

Trotsky, Leon

aka:

Bronstein, Lev Davidovich

Bureau File 65-29162 (Section 1)

Room 1403  
370 Lexington Avenue,  
New York City

ADH:MF

June 20, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE F. X. RAY

Captain [redacted] of the Naval Intelligence Unit, 641 Washington Street, New York City, Room 732, telephoned Mr. McGrath, and requested that an Agent of this office be sent to interview him, and indicated that he had some message of importance.

Special Agent A. D. Horn interviewed Captain [redacted] at the latter's office, and was informed that Captain [redacted] had information from sources which he declined to reveal, but which he said were very reliable; that Leon Trotsky is now residing in New York City or over in New Jersey. Captain [redacted] stated that he communicated with Inspector [redacted] of the New York City Police, and was informed that Inspector [redacted] had information to the same effect, but from a different source.

The report is, according to Captain [redacted] that Trotsky, disguised by shaving his beard, entered Canada and flew by airplane from Canada to New York.

Captain [redacted] stated this information was being given for the confidential information of the Division of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice.

RECORDED

INDEXED

A. D. Horn,  
Special Agent.

JUL 5 1934

65-29162-X

*[Handwritten notes and signatures]*  
C. E. Division

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&  
INDEXED

JEL:GAS

July 2, 1934.

~~61-7277~~

61-27162-X

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL KEENAN

JUL 5 - 1934

As of possible interest to you, I am in receipt of information from the New York City office of this Division to the effect that Captain [redacted], of the Naval Intelligence Unit, located in New York City, has advised that he possesses information from sources which he declines to reveal, but which he considers very reliable, to the effect that Leon Trotsky is now residing in New York City or in nearby New Jersey.

Captain [redacted] stated that he communicated this information to Inspector [redacted], of the New York City Police Department, who has also received information to the same effect but from a different source.

Trotsky is reported to have disguised himself by shaving his beard, and to have entered Canada, flying by aeroplane from Canada to New York.

No action, of course, is being taken by this Division in connection with this information.

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECEIVED SECTION

JUL 2 1934 \*

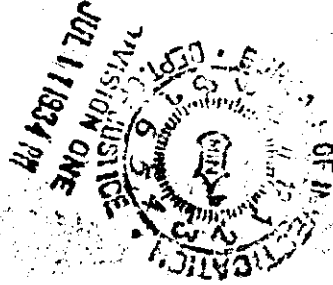
- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Cowley .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Tamm .....

JEM:RK

Room 1403,  
370 Lexington Ave.,  
New York, N.Y.

July 10, 1934.

Byron H. Uhl,  
District Director,  
Immigration & Naturalization Service,  
Ellis Island, New York.



Dear Sir:

Captain [redacted] Police Headquarters, Red Bank,  
New Jersey, telephonically advised this office that a  
person believed to be Leon Trotsky came into the Molly  
Pitcher Hotel, Red Bank, New Jersey, at 3 A.M., on the  
morning of July 8, 1934.

This is being transmitted to you for your  
information and such action as you deem appropriate.

Very truly yours,

F. X. PAY,  
Special Agent in Charge.

cc-Division.

65-29162-✓

61-1277

ONE

From  
**ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL KEENA**  
 To  
**OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK**

**MEMORANDUM**

*Please note the  
 Commissioner's request.  
 JMF*

- The Attorney General*.....
- The Solicitor General*.....
- Assistant to Attorney General Stanley*.....
- Assistant Attorney General Wideman*.....
- Assistant Attorney General Stephens*.....
- Assistant Attorney General Sweeney*.....
- Assistant Solicitor General MacLean*.....
- Assistant Attorney General Blair*.....
- Mr. Stewart*.....
- Director, Division of Investigation*..... ✓
- Mr. Bates, Director, Bureau of Prisons*.....
- Division of Accounts*.....
- Chief Clerk*.....
- Appointment Clerk*.....
- Mail and Files*.....
- Mr. Finch, Pardon Attorney*.....
- Mr. Parrish*.....
- Mr. Ridgely*.....
- Mr. Kiefer*.....
- Mr. Wixson*.....
- Mr. Fisher*.....
- Mr. Ramsey*.....
- Mr. Brabner Smith*.....
- Mr. Preston*.....
- Mr. Fort*.....
- Mr. Millenson*.....
- Mr. Gottshall*.....
- Mr. Butler*.....
- Miss Brookley*.....
- Miss Broomhead*.....

- |              |         |
|--------------|---------|
| Mr. Nathan   | .....   |
| Mr. Tolson   | .....   |
| Mr. Clegg    | .....   |
| Mr. Baughman | .....   |
| Chief Clerk  | .....   |
| Mr. Coffey   | .....   |
| Mr. Cowley   | .....   |
| Mr. Edwards  | .....   |
| Mr. Egan     | .....   |
| Mr. Harbo    | .....   |
| Mr. Keith    | .....   |
| Mr. Lester   | .....   |
| Mr. Quinn    | .....   |
| Mr. Tamm     | ..... ✓ |

*65-162-X1*  
*6-19-34*  
 JUN 23 1934

COPY

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON.

July 14, 1934.

Hon. Joseph B. Keenan,  
Assistant Attorney General,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Keenan:

Referring to your letter of July 6, this is the first suggestion as to Mr. Trotsky's being in this country that has come to our attention.

Will you be good enough to instruct your local representative in New York to communicate with Mr. Byron H. Uhl, District Director of Immigration and Naturalization at Ellis Island whom I have instructed to cooperate with him in investigating the truth of the reports you have received.

Very sincerely yours,

D. W. MacCORMACK  
Commissioner.

RECORDED

JUL 25 1934

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61-7277-2  
JUL 23 1934

JBL:ps

July 21, 1934

65-29162-X1

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MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL KEENAN

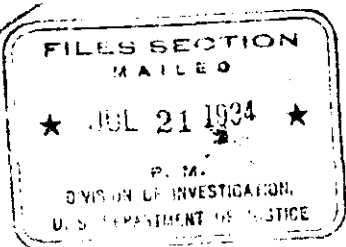
There is returned herewith a letter addressed to you by Honorable D. W. MacCormack, Commissioner, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., dated July 14, 1934, which was forwarded under cover of your informal routing slip, undated.

Information relating to the belief that Leon Trotsky is presently in this country has been furnished to Mr. Byron H. Uhl, District Director of Immigration and Naturalization, Ellis Island, New York by the New York City office of this Division. No further investigative action is being taken by this Division in connection therewith.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Enclosure 557213



EW

KDD:mr  
61-7277-3

65-29162-X2

September 24, 1934

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL KEENAN.

As of possible interest to you, I am transmitting herewith a copy of a letter from C. K. Nulsen, Lieutenant Colonel, General Staff, Executive Officer, G-2, dated September 13, 1934, advising he is in receipt of information that Leon Trotsky entered the Port of San Francisco as Baron Rothschild's valet recently; also that Trotsky is in New Jersey for the sole purpose of leadership in the textile strike.

The War Department is being advised that this matter has been referred to you for whatever attention you may deem appropriate.

No action is being taken by this Division in connection with this information.

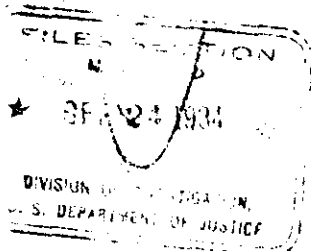
Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Enclosure 302597

Copies: 1 yellow

C-1





KDD:mr

61-7277-5

65-27162-X2

September 24, 1934

RECORDED

Lieutenant Colonel C. A. Nulsen,  
General Staff, Executive Officer, G-2,  
War Department,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Your letter dated September 13, 1934 has been received wherein you advise that you are in receipt of information to the effect that Leon Trotsky as Baron Rothschild's valet entered the Port of San Francisco recently; also that Trotsky is in New Jersey for the sole purpose of leadership in the textile strike.

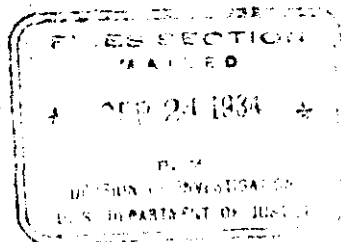
Please be advised that this matter has been referred to Assistant Attorney General Keenan for his information and whatever action he may deem appropriate.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

Copies: 1 yellow

c-1



Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Room 1403  
370 Lexington Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

EX-103

October 8, 1934.

PERSONAL ATTENTION

Director,  
Division of Investigation,  
U. S. Department of Justice,  
Pennsylvania Avenue at 9th Street, N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

During my conversation with Walter Winchell last night, he told me that it had been rumored around that Leon Trotsky is in New York City and that he might possibly be stopping at the Wellington Hotel. This rumor, however, was discounted from several other sources as not sounding plausible. I am sending it along to you for your general information.

Very truly yours,

F. X. FAY  
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

OCT 12 1934

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Division of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

EKT:CSH

January 3, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

3:20 P.M.

On December 23, 1934 Mrs. [redacted] of [redacted] Grand Avenue, Bronx, New York, called and stated that she had read in the newspaper of the attempt by Leon Trotsky to overthrow the present Stalin government in Soviet Russia and she believed that Leon Trotsky was presently residing in New York, her reason being that no one but he could be responsible for the recent Communistic demonstrations in New York by students of the various colleges in that city.

I thanked Mrs. [redacted] for her information and advised her that the Division was not interested in Trotsky.

Respectfully,

*E. K. Thompson.*

E. K. Thompson.

COPIES DESTROYED  
1988 SEP 2 1960

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-29162-X4

## Trotsky Is Still In French Exile

PARIS, Jan. 10 (U.S.).—Leon Trotsky, exiled Soviet leader, is still in France, living at Tulle, capital of the Department of Correze, the weekly paper Candide said today. Trotsky is staying at the estate of Charles Spinasse, Socialist member of the Chamber of Deputies, near an arms manufacturing plant at Souillac-Tulle.

# Audience Here Awaits Voice of Trotsky in Vain

## Wire Reported Cut, Speech Read; Offers to Give Up if Convicted Before World

Six thousand followers of Leon Trotsky, assembled last night at the Hippodrome to hear the exiled Bolshevik leader answer the Moscow charge that he was heading an international counter-revolutionary plot, waited in vain for nearly an hour while members of his defense committee sought to obtain telephone connections with his sanctuary in Mexico City. At length, when the telephonic communication seemed to have failed, his prepared speech was read by Max Shachtman, editor of his works.

The former Soviet War Commissar was scheduled to be heard in a one-hour message starting at 10:10 p. m. and transmitted from the villa of his friend Diego Rivera, the mural painter, in Coyoacan, a suburb of Mexico City. For thirty minutes the crowd in the hippodrome sat before the silent amplifier. There was a murmur of disappointment when Mr. Shachtman finally indicated that there would be no message. As reason for failure he announced a report that the telephone line connecting the Rivera villa with the Mexican

transmitted over 3,000 miles, Trotsky packed his speech with sharp exclamationary pauses. Frequently he asked, "Do you hear me?" and "Have you all heard?"

Only briefly did Trotsky assume the injured tones of a martyr. Then he told how "Moscow's terrible economic pressure" had compelled the Norwegian government to place him "under lock and key." He expressed gratitude for his haven in Mexico but he added, "The wheels to force me once more into silence have again been set into motion."

### Says Moscow Fears Truth

"Why does Moscow so fear the voice of a single man?" he asked. "Only because I know the truth, the whole truth. Only because I have nothing to hide. Only because I am ready to appear before a public and impartial commission of inquiry with documents, facts and testimonies in my hands, and to disclose the truth to the very end."

As the meeting went on a dozen detectives moved silently among the audience to squelch the first symptoms of an expected anti-Trotsky demonstration. Outside were 150 patrolmen under command of Inspector Louis J. Schelling.

N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE

Forwarded to New York

The meeting had been organized by the Committee for the Defense of Trotsky. George Novack, secretary of the committee, presided, and there were other speeches by Angelica Balabanoff, first secretary of the Communist International; Roy Burt, national executive secretary of the Socialist party, and Max Shachtman. Members of the Communist party had been asked by party leaders to boycott the meeting.

Trotsky opened his message with an apology for "my impossible English." Then he took up the Zinoviev-Kamenev trial last August which, he said, had first provoked the distrust of the Western World for Soviet justice. The recent Piatakov-Radek trial had more than enforced this suspicion of a frame-up, he added.

Moscow's attitude, he charged, was this: "We have our justice. The rest does not concern us."

After deprecating the opinions of three foreign observers, Pritt and Rosenmark, lawyers, and Walter Duranty, American journalist, who had expressed belief in the guilt of the accused, Trotsky insisted that the Moscow government had "brutally rejected every examination which would carry with it guaranties of objectivity and impartiality."

### Sees Second Trial Answer to World

"My task today," he continued, "is to unmask the fundamental, original viciousness of the Moscow trials, to show the motive forces of frame-up, its true political aims and the psychology of its participants and victims."

"The trial of Zinoviev-Kamenev was concentrated upon 'terrorism.' The trial of Piatakov-Radek placed in the center of the stage no longer terror, but the alliance of the Trotskyites with Germany and Japan for the preparation of war, the dismemberment of the U. S. S. R., the sabotage of industry and the extermination of workers. How to explain this crying discrepancy? For, after the execution of the sixteen we were told that the depositions of Zinoviev, Kamenev and the others were voluntary, sincere and corresponding to the facts. Moreover, Zinoviev and Kamenev demanded the death penalty for themselves!

"Why, then, did they not say a word about the most important thing—the alliance of the Trotskyites with Germany and Japan and the plot to dismember the U. S. S. R.? Could they have forgotten such 'details' of the plot? Could they themselves, the leaders of the so-called Center, not have known what was known by the accused in the last trial, people of a secondary category? The enigma is easily explained: The new amalgam was constructed after the execution of the sixteen, during the course of the last five months, as an answer to unfavorable echoes in the world press.

"The most feeble part of the trial of the sixteen is the accusation against old Bolsheviks of an alliance with the secret police of Hitler, the Gestapo. Neither Zinoviev nor Kamenev nor Smirnov nor, in general, any one of the accused with political names, confessed to this liaison; they stopped short before this extreme self-abasement! It follows that through obscure, unknown intermedi-

aries such as Olberg, Berman, Fein, David and others, had entered into an alliance with the Gestapo for such grand purposes as the obtaining of a Honduran passport for Olberg.

"The whole thing was foolish. No one wanted to believe it. The whole trial was discredited. It was necessary to correct the gross error of the stage-managers at all costs. It was necessary to fill up the hole. Jagoda was replaced by Elov. A new trial was placed on the order of the day. Stalin decided to answer his critics in this way: 'You don't believe that Trotsky is capable of entering into alliance with the Gestapo for the sake of an Olberg and a passport from Honduras? Very well, I will show you that the purpose of his alliance with Hitler was to provoke war and partition out the world.'

"However, for this second, more grandiose production, Stalin lacked the principal actors: he had shot them. In the principal roles of the principal presentation he could place only secondary actors! It is not superfluous to note that Stalin attached such value to Piatakov and Radek as collaborators. But he had no other people with well-known names, who could only because of their distant past, could pass as 'Trotskyists.' That is why fate descended sternly upon Radek and Piatakov. The version about my meetings with the rotten trash of the Gestapo through unknown, occasional intermediaries was dropped.

### Matter Raised to World Stage

The matter was suddenly raised to the heights of the world stage! It was no longer a question of a Honduran passport, but of the parceling of the U. S. S. R. and even the defeat of the United States of America. With the aid of a gigantic elevator the plot ascends during a period of five months from the dirty police dregs to the heights on which are decided the destinies of nations. Zinoviev, Kamenev, Smirnov, Mratchkovsky, went to their graves without knowing of these grandiose schemes, alliances and perspectives. Such is the fundamental falsehood of the last amalgam!

"In order to hide, even if only slightly, the glaring contradiction between the two trials, Piatakov and Radek testified, under the dictation of the GPU, that they had formed a 'parallel' center, in view of Trotsky's lack of confidence in Zinoviev and Kamenev. It is difficult to imagine a more stupid and deceitful explanation! I really did not have confidence in Zinoviev and Kamenev after their capitulation, and I have had no connection with them since 1927. But I had still less confidence in Radek and Piatakov.

"Already in 1929 Radek delivered into the hands of the G. P. U. the oppositionist Blumkin, who was shot silently and without trial. Here is what I wrote then in 'The Bulletin of the Russian Opposition' which appears abroad: 'After having lost the last remnants of moral equilibrium, Radek does not stop at any objection.'

"It is outrageous to be forced to cite such harsh statements about the unfortunate victims of Stalin. But it would be criminal to hide the truth out of sentimental considerations.

... Radek and Piatakov themselves regarded Zinoviev and Kamenev with haughty superiority, and in this self-appreciation they were not mistaken.

FEB 10 1937

#### Asnally Ambassador Trovayonov

"But more than that. At the time of the trial of the sixteen the prosecutor named Smirnov as the 'leader of the Trotskyites in the U. S. S. R.' The accused Mratchkovsky, as a proof of his proximity to me, declared that I was accessible only through his intermediation, and the prosecutor in his turn emphasized this fact. How, then, was it possible that not only Zinoviev and Kamenev, but Smirnov the 'leader of the Trotskyites in the U. S. S. R.' and Mratchkovsky as well, knew nothing of the plans about which I had instructed Badek, openly branded by me as a traitor? Such is the primary falsehood of the last trial. It appears by itself in broad daylight. We know its source. We see the strings off stage. We see the brutal hand which pulls them."

Regarding the alleged alliance between the Trotskyists and "Hitler and Japan," Trotsky said:

"The opposition would have to be composed of cretins to think that an alliance with Hitler or the Mikado, both of whom are doomed to defeat in the next war, that such an absurd, inconceivable, senseless alliance could yield to revolutionary Marxists anything but disgrace and ruin. On the other hand, such an alliance—of the Trotskyites with Hitler—was most necessary for Stalin. Voltaire says: 'If God did not exist, it would be necessary to invent him.' The G. P. U. says: 'If the alliance does not exist, it is necessary to fabricate it.'"

Trotsky's conviction was that the defendants were influenced not at all by their "Russian soul" but were manipulated as "puppets in the hands of the GPU."

"They play assigned roles," he said. "The aim of the disgraceful performance: to eliminate the whole opposition, to poison the very source of critical thought, to definitely ensconce the totalitarian regime of Stalin."

Trotsky listed Alexander Troyanovsky, Soviet Ambassador in Washington, as one of his accusers and said:

"He, himself, during the first years of the October revolution, was a member of the central committee of the Mensheviks and joined the Bolsheviks only after they began to distribute attractive posts."

#### Local Communists Expel Suspects

Israel Amter, state organizer of the Communist Party, revealed yesterday that local Communists were carrying on a purge of their own. Five party members suspected of pro-Trotsky sympathies have been ousted during the past six months, he said.

"In every instance they were white collar people," he added.

Mr. Amter said he had passed the word along to the city's 20,000 party members and promised that none of them would turn up at the Hippodrome. The Communists were holding rallies of their own in the Bronx, one at the Bronx Winter Garden, Washington and Tremont Avenues; the second at Grand Plaza, 221 East 140th Street, and the third at Paradise Manor, 11 West Mt. Eden Avenue, where Mr. Amter himself was the chief speaker.

#### Among the 6,000 Who Didn't Hear Trotsky Talk



Herald Tribune photo—Acme  
In the sea of faces at the Hippodrome gathering last night

# TROTSKY WIRE TALK SILENCED; SPEECH READ

Mysterious wire trouble somewhere south of the border last night blocked Leon Trotsky's scheduled telephone speech from Mexico City to an audience of 5,000 in the Hippodrome.

A voice thought to be his, speaking faintly in Russian, came through at 10:10 P. M., but a moment later an amplified click and rumble broadcast the fact that the connection had been broken.

While efforts were made to locate Trotsky in Mexico, Max Schachtman, the exiled Bolshevik's American representative, announced that he had definite information that the telephone wires to America had been cut.

## Proposed Reading Is Boomed.

He put a motion to the audience proposing to have Trotsky's speech read, and although the resolution was defeated by a unanimous chorus of boos, he finally decided to read it.

In the midst of the reading, contact with Trotsky was finally established. He had driven to a telephone in Mexico City from the suburban home of Diego Rivera, painter, where he is a guest.

## Speaks in Russian.

Speaking in Russian, Trotsky declared:

"I am deeply regretful that I have been unable to communicate directly with your meeting. The technical arrangements here were extremely poor, and I am extremely unhappy to have been unable to go through with the arrangements made. Between your meeting and me lie defects of a technical nature. I send you my heartiest and fraternal greetings."

He made no charge that the telephone wire had been cut earlier.

## Challenge to Stalin.

His speech, which Schachtman read, was a bold, dramatic challenge to Moscow. In it he promised to place himself "voluntarily in the hands of the executioners of the GPU" if found guilty by an impartial commission of plotting against the Soviet regime.

As read by Schachtman, Trotsky declared:

"I make this declaration before the entire world. But if the commission establishes that the Moscow trials are a conscious and premeditated frame-up, conducted with the bones and nerves of human beings, I will not ask my accusers to place themselves voluntarily before a firing squad. No, the eternal disgrace in the memory of human generations will be sufficient for them."

## Charges GPU Inquisitions.

Trotsky's speech was prepared in defense of charges at the recent terror trials that he conspired with seventeen defendants to assassinate Josef Stalin and other Soviet leaders, and connived with Japan and Germany.

NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Extraded by New York Office

FEB 10 1937

# TROTSKY PROMISES TO GIVE UP TO GPU IF PROVED GUILTY

6,000 in Hippodrome to Hear  
Over Phone Demand for In-  
quiry Into His Innocence

## CALLS RUSSIA 'MADHOUSE'

Charges Stalin Has Betrayed  
Revolution—Rally Here Is  
Heavily Guarded

In a speech prepared for delivery before more than 6,000 at the Hippodrome last night, Leon Trotsky, exiled Bolshevik leader and closest co-worker of Lenin in the October Revolution, declared that he stood ready to surrender himself to the Soviet Government if an impartial court found him guilty of the charges of terrorist conspiracy and treason on which he was recently tried in absentia in Moscow.

He demanded such an impartial investigation, offering to place before it conclusive proofs that the trials were frame-ups.

Mr. Trotsky was to speak over the long-distance telephone from Mexico, D. F., where he now lives. The meeting was under the auspices of the American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky. The purpose of the committee is to obtain an investigation of the trials by a nonpartisan commission.

### Plan for Inquiry Here

It was learned last night that prominent American lawyers, jurists and educators are being consulted by the committee on plans to have such an investigation held in New York City if permission can be obtained from Washington to have Trotsky come to the United States to testify. There is a possibility that the investigation may be held in Mexico if Mr. Trotsky is not admitted to this country.

