRANCISCO, will review the records of the U. S. District Court in the case involving revocation of ERBEN'S naturalization and will follow and report court action.

- PENDING -

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

NY FILE NO. 65-2725

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 5/10/40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/27/40 4/14, 16, 17, 19/40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN with aliases.		CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS Baggage of DR. ERBEN examined at NYC. Photostats obtained of papers of interest in this matter. DR. ERBEN discharged as ship's surgeon SS "PANAMA" 4/15/40 by reason of general complaints although no evidence of espionage activity on recent trip of SS "PANAMA". Complaints appeared to have to do with DR. ERBEN'S personality rather than his activities.			
REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated 3/18/40 at New York City. Teletype to the Bureau dated March 27, 1940. Letter from San Francisco dated April 11, 1940.			
DETAILS: On March 2, 1940, DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN called at the New York Division office and advised that he had obtained employment as ship's surgeon aboard the SS "PANAMA" sailing from New York City March 28, 1940 to Cristobal, Canal Zone, arriving			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED [Signature]	AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT Bureau San Francisco (22 Incs.) New York (1-Comm. D.E. Downer, ONI, NYC) 1-Col. F.E. Ross, C-2, Gov. Is. NYC.)		65-2725-61 MAY 15 A.M. MAY 2 1940 HARBO	

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65-1715

there April 3, and returning to New York on April 13. He stated that he would contact the New York Division upon his return to New York City and information concerning his employment above, was furnished the Bureau by reference teletype. On April 15, 1940, DR. ERBEN again called at the New York Office and advised that he had made the trip on the SS "PANAMA" without incident so far as the trip itself was concerned. He claimed, however, that influences were again at work to deprive him of employment explaining that the day the ship departed from New York City he was called into conference with MR. PFIZER, Vice-President of the line and a MR. ROSBOTTOM, another Vice-President of the line, and vigorously interrogated concerning his references. He explained that he produced for the benefit of Mr. Pfizer and Mr. Rosbottom, letters which had been furnished him by various steamship companies for whom he had been employed and that they appeared mollified to a certain extent and he was permitted to sail. However, on his return to New York City on April 13, after having been permitted to pass the Customs officers, his presence evidently was realized and he was called back and given a vigorous interrogation concerning his activities after which his baggage was searched; there being no items found of interest to the Customs officers he was released with an apology.

Thereafter, on April 15, he was called in to Mr. Pfizer's office at 24 State St., New York City, and informed that there had been complaints received against him and that the line was accordingly compelled to dispense with his services. DR. ERBEN stated that he had, throughout the trip, maintained the utmost effort not to express any opinions or to take sides and even had endured the indignity of taking his meals with a Jewish couple during the trip.

It should be noted that Dr. Erben is extremely anti-Semitic in his views and he considered this a crowning achievement, that he was able to spend several days in the company of this couple without indicating his actual views.

DR. ERBEN, at the same time, also produced a letter dated March 25, 1940 from ERROL FLYNN, 601 North Linden Boulevard, Beverly Hills, California, which refers to the interview of FLYNN by Special Agent in Charge Hood of the Los Angeles Division. In this letter ERROL FLYNN expressed sympathy

65-1715

toward DR. ERBEN as well as a desire to assist him in any way he could. The letter indicated that Mr. FLYNN had interceded with MRS. ROOSEVELT on her recent trip to the West Coast in an effort to have the Department of Labor drop its pending case involving Dr. Erben's citizenship. u

[redacted] was interviewed by the writer at which time he advised that DR. ERBEN had originally been selected as the ship's surgeon by [redacted]

[redacted] who interviews and passes upon candidates whose names are then recommended to [redacted] for an appointment. [redacted] explained that prior to the ship's sailing he received information from one of the ship's employees that DR. ERBEN had requested him to mail a communication to San Francisco relative to some baggage which Dr. Erben was requesting be forwarded to New York City. This employee advised that he understood that Dr. Erben had been on the SS. "ALTMARK", supply ship for the GRAF SPEE, and accordingly was not the proper person to be ship's surgeon on the Panama Line. u

[redacted] stated that he had communicated with [redacted] office and with one [redacted] who has been associated with [redacted] and who stated that [redacted] had no previous acquaintanceship with Dr. Erben but had recommended him after an interview. [redacted] stated that he thereupon went to the SS. "PANAMA" and interviewed Dr. Erben, saying himself that the sailor's story relative to the "ALTMARK" had no foundation and he therefore decided to give Dr. Erben a trial as ship's surgeon. However, as a precaution he informed the captain of the SS. "PANAMA" that Dr. Erben had been the object of some preliminary suspicions and that should Dr. Erben's conduct appear in any way suspicious, the Captain should take steps to confine Dr. Erben and see that the interests of line were protected. [redacted] stated that upon the return of the "PANAMA", the Captain reported to him that Dr. Erben's conduct had been entirely satisfactory; that the captain had observed no espionage activity or any suspicious action whatsoever. However, [redacted] following the docking of the ship

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **65-31**

REPORT MADE AT San Francisco, Calif.	DATE WHEN MADE 5/15/40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/28, 31; 4/11, 17, 29; 5/8/40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, with aliases.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: State Department reports subject and ERROL FLYNN visited Valencia, Spain in 1937, FLYNN stating that they were bringing \$1,500,000 for Republican Spain collected in Hollywood. Subject's luggage forwarded Pier 65, North River, New York City, contents including motion picture film, two N. S. D. A. P. pins, German Reserve Officer certificate, photostat, German Government certificate of Identity. Trial of proceedings to revoke naturalization continued to 8/8/40.

