



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS

SUBJECT STEVE ALLEN

FILE NUMBER 100-HQ-431812

SECTION NUMBER 1



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Serial Description ~ COVER SHEET      08/25/1959

Total Deleted Page(s) ~ 2  
Page 24 ~ b7C  
Page 28 ~ b7C

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X Deleted Page(s) X  
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DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835)

8/25/59

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41648)

LOS ANGELES SOBELL COMMITTEE  
IS-C

[redacted] (u) has furnished reliable information in the past, and whose identity should be concealed, furnished a written report concerning the subject organization to SA [redacted] which is contained in Los Angeles file [redacted]

(u) The above-mentioned report was concerned with a staff meeting of the captioned organization. At this meeting the staff discussed the program for this organization for the balance of the year. A portion of the organization's program concerned its relationship with the YM-YWCA. Informant reported that [redacted] went into detail as to the operations of the "Y". [redacted] stated that one [redacted] (PH) was her house guest at [redacted] and that [redacted] had been with the YWCA for some [redacted] years. [redacted] continued that [redacted] suggested to her that the Sobell Committee attempt to have a speaker at the "Y" Ailomar Western Regional Conference to be held in December 1959. The YM-YWCA has a program for youth concerning political responsibility, and since the Sobell case is a national issue, it, therefore, is likely that the YM-YWCA could be convinced to do more than they did recently when they published facts concerning the case during late spring 1959 in the YM-YWCA "Intercollegiate."

[redacted] continued that it was suggested to her that Regional Directors and Assistant Directors be seen and spoken to about the case before the conference at Ailomar. Since the [redacted]

- 5 - Bureau (REGISTERED) EX-100 REC-99
- (2 - Los Angeles Sobell Committee)
- (1 - Youth Matters - 100-3-76)
- (1 - STEVE ALLEN)
- (1 - [redacted]) MCT-5
- 1 - Kansas City (Encls. 2) (REGISTERED)
- (1 - Sobell Case) (1 - [redacted]) NOT RECORDED
- 2 - New York (Encls. 2) (REGISTERED) 165 SEP 1 1959
- (1 - Sobell Case) (1 - STEVE ALLEN)
- 3 - Los Angeles (1 - Los Angeles Sobell Committee)
- (1 - Youth Matters - 100-24340)
- (1 - [redacted]) (u)

b2  
b7C  
b7D

DYLS  
SPL (2) CA  
TEALB  
BA WOLING  
(12)  
D OFFICER  
YOUNG

53 SEP 1 1959

DECLASSIFIED BY 90136/BJL/AC/ELP/CR 12-16-2000

922788  
100-387835-2029  
ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

Allen  
12-1-76

LA 100-41648

National Assembly of the "Y" has already directed "Y" members what to do in regard to the Sobell case in the intercollegiate. It should open the door to the Sobell Committee in Los Angeles in talking to "Y" Directors in the Western Region. It was stated that it is possible that the "Y" could get its members to take political action in contacting their congressmen. (X)(U)

[redacted] stated that [redacted] is a woman about [redacted] years of age, who has worked for [redacted] for about [redacted] years and presently is [redacted] (X)(U)

[redacted] orally advised SA [redacted] on August 24, 1959, that [redacted] is [redacted] of the Los Angeles Committee to Secure Justice for Herbert Sobell. (X)(U)

b2  
b7C  
b7D

On August 21, 1959, SA [redacted] telephonically contacted the University of California at Los Angeles Chapter of the YMCA as an unidentified caller, and ascertained that [redacted] is [redacted] and that after September 1, 1959, she will have the address of [redacted]

Also contained in the above-cited informant report was the fact that during this meeting [redacted] mentioned that STEVE ALLEN of television prominence had directed his secretary to send a check for \$4.00 to the National Sobell Committee with a request for MALCOLM SHARP's book on the Sobell Committee. It was stated that STEVE ALLEN is spending the summer in Encino, California, and, according to [redacted] appears to be sympathetic to the Sobell case. (X)(U)

Appendix pages for the Los Angeles Sobell Case are being furnished the New York Office and Kansas City Office as enclosures to this letter. The above information is being furnished the Bureau and interested offices for information.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-387835)

DATE: 9/17/59

FROM : SAC, Atlanta (100-4953)

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL INTERNAL SECURITY - C INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950 (NEW YORK OO)

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED  
DATE 12-11-2000 BY 3906JELW/BCE/06

b7C

On 9/15/59 [redacted] USP, Atlanta, Ga., made available copy of a letter from HELEN SOBELL addressed to her husband, an inmate at that institution. [redacted] made available this letter for review in view of numerous names mentioned therein which may be of assistance in security investigations being conducted by this Bureau. It is noted this letter is dated 9/11/59, and was apparently written from Los Angeles, California. The contents of this letter contain the following pertinent excerpts:

"We got a very exciting letter from New York saying that STEVE ALLEN had ordered 100 copies of our reprint containing the statement by Dr. PAUL LEHMAN entitled 'MORTON SOBELL, Symbol of the Christian's concern for Justice'. I had called his secretary that very morning in an effort to arrange an appointment because we knew of his previous interest, and I'm to call him back Monday when STEVE ALLEN will be in town."