Last night's meeting marked nearly twenty years to a day since Mr. Trotsky left New York to help overthrow the Kerensky Government and play his rôle in the Russian Revolution. He spoke last night as the fallen revolutionary hero, driven from power and denounced by the government of Joseph Stalin as a conspirator against the revolution.

Leading Bolsheviks, including leaders who helped Lenin and Trotsky establish the Soviet régime, confessed in the recent Moscow trials that they conspired with Trotsky in plans to assassinate Stalin and other Soviet leaders and, under Trotsky's direction, waged a concerted campaign of industrial sabotage and engaged in plots with Germany and Japan for the betrayal of their country.

### Calls Charges Preposterous

In his address Trotsky termed the accusations preposterous, called the trials "a conscious and premeditated frame-up" and argued that the confessions of the accused were not genuine. He characterized Stalinist Russia as a "madhouse," and attacked those who would explain the confessions by reference to the mysteries of the "Russian soul." In this connection, he assailed among others, Walter Duranty, Moscow correspondent of *The New York Times*.

"No, the Messieurs Duranty tell us, it is not a madhouse, but the 'Russian soul.' You lie, gentlemen, about the Russian soul. You lie about the human soul in general."

### Police Guard Meeting

Because of the bitter hostility prevailing between Stalinists and Trotskyists and reported plans of the Communist party to break up the meeting, the police took elaborate precautions to guard against disorder. More than 500 policemen in charge of Inspector Louis F. Schilling were on duty at the Hippodrome and outside to prevent disorder.

Mr. Trotsky's address in English lasted forty-five minutes. He also spoke for fifteen minutes in Russian. Preceding his address there were speeches by Angelica Balabanoff, first secretary of the Communist International; Max Schachtman, Mr. Trotsky's American representative, and George Novack, secretary of the Trotsky defense committee.

Committee.

Mr. Trotsky opened his address by apologizing for his "impossible England" and declared that he would appeal, not to the passions of the audience but to its reason.

"The Zinovieff-Kameneff trial provoked in public opinion terror, agitation, indignation, distrust or at least perplexity," Mr. Trotsky said. "The trial of Piatakov-Radek has once more enforced these sentiments. Such is the incontestable fact. A doubt of justice signifies, in this case, a suspicion of frame-up. Can one find a more humiliating suspicion against a government which appear under the banner of socialism? Where do the interests of the Soviet Government itself lie? In dispelling these suspicions. What is the duty of the true friends of the Soviet Union? To say firmly to the Soviet Government: It is necessary at all costs to dispel the distrust of the Western world for Soviet justice.

"To answer to this demand: 'We have our justice, the rest does not concern us much' is to occupy oneself not with the Socialist enlightenment of the masses, but with the policies of inflated prestige, in the style of Hitler and Mussolini.

### Demands Soviet Evidence

"Even the 'Friends of the U. S. S. R.' who are convinced in their own hearts of the justice of the Moscow trials (and how many are there?—what a pity that one cannot take a census of consciences), even these unshakable friends of the bureaucracy are duty-bound to demand with us the creation of an authorized commission of inquiry. The Moscow authorities must present to such a commission all the necessary testimonies. There can evidently be no lack of them, since it was on the basis of those given that forty-nine persons were shot in the Kiroff trials, without counting the 150 who were shot without trial."

Charging that up to now the Mos-

THE NEW YORK TIMES

Published by New York Office

FEB 10 1937



ow government "has brutally re-  
acted every examination which  
would carry with it guarantees of  
objectivity and impartiality," in-  
cluding demands for an impartial  
inquiry by the Socialist and Trade  
Union Internationals. Mr. Trotsky  
challenged the Stalin régime to  
present to an impartial interna-  
tional commission "serious, precise  
and concrete explanations" of the  
"obscure spots" of the Moscow  
trials.

"And apart from these obscure  
spots there is—alas—nothing!" he  
declared. "That is precisely why  
Moscow resorts to all kinds of  
measures to force me, the principal  
accused, to keep my silence. Why  
does Moscow so fear the voice of a  
single man? Only because I know  
the truth, the whole truth. Only  
because I have nothing to hide.  
Only because I am ready to appear  
before a public and impartial com-  
mission of inquiry with documents,  
facts and testimonies in my hands,  
and to disclose the truth to the  
very end. I declare: if this com-  
mission decides that I am guilty in  
the slightest degree of the crimes  
which Stalin imputes to me, I  
pledge in advance to place myself  
voluntarily in the hands of the ex-  
ecutioners of the GPU. Do the ac-  
cusers of the Kremlin hear me? I  
throw my defiance in their faces.  
And I await their reply!"

"Through this declaration I reply  
in passing to the frequent objec-  
tions of superficial sceptics: 'Why  
must we believe Trotsky and not  
Stalin?' It is absurd to busy one's  
self with psychological divinations.  
It is not a question of personal  
confidence. It is a question of  
verification! I propose a verifica-  
tion! I demand the verification!"

#### Hold's Confessions False

Assailing the contentions of  
"hypocritical psychologists," among  
whom he named Mr. Duranty,  
who try to explain the confessions  
of the accused in the Moscow trials  
by references to the "Russian  
soul," Mr. Trotsky declared that  
the prosecution could not prove  
that the "subjective confessions"  
were genuine, and "in harmony  
with the objective facts."

"I undertake a much more diffi-  
cult task," he said. "I undertake  
to demonstrate that each of the  
confessions is false, that is, con-  
tradicts reality." He then entered  
into an analysis of certain impor-  
tant aspects of the testimony, de-  
claring that he had conclusive  
proof, documentary and through  
witnesses, that such testimony was  
false. Among the important points  
he discussed was the testimony in  
the Zinovieff trial last August that  
Zhdoff, Mr. Trotsky's son, had  
come from Berlin in December,  
1932, to conspire with him and some  
of the accused in Copenhagen, and

the testimony of Piatakoff, in the  
more recent trial that he had con-  
ferred with Trotsky in Oslo. On  
both these crucial points, as on  
others, there is incontrovertible  
evidence that the testimony was  
false, he asserted.

He scored the failure of the prose-  
cution to produce any evidence to  
corroborate the "forced confes-  
sions."

"The executions are based exclu-  
sively on forced confessions," he  
declared. "And when facts are  
mentioned in these confessions  
they crumble to dust at the first  
contact with critical examination.  
The G. P. U. is not only guilty of  
frame-up. It is guilty of concocting  
a rotten, gross, foolish frame-up.  
If one carefully compares the fas-  
tastic nature of the accusation in  
its entirety with the manifest false-  
hoods of the factual depositions,  
what is left of all these monotonous  
confessions? The suffocating odor  
of the inquisitorial tribunal—and  
nothing more."

#### Scores Stalin Régime

Trotsky in closing assailed the  
Stalin régime for betraying Social-  
ism and dishonoring the revolution.  
He pictured the Stalin government  
as dominated by a clique which  
holds the people in subjection by  
oppression and terror.

He predicted that, should fascism  
be defeated in Spain and the cause  
of the workers triumph also in  
France, there will be profound po-  
litical changes in Soviet Russia. On  
the other hand, he feared that the  
victory of the Rebel forces in Spain  
would also signify grave danger for  
the Soviet Union.

The Moscow trials, he said, are a  
signal calling for opposition to the  
Stalin régime.

"Woe to them who do not heed,"  
he said. "The Reichstag trial  
surely had a great importance.  
But it concerned only vice fascism,  
this embodiment of all the vices of  
darkness and barbarism. The Mos-  
cow trials are perpetrated under  
the banner of socialism. We will  
not concede this banner to the  
masters of falsehood! If our  
generation happens to be too weak  
to establish socialism over the  
earth, we will hand the spotless  
banner down to our children. The  
struggle which is in the offing  
transcends by far the importance  
of individuals, fractions and par-  
ties. It is the struggle for the  
future of all mankind. It will be  
severe. It will be lengthy. Who  
seeks physical comfort and spiritual

calm, let him step aside. In the  
of reaction it is more convenient  
to lean on the bureaucracy than on  
the truth. But all those for whom  
the word socialism is not a  
hollow sound but the content of  
their moral life—forward! Neither  
threats, nor persecutions, nor viola-  
tions can stop us! Be it even over  
our bleaching bones, the truth will  
triumph! We will blaze the trail  
for it. It will conquer! Under all  
the severe blows of fate, I shall be  
happy, as in the best days of my  
youth, if together with you I can  
contribute to its victory."

# Mexico Holds Ax Assailant

## Specialists Sought To Save Bolshevik

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 21 (U.P.). Negotiations have been started in hope of bringing an eminent brain specialist either from New York or Los Angeles by airplane to save the life of Leor Trotsky, 60, exiled Bolshevik war lord, it was learned today.

Trotsky lay in a hospital here with one chance in ten for surviving an assassination attempt by a trusted associate whom his entourage now suspect of being an operative of the Russian secret police.

### Police Quiz Blonde

Trotsky's mystery man assailant lay in the same hospital, having been severely wounded by Harold Robbins, head guard at the fortified Trotsky villa in the Coyoacan suburb where the attack was made.

The assailant, a trusted friend who had been given the freedom of the villa, was known as Frank Jackson, an American, and was said to have an American wife. But he told Gen. Manuel Nunez, police chief, at the hospital, that he was Jacques Mornard, van den Dreschd, 36, born at Teheran, Persia, of Belgian parents, a newspaperman by profession.

Police said that they were questioning Sylvia Ageloff, 30, a striking blonde with blue eyes, reported to be a native Russian and a naturalized American. She refused to talk to newspapermen. Hatless, she wore octagonal eye glasses with a smart tailored gray suit, white blouse, and coffee-colored stockings.

It was reported she and Dreschd met in Paris two years ago. They had been seen together frequently here and it was reported they had visited the United States recently.

61-1011-1-1  
Aug 21 1940

**BULLETIN**

# Trotsky Dies After Attack By Follower

**Assaulted in Home  
During Argument;  
Assailant Held**

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 21 (UP).—Leon Trotsky died here early tonight.

Trotsky, who had undergone two brain operations in an effort to save his life, died at 7:25 P. M. (9:25 P. M. EDT.)

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 21 (UP).—Leon Trotsky lay close to death today as physicians sought to save his life.

Trotsky's condition was becoming rapidly worse despite an emergency operation.

Trotsky's assailant lay in the same hospital, having been severely wounded by Harold Robins, head guard at the fortified Trotsky villa in the Coyocacan suburb where the attack was made.

### TRUSTED FRIEND

The assailant, a trusted friend who had been given the freedom of the villa, was known as Frank Jackson, an American, and was said to have an American wife. But he told Gen. Manuel Nunez, police chief, at the hospital that he was Jacques van den Drecht, 36, born in Tehran, Persia, of Belgian parents, a newspaperman by profession. He told Gen. Nunez also "I would give my life blood for Trotsky." K

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INDEXED

EX-100-117

Daily Worker  
8-22-40

August 22, 1940

# Trotsky's Death-Bed Statement Blames Slaying on Ogpu

## Mexican Police Describe Pickax Assailant as American Citizen

By the Associated Press.

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 22.—Leon Trotsky, world-famed leader of the Russian revolution, died last night, the victim of a pickax assassin, whom the goateed little revolution-ary accused of being a tool of the "Ogpu or a Fascist—most likely the Ogpu."

The leader of the Fourth International, who long feared "death at the hands of Stalin," made his accusation against the dread Russian secret police on his death bed. He succumbed to head wounds inflicted Tuesday.

An exile from Russia since 1923 and a refugee in Mexico since January 9, 1937, the former Soviet War Commissar lay today in a casket to which was pinned his last words: "I am sure of the final victory of the Fourth International. Go forward."

"Aspects of International Plot."

Coupled with the 60-year-old revolutionary's accusation against the Ogpu was the statement of Police Comdr. Jesus Galindo that his assassination "has the aspects of an international plot."

The police chief declined to elaborate on his statement concerning the fatal attack on Trotsky, the second within recent months.

Trotsky's brain was pierced by a pickax wielded by Frank Jackson, who for months posed as a "great admirer" of the chieftain of the Fourth International. Jackson was

TROTSKY, Page A-12

## Trotsky

(Continued From First Page.)

at first identified as "Jacques Vandendreschd."

Jackson, beaten by guards, was taken to the same hospital where Trotsky died.

Trotsky's associates, as well as Trotsky himself, charged Joseph Stalin, head of the Soviet Union and long-time political foe of Trotsky, and the OGPU, with responsibility for the second assault on Trotsky within three months. May 24 he escaped harm in a machine-gun attack, for which more than 20 Mexicans were arrested.

Jackson confessed immediately after the assault Tuesday night, but police resumed their questioning a few hours after Trotsky died.

In his first statement Jackson said he decided to kill Trotsky after being "disillusioned" by the Russian's recently expressed political views. Police said they would publish his latest statement, perhaps tomorrow. They added that Jackson was not a Belgian, as he claimed, but an American citizen formerly of New York City.

Police also detained a woman listed as Sylvia Agaloff of Brooklyn, N. Y., whom they said was Jackson's sweetheart, but whom Trotsky's associates said they thought was Jackson's wife.

She said she was unaware of any assassination plot and wept as she recalled she had introduced Jackson to Trotsky. She said she was a sister of a former secretary of the exiled Russian.

Mrs. Trotsky Weeps Softly.

Mrs. Trotsky and surgeons were in Trotsky's tiny hospital room when he died. Mrs. Trotsky wept softly and said "That is life."

At first the hospital said the body would be kept there over night for an autopsy but early today—after a death mask had been made by the noted Mexican sculptor, Ignacio Asunsuio—it was removed to the chapel of a private funeral home to lie in state.

President Lazaro Cardenas, who gave Trotsky refuge after Norway expelled him at Russia's behest, sent Gen. Hernandez Lamont, a member of his official staff, and three aides to the chapel to pay Mexico's respects. The officers took a turn at standing guard of honor.

Lamont said he brought a "personal message of condolence from the President" for Mrs. Trotsky. She went to the home of friends to spend last night.

Funeral Plans Uncertain.

Funeral plans were uncertain. Some of Trotsky's aides said burial

(Continued on next page)

"very likely" would be in Mexico City, but definite plans had not been made.

In New York James Cannon, secretary of the Socialist Workers party in the United States—and mentioned by certain Trotsky followers as likely new head of the Fourth International—said:

"We plan to hold the funeral here to give the working people of New York an opportunity to show their reverence for the memory of this great leader and their hatred and contempt for Stalinism."

In the chapel, Trotsky's face showed through a glass cover of the casket. A satin coverlet extended to the chest, over which his hands lay folded. The bandage still remained on his head, but a deep gash showed over the right ear where the assassin drove the pick into his brain.

The face of the goateed little Russian appeared pale.

#### Crowd Gathers.

On the wall was a red banner of the Mexican section of the Fourth International.

Despite the late hour at which the body reached the chapel, a crowd gathered and moved slowly through the chapel for the remainder of the night. In death the Mexican public saw much more of Trotsky than it did in life. He was a virtual prisoner in his own walled-in house in nearby Coyoacan—mortally fearful of "death at the hands of Stalin."

Police stood guard inside and outside the chapel.

### Slayer Admits Acting For OGPU, Lawyer Says

CHICAGO, Aug. 22 (AP).—Albert Goldman, American attorney for Leon Trotsky, asserted here that the assailant of the exiled Bolshevik leader had admitted acting as an agent of the Soviet Russian secret police.

"I talked by telephone with Trotsky guards shortly after the attack," Mr. Goldman said in an interview last night on arriving from New York by plane. "They told me that Vandendrielschd admitted he had been ordered by the OGPU to kill Trotsky or forfeit the life of his mother in Russia."

Mr. Goldman learned of Trotsky's death on his arrival. He later boarded a plane for Mexico City, where he hoped to question the assailant, Jacques Vandendrielschd, also known as "Frank Jackson."

Mr. Goldman said Trotsky's slaying might dispel the mystery surrounding the attempt on Trotsky's life at his Mexico City home last May.

### Kerensky Holds Trotsky Victim of Own Methods

NEW YORK, Aug. 22 (AP).—Alexander Kerensky, Russian leader whose revolution overthrew the czarist government, said today that Leon Trotsky, "most merciless of all bolshevist terrorists, died by the same means he sponsored."

He agreed with Trotsky, however, that Trotsky's death was dictated by Stalin.

"He was the victim of the system of secret police instituted by him and Lenin against all opponents," Kerensky continued, describing Trotsky as an "admirer of the terroristic system of government."

Kerensky, who voiced his opinions in a press conference, asserted that this "is not the first assassination by Stalin and his agents. In 1937 Stalin's agents assassinated a man of great influence in Switzerland, while in Paris two White Russian generals were killed by bolsheviki secret police."

### Moscow Press Prints Short Story of Attack

MOSCOW, Aug. 22 (AP).—The attack on Leon Trotsky in Mexico City was disclosed to the Russian public today by a seven-line dispatch in the newspapers, but up to noon his death had not been announced.

A Tass official Soviet news agency dispatch from New York merely quoted United States newspapers as reporting an attempt on the exiled Communist leader's life.

# Girl Linked in Trotsky Death Is New York Social Worker

## She Faces Quiz On Return Home

NEW YORK, Aug. 22 (C.T. P.S.).—Sylvia Ageloff, the blonde psychologist who told Mexican police she was an unconscious "instrument in the hands" of Trotsky's assassin, was revealed here today as a social investigator for the New York City department of Welfare. In fact, home relief officials said, Sylvia is at present on a vacation which started August 1, and from which she was due back on the job "within a day or two."

Miss Ageloff, who receives \$1,500 a year from the city, was appointed to the Civil Service rolls on May 18, 1939, one of eight high-ranking contestants among 25,000 persons who took the examinations.

### Reported Married

City officials knew nothing of any political activity on her part, although when she was absent last January, February, and March on a sick leave, women associates received several postcards from her in Mexico. Her record shows her listed as single. The Department of Welfare, while not contemplating any disciplinary action, will question her on her return as to whether she is married. Reports from Mexico declare her to be the wife of Frank Johnson, Trotsky's slayer.

Sylvia was born August 1, 1909. She attended Brooklyn public schools, received a B.S. degree from New York University in June 1930, and obtained her M.A. from Columbia four years later.

### Public Funeral Planned

She majored in psychology. For the year ending September 1932 she did social work for the Jewish Children's Clearing Bureau. From June 1934 to June 1936 she worked at the Jewish Hospital, Brooklyn, as a volunteer. From 1936 to 1938 she was a clinical psychologist for the board of education.

While Sylvia underwent police grilling in Mexico City, local Trotskyites tentatively planned a large public funeral here for their idol. James P. Cannon, national secretary of the Socialist Workers' Party, wants Trotsky's body "cremated and given to the sea—since Trotsky belonged to the whole world."

Alexander Kerensky, who headed the first Russian government after the Czarist fall, declared Trotsky was the "victim of his own system."

"Merciless Terrorist"

Kerensky, a guest of Kenneth P. Simpson, Republican leader, declared: "Trotsky was the creator and organizer of..."



S.P. Sound Photo  
SYLVIA AGELOFF  
Faces quiz in New York

## Pound Seeks New Dog Truck

### Marks Submits Budget for 1'

Three more dogs new truck to replace sole machine and master Frank M. 1942 budget submitted the District Co

Two dogs cats to operate the while the this from 4 p.m. Marks all restored to lional \$1' raises for Total is \$16,78 A net \$3,800 budget mission An em mission technb Total \$76,30

## Ron Iroi

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10

# Trotsky's Bier Coming to U. S.

## So Says Leading American Disciple

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 23 (I.N.S.). The body of Leon Trotsky will be taken to the United States before being buried in Mexico, Albert Goldman, of Chicago, leading American Trotskyite, said today.

One thousand persons, including the ex-Soviet leader's widow, heard Goldman denounce Dictator Josef Stalin as the "murdered" of Trotsky.

At the same time, Mexican police tried to solve the motives behind Trotsky's assassination. Strong guards were posted around Trotsky's confessed slayer, Frank Jackson, and his friend, Sylvia Ageloff, of Brooklyn.

Miss Ageloff, whose father was reported en route to Mexico City, was reported on the verge of collapse.

Examination of both Jackson and the girl was said to have given police little information apart from the contradictory explanation given by Jackson for his pickax attack on the former Soviet war commissar.

Nevertheless, some official investigators echoed charges made by Trotsky on his deathbed and by his secretaries that Trotsky was the victim of an international "plot"—perhaps at behest of the Soviet secret police.

*Frank Jackson*

*KRM*

23

Cover 100 Sylvia AGELOFF

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION  
KEEP ENVELOPE ATTACHED

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

JEDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR FBI

WASHINGTON D.C.

SOCIAL WORKERS IN D.C.

PUBLIC WELFARE ARE

ARRIVED TO OR LEAVING

WITH OTHER WHO FOR

TWO W THREE WEEKS

BEEN GOING TO NEED CO

TO SEE OR SPY ON

TRAVELING IN THE AREA OF ALL

CITIES - Sylvia AGELOFF

AS NO EXCEPTION

W THIS GIRL'S ITINERARY

FOR THE (COMMUNIST)

W. G. F. to

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RECORDED & INDEXED

65-21162-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

6 AUG 28 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AUG 28 RECD

FILE



# NEWS BULLETIN

WV 2/3  
Given to

## AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE OF LEON TROTSKY

22 East 17th Street, Room 511, New York City

Telephone: GRamercy 7-602

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Edmund Wilson  
Charles Erskine  
Scott Wood

This Committee Exists (1) To Safeguard Trotsky's Right to Asylum and (2) to further the Organization of an Impartial Commission of Inquiry.

BULLETIN No. 3.

357

FEBRUARY 3, 1935

## MOSCOW DEFENDANTS SHOT DESPITE WEIGHTY COUNTER-EVIDENCE GIVEN BY NORWEGIAN

### Demand For Check On Facts Unheeded

By LEON TROTSKY

MEXICO, D. F., Jan. 27.—All the accusations are based exclusively upon the confessions of the defendants; no objective evidence whatsoever is at the disposition of the court. Consequently one must ask: Are the defendants' confessions true, or are they the result of a preliminary agreement extorted by the accusers from the accused? The fate of the trial and the world reputation of Moscow justice, on the one hand, and of the movement to which I adhere, on the other, depend on the solution of this fundamental enigma. No efforts must be spared to reveal the truth. Is this aim obtainable? Completely, and without great difficulty. The question is posed as follows: do the subjective confessions correspond to objective facts or are they the products of malicious fabrication divorced from time and space?

I propose immediately, before the trial is terminated, to choose the most striking and important confession and submit it to factual verification. This procedure would require scarcely more than forty-eight hours.