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] San Francisco, California dated 3/28/40; Bureau letter to San Francisco dated 4/29/40 (Bureau file 65-682).

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA: on 3/28/40, 3/31/40 and 4/11/40 Special Agent [REDACTED]

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197 JUL 29 1970

ascertained that subject's luggage, which arrived in San Francisco on 2/7/40, had been forwarded to Pier 65, North River, New York City for subject at the request of W. R. GRACE AND COMPANY, San Francisco, Attorney in Fact. Subject's luggage was checked by the Customs Officers, the contents having been listed in San Francisco letter to New York.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 400 ... San Francisco	65-1682-63	MAY 25 1940
	MAY 21 A.M.	<i>[Signature]</i>

Los Angeles, California
September 21, 1940

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/14/79 BY SP3 YEX/18

Re: DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to report of Special Agent
dated New York City, March 18, 1940, in the
above captioned matter.

You were advised that through the assistance of
his agent, WALTER HEINER, and his attorney, OSCAR CUMMINS, KIRROL
FLYNN, motion picture actor, was interviewed at the Warner Bros.
Studio, Burbank, California, by Special Agent in Charge R. B. HOOD.

Mr. FLYNN at the outset of the interview, admitted
being acquainted with DR. ERBEN and regarded him highly. They
have been acquainted for about ten years and have traveled extensively
together all over the world. They first met in Guiana. FLYNN
believes that DR. ERBEN has a very brilliant mind and is an ex-
cellent physician; that he is the type of person who would do
everything in his power to make it appear that he was in fact an
espionage agent. FLYNN was of the opinion that DR. ERBEN has the
propensity for getting into trouble.

Mr. FLYNN stated that heretofore ERBEN had been
very much opposed to Nazism and Communism and from what he,
FLYNN, knows of his background, he does not believe ERBEN would
now be a devout Nazi. FLYNN informed that he had several letters
in his possession from ERBEN which he would turn over to Mr. HOOD
for examination.

As evidence of ERBEN'S ability, FLYNN stated he had
gone to Australia about 1932 or 1934 as the head of an expedition
for the Rockefeller Institute, where he has seen the doctor work
twenty-four hours at a stretch entirely without compensation.
ERBEN recently advised FLYNN of his difficulties with the Immigration
Bureau and as a result thereof FLYNN communicated with Mrs. FRANKLIN
D. ROOSEVELT in an effort to have her do anything possible for
ERBEN.

INDEXED

63-682-76X

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

5 SEP 23 1940

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FIVE

RECEIVED - DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

F. B. I.

RECEIVED - DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

SEP 23 8 11 AM '40

295

San Francisco

-2-

September 21, 1940

Subsequent to this interview, FLYNN was again contacted on several occasions in order to secure the letters which he promised. However, they have not been forthcoming, and at the present time it is understood that he is on an extensive tour. No further effort will be made to secure these letters unless so advised by the office of origin.

There being no further investigation in this matter, it is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

Yours very truly,

ARTHUR CORNELIUS, JR.
Special Agent in Charge

25
RECEIVED
OFFICE
cc - Bureau
cc - New York

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1
 This Case Originated At **SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA** File No. **65-11**

Report Made at SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.	Date Made 12/19/40	Period 8/9, 10, 15, 18, 21, 27/40	Made by (b)(7)(c)
Title (b)(7)(c)		Character of Case ESPIONAGE - C	

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:



~~CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SK [unclear]~~
 REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
 DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION... 6/14/89
 614 179

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

not putting to Eval [unclear]

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] San Francisco, California, May 15, 1940.

DETAILS:

cc [unclear]
 1-1657

COPY DESTROYED

197 JUL 29 1970

Approved: [signature] SAC

65-1682-183

JAN 3 1941

Copies of this Report

- 3 - Bureau
- 2 - New York City
- 2 - Newark
- 1 - Seattle (Inf.)
- 2 - San Francisco

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEC 26 1940

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S)

DATE 1/14/41

FIVE HALL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Info was not put in to Errol Flynn

By letter dated August 26, 1940 the Bureau forwarded information from the State Department originating from Mr. NORMAN ARMOUR, the American Consul at Buenos Aires, South America. In this report it is stated that a member of the staff of the American Embassy at Buenos Aires in a conversation with Mr. ERROL FLYNN verified that DR. ERBEN and MR. FLYNN are close friends. MR. FLYNN stated that he had known DR. ERBEN for about ten years and that they had worked together in Spain during the Spanish civil war. He spoke very highly of ERBEN as a "magnificent physician" who, unfortunately, had a way of getting himself into all sorts of minor difficulties. He stated that the word that most aptly described Dr. ERBEN was "screw-ball". He added that ERBEN had been arrested in India for carrying a pistol and had almost gotten both of them shot in Spain.