[redacted] and her two sons were permitted to go home in Georgia. The above statement refers to

ENCLOSURE

- 2 - Bureau RM (encl. 1)
- 1 - New York (100-107111) RM (encl. 1)
- 1 - San Diego (info.) (100-9380) RM
- 1 - Los Angeles (info.) (100-41648) RM(encl. 1)
- 1 - San Francisco (info.) (100-35117) RM (encl. 1)
- 1 - Phoenix (info.) (100-4333) RM
- 2 - Atlanta (1 - 100-4953) (1 - 65-1361) (MORTON SOBELL)

AFM:mel (9)

NOT RECORDED  
17 SEP 24 1959

SEP 25 1959

ORIGINAL FILED IN 107-387835-2231

AT 100-4953

[redacted] and her two sons convicted of murdering a white tenant family in Georgia who were sentenced to death in the electric chair, and which sentence was later commuted to life in prison. They were paroled on 8/28/59 by Georgia State authorities. The [redacted] were the subject of various protest marches originating in subversive circles in New York City several years ago.

Mrs. SOBELL indicated she would be leaving Los Angeles for Phoenix on the 17th of September, 1959, and will be back in Los Angeles on the 20th because it is a lot easier to travel from Los Angeles to New York, than from Phoenix to New York.

b7C

HELEN SOBELL mentions having an appointment with one [redacted] on 9/12/59.

On 9/15/59, [redacted] USP, Atlanta, also made available copy of letter dated 9/1/59 from HELEN SOBELL addressed to her husband. The contents of this letter are set forth verbatim hereinafter:

"Tues. Sept. 1, 1959  
6:30 P.M. #43

"My own dearest MORTY,

"Yesterday was a long day in San Diego and we did many things. I met with a group of ministers and they are going to invite all of the clergymen in the area to join with them. I also had dinner with the [redacted] who sent their warmest regards and were wonderfully hospitable. It was a real pleasure to see them again. In the evening we had a party and I was really konked by the time the day was over. This morning we worked on a TV interview, and then I took the plane back to L. A.

AT 100-4953

"in time for a big luncheon meeting which was just fine. I met a woman there who had cut my hair years ago when I was in L. A. and after the meeting we went to a friend's home, and she gave me a very nice haircut.

"I got your last two letters from [redacted] when she picked me up, and I was very sad to hear of all of the not good things which you are experiencing, my love. I'm sorry you are so grumpy, not for me, but because it makes you feel not good in yourself. It was too bad you did not get too much enjoyment out of your tennis matches.

b7C

"I'm writing this now as we are driving back out to the beach to see some people and deliver a borrowed station wagon which [redacted] and [redacted] used for the moving back. Good morning, my love, it's now 10:20 and for the first time in a long while, I slept late this morning. [redacted] is staying with a friend who has 2 boys, and a pool, so he's fine.

"I've been re-reading your last letters this morning (I'm alone in a very pleasant home, and again I'm disturbed by your rash and your teeth problems. I hope, as I said before, that all will be well, and I'm glad you tell me that there is not too much cause for worry.

"So, finally, after all these years, you have the McLACKLIN book. It should be absorbing to tackle the 100 problems presented. I'm afraid that I won't have a chance to read the Fromm book for quite a while, but I'll leave it in mind.

"I do think I operate somewhat along the lines of conservation of psychic energy, and it may be that you have struck up on a chord which explains some of the differences in attitude we have had from time to time. There have been instances where you have suggested to me

AT 100-4953

"that a real exploration of a situation would result in more clarity, and I have felt sufficiently aware of the psychic drains (to no avail) inherent, so that I have not wanted more clarity.

[redacted] take the surf much better than I do because he is much faster in movement and can ride the waves. Also he has no objections to getting sloughed around in the sandy water in a prone position, and I don't care for it. He has been taking pictures and he did have a chance to talk to our photographer friend in S. F.

b7C

"I see when I read your words about my writing frequency, I misunderstood you and I felt you were really calling me to task, but you are doing nothing of the sort. I guess I still carry over from the time when the omission of a letter was most traumatic. I shall be more relaxed and know that you have much much maturity in this direction.

"Yes, [redacted] came with his wife to our big dinner in S. F. which is not exactly the same as having had dinner with him. As I told you before, I don't feel I will be able to make the trip to Mexico at this time, and I have another idea about it which may work out better.

"I got the govt's brochure on the parole board's composition and rules and it is most interesting. Have you every had access or do you know the almost unlimited discretion which applies? My schedule here is pretty full so that I don't know how much time I'll be able to spend at the beaches, but we'll see. I just talked to [redacted] who has just returned from Mexico and we'll be getting together in the next couple of days. [redacted] will stay there for a while.

"Most important of all and everything, be well, my love, and hold me very close, and know that I love thee with all my heart. Your HELEN, all time.

"HELEN SOBELL"



AT 100-4953

b7C In the event any of the above information is utilized in investigative reports, the source of this information should be concealed inasmuch as [redacted] at the USP does not desire his identity be made known.

