



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**SILVERMASTER  
(JULIUS ROSENBERG)  
SUMMARY**

**PART 7 OF 7**

**BUFILE: 65-56402**

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : L. V. Boardman *6/26*

DATE: May 6, 1955

FROM : A. H. Belmont *[Signature]*

3042 out 1/A 12/30/18  
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- Boardman \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT: NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, was., ET AL  
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89 page Brief + Exhibits detached

There is attached a brief in which we analyze in detail the charges made by William Henry Taylor on 3/28/55 before the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board (IOELB). As shown in the attached brief, these charges represent a vicious attack on the credibility of Elizabeth Bentley and constitute an attack on three FBI documents. These are: 1) Our letter to the White House 11/8/45 in this case which was made public by the Attorney General 11/17/53 in the White controversy. 2) Two pages on this case from our 11/27/45 summary on Soviet espionage. These pages were made public by the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee in its report 7/20/53. 3) Our 2/1/46 summary on Harry Dexter White which the Attorney General summarized in his 11/17/53 speech.

The charges made by Taylor seek to make it appear that everything Bentley has said is false or inconsistent and that everything the Bureau did in the case was basically wrong, slanted or stupid. The Taylor document does point out certain instances where Bentley has been inconsistent in public testimony. The document loses much of its force by using the assumption that all of the persons named by Bentley are innocent of the charges. Terminology used throughout the document attempts to ridicule Bentley and the Bureau, rather than attacking her testimony on a strictly factual basis. We have discovered some of the info used has been lifted almost verbatim from Alan Barth's "Harper's Magazine" article of 3/19/54 entitled "How Good is an FBI Report?" It is believed the best defense to these charges would lie in showing the corroboration that exists of Bentley's testimony by living persons. This is fairly extensive and a separate section of the brief has been prepared setting out major points of corroboration.

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Enclosure

- CC: Mr. Boardman  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Branigan  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Lempheer

*cc destroyed 7-25-58*  
*This cc destroyed per r/s from Nease to Belmont 3-24-58 - LML 3-31-58*

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EX-125

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MAY 11 1955

RJL:em:mg

JUN 8 1955

*[Handwritten signature]*

The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, according to a news article of 4/26/55, has denied Taylor and his attorney the right to cross-examine Bentley. The Chairman of the IOELB, Judge Henry S. Waldman, on 4/20/55 commented he considers this attack on Bentley an attack on the whole loyalty program. He states his Board will not be influenced by this attack. In view of the foregoing, it is not believed essential that the Bureau at the present stage take any steps in this matter.

I agree  
5/13

ACTION:

There is attached for your information a detailed brief analyzing the charges made by Taylor in a document filed 3/28/55 before the International Org. Employees Loyalty Board.

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NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER,  
With aliases, Et al  
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(Charges made by William Henry  
Taylor on March 28, 1955, before  
International Organizations  
Employees Loyalty Board)

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May 6, 1955

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NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER,  
With aliases, Et al  
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(Charges made by William Henry  
Taylor on March 28, 1955, before  
International Organizations  
Employees Loyalty Board)

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*I. RESUME OF FACTS*

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PART I. RESUME OF FACTS

Background of Allegations Made by Taylor.

William Henry Taylor on March 28, 1955, filed with the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board a 107-page brief in which he makes extensive charges attacking the veracity of Elizabeth Bentley, the FBI reports made public in the White hearings, and the handling of his case by Congressional committees and the Loyalty Board. Taylor's attorney, Byron N. Scott, in a letter to Senator Eastland of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, under date of April 4, 1955, demanded the right to cross-examine Bentley. Scott also held a press conference on April 18, 1955, in which he outlined certain of the charges made against Bentley and during which he made public his letter to Senator Eastland. Earlier, Taylor brought suit against the "Washington Daily News" in late 1953 because of an article (11/20/53) linking him with Harry Dexter White. The suit has not been tried. In testimony before a Federal grand jury in Washington, D. C., in September, 1954, Taylor made claims of inconsistencies on Bentley's part which are similar to the charges now being made.

Allegations Concerning Taylor.

William Henry Taylor was born March 30, 1906, at Revelstoke, British Columbia, Canada. He was naturalized as a U. S. citizen on March 30, 1940. He was employed by the Treasury Department from 1941 until December 1946, when he entered the International Monetary Fund and is now Assistant Director, Middle East Department, International Monetary Fund. The following are the basic allegations which have been made against Taylor:

1) Bentley never met Taylor personally and her data concerning Taylor is hearsay, obtained from Mr. and Mrs. Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullman. It was her understanding a William Taylor was a member of the network in the Treasury Department who was furnishing documents to the network. It was also her understanding that he had obtained his job through Harry Dexter White. She said Taylor was sent to China by the Treasury Department and after his return he functioned in

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furnishing documents and later she believed he was sent to Portugal. Our investigation has reflected Taylor was a friend of Silvermaster before entering the Treasury Department in January, 1941, and at that time Silvermaster recommended him for the employment. Ullman wrote Taylor a letter in December, 1940, in which he confirmed that White would be able to get Taylor the job. Taylor did go to China in May, 1941, as a member of the Chinese Stabilization Board. He returned to the Treasury Department in September, 1942, and in May, 1944, he was sent to London. He did not go to Portugal as alleged by Bentley.

2) Information was received from G-2, Honolulu, in 1940 that Taylor was reported to be a bonafide member of the Communist Party and to hold an official membership card. G-2 has been unable to identify and furnish the source of this information.

3) While at the University of Hawaii in the late 1930's, Taylor was described by some sources as pro-Soviet and by others merely as "liberal" and progressive but in no way disloyal.

4) Taylor was a member of the Inter-Professional Association, Honolulu, in 1937-38, an organization reportedly founded by John Ernest Reinecke, described as a Communist Party member who was convicted under the Smith Act in Honolulu in 1953.

Resume of Material Contained in Taylor's Brief.

a) Introduction

In the Introduction, the Taylor brief points out the history of the charges made against Taylor before the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board. Taylor claims for a period of at least 8 years to his knowledge he has been suspected and has appeared before the FBI, Congressional committees, Federal grand juries and the Loyalty Board. He points out his name has been in the press, on the radio and television, and he has been under vehement attacks. He states recommendations for his dismissal from the International Monetary Fund have been made by a number of Treasury Department officials, including letters from former Secretary John W. Snyder dated November 3, 1952, and Secretary George M. Humphrey,

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dated July 17, 1953. Taylor cites Attorney General Brownell's and the Director's appearances before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on November 17, 1953, and claims the mention of Taylor by the Attorney General led to publicity against him. He points out the Attorney General listed him by the name of William Henry Taylor, while Bentley named only a William Taylor or Bill Taylor. He ends the Introduction by stating he and his attorney came to the conclusion that a review of Bentley's testimony, writings and FBI documents where available was needed and that Bentley's statements could be refuted and her testimony shown to be untruthful.

b) The Bentley Story

In this section of the brief, Taylor questions Bentley's veracity and questions the Director's statement of November 17, 1953, that "all information furnished by Miss Bentley, which was susceptible to check, has proven to be correct." He then cites twelve instances which he claims show inconsistencies and untruths in Bentley's story. These are analyzed and commented upon in detail in Section II of this brief. Taylor, in essence, claims public statements of Bentley do contain demonstrable falsehoods. It is noted certain of the charges made against Bentley in this material do show inconsistencies. In other instances, the charges made can be explained on the basis of available facts.

In the latter portion of this section the brief attempts by innuendo and rhetorical questions to cast doubt on Bentley's over-all story and at one point it is insinuated that someone should delve into "what transpired in the period between November, 1945, and February, 1947," apparently suggesting that the FBI was engaged in building up false statements by Bentley during this period. Much is made of the fact that the grand jury in 1947 did not return a true bill indicting persons named by Bentley. A portion of this material has been lifted from Alan Barth's "How Good is an FBI Report?" (This is commented upon in some detail in Section IV of this brief.)

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c) The FBI Reports and the Bentley Story

Taylor refers to the appearance of the Director and Attorney General Brownell before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on November 17, 1953, and points out they relied heavily on Bentley's information in their testimony. Taylor claims much of what was said on November 17, 1953, was wrong and the errors have gone unchallenged. Thereafter, Taylor attacks Bentley's testimony and information and criticizes FBI memoranda and communications which were made public by the Attorney General during the White controversy. He caustically comments that the FBI first talked with Bentley on November 7, 1945, and within 24 hours had checked the accuracy of her information and disseminated data to the President, indicating people named therein were passing documents through a Soviet espionage system. Taylor claims this was done without a scrap of documentary evidence to support these allegations. (This, of course, ignores the fact that our November 8, 1945, letter to the White House was merely a preliminary warning and has been described as such. The specific charges made and answers thereto are contained in Section II of this brief.)

In addition to some of the main charges made, Taylor also makes a number of charges which are full of trivial inconsistencies which do not merit serious consideration. For example, he states that FBI memoranda did not mention the distinguished military record or the academic achievements of Harry Dexter White. He also claims the photographic facilities in the Silvermaster basement were described as a "complete photographic laboratory," whereas he would describe it as "an amateur darkroom." Taylor also criticizes the Director for the comments made November 17, 1953, when the Director stated the FBI does not express opinions or draw conclusions in its investigative reports. Taylor claims this is not true since the FBI letter of February, 1946, expresses opinions and makes evaluations. Taylor contends Bentley has lied so often and so outrageously in her testimony to the FBI and in her statements under oath that she can scarcely be looked upon as a credible source.

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d) Conclusions

In the concluding section of the Taylor brief, Taylor summarizes his claims that he has never engaged in espionage or disloyalty to the United States; that Bentley information concerning him is hearsay; and that Bentley has lied so often that she can scarcely be looked upon as a credible source. He criticizes "guilt by association" and professional informers. He criticizes the Attorney General and his November 17, 1953, testimony before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee. He asks that the Loyalty Board call certain witnesses, naming the Attorney General, the Director, certain Treasury officials and Elizabeth Bentley. He asks that if these persons refuse to testify, that their refusal be considered and evaluated in this light.

Taylor's Attorney, Byron Nicholson Scott

In the brief, Taylor's attorney, Byron Nicholson Scott, is listed as a former Congressman from California. "Who's Who in America" lists him as born March 21, 1903 at Council Grove, Kansas. He was a Congressman from the 18th California District from 1935-39. He received an LL.B. degree from National University Law School in 1949. He was Special Assistant to the Director of the Governmental Division, War Production Board, from 1942 to 1945.

An Office of Emergency Management applicant investigation in 1942 reflected Scott

In 1940 Scott was accused by the Long Beach "Independent," a California newspaper, of being sympathetic to and associating with Communist causes. In the late 1930's and early 1940's, he was affiliated with the American League for Peace and Democracy, the American League Against War and Fascism, and the International Labor Defense (all cited by the Attorney General).

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Scott's brother, Robert Day Scott, was employed by the Treasury Department from 1943 to 1946 and knew Michael Greenberg, William Ludwig Ullman, Harold Glasser and Harry Dexter White. He was employed by the International Monetary Fund from 1946 to 1948. A loyalty investigation on Robert Scott was conducted but the Civil Service Commission adjudged him eligible on the basis of loyalty on March 6, 1953.

Senate Committee Rules No Cross-Examination of Bentley

In a letter dated April 4, 1955, to Senator Eastland of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, Taylor's attorney, Byron N. Scott, demanded the right to cross-examine Bentley. The Washington "Evening Star" of April 26, 1955, contained an article stating Senator Eastland of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee had written to Scott that to permit him or Mr. Taylor to cross-examine Miss Bentley would be contrary to precedents set by Congressional committees in the past. He noted Scott had publicly released a memorandum attacking the Subcommittee and its procedures and he questioned whether Taylor is "more interested in giving public testimony respecting his own activities or in seeking to discredit the Committee." Senator Eastland said he would permit Mr. Taylor to give his views to the Subcommittee in open session as he had requested. Senator Eastland said thereafter the Committee will decide whether further testimony is needed "from Miss Bentley or anyone else."

The newspaper article also noted that Scott had stated that Mr. Taylor was suffering from a heart condition and could not testify for the next six weeks or longer. We have received similar advice from Treasury officials who have learned that Taylor has had a serious heart attack.

It is also noted that the Chairman of the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board, Judge Henry S. Waldman, on April 20, 1955, advised Liaison Agent C. W. Bates that the brief filed by Taylor's attorney was a diabolically clever attack on Bentley and the Government's loyalty program as a whole. He felt there would also be an attack against the Bureau and that such an attack would be unwarranted and he would do all he can to counter such an attack. Judge Waldman said the Board would not be influenced in its decision in the Taylor case by these attacks and their decision would be based on sound judgment.

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Observations and Conclusions

1) A careful analysis of the charges made by Taylor and his attorney reflects that in certain instances Bentley has been inconsistent on relatively minor points in public testimony. This, of course, is somewhat natural, bearing in mind the many appearances made by Bentley and the length of time which has elapsed since the happenings concerning which she is testifying. Actually, certain of Bentley's testimony is not entirely consistent with data she has furnished, although it may be said that in no instance is there a glaring inconsistency or misstatement of a major fact which she could not explain if called upon to do so.