He took a very strong stand with respect to Dr. ERBEN's character and integrity, and stated that ERBEN would be "the last man in the world to work for the Nazis, as he hated them with all his soul". Mr. FLYNN went on to say that he valued Dr. ERBEN's friendship very highly and that he was a man who certainly could be trusted. However, he stated that the doctor's doing the wrong thing at the wrong time had often created a bad impression on those who did not know him very well. As for being a German agent, he stated that Dr. ERBEN would probably make the worst agent in the world for any nation, since "they have the finger on him in every port in the world". By this he explained that he meant that in a great many places Dr. ERBEN had been guilty of some minor infraction of local rules, such as not having the proper papers at the proper time, or saying the wrong thing at the wrong time.

Mr. FLYNN added that he understood that Dr. ERBEN's citizenship had been revoked, and remarked that he had taken the doctor's case up with Mr. HOOD of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Los Angeles and with Mrs. ROOSEVELT, and that Mrs. ROOSEVELT had acted in ERBEN's behalf, but to no avail.

Finally, Mr. FLYNN stated that he sympathized deeply with DR. ERBEN, since he now was a man without a country, and that he felt that an injustice had been done the man in believing him to be a German agent, but that no one was to blame but DR. ERBEN himself. As an indication of Dr. ERBEN's lack of responsibility, it may be mentioned that during his stay in Argentina he made a trip to Montevideo at the time of the Admiral Graf Spee incident, despite warnings that his position in Argentina was precarious and he would probably have difficulty in re-entering the country. Upon his return from Montevideo he was imprisoned for want of proper documentation.



(6)

The following information was furnished to Special Agent in Charge H. J. L. PIEPER on August 14, 1940:



(6)

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Does not pertain to Enol Flynn

[REDACTED] EREN told [REDACTED] that ERROL FLYNN had told him he was trying to get Mrs. ROOSEVELT to help him out, but Mrs. ROOSEVELT had refused to help since it was not in her sphere. Whether this is true or just to kid EREN along, [REDACTED] did not know.

D.C.C.

The following information was furnished to Special Agent [REDACTED] on August 19, 1940:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Does not pertain to Enol Flynn.

CONFIDENTIAL

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, 7, New York

JGH:FMQ
65-1715

May 4, 1944

Director, FBI

RE: DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, WAS
ESPIONAGE-G
(Bureau File 65-682)

A. J. [unclear]

Dear Sir:

bird

Reference is made to Bureau letter to the New York Field Division dated April 15, 1944, re DR. GIRBIN, ESPIONAGE-J, Bureau file 65-52454. Reference letter enclosed a copy of a letter to the Bureau from the Richmond Field Division which reflected that [redacted] had furnished information regarding Dr. IRBIN to the effect that he was interned in the Poo Tung Internment Camp in Shanghai, China, where he appeared to be a stool pigeon for the Japanese and an agent provocateur. [redacted] indicated to the Richmond Field Division that [redacted] would have further information concerning Dr. IRBIN. Reference letter requested that the New York Field Division interview [redacted] and furnish the results of the interview to the Bureau by letter.

Information obtained from [redacted] will be subsequently set out in this letter definitely identifies Dr. IRBIN as being identical with DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, who is the subject of the above entitled case, in which the San Francisco Field Division is office of origin (San Francisco file 65-31).

[Large redacted block]

Agent [redacted] was interviewed by Special Agent [redacted] on May 2, 1944, at which time he furnished the following information:



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/5/79 BY SP3TEK/

RECORDED & INDEXED
65-182-124
19 MAY 8 1944
Kempner

RD. FIN 23 1944

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NY 65-1715
Letter to Director

May 4, 1944

b7, d
not refrain from interfering with the crew members' selection of doctors. Dr. ERBEN continually sided with the crew of the S.S. President Harrison as against the desires of the American Association.

Information also reached [redacted] attention to the effect that sometime after Pearl Harbor Dr. ERBEN went to Tientsin, China on an Italian boat. He came back to Shanghai sometime later. [redacted] stated that it does not appear to him that Dr. ERBEN would have been permitted to make this trip unless he was cooperating with the Japanese. [redacted] does not know the purpose of this trip however.

On January 31, 1943 the first group of Americans started being interned at the Poo Tung Internment Camp in Shanghai. On May 2, 1943 Dr. ERBEN was brought into the internment camp escorted by four Japanese "gendarmes."