Copies of the SOBELL letter dated 9/11/59, are furnished herewith as enclosures to the Bureau, New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco. *7/2*

... and I picked up my glasses in the afternoon, and I was  
 idea of this. I can't quite understand why although there are many  
 which seem plausible. He looks fine in his, and wine are not  
 either, although that is not too important a factor. The wedding  
 moment. Maybe they will help in overcoming some of the fatigue  
 thing. You know a very good thing happened in your state. On Aug. 20,  
 [redacted] and her two sons were permitted to go home. It was a very  
 thing to read about. I do believe that there is almost a physical  
 lead to situations like that one which are very draining.

Schedule-wise I'll be leaving L.A. for Phoenix on the 17th, and I will  
 probably leave [redacted] here and come back to pick him up on the 20th because it  
 is a lot easier to get from L.A. to N.Y. than from Phoenix. Also, a very nice  
 thing has happened here in that the friend whom I am staying has just  
 become engaged, and is getting married on the 20th. The both of them met at  
 a Sobell party initially, got to know each other washing dishes until 4 in  
 the morning at another party for us, and now, while I have been staying here,  
 have decided to get married. Part of their reason for getting married is that  
 they have pledged to raise \$100 by Dec. 1, and they figured they could get a  
 lot of people to come to the wedding reception and contribute instead of bring-  
 ing presents. That sounds a little flip, but it really is a very nice thing,  
 and both [redacted] are wonderful people. Last night we were celebrating  
 the announcement of the engagement, and [redacted] of course, brought champagne,  
 and during the afternoon, we had gone to Olvera Street which is a reconstructed  
 street of the original Mexican settlement of Los Angeles, and we bought some  
 shells which were filled with confetti, and we broke them over the happy  
 le. The room is still full of confetti, but [redacted] says she's going to  
 it here until after the wedding.

After all this we went to a Japanese restaurant, and we ate suki-yaki  
 teri-yaki in a little room where we sat on seats of the floor, and had to  
 off our shoes before entering (I thought of your endorsement of this practice  
 is was very novel and interesting to see the suki-yaki cooked before your  
 and to have the waitresses wearing their authentic costumes. The food was  
 delicious, although the whole thing has a very other-worldly quality so that  
 [redacted] asked me when he woke up this morning, did we really have a dinner  
 last night, or was that just a dream I had. This morning he is over with  
 [redacted] kid who is about 14, and he is an electronics enthusiast who is  
 fixing radios and setting up gadgets of his own. Pretty soon now, we will  
 be picked up by [redacted] who will take us to lunch with [redacted] and [redacted] and then  
 later, [redacted] will pick me up. It's a horribly scorching day today, and I  
 probably will not get too much done today. I have no meeting tonight.  
 meeting on Wednesday night was not too inspiring, but it's one more day  
 belts, so there it is.

Tomorrow is a big dinner, and then afterwards I have an appointment with  
 [redacted] and we should be able to get some things worked out. I'll  
 give a most loving farewell, my own dearest Morty. I hope you continue to  
 be in good health, and that you can vary your routine enough so that it  
 not become too oppressive. (That's pretty drastic, skipping meals, not  
 [redacted] I've gained 3 or 4 lbs. I think. I'll probably go back [redacted]

(back.) I love thee with all my heart. Your wife, Helen, *Helen, all yours,*  
 Enclosed are 2 pictures; with love.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-14-2009 BY 5012 EMD/DC/DC

*Jan*

Date: 9/17/59

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

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

*9/11/59*

DECLASSIFIED BY 39063ELW/BCE/PC  
ON 12-18-2000

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835)

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41648)

SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES SOBELL COMMITTEE  
 IS-C Deleted Copy Sent Allen  
 CINAL by Letter Dated 12-1-76  
 Per FOIPA Request net

**CONFIDENTIAL**

b7C

The following information \_\_\_\_\_  
relative to plans of \_\_\_\_\_

[Redacted]

Details regarding this request are contained in the attached article from the "People's World" (West Coast communist newspaper) of 9/5/59.

[Redacted]

*with LA 9/11/59  
SAC: [initials]*

*100-387835-2246  
ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN*

ENCLOSURE

3 - Bureau (AIR MAIL)(REGISTERED) (Encl. 1)

1 - New York (REGISTERED)

1 - Phoenix (REGISTERED)

1 - San Francisco (REGISTERED) EX: 10 SEP 29 1959

2 - Los Angeles (100-41648)(100-43372 - CINAL) NOT RECORDED

WNP:DRU G C - Wick *cc in file*

Approved: W Bled Sent \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_

Special Agent in Charge

57 OCT 8 1959

**CONFIDENTIAL**

RESEARCH

LA 100-41648

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7C  
b7D

[Redacted]

[Redacted] any dissemination of this information should,  
for the time being, be most circumspect.

