



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Detroit, Michigan
June 12, 1944**



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 62-1126

- Mr. Tolson.....
- Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
- Mr. Clegg.....
- Mr. Coffey.....
- Mr. Ladd.....
- Mr. Nichols.....
- Mr. Rosen.....
- Mr. Tracy.....
- Mr. Acers.....
- Mr. Carson.....
- Mr. Hendon.....
- Mr. Mumford.....
- Mr. Starke.....
- Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
- Miss Gandy.....
- Pds.....

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY
SECURITY MATTER;
SEDITION.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP8/SLK**

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth the substance of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, during the period May 22 to June 8, 1944, inclusive.

Informant advised that during the above-mentioned period he had not been able to secure a great deal of information because SMITH spent a greater portion of the period outside of the city conducting speaking engagements in the East and Mid-West.

Informant advised SMITH owes federal income tax in the amount of \$405 for the year 1941 and the Internal Revenue Department wants SMITH's check immediately or they will have to take further action to collect it. Informant stated meetings were planned for the fair grounds at Greenville, Ohio, June 4, and that SMITH is attempting to rent a hall in Chicago for the night before the convention.

Informant said that the auditorium of the Northern High School in Detroit, Michigan was rented by SMITH in the name of the Federation of Americanization and tickets were issued in the name of AMERICA FIRST. This provoked a controversy prompted by the CIO, who contested SMITH's right to have the use of a public auditorium. Informant stated a meeting was held by the Board of Education of Detroit on June 6, at which time the CIO and other objecting parties stated their contention in this matter, and SMITH is scheduled to have his say at a meeting on June 13, 1944. Informant advised that about six different groups were protesting to the Board of Education the use of a city auditorium by the SMITH group.

Informant stated SMITH ordered one thousand to two thousand booklets from JOE CAMP, New York City, and intends to distribute the pamphlets to his key people as a premium for donations of one dollar or more. Informant advised that the circular will read somewhat as follows:

62-1126
Mr. S
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JUL 21

See D Detroit
6/19/44
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62-43818-496
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JUN 14 1944
F.A. 7
G. [signature]

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Letter to the Director

June 12, 1944

"With Lotions of Love.... What most Americans can do without is giving aid and comfort to the enemy....is helping Hitler's divide and conquer strategy.... and is creating disunity on home front. What self-styled patriot is a pitiful dupe of Axis agents? What gossipers' propaganda has been branded as detrimental to the armed forces by Military Intelligence? What ex-isolationist tried to claim credit for starting World War II? What loud-mouthed anti-Communist has helped the Communist cause? What well known know-it-all does not know when he was married? What malicious scandal monger has a scandal of his own to worry about?" Informant said the books from CAMP were received on June 7, collect for the amount of \$100.

Informant advised SMITH contacted [redacted] Milwaukee, Wisconsin; [redacted] Greenville, Ohio; HARRY HOMER, Cincinnati, Ohio; and Mrs. LUNDEEN; discussing meetings and distribution of propaganda. b7c

Informant advised that SMITH's mail has been better than usual and that SMITH is "okay" financially. Informant said SMITH had a tremendous meeting at Greenville, Ohio, where SMITH's contract for the fair grounds was canceled, but that about seven thousand people were there and it was a good crowd.

Informant also remarked SMITH is being sued for \$100,000 in New York City for using the name AMERICA FIRST.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. Guerin, SAC

RECORDED

62-43818 - 496
SAC, Detroit

JEHa:WJJ

June 19, 1944

EX - 35

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

Reference is made to your letter of June 12, 1944, captioned as above wherein you advised in part that a confidential informant had learned that Smith is being sued for \$100,000 in New York City "for using the name America First."