[Large redacted block]

With regard to Dr. ERBEN'S citizenship [redacted] had the following to say:

ERBEN [redacted] had admitted that the United States District or Circuit Court in San Francisco, California, had denaturalized him in about April, 1941. However, ERBEN claimed that his denaturalization was because of his labor union activities. ERBEN also claimed that his denaturalization was not legal because of technical grounds, these grounds apparently being the fact that ERBEN skipped the country and was not present in court at the time he was denaturalized. [redacted] understands that at the time he was denaturalized there was a warrant out for ERBEN'S arrest and that because of this ERBEN decided to leave the United States. According to the story ERBEN tells he contacted his good friend, ERROL FLYNN, the movie star and FLYNN hid him on his yacht. From FLYNN'S yacht he went to Mexico and from Mexico he went to China.

[Large redacted block]

65-1715
Letter to Director

May 4, 1944

Teeth
Characteristics
Marital Status
Relatives in U.S.

Separation between front teeth
on upper jaw
Is knock kneed, wears glasses, and
was wearing a gray beard in the camp.
Believed single
None known.

It is noted that the subject's description, name, background, alleged friendship with ERROL FLYNN etc. all identify him as being identical with the subject of instant case.

Page 2
A copy of this letter is being forwarded to the San Francisco Field Division inasmuch as they are office of origin in this case. It is believed they may desire to interview ~~██████████~~ or further information. It is also believed they may desire to place a stop notice on the subject's future entry into the United States in the event such has not already been done. Inasmuch as there appears to be no further investigation at this time within the territory covered by the New York Field Division, this case is being considered referred upon completion to the office of origin.

Very truly yours

E. E. Conroy
E. E. CONROY
SAC

cc-San Francisco

FL 72

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SAN FRANCISCO

65-31

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE 5/10/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/26, 29/44	CHARACTER OF CASE [REDACTED]
TITLE HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN with alias, Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben		CLASSIFICATION ESPIONAGE - C	

b7c

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: Investigation concerning RUDOLF SHARP negative. Dr. HERMAN FREDERICK ERBEN described as closely associated with leading Gestapo agent in Shanghai. Dr. ERBEN refused repatriation to the United States. u

- C -

REFERENCE: Bureau File 35-682.
Letter from the Bureau dated January 4, 1944.
Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated April 4, 1944 at Newark, New Jersey. u

b7c

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Referenced Bureau letter requested that this case be reopened due to the receipt of a report that Dr. HERMAN FREDERICK ERBEN was described as a Japanese "plant" in Shanghai [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

*cc - LNS
Hermann Erben
Jef 1-76-7
etc
1cc state
JFM 4-4-49*

The letter from the New York office to the Bureau dated February 7, 1944, indicated the completion of investigation by the New York office and set forth a lead for the Newark office to check the German Seamen's Mission, 64 Hudson Street, Hoboken, New Jersey, to determine if Dr. ERBEN had left any of his personal belongings there prior to his departure from the United States in 1940. Referenced report indicates that this investigation was completed at Hoboken, New Jersey, with negative results. u

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 65-1692-125	RECORDED
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 ONI, San Francisco 2 G-2, San Francisco 3 San Francisco		38 MAY 16 1944	INDEXED <i>169</i>

CC 92 ONLY COPY IN FILE

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On April 17, 1944, Source of Information [redacted] furnished the following information to Special Agent [redacted] b7d b2 b7d

[redacted] advised that subject was first interned at the time of general internment in Shanghai during February or March, 1943, in the Lung Hua Camp, a British camp in Shanghai. The Executive Committee of the American Association requested that ERBEN be interned separately from the crew of the SS PRESIDENT HARRISON, which was sent to the Poon Tung Camp. Despite this, according to [redacted] ERBEN immediately was transferred to the Poon Tung Camp and, according to his advice, was rapidly organizing a dope ring among the PRESIDENT HARRISON crew for operation after the war. u

[redacted] also advised that Dr. ERBEN was closely associated with Dr. ALBERTO MIRONINI, who was generally believed to be the Number One or Number Two man in the Gestapo in Shanghai. u

[redacted] stated that ERBEN registered as an American with the American Association for repatriation. He said that ERBEN presented a United States Seaman's Certificate of Identification in registering but that the Swiss Consul General later ascertained that ERBEN was not an American citizen. [redacted] stated that the Swiss Consul General wrote ERBEN a letter, copies of which were sent to the Japanese Consulate and to the American Association, pointing out that ERBEN knew he was not an American when he registered. He said that in this letter the Swiss requested the Japanese to withdraw ERBEN's American armband, which request was refused. He said also that the American Association requested ERBEN to return the American armband but he also refused them. u

[redacted] advised that ERBEN was originally scheduled for repatriation to the United States on the first announced sailing date of the GRIPSHOLM from Shanghai, on September 9, 1942, but that his true citizenship was ascertained in the meantime and he was denied this repatriation. [redacted] stated that in registering with the American Association ERBEN gave as his only reference in the United States: "ERROL FLYNN, Hollywood, California." u

The New York Field Division advised by letter dated April 1, 1944 of information obtained through Source of Information [redacted] concerning the subject. This information is as follows: u