2) Criticism by Taylor and his attorney is made of the material made available by the Attorney General in his appearance before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee on November 17, 1953. This criticism is largely based on pointing up inconsistencies of a minor nature which result from a comparison of Bentley's public testimony and information contained in the data made available by the Attorney General. However, the Taylor brief does refer to a few statements in Bureau documents which tend to inaccurately portray the true picture. The brief attempts to play these up into major points.

3) The best defense to this over-all attack on Bentley's credibility would lie in showing the corroboration that exists of Bentley's testimony on many important points and that she has been corroborated by a number of living persons. The Director testified on November 17, 1953, "All information furnished by Miss Bentley, which was susceptible to check, has proven to be correct." This statement is supported by the information in Section III of this brief, a considerable portion of which is already a matter of public record.

4) The Senate Internal Security Subcommittee has denied Taylor and his attorney the right to cross-examine Bentley. The Chairman of the Loyalty Hearing Board has commented he considers this attack on Bentley an attack on the whole loyalty program. He states his Board will not be influenced by this attack. In view of the foregoing, it is not believed essential that the Bureau at the present time take any steps in this matter.

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International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board  
Decisions.

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On June 28, 1955, the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board (IOELB) forwarded to the State Department its advisory opinion on Taylor, concluding there was a reasonable doubt as to his loyalty.

Following this decision Byron N. Scott, Taylor's attorney, wrote the IOELB on 7-29-55 requesting that the unfavorable determination be revised or as an alternative the case be reopened. On 8-24-55 T. Paul Fairbank, Executive Secretary, IOELB, advised the case was being reopened and a rehearing was set for October 19-20, 1955.

On January 4, 1956, the IOELB rendered a new decision, advising of no reasonable doubt as to Taylor's loyalty.

Henry Waldman, Chairman of IOELB, forwarded a letter dated January 11, 1956, where he praised highly the Director and the "effective work" done for the IOELB by the Bureau. Chairman Waldman also stated the Board's decision upholds Elizabeth Bentley and that the Board has not wavered in its belief concerning her.

It might be of interest to note the Board listed four items of "new evidence" as the basis for its new decision. These four items were:

(1) Testimony of Doctor David L. Crawford, former President of the University of Hawaii, concerning Taylor's reputation while at the University. Comment: Our investigation reflects Communist associations and sympathies on Taylor's part in Hawaii as well as setting forth many favorable interviews, including an interview of Crawford in which he described Taylor as a "completely loyal and very able and dependable man."

(2) Affidavit of Ansel F. Luxford, Attorney at Law, regarding confidential statements made to him by Taylor in their relationship as attorney and client. Comment: Our investigation of Taylor reflects interview of Luxford wherein he stated that during the early 1940's Taylor supported Russia although he did not do so to the detriment of the best interests of the United States.

(3) Affidavits of various persons whose reliability is unquestioned as to Taylor's reputation in the past. Comment: Our investigation is replete with interviews of Taylor's acquaintances who attested to his good character and loyalty.

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(4) Taylor's unequivocal and categorical denials under oath (during second hearing) of participation in Communistic and subversive activities. Comment: In original adverse determination Board gave as one reason for adverse finding that Taylor was "far from frank" and prefaced answers with "I don't recall," "I have no memory," etc., when questioned regarding Communist associations and sympathies. During rehearing, Board describes his answers as unequivocal and categorical denials.

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*II. CHARGES MADE BY TAYLOR AND BUREAU COMMENT*

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PART II. CHARGES MADE BY TAYLOR  
and BUREAU COMMENT

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In this section we have taken the various charges made by Taylor in the 107-page brief, filed with the International Organizations Employees Loyalty Board on March 28, 1955, and analyzed them on the basis of data in our files and commented upon each charge. We have commented on charges in certain instances of a somewhat trivial nature, but it is believed the answers to some of these charges tend to show the lengths to which Taylor and his attorney have gone in an effort to discredit Bentley and the Bureau.

The FBI documents to which Taylor refers in making various charges are as follows:

1. The FBI letter to General Vaughan at the White House dated November 8, 1945. This was made public by Attorney General Brownell on November 17, 1953. See Exhibit No. 1.
2. Two pages from the FBI summary, "Soviet Espionage in the United States," dated November 27, 1945. This was made public in Senate Internal Security Subcommittee report of July 20, 1953. See Exhibit No. 2.
3. The FBI cover letter to General Vaughan, White House, February 1, 1946, transmitting the summary on White. This was made public by the Attorney General on November 17, 1953. See Exhibit No. 3.
4. Attorney General Brownell's statement of November 17, 1953, in which he summarized our February 1, 1946, summary on White. See Exhibit No. 4.

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CHARGE: Dissemination of Data to Jenner Committee (Page 6)

Taylor charges that during the Director's appearance before the Jenner Committee on November 17, 1953, the Director was requested to provide dissemination data on certain individuals. When the data was submitted to the Committee, information was included on Taylor although his name had not been included in the original request. Taylor asks rhetorically if this were not a deliberate attack.

COMMENT:

Subsequent to the Attorney General's and the Director's appearances before the Jenner Committee, Mr. William E. Foley on 11/19/53 telephonically contacted Mr. Belmont, stating the Department contemplated making available to the Jenner Committee derogatory information on eleven individuals, one of whom was Taylor. Foley requested the Bureau to go over the summaries the Department was preparing. He said the Bureau's memorandum in the Silvermaster case to the Attorney General, dated 8/12/48, and its attachment dated 8/4/48, contained certain dissemination but did not include data on Silvermaster, Silverman and Friedman. He requested data on these three and said he would use the data in our 1948 memo on the others. This request was confirmed by memorandum from Mr. Olney dated 11/19/53. By memorandum dated 12/3/53 to Assistant Attorney General Olney, we forwarded to the Department dissemination data on eleven individuals, including Taylor. We did this because we felt a more complete dissemination would be indicated on some of these men than the data that had been disseminated. The listing made would show, accordingly, a fuller, more accurate dissemination by the Bureau to interested agencies and place us in a more favorable light. It would also show dissemination subsequent to 1948.

It will be seen from the foregoing that Taylor's name entered into this matter through the oral request of Mr. Foley and this was confirmed by Mr. Olney's memorandum of 11/19/53. The Criminal Division did contemplate furnishing a summary of derogatory information to the Jenner Committee and contemplated including dissemination data on the eleven individuals.

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CHARGE: What Justification is There for the Use of the Name William Henry Taylor by the Attorney General? (Page 7)

The point is made that Bentley named a William Taylor or Bill Taylor and has testified she never knew Taylor personally and yet the Attorney General, summarizing an FBI document of February 1, 1946, furnished the name as William Henry Taylor.

COMMENT:

The following are the facts which substantiate the Taylor named by Bentley is William Henry Taylor. Elizabeth Bentley has advised that one of Harry Dexter White's most valuable assets as far as the Silvermaster espionage group was concerned was White's ability to place in the Treasury Department individuals of interest to that network. Among the individuals so placed by White, according to Bentley, was one William Taylor. She said she never met Taylor but learned of him through Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and William Ludwig Ullmann. She said this Taylor was sent to China by the Treasury Department and she believed he later went to Portugal. While in the Treasury Department, according to Bentley, he supplied Silvermaster with written and oral information secured through his official capacity.

In order to demonstrate White's connection with the placement of William Henry Taylor in the Treasury Department and to show the acquaintance of Silvermaster and Ullmann with Taylor, the following communications are quoted in full:

\*United States Department of Agriculture  
Farm Security Administration  
Washington

\*In Reply Refer to  
LR-NGS

\*Dec 4-1940

\*Dr. H. D. White,  
Director of Monetary Research  
Treasury Department  
Washington, D. C.

\*Dear Mr. White:

\*With regard to your inquiry of December 2, concerning Mr. William H. Taylor's application for a research position with the Treasury Department, I wish to state that I can recommend Mr. Taylor without any

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"hesitancy for any research position he may be considered. I have known Mr. Taylor since 1932; and have always regarded his abilities very highly.

"My judgment of Mr. Taylor's abilities, thoroughness, and integrity, I am pleased to say, is shared by Professors Robert Brady and M. M. Knight of the University of California and by several other faculty members of the University of Hawaii, whom I know personally.

Sincerely yours,  
S/ N. Gregory Silvermaster

N. Gregory Silvermaster, Chief  
Labor Division"

"December 12, 1940

"Mr. William Taylor  
c/o American Express Company  
649 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York

Dear Bill:

"Mr. White wants me to get in touch with you and tell you to report here for work as soon as possible.

"This is a bit unorthodox, since your appointment has not been formally approved. But White has been virtually assured that it will be O.K.

Sincerely,

Lud Ullmann

5515 - 30th Street, NW  
Washington, D. C."

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Taylor, himself, on interview by Bureau Agents on May 29, 1947, stated that he was placed in a position in the Treasury Department through Mr. Silvermaster, whom he had met at the University of California in 1928.

In January, 1941, Taylor was appointed to the Treasury Department, Division of Monetary Research. At this time Harry Dexter White was Director of that Division. In May, 1941, Taylor was appointed an alternate member of the Chinese Stabilization Board. He left the United States for China in May, 1941, and returned to the United States in August, 1942. Bentley, it will be recalled, indicated that the Taylor known to her was sent to China as a Treasury Department representative.

In October, 1942, Taylor left the United States for the United Kingdom, North Africa, and West Africa and returned in March, 1943. In May, 1944, Taylor left the United States for the United Kingdom and France and returned in August, 1944. In February, 1945, Taylor left the United States for the United Kingdom and France and returned in March, 1946. These trips abroad were made in his capacity as a United States Treasury representative. We have established no evidence that Taylor went to Portugal, as Bentley believed. Bentley has been reinterviewed regarding this matter and since the matter of Taylor's alleged travel to Portugal and her reference to the fact that Taylor was a native-born American (United States Senate, Special Subcommittee to Investigate Immigration and Naturalization, 4-13-49, pages 111 and 115) was hearsay information at the time, she is unable to clarify those matters now.

Investigation established that there was a close association between William Henry Taylor and individuals named as espionage agents by Bentley. He has been described as commenting favorably concerning Communism..

On December 5, 1954, Bentley advised a Bureau Agent that from the descriptive data available she is certain in her own mind that the Taylor, whom she knew as a contact of the Silvermasters in Washington, D. C., in the early 1940's, is identical with the William Henry Taylor in question.

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CHARGE: The Director of the FBI, among others (Treasury officials and the Attorney General), was after Taylor's scalp. (p. 9)

The point Taylor is making here is that he has been under attack by leading Government officials and he feels he, as the last individual named by Bentley in public service, has become a symbol to be removed.

COMMENT:

On November 17, 1953, the Director testified in part as follows: (Interlocking Subversion in Government - Jenner Committee - page 1149)

"As information came in, that information was compiled in report or letter form and transmitted to the White House, to the Attorney General and to the Treasury Department."

Morris:

"And there is nothing more you can do, is that right?"

Mr. Hoover:

"There is nothing more I can do. All I can do is submit the information. We do not evaluate, we do not recommend. We do not reach any conclusions as to the information contained in the reports."

From the above testimony it becomes evident that in keeping with our established policy, the Director has played no part in attempting to have Taylor's employment terminated at any time. We have investigated Taylor as an espionage subject. We have investigated him as required by law under the Loyalty Program. The results have been disseminated to pertinent agencies in keeping with established procedures, but no steps have been taken outside the Bureau's regular dissemination policy.

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CHARGE: The record shows Bentley testified that Taylor gave her material. (page 10)

COMMENT: The pertinent portion of the testimony in question follows:

Morris: "Who gave it (material) to you, for instance?"

Bentley: "Well, in the early days Lud Ullmann, who was then working in the Treasury, used to bring it out. Sometimes Harry (White) was leery about bringing it out himself.

Sometimes it would be given to Bill Taylor." (Institute of Pacific Relations Hearings before the Senate Subcommittee to Investigate the Administration of the Internal Security Act and Other Internal Security Laws, August 14, 1951, page 421.)

From the above it is obvious that Bentley did not state that she actually received documents from Taylor. She has stated, in fact, that Taylor supplied Silvermaster with written and oral information. Bentley has also testified she never met Taylor during the period in question. As a matter of fact, Taylor, during interview on May 29, 1947, advised Bureau agents that he had talked to Silvermaster concerning activities in China but that he had never furnished Silvermaster with any kind of a written report.

An analysis of the above testimony would indicate that Taylor and his attorney are misinterpreting Bentley's testimony in this regard.

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CHARGE: Bentley Claimed Communist Party Dues from  
Perlo Group Given to Golos. (Page 13)

It is charged that Bentley testified that she collected Communist Party dues from members of the Perlo group and "turned them over to Golos during his lifetime." It is charged that this is false since Golos died 11/25/43 and Bentley has testified she took over the Perlo group in March, 1944.

COMMENT:

Bentley did testify in 1948 before the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) that she turned over to Jacob Golos CP dues of Harry Magdoff, a member of the Perlo group. Bentley was mistaken on this point since Golos died in 1943 and she did not take over the Perlo group until 1944. She has admitted to us that she was in error on this point; however, her statements to the Bureau on this point are accurate. It is well to note that in another part of her testimony before the HCUA in 1948 (page 689), Bentley stated that information turned over to her by the Perlo group was given by her to her Russian contacts, "Jack" and "Bill." Therefore, when testifying concerning information from the Perlo group, Bentley did not become confused and did not state that she turned same over to Golos.