We are concerned here with the confession of Piatakov. He testified that he visited me in Norway in December, 1935, for the purpose of conspiratorial plotting. Piatakov alleged that he came from Berlin to Oslo by airplane. The enormous importance of this testimony is evident. I declared many times, and I repeat again, that Piatakov, like Radek, has been during the last nine years not my friend but my bitterest and most perfidious enemy, and that there could be no question of negotiations between us. If it should be proved that Piatakov actually visited me, my position would be hopelessly compromised. If, on the contrary, I can prove that the story of the visit is false from beginning to end, the entire system of "voluntary" confessions would be thoroughly discredited. Even if we should admit that the Moscow trial is beyond all suspicion, the defendant Piatakov remains suspect. His testimony must be verified immediately, before he is shot, by putting to him the following series of questions:

1. On what day did Piatakov come from Moscow to Berlin, in December, 1935? What was his official mission? Piatakov is too important an administrative figure to make the trip in such a manner that it would not be known to the Soviet government. The day of his departure must be known in his Commissariat. The German press must have announced his arrival.

(Continued on Page 2)

### Why?

Georgyi Piatakov and 12 other defendants in the recent Moscow trial were shot twenty-four hours after an official announcement was made in Oslo proving Piatakov's "confession" was false.

Five days before the executions, while the trial was still in progress, Trotsky publicly asked for factual verification of Piatakov's decisive testimony concerning his airplane trip to Oslo. He listed 13 specific points, which could be checked and counter-checked with Piatakov and with officials and others in Norway. He asked that this check be made before Piatakov was shot.

Acting on their own initiative the Oslo authorities conducted an investigation of their own and announced to the world that no such airplane as that described by Piatakov in his "confession" ever came to Oslo.

This information was officially wired to Andrey Vishinsky, the Soviet prosecutor, on Jan. 31.

Nevertheless on Feb. 1 Piatakov and the others were shot!

What did the Moscow prosecutors fear?

The day before the executions the American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky wired to Stalin himself asking for a stay of sentence for the accused "pending investigation by an impartial commission of inquiry composed of genuine friends of the Soviet Union." This appeal too went unheeded.

We repeat: What are the Moscow authorities afraid of?

Why do they hasten to shoot men although the most serious doubt has been raised as to the validity of their testimony?

These questions can only be answered when all the evidence has been studied and sifted by a group of men in whom world public opinion can put its unquestioning trust. This means the creation of an IMPARTIAL COMMISSION OF INQUIRY!

### RUSH FUNDS!!

Do you want to continue receiving bulletins like this?

Money Is Needed!

Send your Contributions to  
SUZANNE LAFOLLETTE, Treasurer  
American Committee for the Defense of  
Leon Trotsky  
Room 511, 22 East 17 St., New York City

### Piatakov's "Airplane Trip" Proved Phony

(By Special Cable)

OSLO, Jan. 31.—The Norwegian authorities today announced that private or foreign plane landed dur December, 1935, at Kjeller Airp where Georgyi Piatakov said he arri in a private German plane to see L Trotsky.

Investigation of the official air records, it was officially announ- proved conclusively that Piatakov testimony was false.

These official findings were wired Andrey Vishinsky by Konrad Knudsen, editor of the Norwegian Party organ at Honefoss, who is Trotsky's host during his stay in Norway.

Knudsen also informed Vishinsky that he was personally ready to testify, as Trotsky's host, that Piatakov never came to his home to see Trotsky.

This information was recognized here a decisive blow at the whole structure of the case against Leon Trotsky as the "liar" of the supposed conspiracies described during the recent Moscow trials.

It was through Piatakov that Trotsky was supposed to have given his "testimonies" concerning sabotage in the industry. Other alleged links between Trotsky and the conspirators existed, but claimed in the form of letters. Not one of these letters, it was pointed out, was produced as evidence.

"Pure Invention," Says Herald

LONDON, Jan. 29.— Investigation in Oslo which prove that no private plane reached there from Berlin or anywhere in December, 1935, practically destroys "confession" of Georgyi Piatakov at the Moscow trial, the Daily Herald, Labor Party organ, declared today.

"It has been established by the Norwegian press (announced officially two days later—Ed.) that in December no private plane came to Oslo from Berlin," the Herald said. "This is one point—but in this important point the 'confession' can be proved to be pure invention, and that proves the whole of it of any value as evidence."

## HEAR TROTSKY AT THE N. Y. HIPPODROME, ON FEBRUARY 9

25

(Continued from Page 1)

2. Did Piatakov visit the Soviet Embassy in Berlin? Whom did he meet?

3. When and how did he fly from Berlin to Oslo? If he came to Berlin openly, he must have left secretly; it is impossible to conceive of the Soviet government sending Piatakov to plot with Trotsky.

4. What kind of passport did Piatakov use when he left Berlin? How did he obtain this false passport? Did he also obtain a Norwegian visa?

5. If we admit for a moment that Piatakov embarked upon this trip legally and openly, his arrival must have been announced in the Norwegian press. In that case, who were the Norwegian authorities whom he must have visited officially?

6. If Piatakov came to Oslo illegally, with a false passport, how did he succeed in disappearing from the keen eyes of the Soviet officials in Berlin and Oslo? (Every Soviet administrator abroad remains in permanent telegraphic and telephonic communication with the embassies and commercial agencies of the U.S.S.R.) How did he explain his disappearance upon his return to Russia?

7. At what time did Piatakov arrive in Oslo? Did he pass the night in the town, and if so, in what hotel? (We hope it was not in the Bristol Hotel.) The well-known Norwegian paper Aftenposten affirms that at the time mentioned by Piatakov, no foreign plane landed in Oslo. This must be verified.

8. Did Piatakov inform me beforehand of his contemplated visit by the regular telegraphic channels of communication? This can easily be verified in the telegraphic offices of Oslo and Honefoss.

9. How did Piatakov locate me in the village Veksal? What means of transportation did he use?

10. The trip from Oslo to my village required at least two hours; the conversation, according to Piatakov, took three hours; and the return trip required two more hours. December days are short; Piatakov must inevitably have passed one night in Norway. Again: where? In what hotel? How did he depart from Oslo: by train, ship, or airplane? For what destination?

11. All of my visitors will confirm that it was possible to come in contact with me only through the members of the family of our host, Knudsen, or through my secretaries, who remained on permanent guard duty before my room. With whom did Piatakov meet?

12. In what way did Piatakov make the trip in the evening from Veksal to the station of Honefoss: in the automobile of our host Knudsen, or by taxi summoned by telephone by Honefoss? In either case, the departure, like the arrival, could not have been accomplished without witnesses.

13. Did Piatakov also meet my wife? Was she at home on the day in question? (My wife's trips to her doctor and dentist in Oslo can easily be established.)

It is necessary to add that the appearance of Piatakov is striking and easily remembered: tall, blond with tinges of red in his hair and beard; very regular features, high forehead, glasses, and very lean (in 1927, when I saw him for the last time, he was exceedingly thin).

Not only a lawyer, but every thinking man as well, will understand the decisive importance of these questions for the purpose of the verification of Piatakov's confessions. The Soviet government has the full possibility to utilize the services of Norwegian justice (it was obliged to do this even before the trial).

The authoritative political figures of Norway can immediately, without the slightest delay in waiting for the initiative of the Moscow court, create a special commission for the investigation of all the circumstances connected with the alleged arrival of Piatakov in Norway.

In passing, the same commission could investigate the matters concerning the accused Shestov, who is totally unknown to me, but who declared that he had received written instructions from me in Norway

# HEAR LEON TROTSKY

who will telephone his answer to his accusers in a one-hot speech to be heard only at the

## HIPPODROME

Sixth Avenue and 43rd Street

on

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, at 8 P. M.

Trotsky will speak in English for 45 minutes and in Russian for 15 minutes.

### Other Speakers

ANGELICA BALABANOFF

First Secretary of the Communist International

ROY BURT

National Executive Secretary, Socialist Party U.S.A.

MAX SHACHTMAN

Editor, Trotsky's Works

GEORGE NOVACK

Secretary, Trotsky Defense Committee

and other liberal and labor speakers.

TICKETS ON SALE AT ROOM 511, 22 E. 17 St.; LABOR BOOKSHOP, 23 East 12 Street; Call Bookstore, 21 East 17 Street; Columbia University Bookstore, and at the Hippodrome Box Office: Orchestra, \$1; Circle, 50c; Balcony, 25c.

Auspices:

AMERICAN COMMITTEE for the DEFENSE of LEON TROTSKY  
Room 511, 22 East 17 Street, New York City

## MASS MEETINGS on the MOSCOW TRIALS

### CHICAGO

NORMAN THOMAS

Socialist Leader

Albert Goldman

Editor, Socialist Appeal

FRANK McCULLOUGH

Chairman

CAPITOL BUILDING

150 North State Street

Drift Hall

SUNDAY, FEB. 14, 1937 - 8 P.M.

Auspices:

Socialist Party of Cook County, Ill.

### BOSTON

MAX SHACHTMAN

Editor, Trotsky's Works

Gus Tyler

Editor, Socialist Call

James Rorty

Writer, Lecturer, Journalist

Chairman

Richard Babb Whittier

Former Director Commonwealth College

OLD SOUTH MEETING HOUSE

Washington and Milk Street

FRIDAY, EVE., FEB. 12, 1937

8 P. M.

Auspices:

American Committee for the Defense of

Leon Trotsky

New England Sub-Committee

85 Leverett Street, Boston

(?) for Piatakov and concealed them in the soles of his shoes. When, how, and under what circumstances did he visit me? What Norwegian shoemaker concealed the alleged documents for him? How did Shestov find this conspiratorial shoemaker? And so on.

Are the president of the court and the prosecutor ready to put these cogent questions to Piatakov? Their attitude in this connection should be decisive for the trial in the eyes of all honest people throughout the world.

I hope that all the papers interested in the truth will publish this statement in full.

### HEARST REPUDIATED

The following telegram was received at Committee headquarters from Leon Trotsky:

"Rumors concerning articles sold to Hearst absolutely false. All articles and statements concerning the trial are not being sold but are given gratis to the press. They are not given to Hearst press and Universal cause of their connection and reaction throughout the world."  
Leon Trotsky

“Not within a generation has the American public been so completely mystified as over the Moscow trial.” — N. Y. World-Telegram.

*Is There A Solution?*

# LEON TROTSKY SPEAKS

on the

# MOSCOW TRIALS

In a One-Hour Exclusive Telephone Address

**DIRECT FROM MEXICO**

45 minutes in English      15 minutes in Russian  
(There will be no radio broadcast)

**OTHER SPEAKERS**

**ROY BURTT**

National Executive Secretary, Socialist Party,  
U.S.A.

**MAX SHACHTMAN**

Editor of Trotsky's writings, analyzing the trials

**ANGELICA BALABANOFF**

First Secretary of the Communist International

**GEORGE NOVACK**

Secretary, American Committee for the Defense of  
Leon Trotsky and others

**Tuesday, February 9, at 8 p. m.**

**NEW YORK HIPPODROME**

43rd Street & 6th Avenue

**Auspices: American Committee for the Defense of Leon Trotsky**  
**ADMISSION—\$1.00, 50 cents, 25 cents**

*Tickets* { HIPPODROME BOX OFFICE, 43rd Street and 6th Avenue  
Call Book Shop, 21 East 17th Street  
*On Sale* { Labor Book Shop, 28 East 12th Street  
Columbia University Book Shop, 2960 Broadway  
*At* { Committee Office, Room 511, 22 East 17th Street, N. Y. C.

**For an impartial investigation of the charges against Leon Trotsky!**  
**DOORS OPEN AT SEVEN O'CLOCK**

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. McDermott

FROM : W. L. Bailey

SUBJECT: JACQUES MORNARD VAN DENDRESCND  
(BUFILE 65-29162)

DATE: 9-4-75

During a survey conducted of all file material in the Filing Unit to establish a data base for the proposed File Automated Control System (FACS), an extensive number of enclosures behind file which bore no serial number were detected. Most of this material is very old and some may possibly be destroyed when time permits a review of these enclosures by the appropriate substantive desk supervisors. However, the immediate objective is to record this material in the data base now being prepared. A serial number is necessary to provide a means of entry and recall of such enclosures in the proposed automated file request system. Attached is one of these enclosure behind file envelopes which should be assigned the same serial number that is given to this cover memorandum to be placed on record in above-captioned case. It is to be noted this form is for internal use only within the Records Section and is to be filed without further routing after being placed on record and the enclosure detached. When the enclosure is detached for appropriate filing, this action should be clearly noted under the word "Enclosure."

RECOMMENDATION:

That this cover memorandum be placed on record as a not recorded "green" serial in above-captioned case in order to assign a serial number to the attached enclosure as indicated above.

Enclosure

WAA

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

NOT RECORDED

25 SEP 7 1975

20 SEP 5 1975

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



Mexico, D.F.  
June 4, 1940.

Re Communist Activities,  
Assault on Leon Trotsky.

The police have not uncovered a single clue that would point to the possible solution of the assault on Trotsky.

The case is in charge of Colonel Salazar, who was appointed Chief of Detectives during the shake up of the Police Department, for political and Revolutionary purposes; he has had no police experience whatever but he insists on personally handling this case, much to the disgust of one or two men in the Department who are really good officers.

The man I had hoped to work with quietly on this case had to leave Mexico on a confidential mission (Not connected with this case) and will return on the 16th. instant at which time we will follow out some well defined ideas that both of us have in connection with the matter.

Chief Salazar has announced in the press that his department is looking for Santiago Garces or Garcia, a Spanish refugee to question him about the Trotsky affair-the police have not yet located Garces.

uses  
Santiago Garces who also ~~uses~~ under the name of Garcia was the principal killer used by the Republican Army in Spain. He has boasted of committing over five hundred assassinations in Spain. He is reputed to be at the head of a Spanish "Checka" here with several hundred killers under his command. Previous reports have been submitted mentioning this individual

One of the servants of Trotsky has stated that one of the leaders of the assault spoke very good English and in that connection it is known that Garces speaks English fairly well. However in my opinion the most likely suspect along that line is Carlos Contreras whose real name is Sormenti and who has been mentioned as leading the purge of laborers from the communist party. This individual is a killer and a Spanish refugee and speaks excellent English.

Upon the return of my friend it is believed that we may have some luck in connection with this case.

Diego Rivera, who has been in hiding since his place was raided by the police, quietly left Mexico via Pan-American plane at 7:45 this morning enroute to San Francisco, Cal. He will be absent from Mexico until after the election in December. It is fortunate that he was able to get out as his life was really in danger here from more than one direction. The San Antonio office was advised of his contemplated departure and instructed to advise the Bureau. RECORDED & INDEXED *65-29162-1X2*

Attached hereto are translations of published articles and letters on Leon Trotsky.

COPIES DESTROYED

SEP 2 1960

From "El Universal" June 1, 1940:

LEON TROTSKY BLAMES STALIN FOR THE ATTACK

TELLS HOW THE C.G.P.U. FUNCTIONS

A PETITION SENT TO THE SECRETARY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS, TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND TO THE CHIEF OF POLICE

Mr. Leon Trotsky has sent us a copy of the following documents sent to high officials of the Mexican Government:

The Attorney General of the Republic.  
The Chief of Police, General Nuñez.  
The secretary of Foreign Relations.

During my interrogation by you on May 24, the representative of the Attorney General's office, among many others, asked upon whom my suspicions precisely rested as organizer of the attack. I gave a detailed explanation of the methods of organization of the C.G.P.U., answering that I suspected Stalin. This portion of my reply was completely excluded from the record, surely due to reasons of international etiquette or, perhaps, to technicalities of procedure. But, inasmuch as the authorities are interested, above all, in clearing up the crime, I believe that it is my duty to complete my brief declarations here, since, in my opinion, these statements are of definite importance in the general direction of the judicial investigation.

Above all, it is necessary to state that the attack could only originate at the Kremlin; only from Stalin by means of the foreign agency of the C.G.P.U. During the last two years Stalin has shot hundreds of real or alleged of my friends. In fact, he has exterminated my entire family except my wife and one of my grandchildren. In foreign countries, by means of his agents, he assassinated one of the former directors of the C.G.P.U., Ignacio Weiss, who had declared publicly that he was my friend. This fact has been recorded by the French police and Swiss courts. The same C.G.P.U. agents that killed Ignacio Weiss trailed my son in Paris. On the night of November 7, 1936 the agents of the C.G.P.U. broke into the Scientific Institute of Paris and stole a portion of my files. Two of my ex-secretaries, Erwin Voff and Hudolf Klement, were assassinated by agents of the C.G.P.U.: the first in Spain, and the second in Paris. All the theatrical processes in Moscow during the two years 1936-37 had as their final aim my delivery into the hands of the C.G.P.U. The summary of all these crimes could be considerably enlarged. They were all intended to bring about my physical annihilation. Behind all these acts is Stalin. The arm which appears in his hands is the Soviet secret police, rooted in all foreign countries and the C.G.P.U. To deny these well-known facts or to doubt them for a moment could only be the act of persons who are interested in obscuring the traces of past crimes.

193 SEP 2 1950

LIFE? DIVISION

I do not mean by this to say that it was not possible for the agents of the Gestapo, Hitler's secret police, to have taken part in the attack. At present, the C.G.P.U. and the Gestapo represent, up to a certain point, allied interests; it is possible and probable that in special cases the same agents are available to each for dangerous missions. From public statements made by responsible representatives of the German Government it is deduc-

ed that the assistance rendered me a danger of the two secret police forces is, in this completely possible. In any case the O.G.P.U. unquestionably directed it, inasmuch as to obtain my activities are of far more importance than to Butler.

The organization of the O.G.P.U. in foreign countries has its traditions and rules well established. Several very important collaborators of the O.G.P.U. (General Krivitsky, Ignacio Weiss and others) broke with the O.G.P.U. during recent years, and have made a series of disclosures which are of great importance. In these disclosures as well as other sources to which I have access I base my characterization of the methods of the O.G.P.U.

It is particularly important to establish categorically that the attitude of the O.G.P.U. is linked closely with the activity of the Comintern, rather with the apparatus, with its directors and its most trusted partisans. For its activities the O.G.P.U. needs legal or semi-legal protection and a sympathetic environment for recruiting its agents; this environment and protection it finds in the so-called "Communist" parties.

The general plan of foreign organization of the O.G.P.U. is as follows: in the Central Committee of each section of the Comintern enters a responsible director of the O.G.P.U. in that country. He is jointly informed only to secretary of the party and one or two of the most trusted members. The other components of the Central Committee can only guess at the exceptional position of such member. I have no special data regarding the functioning of this activity in Mexico. I do not know, however, that, as regards the methods of organization of the O.G.P.U., Mexico is not an exception.

As a member of the Central Committee the national resident of the O.G.P.U. is able to approach legally all the members of the party, study their characteristics, choose them for positions and, little by little, bring them to the work of espionage and terrorism, by calling upon their duty to the party, as well as by subornation.

All this mechanism was discovered in France and Switzerland in connection with the assassination of Ignacio Weiss and the reappearance of terrorist acts against my grandson and other persons. As regards the United States, Walter Krivitsky proved that the sister of the secretary general of the American Communist Party, Proder (sic) was, at the suggestion of her brother, in the service of the O.G.P.U. as a secret agent. This example does not represent an exception, but a rule.

All this leads to the belief that the principal organizers of the attack are from abroad. It is possible that they left Mexico after having prepared their enterprise and distributed the papers on the eve of the attack. Such a plan of action is a habit with the O.G.P.U. which, as a department of the government, is extraordinarily interested in leaving no trace whatsoever.

The foreign emissaries of the O.G.P.U. who come to a certain country, on a definite mission act always through the national resident of the O.G.P.U., the above mentioned member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party: without this, the foreign emissaries would be deprived of the possibility of orientation in national



conditions and find the necessary executioners to carry out their mission. The foreign emissary, together with the national resident and his most trusted associates, work over the general plan of the mission, they study the list of possible collaborators and, step by step, bring them near to the secret of the plan. In this technical work, the national resident and his secret general staff play the decisive role.

I have no data in regard to the true role of Sergeant Casas and the five policemen under his command who were charged with guarding the exterior of the house. I only know that they are under arrest. It is not possible to know whether or not they were dragged into the conspiracy: the O.G.P.U. has at its disposal such means of convincing, imposition and subornation, as, perhaps, has no other institution in the world. They might systematically insinuate to the police that I am an enemy of the Mexican people; they might have promised them a career under certain conditions; and, lastly, they might have offered them an exceptionally high price for their services. But the foreign agents could not have found the means of approaching the Mexican police; national agents were necessary. These agents of demoralization, subornation and preparation of the terrorist act must be sought in the Central Committee of the Communist Party, and around the edges of that same Central Committee.

The O.G.P.U. is greatly interested in politics as regards the question of preparation of public opinion for the terrorist act, especially if it concerns the assassination of persons well known in large circles of national and international public opinion. This portion of the task is always imposed upon the communist press, commun orators and the so-called "friends of Russia." From this point of view, the judicial investigation, it appears to me, must not overlook the work of the following newspapers: "El Popular," "La Voz de Mexico," and some editors of "El Nacional." I do not refer to the political criticism of my convictions, for such a criticism, even the most severe, is the most elementary right of each. Because neither "La Voz de Mexico" or "El Popular" have ever paid any attention to criticism. Their specialty, like that of some orators, particularly Mr. Lombardo/Toledano, during the three and a half years of my residence in Mexico, have continued a campaign of calumnies against me, incredible because of their rudeness and phantasy. I recall that many times they have accused me of criminal relations with all the reactionary circles of Mexico and other countries; in one of his public addresses, Mr. Toledano declared that I was preparing a general strike against the Government of General Cardenas; in "El Machete" and later in "La Voz de Mexico" they accuse me, from Sunday to Sunday, of preparing a revolution with General Cedillo and many other real or supposed revolutionaries; they describe my secret interviews with a certain Dr. Atl; in cooperation with the German fascists in Mexico, etc., etc. In more recent times, "Futuro," "El Popular," as well as "La Voz de Mexico," repeat systematically that I have secret relations with the reactionary congressman of the United States, Dies, and that I furnish him information detrimental to the interests of Mexico. Seen in a sensible light, all these accusations lack common sense, since I am accused of acts which are,

not only contrary to my convictions and the work of my lifetime, but to my most immediate interests, since I must have lost my reason in order to commit acts which are disloyal to the Mexican Government which has offered me such magnanimous hospitality.

I recall that, by means of the press, I have addressed myself on repeated occasions, to my accusers in order to take the case before an impartial commission, constituted by the Government or the P.R.M. (Mexican Revolutionary Party), for the purpose of publicly studying the accusations made against me. Lombardo Toledano and the heads of the Communist Party have always guarded against accepting my proposal.