[redacted] advised that he knew a Dr. ERBEN (first name unknown to him) who resided on Bubbling Well Road in Shanghai, and who was closely associated with a Dr. ALBERTO VON MIRONINI (MIRONINI). Information coming to the attention of [redacted] concerning Dr. ERBEN was

that he was a Nazi agent but he could furnish no specific information concerning this Dr. ERBEN's activities in Shanghai or any other information effecting his identity other than he believed Dr. ERBEN was an American citizen. u

In view of the fact that Dr. ERBEN referred to by [redacted] resided on Bubbling Well Road, Shanghai, China, and was associated with Dr. MURINNE (MIRONINI), it is believed that the Dr. ERBEN so referred to by [redacted] is identical with the subject in instant case. u

AT SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA

Source of Information [redacted] had advised that Source of Information [redacted] would be of assistant in furnishing information concerning Dr. ERBEN. [redacted] and Source of Information [redacted] advised that they have known of Dr. ERBEN's activities in Shanghai. They stated that he was definitely tied in with Dr. ALBERTO MIORINI. According to [redacted] MIORINI was definitely a member of the German Gestapo, and it was the belief of [redacted] that Dr. ERBEN likewise was a member of the same organization. They explained that these two individuals are very close to each other and that this information was known to the American Consul at Shanghai before the war started. u

[redacted] related how the crew of the PRESIDENT HARRISON, which reached Shanghai after the war started, had been the victim of the activities of these Doctors. Dr. ERBEN had ingratiated himself with the members of the crew through the fact that he could produce seaman's papers. He was also well versed in union activities and had a common understanding with the crew. ERBEN, working with MIORINI, went to the foreign YMCA where the crew were stopping and arranged for them to go to MIORINI's office for medical attention. They would not be charged for medical services, but were bilked through the writing of expensive drug store prescriptions. The doctors would then receive a handsome percentage of the prescription price. They also prevailed upon the crew members to bother the American Association and the Swiss Consul in matters of minor importance. u

Dr. ERBEN then attempted to return to the United States as a repatriate, and it is the belief of [redacted] that if he had been successful in doing so he would definitely have been acting in the United States as an agent of the German government. u

ERBEN listed on his repatriation application form his only contact in the United States as being ERROL FLYNN. Both of these sources of information stated that they know of absolutely no other contact of Dr. ERBEN in the United States. u

306

Received from the State Department,
through Liaison channels

Berlin, February 13, 1948

Date 3-13-48

[Handwritten signature]

*new
file*

~~SECRET~~

ATTENTION FC

NO. 210

SUBJECT: INTERROGATION OF HERMANN FRIEDRICH ERBEN.

Rec'd
Feb. 26

ACTION
FC

INFO
OCD
FC
FR
DCR
EUR
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ASV
VD

1183

~~SECRET~~

The political Adviser for German Affairs has the honor to enclose herewith copies of a report on the interrogation of Herman Friedrich (or Herman Frederick) ERBEN, who was repatriated from China in the recent shipment and arrived at internment on October 4, 1947. The interrogation was carried out by intelligence officers at Camp 74, Ludwigsburg.

The Erben interrogation may be of interest to the Department of Justice, notably in respect to the narcotics aspect of Erben's past, and the Mission indicated that while it had no further interest in him his case should be brought to the attention of the OMOUS narcotic bureau before he was released.

A copy of this despatch is also being sent to the U.S. Consular Branch at Berlin, since the matter of Erben's citizenship may again arise in the near future.

Enclosure: Copy of report of Erben's interrogation.

*Declassified
State Dept
10-26-82
11-3-82
SP-4/1-3-82*

*1 m
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In original and ozalid to the Department
Copy to CE - Mr. Bean
Copy to American Consulate General, Shanghai
Copy to Consular Branch, Berlin

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&
INDEXED

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F B I
31 MAR 19 1948

WWBlanche:sk

EX-116

[Handwritten initials]

50 APR 3 1948

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~~SECRET~~

INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT
SCREENING CENTER

Industriousburg, Germany
APO 154, US Army
12 December 1947

SPECIAL INTERROGATION REPORT

DETAINEE: ERBEN, Herman Frederick

1. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

Subject was deported from China and arrived at this Center 4 Oct 1947.

2. PERSONAL DATA AND ACTIVITIES:

15 November 1897: Born in Vienna, Austria.

1903 - 1907: Attended and graduated from Public school, Vienna.

1907 - 1915: Attended state High school Vienna, graduated with matura.

1915 - 1918: Served with the Austrian Army and was honorably discharged with the rank of First Lieutenant.

1918 -1921: Attended University Vienna, Medical School.

1923: Received fellowship to study in the United States. While there, he received an immigration visa.

24 March 1924: Subject filed a Declaration of Intention in the court of Morristown, N.J., to become an American citizen, and received his first papers.

1926: Subject went back to Austria and graduated with a degree as Medical Doctor. One month later, (August 1926), he returned to the United States, passed the New York Civil Service Examination, and was assigned as a medical doctor to Wards Island State Hospital.

1927: Subject was licensed to practice medicine and surgery in Louisiana.

1928: After having passed the examination for the state of Washington, subject was also licensed there.