CHARGE: That Bentley Placed Duncan Lee in the Silvermaster Group; the Perlo Group; and an Unattached Group. (page 14)

It is charged that Bentley said that she gathered that Lee had been a Communist Party member for some time; that he paid his dues to Bentley and he was under Communist discipline; that Bentley said Lee was "our most valuable source in OSS"; that Bentley claims her association with Lee extended from early 1943 to the end of 1944; that Lee denies the allegations but admits knowing and contacting Bentley from October, 1943, until the end of 1944. It is also charged that FBI letter dated 11/8/45 indicates Bentley identified Lee as a member of the Silvermaster ring; in FBI memorandum dated 11/27/45 she shifted Lee to the Perlo group; and in 1948 she testified Lee was "sub-agent" to Mary Price and thereafter as one of her unattached agents.

COMMENT:

It appears that more than one inconsistency is charged herein, although generally it relates to Bentley's comments concerning Lee. Lee denies the espionage allegations but admits knowing Bentley and the fact that Bentley claims their association began in early 1943, while Lee claims it began in October, 1943, is not materially inconsistent. The claim that in the FBI letter of 11/8/45 Bentley identified Lee as a member of the Silvermaster ring, and in the FBI memo of 11/27/45 she shifted Lee to membership in the Perlo group, is not accurate. The FBI letter of 11/8/45 does not state that Lee was a member of the Silvermaster group. No such division into the Silvermaster group or the Perlo group is made in that letter. In the 11/27/45 memorandum Lee is placed as a member of the Perlo group. While this is not technically accurate, there was a definite link between Lee and the Perlo group. Mary Price is that link since she was in contact with Lee for a time and thereafter she was in contact with the Perlo group.

It is also claimed that Bentley identified Lee as a "sub-agent" to Mary Price and thereafter as one of her unattached agents. An examination of page 529 of the HCUA testimony of 1948 reveals Bentley actually said that when Lee went to Washington, Mary (Price) took care of him for a while and when Mary left Washington, she (Bentley) took him over. The words "sub-agent" and "unattached agent" do not appear and the significance of these expressions is not entirely clear.

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CHARGE: Bentley Claimed Soviets Interested in RDX. (Page 14)

It is charged that Bentley testified in 1949, in response to a question as to the type of information the Soviets sought, that they were interested in RDX. When asked what RDX was, Bentley stated it was sort of an explosive and information about it had recently appeared in the newspapers. Taylor's attorney then claims that Bentley "probably lifted this story from the newspapers." He states that RDX was no secret.

COMMENT:

The statement that Bentley probably "lifted" information about RDX from newspapers is a gratuitous assumption. Bentley's statement that the Soviets were interested in RDX is corroborated by the statements of Alfred Dean Slack and Harry Gold, convicted espionage agents. Slack stated that in the Summer of 1943 he was working in Kingsport, Tennessee, at Holston Ordnance Works, and was contacted by his Soviet espionage superior, Harry Gold. According to Slack, Gold indicated he knew Holston Ordnance Works was producing an explosive known as RDX and he (Gold) wanted a report on this manufacturing process. Slack gave Gold such a report and a sample of RDX in 1944. Gold confirms Slack's statements relative to the Soviets' interest in RDX, although he indicates that Slack briefed him on the fact that RDX was being manufactured by Holston. Although the charge that RDX was no secret has been made, it appears that knowledge of the existence of RDX and the process for manufacturing it were two different things.

In interview on 6/5/55 Bentley stated her only answer to this is that she was requested to obtain information on RDX. This indicated to her that the Soviets were interested in this information.

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CHARGE: Nationality Origin of U.S. Government Officials. (Page 15)

It is charged that in 1949 Bentley testified that some 40 to 50 people who worked for the U. S. Government were giving her information. She said these people were practically all Communists and all were native-born citizens except for two, the Silvermasters. Taylor's attorney contends that when Bentley provided a list of these Government contacts: a) there were but 37, not 40 or 50; b) not all 37 worked for the U.S. Government; c) at least ten were not native-born Americans. Taylor's attorney contends that two of these individuals, Michael Greenberg and Vladimir Kazakevich, were not native-born and Bentley knew it and she was, therefore, guilty of willful fabrication.

COMMENT:

Since several of those involved in the Silvermaster and Perlo groups were not native-born, she was mistaken in her testimony. The inconsistencies claimed herein, however, can hardly be considered material and the nature of this charge does little to question the substance of Bentley's over-all allegations or credibility.

In interview on June 5, 1955, Bentley stated her only answer to this is that she may have been slightly inconsistent on this point, but said when she testified she had not been thinking of persons such as Lauchlin Currie and Solomon Greenberg as naturalized citizens when she made the statement. She claimed she had not known that William Taylor was not native-born.

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CHARGE: The Ovakimian Photograph (page 16)

In her book "Out of Bondage," Bentley writes that in May, 1941, Golos showed her an article and a photograph in the "New York Times" which stated a Russian engineer by the name of Ovakimian had been charged by the FBI with espionage. Golos showed Bentley this story and photograph, saying "That's the man I've been in contact with although I didn't know his name until I saw it in the paper." Golos then said "I am a member of the GPU. That is the Russian Secret Police. We do intelligence work for the Soviet Union. That man whose picture you see is my superior officer."

It is charged that in spite of this, Bentley testified she had no personal knowledge of what Golos did with information she collected for him. Further, when asked who Golos' Russian contact was, she answered ".....Charlie, but I don't know anything about that. We never knew them by any names other than nicknames." Taylor contends that the "New York Times" has no record of any photograph of Ovakimian during May, 1941.

COMMENT:

When Bentley testified that she had no personal knowledge of what Golos did with information she collected for him and when she states that the Russian contact of Golos was Charlie, about whom she knew little, she is talking about the Silvermaster ring. The questioning immediately preceding her testimony on this point (HCUA 1948, pages 523 and 524) was about the Silvermaster group and Bentley's comments concerning Charlie relate to the information being furnished by the Silvermaster group. The fact that she did not mention Ovakimian as Golos' superior is not inconsistent since Ovakimian departed the U. S. in the Summer of 1941 and there was no reason to associate him with material being obtained from the Silvermaster ring.

In connection with Bentley's comment that a story and photograph of Ovakimian appeared in the "New York Times"

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at the time of his arrest by the FBI, the following must be noted: New York letter dated May 9, 1955, indicates that articles relating to Ovakimian's arrest and subsequent developments appeared in 1941 in the New York "World Telegram," the New York "News," the "New York Journal American," the "New York Mirror," the "New York Times," the New York "Sun," the New York "Herald Tribune," "PM," and "Time" magazine. No photograph of Ovakimian appeared in those publications during the pertinent period. No photograph of Ovakimian during the pertinent period was noted in the "New York Post" or the "Daily Worker." "News Week" and "Life" were also checked for May, June and October, 1941, but no photograph of Ovakimian was located.

Our investigation of Ovakimian in 1941 revealed that he was in contact with Golos and that he was involved in intelligence activities. This corroboration of Bentley is dealt with in more detail in another part of this brief. (See page 91)

In interview on 6/5/55 Bentley stated all she knows is that Golos came to her with a newspaper and told her a photograph of Ovakimian was in the paper. She states she did not see the photograph, but assumed Golos was telling her the truth.

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CHARGE:            The Doolittle Raid on Tokyo            (pages 18-19)

That Bentley testified before a Senate Committee (1949) that she received this information from Ullmann at the Pentagon where he rose in rank from Private to Major. Taylor says Ullmann not in Army until October 1942, never a private at Pentagon, Bentley didn't know Ullmann as a Major, and B-29's were not used on the Doolittle raid.

COMMENT: Bentley on 5/13/49 before the Senate Subcommittee on Immigration and Naturalization was questioned relative to information she received on B-29's. During this questioning (pg. 119) she was asked if she had received any information about the Doolittle raid. She answered she received information on that raid from Ullmann who was a specialist in the B-29 program. On reinterview in December, 1954, Bentley advised the question re the Doolittle raid came up in her testimony and she assumed it referred to the raids supposed to be conducted by B-29's in 1944. She said she never received any information on the Doolittle raid (April, 1942).

Ullmann was drafted into the Armed Services in October, 1942, and graduated from Officer Candidate School in April, 1943. After graduation, he was stationed at Wright Field for only a few days and subsequently transferred to the Pentagon for the duration of his service in the Air Corps.

Bentley in her statement to us (11/30/45) advised Ullmann entered the Army as a Private, was recommended for Officer Candidate School, was accepted and thereafter commissioned a 2nd. Lieutenant, subsequently, being promoted to 1st. Lieutenant and she last knew him as a Captain. On 8/10/48, Ullmann in testimony under oath before the HCUA advised he attained the rank of Major. Bentley was present at this hearing and was asked to stand. Ullmann refused to answer to the question as to whether he recognized Bentley. Bentley has not told us she knew Ullmann at the Pentagon as a Major.

Bentley did testify in 1949 that Ullmann "was gradually put in the Air Corps in the Pentagon where he rose rank by rank from a private to a major."

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It is a known fact that B-25's and not B-29's were used on the Doolittle raid. As far as Taylor's assertion that Ullmann could not have told Bentley of the projected B-29 raids on Tokyo as these raids took place two months after she stopped seeing Ullmann is absurd. The planning of such a mission would, by necessity, require extensive planning and preparations prior to the actual date of the raid involving materials and supplies. Ullmann was an officer assigned to Air Corps Headquarters in the Materiel and Services Division. Bentley on reinterview in December, 1954, said she knew nothing about the Doolittle raid.

In interview 6/5/55 Bentley at first claimed she did not understand what charge was being made here and when it was pointed out to her that the Doolittle raid occurred in April, 1942, and was made with B-25's and not with B-29's, she pointed out that any error made by her in this instance was caused by the questioning and that she had been talking about B-29's and raids made in the Pacific with B-29's and when one of the questioners spoke of the Doolittle raid, she must have assumed that it was a B-29 raid.

CHARGES: D-DAY (pages 20, 21, 22)

That Bentley has told varying versions concerning her receipt of information regarding the date of D-Day. Taylor quotes from General Eisenhower's book and other sources that D-Day was not known to General Eisenhower in advance and therefore, could not have been known to others. Taylor also states Bentley identified a General Hilldring as connected with the Air Corps in 1948 before the HCUA.

COMMENT:

Bentley in her testimony on 7-31-48 before the HCUA did state she learned about D-Day in advance from Ullmann who had learned the date from his connections in General Hilldring's office. In her statement to us (11-30-45) Bentley said she had received information about the approximate scheduled date of D-Day. Bentley in her appearance before the HCUA in 1948 actually says (page 526) she was not quite sure of General Hilldring's status. She does not specifically say General Hilldring was with the Air Corps. On page 562 of these hearings it is Mr. Stripling who places General Hilldring in the Air Corps, he however qualifies this.

On reinterview in December, 1954, Bentley says she received information regarding D-Day from Ullmann and as far as she can recall she received the information from 1 to 4 days prior to D-Day.

In interview 6/5/55 Bentley insisted that her testimony on this matter is correct and that she learned from Ullmann at least four days in advance the scheduled date for D-Day. She said it was her understanding that Ullmann won a bet on this and while he did not get the date exactly, he was within one day of D-Day and, therefore, collected on the bet.

CHARGES: EARL BROWDER AND ESPIONAGE (pages 22-25)

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(a) That Bentley has told different versions of the origin of the Silvermaster group, (b) Browder received government information and party dues from the group members and (c) that Browder took over control of the group after the death of Golos.

COMMENTS:

(a) Bentley in 1948 before the HCUA stated Jacob Golos in July, 1941, told her he had received from Earl Browder the name of man interested in getting help to Russia. She identified this person as N. Gregory Silvermaster. She also stated Silvermaster came to New York to see Golos at the behest of Mr. Browder. It being noted that Browder was in prison in July, 1941. Bentley in her statement (11-30-45) says Silvermaster told her he made a trip to New York City and conferred with Browder subsequent to the German invasion of Russia. This is hearsay on Bentley's part and Silvermaster may not have told her the truth as to his alleged beginnings in espionage. Bentley in her book on page 149 does say that Golos in making contact with Silvermaster was hampered by the fact that Browder was in prison.

(b) Bentley in her statement (11-30-45) to us says Golos in 1941 told her he was making available to Browder some of the data collected. Golos also told Bentley he was retaining copies of some of the data collected by Bentley to show Browder when he was released from prison. Bentley in her statement (11-30-45) also said at Golos' instructions she collected CP dues from persons in the Washington, D. C. area. He also told her he took the dues to the CP Headquarters. Golos furnished Bentley receipts from the Party evidencing payment of these dues. Taylor also challenges Bentley's statements before the HCUA in 1948 (page 611) regarding the taking of undeveloped film to New York by pointing out it would be difficult to separate undeveloped film into military and non-military data for perusal by Browder. Bentley in her statement to us says when she had material of interest she showed it to Browder. She also told us of delivering material to Browder for perusal during the early fall and early winter of 1944. It is noted that Bentley in addition to the Silvermaster group which was doing the photographing had other contacts from whom she received material.

(c) Bentley has told us in her statement (11-30-45) of her actions as a courier under the direction of Golos up until his death in 1943. She has told us of having other superiors

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namely "Bill," "Jack" (Joseph Katz) and "Al" Anatoli B. Gromov) after the death of Golos. She did state she continued to see Browder and make available to him data of interest.