(u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A. H. Belmont

September 22, 1959

F. J. Baumgardner

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Baumgardner
- 1 - [redacted]
- 1 - Mr. O'Connor

b7C

NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE  
 JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL  
 (NCSJMS)  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b7C  
b7D

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 12-19-2000 BY 3906SELW/ACE/06

NCSJMS, cited by House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA), has twofold purposes: (1) remove Sobell from Alcatraz (in 2/58 he was transferred to Atlanta Penitentiary) and (2) obtain either his release, reduction of sentence or new trial. NCSJMS has had a program of obtaining support from prominent persons and apparently through the efforts of [redacted] elicited from Steve Allen, TV personality, a promise to assist the Sobell cause in the future. Los Angeles advised that Allen [redacted]

Relations with Allen have in the past been cordial. Director thanked him for mentioning "Masters of Deceit" on his program and on 2/25/59 the Director clarified an erroneous impression Allen had gotten from certain press reports that he was being investigated by the Bureau. Bufiles failed to disclose any other identifiable references to Allen.

b7C

Allen in the past has "editorialized" on his show, sometimes concerning controversial subjects. If he mentions the alleged "frame-up" of Morton Sobell, we can expect a certain amount of sympathy from "do-gooders" throughout the country, which is exactly what captioned organization wants. It would be most advantageous to check Allen before his nationwide audience is exposed to this unwanted propaganda. To do this we considered using [redacted] as an intermediary; however, Bufiles show [redacted] is a Key Figure of the Los Angeles Office and [redacted] in the past has been a headline grabber and crusader.

To approach Allen himself may possibly result in embarrassment to the Bureau. Therefore, as an alternative it is believed that contact should be made by Mr. DeLoach with a suitable official of the National Broadcasting Company (NBC) to acquaint him with the facts concerning Allen's apparent support of the Sobell cause for whatever action he sees fit to undertake. Through this action the Bureau will not be involved or placed in an embarrassing position.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

100-387895

100-431812

(Allen)

b7C

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

100-431812-

Deleted Copy Sent  
 by [redacted]  
 Per [redacted]

Allen  
 [redacted]  
 ink

100-387835-2245  
 ORIGINAL COPIES FILED IN

Memo to Mr. Belmont  
Re: National Committee to Secure  
Justice for Morton Sobell  
100-387835

RECOMMENDATION:

If you approve, this memorandum should be forwarded to Mr. DeLoach so that he may contact an appropriate source in NBC to whom this information may be referred on a confidential basis and treated accordingly, in line with comments set forth.

MR. TOLSON

FROM: C. D. DELOACH

SUBJECT: NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR MORTON SOBELL (NCSJMS) INTERNAL SECURITY - C

STEVE ALLEN (NBC - TV)

Tolson	
Belmont	
Mohr	
DeLoach	
W.C. Sullivan	
Rosen	
Parsons	
Malone	
McGuire	
Mohr	
Winterrowd	
Tele. Room	
Holloman	
Gandy	

b7C  
b7D

Memorandum from Mr. Baumgardner to Mr. Belmont dated 9-22-59 relates to the fact that Helen Sobell, Morton Sobell's wife, has elicited from Steve Allen, TV personality on NBC, a promise to assist the Sobell cause on his program. Further Allen presumably gave Helen Sobell permission to publicize his interest in the case.

The Director stated it would be all right to alert appropriate NBC officials.

ACTION TAKEN:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 12-14-2000 BY 39063EW/RCE/DC

At 12:30 PM, 9-24-59 Wick talked to [redacted] a very good friend of the Bureau's [redacted]

[redacted] Wick filled him in on the above and additionally pointed out that prior to the execution of the Rosenbergs in June, 1953, the case of Sobell and the Rosenbergs was reviewed 16 times by the United States District Court, seven appeals to the Circuit Court of Appeals were argued, seven petitions to the United States Supreme Court were made and two applications were made to the President of the United States for executive clemency. Subsequently, additional court action has been had and such eminent jurists as Judges Medina and Kaufman are in complete agreement with the prior proceedings respecting Sobell's case. [redacted] said he could handle the matter and would check into it in a manner which would leave the FBI out of it completely.

DEVELOPMENT:

At 9:30 AM today, [redacted] called Wick and said he had determined from [redacted] West Coast, that Mrs. Sobell has in Los Angeles made the statement to several people

- 1 - Mr. Belmont
- 1 - Mr. Jones

REW:ejp  
(4)

Deleted Copy Sent by Letter Dated 12-1-76 Per FOIPA Request

Allen REC 40 196 [redacted] - [redacted]

10 SEP 29 1959

60 OCT 9 1959

1959 SEC. 12

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-381625-2447



9-25-59

that Steve Allen is "in her pocket" and she has been promised that he would help her.

[redacted]

Allen

was in another studio. [redacted] contacted Allen [redacted] and asked him [redacted] and what Allen replied. Allen told [redacted] that Mrs. Sobell had been in to see him (Allen), had asked for support but that he did not promise her anything. Allen said further that he will not support her, will not mention her on his program and does not intend to have anything to do with this matter whatsoever. Furthermore, Allen told the newspaperman he does not appreciate her going around saying he has promised to help her or even talked to her.

b7C  
b7D

[redacted] therefore, considers the matter resolved since they have a definite commitment from Allen not to support Sobell in any way. [redacted] was most grateful for Wick calling this matter to his attention and he said he wanted the Director to know [redacted] is most appreciative [redacted]

[redacted] He said Allen is very difficult to control but he is satisfied Allen is incensed over reports he is getting from newspaper and radio people that Mrs. Sobell is trying to get him into the act.