1929: Subject was commissioned by the Australian Government, Department of Aborigines, to lead a scientific expedition into the Peninsula of York, Northern Queensland, Australia.

1930: Upon his return from Australia, subject took his third state Board Examination in Sacramento, California, and received his third license from the state of California.

Subject took the Oath of Allegiance in the U.S. District Court of San Francisco and became a naturalized American citizen. In the same year, he was assigned by Dr. A. C. REED to South America, representing the Pacific Institute of Tropical Medicine of the University of California in Berkeley.

1931:

2

~~SECRET~~

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1931: After he returned from South America, subject entered the service of the "Dollar Line" as ship's doctor. He served under Captain Gregory CULLEN, Lt. Comm., U.S.N.R., on the SS President Garfield on "Round the World" service.

1932: Subject left the "Dollar Line" and went via the Far East to New Guinea on another scientific expedition, which was financed by himself. On this trip he met the film star Errol FLYNN and became a very close friend of same.

1933: Subject returned from New Guinea to Europe and took up post-graduate work at his old school in Vienna.

1934: Subject accompanied as medical officer the Austro-American Transasiatic expedition. In this capacity he went by automobile from Palestine, Transjordan, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, India and finally via Burma and Indo-China to Peking.

1935: Subject returned from Calcutta, India to New York.

1936: EREBEN practiced medicine in Danville, N.J., and received his fourth medical license, this time from the State of New York. Towards the end of the year he took another trip to South America as ship's surgeon.

1937: He returned from South America and in the same year he and his friend Errol FLYNN embarked in New York for London and went via Paris to Spain. Being in London subject volunteered with a British ambulance unit, which was committed for the loyalists in Spain. Errol FLYNN also went as journalist and unofficial observer to Spain. After 20 days in Spain, subject went to Vienna and from there to Canton, China.

1937: In Vienna, subject received a Red Cross appointment, this time from the Chinese Red Cross. As leader of a group of ten medical doctors, subject embarked in Trieste for Shanghai. This group supposedly had to take over the British Military Hospital in Hanking. Since Hanking had fallen before subject arrived, he was forced to find his way back to the United States. Chiang-Kai-shek's government disregarding the contracts, and he returned to America as ship's surgeon on the liner "Triton", arriving via Japan and Panama in New York in spring 1938.

1938: During his stay in San Pedro, U.S. immigration authorities, (Inspector DAVIS) ordered EREBEN to surrender his naturalization certificate, because the government "want to check up something". Subject claims that he surrendered his certificate and did not know the reason and his constitutional rights.

It is assumed by the undersigned that the order to surrender his naturalization papers was for the following:

This office received a letter from Mr. Robert L. HERRY (Chief Public Safety Branch) in which subject is charged with activities in narcotic traffic. The same letter mentions that a Dr. EREBEN is an internationally wanted person. A copy of the letter will be attached to this report.

1938: Since his naturalization papers were taken away from him, subject returned on the "Margaret Johnson" once more to Europe.

1939;

SECRET

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SECRET

1939; EREBEN made a trip as surgeon on board the German ship SS "Ussukuma" around Africa, and also served as ship's surgeon on the SS "Westerland" on the Antwerp-New York run.

Subject claims that he realized that war was more than likely and attempted to smuggle his two boys who were of military age out of Germany. He states that he would have been able to accomplish the task since he had an assignment on the German ship SS "Ussukuma" on the "Around Africa" run. His two sons remained in Germany. The outbreak of the war in September 1939 found EREBEN in south African waters. The boat to which he was assigned to as ship's surgeon had left Lourenco Marques in Portuguese East Africa and ran the blockade under orders by the German admiralty to act as a supply ship for the famous German ship "Graf Spee" to Argentina. Off the coast of Bahía Blanca (Coast of Argentina) the "Ussukuma" was sunk by the British cruiser "Exeter". Two crew members, so EREBEN claims, were American citizens, Helm SCHUETZE from Hamburg and himself. (EREBEN still did not know whether he actually lost his citizenship). Both of them contacted U.S. authorities in Buenos Aires. Thus an American citizen, EREBEN was not interned as a sailor by the Argentine Government, and was immediately released. He received from the U.S. Consulate in Buenos Aires an American passport (no. 272) and returned to America. EREBEN claims and states that he wanted to show his loyalty as an American citizen and by the first chance he received, he took 100 photographs of the hits which the "Graf Spee" had received and suffered during the battle of Montevideo. He states that he gave the films to Consul Mr. ENGLISH who forwarded the films to the U.S. Naval Intelligence. EREBEN also surrendered to Mr. ENGLISH and Consul Mr. WILSON a detailed log of the blockade running the type of camouflage used by the SS "Ussukuma" which he handed over to U.S. naval authorities.

After he had given all available naval intelligence about German shipping in the La Plata to U.S. naval authorities, EREBEN crossed via the Andes into Chile to investigate German shipping which had taken refuge in great numbers in Chilean ports. EREBEN further claims that he investigated the German training ship for cadets, "Prival", which was anchored in Valparaiso, and reported results to the local U.S. consulate.