In order to refute Bentley's testimony before a Senate Committee in 1951 as to her relationship with Browder, Taylor reports testimony of Earl Browder in which he admits knowing Bentley but denies knowing her as a CP member or ever having been involved in espionage. The position of Browder with the CP has been such that it is felt little credence need be given to his testimony under oath.

In interview 6/5/55 Bentley stated these charges are ridiculous and she is at a loss to understand why people do not understand that Browder's information was given to Golos much earlier than July, 1941, and that Silvermaster had been told to lie low and to get his group in readiness at an earlier date. Bentley stated that not all information she obtained from the Silvermaster group was put on film and even when the data was put on film, she was told the contents of the information as occasionally the photography was not good and it had been necessary for the Soviets to come back to her to have the documents again photographed by the Silvermaster group. Bentley advised she was obtaining data from others than the Silvermaster group which was also made available to Browder.

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CHARGE: When Did Miss Bentley First Advise the FBI  
of Her Activities? (pages 25-30)

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Bentley's story as to when she told the FBI of her activities and when she put herself under FBI orders allegedly conflicts with the facts. It is alleged Bentley in 1948 before HCUA said her first contact with the FBI was in New Haven on 8/21 or 8/22/45, at which time she told the whole story. Bentley also told HCUA her meeting on 10/17/45 with Russian contact "A1" (which resulted in her getting \$2,000) was under FBI instructions.

COMMENT:

Bentley did testify as alleged in her appearance before the HCUA on 8/11/48. The Bureau's files show Bentley contacted the FBI at New Haven 8/23/45 and reported an impersonation complaint. She next contacted an agent of the New York office 10/16/45, at which time she repeated her impersonation complaint concerning an individual named Peter Heller, with whom she had been in contact, and she said she was uncertain as to whether Heller was a Government investigator or was connected with the Communist Party or Russian espionage activities. She next appeared at the NY office 11/7/45, at which time she voluntarily informed regarding her knowledge of espionage activities. Bentley furnished the \$2,000 to agents of the NY office on 11/17/45 and we did observe her in contact with "A1" (Anatole B. Gromov, Soviet Embassy official) on 11/21/45 in New York City.

Bentley in an interview 6/5/55 claims she indicated to an agent of the NY office in either September or October 1945 that she had a meeting forthcoming with one of her contacts and the agent told her to go ahead and carry out the meeting. The Bureau's files do not contain substantiation of this statement by Bentley, that is, that she informed the NY agent of any meeting.

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CHARGE: Allegation Concerning Bentley's Being Awarded  
the Order of the Red Star. Pages 30-38

Taylor declares Bentley in her book, published in 1951, says while at Naylor's Restaurant in Washington, D.C., in late October, 1944, "Al" told her she had been awarded the Order of the Red Star, whereas while testifying before HCUA in 1948, she said "Al" advised her of this award during a meeting in New York in mid-November, 1944.

COMMENT:

The charge above is true. However, Bentley's testimony before the HCUA in 1948 agrees with the information furnished to the FBI in November, 1945. Bentley has stated that she portrayed certain situations in the book in a manner somewhat at variance with the events as they occurred in order to add to the reader's appeal and human interest. The October meeting in Washington, D. C., was the first contact between Bentley and "Al." Therefore, Bentley may have felt this would add to "reader appeal."

In interview 6/5/55 Bentley stated that her book is incorrect on this point and had been changed by her publisher in order to make the events appear more graphic and to have more human interest. She says her testimony on this point is correct.

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CHARGE: Alleged Inconsistent Statements Made by Bentley  
Regarding the Allied Mark Currency. (Pages 38-50)

Taylor alleges that Bentley testified before the Special Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Government Operations in October, 1953, that she used the Silvermaster ring to obtain surreptitiously from Harry Dexter White samples of the Allied Mark. Upon learning they could not be successfully photographed, pressure was exerted upon White to induce the United States to turn over to the Russians officially the plates from which the marks could be printed. Taylor states that although Bentley briefly referred to this matter in her book published in 1951, she did not testify regarding it until 1953. Also, none of the FBI memoranda makes reference to it.

COMMENT:

Bentley testified before this committee on October 21, 1953, that through the Silvermaster group she obtained samples of the Allied Marks which were obtained through Harry Dexter White and when her superiors found they could not be photographed successfully, she had pressure exerted on White to have the currency plates turned over to the Soviets.

No information has been located in Bureau files indicating that Bentley furnished this information prior to this testimony. When subsequently interviewed by Bureau agents, Bentley advised that she thought she gave us this information during the first three or four months of our interviews of her. No confirmation of this could be located in Bureau files. Bentley has since insisted that her testimony before this committee was correct to the best of her knowledge. When considering the volume of information furnished by Bentley, it is understandable why she may have forgotten some items.

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CHARGE: Alleged Inconsistent Statements of Bentley Regarding the Date Samples of Allied Marks Were Obtained. (Pages 38-50,

Taylor further alleges that Bentley in her book states she obtained the samples of allied marks of currency on about D-Day, whereas in her testimony in 1953 she stated she obtained them in late 1943 or 1944. Taylor says the D-Day date could not be correct because the plates were delivered to the Russian Ambassador on April 14, 1944.

Taylor further alleges that according to Bentley's testimony, she must have obtained the samples prior to March 27, 1944. He makes much of the point. This she could not have done because White did not have them until this date.

COMMENT:

Regarding the first item in the above charge, Bentley, in her book, did not place the date of obtaining the samples as that of D-Day. Her book is not specific on this point; however, when writing of this matter she was covering the period of March, 1944. Bentley, when interviewed in 1954, stated she was positive she obtained the currency samples in the Spring of 1944.

Regarding the second item of this charge, Taylor was not correct when he said White did not have the samples until March 27, 1944. The records of the Senate hearing in June, 1947, regarding the occupation currency transaction contain as an exhibit a letter from the secretary of Soviet Ambassador Gromyko to White, thanking him for the Photostats of the currency furnished by White in his letter of February 9, 1944.

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CHARGE: Bentley is inaccurate re estimate of Communist strength.  
(Page 50)

Miss Bentley was asked (Senate, 1949, page 121) if she had any information respecting the number of Communist agents in the United States. She asked whether this included espionage agents and was answered yes. She then stated she had no personal knowledge of the number. She stated, "It has been estimated by people I have talked to that it was around between eighty and ninety thousand, I think. It is anyone's guess." Miss Bentley described those who came into this category as those persons taking orders from the Communist Party under their discipline.

COMMENT:

Taylor attempts to discredit the above statement with the statement that J. Edgar Hoover estimated the strength of the Communist Party at less than 25,000 and issued no statement listing all of these as spies.

The Director, as of February 25, 1953, testified before the House Appropriations Committee at which time he estimated the Communist Party strength as 24,796. Prior to the above data, higher estimates had been made by the Director. In fact, an article entitled "Where Do We Stand Today With Communism in the U.S." appeared in the "American Legion" magazine of March, 1954. This article states that the Director estimated Communist Party membership in the United States as less than 53,000 as of December 31, 1949.

A publication entitled "Communism in the U.S.A." prepared and released by the Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, printed in 1948, on page six states, "J. Edgar Hoover testified: 'What is important is the claim of the Communists themselves that for every Party member there are ten others ready, willing and able to do the Party's work. Herein lies the greatest menace of Communism.'"

It is quite clear from the above that Bentley's state-

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CHARGE: Bentley first gave given name of Gold as William, later as Bela. (Page 51)

In 1948 Bentley named William Gold and his wife, Sonia Gold, (House, 1948, pg. 517) whereas their true names were Bela Gold and his wife, Sonia. She corrected this in testimony one year later.

COMMENT:

It should be noted that Bela Gold and his wife, Sonia, knew who was being charged as they requested to be heard in public and wired a protest to the House Committee (1948). There was no confusion of identities and it certainly would have been improper for Bentley when she learned of an individual's true name to have continued using an incorrect one. The question at issue is not the name, but the true identity of the person whose acts are being questioned. She clearly identified Bela and Sonia Gold and, therefore, statements by Taylor are solely limited to an attempt to becloud the issue which was, were the Golds involved in furnishing information to the Silvermasters.

In interview 6/5/55 Bentley claimed that she had heard Bela Gold's name given as Bill Gold and she, therefore, assumed his first name was William. She claims she thought she testified the individual's name was Bill Gold and she was somewhat doubtful that she ever gave it as William Gold until her attention was directed to her testimony in 1948.

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CHARGE: Discrepancy in name of U. S. Service and Shipping Corporation. (Page 51)

Both Bentley and the FBI have stated Bentley was employed by the United States Service and Shipping Corporation. Bentley in a deposition on July 26, 1954, stated the correct name was U. S. Service and Shipping Corporation.

COMMENT:

Taylor seeks to indicate that this was a monstrous error, that is, whether it was U. S. or United States Service and Shipping Corporation. This allegation of discrepancy is ridiculous and not worthy of comment. It is certainly immaterial.

(Note: Only legal proof would be the corporation papers filed in New York State.)

In interview 6/5/55 Bentley commented she never would have given this name as the United States Service and Shipping Corporation and that any error in connection with this matter would have been an error in transcription by a stenographer because she, Bentley, knew that the name United States Service and Shipping Corporation could not have been used by the corporation as another company was using that name.

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CHARGE: Bentley said courses on American Government are not taught at Columbia University. (Page 51)

Before the HCUA in 1948, Bentley was being questioned about why she knew so little about American Government. She was asked if they did not have such courses at Columbia where she attended school. Bentley said no, that they did not teach it. In 1949 in response to the same question, she said she did not know. When it was pointed out to her that this was contradictory to previous testimony, she stated she had been misquoted in the first instance.

COMMENT:

This is indicative of the lengths that Taylor is going to in an effort to discredit Bentley. Bentley states she was misquoted when she was quoted as saying Columbia had no courses in American Government. Her statement that she was misquoted is not unreasonable and this point is not worth belaboring further.

In interview 6/5/55 Bentley said this is another example of an error in transcription. She said she undoubtedly testified she did not "take" courses in American Government at Columbia University but that it would have been ridiculous to have testified they did not teach such courses. Bentley said often she talks rather fast, making it difficult for a stenographer to take her testimony.

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CHARGE: Bentley's appearance on "Meet The Press," December 6, 1953. (Pages 52 and 53)

It is stated that on December 6, 1953, Bentley appeared on the television show "Meet The Press" and was asked if she (a) had any personal knowledge of United States Government employees now spying for Russia, (b) if her list of names of contacts with Government employees at times she appeared before HCUA in 1948 was complete, (c) if she had testified in Executive Session that Lester Pearson, Foreign Secretary of Canada, had been used by Communist spy rings.

It is charged that in answer to (a) Bentley said she could not answer that because it might not be public information and her answer might hamper things. In response to (b) she answered no, that the committee did not ask about a number of people and she simply responded to the question. Taylor seemingly combines points (a) and (b) and charges that these points are inconsistent with former testimony before congressional committees where she indicated her listing of such names was complete. In response to (c) Bentley answered that she did not recall. Taylor claims it is inconceivable that she would not recall testimony about Lester Pearson.

COMMENT:

It must be appreciated that Bentley had considerable more latitude in answering questions before congressional committees than she had on the television show "Meet The Press." She could testify to hearsay information before a congressional committee without the fear of libel actions, whereas she was restricted and consequently cautious in her testimony on television. It is not necessarily inconsistent for Bentley to testify in 1948 that the list of Government employees involved in intelligence activities which she furnished the committee was complete and then in 1953 insinuate that there were some people involved whom the committee did not ask about. A person involved in intelligence activities over a number of years is constantly reminded of and recaptures certain thoughts about individuals as a result of certain questions and certain reminiscing about past events.

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*It is not unreasonable to assume that between 1948 and 1953 she remembered additional people who were involved in these affairs about whom she had not previously furnished information to congressional committees.*

*Taylor's charge in point (c) that Bentley would surely remember testifying about Pearson is misleading. Bentley had testified in Executive Session that Hazen Size of the Canadian Film Board furnished her information which he obtained from Pearson. Thus, her testimony was mainly concerned with Size and no allegations were made against Pearson who was mentioned incidental to Size. Bentley may not have clearly recalled this information about Pearson at the time of her television interview or she may have used this pretext to avoid answering a question concerning an official of another government which she felt should only be answered in an Executive Session of a congressional committee.*

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CHARGE: Bentley Named Glasser as Part of Silvermaster Group.  
(Page 54)

Bentley in Executive Session, Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, October 21, 1953, stated Harold Glasser was part of the Silvermaster group.

COMMENT:

This was apparently an error on the part of Miss Bentley, caused by the manner in which the question eliciting the information was asked. The line of questioning was as follows:

Question: Miss Bentley, to your knowledge were the following persons some of the espionage agents?  
Nathan Gregory Silvermaster?

Bentley: Yes.

Question: William Ludwig Ullman?

Bentley: Yes.

Question: Harold Glasser?

Bentley: Yes.

Question: V. Frank Coe?

Bentley: Yes.

Question: William H. Taylor

Bentley: Yes, that was part of the Silvermaster group.