For record purposes.

✓      J

FBI

Date: 10/19/59

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL - REGISTERED  
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-387835) b7C  
FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41618)  
SUBJECT: LOS ANGELES SOBELL COMMITTEE  
IS-C  
CINAL



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-19-2000 BY 3906 JELW/058/06

Re Los Angeles airtel 9/17/59 indicating that STEVE ALLEN had agreed to assist HELEN SOBELL in her cause to free MORTON SOBELL.

b2  
b7D

[redacted] advises that HELEN SOBELL is in receipt of a letter from STEVE ALLEN's secretary stating that while he, ALLEN, is interested in prison reform and is sympathetic with HELEN SOBELL's problem there have already been repercussions because of ALLEN's initial interest in the case; therefore, because of his television program, he could not help in the case of MORTON SOBELL. In fact, ALLEN is too busy to read all of the material HELEN SOBELL left with him.

- ③ - Bureau (AIR MAIL) (REGISTERED)
- 1 - New York (REGISTERED)
- 1 - Phoenix (REGISTERED)
- 1 - San Francisco (REGISTERED)
- 2 - Los Angeles (100-41618)(100-43372 - CINAL)

*Records file cc in 100-43157 (Allen)*

WSP:DRU  
(8)

Deleted Copy Sent Allen  
by Letter Dated 12-1-76  
Per FOIPA Request MSB

100-431812-

NOT RECORDED  
154 OCT 1959

FBI

*cc - Brennan  
Wick*

*INT. SEC.  
M. J. [unclear]*

*WB*

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN

# The Education of Steve Allen

MARK I. AM... by Steve Allen. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co., 1958. \$4.95.

By MIKE NEWBERRY

THE YOUNG MAN with the starry-eyed eyeglasses on the cover of this book is not the Skeesiz of a comic you know. He is Steve Allen but he is not that Steve Allen. Jayne Meadows, his wife, says it well when she comments that he is really eight other men: "A published writer of earthy prose and poetry, a deep thinker, a comedian, a pianist, a composer, a crusader, a motion picture star, and a tender father." She is too modest, however. He is as well a religious man, a philosopher, a serious citizen, and a decent human being.

And so this is the autobiography of at least a dozen men. It is as thoughtful and thought-filled as you would expect such a one man symposium to be.

From this you might get the impression that I am a Steve Allen fan. I cannot tell a lie. I am.

However, having read the half-baked dozen of theatrical autobiographies with their ersatz schmaltz, ghost written and ghost ridden confessions, and "As Told To" I - Have - Sinned - For - Profit hysteria, if I were not a fan of Mr. Allen's his book would make me one. For Mr. Allen is an honest man.

In television, as we have learned, an honest man is rare. But even rarer is an honest man who writes well.

Of "a rather warlike tribe" of South Side Chicago Irish, as he tells it, Steve Allen's youth was kin to Studs Lonergan's.

His father was a vaudevillian. His mother a one-night stand comedienne. His boyhood went from boarding school to worse, boyish pranks (that his TV personality has not outgrown), running away from home (what home?), and all the rest; with a bit of Huck Finn-ism thrown in for good measure.

Years later when he became a disc jockey "breaking more records than I played" and a wrestling commentator, his boyish irreverence and tough-witted upbringing brightened his prose.

...he begins to say, a good-... Though he says... as a man began... tragedy descend... upon him, it began then, un-... in his turbulent youth, ... it does with us all.

The Steve Allen who is co-... chairman of the Hollywood Sane

Nuclear Committee and who sin-... cerely combats the causes of m.s. ... like Jonathan Swift before him, all of ... ery with the causes of democra- ... cy, saying: I am a do-gooder! The cynics be damned! was not born immaculately in a TV tube. He is a man born of the boy his autobiography belittles.

Christianity and Communism he would be the first to protest are the two words that occur his most often in this book.

Sometimes in just opposition, sometimes in comparison, often in opposition, though not super-... ficially so. Mr. Allen throughout his book seeks to find the true value of each. It is a tortuous search and one which gives him no easy peace, nor one for which he offers a sloganized solution.

There are some who will say he over-reaches his grasp, he is ill-equipped for his task. That may be. Yet, in a time when the pudgy little fingers of successful men so often greedy seek no more than petty self-satisfaction it is encouraging to see a man whose courage defies the limitations of the easy touch and does aspire to "the great ideas" of mankind.

Of his knowledge of communism, let me just say, that though Mr. Allen defiantly says he is a subscriber to "The Worker", one doubts that he has gone deeper than its thin pages of the fat volumes of Marx. Had he done so, he would not attribute to communists the ideas of anti-Communists, as he does.

Let the reader not think however that this is a solemn or self-righteous book.

Here are hilarious tales and inside insights of TV inanities to delight even an Ed Sullivan fan. Many is the time I found myself laughing aloud as I read, something I seldom do.

But then too I found the humor had a thoughtful tone. What is comedy. I began to ask myself?