One cannot fail to ask: Why do Mr. Lombardo Toledano and the heads of the Communist Party consider themselves obliged constantly to scatter calumny upon me systematically, with the ostensible aim of denigrating me in the eyes of the authority and the public opinion of Mexico? Personally, these gentlemen cannot have any enmity whatsoever against me, since I have never had any personal relations or conflicts with them. They act thus, so diligently and shamelessly, only because they have been ordered to do so. Who could have done this? Evidently the boss of the Kremlin, Josef Stalin.

I do not mean by this that Lombardo Toledano and the heads of the Communist Party took part directly and immediately in the preparation of the attack against me. In this respect, the O.G.P.U. draws a clear line of demarcation in work. To the most known persons are assigned the tasks of systematically propagating calumny. To those lesser known, but more serious agents, is assigned the task of assassination. Nevertheless Mr. Toledano is not an inexperienced young man who acts through blind luck. He knows perfectly well the methods of the O.G.P.U., particularly systematic persecution, to which I, the members of my family and my friends have been and are exposed to in all countries in the world. It is not a secret to Toledano that the O.S.P.U. aspires to physical annihilation. Therefore, I am perfectly within my rights in saying that, in occupying himself with the systematic, venomous defamation against me, Mr. Toledano took part in the moral preparation of the terrorist act. Consequently, Toledano would be of tremendous interest as a witness in the judicial investigation.

In the future there cannot be even the slightest doubt that the former and present heads of the Communist Party are aware who is the national resident of the O.G.P.U. in Mexico. I shall also suppose that David Alfaro Siqueiros, who took part in the civil war in Spain as an active Stalinist, cannot fail to know who are the prominent and active members of the O.G.P.U., Spaniards, Mexicans and other nationalities which have been arriving in Mexico on various occasions, especially by way of Paris. The interrogation of the former and of the present secre-



made on this point **C**, which has nothing to **O** with the attack of the C.G.P.U.

My family left Rivera's home 13 months ago. We learned of his divorce through the press only five or six months ago. I indignantly and with displeasure reject the idea that this episode had anything to do with the attack of the C.G.P.U., morally protected by Mr. Lombardo Toledano and others.

5.-I have nothing in common with the political activities of Diego Rivera. We broke off personal relations 15 months ago. For more than a year I have not had any relation with him, directly or indirectly, which might even supply an exterior pretext for the monstrous construction which imputes to Rivera the responsibility for the act which was undoubtedly committed by the C.G.P.U. and politically covered up by the hateful campaign of Messrs. Lombardo Toledano, Laborde, Encinas, Saigado and others.

6.-I am absolutely sure that the arrests of my collaborators and friends are based upon facts of the same value as those concerning Diego Rivera. I am sure that the investigation is headed to a dead end. Each new day, each new fact, each new serious trail, all of these artificial constructions disappear and unmake the true criminals, together with those who inspired and protect them intellectually.

7.-To date I have maintained absolute silence in order not to obstruct the investigation. But in view of its trend, unexpectedly false, I reserve the absolute right to appeal to public opinion of Mexico and other countries in this matter.

Your humble servant, Leon Trotsky.

-----  
NOTHING ACCOMPLISHED

Up until last night the police had not progressed at all on the Trotsky affair, according to information obtained in that department.

Unofficially, we learned that the police as well as the bodyguards of the ex-commissar of Russia continued making statements and that the secretaries of Trotsky will return to Coyocacan with their chief when they finish.

We learned, also that, in order not to obstruct the investigations, secrecy has been maintained up to the present concerning the statements which have been made.

LATE NEWS

Leon Trotsky told newspapermen last night that it is not

unlikely that the Stalinists will make an attack against him,  
but that he has taken due precautions.

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RECEIVED  
MAY 14 1950  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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

CHC:LL

August 23, 1940

3:00 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CLEGG

Re: LEON BROTSKY

I telephonically communicated with Assistant Special Agent in Charge Guerin at New York concerning the above matter, Assistant Director Foxworth having previously contacted the New York office in this regard. Mr. Guerin was furnished the pertinent information contained in the letter from the State Department dated August 22, 1940, together with that contained in its inclosure, namely, a copy of an application for a transit certificate executed on June 12, 1940, before the American Consulate at Mexico by Frank Jacson, who is identical with the assassin of Brotsky.

Mr. Guerin informed that Sylvia Apeloff, of 50 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, who was given as a reference on the above application and who was Jacson's companion, holds a Civil Service position with the Department of Welfare of New York City and that a contact of the New York office in the Mayor's office can get the Civil Service application of Sylvia Apeloff for the Bureau's information.

Mr. Guerin also informed that a number of newspapermen are frequenting the above address - 50 Livingston Street, Brooklyn - and he was cautioned to warn the agents to be extremely careful and not become involved in any publicity in connection with their investigation there.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Mr. Guerin stated that Jacson has a lot of baggage and he was requested to arrange, if possible, for a search thereof.

I instructed Mr. Guerin to cause an investigation to be conducted relative to the letter of credit which the application in question reflected Jacson had with the American Express Office, advising him that although the application did not reflect the location of this office, it probably was Brooklyn, New York.

65-24162-2

AUG 29 1940

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CLERK

72 JAH

373264

Memorandum for  
Mr. Clegg

- 2 -

August 23, 1940

I advised Mr. Guerin that copies of an enlarged photograph of Jacson would be sent to the New York office as soon as they are made. He was told that the Bureau was not in possession of a photograph of Sylvia Ageloff but that one had appeared in the newspapers.

Mr. Guerin was told that this matter should be handled very discreetly and that the Bureau was vitally interested in any information that can be obtained relative to Jacson.

I advised Mr. Guerin that the Albany office was being requested to check the address 1269 St. Denis Street, Montreal, Ontario, Canada, which is given on the above mentioned application as Jacson's permanent residence.

Mr. Guerin was requested to submit a report as soon as possible and to advise the Bureau telephonically if any information of importance is obtained.

Respectfully,



C. H. Carson

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

HHC:JP

August 31, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

The New York Office telephoned on August 29, 1940, advising that a demonstration was planned for August 30, 1940, at noon in front of the Soviet Consul General's headquarters. The demonstrators were to be members of the Workers Party, Fourth Internationale, and they are known as Schachtmanites. They are protesting the death of Trotsky.

The New York Office has informed the New York City Police, and I telephoned Mr. Craine in the office of Mr. Fletcher Warren, and in the latter's absence immediately upon receipt of this information he expressed his appreciation.

Respectfully,

H. H. Clegg

*Trotsky*

RECORDED

INDEXED

65-29162-3

9/19



Jean Monnet

0

Demon

Robert Crosser Guise

W. Krs Party - 4<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Dr. Kachmanites

Reich J. Zotsky

Police Keweenaw

Orain

CC for Mr. H. H. Clegg

September 7, 1940

JEL:ERM  
65-29162

PERSONAL AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary of State  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

(Re: JACQUES MORNARD VAN DENDRESCHDwas;  
et al; ESPIONAGE)

Dear Mr. Berle:

In connection with the pending matter, receipt is acknowledged of a copy of the communication from the American Consulate General dated September 1, 1940, at Mexico City, which was forwarded by Mr. Raymond Murphy of your office to Mr. J. B. Little of this Bureau as a result of a telephone conversation yesterday.

There is transmitted herewith a memorandum incorporating information developed to date in this matter, of which you have apparently not been previously advised. There is also transmitted herewith a photostatic copy of a four-page letter from the Chief of the Naturalization Branch of the Department of the Secretary of State, Canada, dated August 23, 1940, concerning the naturalization certificate revocation, referred to in the memorandum.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

BY SPECIAL  
MESSENGER

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
★ SEP 9 1940 ★  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

September 6, 1940

MEMORANDUM

The following information is submitted in connection with the investigation relating to Frank Jackson, alias Jacques Mornard van Dentrechd, and other aliases:

The vacant lot where the road turns from entering the village of San Angel to the village of Coyoacan, where Mornard claims to have burned his passport and other documents, has been subjected to a thorough search which failed to divulge any evidence of anything having been burned.

The woman named Marguerite who frequently called Mornard at the Shirley Courts in Mexico City has been ascertained to be Marguerite Rosemere. It appears that Marguerite Rosemere and her husband are friends of the Trotskys of many years standing and brought the Trotsky grandson from France to Mexico last year. They were residing in the Trotsky home during the attack of May 24, 1940, and left the Trotsky home shortly thereafter via automobile for Vera Cruz, Mexico, where they boarded a Ward Line steamer for New York, accompanied by Mrs. Trotsky. The car in which they were driven from Coyoacan to Vera Cruz was driven by Mornard.

Sylvia Ageloff stated that Mornard claimed to have been employed by Peter Lubecik or Lubek at \$50 a week in connection with trading in oil and sugar. Mornard stated, however, that this individual was a purely fictitious person and that the Chase National Bank Building address in New York City and the address of Edificio "Ermita" in Mexico City are likewise fictitious; that he thought of the Ermita Building because he had had occasion to drive by it several times, but had never been in it. Investigation disclosed, however, that this building, located in Tacubaya, a suburb of Mexico City, is in fact the residence address of David Alfaro Siqueiros and his brother Jesus, both of whom are fugitives from justice in connection with the first assault upon Trotsky in May of 1940. The wife and children of Jesus Siqueiros still reside in Apartment 604 of this building. Mornard claims to have been unaware of this circumstance.

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-29162-5

SEP 12 1940

FIVE

Mornard, upon refreshing his memory, now states that he flew from New York to New Orleans, thence to Houston, Texas via Eastern Air Lines on June 30, 1940. The following day he proceeded to San Antonio, Texas, via the same line, thence to Laredo, Texas, by rail, where, as he has previously stated, he walked across the International Bridge and took a train for Mexico City, using his original tourist card in order to board this train. The opinion was advanced that Mornard has deliberately fixed an alibi, as he entered Mexico through the port of Laredo, Texas, on October 12, 1939, on the tourist card issued him by the Mexican Consul General in New York in October of 1939. On June 13, 1940, he made a record at the American Consulate in Mexico City by applying for and obtaining a visa on the Canadian passport in his possession. This visa was obtained for his alleged intention to return to Montreal, Canada. By walking across the International Bridge at Laredo, Texas, and using the original tourist card to travel to Mexico City by train, he was able to return to Mexico City without any record being made as to his reentry, since the train guards make no record of tourists who exhibit their tourist cards for train travel. It, therefore, appears that should Mornard have escaped from the Trotsky home and surreptitiously made his way back to the United States, the only official record that would have been on file was the fact that he left Mexico on June 13, 1940, and had never returned.

[REDACTED]

S

[REDACTED]

S

44

A check of the immigration records at Ellis Island reflects that one Frank Jackson arrived at New York City on September 9, 1939, on the S. S. Ile de France, having sailed from Southampton. He is described as being thirty-four years of age, an engineer and able to read and write the English language, and his nationality is given as Great Britain. The records further reflect that this individual is a Serbian, born in Lovinak, Jugoslavia; that he was permitted to land on what is referred to as an "executive order" from Washington, D. C. His last residence was given as Montreal, Canada, and 47 Rue des Acacias, Paris, France. His final destination was given as Canada via Rouses Point, New York. The immigration records at Ellis Island further reflect that this man had been in the United States previously in 1939, having left on August 3, 1939, to return to 63 Rue Notre Dame de l'Ouest, Montreal, Canada. The immigration records give additional descriptive data that he is five feet seven inches tall, complexion fair, brown hair and eyes, no marks of identification and no notations that he was ever in prison or was ever an anarchist.

Morpard has furnished no additional information of value with the exception that at the time of his last arrival in New York he stayed at the home of Sylvia Ageloff located at 601 West 110th Street, New York City, prior to his departure for Mexico in October of 1939. Information has been received confidentially that Sylvia Ageloff will be held for possibly a week or two longer and then will be discharged by the Judge of the Court at Coyoacan and permitted to return to the United States.

June 13, 1940

MEMORANDUM

Re: JACK COOPER

Through information obtained from a confidential source it was ascertained that Cooper spoke at a conference of the Ohio branches of the Young Communist League held at Cleveland, Ohio, on January 31, 1937. At that time Cooper made a report on the Fisher Body strike and spoke of its progress, the issues involved, and the demands of the Union. He also stated the Young Communist League was utilized in contacting the youth involved in the strike.

In his testimony before the Dies Committee, as reported in a special publication, Walter S. Steele listed Jack Cooper as a Young Communist League organizer in Ohio. In this same connection a confidential source advised under date of February 15, 1939, that Cooper was City Chairman of the Young Communist League in Cleveland, Ohio, and a Communist Party member.

Cooper, according to information received from a confidential source, was elected to the Presidium of the National Conference of the Jewish Section of the Communist Party U. S. A. held at the Centre Hotel, New York City, from December 24 to December 26, 1938. He was also elected to the National Council of the Jewish Section of the Communist Party at this conference.

The Daily Worker of December 26, 1938, in reporting the proceedings of the above conference, stated that Jack Cooper "a Captain of the American Forces in Spain who recently returned" addressed the conference to which he was a delegate at Carnegie Hall, New York.

In connection with Cooper's participation in the Spanish Civil War, it is noted that the 1937 Yearbook published by the Ohio Historical Commission of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. lists Cooper as a member of the International Brigade. It also states "Jack writes from Spain: 'While our comrades here are ready at any moment to give their lives in the fight against fascism, I appeal in the name of all those here to intensify the recruiting drive for new members in the Party and YCL, and to build the circulation of the Daily Worker.'" Cooper is described in this Yearbook as

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
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a youthful member of the Painters' Union in Cleveland who was previously active in the lettuce workers' strike in California; that he organized sport and cultural activities in the 1937 Fisher Body strike.

ADDENDUM

It is noted that the Jack Cooper referred to by Mr. Jesse Harte as having been among those persons at the home of Leon Trotsky is from Minneapolis, Minnesota, and in view of his association with Trotsky, it would appear probable he is not identical with the subject of the above memorandum who would seem to be a faithful follower of the Communist Party.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

HHC:DO

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

September 3, 1940

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

3  
Confirming the telephone conversation between Mr. Clegg of the Bureau and Special Agent Milenky of the New York Office, you are advised that this Bureau has received information that Carmen Henriqueta Coveda Jarque, a woman, crossed the Mexican border at Laredo, Texas, on the night of August 26th by train. She is said to be on an errand to New York City in order to make a contact with Carmen Meandra, a well known Communist of New York City, and it is her further plan to contact Miss Ernestina Gleishaman of 26 East 93rd Street, New York City. Jarque obtained a visa from the United States Embassy at Mexico City.

A check through the District Immigration Office at San Antonio, Texas, failed to disclose information confirming the entrance of Jarque into the United States. However, further check is being made on this, and it is believed that this errand might be relative to the alleged murder of Trotsky by Jackson and that the conference planned may lead to the uncovering of the activities of the OGPU in the United States. I want to impress upon you the keen importance of every effort being made to discover the OGPU operatives in the United States who are said to be centered in and around New York and the case involving the murder of Trotsky in Mexico.

In further confirmation of telephone call to you on the afternoon of September 1, 1940, it is important and urgently necessary that this matter be given close attention and personal supervision by you in order that the identity of Agents, scope of plan, and methods of operation of secret Russian Agents be developed by your office.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-29162-4

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
SEP 3 1940  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
SEP 5 1940  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE






- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Fogarty \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, N.Y.**

FILE NO. **65-796 AMR**

REPORT MADE AT <b>ALBANY, N.Y.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9/16/40</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8/23, 28, 9/11-13/40</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>F. C. WOOD</b>
TITLE <b>JACQUES MORNARD VAN DENDRESCHD, w.as. ET AL.</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ESPIONAGE</b>	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:  <span style="float: right;">S</span>			
- R U C -			
REFERENCE: Bureau letter to New York Office dated 9-4-40, (65-29162) and report of Special Agent GEORGE J. STARR, New York City, 9-3-40.			
DETAILS:  <span style="float: right;">S</span>			
 <span style="float: right;">S</span>			
 <span style="float: right;">S</span>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED:  SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE			
DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES			
SEP 19 1940			
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau cc Mr. [unclear], St. Dept. 11/20/40 2 New York 3 Albany			

65-796

[REDACTED] S

[REDACTED] S

It was ascertained that 1269 St. Denis Street does not exist nor has it ever existed.

It was noted through review of the file in this matter that on page 11 of the referenced report of Agent STARR is information to the effect that JACKSON gave the address of 63 Rue Notre Dame de L'oest, Montreal, Canada as his home and destination when he debarked at New York City on September 9, 1939.

The writer ascertained through observation that there is no 63 Notre Dame East or West. The space where 63 Notre Dame West would be is occupied by the Aldrich Bldg., a modern office building. There are no consulates in this building. 63 Notre Dame East does not exist and there did not appear any point in making investigation in the district which is a business section, close to the Quebec Provincial Police headquarters and across the street from the Montreal Court House. It is further pointed out that "L'oest" is not the way streets are designated "East" or "West" in Montreal. This should be "Est" or "Ouest".

It will be noted that the referenced Bureau letter of September 4, 1940 sets forth on page 6 information to the effect that FRANK JACKSON, 1651 St. Dominique St., Montreal, Canada was issued naturalization certificate #18506, Series E, (not #18596, Series H).

Investigation was conducted to ascertain who this FRANK JACKSON might be.

First it was ascertained that 1651 St. Dominique Street is in the center of the "red light district" of Montreal.

At 1651 St. Dominique Street, a MRS. [REDACTED] was interviewed. She is the proprietor of a small, poor appearing confectionary store.

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She advised that prior to her coming to this address someone named RAPPAPORT had lived here for a few months. [REDACTED] advised that most of the folks on St. Dominique do not live at the same address for more than a two weeks period and then under an alias.

It was learned that [REDACTED] Gilford Street, Montreal had charge of the renting of the premises at 1651 St. Dominique.

[REDACTED] on interview advised that he has had charge of these premises about 5 years; that his uncle owns the property and purchased it from the estate of a Jewish family who had received it as part of an inheritance from a suicide. This individual is probably known to KYACINTE DOREJO, a Belgian who lives at 1653 St. Dominique Street which address is in the second floor above 1651. The entrance, however, is not in the same building.

[REDACTED] S

[REDACTED] S

.....REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.....



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DETAILS: This investigation is predicated on teletype instructions from Assistant Director P. E. Foxworth, on August 21, 1940, who furnished information to the effect that LEON TROTZKY had been attacked on the previous day by JACSON, who when interviewed gave several names it not being known at this time which is the correct name. TROTZKY died of his wounds on August 21, 1940. It should be noted that throughout this report, when referring to the main subject, the name JACSON is used. However, when referring to documents or other records where the name appears as Jackson, it is so given in the report.

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[REDACTED] of H.S. DORF & COMPANY, 89 Broad Street, New York City; telephone: DIGBY 4-0144, telephoned this office to state that his firm had handled a package from Mexico City for a man by the name of F. JACKSON and that in view of the name being similar to that given as one of the aliases of the person responsible for the murder of LEON TROTSKY, he thought it should be reported to this office.

At the office of H.S. DORF & COMPANY, [REDACTED] exhibited to this agent the correspondence and at the same time explained that when passengers traveling by PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS have baggage over and above 20 pounds, the excess baggage is, in the absence of specific instructions to the contrary, handled by H.S. DORF & COMPANY who ship it by some means other than by air to its destination. He stated that a man giving the name of H. CHRISTIE and his address as the PENNSYLVANIA HOTEL, came to the office of H.S. DORF & COMPANY and brought with him a letter which had been written by the PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS, INC., on June 18, 1940, to Mr. F. JACKSON, C/o AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY, New York City, N.Y. The letter carried in a place where a title might be shown identification #1923-C. The letter itself states:

"In accordance with the instructions received from our Mexico City office, we have forwarded to you all in bond and C/o the Collector of Customs in New York, one small trunk containing your personal effects.

"In connection with the above, we are herewith attaching one copy of Customs Form No. 7512 IT, Entry No. 701-D, one key to the trunk and the Railway Express Agency's Receipt #

"Presentation of these documents at the New York Customs House will enable you to release the above shipment.

PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS, INC.

M. GOMEZ H.  
Clearance Agent

MGH/r

cc-F.O. Willy-Mexico"

Submitted with the letter was Customs Form No. 7512 which is: "Transportation entry and manifest of goods subject to Customs inspection and permit" which was issued in District No. 83, Port of Brownsville, Texas, and filed on June 17, 1940, to cover goods imported by the PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS in bond for RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC., to Collector of Customs, at New York City, N.Y., and the signee being F. JACKSON, C/o AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY. The goods were stated to have been imported in the PAN AMERICAN AIRWAYS station wagon from Mexico, D.F. The record also shows that the shipments sailed from Matamoras, Tampa, 6/17/40 and arrived 6/17/40.

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The description of the material is: Marks and numbers: F. JACKSON. Description: 1 small trunk containing personal effects of passenger Wt. 115#, Par. 1798; the value is given as \$300. Entry number is shown as 701-D, class IT. According to [REDACTED] before they can release a shipment to the consignee under such circumstances it is necessary that they obtain a copy of the Customs declaration from the Port of entry. For this reason they wrote to Brownsville, Texas, for the Customs declaration and were informed that he, JACKSON, had not entered on June 13 or 14. They then communicated with CHRISTIE by sending a post card to the PENNSYLVANIA HOTEL and CHRISTIE called on [REDACTED] and stated that he had no additional information; that JACKSON was then in the United States but he did not know just where he was and would have to await his return. The impression of [REDACTED] was that CHRISTIE did not know very much about JACKSON but seemingly was merely doing a favor for an acquaintance. Endeavoring to fix the date when CHRISTIE had called on him, [REDACTED] said he had sent him a postcard asking him to call on July 25 and that CHRISTIE called in response to the postcard probably a day or so later.

According to [REDACTED] the trunk is in the Baggage Bureau of the Appraiser's Stores Building of the Customs Service, Second Floor, 201 Varick Street; that it is designated as GO Lot No. 8397, and Inspector W.H. RATTNER of the Customs Service is familiar with the matter.

X Confidential informant [REDACTED] informed this agent that SYLVIA AGELOFF was with the MUSTE group in 1934. In December, 1934, the organization which included the MUSTE group, which the informant believes was the American Workers Party, joined with the Communist League in America, which was the Trotskyite organization, to form the Workers Party of the United States, then at 112 East 19th Street, New York City.

When the above merger took place, SYLVIA AGELOFF joined in with the Abernites, which was the group headed by MARTIN ABERN which continued to act as a unit within these various organizations as the mergers and splits occurred. She has remained a member of the Abernite group ever since.

[REDACTED] he spoke to ABERN about SYLVIA AGELOFF inquiring as to whether or not she was still in the movement and ABERN said he did not know of her having dropped out, so that it is the conclusion of [REDACTED] that she is at the present time a member of the Workers Party which is the MAX SHACHTMAN organization which recently split away from the Trotsky movement and is located at 114 West 14th Street, New York City. SHACHTMAN, incidentally, left for Mexico by plane on August 22, 1940.