This error was clarified in Bentley's public testimony before the same committee wherein she stated Glasser was part of the Perlo group. She has testified on numerous occasions that Glasser was a member of the Perlo group.

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CHARGE: Bentley's statement concerning Whittaker Chambers (Page 54)

It is charged that Bentley named Whittaker Chambers as a member of the Perlo group. Taylor claims Bentley did not know Chambers and he points out Chambers ceased Communist activities in 1939. Consequently, he could not have been in the Perlo group which was formed in 1944. Taylor also states that in 1951 Bentley testified before a Senate committee that she did not know anything about Chambers except as a man called X who handled "a number of my people in 1948." Taylor points out that Bentley is spreading confusion here since Chambers was not handling anyone in 1948.

COMMENT:

Bentley testified she did not know Chambers. Actually, she did not testify that Chambers was a member of the Perlo group, but it is understandable that such an inference could be drawn from her testimony concerning Chambers. It came about in the following manner: Bentley was discussing Harold Glasser and she said, "He was a member of what we called the Perlo ring because Mr. Victor Perlo we considered the head of it, and he (Glasser) passed on information via Mr. Perlo, Mr. Chambers and some of the other members of the group." It could be inferred from this that Bentley placed Chambers in the Perlo group; however, it is believed that Bentley's explanation clarifies this point. She explained that she did not know Chambers but she learned that a man who had turned "sour" back in the late 1930's had been doing the same type of work she had been doing. She learned this when she took over the Perlo group. She also learned that some of the people in the Perlo group, namely, Perlo, Charles Kramer and Glasser, had previously worked with this man who went "sour." This man was Whittaker Chambers. Consequently, Bentley's testimony on this point may be confusing but it is not false. Chambers was connected with Glasser and Perlo during the 1930's. Bentley did make a mistake in testifying before the Senate committee in 1951 when she said that Chambers was a man called X who "handled a number of my people in 1948." She was mistaken as to the date as she probably meant 1938.

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In interview 6/5/55 Bentley was furnished her exact testimony on this matter where, in speaking of Harold Glasser, she said "he was a member of what we called the Perlo ring.... and he passed on information via Mr. Perlo, Mr. Chambers and some of the other members of the group." On reading this testimony, Bentley said there was some error in transcription; that she would never have named Chambers as a member of the Perlo group. She said she must have named one of the other members of the Perlo group, such as Kramer, and the stenographer got it down wrong.

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CHARGE: Where was the FBI in 1941-1945. (Pages 55-56)

A charge is made if Bentley's story is to be believed where was the FBI in the period 1941-1945. It is stated Jacob Golos was arrested in 1940. Silvermaster was investigated (under the Hatch Act) as early as 1941 and it is charged: "Under these circumstances, how could Miss Bentley have escaped observation, suspicion and detection? Where was the FBI for this four year period?"

COMMENT:

While the above is an easy charge to make and a hard one to answer, there are a number of factors which must be taken into account. The FBI through a painstaking investigation of Armand Labis Feldman starting in 1938 had uncovered a sizeable espionage parallel operating in the United States which was under the control of Gaik Badalovich Ovakimian. He was known to be the key to the whole operation and was an employee of the Amtorg Trading Corporation. He was observed to be in contact with Jacob Golos on several occasions, and Bentley was known to be a contact of Golos. The evidence developed concerning Ovakimian was made available to the United States attorney and on May 5, 1941, Ovakimian was arrested for a violation of the Foreign Agents Registration Act. The Soviet Government immediately claimed that he as a Soviet official had diplomatic status and while this was not true, the State Department exerted pressure to have the charges dropped and to allow Ovakimian to depart from the United States. This was accomplished and he departed on July 23, 1941. The key agent was, therefore, no longer available, and years later we learned from Ismail Akhmedov that the NKVD had been worried concerning the arrest, as the head of the NKVD activities in the United States had been in custody. We assumed (and later learned it to be true) that the arrest of Ovakimian had alerted other members of the apparatus. (Bentley tells us that Golos did destroy incriminating papers in his possession.) We at that time had no evidence definitely showing that Bentley was involved in espionage and had no indication that there were any contacts between Bentley, Golos and persons in the Government.

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We, however, did not follow through on our investigation of Jacob Golos and Elizabeth Bentley and, in the light of what we now know, we certainly should have done so. We are, accordingly, vulnerable to the attack made here. The following are factors which, however, must be taken into account. In 1942, we were having serious manpower difficulties in covering German and Japanese intelligence activities, alien enemies, Fascist groups. Russia came to be regarded as one of our chief allies. This did not directly affect the Bureau's investigative work, but certainly influenced Government officials and public opinion.

In the meantime, in Washington, investigations were instituted and carried out under the Hatch Act concerning a number of persons who later were to be implicated by Bentley. To name a few of the persons so charged, Nathan Gregory Silvermaster was investigated and both Harry Dexter White and Lauchlin Currie acted in his behalf in killing the charges. Harry Dexter White himself was investigated. Taylor was investigated under the Hatch Act on the basis of information indicating Communist sympathies on his part. In none of these instances was the individual removed from Government employment; as a matter of fact, their importance was enhanced through promotions. There can be little doubt that even if we had stopped Golos and Bentley, the Soviets would have found other means of contacting these sources in Washington, and, as a matter of fact, by September, 1944, had done so when they removed Bentley from the apparatus for all intents and purposes and began using others to tap Government secrets.

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CHARGE: That much of the testimony of the Attorney General before the Jenner Committee on November 17, 1953, on the Harry Dexter White case was "wrong." (Pages 67, 68, 69, 70)

It is alleged that the testimony of the Attorney General was "political" and that in offering as "established facts" data contained in three FBI documents: viz., (1) FBI letter to the White House dated November 8, 1945; (2) FBI summary memorandum captioned "Soviet Espionage in the United States," dated November 27, 1945; (3) FBI letter and memorandum attached addressed to the White House, dated February 1, 1946, he was finding citizens guilty without due process of law. It is specifically charged that FBI letter of November 8, 1945, listed fourteen persons in an espionage ring headed by Nathan Gregory Silvermaster and that no attempt was made in this document to link the espionage activities of this ring with leading figures in the American Communist Party. It is also charged that this letter does not mention Earl Browder, Jacob Golos and William Taylor.

COMMENT:

The allegation that data from the above-mentioned FBI documents was submitted as "established facts" is without foundation. These documents reported information obtained from Elizabeth Bentley and other confidential sources as well as facts developed in various espionage investigations. With respect to the charge that the FBI letter of November 8, 1945, omitted names such as Taylor, etcetera, it is pointed out that this letter was a very brief summary of data obtained during the initial interview of Elizabeth Bentley conducted on November 7, 1945, and there was no intention by the Bureau to give complete details concerning her revelations at that time pending results of our investigation in this matter. This letter states: "Investigation of this matter is being pushed vigorously, but I thought that the President and you would be interested in having the foregoing preliminary data immediately."

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CHARGE: FBI letter dated November 8, 1945, to White House conveys impression FBI developed data contained therein from investigation whereas it appears Bentley was only source who had been initially interviewed by FBI agents November 7, 1945. (Pages 70, 71)

It is alleged that the FBI letter of November 8, 1945, addressed to the White House in stating "...investigation...at this point has indicated that the persons named hereinafter were actually the source..." of information for the Soviet espionage system, conveys the impression that investigation had been conducted by the FBI in this matter. It is further alleged that Bentley's initial interview with FBI agents in New York was on November 7, 1945, and that due to the short period of time (24 hours), it would have been impossible for the FBI to distinguish fact from fiction and check on the accuracy of this information. Taylor and his attorney are critical of the action taken by the FBI in dispatching this letter to the White House which stated "positively" that the people involved were passing Government documents through a Soviet espionage system without a scrap of documentary evidence to back up the charge.

COMMENT:

The above allegations are without merit. The letter of November 8, 1945, contains a paragraph which clearly states that this is "preliminary data" and investigation is being "pushed vigorously." This letter reports factual data received from Elizabeth Bentley. It was dispatched as an alert to the President and other officials of the Executive Branch of the Government pointing out the information which had been received and was in no manner intended to be a prosecutive summary. The Bureau would be remiss in its duty if such a letter was not sent until documentary evidence was obtained to back up every statement contained therein. Mr. Taylor and his attorney display lack of knowledge of the operations of an intelligence agency and are confusing intelligence information with prosecutable evidence.

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CHARGE: That the FBI summary memorandum of November 27, 1945, and FBI letter and memorandum of February 1, 1946, omitted the name of Lieutenant Colonel John H. Reynolds who was identified in FBI letter November 8, 1945, as a former contact of Gaik Ouakimian, former NKVD chief in New York. (Page 71)

It is alleged that not only is Reynolds' name not carried forward in the FBI documents mentioned, but in subsequent appearances by Miss Bentley before Congressional Committees she did not mention his name as related to a spy apparatus. Taylor and his attorney question why Miss Bentley first named him to the FBI and then withdrew the name.

COMMENT:

In connection with the omission of Reynolds' name in FBI memorandum of November 27, 1945, and FBI letter and memorandum of February 1, 1946, it is pointed out that the November 27, 1945, memorandum was an over-all picture of Soviet espionage in the United States from 1918-1945 and did not purport to deal with every individual who was engaged in or suspected of espionage during that period. The Silvermaster ring is summarized briefly in two pages of this 71-page summary. The February 1, 1946, letter and memorandum were restricted solely to information concerning White and Reynolds had no place in this particular document.

Concerning Reynolds, it should be pointed out that the statement contained in the November 8, 1945, letter identifying him as a former contact of Ouakimian appears to be in error. A check of Bureau references concerning Reynolds fails to reflect he was ever in contact with Ouakimian. However, Reynolds was associated with Jacob Golos when Golos formed the United States Shipping and Service Corporation in 1941 as a cover for Soviet espionage. Reynolds, a member of a prominent New York family and a professed Marxist, was chosen by Earl Browder to act as a front for this corporation. The capital for this firm came from Browder and Reynolds. According to Bentley, "Al" (Anatole Gromov), her Russian espionage superior, insisted on meeting Reynolds and Bentley arranged such a meeting in May or June, 1945. Reynolds told Bentley that "Paul" (name by which he knew Gromov) had informed him that the initial investment made by Browder in the United States Shipping and Service Corporation was actually Russian funds.

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CHARGE: FBI letter dated February 1, 1946, omits 8 names mentioned in FBI letter November 8, 1945, and adds 7 additional names not previously mentioned. (Pages 71, 72)

It is alleged that FBI letter of February 1, 1946, omits the names of 8 individuals who were previously named in FBI letter dated November 8, 1945, and that 7 additional names of former Government officials are set forth in the February letter.

COMMENT:

The February 1, 1946, FBI letter was a summary of information concerning Harry Dexter White and the November 8, 1945, letter was the initial information furnished by Bentley concerning the whole Silvermaster group. As pointed out heretofore, the FBI letter and memorandum of February 1, 1946, were restricted solely to information concerning White and his activities. It was not necessary to include in this letter the names of all of the individuals mentioned in the November 8, 1945, letter since a number of these individuals had no connection with White. The February 1, 1946, letter and memorandum contained 7 new names. These 7 individuals were contacts of White which were developed through our investigation which was conducted subsequent to the dispatch of the November 8, 1945, letter to the White House.

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CHARGE: FBI letter dated February 1, 1946, stated it included "all" the information concerning White, whereas it only included the derogatory information and failed to review the distinguished attainments of his life. (Page 72)

It is alleged that FBI letter and memorandum dated February 1, 1946, purported to contain "all" information available at that time concerning Harry Dexter White. It is the contention of Taylor and his attorney that the use of the word "all" should properly be read as "all that is bad or derogatory." They are critical of this document because it purportedly omits the distinguished attainments of White, such as his record in World War I, his academic attainments, his character in general, et cetera.

COMMENT:

It should be noted that the letter and memorandum of February 1, 1946, were prepared for the express purpose of showing White's involvement with the Silvermaster group and any of his activities which might have had some connection therewith. It was not the intention of these documents to review the complete career of White in a biographical fashion.

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CHARGE: Bentley, in 1949, listed 37 Government officials as giving information to the Soviets whereas neither the November, 1945, nor February, 1946, FBI documents contains such a listing. (Page 72)

It is alleged that Miss Bentley in her 1949 testimony before a Senate Committee listed 37 Government individuals as being involved in furnishing information to the Soviets whereas the FBI communications of November 8 and November 27, 1945, and February 1, 1946, contained no such listing.

COMMENT:

As stated heretofore, the November 8, 1945, letter was a brief summary of the initial interview of Bentley and Bentley's knowledge had not been completely exhausted at that time. Concerning the November 27, 1945, memorandum, it is stated on page 66 thereof that there were 37 Government employees involved. Only the names of the more important Government employees were identified in this memorandum which was a 71-page summary dealing with Soviet espionage activities from 1917-1945. The Bentley story concerning the Silvermaster and Perlo groups is summarized briefly in two pages of this memorandum. The February 1, 1946, FBI letter and memorandum were restricted solely to information concerning White and his activities and it was not necessary to set forth the names of all 37 individuals since a number of them had no connection with White.