Comedy is not humorous, Steve Allen says. Knowing comedy as he does he says it is not humorous at all. It is cruel, it is insulting, it is sad, it is tragic;

"Comedy is about comedy," he writes. "What else are jokes about? They're about fat people, stingy people, dumbbells, small hotel rooms, drunks, sexual problems, high prices, war..."

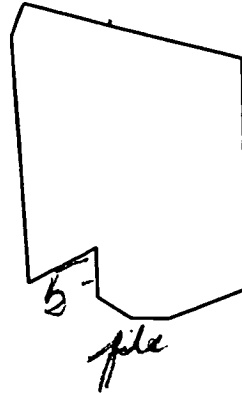
"There may not be laughter in hell, but there couldn't possibly be laughter in heaven," Steve Allen says.

Like Charlie Chaplin before him, like Mark Twain before him, like Jonathan Swift before him, like Boccaccio before him, all of the satirist, unlike the clown, the satirist, unlike the clown, does not know that laughter is the balm we soothe our wounds with. If for a Steve Allen (and I imagine he would be the first to protest are the two words that occur his most often in this book. He is a true believer in humanity. Though he calls his beneficently Christianity, his philosophy is that of a seeker. If this is so then the name-tag is unimportant. Humanity is bedeviled with too many "es" and "isms" and as the Soviet poet Tvardovsky wisely noted at a recent Writers' Conference, in the arts, a name-tag doesn't, of itself, help much. Not that they don't exist. They just don't assist. In this sense Steve Allen may yet, if he has not yet, enter the heritage of the great satirists. Who can predict? Who knows?

Schooled in the kleiglight-blinded world of TV he has learned to see through the picture tube into the real world. He is now free to prove how wrong — or right — his talent is.

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

b7C



- The Washington Post and Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- The Evening Star \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Herald Tribune \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Journal-American \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Mirror \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Post \_\_\_\_\_
- The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_
- The Worker 69
- The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_
- The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
- Date 9-18-60

100-431812-A  
NOT RECORDED  
184 SEP 21 1960

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
by \_\_\_\_\_  
Per \_\_\_\_\_  
*Allen*  
*12-76*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-19-2008 BY 89062 UCW/BCE/06

62 SEP 22 1960

June 7, 1966

Deleted Copy Sent Allen  
by Letter Dated 12-1-76  
Per FOIPA Request mlh

BY LIAISON

*encl*  
*1-1*  
*8*

*7/17/81 back*  
*X*  
*see index*

Honorable Marvin Watson  
Special Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1/19/2000 BY 3106 JEL/BC/100

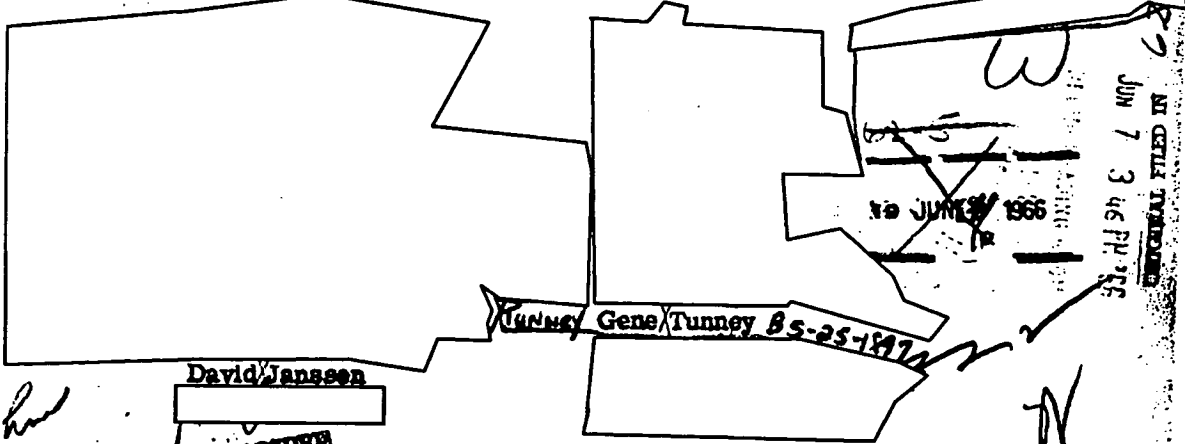
Dear Mr. Watson:

Reference is made to the name check requests  
from Mrs. Stegall relative to the White House affair on  
June 21, 1966.