Elucidating the matter of the mergers, the informant stated that the Workers Party of the United States, which included

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the groups which followed CAMON and MUSTE, merged with the Socialist Party to become the Socialist Party of America. There was a factional fight and they were expelled from the Socialist Party and they formed the Socialist Workers Party.

With further reference to the ABERN faction, the informant stated that it went with MAX SHACHTMAN in the recent split.

A fellow by the name of LYMAN PAYNE is believed by the informant to have been "kicking in money" for the support of the SHACHTMAN group.

The informant mentioned that another ABERNITE was SOLOMON LAMKIN, commonly known as SOL, who was employed for a time as a guard at the Trotsky residence at Coyocan, Mexico. When SHACHTMAN split from the Socialist Workers Party LAMKIN sided with him and quit his work as a guard and returned to New York City. His wife, MARTHA LAMKIN, is in the Workers Party as MARTHA BURNS. Both she and her husband are still in the so-called ABERNITE faction which is now in the Workers Party. She is active in Local 5 of the Workers Alliance and is on relief through the Home Relief Bureau, Precinct 48, and was, at one time, and may still be in the Needle Trades Project of the W.P.A. on 11th Avenue somewhere in the vicinity of 33rd or 35th Street.

A member of the Socialist Workers Party named BILL KITT told the informant that NATHAN GOULD, who is now a New York City organizer for the Workers Party, had come here from Chicago originally and shortly after he came here had been living in very intimate relationship with both of the AGELOFF girls.

Among others who were in the MUSTE group along with SYLVIA AGELOFF, the informant mentioned ARNOLD JOHNSON now in the Communist Party and also ERNEST TRUAX who is also in the Communist Party at the present time. The informant also mentioned that SYLVIA AGELOFF's picture appears in the 1930 New York University Year Book.

This informant also stated that the TROTSKYITES (S.W.P.) are going to have a mass meeting at the Center Hotel on the night of Sunday, August 25. Later, however, he called and stated the mass meeting had been postponed until 8:00 P.M., August 28 (Wednesday) at the Hotel Diplomat, 108 East 43rd Street, New York City. He also mentioned at the time he called up with this last information that all three of the AGELOFF girls, RUTH, SYLVIA and one other, were members of the American Workers Party in 1934.

Confidential informant [redacted] knew SYLVIA AGELOFF and said she and her sister were members of MUSTE's Conference for Progressive Labor Action, which organization, in the latter part of 1934, merged with the TROTSKYITES and became the Workers Party of America, or some such name. At that time the official publication of the organization was changed from the "MILITANT" to the "New MILITANT"; that



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the two girls came in with the MUSTE group. When MUSTE dropped out of the movement SYLVIA AGELOFF had taken the SHACHTMAN political viewpoint and was at the same time in the ABERN caucus within the SHACHTMAN group. Informant states that her father was wealthy and that the girls have the use of a car; that their father built a large apartment house at 4th Street and Avenue A known as the AGELOFF TOWERS. They also understood that JACSON had been here around the end of 1939. For some reason the informant gained the impression that JACSON had traveled on an American passport. He also understood, rather indefinitely, that JACSON and SYLVIA AGELOFF had stayed together at some hotel and were supposed to be engaged in writing.

Workers

Last April when the split occurred in the Socialist/Party, SYLVIA AGELOFF went with the SHACHTMAN group, while JACSON adhered 100% to the TROTSKYITE viewpoint. He is supposed to have left Mexico after the first attack on TROTSKY and returned to the United States.

According to the informant, a man by the name of FELIX MORROW (Party name) was in charge of the business of recruiting and sending men to Coycocam to serve as bodyguards for TROTSKY. Most of the men sent down were men who had some financial means so that they could support themselves while there. The informant had met SYLVIA at what was then the TROTSKY headquarters at 55 East 11th Street, New York City, and both of the girls, SYLVIA and RUTH, were active in the movement. The informant never saw and never heard of JACSON until the recent publicity in the press.

Agent communicated with the office of the JEWISH DAILY FORWARD and, in the absence of DAVID SHUB, talked with SIMON WEBBER, previously known to this agent. WEBBER stated that so far the paper had no knowledge of the developments other than what had appeared in the press; that their MELECH EPSTEIN, formerly of the JEWISH DAILY FREIHEIT was in Mexico City and would undoubtedly communicate with the DAILY FORWARD and furnish any inside information that he might be able to obtain. EPSTEIN was one of the Jewish intellectuals who broke away from the Communist DAILY FREIHEIT at the time of the Commu-Nazi pact and would be well able to recognize and identify any prominent members of the Communist Party from New York who might have been in Mexico at this time.

WEBBER subsequently furnished the address of EPSTEIN as 110 Apartado Mexico DF, Mexico. This address was furnished by telephone to Assistant Director P.E. FOXWORTH of the Bureau.

WEBBER stated that EPSTEIN might have left Mexico for Cuba but unquestionably would return to Mexico City immediately upon learning of developments there as he would want to obtain material for news articles.

JAY LOVESTONE of the Independent Labor League of America, formerly the Communist Party Opposition, was interviewed at his office, 131 West 33rd Street, New York City, but had no information at hand.

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He did state, however, that he had a good contact then in Mexico City who he was sure would forward to him any information which he might be able to obtain there which had not appeared in the regular press and LOVESTONE will communicate with this agent if anything of interest is developed.

VICTOR REISEL of the "NEW LEADER", official organ of the Social Democratic Federation, who writes the column "Heard on the Left" which is bitterly anti-Communist, was communicated with but he had no information at the moment as to the developments in Mexico City or the persons involved, namely, JACSON and SYLVIA AGELOFF.

A. E. KAHN of "THE HOUR", anti-Nazi refugee publication, was also communicated with and stated that he had no information at this time as to the developments in Mexico City or as to the individuals named in connection with the killing of TROTSKY.

All of the people mentioned above stated that in the event any information comes to them locally they will immediately communicate with this office.

BENJAMIN GITLOW and NELSON FRANK were interviewed by this agent but could throw no light on the matter and did not know either SYLVIA AGELOFF or JACSON. They will communicate with this office in the event they should obtain from any source any information bearing on this matter.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent W. P. Morin.

Under date of August 23, 1940, the New York papers carried the information that SYLVIA AGELOFF had been employed from September 1931, to September 1932 by the JEWISH CHILDREN'S CLEARING BUREAU, 1646 York Avenue, New York, N.Y.; that she also had been employed by the JEWISH HOSPITAL in Brooklyn; that from June 1934 to June 1936, according to the WELFARE DEPARTMENT records she was a volunteer worker for the JEWISH SOCIAL SERVICE OF AMERICA; that she was employed as a clinical psychologist in the Bureau of Attendance of the BOARD OF EDUCATION from July 1936 to June 1938; that on May 19, 1939 she was appointed to the Welfare Department at which office she is still employed as a social investigator.

In order that information could be learned relative to SYLVIA AGELOFF's friends, a contact was made of MR. FRANK SHAEFER, Secretary of the New York Civil Service Commission at 299 Broadway, New York City, who has charge of all applications and records. Mr. Shaefer advised that Mayor F. La Guardia's office had requested the complete file of SYLVIA AGELOFF that morning, therefore, the file would not be available. SHAEFER advised that the file would contain all applications made by Sylvia Ageloff and also give her complete history since becoming employed by New York City. This information was transmitted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge R. Guerin, who advised the writer not to do anything further regarding obtaining the file from the Mayor's office.

MR. EDWIN WEISL, Attorney, connected with SIMPSON, THATCHER & BARTLETT, a well-known law firm in New York City, located at 120 Broadway, and whom the writer has contacted on other occasions, advised that MR. MAX ABELMAN, Secretary to the President at the JEWISH BROOKLYN HOSPITAL, Brooklyn, N.Y. would be the person to contact relative to making an examination of any records at that institution.

MR. MAX ABELMAN, Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, 55 Prospect St., Brooklyn, N.Y. stated that he had checked the records at this hospital and was unable to locate any work record for SYLVIA AGELOFF; that he also checked his records to determine if she had ever been a patient at that institution but this search resulted negatively. He advised that it was possible that MISS AGELOFF might have been employed as a special employee and that no records of her employment were kept, although this would be very unusual.

He further advised that he had spoken with a [REDACTED] Brooklyn, N.Y., who advised him that morning, that his wife had known RUTH AGELOFF, a sister of SYLVIA's. ABELMAN further advised that [REDACTED] was presently in the hospital and phoned him for any additional information which he might possess.

[REDACTED] stated that he did not know SYLVIA AGELOFF but that his former wife had known both girls quite well. [REDACTED] stated that his former wife resided at [REDACTED] N.Y., her present marriage name being MRS. [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] requested that the source of information be kept secret and not revealed to MRS. [REDACTED]. He further stated that the AGELOFF's lived at 1809 Albemarle Road, Brooklyn, where in 1932 they had owned their own home; that the father's name was SAMUEL; that they had sold their home to a firm he thought was SHAPIRO & GOLDSTEIN, address unknown, who built an apartment house on the site and that the Ageloffs later moved to Lenox Road in Brooklyn.

MR. ABELMAN advised that SYLVIA AGELOFF's father, SAMUEL was a well known real estate operator in Brooklyn; that he appeared to have plenty of money; that he was respected in the real estate market as being a hard working individual and that he had married a second time after the death of his first wife; that he is presently residing at 70 Ransen Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. and has an office at 191 Joralemon St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

A check of the birth records at the Hall of Records, Brooklyn, N.Y. reflected that there was a SOPHIE AGELOFF born to Samuel and Annie Ageloff, 50 Thame St., Brooklyn, N.Y., on January 13, 1910, that birth certificate #7311 was executed to record this birth; that the Doctor in attendance was M. ROSIER, 26 Morrell St., that both parents were born in Russia and that they had four other children. (It cannot be determined if the above is identical with SYLVIA AGELOFF unless verification can be had of the street address and her mother's name).

[REDACTED] N.Y. upon being interviewed, advised that she knew RUTH AGELOFF, but that she did not know SYLVIA AGELOFF very well. She stated that she knew Sylvia Ageloff had attended NEW YORK UNIVERSITY and COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY but she did not know any of her friends. (An article in the NEW YORK TIMES, reflects that Miss Ageloff attended Public School #26, Quincy St., Brooklyn; GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL; that she majored in dramatics, and French at WASHINGTON SQUARE COLLEGE OF NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, graduating in 1932, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree and that in 1934

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she received a Master of Arts degree from COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, where she specialized in Psychology.). MRS. [REDACTED] further advised that RUTH AGELOFF was very much interested in Communism from statements that she had made and the courses which she studied. She further advised that she thought the two girls had gone to Europe immediately after their mother had died which she states was about five or six years ago. She stated that she has not heard from RUTH AGELOFF in five years.

A neighborhood investigation was conducted in the vicinity of 50 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, N Y., the residence of SYLVIA AGELOFF but no information of value could be learned. Individuals residing in this apartment house were contacted under pretext but none could give any information which would be helpful to this investigation. The majority stated that they had never seen SYLVIA AGELOFF around the apartment building.

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The following investigation was conducted at Ellis Island, N.Y. where [REDACTED] in the Record Room, Immigration Station was interviewed, and it was disclosed that a FRANK JACSON arrived on the Ile de France of the French Line on September 9, 1939, having sailed from Southampton on September 3, 1939. The information contained in the manifest and other records disclosed that this was a man 34 years of age, giving his occupation as engineer, who was able to read and write English. The records showed Great Britain under the heading "Nationality" but then goes on to state that the man is a Serbian born at Lovinak, Born in Jugoslavia and that he was permitted to enter the United States through what is known as "an Executive order", this apparently meaning that he was cleared on order from the Headquarters of the Immigration Service at Washington, D. C. Two last residences were shown; one being given as Montreal, Canada, and the other as 47 Rue des Acacias, Paris. His destination on this arrival was given as Canada via Rouses Point, N.Y. The man paid his own passage and had a ticket to his final destination and in excess of \$50.00 in cash. The records likewise disclosed that the man had been in the United States previously in 1939 and left on August 3, 1939 to go to his home at 63 Rue Notre Dame de L'oest, Montreal, Canada. There was additional descriptive data to the effect that he was 5' 7" tall, had a fair complexion. Brown hair and eyes, had no marks of identification, no deformities; had never been in prison and was not an anarchist. The foregoing is not being set out as the subject's description for the reason that a more correct description will presumably be obtained from the Mexican police records by agents covering that end of the investigation.

The trunk which was at the Appraisers Stores Building and which was referred to previously in this report, was examined by this agent through the cooperation of the floor foreman of the Customs Baggage Warehouse, [REDACTED] on August 27, 1940. The trunk is of the type known as a steamer trunk and contains labels and tags showing that it was handled by the C. G. TRANSATLANTIQUE (FRENCH LINE) and presumably had been shipped under the name of JACSON inasmuch as the trunk bore the identifying tag with the initial "J". It also has a name card on it which is inserted in a slide provided for that purpose which gives the name FRANK JACSON. There is also a Railway Express COD shipment envelope tag which had been opened. Also American Railway Express Agency tags and U. S. Customs Transportation Entry No. 701-B from Brownsville, Texas. There was a customs plain paper label attached to the trunk showing that it was G.C. Lot #8397 C/Wise, 6/21/40, and the name FRANK JACSON. 1 Trunk. This is understood to be the type of label which is affixed

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to the baggage when it is admitted to the Appraisers Stores Building. There is also a label on plain paper in long hand and also traces of another similar label part of which had been torn off reading substantially as follows: "V. M. GOMEZ, H. AGENTE, CIA MEXICANA De AVIACION, S.A. MATALOROS, TAMS. " The trunk contained a number of books in French as follows:

L'ENFANT Des FEMMES - by J. L. CAMPBELL, Edition Gallemand.

LA CARTE MARINE by EDOUARD PEISSON, Edicion Grasset.

SANG ET LUMIERES by JOSEPH PEYRE, Edicion Grasset

LE MYSTERE de la FALAISE by ESTHER TYLER. Edicion de la Nouvelle Revue Critique.

GUIDE AU CANADA by GABRIEL de JOUBERT. Edicion Franz Amerique.

LE PERIL SOUS-MARIN by Viscount Jellicoe. Edicion de la Nouvelle Revue Critique.

In this book was found the business card of RAFAEL MARTINEZ, representing the General Service Company S. de R.T. Servicio Autorisado Buick. Av Morelos 9: Tels. 8-52-38. 1 37-38, Mexico, D. F. The jacket from the book "The Four Just Men" was in this volume also.

L'AFRIQUE EN FLAMES by Commandant Casal, Edicion Tallandier.

LE MAGASIN AUX POUDRES, by Franz Hellens. Edicion Gallemand. This bears a label indicating it was purchased at the Central de Publications, Av. Juarez 4, Mexico.

ICI un MORT by Vincent Starrett. Edicion de la Nouvelle Revue Critique.

LES USINES de L'EFFROI, by Gaston Boca, Edicion Gallemand.

CLARISSE VERON by Gabriel Chevalier. Edicion Rieder.

LE RENDES-VOUS de DIMANCH SOIR, by JACQUES De CREST. Edicion Gallemand.

LA PETITE EILLE de BOIS COLOMBES by JACQUES De CREST. Edicion Gallemand.

TROIS DETECTIVES by Leo Bruce. Edicion Lebraire des Champs Elysees

The book L'ENFANT des FEMMES mentioned above was apparently purchased through the Central des Publications, Av. Juarez 4, Mexico.

LEICA, a book on the use of a Leica Camera by Marcel Natkin.

THE FOUR JUST MEN by Edgar Wallace. Penguin Edition, apparently purchased through American Book Store, Av. Madero 25, Mexico.

REGLAMENTO de TRANSITO en LOS CAMINOS NACIONALES Y En PARTICULAR de CONCESSION FEDERAL, Mexico, 1939. Badecker-U.S. 1909, labeled in the back showing the numerals 183-60. This looks like it might be a price tag. It is noted that the book mark was at the page devoted to "The City of Mexico".

THE FIRST SPANISH BOOK by Lawrence A. Wilkins. This has every indication of being a used book. It is considerably marked up as if it might have been marked by some child. It has in it a rubber stamped imprint of what appears to be The Mainland High School, Daytona Beach. Also in long hand lettering along the edges of the closed book "Mainland P.T.A."

AN ENGLISH EDITION OF THE BOOK: "SANIE" by Michel Artzibashev, published by Illustrated Editions Co.

THE INTERPRETER, an Spanish-English Conversational Guide. In this was found a postal card addressed to Miss B. Maslow Legraia, 83 Tacuba, Mexico, which has been photographed and copies of the photograph furnished to the Bureau and the Los Angeles office together with the details of the writing on the card. There was also the torn letterhead of a firm with the name "EL INCIENDO" at Mexico City. This bears the long hand date of November 17, 1939. The book itself came from the American Book Store, Mexico City.

AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE NOVEL, "THE GOOD SOLDIER SCHWEIK" by Jaroslav Hasek. Penguin Edition.

LAIRD & LEE'S VEST POCKET STANDARD ENGLISH-SPANISH; SPANISH-ENGLISH DICTIONARY: This apparently came from the American Book Store.

DICTIONARY - FRENCH-ENGLISH, ENGLISH-FRENCH, published by Larousse, the compiler being LOUIS CHAFFURIN.

THE DECEMBER 1939 issue of the Spanish Language magazine "CAMINO Del AIRE". This is the official organ of the Mexican Aviation Co.



62-6870

MARCH 21, 1940 ISSUE of the magazine, "TODO" which contains a long article by LEON TROTSKY.

Also in the trunk was a Iios-SCOP photograph light meter with case.

One pocket type flashlight with a dark bulb.

One Ernst Leitz Wetzler lens marked 1\*

One yellow-green filter Ultrasorben.

One lens or filter case bearing the name "LIFA"

One Leica lens cap.

Two pair sun glasses

One pocket steel ruler marked in metres (i.e. the type which automatically rewinds itself when a button is pressed

One small aluminum container marked "LEICA" with what appears to be a roll film container in it.

One roll of film wrapped in black paper.

There was also one Centavo coin; one five Centavo coin, and one one-Centavo coin in a pocket of a pair of trousers.

There was a quantity of clothing in the trunk as follows:

One suit - blue with stripe, with the label of JOHN BAILLE & CO., Paris.

One suit - gray, striped, with the label of CHOQUE, Rue Auber (no city given).

One full dress suit

One blue vest with stripe.

One blue gabardine top coat with lable LE MORSE, Distroopers, Belgium.

One bathrobe

One gray suit, no label.

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One brown overcoat  
One gray topcoat with label of Emilio Perez, Mexico.  
One white turtle neck sweater  
One pair brown sport trunks  
One pair blue swim trunks  
One gray sweater  
One light machette (scabbard)  
Five pairs shoes, including a pair of evening pumps  
and a pair of sandals.  
One pair riding boots.  
One pair spurs.  
One pair boot hooks  
One waterproof windbreaker.

Parts of two newspapers had been used to line the bottom of the trunk when it was packed. These are EL Universal, of April 8, 1940, and Novedades of April 9, 1940.

The card of RAFAEL MARTINES, the Buick representative mentioned above, bears on the back of it some long hand notations which are not entirely distinct, reading "Victoria 95" and the numeral 48249, and another numeral which appears to be 448. Photographs of the reverse of the card as well as of the lens and filter and the lens or filter cases and the Leica cap referred to above have been furnished to the Bureau. Also photographs of the bill-head of EL INCENDIO.

From confidential informant [redacted] information was obtained to the effect that LARRY COHEN, who has a book store at 114 4th Avenue, New York City, known as The Book Row Book Shop, was in the radical movement with the AGELOFF girls. He was in the OEHLER GROUP which became The REVOLUTIONARY WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA. The information was also furnished that ERNEST RICE MCKINNEY, a colored man in the movement was intimate with one of the girls at Pittsburgh.

A fellow named SOTZMAN, whom the informant meets up in the Bronx, quoted LARRY COHEN as describing SYLVIA AGELOFF as "dog" and raised the question as to why a fellow like JACSON<sup>who</sup> was handsome and had

money and a car would tie up "with a dog like that." The same informant [redacted] said that in 1938 at the founding conference of the Fourth International in France, RUTH AGELOFF went over to do secretarial work and then SYLVIA went over to join her and RUTH was supposed to have introduced SYLVIA to JACSON at one of the public meetings; that JACSON was not a member of the organization and would have been present only at the public meetings. According to gossip heard by the same informant, a man named ROSMER, a Frenchman, may have been the man who introduced JACSON to TROTSKY either in person or by mail. According to the informant a girl named PEARL KRUGER who was either in the Socialist Workers Party or the Socialist Party went to Mexico with the DEWEY COMMISSION as a secretary, said that Rosmer was the man who introduced them. ROSMER, according to the informant was a member of the Executive Committee of the COMMUNIST INTERNATIONAL and was sympathetic toward TROTSKY. He was here in the latter part of 1937 or the beginning of 1938 and is supposed to have visited Mexico to call on TROTSKY and then went back to France.

Information was picked up by confidential informant [redacted] from some fellow whom he met who had been in the TROTSKY movement, to the effect that JACSON, while he was here had been a guest for dinner at the home of MANUEL GARRETT. This man whom FOM-R. was talking to was supposed to have been a close friend of MANUEL GARRETT.

[redacted] New York City, was interviewed at the office of [redacted] and stated that SYLVIA AGELOFF had been in the Conference For Political Action, the organization headed by DR. MUSTE, which subsequently became the AMERICAN WORKERS PARTY. They fused with the COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF AMERICA and formed the WORKER'S PARTY probably in 1935. LOUIS BUDENZ, a man named REICH of Allentown, Pa., a man named HALLETT of Allentown, and a man named HOWE and [redacted] whose party name is RUBY WILSON and real name RUBY WEILL, were active in this group, particularly RUBY WILSON. In 1936 the Worker's Party was making preparations to go into the Socialist Party. The above mentioned individuals worked against the fusion while at the same time the Communist Party opposed the fusion and fought it from the outside while the above named individuals carried on the fight within the organization. All of these people went with the Communist Party after the fusion was decided upon and almost the next day LOUIS BUDENZ was writing articles for the DAILY WORKER. According to [redacted] who has been in the radical movement and is well informed, BUDENZ rose entirely too rapidly within the Communist Party for it to be natural. It is apparently [redacted] theory that these people were working for the Communist Party all the time. RUBY WILSON has entirely passed out of the knowledge of informant at the present time. The purpose in giving all of the above history is to place her with the above group because, according to [redacted] it is understood to be RUBY WEILL alias

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WILSON who was in Paris at the time of the founding conference of the Fourth International and who introduced SYLVIA AGELOFF and JACSON. He mentioned also that SYLVIA AGELOFF apparently had money and made trips to Europe and Mexico.