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CHARGE: FBI memorandum November 27, 1945, and FBI letter and memorandum February 1, 1946, contain information such as the existence of a second espionage group, known as the Perlo group, which is not mentioned in FBI letter to White House dated November 8, 1945. (Pages 73, 74)

It is alleged that the FBI memorandum dated November 27, 1945, and FBI letter and memorandum dated February 1, 1946, differ from the FBI letter of November 8, 1945, to the White House and that a second group, known as the Perlo group, is mentioned in the former documents whereas there is no mention of this second group in the November 8, 1945, document although Perlo is named in the November 8, 1945, document. The position is taken that if the FBI letter of November 8, 1945, was a product of information furnished by Bentley "in considerable detail" concerning her career as claimed by the Director in his testimony before the Jenner Committee, why wasn't the information concerning the Perlo group mentioned in this letter? The point is also made that the February 1, 1946, documents report Bentley had delivered material collected by her to Jacob Golos, thereby fastening a direct link to the Communist Party whereas no mention is made of this in the November 8, 1945, document.

Another point is made that the November 27, 1945, document reveals that Bentley continued to act as a courier under the direction of Earl Browder after the death of Golos and that the espionage agents with whom she had been in contact under the direction of Golos and Browder had been working for the NKVD and that this data was not reported in the FBI documents of February 1, 1946.

COMMENT:

It should be noted that the statement made by the Director that the November 8, 1945, letter to the White House was a product "of considerable detail" of information furnished by Bentley does not mean that Bentley had furnished all the information within her knowledge concerning the operations of these espionage groups. Taylor and his attorney fail to note that in the Director's testimony before the Jenner Committee, the Director quoted the last paragraph of this letter which describes the information reported therein as "foregoing preliminary data."

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Concerning the charge that the Perlo group was not mentioned in the November 8, 1945, letter, it is again pointed out that this letter was a brief summarization of the initial interview of Bentley and in no manner was it intended to be a complete factual statement of all her activities. The purpose of this letter was to inform the White House and other officials of the Executive Branch of the Government the identity of the Government employees named by Miss Bentley during her initial interview who were furnishing information to the Soviets. It is logical for the FBI documents of November 27, 1945, and February 1, 1946, to contain more information on various points inasmuch as additional interviews of Bentley had been conducted and more detailed information of her activities during the preceding 11 years had been developed.

Concerning the allegation that the November 27, 1945, document contained information concerning Bentley's courier activities on behalf of the NKVD which was omitted from the FBI documents of February 1, 1946, it is pointed out that the February 1, 1946, documents are limited to the White case and it was not deemed pertinent to report every detail of Bentley's operations which were not connected with White. It should be pointed out, however, that the February 1, 1946, memorandum states that information went from Silvermaster through channels to Anatole Gromov, who was identified therein as the successor to Zubilin, head of the NKVD in North America.

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CHARGE: That statements in FBI memorandum February 1, 1946, that Harry Dexter White was engaged in espionage at least as early as latter part of 1942 contradicts 1949 Bentley testimony before Senate Committee that White was used in March, 1942, "to pull strings" to keep Silvermaster from losing United States Government job. (Page 74)

It is alleged that the Attorney General in discussing before the Jenner Committee FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, indicated that this memorandum advised that White was engaged in espionage activities as early as the latter part of 1942 or early 1943. The point is made that this statement conflicts with later testimony by Elizabeth Bentley before the Senate Committee in 1949 that White was used in March, 1942, by her group to intervene in behalf of Silvermaster who was under investigation in connection with his transfer to the Board of Economic Warfare. It is contended that since White did not become involved in espionage until the latter part of 1942, according to the Attorney General, he could not have been used as claimed by Bentley in March, 1942.

COMMENT:

Taylor and his attorney have misinterpreted both the Attorney General's testimony before the Jenner Committee and Miss Bentley's testimony before a Senate Committee in 1949. The words "at least" in the memorandum of February 1, 1946, indicate the possibility that White could have been engaged in espionage prior to the latter part of 1942. In fact, subsequently, we developed information from Whittaker Chambers, admitted Soviet agent from 1932-1937, that White had furnished Chambers information for the Soviets during the 1930's.

In the testimony of Miss Bentley before the Senate Committee in 1949, she stated that about the end of 1941 or 1942 Silvermaster secured his position with the Board of Economic Warfare. After he had been there for 6 or 8 months, his superior received a letter from G-2 demanding that Silvermaster be dismissed because of disloyal data developed concerning him. It was at this time that the help of White was solicited "to pull strings" for Silvermaster, according to her testimony. This testimony has either been misread by Taylor and his attorney or intentionally misstated to suit their purposes.

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CHARGE: That the FBI letter November 8, 1945, identifies Silvermaster as the photographer for the group while the November 27, 1945, FBI summary and February 1, 1946, FBI memorandum identify Ullman as the photographer; further, in testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1948, Bentley stated Ullman was the principal photographer and Helen Silvermaster helped him when he was rushed. (Pages 75, 76)

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It is charged that FBI letter February 1, 1946, states information in documents originating in the Treasury Department were passed in substance or photographed by William Ludwig Ullman in a laboratory in the basement of the Silvermaster home. The November 8, 1945, FBI letter states Silvermaster photographed the documents and in the November 27, 1945, document the only mention of photography concerns Ullman, who was described as an Air Force Major stationed at the Pentagon, and who was responsible for obtaining and photographing classified information regarding United States Government war plans and also FBI reports, copies of which had been furnished to G-2 at the Pentagon. The claim is made these documents vary regarding the identity of the photographer and are indicative that Bentley varied her story. It is also charged that in testifying before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1948, Bentley again changed her testimony and stated Ullman was the principal photographer and Mrs. Silvermaster was his assistant.

COMMENT:

The November 8, 1945, letter does state that Silvermaster photographed the documents. The November 27, 1945, summary and February 1, 1946, memorandum identify Ullman as the photographer. In her testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1948, Bentley stated Ullman was the principal photographer and when he was away or had too much, Mrs. Silvermaster helped him. In all the documents and in her testimony, Bentley identified Silvermaster as the head of the ring and responsible for the photographing although she identifies Ullman as the actual photographer. The important fact is that the photographing was done by members of this ring.

However, it is pointed out that the November 8, 1945, FBI letter is a brief account of the initial interview of Elizabeth Bentley and does not go into minute details as to various functions of the members of the Silvermaster group.

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CHARGE: Ovakimian Could Not Have Received Silvermaster Data  
(Pages 76, 77)

The charge here is that the Silvermaster group did not begin to function until late July, 1941, and since Ovakimian was arrested by the FBI in May, 1941, and departed the United States in July, 1941, it is unlikely that data from the Silvermaster group could have gone from Golos to Ovakimian as indicated in the FBI letter of February 1, 1946.

COMMENT:

It is noted that in the February 1, 1946, FBI letter, Gaik Ovakimian was tentatively identified as the individual to whom Golos delivered espionage material from the Silvermaster network. The FBI investigation of Golos and Ovakimian revealed seven contacts in New York City between the two during early 1941, and material of an unknown nature passed between them on several occasions during these meetings. Golos told Bentley that Ovakimian was his espionage superior. Ismail Akhmedov, former Soviet Army intelligence officer who defected in 1942, stated that a Soviet citizen arrested by the FBI in April, 1941, was the chief resident agent of the NKVD in the United States. In 1947 a list of high-ranking MGB officials in the USSR included the name "Major General Gaik B. Ovakimian."

While it might be accurate to state that information from the Silvermaster group received by Golos did not go directly to Ovakimian since he departed the United States in July, 1941, and the Silvermaster group did not begin to function until July, 1941, nevertheless, it is reasonable to state that information from the Silvermaster group collected by Golos did go to the Ovakimian network since such a network must have remained in existence even after the departure of Ovakimian himself.

The question might arise here as to why the FBI, through its coverage on Golos, and our awareness of his being in contact with Bentley, did not lead us to the networks operated by the Soviets in Government agencies. It is believed that the comments made on page 38 of this brief are applicable in this connection. Information concerning the origin of the Silvermaster group is also covered in Comment (a) on page 24.

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CHARGE: Statement in FBI letter February 1, 1946, that after Golos' death, Bentley turned over Silvermaster material through an unidentified individual to Gromov is false as Gromov did not arrive in United States until 10 months after Golos' death.  
(Pages 78, 78a, 79)

The February 1, 1946, FBI letter related that subsequent to the death of Golos, Miss Bentley turned over the material she had received from Silvermaster and Ullman through an unidentified individual to Anatole Gromov, who was First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Washington, D. C. Doubt is expressed that an espionage group would hold its secrets for 10 months awaiting the arrival of a new superior. It is pointed out that Gromov arrived in the United States September 15, 1944, and that Golos had died on November 25, 1943. It is also pointed out that this material could not have been delivered to Gromov by courier since Bentley had her last contact with the Silvermaster group on September 13 or 14, 1944, and turned over the material she had collected to her contact "Bill." Since she did not see "Bill" again, she could not have ascertained from him as to the disposal of this material. It is also pointed out that Bentley has admitted that she did not meet "Al" (Gromov) until the latter part of October, 1944.

COMMENT:

FBI letter of February 1, 1946, does state that the above material was delivered through an unidentified individual to Gromov. This statement is a summarization of data obtained from Bentley and subsequent investigation conducted in this case at that time. Between the death of Golos and the arrival of Gromov, Bentley had contacts with several unidentified individuals to whom she furnished information who were known to her only as "Katherine," "Bill" and "Jack." Bentley finally met Gromov in October, 1944, when she insisted upon seeing someone higher up than "Jack." It was logical for Bentley to assume that after meeting Gromov in October, 1944, that the information she had furnished to "Jack" and the other unidentified contacts after the death of Golos had been turned over to Gromov.

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CHARGE: FBI letter dated November 8, 1945, FBI summary dated November 27, 1945, and FBI memorandum dated February 1, 1946, make no mention of "Katherine," "Bill," "Jack" and the woman from Amtorg; further, Bentley's testimony before various congressional committees varied concerning these persons. (Page 79)

It is alleged that the FBI documents of November 8, 1945, November 27, 1945, and February 1, 1946, made no mention of the Soviet superiors of Elizabeth Bentley after the death of Jacob Golos or the "Katherine," "Bill," "Jack" and the woman from Amtorg.

It is also alleged that her testimony before various congressional committees concerning these individuals varied. In her testimony before a Senate committee in 1949, she testified that "Katherine" introduced her to "Bill" who arranged for her contact with "Jack." In her testimony before the House committee on Un-American Activities in 1948, she stated that "Katherine" introduced her to both "Bill" and "Jack." It is also alleged that Bentley had testified that Gromov was the only Russian whose real name she knew, whereas one of her contacts, according to her testimony in 1949, was the wife of a man who was the head of the Tass News Agency in New York City. Further, this woman was employed at Amtorg. The point is made that inasmuch as Tass publicly identifies its chief, Bentley was acquainted with another Russian besides Gromov.

COMMENT:

As stated heretofore, FBI letter of November 8, 1945, is a brief summary of the initial interview with Bentley; FBI memorandum of November 27, 1945, is an over-all picture of Soviet espionage in the United States from 1918 to 1945; FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, deals exclusively with the White case. The names of the unidentified contacts of Bentley were not included as it was not believed pertinent to include incomplete data at a time when active investigation was underway to identify them.

Concerning the allegation that Bentley varied her testimony concerning certain phases of her relations with these individuals, it is noted that in her original signed statement to our agents she stated that "Katherine" introduced her to "Bill" who in turn arranged for her to meet "Jack." It appears that Bentley was in error in her testimony that "Katherine" introduced

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her to "Jack." With regard to the identity of the wife of the head of Tass News Agency who was one of Bentley's contacts, it is pointed out that Bentley did not know the true identity, background or employment of this woman. Bentley knew this woman under the name of "Margaret."

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CHARGE: Statement in FBI memorandum November 27, 1945, that the groups which Bentley handled were turned over directly to Soviet agents at the insistence of Soviet representatives does not make sense. (Pages 80, 81)

It is alleged that a statement in the FBI memorandum of November 27, 1945, relating that during late 1944, the various espionage groups with which Miss Bentley had maintained liaison were turned over directly to Soviet agents at the insistence of Soviet representatives does not make sense. Two issues are raised concerning this statement: (1) By establishing direct contact with the Russians the chances of detection of this group by counterespionage agents were greatly increased. In support of this charge, testimony of Bentley before a Senate Committee in 1951 to the effect that White was afraid to meet people like herself and did not want to meet anyone he knew to be a Soviet agent is cited. (2) Why was this information not included in FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946?

COMMENT:

The FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, was <sup>a</sup> factual document of known information concerning Harry White; therefore, the above statement concerning Soviet plans for the group after Bentley left it would have no place in it. Concerning the charge that Bentley's story does not make sense, Taylor and his attorney obviously are unfamiliar with the operations of Soviet espionage networks. Information available to us from Bureau Source 5 (an unimpeachable source which cannot be revealed outside the Bureau) confirms that during this period the Soviets were endeavoring to secure tighter control of the Silvermaster group by taking over its contacts for the purposes of security and to prevent compromise of this group. This corroborates Bentley's story on this point. (R)

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CHARGE: Statement in FBI letter of February 1, 1946, that information from Perlo group was channelled through Golos to Soviets is a hoax. (Pages 81, 82)

It is alleged FBI letter February 1, 1946, stated that there was another parallel of Soviet intelligence known as the Perlo group and that information from it was channelled through Jacob Golos to the Soviets in the same manner as outlined for the operations of the Silvermaster ring. It is charged that this statement is a hoax because Miss Bentley, in her testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1948, stated she met the Perlo group in March, 1944, which was several months after the death of Golos and, therefore, information gathered by her from this group could not have been channelled through Golos.