*all Locality U.S. if other not given*

The central files of the FBI contain no derogatory  
information identifiable with the following individuals:

b7C



David Janssen

**ENCLOSURE**  
The files of the Identification Division of the FBI  
were checked and no arrest data was located concerning the above  
individuals based upon the background information submitted  
in connection with these name check requests.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (sent direct) - Encs. (15)
- 1 - Mr. Gale - Encs. (15)

- Tolson
- DeLoach
- Mohr
- Wick
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Rm.
- Holmes
- Gandy

**ENCLOSURE**

EX-103

NOT RECORDED

Delivered to Mildred Stern  
on 6-7-66

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*5-25682*  
ORIGINAL FILED IN *62*  
JUN 7 3 46 PM '66

Honorable Marvin Watson

Attached are separate memoranda on the following individuals:

Steve Allen

Dana Andrews

Lloyd Vernet Bridges

Lee J. Cobb

b7C

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures (23)

June 7, 1966

*Calif*  
*Summary* STEVE ALLEN  
*Stephen* *Valentine* *Patrick*  
*William* *Allen*

Steve Allen, the prominent television personality, has worked on behalf of the National Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy (SANE) in recent years. He has also spoken out repeatedly against capital punishment and has participated in demonstrations on this topic. Because of his activities in connection with these two issues, he has been a controversial figure. According to FBI files, Allen has also been affiliated with and contributed to the "Los Angeles Sobell Committee" which is an affiliate of the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case which has been cited by the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

In June, 1965, Allen was listed as a sponsor of a tribute to Congressional liberals who were being honored at a dinner in Beverly Hills, California, on August 13, 1965, for their opposition to the present Administration's policy on Vietnam. (94-52095)

Attached is a copy of FBI Identification Record Number 258 904 B which appears to be identical with captioned individual based on his reported date of birth, December 26, 1921, according to FBI files.

*NY. NY*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-19-2000 BY 3906 JELW/PSE/06

Enclosure

*WV*

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Wick \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Per request of Mrs. Mildred Stegall, White House Staff. CC sent to Secret Service per FD-376, Category 3.

JMM:mjl (8)

*100-431-812-2*

ENCLOSURE

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

*File  
at  
time*

August 22, 1972

BY LIAISON

Honorable Alexander P. Butterfield  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Deleted Copy Sent Allen  
By Letter Dated 12-1-76  
Per FOIPA Request mlk

Dear Mr. Butterfield:

Reference is made to your name check request concerning [redacted] Steve Allen and some other individuals.

Attached are separate memoranda concerning the following individuals:

b7C

[redacted] Steve Allen	[redacted]
[redacted]	Dean Martin
[redacted]	[redacted]

Sincerely yours,

*L. Patrick Gray III*

L. Patrick Gray, III  
Acting Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-19-2009 BY 3406 JEW/BCE/106

~~REC-105~~  
AUG 24 1972

Enclosures (10)

*J*  
ENCLOSURE

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
ADD. DISSEMINATION.

EX-105

*REB/STW*  
*MAR 2*

62-5-384X  
(4)

- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Baker \_\_\_\_\_
- Bates \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Cleveland \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Dailey \_\_\_\_\_
- Jenkins \_\_\_\_\_
- Marshall \_\_\_\_\_
- Miller, E.S. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ponder \_\_\_\_\_
- Boyers \_\_\_\_\_
- Walters \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Kinley \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Armstrong \_\_\_\_\_
- Ms. Hancock \_\_\_\_\_

1 - Mr. Cleveland - Enclosures (sent direct)

JCF:mcb:reb  
(5)

REC-4

100-431812-3

62 AUG 30 1972  
ENCLOSURE

DELIVERED BY LIAISON  
ON 8/23/72

NOT RECORDED  
233 AUG 25 1972

ORIGINAL FILED IN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-19-2000 BY 39063 EW/OC/106

August 21, 1972

b7C



STEVE ALLEN Summary

*Copy*

The files of the FBI reveal that Mr. Steve Allen, who you advised resides at 16185 Woodville Road, Encino, California, has been the subject of limited security-type investigations conducted by this Bureau.

In December, 1959, Steve Allen was one of a number of sponsors for a banquet given for Norman Thomas, head of the Socialist Party of the United States.

Since 1959 Allen has been connected with the National Committee for Sane Nuclear Policy (SANE) and affiliated groups seeking a complete cessation of United States nuclear experiments. He has repeatedly spoken out against capital punishment. Allen did considerable work for the "Los Angeles Sobell Committee," an affiliate of the National Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell in the Rosenberg Case, which has been cited by the House Committee on Internal Security.

By application dated June 12, 1963, at Los Angeles, Allen filed for and was subsequently issued a United States passport, D375217, after writing the Department of State in January to express his desire to visit mainland China. Allen is not known to have made the trip as planned.

In 1965 Allen was listed as a sponsor of a tribute to Congressional liberals who were being honored at a dinner in Beverly Hills, California, on August 13, 1965, for their opposition to the Administration's policy on Vietnam.

Attached is a copy of an FBI Identification Record, Number 258 904 B, concerning Allen whose full name is Stephen Valentine Patrick William Allen.

Enclosure

NOTE: Per request of Alexander P. Butterfield, Deputy Assistant to the President.