[REDACTED] told agent that he understood that a man named INNESS had said that JACSON was tied up with GEORGE MINK and ROY HUDSON in the organization which preceded the NATIONAL MARITIME UNION. INNESS is now in the National Maritime Union and is one of the leaders of the opposition, this being the faction which allegedly fights against JOE CURRAN and the Communists. He states, however, that INNESS is not friendly disposed toward the Government and indicated that he had been "pushed around" by Government agents.

With further reference to JACSON's trunk, inquiry was made through the PENNSYLVANIA HOTEL of Assistant Manager [REDACTED] and no record could be found of a H. CHRISTIE being a guest of that hotel. There had once been a guest named H. G. CHRISTIE there. This however, was in February of 1939, who checked in on February 12th and out on February 13th. He gave as an address Groton, Connecticut.

[REDACTED] made inquiry of the Clerk in charge of the mail desk but she did not remember the name CHRISTIE. It was explained both by the clerks at the desk and by [REDACTED] that persons could have mail directed to themselves at the hotel and pick it up there without being registered and without any record being made of this. This, they state, is constantly being done by what they call "the lobby guests."

Agent communicated with [REDACTED] an old timer in the Communist and Radical Labor movement in this city, now with the C.I.C. Building Service Union, but he could throw no light on the identity of JACSON. Like other persons interviewed who are familiar with the radical movement, he is under the impression that the murder of LEON TROTSKY was engineered by the STALINITES.

At a subsequent interview confidential informant [REDACTED] said that a man named THOMAS who was in the ABRAHAM LINCOLN BATTALION, mentioned to him that SYLVIA AGELOFF had introduced JACSON to him last summer under the name of JACSON. He fixes the time as about one year ago. THOMAS explained that he was going to "make a play for her" but that he dropped the idea when he found that she was with JACSON.

With reference to ROSMER mentioned above, the informant furnished his name as ALFRED ROSMER and described him as a French

syndicalist who had come here and warned TROTZKY against JACSON and passed through New York about the Spring of 1938 and passed through here again about two or three months ago. The same informant also stated that one of SYLVIA's sisters was a member of the WORKERS PARTY in Boston while the other was a member of the WORKERS PARTY here. This is the organization headed by MAX SCHACHTMAN which split from the TROTZKY group.

Special Agent W. J. McNulty brought to this office a clipping from the MONTREAL MORNING STAR, dated August 29, 1940, which states that the photostatic copy of the Immigration Card issued to subject JACSON shows him to be F. JACSON, 1269 St. Denis St., Montreal, Canada. This item states that the 1939 Directory shows there is no such address as 1269 St. Denis St., Montreal, nor is there anyone by the name of JACSON in the Montreal Directory.

The news item goes on to state that his Immigration Card was issued in New York on October 8th by the Mexican Consul General on information supplied by JACSON, according to RAFAEL NIETO, the Mexican Consul General at Montreal. NIETO also said that the Mexican newspapers stated that the same man had previously entered Mexico once posing as an American and once as a Belgian.

All of the people interviewed who might be expected to be familiar with the persons involved in this matter, express surprise at the total lack of information available in this city among people in the radical movement concerning JACSON.

[REDACTED] furnished information to the effect that RAY SPIEGEL alias RAY SAUNDERS was until fairly recently in Mexico (Coyocan) as secretary to Trotzky and should know JACSON and SYLVIA AGELOFF. MRS SPIEGEL, he said, could be reached through Ext. 94 at CANAL 6-2100. Inquiry of the telephone company shows this number was changed to CANAL 6-4000, the Federal Building at 641 Washington Street, New York City. [REDACTED] name should be kept confidential in this matter.

A telephone communication from the Bureau on August 23rd, gave information to the effect FRANK JACSON executed an application for a passport at Mexico City on June 12, 1940. He said he was born on June 13, 1905 at Lovinac, Jugoslavia; that he was the bearer of British passport No. 31377, issued March 22, 1937, at Ottawa, Canada; gave his permanent address as 1269 St. Denis St., Montreal. In view of the indefiniteness of JACSON's nationality it might be well to check at the English, French, Belgian, Mexican and Jugoslavian Consulates as to his passports and visas.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City, will interview [REDACTED] for information as to political history of SYLVIA AGELOFF.

Will consider the advisability of interviewing [REDACTED] alias [REDACTED] formerly on [REDACTED] for details of both subjects' association with LEON TROTZKY in Mexico.

Will consider the advisability of interviewing [REDACTED] regarding both subjects.

Through [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] will locate and interview [REDACTED]

Will consider advisability of interviewing [REDACTED]

Will obtain good photographs of JACSON and exhibit them to persons who may be interviewed in connection with the investigation.

Will check with [REDACTED] authorities, if this has not been done by the Albany office, as to JACSON, at 63 Rue Notre Dame de L'Oest, Montreal; also as to the address 1269 St. Denis St., Montreal, mentioned in the MONTREAL MORNING STAR of August 29, 1940.

Will consider advisability of interviewing [REDACTED] who returned to the United States after the split between Cannon and Shachtman. Locate [REDACTED] through [REDACTED] or through his wife who was on relief, [REDACTED] and who also worked on [REDACTED] Her correct name is [REDACTED] but she is known as [REDACTED] in the Workers Party.

Will consider advisability of interviewing [REDACTED] as to any connection between JACSON and ROY HUDSON or GEORGE MINK.

Will interview [REDACTED] for same details as listed above for interview with [REDACTED]

62-6870

Will keep in touch with [REDACTED] for any leads that might come to his attention.

Will keep in touch with [REDACTED] for any leads he may learn of.

Will consider the advisability of a more open and thorough inquiry at vicinity of SYLVIA AGELOFF's home to determine whether JACSON was ever seen there (50 Livingston St., New York, N.Y.)

Will check with the AMERICAN EXPRESS CO. as to any letter of credit or other information on JACSON. (See memorandum of August 23, 1940 of telephone communication from Bureau).

Will consider the advisability of checking with Jugoslavian, French, Belgian, English and Mexican Consulates for any records they may have of JACSON as applying for visas, passports or otherwise.

Will consider the advisability of checking records on SYLVIA AGELOFF which were furnished to the office of MAYOR F. W. LOGGARDIA.

Will check with the FRENCH LINE for any and all information concerning JACSON, who arrived at least once on one of the French Line boats, i.e. "ILE de FRANCE" on September 2, 1939.

No leads are at this time set out for other offices as they have been covered by requests transmitted from the Bureau or the New York Office by telephone, teletype or letter.

- PENDING -

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

CNC:LL

August 23, 1940

4:00 P. M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CLEGG

Re: LEON TROTSKY

I telephonically communicated with Special Agent in Charge Stevens at Albany and requested that he cause an appropriate investigation to be conducted relative to the address "1269 St. Denis Street, Montreal, Ontario, Canada," which is given on an application for a transit certificate executed on June 12, 1940, before the American Consulate at Mexico by Frank Jacson, who is identical with the assassin of Trotsky, as Jacson's permanent residence. Mr. Stevens was advised that Jacson apparently recently visited the above address.

Mr. Stevens was informed that copies of an enlarged photograph of Jacson would be forwarded to the Albany office as soon as they are prepared.

Respectfully,

*C. H. Cannon*

C. H. Cannon

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

65-2112-5

*YH*

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
FILED

*[Signature]*



RECORDED

RJB:ECR  
65-29162-5

September 17, 1940

Rear Admiral Walter S. Anderson  
Director, Naval Intelligence  
Navy Department  
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL  
SPECIAL MESSENGER

My dear Admiral:

[REDACTED]

For your additional information in connection with this matter, I am enclosing herewith one copy of the report of Special Agent George J. Starr, dated at New York City on September 3, 1940. This investigation is being continued and upon receipt of additional investigative reports copies of the same will be furnished to you for your information.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 ★ SEP 18 1940 ★  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 18 1940  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

MB

RECORDED

RJB:ECR  
65-29162-5

September 17, 1940

Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary of State  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL  
SPECIAL MESSENGER

My dear Mr. Berle:

[REDACTED]

For your additional information in connection with this matter, I am enclosing herewith one copy of the report of Special Agent George J. Starr, dated at New York City on September 3, 1940. This investigation is being continued and upon receipt of additional investigative reports copies of the same will be furnished to you for your information.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Fenwick \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 ★ SEP 18 1940 ★  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Handwritten notes:*  
 ✓ [initials]  
 [Outline drawing]  
 H.A.C.  
 R/S

RECORDED RJB:ECR  
65-29162 -5

September 17, 1940

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE: FRANK JACSON, was.  
SYLVIA AGELOFF, wa.,  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Dear Sir:

The Bureau is in receipt of the report of Special Agent George J. Starr dated at New York City on September 3, 1940, and has noted that no copies of this report were indicated for the San Antonio Office. You are, therefore, requested to furnish two copies of this report to that Office for its information, and in the future copies of all reports in connection with this case should be furnished to the San Antonio Office.

It is also noted that the letter from the Houston Office to your Office dated August 28, 1940, carried the true name of the subject as Jacques Bernard van den Droschd, and since it appears that this is the individual's correct name the title of your case should be changed accordingly. A review of this file in the Bureau indicates also that this individual has also used aliases of Jack Morton and Jack Leonard. He is also referred to as Jacques Bernard van den Droschd.

The San Antonio Office is requested to verify the spelling of the name Mornard so that in future reports this name may be correctly spelled.

Very truly yours,

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
\* SEP 18 1940 \*  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

✓

*[Handwritten signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*

cc San Antonio

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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

WEG:LEL  
62-5873

September 6, 1940

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: CARMEN HENRIQUETA GONZALEZ GARCIA;  
CARMEN PEANDEA; MRS. PAULINE FLEISCHMAN;  
MRS. SREININA FLEISCHMAN alias Ernestina  
Fleischman;  
INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION

Dear Sir:

Special Agent W. F. Griffin made a surveillance of the premises at 26 East 93rd Street, New York City. This is an apartment house located at the southwest corner of Madison Avenue and 93rd Street. It was ascertained that the owners of the building are GELSTAN'S COMPANY, INC., 19 West 48th Street, New York City, telephone Wickersham 2-6200.

[REDACTED] was interviewed and advised that Mrs. PAULINE FLEISCHMAN occupied apartment 2A, consisting of four rooms and two baths. She has been living at this location for the past five years. She has told the owners that she intends leaving the apartment at 26 East 93rd Street on October 1, 1940 for larger quarters at another location. Her reason for doing this is that she needs a room for her "nurse."

[REDACTED] advised that about ten years ago Mrs. FLEISCHMAN'S son enlisted in the Abraham Lincoln Brigade and fought in Spain for the Communist Government. He was killed in the fighting and since that time Mrs. FLEISCHMAN has been ill and has required the services of a "professional nurse." [REDACTED] said she is "well off" financially and is supposed to have been related to SAUEL UNTERMEYER, prominent [REDACTED] attorney of New York City.

At Agent Griffin's suggestion, [REDACTED] telephoned [REDACTED] to secure further information.

COPIES DESTROYED  
198 SEP 2 1953

SEP 10 1940  
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Letter - Director - Confidential  
62-6870

especially regarding the "professional nurse." [redacted] advised that the "nurse" was Mrs. FLEISCHMAN's daughter-in-law who had been married to the son killed in Spain. He stated that her name was CRISTINA FLEISCHMAN and that only the mother and daughter-in-law lived in this apartment.

It should be noted that there is a difference between her name as given by [redacted] that is CRISTINA, and the name furnished by the Bureau, ESTERINA.

[redacted] stated that he was surprised to learn that the "nurse" was not actually a nurse but the daughter-in-law of Mrs. FLEISCHMAN, inasmuch as he has always heard her referred to as a nurse. He could not account for the fact that Mrs. FLEISCHMAN intended leaving this apartment for larger quarters to accommodate the daughter-in-law inasmuch as he considered four rooms and two baths enough for any two people.

[redacted] stated that he considered [redacted] to be a reliable person and a good American and thought no risk would be entailed in contacting him directly, therefore, he was interviewed by Special Agent Griffin.

[redacted] stated that the FLEISCHMAN apartment was used as a hang-out for Communists. He stated he could always tell when a Communist demonstration or parade was about to take place because materials were brought into the FLEISCHMAN apartment with which to make banners and placards to be used by the Communists. He stated on the night that a demonstration or parade was to take place numerous Communists would come in and carry the banners and placards out of the apartment house and at this time Mrs. FLEISCHMAN and her daughter-in-law would accompany them to the demonstration.

He said that frequently Mrs. FLEISCHMAN has visitors who stay two and three days in the apartment and that these persons are all foreigners, particularly Spaniards. He said that some of these persons were refugees from Spain whom Mrs. FLEISCHMAN assisted.

[redacted] said he believed the name of the daughter-in-law was CRISTINA and said it was possible that he might be wrong

Letter - Director - Confidential  
62-6376

in this and it might be SPANISH. It appears from his statement regarding the visitors who stay with the FLEISCHMAN family that the four-room apartment is not large enough. This is a different situation from the idea of [REDACTED] who, of course, is not personally acquainted with the situation at the apartment house. It may be that the reason the FLEISCHMANS are getting larger quarters is to accommodate the Spanish Communists who visit them.

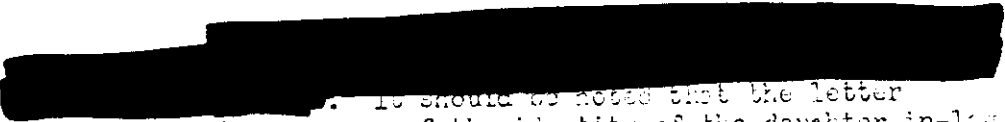
[REDACTED] further stated that Mrs. FLEISCHMAN had a niece by the name of [REDACTED] also living at 26 East 93rd Street. This woman's husband is supposed to be a doctor and is supposed to be a wealthy man who visits this place occasionally. [REDACTED] stated he very much doubted that this man was her husband. He also stated that there is a Mrs. GENSEL living at 26 East 93rd Street who is associated with Communists inasmuch as at one time she ran a musical in her terrace apartment for the benefit of the Communist Government in Spain and at that time sold chances, conducted raffles, etc. to raise funds, very much to the annoyance of the tenants of the building.

[REDACTED] stated he never heard of MARTIN MALERA or CARMEN BARRQUETA COVEDA MARQUE. He said that Mrs. FLEISCHMAN gave specific instructions that no visitors to her apartment were to be announced and that therefore he does not know the names of any visitors. He said this situation might be changed because of the fact that several process servers have recently gone into Mrs. FLEISCHMAN'S apartment, and that when she complained of it, he reminded her of her instructions not to announce anyone.

He stated he would give every assistance possible to the Bureau and would advise the New York Office of any information that he received.

Through [REDACTED] Superintendent of Station K of the United States Post Office, located at 211 East 87th Street, New York City, Agent Griffin interviewed [REDACTED], letter carrier, who delivers mail to the FLEISCHMAN apartment at 26 East 93rd Street, New York City. [REDACTED] stated that Mrs. FLEISCHMAN and her "nurse" had just returned from a month's vacation at Chalet Indian Hotel, Poiceville, Ulster County, New York. He stated she received quite a bit of mail as well as some foreign newspaper which may be Spanish or Italian.

Letter - Director - ~~Confidential~~  
62-6870

  
It should be noted that the letter carrier was also unaware of the identity of the daughter-in-law and thought that she was a "nurse."

Very truly yours,

*B. E. Sackoff*

B. E. SACKOFF  
Special Agent in Charge

August 24, 1940

CHC:NTP

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

[REDACTED]

C

[REDACTED]

C

I am informed that Frank Jackson, the individual who fatally attacked Leon Protzki in Mexico on June 12, 1940 executed an application for a transit certificate before the American Consulate at Mexico City, this certificate being sought for the purpose of permitting travel through the United States en route to Montreal, Canada.

In this certificate, Jackson furnished the following information:

He stated that he was born on June 13, 1905 at Lovinac, Yugoslavia, being a British subject and the bearer of British passport No. 31377 issued on March 22, 1937 by the Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, Canada, the passport being valid until March 22, 1942.

Jackson, in this application, indicated that he is unmarried and maintains a permanent residence at 1259 St. Denis Street, Montreal, Canada and he previously arrived in Mexico on October 12, 1937 for the purpose of recuperating from an accident. He also indicated that he is a mechanical engineer by profession.

He advised that he intended to remain in the United States for approximately two days where his address would be 50 Livingstone Street, Brooklyn, New York. He furnished

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
RECORDED & INDEXED  
★ AUG 27 1940 ★  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

65-41102-7  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
3 AUG 29 1940  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

VJ

*[Handwritten signatures]*



as references the following:

Sylvia Ageloff, 50 Livingstone Street,  
Brooklyn, New York

American Express Company (address unknown)

There were also furnished as references on this application a number of people in Mexico.

Upon applying for the above mentioned transit certificate, Jackson exhibited a letter from the Cia. Mexicana de Aviacion dated June 12, 1940, which indicated that Jackson had previously deposited money for a plane ticket to Montreal, Canada and a reservation had been made for this trip.



Assuring you of my desire to cooperate in all matters of mutual interest,

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

91

August 24, 1940

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Re: FRANK JACSON, SYLVIA ABELOFF;  
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sirs:

In confirmation of the telephone conversation between Assistant Special Agent in Charge H. A. Quinn and Mr. Carson of the Bureau on August 23, 1940, you are advised that on June 12, 1940 Frank Jacson executed an application for a transit certificate before the American Consulate at Mexico City. This certificate was sought to enable Jacson to travel through the United States en route to Montreal, Canada.

In the above application, Jacson furnished the following information:

It was stated that he was born on June 13, 1905 by Lovinac, Yugoslavia, being a British subject and the bearer of British passport No. 31377 issued on March 22, 1937 by the Department of External Affairs at Ottawa, Canada, the passport being valid until March 22, 1942. He stated that he was unmarried and that his permanent address was at 1267 St. Denis Street, Montreal, Canada. Jacson advised that he previously arrived in Mexico on October 12, 1939 for the purpose of recuperating from an accident.

Jacson indicated that he is a mechanical engineer by trade. He indicated that he intended to remain for approximately two days in the United States at 50 Livingstone Street, Brooklyn, New York and he furnished as references the following:

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
Sylvia Abeloff, 50 Livingstone Street,  
Brooklyn, New York

★ AUG 27 1940  
P. M.  
indicating that he possessed "a letter of credit there."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

RECORDED 65-3717-8  
 AUG 26 1940  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*

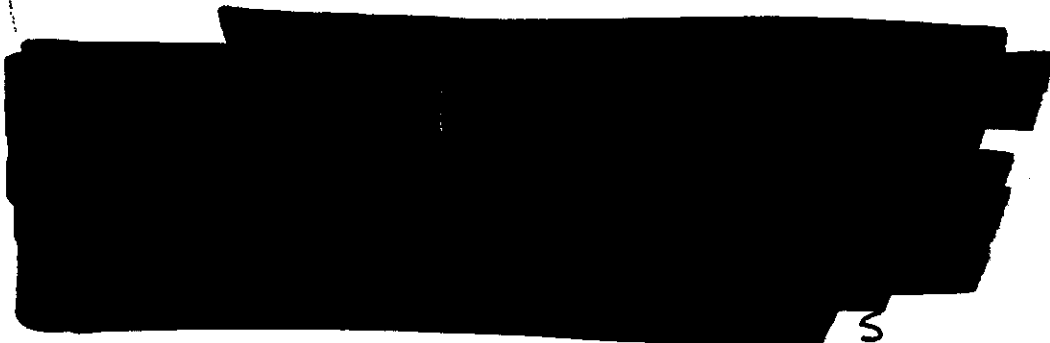
Evelyn Andreas, Ramon Guzman 6,  
Mexico, D. F.

H. A. Schultz, Hotel Canada, Mexico,  
D. F.

When applying for the above certificate, Jacson presented a letter from the Cia. Mexicana de Aviacion dated June 12, 1940 and containing information that Jacson deposited money for a plane ticket for Montreal and a reservation had been made by this individual.

The transit certificate in question was granted on June 12, 1940 and two copies of an enlarged photograph 6" x 8" of Jacson are being furnished herewith for your information and for use by your Office in connection with the inquiry presently being conducted in regard to this matter.

The Bureau desires that a very careful and thorough investigation be conducted concerning this matter in the area covered by your Field Office. Every possible effort should be expended to ascertain all available information regarding Jackson's background, associates and activities. As you were previously advised, the Bureau desires that every precaution be exercised to avoid any publicity of any kind whatsoever concerning this investigation.



- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Fenwick \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Two copies of a 6" x 8" enlarged photograph of Frank Jacson are also being furnished herewith to the

SAC New York

Page Three

Albany Office.

[REDACTED] S

[REDACTED] S

[REDACTED] S

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc Albany - with enclosures

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

84

WAC:VR

65-29162-4X

April 11, 1941

Mr. Gus T. Jones  
c/o the American Embassy  
Mexico City, Mexico

Dear Mr. Jones:

The following information has been received from a source the reliability of which is unknown and is being passed on to you for your information:

"The killing of Leon Trotsky was set up by a plot hatched in Los Angeles, California. One of the leaders was W. Colfax Miller, who went to California some time ago. He was one of the leaders in the Communist group in New York City, and later became one of the Lincoln Battalion in Spain. While in California, he was very friendly with Frank Tuttle, Dorothy Parker, Gale Sondergard, and the rest of the Red mob. Later on, Miller, whom I know very well, went into Mexico and immediately went to the little town of Tacuba, which is a suburb of Mexico City. In this little town is a building known as the Casa Blanca, which is actually the Communist Party headquarters, and the Reds reside there. Among those living there were Miller, Katherine Burke, who is contact woman for Gale Sondergard of Hollywood, Ludwig Wren, a German Communist, and a Swedish woman by the name of Kyse, who was a G.P.U. spy in Spain during the Loyalist uprising. In the Casa Blanca, this group had the floor plans of the Trotsky residence. And another Red mixed up in the plot was David Alfara, a famous Mexican painter and Communist. Lewis Arenhal, another Mexican painter, was in on the plot, too.

"Being personally acquainted with this man, know that he was sent to Mexico by the Communist leaders of the E.C.C.I. and another woman who went with him was Mildred Schultz, who formerly was from Pennsylvania.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

VIA DIPLOMATIC MAIL POUCH

RETURN DIRECTLY TO SIS DIVISION

85

W. COLFAX MILLER

COMMUNIST

New York, N. Y.,

August 28, 1940.