COMMENT:

The above statement is not a hoax. It represents a summarization of the information about the Perlo group. According to information Bentley obtained from Golos one or two months before his death, he had been in touch with another group in Washington and he regarded this acquisition as valuable. Subsequently, Bentley learned from Earl Browder that this group was headed by Victor Perlo and that contact had been broken with them after Golos' death. Browder advised Bentley that the contact was broken as the last meeting was set for the Sunday after Golos' death. About two months after this conversation with Browder in early 1944, Browder directed Bentley to contact this group in the apartment of John Abt in New York City. At this contact she met Perlo and the members of his group. Bentley also recalled that some of the typing and handwriting on material given her by Perlo seemed the same as material she saw in Golos' possession before his death. This information is set out in Bentley's signed statement given November 30, 1945, to our agents.

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CHARGE: The statements in FBI letter of February 1, 1946, that Silvermaster was at that time an employee of the Treasury Department under White's supervision and White secured this position for him is incorrect. (Pages 82 and 83)

It is alleged that Silvermaster was "not" an employee of the Treasury Department on February 1, 1946, because he had been transferred nine months before (May 1, 1945) from the Office of Surplus Property, Treasury Department, to the Office of Surplus Property, Department of Commerce, and that while in the Treasury Department, Silvermaster was "never under the supervision of White, directly or indirectly." It is also alleged that while in the Treasury Department, Silvermaster was in a division which did not come under the supervision of White. Further claim is made that the statement in FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, that Silvermaster's position was secured for him by White, is of "doubtful validity." In support thereof, it is contended that Silvermaster first joined the Treasury Department in July, 1944, on a loan basis from the Department of Agriculture in response to requests from Department of Treasury officials other than White.

COMMENT:

Information we reported in the February 1, 1946, memorandum concerning Silvermaster's employment in the Treasury Department was furnished to us by Miss Bentley. Technically, Silvermaster's employment was changed to the Commerce Department due to a Governmental reorganization which placed the Office of Surplus Property, Treasury Department, under the jurisdiction of the Commerce Department. The charge that Silvermaster was never under the supervision of White is specious since White was a high official of the Treasury Department and as such could have exercised authority over Silvermaster. With respect to the charge that Silvermaster's position was secured by White is of "doubtful validity," it is speculative on the part of Taylor and his attorney. It is noted that they do not offer any positive proof to contradict Bentley's story on this point.

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CHARGE: Statement in FBI memorandum November 27, 1945, identifying Silvermaster as "at one time an employee of the Department of Labor" is incorrect. (Page 83)

FBI memorandum of November 27, 1945, identifies Silvermaster as "at one time an employee of the Department of Labor....." It is claimed that Silvermaster had never been an employee of the Department of Labor.

COMMENT:

The above statement in the FBI memorandum of November 27, 1945, is a mistake. Silvermaster was an employee of the California State Department of Labor during 1933-1934 and was employed by the United States Maritime Labor Board, Washington, D. C., during 1938-1940. This charge is insignificant.

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CHARGE: Based on the two preceding charges listed above, it is contended that FBI investigation and reporting of this information was "poor" because of errors committed in setting forth Silvermaster's past Governmental employment. (Pages 83, 84)

The two preceding charges are that (1) Silvermaster had never been an employee of the Department of Labor and (2) Silvermaster was not an employee of the Treasury Department on February 1, 1946, and that while employed by the Treasury Department, his position was not secured for him by White. It is contended that FBI reporting on these matters in their November, 1945, and February, 1946, documents was poor, also denoting "poor staff work."

COMMENT:

During the period of November, 1945, to February, 1946, when the documents referred to were drawn up, the investigative activity of the FBI in this case was most discreet in view of its delicate nature involving Federal employees and officials and open inquiries concerning the background of the various individuals, including minute details as to their employment were held to a minimum. The most important phase of the investigation at that time was the physical surveillance of these individuals to determine if they were engaged in conspiratorial activity on behalf of the Soviets.

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CHARGE: Testimony of the Attorney General concerning the FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, before the Jenner Committee appears to be an interpolation of this memorandum and to resolve this, this memorandum should be made public or at least available for examination by the interested parties. (Pages 84, 85 and 86)

The Attorney General in summarizing the FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, in his testimony before the Jenner Committee concerning Harry Dexter White, mentioned that White was considered one of the most valuable assets of Soviet intelligence since as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, he could place individuals in the Treasury Department and that William Henry Taylor and Sonia Steinman Gold were such persons. The point is made that the Attorney General might be interpolating in adding the middle names of Taylor and Gold. The contention is made that in FBI memorandum of November 27, 1945, mention is made of one William Taylor. It is also alleged that in her public testimony, Bentley alluded only to a William Taylor and a Mrs. Sonia Gold. To resolve this, the suggestion is made that the FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, be made public or at least be made available for examination by the interested parties in this proceeding.

COMMENT:

The charge is an attempt to becloud the identity of Taylor and to have an FBI document made public. The Attorney General in his testimony before the Jenner Committee stated that this document could not be made public without jeopardizing confidential sources of information and techniques of intelligence operations. FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, does identify Taylor and Gold by their first, middle and last names and is not an interpolation of the Attorney General at the time he testified.

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CHARGE: While White was Assistant Secretary of Treasury on February 1, 1946, he did not occupy this position during the employment of Taylor, Gold and Ullman by Treasury. (Page 86)

It is charged that FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, states that White was a "valuable asset" since "in his capacity as Assistant Secretary" of the Treasury, he could place people in the Treasury Department, is not correct. It is claimed that while White was Assistant Secretary of the Treasury at the time of the date of this memorandum, he was not Assistant Secretary at the time of the original employment of Ullman, Taylor and Gold by the Treasury Department. It was pointed out that Ullman was hired in 1939, Taylor was hired in 1941 and Gold was hired in 1943. It is also charged that since Miss Bentley left the Silvermaster group in September, 1944, she could not have been aware of White's activities in his capacity as Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Department since he was not appointed to that position until January, 1945.

COMMENT:

It is true that White did not become Assistant Secretary of the Treasury until January, 1945, and the statement in the FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, is, therefore, erroneous. It is pointed out, however, that White had been Assistant to the Secretary of Treasury since August 5, 1941. The influence of White in Treasury can be seen as early as March 25, 1938, when he was appointed Director of Monetary Research in the Office of the Secretary of Treasury. As his career progressed in the Department, he was assigned greater responsibilities. On February 25, 1943, the then Secretary of the Treasury, Morgenthau, gave White the responsibility of handling the participation of the Treasury Department in all economic and financial matters connected with the operations of the Army and Navy and civilian affairs in foreign areas in which the Armed Forces were operating or were likely to operate. In May, 1943, inquiry was made by a congressman for the personnel record of White. A communication by the Treasury Department was thereafter furnished to this congressman under date of May 31, 1943, and White was described, inter alia, as an alternate for the Secretary of Treasury in representing the Treasury Department on various intergovernmental and interdepartmental boards and committees.

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The fact that White was not Assistant Secretary of the Treasury at the time of the original employment of Ullman, Taylor and Gold does not mean that he was not influential in placing them in various positions in the Department. It is noted that in the testimony given by Ullman before the Jenner Committee on December 2, 1953, he admitted knowing White as early as 1938 and being interviewed by White in 1939 in connection with his application for employment by the Treasury Department. He was thereafter hired by the Treasury Department, Division of Monetary Research, on March 17, 1939. At the time, White was Director of this division. White was instrumental in securing a position for Taylor with the Treasury Department as evidenced by Ullman's letter to Taylor, dated December 12, 1940, advising that White wanted Taylor to report for work at the Treasury Department. This letter is set out on page 11 of this brief. Since White was Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury in 1941, it is obvious that he could have influenced placing Gold in the Treasury Department in 1943.

Employment of Taylor and Gold is discussed on pages 63 and 64.

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CHARGE: The Silvermaster group which was organized in July, 1941, could not have placed Ullman in the Treasury Department as stated in FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, since Ullman became a Treasury Department employee in 1939. (Pages 86, 87)

The Attorney General in his testimony before the Jenner Committee in discussing the FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, pointed out that the memorandum concluded White was a valuable asset as he could place in the Treasury Department those individuals whom the Silvermaster group was anxious to place there. It is contended that since the Silvermaster group did not come into existence until July, 1941, according to the statements of Miss Bentley, Ullman could not have been placed in the Treasury Department by this group inasmuch as his employment in Treasury began in February, 1939.

COMMENT:

It is conceded that Ullman was in the Treasury Department prior to the time Bentley first became aware of the existence of the Silvermaster group in July, 1941, and, therefore, it can be argued that Ullman could not have been placed in this position by that group. However, it should be pointed out that the February 1, 1946, memorandum points out that the Silvermasters facilitated Ullman's obtaining a job in the Treasury Department; further, as set forth above, White obviously played a part in securing this appointment for Ullman. Also as set forth above, information concerning White's involvement in Soviet espionage activities in the 1930's was received from Whittaker Chambers. The fact that Bentley became aware of the existence of the Silvermaster group in July, 1941, does not necessarily mean that certain members of this ring were not operating prior to that date.

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CHARGE: The Silvermaster group which was organized in July, 1941, could not have placed William Henry Taylor in the Treasury Department since he started employment there in January, 1941.  
(Page 87)

It is charged that since the Silvermaster group did not come into existence until July, 1941, that group could not have placed William Henry Taylor in the Treasury Department inasmuch as Taylor began his employment with the Treasury Department in January, 1941, and resigned in May, 1941, to accept an appointment to the Stabilization Board of China.

COMMENT:

As set forth above, White was active in the espionage operations of Whittaker Chambers during the period 1932-1937. It is noted that in the FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, it is set forth that Taylor's first position with the Treasury Department was that of economic analyst in the Division of Monetary Research which was headed by White at that time. This memorandum also states that upon Taylor's return from the Far East on September 15, 1942, he was reinstated as principal economic analyst in the Division of Monetary Research. The fact that Miss Bentley first became aware of the Silvermaster group in July, 1941, does not eliminate the possibility that certain members of this ring were engaged in espionage activities prior to that time, viz: White's prior activities with Chambers.

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CHARGE: That Attorney General Brownell's summary of November 17, 1953, reflected Mrs. Gold obtained, in a general way, information concerning principally the Treasury Department's opinions and recommendations concerning allegations concerning applications for loans made by the Chinese and French Governments. Taylor alleges he can find no evidence at Treasury Department to verify this. (Pages 87-92)

Taylor cites Attorney General Brownell's summary of November 17, 1953, reflecting that Mrs. Gold obtained documents from White's office which she copied and made notes available to Mrs. Helen Silvermaster. The information which Mrs. Gold obtained in a general way, concerns principally the Treasury Department's opinions and recommendations concerning applications for loans made by the Chinese and French Governments. Taylor alleges that he has been unable to locate anything in the Treasury Department's files reflecting Treasurer's opinions and recommendations regarding such loans.

COMMENT:

Bentley in her signed statement of November 30, 1945, regarding Sonia Gold, said that she did not recall specifically but it was her recollection that the information obtained by Sonia Gold concerned principally the Treasury Department's opinions and recommendations concerning applications for loans by the Chinese and French Governments. Sonia Gold was employed by the Treasury Department on October 25, 1943, after having been interviewed by Harry Dexter White. Gold has admitted that she was employed as an economic analyst under the supervision of White when he was the Director of Research. She has seen cables submitted from Solomon Adler when he was in China as an employee of the Treasury Department. She has stated that she worked on European matters which included economic conditions in France. Also, that she had access to confidential reports concerning such conditions as well as other information (confidential) concerning Treasury Department matters. Treasury Department records reflect a loan of one million dollars was made to China on July 5, 1945.

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CHARGE: That the FBI version differs from that of Bentley as to whether White or the Silvermasters first expressed a need for a contact to be placed in White's office.  
(Pages 87-92)

Taylor alleges that the FBI version in the case is that Mrs. Silvermaster made the first move to place a secretary in White's office, whereas Bentley in an article in the "St. Louis Post Dispatch" on December 3, 1953, stated that White contacted Mrs. Silvermaster advising her that he wanted a Communist secretary so he could leave important documents around which she could remove from his office.

COMMENT:

The FBI version referred to by Taylor is that contained in Bentley's signed statement of November 30, 1945, which reflected that the Silvermasters believed it desirable to have someone placed as a secretary to Harry White in order to facilitate the obtaining of information from his office. When interviewed in 1951 concerning Sonia and Bela Gold, Bentley did say that White requested Silvermaster to obtain a secretary to handle the material for him so he would not have to contact the group directly. The controversial point here is whether White or Silvermaster was first to request a secretary be placed. It appears that this point is immaterial.

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CHARGE: That Sonia Gold had nothing to do with the Allied Military Marks matter until after a decision had been made. (Pages 87-92)

Taylor alleges that Bentley testified before the Senate Subcommittee in 1953 regarding the Allied Military Marks and that contacts with White were made at different times in various manners, sometimes through Mr. Ullman, later on she believed through Mrs. Sonia Gold, who became she thought second secretary to Mr. White. In 1951, when asked a similar question before another committee, she gave the names of Lud Ullman for the early date and "sometimes" Bill Taylor.