1940; Subject sailed as a crew member of the SS "Nightingale" via west coast ports and Panama for New York, where he arrived at the end of February 1940. In New York he got in touch with U.S. naval authorities and handed to Commander Downer, Third U.S. Naval District, films of interned German ships he had taken. He also surrendered the pictures of the "Graf Spee", and made a detailed report about the naval intelligence he had been able to collect by personal contacts with the crews of interned German ships in west coast ports of south American on his way from Valparaiso to New York. He also contacted FBI authorities and during his entire stay in New York, from February 1940 on, until he left for the west coast in August 1940, he remained in close contact with the FBI. The person who received intelligence reports about "bund" and "German Information Bureau" activities was a Mr. LANGHILL from the FBI. He claims that he furnished American authorities photographs of meetings of the "bund", the celebration of the visit of the Duke of Saxony at 80th Street, and original Nazi documents.

~~SECRET~~

-4-

During March and April, subject served as ship's surgeon on the American ship "Panama" making one trip through the Canal zone. Upon his return, subject's appointment as full time contract surgeon for C.C.C. camp duty in the IV Coops area had come through. Subject left the Panama line and went under orders to Ft. Moultry, S.C., for training. After completion he was assigned to Selring, Fla., for active duty.

Subject states that his pending citizenship trial made his remaining as surgeon for the U.S. Government impossible. His contract with the C.C.C. was discontinued by Washington.

Subject went on trial before Judge WELSH in the U.S. District Court in San Francisco; Mr. Louis MERCADO acted as District Attorney and Mr. TRAMUTOLO acted as subject's defense Counsel. The charge, so subject claims, was that his naturalization should be set aside as illegal, inasmuch as he had not met the requirements for naturalization.

1. Subject had not resided actually continuously for five years prior to naturalization in the U.S., but had interrupted his residence for more than 6 months at a time.
2. Subject had not resided for 6 months in the county from where he had file his Application for naturalization, namely, San Francisco County.

Subject states that he waited for 2 1/2 months for the decision of the court. Since there was the danger, at least theoretically, that the U.S. might enter the war, in the case of losing his citizenship, subject might face arrest as an enemy alien. To escape the consequences and to avoid possible deportation or internment, subject crossed into Mexico. Subject further claims that his public trial in San Francisco, his stories about "Graf Spee", put the German intelligence on his trail in Mexico City. He was called to a meeting with German Consul General BARON WALKENBERG. After various talks referring to his unjust trial in San Francisco and Hitler's theory that "after all blood was thicker than ink", subject was offered a job as German intelligence agent.

SUBJECT ACCEPTED THE JOB AS GERMAN INTELLIGENCE AGENT

1. Subject claims that he accepted the proposition to become a German intelligence agent, fully conscious of the fact that at the present, he was still an American citizen, and thus subject to the penalty of high treason.
2. ERBEN admits that he was not forced or coerced to accept the job.
3. Subject states that he accepted the job on his own free will, and did not intend to construct or claim any authorization from any of the U.S. government agencies with whom he had previous contact.
4. The reason why subject accepted to become a German intelligence agent, so he claims,

was because

~~SECRET~~

-5-

was because it gave him a unique chance to do some intelligence work for the United States. What he had done so far was only what he observed from the outside; now he had a chance to work from the inside. He also states that he wanted to show his loyalty to American, and retain or regain his U.S. citizenship, which as far as at that time, January 1941, was still undecided. Subject stated to the interrogator that he was aware of the danger to become a self-styled, free-lance American agent by posing as a German agent.

Having agreed to become a German agent, subject was given a false German passport under the name of Alois ECKERT, musician, and so was in possession of two passports, the old American seaman's identification certificate and the above mentioned false German passport.

February 1941: Subject was directed by order of Baron WALLEMBERG, German Consul General in Mexico, to proceed to Japan because of his previous experience and knowledge in the Far East. In Tokyo, subject was received by the German Naval Attache Admiral WENNEKER and Lt. Cdr. HELLSTEDT. From Tokyo, subject proceeded for active duty as a German intelligence agent to Shanghai, and was finally attached to the staff of Lt. Cdr. Louis Theodor SIEFKEN, head of the Abwehr in China.

SUBJECT STARTED WORKING AS A GERMAN INTELLIGENCE AGENT FOR
THE ABWEHR IN CHINA

It should be noted that at the time subject was working for the German Intelligence Service, he was still in possession of an American passport and his citizenship was still pending in the states. Subject also had a German passport, and so was protected in two ways.

His job was to collect information about Allied shipping, cargo, route of ships, personnel, etc.

Subject was ordered by the German intelligence to pose only as an American citizen, and as a communist. The reason why he had to pose as an American communist could not be obtained from subject. As one reason he states that, as a communist, the American crews would not assume that he was working for the German intelligence. As above mentioned subject went on each boat which arrived in Shanghai, invited the crews to go with him to dances and have a good time. On such occasions he tried to employ crew members for the German intelligence. He states that he was ordered to seduce and make propaganda against the United States which was likely to enter the war. Further he claims, that, to the best of his knowledge, no American crew members were ever in the pay of the German Intelligence Service.