The killing of Leon Trotsky was set up by a plot hatched in Los Angeles, California. One of the leaders was W. Colfax Miller, who went to California some time ago. He was one of the leaders in the Communist group in New York City, and later became one of the Lincoln Battalion in Spain. While in California, he was very friendly with Frank Tuttle, Dorothy Parker, Gale Sondegard, and the rest of the Red mob. In fact, Miller, whom I know very well, went into Mexico and immediately went to the little town of Tacuba, which is a suburb of Mexico City. In this little town is a building known as the Casa Blanca, which is actually the Communist Party headquarters, and the Reds reside there. Among those living there were Miller, Katherine Burke, who is in contact with Gale Sondegard of Hollywood, Ludwig Wren, a German Communist, and a Swedish woman by the name of Kvze, who was a G.P.U. spy in Spain during the Loyalty uprising. In the Casa Blanca, this group had the floor plans of the Trotsky residence. And another Red mixed up in the plot was David Alfara, a famous Mexican painter and Communist. Lewis Aranzhel, another Mexican painter, was in on the plot, too.

Being personally acquainted with this man, I know that he was sent to Mexico by the Communist leaders of the E.C.C.I. and another woman who went with him was Edna Schultz, who formerly was from Pennsylvania.

*lett to sac June 4-11-41  
W.C.M.*

RECORDED  
INDEXED

105-111-111-111  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
3 DEC 27 1940  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FIVE

86

Re: MEXICAN MATTERS;  
COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES;  
ASSAULT ON LEON TROTSKY.

Photographs of the body of SHELDON HARTE.  
Photograph of SHELDON HARTE.



CAUTION  
UNCLASSIFIED TAL

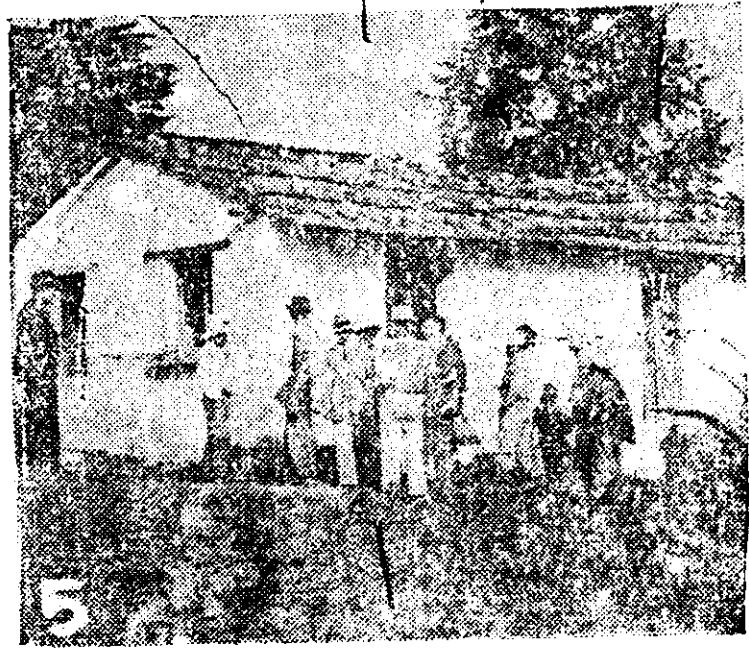


DENIED

MARIANO HERRERA VASQUEZ.



RICARDO.



HOUSE WHERE BODY WAS FOUND.

INDEXED



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300

111-11111-09

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, U. S. A.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

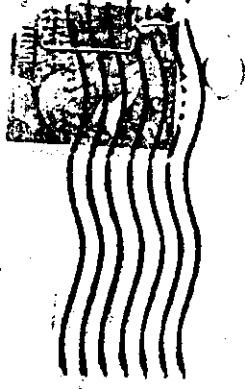
J. B. Little, Esquire,

Room 1647,

Department of Justice Building,

Washington, D. C.

89



WASHINGTON D.C. 20540  
AUG 25 5-PM '61

MR J. EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON

CT 26 1950

65-21112-1A-1  
CHANGED TO  
10-27-50

C

Se espera que de un momento u otro el Presidente de la República firme un decreto declarando la exención de tributos al azúcar destinada a las industrias de leche condensada.

SE ALQUILAN DOS con balcón a la calle, muy ventilada sin asistencia, dúo en ruinas No. 12 primer piso.

ALQUILO BUENA caballería o matrícula, cerca del Hospital, con abundancia María 17, entre Inquisidor.

SE ALQUILA UNA con todo el servicio, localidad, hay agua. Para hombres solo. C. (tos.)

CHARITACION FREES con. Levado, luz, todo siempre \$11.00 par. Lealtad esquina Salud la proxima Conferencia de la Habana también demandas ecorizadas en la forma

1.—Todos los dep gelados en el Banco Costa Rica y periente exportadores alemanes, dar a la disposición del siblemente para el mar de los buques de bande sus tripulaciones, refwi los puertos costarricense  
2.—El trato que se e a los marinos de los b. manes refugiados en P. nas, no es tan satisfactori que se da a los tripulanti buques aliados que se en allí.

Se confirma que los biernos centro-americanos zarán la nota del Ministro de Alemania Dr. Otto Reinebeck, y que la réplica de la concillería de Costa Rica estará conforme, en forma y fondo, con las respuestas de los cuatro restante, es decir, las de Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua y El Salvador.

guerra civil stalinista, y pide se le interrogue, porque dará mucha luz en lo que respecta a la preparación del atentado y a descubrir el conjunto de cómplices. La policía, por su parte, informa que también tiene entre ojos a ese pintor.

En tal virtud con objeto de que lo "presentaran" fueron comisionados numerosos agentes secretos, que lo buscan por todas partes sin encontrarlo. Parece que salió de la capital o que está escondido.

El señor General J. Manuel Núñez, Jefe de la Policía, a propósito

# Reservada a la Casa de L. Trotsky

## Los Agentes Tratan de Localizar a Siqueiros Para Interrogarlo en el Escandaloso Asunto del Refugiado

La policía parece dispuesta a demostrar que no se casa, como vulgarmente se dice, con una idea, cuando se ocupa de esclarecer un asunto, sino que acoge cuantas se le sugieren, las analiza, las pone en ejecución, y si no dan resultado, las desecha.

Lo decimos, porque en el atentado contra el líder ruso León Trotsky, sigue ahora otra pista que parece ser razonable.

Por lo pronto, los dos sujetos que atraen sospechas, han desaparecido; de uno de ellos sabemos que se encuentra en los Estados Unidos, pero del otro se perdió todo rastro. Ambos, son ligeros comunistas de mucha nota, y uno de ellos, según parece, es el llamado "residente nacional de la GPU en México", y refugiado español.

Uno de los secretarios y guarda-espaldas del líder ruso, Jacke Cooper, dijo que a la hora del asalto, se encontraba en su cuarto, y al aseomarse a inquirir lo que ocurría, vio a un individuo que, armado con una pistola, se dirigió a ellos y les gritó en perfecto inglés:

—No se muevan porque se mueren!— Voz que le recordó la de un sujeto que días antes se puso a seguirlo a cierta distancia, por todas partes, hasta que metido con la insistencia Cooper reclamó al desconocido, con quien tuvo un altercado e iban a llegar a las manos, cuando intervinieron unos policías, que los condujeron a la delegación de Coyocacán.

Allí, el desconocido alegó que no hablaba ni entendía el español, pero en español le lanzó a puros al americano multitud de amenazas. Después llegó un compañero de Cooper y al hablar los dos en inglés, intervino el desconocido en ese mismo idioma, y volvió a injuriar y a amenazar. Notó, Cooper, que el insolente hablaba en la delegación, con la arrogancia de un amo, y acabó saliendo en libertad, sin más trámite.

A la hora del asalto, reconoció por la voz que amenaza en inglés "no se muevan o se mueren" al mismo sujeto, que supuso no es otro que el refugiado español, comunista, Santiago Garcés.

**GARCÉS PERTENECE A UNA AGRUPACION**  
Garcés, según se sabe, pertenece

luisas que gentes secretas de EXCELSIOR se presente ante la sociedad posible, de no hacerlo, de lograré que sea pre- que de no hacerlo vo- que, será por conducto de

hecho es el refugiado ago Garcés, al que se identico nacional de la ico; es decir, el repre- de esa institución sta-

cio muy compromete- e sujeto, que parece ora del asalto, presen- de Trotsky.

Uno de los secretarios y guarda-espaldas del líder ruso, Jacke Cooper, dijo que a la hora del asalto, se encontraba en su cuarto, y al aseomarse a inquirir lo que ocurría, vio a un individuo que, armado con una pistola, se dirigió a ellos y les gritó en perfecto inglés:

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**GARCÉS PERTENECE A UNA AGRUPACION**  
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de, en España, uno de a policía de Madrid, y jación en el asesinato Calvo Sotelo, cuya ocó la guerra civil es-

es secretos han estado buscando a Garcés, pero se sabe, de buena fuente, que ya se encuentra en los Estados Unidos.

Después de varias diligencias practicadas por la policía, fueron puestos en absoluta libertad, por no existir nada en su contra, los secretarios de León Trotsky, señores Otto Schuesler, Charles Cornell y Juan Bazan. Una de las pistas desechadas, vale la pena decir, así como también el chofer del primer Diego Rivera, Raúl Rodríguez Ortega. Todos ellos estaban presos "en calidad de presentados" en el mismo policia.

Sabemos que en los calabozos de la Jefatura se encuentra siempre en calidad de "presentado", José Clemente, propietario de la "Armería Clemente" ubicada en la calle del Brasil número 5.

Probablemente la presentación del armero obedece a las investigaciones con que se procura determinar en dónde y en que circunstancias los asaltantes de Trotsky adquirieron a las armas, principalmente subametralladoras, y quién fue el comprador.

### UNA ACLARACION DEL PROCURADOR

El Procurador General de la República, licenciado Genaro V. Vazquez, insistiendo una vez más en que la dependencia de su cargo no es competente para conocer del caso de León Trotsky, ya que se trata de un delito del orden común, nos hizo aver las siguientes declaraciones:

"En los periódicos del día de hoy se publica una carta del señor León Trotsky dirigida al suscrito, y como seguramente por un error lo hizo así, creo necesario aclarar que por tratarse de un asunto del fuero común, esta Procuraduría no ha tenido ninguna intervención en el mismo; siendo la del Distrito Federal a la que, conforme a la ley, corresponde conocerlo."

65-2112-92

New York, New York

GJS:MR  
62-6870

August 29, 1940

Special Agent in Charge  
Los Angeles, California

Re: FRANK JACSON, with aliases;  
SYLVIA AGELOFF, with alias.  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Dear Sir:

This Office is conducting a discreet investigation of the history and background of FRANK JACSON and SYLVIA AGELOFF, the two individuals now being detained by the Mexican Police in connection with the recent murder of Leon Trotzky at Coyocan, Mexico. It is believed that JACSON may be an agent of the Soviet Secret Police, commonly known as the GPU, or that he was acting on behalf of that organization.

In the course of the investigation an examination was made of a trunk which has been held since June 21, 1940 in the baggage warehouse, Appraisers Stores Building in this city. On the trunk was a name card of FRANK JACSON and, while the trunk contained mostly clothing, there was found in it a postcard addressed to E. MASLOW, Logaria 83, Tacuba, Mexico DF. It was cancelled at San Francisco January 1, 1940 and shows it was returned for postage due. However, it also bears the cancellation of Tacuba, Mexico, January 3, 1940.

The postcard bears the return address of 5446 Virginia Avenue, Hollywood, California and a signature which appears to be CONWAY and SARA DAVIES and indicates that the signers of the card were leaving San Francisco January 1, 1940 for Hollywood and would go from there to the Rancho at Escondido.

The local press carried an item indicating that the correct name of the girl involved in this investigation is SYLVIA AGELOFF MASLOW. On the basis of the name MASLOW on the postcard and the correct name of the girl given above, as well as the card affixed to the trunk bearing the peculiar spelling of the name

GJS:MR  
62-6870  
8/29/40

JACSON, coupled with the fact that this trunk was shipped from Mexico by a passenger who presumably left Brownsville by Pan-American Airways at about the same time, it is believed that this is the trunk of FRANK JACSON, the Subject in this case and the man who actually killed Leon Trotsky.

Photographs of both sides of the postcard are enclosed herewith for your information, as well as a copy of a teletype sent to the Bureau dated August 29, 1940, and you will be guided by instructions received from the Bureau as to the extent of any investigation you should make concerning the people who sent this postcard.

Very truly yours,

B. E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

VIA AIR MAIL  
Encs. (3)  
cc Bureau

SUMMARIZED TRANSLATION FROM THE SPANISH OF THREE  
CLIPPINGS.

1. Taken from the "Excelsior" of Mexico City on June 2, 1940.

This clipping is headed "Secret Agent follows new clues in the matter of the assault on the house of Leon Trotsky."

It is said that Governmental Agents are trying to locate Siqueiros in order to interrogate him about this shameful attentat on the life of the Russian refugee.

This clipping goes on for parts of three columns giving other details in connection with the search of the police in Mexico for those connected with the attempted assassination of Trotsky. The above-mentioned David Ulfaro Siqueiros is described as having taken part in the Spanish Civil War, and due notice is given to another suspect, a Spanish refugee named Santiago Garces, who is said to belong to the Communist Party in Mexico, and to have taken part in the assassination of Calvo/Sotelo in Madrid, which assassination was the starting point of the Spanish Civil War. It is stated that various other suspects have been released from custody.

The clipping closes with a reprint of the declaration of the Attorney General of the Republic, Genaro V. Vazquez, stating that this case does not fall under the jurisdiction of his department, but that it fell under the authority of the police of the Federal District.

2. Taken from the "Discusion" of July 17, 1940.

This is a very brief clipping, expressing the hope that the President of the Republic will sign a decree exempting sugar destined for the condensed milk industries, from taxes.

3. Taken from the "Alerta" of Havana, Cuba, for July 15, 1940.

This clipping is date-lined at San Jose de Costa Rica, July 14, 1940, and was released by the Associated Press.

It concerns the demands made by the German Reich that bank deposits belonging to her in the bank of Costa Rica, be regarded as frozen assets remaining at the disposition of the Reich, in

COPIES DESTROYED

1963 SEP 22 1960

*copies sent  
to H. C. F.  
H. C. F.  
San Antonio*

INDEXED

order to care for the maintenance of Nazi boats and crews presently refugeed at Costa Rican ports. It is also stated that this same communication from the German Ministry complained about the treatment given to the German boats at Punta Arenas in contradiction to the excellent treatment given to the allied boats found there.

This same communication is also said to have demanded that no attitude prejudicial to the Reich be taken by Costa Rica in the coming conference of Chancellors at Havana, Cuba.

It is also stated that the other four Central American Republics have been sent similar notices, and that all five of these Republics will answer in the same way. These other four Republics are those of Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador.

- - - - -

SUMMARIZED TRANSLATION FROM THE SPANISH BY:

Paul A. Neuland

9/3/40.

96



JBL:ERM  
65-29162

September 4, 1940

PERSONAL AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

AIR MAIL  
SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. B. E. Sackett  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
607 U. S. Court House, Foley Square  
New York, New York

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VAN DENDRESCHD  
aliases: Jacques Monard, Frank  
Jackson, Frank Jacson, Jack Monard;  
SYLVIA AGELOFF alias Silvia Azeloff;  
ESPIONAGE

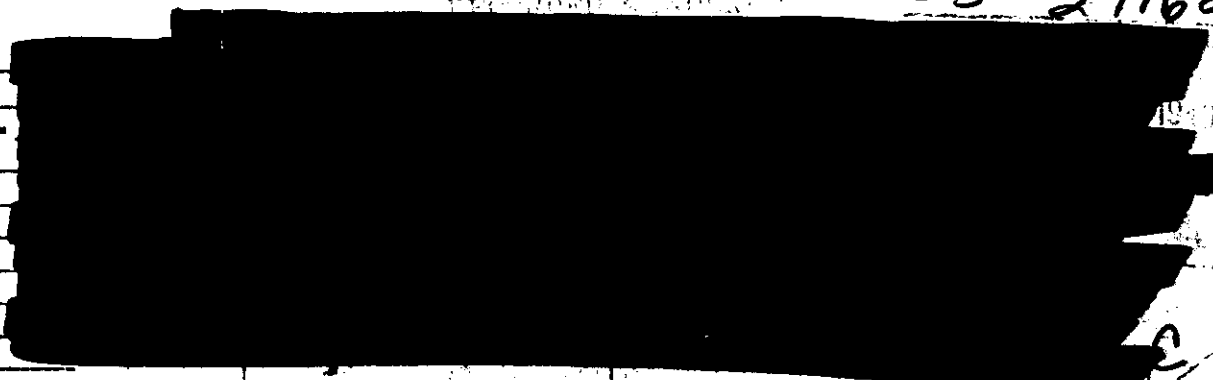
Dear Sir:

On the afternoon of August 20, 1940, Leon Trotsky was murdered in his home at Coyocacan, Mexico, by Jacques Mornard van Dendreschd through the use of an Alpine climber's ax. The Bureau's investigation in this case is not concerned with the murder of Trotsky, but with an exhaustive and comprehensive inquiry into the background and contacts of both van Dendreschd and Ageloff with a view to determining the identities of those responsible for directing the death of Trotsky. Representatives of the OGPU in the United States were probably responsible for the murder of Trotsky by van Dendreschd, and exhaustive and expeditious efforts should be directed toward verifying information furnished by van Dendreschd and Ageloff and to developing full and complete information concerning their activities and contacts.

For the information of the interested offices, data secured to date in this matter is being set forth.

65-29162-10

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



★ SEP 5 1940 ★  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Handwritten initials and scribbles, possibly "Hick" and "E".

AMASD P&G

- 2 -

9/4/40

SAC New York

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VAN DENDRESCHD  
was; et al; ESPIONAGE

[REDACTED]

Van Dendreschd claimed to have a brother, Robert, in the Belgium Diplomatic Service. In Paris, van Dendreschd claims to have lived at Boulevard Ponitatosky 578 on the sixth floor. He married Henrietta van Fouchet in 1934 and was divorced in 1939. He became acquainted with Ruby Well, an American, to whom he loaned his apartment during her few weeks stay in Paris. Ruby's sister later arrived in Paris, accompanied by Sylvia Ageloff, and van Dendreschd entertained them at Ruby's request. Through his close contact with Sylvia, she taught van Dendreschd Marxism, Stalinism, Trotskism and other isms, and he became very interested in these matters, in the course of which she introduced him to several followers of the Fourth International. One of these individuals, whose name van Dendreschd did not disclose, inquired what he thought of making a trip to Mexico, stating that Trotsky needed followers such as van Dendreschd. Van Dendreschd accepted the proposition and was furnished with a passport under the name of Frank Jackson of Canadian origin and \$200 for traveling expenses, being advised he would be supplied with funds as required. He obtained \$5,000 from his mother under the pretense of travel to escape the horrors of war and, upon his arrival in the United States, he became reunited with Sylvia, explaining to her that he had changed his name and had traveled to the United States in order to escape military service and that he was continuing to Mexico on business matters.

He obtained a tourist card from the Mexican Consulate and upon arrival in Mexico City, stopped at the Hotel Guardiola under the guise of a common tourist. He was joined shortly thereafter in Mexico City by Sylvia Ageloff. He became acquainted with Trotsky who desired to send him on a mission to Russia by way of Shanghai, but refused to permit Sylvia Ageloff to accompany him, and he claims he became obsessed with the idea of killing Trotsky and then committing suicide.

98

AMASD P&G

SAC New York

Re: JACQUES MORNAER VAN DENDRESCHD

was; et al; ESPIONAGE

- 3 -

9/4/40

On the day of the murder, van Dendreschd visited Trotsky with an article he had written containing statistical data on France, and was invited by Trotsky into his office. On this occasion van Dendreschd was armed with a piolet (Alpine climber's pick) inside of his raincoat, a .45 caliber pistol hung between his shoulder blades and a dagger sewed in the lining of his coat. When the opportunity presented he struck Trotsky with the piolet, and was prevented from being slain by the guards through the efforts of Mrs. Trotsky.



Additional information obtained regarding van Dendreschd's background and activities reflects that he left France on September 2, 1939 on the S. S. Ile de France, arriving in New York six or seven days later; that he proceeded to Mexico by train about a month later, entering Mexico about the middle of October, 1939. Van Dendreschd speaks good Spanish, excellent French and, due to his good command of English, appeared to have resided for some time in the United States. Sylvia Ageloff resides at 40 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, and it was through her that van Dendreschd gained entree to Trotsky's home, since she was quite well acquainted with Trotsky's wife.

On June 12, 1940, van Dendreschd as Frank Jackson obtained visa #328 from the American Consul General's Office in Mexico City for a transient trip through the United States to Montreal, Canada. His

99

AMASD P&O

- 4 -

9/4/40

SAC New York

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VAN DENDRESCHD  
was; et al; ESPIONAGE

application in this respect reflects that he was a subject of Canada and held Canadian passport #31377, issued in Ottawa, Canada, on March 22, 1937, which was good until March, 1942. He also claimed on this occasion that he entered Mexico on October 20, 1939, on a visit and gave his occupation as engineer. He gave as references in addition to Silvia Axeloff, the names of Evelyn Andreas, Ramon Guzman Street #6, and E. A. Schultz, Hotel Canada, both of Mexico City. At the time of making this application Jacson produced a letter from the Pan-American Airways Company, certifying he had purchased passage from Montreal, Canada, intending to depart on June 13, 1940, and the air line records reflect that he did leave at 1:20 p. m., on that date for Montreal.

Subject as Frank Jacson registered in the Shirley Courts in Mexico City on April 11, 1940, giving his address as 1269 St. Dennis Street, Montreal, Canada, which is the same address he had given the American Consulate in Mexico City when applying for a visa. At the time he registered at the Shirley Courts, he was driving a Buick Sedan bearing Mexican license plates D-2147, and during his stay there acted very mysteriously, being absent for three or four days at a time, stating that he was traveling to other points in Mexico. On these absences he never left anything in the room and insisted on keeping a steamer trunk in the Manager's office during his absence. He had several Mexican callers at the Shirley Courts and received a number of phone calls from a woman named Marguerite. He appeared nervous and impatient and closely observed all people coming to the Shirley Courts. On one occasion while at the Shirley Courts he claimed to be one of six men who knew the Arctic Circle and the Bering Straits perfectly, claiming that at one time the Canadian Government offered him a salary of \$1,200 a month to do surveying work in the Arctic Circle and the Bering Straits country. He stated that the steamer trunk contained engineering equipment and claimed to have learned his Spanish during the time he worked as an engineer for three years in the State of Chiapas, Mexico. He also claimed to have lived for twelve years in Belgium.

While at the Shirley Courts, Jacson is reported to have expressed a rabid hatred for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, claiming that they had killed his father and brother. Jacson left the Shirley Courts on June 13, 1940.