The Bureau is interested in this report and, accordingly, any additional data coming to your attention concerning this alleged suit or the parties thereto should be appropriately referred to the Bureau.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mk

JUN 19 8 15 PM '44
RECEIVED READING ROOM
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Mumford	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
JUN 22 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED BY
E. B.
LEWIS
JUN 21 1944
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goy
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52 JUL 25 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

SL...FILE NO. **100-6013**

REPORT MADE AT SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI	DATE WHEN MADE 6-10-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6-7-44	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div> b7c spa
TITLE GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject SMITH held three-hour meeting at Saint Louis, Missouri, June 7, 1944, at which approximately 750-1000 people were present. Subject claims attempts being made to set up ROOSEVELT dynasty and conspiracy to eliminate 1944 Presidential election. Subject stated intention of running for President of United States in 1948 on a platform of Nationalism, the planks of which support the worker, veteran, and farmer. United States Senator REYNOLDS of North Carolina to speak with SMITH under America First Party sponsorship.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File #62-43818.
Letter from the Detroit Field Division dated June 2, 1944.

DETAILS:

AT SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~

Subject GERALD L. K. SMITH held a three-hour America First rally on June 7, 1944 at the Saint Louis Opera House, at which approximately 750-1000 people were present. At the entrance of the meeting were stationed various Communist workers distributing handbills castigating SMITH as a HITLER type of dictator in America.

The rally consisted principally of GERALD SMITH'S talk. It was opened by DON LOHBECK, temporary local chairman of the America First Committee, who briefly introduced the speaker. Present on the stand were Mr. and Mrs. LOHBECK, Mr. and Mrs.

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED <div style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">G. B. Kovacs</div>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">62-43818-497</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - BUREAU 2 - DETROIT 1 - ST. PAUL (Inf) 2 - SAINT LOUIS	RECORDED & INDEXED 21 22 JUN 12 1944 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE <u>10/7/92</u> BY <u>SP-802/wh</u>

*White memo to Tamm
letter to St. Louis 6/19/44*

GERALD L. K. SMITH, and a Reverend JOHNSON, Pastor of the Winnebago Presbyterian Church, who opened the meeting with prayer for the success of the European invasion.

SMITH denounced ROOSEVELT, claiming that thousands of dollars were being spent and an organization had been set up in New York which is intended to have JAMES ROOSEVELT succeed FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT in 1948 in the White House. SMITH predicted further that there was also a movement under way to cancel the 1944 Presidential election in November under the guise of military necessity and he stated that if this were not successful, President ROOSEVELT would then run for reelection on a Nationalistic platform and SMITH would be hard-pressed to keep President ROOSEVELT from climbing on the America First bandwagon, stealing their thunder in order to obtain his reelection.

SMITH criticized severely the Administration spending money in foreign countries on good will which only goes to the benefit of the international bankers, when the money should be spent on providing better standards of living for the American people and for the returning veterans.

SMITH claimed that it was the action of the America First Party which defeated WILLKIE in the Wisconsin primaries and he stated that he, SMITH, would be a candidate for the Presidency in 1948 on the America First program, which would have as their platform a nationalistic policy. In this program, SMITH stated the veterans would receive \$1,000.00 mustering-out pay and that the Government, which now holds land through foreclosures equivalent in extent to the Atlantic seaboard states, should give this land proportionately to the veterans for their rehabilitation. The worker, stated SMITH, would receive \$25.00 a day wages in the profit-sharing plan as presently practiced by the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, Ohio. Under the America First policy, the farmer would operate under a reversal of the New Deal, that is, he would be paid for producing and not for destroying his crops. SMITH stated that his aim was to outlaw monopolies and bureaucracies in the Government.

SMITH further stated that in the late summer or early fall, United States Senator ROBERT B. REYNOLDS of North Carolina, Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, has agreed to speak with SMITH in Saint Louis under America First sponsorship. He claimed also that REYNOLDS has agreed to cooperate in endorsing and helping to elect America Firsters to the United States Senate and the House of Representatives.

It is also to be noted that in the Saint Louis area, a rift has appeared in the America First Party in that there is dissension in the ranks due to SMITH'S refusal to remove DON LOHBECK, temporary local chairman of the Party.