EJK:csh/vac (5)

- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Baker \_\_\_\_\_
- Bates \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Cleveland \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Dalbey \_\_\_\_\_
- Jenkins \_\_\_\_\_
- Marshall \_\_\_\_\_
- Miller, E.S. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ponder \_\_\_\_\_
- Soyars \_\_\_\_\_
- Walters \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Kinley \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Armstrong \_\_\_\_\_
- Ms. Herold \_\_\_\_\_
- Mrs. Neenan \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

ENCLOSURE 100-431812-3

*253/1/74*

*JFK*



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

W

TO : ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI (105-214716)

DATE: 3/19/73 12-18-2000

~~SECRET~~

CLASSIFIED BY 39067 ELM/RC/AG  
DECLASSIFY ON: 25X 6

FROM : ~~SA~~ LOS ANGELES (105-34347) (C)

SUBJECT: STEVE ALLAN  
IS - CH

Deleted Copy Sent Allen  
Letter Dated 12-1-76  
For FOIPA Request not

[Redacted] (S) b1

*sh*  
*sh*

Re Legat, Ottawa letter to the Bureau dated, 2/14/73, above captioned, and Los Angeles letter to the Bureau dated, 3/8/73, in the case captioned, [Redacted] IS - CH", Bureau b7C file 105-23613.

Referenced Los Angeles letter enclosed a Letterhead Memorandum setting out information regarding the relationship of [Redacted] with STEVE ALLEN, United States television personality.

[Redacted] b7C

Information is also set out in the Letterhead Memorandum to the effect that STEVE ALLEN, the television personality, may accompany [Redacted] and her husband to the People's Republic of China (PRC) in April, 1973.

The following physical description of STEVE ALLEN, the television personality, was obtained through personal observation, statements made by ALLEN himself, and the biographical sketch contained in the 1966-1967 edition of "Who's Who In America" (see LA 100-59178-193, page three):

Name	STEPHEN VALENTINE PATRICK WILLIAM ALLEN, also known as Steve Allen
Sex	Male
Race	Caucasian
Age	44 years

REC-7 100-4318124

- 4 - Bureau (105-214716) (2 - Legat, Ottawa 105-4168)
- 4 - Los Angeles (105-34347) (1 - 105-30588) (1 - 105-18556) (1 - 100-59178)

EX-112 MCL-51 10 MAR 25 1973

Copy to [Redacted] by routing slip for info action date 3/29/73 by [Redacted]

54 APR 9 1973 233 DJR/sah (8)

~~SECRET~~

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

EXP-PROC UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 105-23613

~~SECRET~~

Birth Data December 26, 1921<sup>22</sup>  
 New York City  
 Height 6 feet 2 1/2 inches  
 Weight 185 pounds  
 Hair Brown  
 Eyes Brown (wears horn-rimmed glasses)  
 Occupations Actor, musician, author, composer,  
 television-radio personality  
 Education Student of Journalism,  
 Drake University and Arizona  
 State Teachers College  
 Military Services United States Army (dates un-  
 available at this time)  
 Relatives Father: CARROLL ALLEN } N.Y.  
 Mother: ISABELLE (DONAHUE) ALLEN }  
 Wife: JAYNE LEADON ALLEN MRS. STANDELL  
 married (July 31, 1954) }  
 Ex-wife: DOROTHY (WOODMAN) ALLEN }  
 MC GOVERN (married August 25, 1943) } N.Y.  
 Sons: STEPHEN ALLEN }  
 BRIAN ALLEN } C.A.L.  
 DAVID ALLEN }  
 WILLIAM CHRISTOPHER ALLEN }

48  
22/1

Based on information set out above, it would appear that STEVE ALLAN, [redacted]

[redacted]

and is classified, (S) b1  
 Secret) is possibly identical with STEVE ALLEN, television  
 personality listed above, although no positive identification  
 can be made in the absence of additional information regarding  
 the subject.

Pertinent information regarding STEVE ALLEN, the  
 television personality, was included in the above mentioned  
 Letterhead Memorandum. In view of the above, no further  
 action is being taken in this matter.

43  
22/5

48  
22/22

51  
21/30

41  
21/20

~~SECRET~~

LA 105-34347

~~SECRET~~

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

~~SECRET~~

The Bureau is requested to furnish Legat, Ottawa,  
two copies of this letter for its information and appropriate  
action.

- 3\* -

~~SECRET~~

MAILED

SEP 20 1974

NAME CHECK

September 19, 1974

MR. AND MRS. STEVE ALLEN

SUMMARY

DC  
Captioned individuals, who you advised reside at 16185 Woodvill Road, Encino, California, were the subjects of a White House name check request in August, 1972. Attached is a copy of a summary memorandum dated August 21, 1972. (100-431812-3)

The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning captioned individuals based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

STEVE ALLEN Sp

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12-9-2000 BY 9106 EWA/ACG/06  
938788

DELIVERED BY LIAISON  
DN 9/19/74

DTP:ysc (4)

NOTE: Per request of Miss Jane Dannenhauer, Staff Assistant (Security), The White House. REC-60

EX 104 100-431812-5

DTP

Deleted Copy Sent  
by [unclear] [unclear]  
Per FOIPA Request [unclear]

- Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Asst. Dir.:
- Admin. \_\_\_\_\_
- Camp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ext. Affairs \_\_\_\_\_
- Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_
- Gen. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ident. \_\_\_\_\_
- Inspection \_\_\_\_\_
- Intell. \_\_\_\_\_
- Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_
- Plan. & Eval. \_\_\_\_\_
- Spec. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Training \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

56 SEP 27 1974

TELETYPE UNIT

Handwritten initials/signature