100

AMASD P&C

- 5 -

9/4/40

SAC New York

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VAN DENDRESCHD  
was; et al; ESPIONAGE

The possibility exists that Jackson engineered the first assault on Trotsky and that he may have been the individual who spoke French and got into the car with Sheldon Harte, who was taken by the assaulters and later murdered.

Jackson is reported to have admitted that when he left Mexico City on June 13, 1940, he did not go to Montreal, Canada, but stopped in New York City, where he stayed at the Piedmont Hotel, leaving New York via Eastern Air Lines on June 30, 1940, for Laredo, Texas. At Laredo he claims to have walked across the International Bridge and to have taken the Mexican National Railway to Mexico City, stopping en route for two or three days at San Luis Potosi. He registered upon his arrival in Mexico City about July 5 or 6, 1940, at the Maria Cristina Hotel. Sylvia Ageloff arrived on August 8, 1940.

Sylvia Ageloff verified the fact that Jackson stopped at the Piedmont Hotel in New York City and that he left there on June 30, 1940, by Eastern Air Lines for New Orleans; and that she made the trip by Pan-American Air Lines to Mexico City on August 7 and 8, 1940, upon Jackson's appeal that he was ill. After her arrival in Mexico City, she lived with Jackson as man and wife at the Montejo Hotel.

A Western Union telegram dated August 22, 1940, at Newport, Rhode Island, was addressed to Frank Jacson at the Mexico City Hospital reading, "Congratulations for exterminating the snake," signed Fred, and bore identification marks C-D 274-9.

On October 5, 1939, J. Jacson purchased a letter of credit from the American Express Company in New York City for \$2,500. In making withdrawals from this letter of credit in Mexico he established his identity through Canadian passport #31377, and a naturalization certificate #185586, reflecting that he was naturalized as a British subject in Ottawa, Canada, on December 14, 1929.

Jacson also purchased American Railway Travelers checks in the amount of \$1,000 in New York City.

AMASD F&E

- 6 -

9/4/40

SAC New York

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VAN DENDRESCHD  
was; et al; ESPIONAGE

[REDACTED]

Information was furnished to the Bureau by telephone on August 7, 1940, to the effect that on the previous evening one Garsen Henriqueta Coveda Jarque, a woman, crossed the Mexican border at Laredo, Texas, by train on a Communist errand to New York City in order to make contact with Carmen Mendrea, a well known woman Communist in New York City. The Jarque woman was also to contact Miss Ernestina Eleishaman, 26 East 93rd Street, New York City. The Immigration records at San Antonio fail to disclose any record of this woman; however, there was some indication that the errand might have been connected with Trotsky's death and may offer a possible key to the OGPU in this country.

The New York Office has advised that a postcard was found in a trunk of Jackson held by the Customs authorities in New York City, which bears the return address of 3449 Virginia Avenue, Hollywood, California, the signatures on which appear to be Conway and Sara Davies. This card is dated December 31, 1939, and directed to "Dear Bess", and indicated that the writer was leaving San Francisco on January 1, 1940, for Hollywood, thence to Rancho Escondido. Another card was found addressed to Miss B. Muslow, Legeria 83, Tacuba, Mexico, bearing post office cancellations of San Francisco January 1, and Tacuba January 3.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

AMASD POC

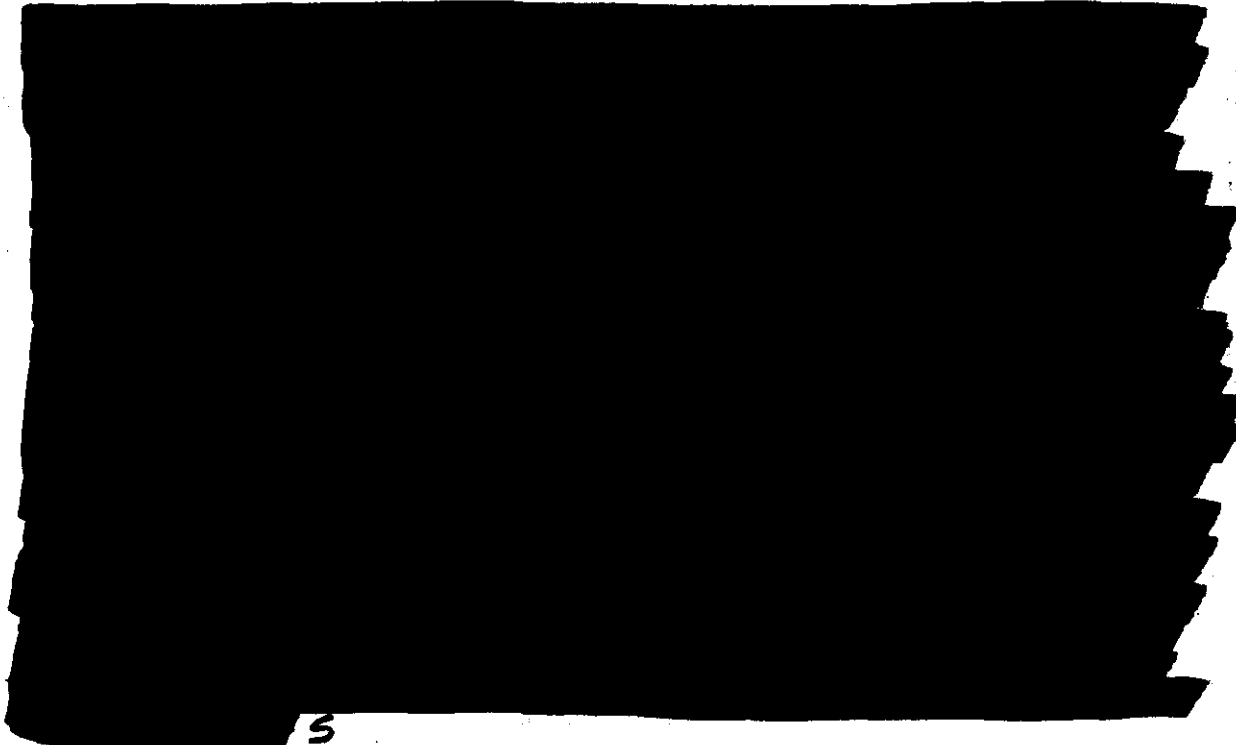
- 7 -

9/4/40

SAC New York

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VAN DENDRESCHD

was; et al; ESPIONAGE



A communication with enclosures has been received from the State Department under date of August 29, 1940, requesting certain lines of inquiry in this matter and copies of the letter and enclosures from the State Department are being furnished to the New York City Office with copies of this letter for appropriate attention.

The State Department has further advised that Boris Shust, referred to in the teletype from the New York City Office dated August 27, 1940, has been unable to furnish any information of value.

The State Department has also advised, aside from the information contained in the enclosed letter, that a book entitled "Strangers of Persia" was published by W. Logan Shuster in 1932, which refers to a Genard in Persia, possibly Jackson's father. Shuster is now connected with the firm of Simon Shuster, Publicity Directors in New York City, and should be contacted in an effort to identify Subject's photograph as having any similarity to the individual mentioned in Shuster's book.

RECORDED

JBL:RM

65-29162 - 11

September 7, 1940

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. B. E. Sackett  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
607 U. S. Court House, Foley Square  
New York, New York

Re: JACQUES MORWARD VAN DENDRESCHD  
with aliases; et al; ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nathan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 SEP 7 1940  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 7 1940  
 COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

**POSTAL**



C

W2 WEXWQ F GOVT

SW NEW YORK NY 10:38A SEPT 5 1940

DIRECTOR

RECORDED

FBI JUSTICE WASH DC

FRANK JACSON ETAL INFORMATION CONCERNING. IF AVAILABLE  
FORWARD FINGERPRINTS SUBJECT TO NYFO FOR LOCAL SEARCH.

NYCPD. ALSO CR AND PHOTO.

SACKETT

1124A

**COPIES DESTROYED  
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dated \_\_\_\_\_  
M \_\_\_\_\_  
By \_\_\_\_\_

JBL:ERM  
65-29162

September 6, 1940

PERSONAL AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. B. E. Sackett  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
U. S. Department of Justice  
607 U. S. Court House, Foley Square  
New York, New York

Re: JACQUES MORNAUD VAN DENDRESCHD  
with aliases; et al; ESPIONAGE

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

Dear Sir:

Supplementing Bureau letter dated September 4, 1940, information has been received to the effect that van Dendreschd states that upon his arrival in New York in September of 1939 he stayed at the home of Sylvia Ageloff located at 601 West 110th Street, New York City, until his departure for Mexico in October of that year. Appropriate inquiry should be conducted at this address in order to obtain all information available regarding the subjects of this case.

Hilda Ageloff, who is supposed to reside at 50 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, sister of Sylvia Ageloff, is reported to know the present address of Marguerite Rosemeres, who is the Marguerite with whom van Dendreschd was in contact during his residence at the Shirley Courts in Mexico City. After the assault on Trotsky in May of 1940, van Dendreschd drove the Rosemeres and Mrs. Trotsky to Vera Cruz, Mexico, from the Trotsky home in Coyoacan, Mexico, where they boarded a ship for New York. Hilda Ageloff should be interviewed to determine the present address of the Rosemeres and to determine what information she possesses concerning the Edificio "Ermita" located in Tacubaya, Mexico, where Jackson claimed "his boss" had an office. She should further be interrogated with reference to the statement made by Sylvia Ageloff that Hilda made an investigation at this building in an effort to locate Jackson's employer and did, in fact, locate a Mexican who claimed that he knew Jackson and that he worked for him in the building. It is important to know if Jackson actually had any connections in this building for the reason that David Alfaro Siquieros and his brother Jesus are both fugitives from justice in connection with the assault on Trotsky in May of 1940, and resided at this address. E D

★ SEP 7 1940 ★  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

37384

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 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SAC New York P&C SD  
Re: JACQUES MORNARD  
VAN DENDRESCHD was;  
et al; ESPIONAGE

- 2 -

9/6/40

The Rosemeres should be interviewed thoroughly with reference to their acquaintance with Jackson and their observations of him while they resided at the Trotsky home in Mexico.

This matter should be given preferred and expeditious attention and reports on the investigation in this case should be submitted without delay. Teletype summaries should be submitted to the Bureau upon completion of each phase of the investigation.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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21112-13

11/11

August 24, 1940.

MEMORANDUM.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VANDENDRESD,  
MURDER OF LEON TROTSKY.

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INDEXED

21162-14  
TVE

I have confidentially ascertained that the assailant of TROTSKY, under the name of J. JACSON on October 5, 1939, purchased a letter of credit from the American Express Company in New York City for \$2500 dollars. In Mexico City, in making withdrawals from this letter of credit, he submitted as identity Canadian passport #31877. He also submitted Naturalization certification #185586, showing that he was naturalized as a British Subject at Ottawa, Canada on December 14, 1929.

The records here also disclose that in New York City he purchased American Railway travelers checks in the amount of \$1000 dollars.

His record of withdrawals on the letter of credit with the Wells-Fargo Express Company in Mexico City are as follows:

11/15/39	\$300
12/13/39	250
12/14/39	150
12/21/39	150
12/22/39	50
12/29/39	50
1/13/40	100
	<u>\$1050</u>

This amount of \$1050 was drawn in cash at the office of the Wells-Fargo in Mexico City. The record further discloses that he drew a total of \$1150 dollars on this letter of credit as follows:

1/12/40	MEXICAN AVIATION COMPANY
1/12/40	BANCO NACIONAL
1/19/40	" "
1/23/40	" "
2/28/40	" "
5/11/40	" "

Div 5

This left a balance of \$300 dollars which he drew out on June 27, 1940 at the Office of the American Express Company at #65 Broadway St., New York, N. Y.

It will be discretely ascertained what transactions he had with the MEXICAN AVIATION COMPANY, incident to the withdrawal in favor of that Company. It may be that he purchased airplane passage to some point. It can be assumed that the withdrawals at the BANCO NACIONAL were in cash. It is impossible to obtain information at any Government bank. The statement of SILVIA AGELOFF

JACQUES MORNARD VANDENDRESDID,  
MURDER OF LEON TROTSKY,  
Page #2.

to the effect that the steamer trunk had been shipped to the United States by the assailant is not true, as the records at the Wells-Fargo Express Company office fails to disclose such a record of shipment.

This information was furnished by long-distance telephone.

C  
August 24, 1940.

MEMORANDUM.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL.

Re: MEXICAN MATTERS,  
Communist Activities.

According to confidential information received, a Communist meeting is to be held in Mexicali, Mexico opposite Calexico, California on August 25th and 26th. JULIO ABIDE and MANUEL TOMAR will attend as Delegates from Mexico City, and ROY HUDSON will attend as a Delegate from the United States.

This information was furnished by long-distance telephone.

Dis. 5

August 23, 1940.

MEMORANDUM.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VANDENDRESCHE  
alias FRANK JACSON.  
MURDER OF LEON TROTSKY.

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-29162-15

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

On the afternoon of August 20, 1940 between the hours of 6:30 and 7:30 P. M., one FRANK JACSON who was apparently a friend of TROTSKY's assaulted the latter in his home at Coyocacan, Mexico, striking TROTSKY with the point end of an alpine climbers ax. Apparently the assailant intended striking TROTSKY a death blow killing him without a sound being made, and to possibly escape from the house before the crime was known. His first blow however, was apparently anticipated by TROTSKY who dodged, and the blow was a glancing one on the head of TROTSKY who was able to make an outcry which caused his personal body-guards to rush into the room and subdue the attacker. The attacker however, was able to deliver the death blow before they entered. This blow drove the point end of the ax into the skull and through the brain of TROTSKY. The assailant was very severely beaten over the head with revolvers by the guards; however Mrs. TROTSKY prevented his death.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ENCL. C

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198 SEP 2 1960



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]


[REDACTED] C It has also been ascertained that he had a lady friend with whom he has been living as man and wife, by the name of SILVIA AZELOFF, whose home was at Number 50 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York. He claimed that he met this girl in France, and that her sister RUTH was formerly a Secretary of TROTSKY's in Paris, and that it was through this girl SILVIA that he gained entree to the TROTSKY home, and developed a friendship with TROTSKY. It appears that SILVIA knew TROTSKY's wife well, and this added in the establishment of the friendship between the assailant and TROTSKY. It was also ascertained that on June 12, 1940, the assailant under the name of FRANK JACSON obtained a visa from the American Consul General's Office #328, for a transient trip through the United States to Montreal, Canada. His application reflects that he was a Canadian Subject, and held Canadian passport #31377, issued in Ottawa, Canada on March 22, 1937, and was good until 1942. Also in his application he stated that he entered Mexico on October 20, 1939 on a visit, and that his occupation was that of an engineer. On his application he also gave as references, SILVIA AZELOFF, Number 50 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York, and EVELYN ANDREAS, Ramon Guzman Street #6, Mexico City; also H. A. SCHULTZ, Hotel Canada in Mexico City.

He also produced a letter from the Pan-American Airways Company, certifying that he had bought passage via this line for Montreal, Canada, and intended to depart on June 13, 1940. A check of the records of the Pan-American developed that he had left Mexico City at 1:20 P.M. via Pan-American Airways enroute to Montreal, Canada.

There has not as yet been located any record as to the mode of travel and the exact date upon which he returned to Mexico; however, the records of the Pan-American Airways disclose that SILVIA AZELOFF arrived in Mexico City via Pan-American Airways on August 8, 1940, and registered at the Monteje

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VANDENDRESCHD, was.,  
MURDER OF LEON TROTSKY.  
Page #3.

Hotel on that date. The records of the Montejo Hotel disclose that FRANK JACSON also registered at the Hotel on August 11, 1940 as Mr. and Mrs. FRANK JACSON and that the woman with him was SILVIA AZELOFF.



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] C

[REDACTED] C

It is noted in the Mexican press that the Police state that no doubt JACSON was involved in the first assault on TROTSKY, as they had information that he left Mexico on May 25, 1940, the day after the first assault on TROTSKY; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] C

[REDACTED] C

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Re: JAKUES MORNARD VANDENDRESCHD, was.,  
MURDER OF LEON TROTSKY.  
Page #5.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Attorney ALBERT GOLDMAN arrived in Mexico City via Pan-American airways plane from Chicago, Illinois on August 22, 1940. GOLDMAN claims to be the personal Attorney for TROTSKY, and came to Mexico to take care of TROTSKY's affairs.

Attached hereto also, is photograph of the Tourist Card on which JACSON first entered Mexico. It will be noted that it was issued by the Mexican Consul General's Office in New York City on October the 6th or 8th, 1939, and that he entered Mexico through the Port of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico on October 12, 1939. There is also attached a newspaper clipping of JOSEPH HANSEN, private Secretary and body-guard of TROTSKI, taken with Attorney ALBERT GOLDMAN by newspaper reporters.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

however, she stated that she first met the assailant in France in 1938; that she was formerly engaged in social service work in New York City, and affiliated with the Communist Workers Party; that she met a girl named RUBY WEILL, who was also engaged in Social Service work in New York City; that she and this girl became affiliated with the 4th Internationale; that they both visited France in June 1938, and there she was introduced to the assailant by RUBY, and knew him in France under the name of JACQUES MORNARD; that he also claimed to her that he was a Belgian Subject; that she did see a French registration card where he was registered in France as a Belgian. She said further that MORNARD, or JACSON, had told her in France that the source of funds on which he was living was supplied him by a man named MARCEL GODEFROYD, who resided in Brussels, Belgium. She admitted that she was in Mexico in January and February, and resided with JACSON in an Apartment on Humboldt Street; that in this Apartment, she had an

several occasions seen the Alpine ax with which the crime was committed; she claims that she knew nothing concerning JACSON's apparent relative purpose in committing the crime, nor why he came to Mexico City; that she was with him at the Piedmont Hotel in New York City, and that he did make reservations, in her presence, over the Eastern Airlines for New Orleans on June 30, 1940 last; that during the first week in August JACSON appealed to her to come to Mexico City as he was ill, and that she made the trip via Pan-American airlines on August 7, arriving in Mexico City on August 8, 1940, and registering at the Montejo Hotel where she was joined by JACSON and lived with him as man and wife until the crime was committed.

Due to this woman's hysterical condition, it was impossible to interview her further.

[REDACTED] <sup>C</sup>

[REDACTED] <sup>C</sup>

[REDACTED] <sup>C</sup>

MEXICO CITY, MEXICO.  
AUGUST 22, 1940.



(Above) JOSEPH HANSEN and ALBERT GOLDMAN, TROTSKY'S SECRETARY and LAWYER respectively.

17031 ESTADOS UNIDOS MEXICANOS  
SERVICIO DE MIGRACION  
Tarjeta PASE para Turistas

Tarjeta núm. 1800 expedida el 3 de octubre de 1939  
a Sr. FRANK JACSON Sexo: Masculino  
Estado Civil: Soltero Profesión u oficio: Abogado  
Nacionalidad actual: CANADIENSE Domicilio: 1208 St. Denis St.  
Montreal, Canada a donde se dirige: Mexico, D.F.  
Motivo del viaje: Retorno Valores que lleva consigo: \$200.00

Nota:—Esta tarjeta es indicada para personas de 15 años de edad en adelante y es buena para un solo viaje y fondo comprendido.

ALBERTO BANGS

(Above) Tourist Card with which FRANK JACSON first entered Mexico on Oct. 12, 1939. (see over)

FRANK JACSON

Calling Card of FRANK JACSON.

8

0







TARJETA DE REGISTRACION - REGISTRATION CARD

NOMBRE / NAME: **FRANK JACSON** CIUDAD / CITY: **MONTREAL** ESTADO / STATE: **VERMONT**  
 DOMICILIO / ADDRESS: **1269 SAINT DEVOIT**  
 NACIONALIDAD / NATIONALITY: **CANADIAN** PROFESION / OCCUPATION: **ENGINEER** FECHA / DATE: **4-16-40** HORAS / HOURS: **12**  
 CUANTO / QUANTITY: **1** CLAVE / CODE: **B22** TABIQA POR DIA / RATE PER DAY: **1.50** NO. PERSONAS / NO. PERSONS: **1** NO. VEHICULO / NO. VEHICLE: **20** NO. SEÑALA / NO. MARK: **PER WIFE**  
 MARCA DE VEHICULO / MAKE OF CAR: **BUICK** TIPO / TYPE: **SEDAN** PLACA No. / LICENSE No.: **82147** ESTADO / STATE: **VERMONT**  
 Las siguientes personas van en ocupan el cuarto. The following persons will also occupy room.

NOMBRE / NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CIUDAD / CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ESTADO / STATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NOMBRE / NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CIUDAD / CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ESTADO / STATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NOMBRE / NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CIUDAD / CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ESTADO / STATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NOMBRE / NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ CIUDAD / CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ESTADO / STATE: \_\_\_\_\_

OBSERVACIONES / REMARKS: **Left 6-13 by airplane**

FIRMAS / SIGNATURES:  
 FIRMAS / SIGNATURE: **Frank Jacson**  
 CIUDAD / CITY: **MONTREAL** ESTADO / STATE: **VERMONT**

*MAR 15*

August 27, 1940.

MEMORANDUM

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: JACQUES MORNARD VANDENDRESCHE;  
MURDER OF LEON TROTSKY.

*Noted 10/5/40*  
*10/10/40*  
*10/10/40*  
*L. J. P. [unclear] de Mexico (10/10)*

[REDACTED] c

[REDACTED] c

[REDACTED] c

INDEXED  
DATE 5

I have ascertained that the woman MARGUERITE, who frequently called MORNARD at the Shirley Courts, was MARGUERITE ROSEMERE. It appears that MARGUERITE ROSEMERE and her husband are friends of TROTSKY's of many years standing, and brought the TROTSKY grandson from France to Mexico last year. They were residing at the TROTSKY home during the last attack on May 24, 1940. They left the TROTSKY home shortly after the attack via automobile for Veracruz, where they took a Ward-Line Steamer for New York. They were accompanied on this trip by Mrs. TROTSKY. The car was driven to Veracruz by MORNARD.

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-29162-16

[REDACTED] c

[REDACTED] c

[REDACTED] c

ACQUES MORNARD VANDENDRESCHD.  
Murder of Leon Trotsky.  
Page #3.

[REDACTED]

C

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

C

It is suggested that a thorough check be made in New York relative

124

C  
JES MORNARD VANDENDRECHD,  
der of Leon Trotsky.

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are #3.

to his purchase of a letter of credit from the American Express Co; the Pierpont Hotel in Brooklyn; the alleged arrival of MORNARD alias JACSON on the French Steamer "L'ile de France" about September 7, 1939. Also cause a check to be made in Ottawa, Canada relative to the issuance of the Canadian passport and certificate of Naturalization presented by MORNARD to the Wells-Fargo Express Co, at the time he made withdrawals on the letter of credit.



C