June 1942: Subject's next assignment came in June 1942 when Mr. SIEFKEN (head of the Abwehr), intending to smuggle HERRN as an American repatriate on the SS "Conte Verde" to span a listening post for the Navy in Portuguese East Africa. He was trained in code work and the use of secret ink and given cover addresses in Lisboa, where he was supposed to send his reports. Subject states that

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SIEFKEN's plan did not succeed because subject did not dare to approach American consular authorities in Shanghai to engineer his repatriation.

1943: since all plans failed, it is assumed by the interrogator that SIEFKEN did not want anything to do with ERBEN, and so ERBEN was interned by the Japanese. First he was sent to Long-wha and after a short stretch in the notorious Bridge House of the Japanese Kampetai, he was transferred to Pootung camp, where he remained until his liberation by American troops.

1945: In 1945 subject was employed as a civilian employee of the U.S. Army, 12th Malaria Control Detachment in Kiangwan Airport. At this time he was arrested by the Provost Marshal and lodged in the American section of ward R.V. Jail in Shanghai.

Subject states that no charges were read to him, but the official release in the local papers stated that he had been arrested under the suspicion of high treason and war crimes committed by ERBEN. Subject made the following statement to the investigating officers and repeated the same statement to this interrogator:

"I want to be tried as an American citizen for whatever acts I have committed. Even if the technicality of the cancellation of my American citizenship in spring 1941 should have made me from this very moment on stateless and thus a charge of high treason impossible, I want to be tried as an American citizen.

"I accepted the offer to do German intelligence work actually in January 1941 in Mexico City, at a time when I still enjoyed American citizenship. But since I was not notified of the cancellation of my citizenship until 26 January 1943, although I had registered my arrival in Shanghai at the American Consulate in March 1941, and later on registered with the Swiss Consulate for repatriation, I was fully entitled to consider myself an American citizen until January 1943. I can prove this fact by the papers issued to me for repatriation by the Swiss Consulate, stating that I was an American citizen, given to me on 8 December 1942. I have, therefore, on my own responsibility and considering myself an American citizen, served before and after 8 December 1941 (that means in times of war between America and Germany) as a German intelligence agent. I do not intend to claim or construct any authorization for such work from any of the U.S. government agencies I had previous dealings with. I also was in no way forced by German authorities to work for them. What I did I considered a unique chance to prove my loyalty to the American flag, whereby I hoped to retain or, if need be, regain my U.S. citizenship. For my acts I alone am responsible and I intend to take full responsibility without reservation."

January 1946: Subject states that he was unconditionally released by the U.S. Army. After his release he was notified by Colonel O'CONNOR that Captain Frank T. FARRELL wanted to see subject at his office, 208 RTE. Ferguson, House 8. Captain FARRELL who was at that time leading the American Investigation Team with headquarters in Shanghai, Judge Advocate General's Office, and was also considered to be a member of O.S.S., asked ERBEN, if he still felt

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loyal to America, and if he would care to assist his mission. ERBEN agreed and was assigned to duty in January 1946. His rank on the payroll was: Civilian employee United States Army, and his monthly salary started with \$90.00. Subject states that his work with Captain FARRELL is recorded in the government files of the Judge Advocate in Shanghai, and consisted mainly in collecting and interpreting evidence for the War Crimes Trial of the 28 defendants, known as the EHRHARDT espionage ring. During the trial he was the main prosecution witness. After the EHRHARDT trial, in February 1947, subject continued to work for Captain FARRELL until his return to America.

Prior to Captain FARRELL's departure, he handed subject over to Colonel Amos D. MOSCRIP JR. who was continuing FARRELL's work in Shanghai.

Subject worked continuously as an American agent for Colonel MOSCRIP in the same capacity as he had worked for Captain FARRELL. ERBEN started under Colonel MOSCRIP at \$160.00 per month and was raised after 2 months, in May 1947, to \$200.00 per month. Subject further states that he was on active duty under Colonel MOSCRIP's command until 1 September 1947, the day of his arrest by Chinese authorities, and he has not been notified by his officer-in-charge to the contrary. His last order, dated 4 September 1947, and sent by cable to subject when he was on board the U.S.A.T. "General Black", read as follows:

"SIGNAL CORPS UNITED STATES ARMY

Received at 2100 z 04 September. Zm Shanghai, China RC NHL
Shanghai, RNJ CK 30 September 3, 1420.

Colonel Plumpkin for Hermann Erben, General Black, XSG.

Request you send me your address in Germany immediately upon arrival so that I can make suitable arrangements for you stop regret unable to see you just before sailing.

Colonel Moscrip."

4. COMMENTS:

1. It would appear that ERBEN's employment by US forces in China was terminated by his repatriation to Germany, since this office has received no advice concerning his handling or disposition.

2. ERBEN is being held until clearance for his release is received from higher headquarters.

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