COMMENT:

In 1951 Bentley did not testify concerning the Allied Military Marks. She was testifying generally on how information was obtained from White's office. In 1953 she testified that Ullman provided samples of the Allied Military Marks. She did not say that Sonia Gold provided any information in this matter. In this instance, she was again speaking of how contact was made with White. Her testimony was to the effect that such contacts were made at different times in various manners, sometimes through Ullman and later on she thought through Sonia Gold. It is noted that Sonia Gold has admitted being employed in the Treasury under the supervision of White and that her position was that of an economic analyst.

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CHARGE: Taylor has alleged that Gold was not a secretary to White as alleged by Bentley and the FBI. (Pages 87-92)

Taylor alleges that the FBI refers to Sonia Gold's position as secretary to Mr. White. Bentley refers to her as the second secretary to White. Taylor claims that Gold was not employed as a secretary but as an economic analyst and would not have free access to White's office and papers.

COMMENT:

The FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, is correct in referring to Gold's position as a secretary to White, according to the information furnished by Bentley in her signed statement of November 30, 1945. Treasury records reflect Gold's position as that of an economic analyst; however, she was employed on August 25, 1943, subsequent to an interview with White. Treasury Department records do indicate that at least on one occasion in August, 1944, Gold attended a conference in White's offices and wrote up the results of this conference which was attended by representatives of the Russian Government. It is known further that she worked under White's supervision. Gold did not necessarily have to have free access of White's offices as alleged by Taylor, as Bentley has stated that White did leave papers where Gold could see them.

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CHARGE: That Mrs. Gold's "real" activities as a Treasury secretary had not been revealed prior to Attorney General Brownell's summary on November 17, 1953. (Pages 87-92)

Taylor alleges that Mrs. Gold's "real" activities as a Treasury secretary had never been publicized until the summary by Attorney General Brownell on November 17, 1953. Taylor alleges that Bentley in her testimony in 1948-49 only identified Mrs. Gold as a Treasury employee; however, in 1953 Bentley testified that she thought Gold was a secretary to Mr. White. Taylor wanted to know why Bentley had remained silent for so long. Question if Bentley had told the FBI of this information in 1945 or 1946 or was it a 1953 addendum to the 1946 report.

COMMENT:

In the above allegation Taylor is referring to Attorney General Brownell's summary of November 17, 1953, relating to information furnished by Mrs. Gold to Mrs. Silvermaster. The information contained in the summary agrees with that furnished by Bentley and incorporated into her signed statement of November 30, 1945. Bentley, when testifying, has responded to questions asked of her. She has testified on a number of occasions and quite naturally could not be expected to testify in the same words on each occasion. On some occasions she has not gone into as much detail as she did with the FBI.

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CHARGE: Taylor alleges FBI indicates Helen Silvermaster contacted functionaries in Washington and obtained Sonia Gold's name, whereas Bentley states Helen Silvermaster contacted CP headquarters, Baltimore, and obtained her name. (Page 91)

Taylor alleges that FBI says Mrs. Silvermaster contacted one of the Communist functionaries in Washington, D. C., and obtained Gold's name, while Bentley says that Mrs. Silvermaster obtained her name from the Baltimore headquarters of the Communist Party.

COMMENT:

Bentley in her statement of November 30, 1945, said Mrs. Silvermaster went to the Communist Party functionary in Washington and received name of Sonia Gold. Bentley, when interviewed in 1951, stated that Mrs. Silvermaster contacted the Baltimore office of the Communist Party and was placed in contact with Sonia Gold. Obviously these two statements conflict; however, this point appears immaterial, particularly in view of the fact that Baltimore is the headquarters for District 4 of the Communist Party, which includes Washington, D. C. Helen Silvermaster, when interviewed in 1947, admitted she had assisted Sonia Gold in obtaining her position with the Treasury Department.

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CHARGE: That the FBI did not say that Gold removed materials from White's office with his approval. (Pages 87-92)

Taylor alleges that the FBI indicates that Silvermaster, through White's secretary, obtained information from White's office but did not say if it was done with White's approval, while Bentley alleges that White wanted to leave important documents which this individual could remove from his office.

COMMENT:

Taylor is referring to the FBI information as that contained in Attorney General Brownell's summary of November 17, 1953, which is identical with that contained in FBI memorandum February 1, 1946, to General Harry Vaughan, which memorandum, of course, did not purport to set forth all the details. Our records do reflect that Bentley gave us the same information as stated in Taylor's allegation.

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CHARGE: The comments of the Attorney General before the Jenner Committee on November 17, 1953, concerning contacts of White with members of the Silvermaster group as set out in the FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, were made for the purpose of throwing additional suspicion on White as an espionage agent whereas these contacts were legitimate. (Page 93)

It is contended that White's associations with Ullman, Sonia Gold and Harold Glasser were in the course of official business connected with the Treasury Department since these individuals were under White's supervision at that time in the Treasury Department. It is also contended that White's contacts with the Silvermasters were of a social nature, and that his relationship with Abraham George Silverman was not unusual since White considered Silverman to be "among the best economic statisticians" in Washington and would have employed Silverman, but that Silverman rejected this offer because the Treasury Department could not pay him enough. The point is made that White's contacts with these individuals could scarcely have been avoided.

COMMENT:

The fact that White may have had legitimate reasons for being in contact with persons listed above does not eliminate Bentley's contentions that these individuals, including White, were involved in espionage.

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CHARGE: The Attorney General in his testimony before the Jenner Committee on November 17, 1953, in discussing FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, mentioned the close personal relationship between Frank Coe and White to throw additional suspicion on White and confirm his role as an espionage agent; further, that Coe's name was not included in the FBI documents of November 8, 1945, and November 27, 1945. (Page 93)

It is contended that the relationship between Frank Coe and White was of a business nature since Coe was Assistant Director of the Division of Monetary Research while White was the Director of this Division; further, in January, 1945, Coe succeeded White as Director.

COMMENT:

With respect to the relationship between Coe and White, the fact that they had business relationships does not negate the possibility that such contacts were also connected with espionage activities. With respect to the charge that Coe's name was not included in the November, 1945, documents, it is pointed out that at the time of the preparation of these documents, information concerning Coe had not been made available by Bentley. Information concerning Coe was placed in the February 1, 1946, document because Bentley had furnished this information to the Bureau shortly before its preparation.

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CHARGE: The Attorney General in discussing a visit made by White to Dr. Abraham Wolfson, active Communist, did not point out that Dr. Wolfson was White's brother-in-law and dentist.  
(Page 93)

It is contended that the Attorney General in discussing FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, before the Jenner Committee referred to a trip made by White to visit Dr. Abraham Wolfson of Newark, New Jersey, who was reportedly active in Communist Party affairs and did not point out that Dr. Wolfson was White's brother-in-law and dentist.

COMMENT:

FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, fully reports the trip made by White to Dr. Wolfson and identifies Wolfson as the divorced brother-in-law of Mrs. Harry Dexter White. The memorandum also states that White made this trip for the purpose of dental work as well as other matters.

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CHARGE: The Attorney General in discussing FBI memorandum February 1, 1946, before the Jenner Committee stated that the memorandum reflected White was seen at the home of Alger Hiss, but did not point out that Hiss was then a high official of the State Department and White had every right to be seen with him. (Page 94)

The Attorney General in discussing FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, before the Jenner Committee pointed out that this memorandum reported that in December, 1945, White was seen at the home of Alger Hiss. It is contended that the Attorney General did not point out that Hiss was then a high official of the State Department and that White had every right to be seen with him.

COMMENT:

FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, does set forth that Hiss held a high position with the State Department and was Secretary-General to the United Nations Organization Conference held in San Francisco, California, in 1945. This was a report of factual data.

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CHARGE: The Attorney General in discussing FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, before Jenner Committee reported White "admitted" to FBI he had brought Irving S. Friedman to Treasury Department 5 or 6 years earlier. Question is raised as to why this "admission" seemed to perplex FBI. (Page 94)

The Attorney General in his testimony before the Jenner Committee discussed FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, and mentioned that it was stated therein that White "admitted" to FBI agents "that he had brought Friedman to the Treasury Department 5 or 6 years earlier." The contention is made that this "admission" seemed to perplex the FBI.

COMMENT:

FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, reports that during the investigation of Philip Jaffe, editor of "Amerasia" magazine, who was arrested in June, 1945, for possession of documents taken from the State Department, it was learned through contacts between Jaffe and one Andrew Roth that they had a contact in the Treasury Department who was an expert on Far Eastern affairs. This contact was identified as Irving S. Friedman. During this investigation, White was interviewed with respect to persons apprehended along with Jaffe. He stated that the name of John Service, an employee of State Department arrested along with Jaffe, was familiar to him and indicated that Service's name was mentioned to him by Irving S. Friedman, an employee of the Treasury Department. White indicated that Friedman had handled matters dealing with monetary affairs in the Far East and that he himself had brought Friedman to the Treasury Department 5 or 6 years previously. The charge that the FBI was perplexed by White's "admission" is a gratuitous statement inasmuch as there is nothing in the Attorney General's testimony or in FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, to indicate this.

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CHARGE: The Attorney General in discussing FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, before the Jenner Committee stated White wrote letter in November, 1940, requesting deferment of Ullman from draft. Question is raised as to why this should be considered "sinister" as White was Ullman's superior in Treasury Department and was acting on official business. (Page 94)

The Attorney General in discussing FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, before the Jenner Committee pointed out that this memorandum stated that White had written a letter in November, 1940, on the stationery of Director of Monetary Research, Treasury Department, requesting the deferment of Ullman from the draft. The question is raised as to why this should be considered "sinister" inasmuch as White was Ullman's superior and would as a matter of official business send such a letter.

COMMENT:

FBI memorandum of February 1, 1946, reported the above information as factual data and it was intended to show that White was Ullman's superior.

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CHARGE: The Director's statement before the Jenner Committee on the White case on 11/17/53 that the FBI does not express opinions or draw conclusions in its investigative reports is erroneous. (Pages 70, 71, 95)

It is alleged that the FBI letter of November 8, 1945, stated the FBI investigation "indicates" that the individuals named therein were "participants or were utilized by principals" in this espionage ring and this statement expresses an opinion and draws a conclusion. It is also alleged that the February 1, 1946, letter and attached memorandum expressed opinions and made evaluations; that reliability of sources is vouched for; and that no data had been reported which was "questionable."

COMMENT:

The foregoing charge is indicative of Taylor and his attorney extracting words out of context from an FBI document. A reading of the complete contents of the letter of November 8, 1945, belies this charge. It is definitely stated in this letter that the information reported therein was the result of the Bureau's investigative operations and information from a highly confidential source. There was no coloring of this information and it was reported in a factual manner.

With respect to the charge that opinion was expressed by the FBI in evaluating its sources in its document of February 1, 1946, this denotes a complete lack of understanding on the part of Taylor and his attorney concerning the operations of an intelligence agency. It is incumbent upon the FBI as well as other intelligence agencies to evaluate their confidential sources so that this information can be viewed in its true light by the President of the United States and other officials of the Executive Branch in discharging their responsibilities.

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CHARGE: FBI memorandum of November 27, 1945, states Bentley named over 80 individuals, 37 of whom were Government employees, as connected with Soviet espionage but does not differentiate between individuals Bentley personally knew to be involved in espionage and persons whose activities she learned of through hearsay. (Pages 95 and 96)

FBI memorandum of November 27, 1945, contains a statement that Bentley had named over 80 individuals as having been connected with the Soviet espionage organization either in Washington, D. C., or in New York, and that of this number, 37 of these individuals were identified as United States Government employees in Washington, D. C. It also states that Bentley related that each of these individuals probably obtained information from others, either casually or through actual recruiting and with whom Bentley herself did not come in contact.

It is contended that the above statement of Bentley infers that Bentley knew personally each and every one of the 37 individuals she had named whereas, in fact, she did not know some of these individuals. The point is made that in a letter to the Senate Subcommittee in 1949, Miss Bentley listed by name 37 individuals who were United States Government employees involved in espionage and that, although the number 37 coincides with the number 37 in FBI memorandum November 27, 1945, the list of names is not identical and some of those listed were not employees of the United States Government. Also, Taylor and his attorney criticize the style of FBI reporting for not differentiating between the individuals Bentley personally knew to have been involved in espionage activities and those individuals whose espionage activities she learned of through hearsay.

COMMENT:

The contention that the above statement infers that Bentley knew personally the 37 persons named is incorrect. The statement did not allege that Bentley knew the 37 persons. This is a distorted interpretation of the facts and any such inference as set forth above is totally unwarranted. This was a document setting forth intelligence information and was not intended as a prosecutive brief where we would distinguish between hearsay and firsthand evidence.

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*The point that Taylor and his attorney are trying to make concerning the number "37" is not clear. Nowhere in the FBI documents do we set forth the identities of "37" individuals. In the November 8, 1945, letter the names of 12 Government employees are set forth and in the November 27, 1945, memorandum the names of 23 Government employees are set forth; however, the latter document repeats the 12 names set out in the former. The November 27, 1945, memorandum does not attempt to list the identities of the 37 Government employees but merely identifies the more prominent ones and states there are "other lesser figures."*

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