SI-100-6013

Twice during the evening, SMITH interrupted his speech in order to take a collection as, he explained, he is unable to personally address all these cities which are clamoring for him to take collections; he solicited pledges of monthly amounts and the audience was given envelopes to fill out with their name and address and the amount of their monthly pledge. The second collection was for the sale of their publication, "The Cross and the Flag", and other literature.

A copy of this report is being sent to the St. Paul Field Division since it is noted in referenced letter that SMITH is to sponsor rallies in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota, on June 12 and 13, 1944.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHa:WMJ

RECORDED 62-13818 - 497
SAC, St. Louis

June 19, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, WITH ALIAS; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

Reference is made to the report submitted in this case by Special Agent [redacted] at St. Louis, Missouri, on June 10, 1944.

It is noted that the first paragraph of the details is inclusive of the following statement: "At the entrance of the meeting were stationed various Communist workers distributing handbills castigating SMITH as a HITLER type of dictator in America."

The Bureau desires that you immediately advise as to the source of your information in connection with this statement (that is to the effect that the people stationed there were various Communist workers) and whether the persons so stationed have actually been identified as Communists or are merely thought to be or alleged to be Communists or of Communistic sympathies.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP8 BTJ/mk

JUN 21 52 PM '44
RECEIVED MAIL ROOM
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Lamford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
JUN 21 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUL 20 1944

Handwritten initials and signatures: "jh", "Eau", "mk", and "TMB".

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

FILE NO. **100-22780 EG**

REPORT MADE AT PHILADELPHIA, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE 6/23/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/12/44	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - G SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject addressed meeting sponsored by Mrs. CATHERINE V. BROWN and Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS, Officers of the National Blue Star Mothers of America on May 25, 1944 at Philadelphia. Approximately 450 persons were in attendance. Meeting also addressed by Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN.

- RUC -

Reference: Letter from Detroit to Philadelphia dated May 9, 1944.

Details: The following report on the meeting addressed by subject, held at the Elks Hall in Philadelphia on May 25, 1944 under the auspices of the officers of the National Blue Star Mothers of America, Mrs. CATHERINE V. BROWN and Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS, was furnished by the [REDACTED] to this office. b7D

"At 8:35 p.m. the chairman Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS opened the meeting by having the audience repeat the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, then a Mrs. YEAGER sang two verses of the Star Spangled Banner.

Mrs. LILLIAN PARKS then read a prepared speech: Good evening, Mrs. LUNDEEN, Mrs. BROWN and Mr. GERALD L. K. SMITH. I also wish to extend to you good and loyal citizens of the Philadelphia area who are attending this meeting tonight the best wishes and thanks of the Blue Star Mothers who are the sponsors of this meeting. It is seldom that the opportunity presents itself to gather the speakers of such prominence as GERALD L.K. SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN on the same platform, but we all know what they stand for and what they think about things which are going on in this country. We know that we are engaged in a global war. Our forces are poised in England on the eve of Invasion. I call your atten-

HANDLED BY

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 - Bureau 3 - Detroit 3 - Philadelphia (1 - 100-3848)	62-43818-1198 RECORDED & INDEXED 30 JUN 24 1944 106 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

**COPIES DESTROYED
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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-9851/AL

tion to House Bill 262 now before the Committee in Congress which would delay the invasion and the inevitable casualties until we know what we are fighting for and what is going to be gained by invading Europe. Do we want our boys to be policemen of the world after they finish this global war? Do you want them to spend their lives acting as policemen of Europe, Asia and Africa? If you do not know the answer yourself ask one of them and you will get it in no uncertain terms. Many men in high office in Washington have forgotten the traditions and customs of this great country and have embarked on a career of internationalism that can only lead this great Country to disaster. As a member of the Blue Star Mothers, I call upon you to elect only those men to office who have the best interests of the country at heart, end this slaughter of our boys and bring them home to their rightful place in American life.

It now gives me great pleasure to introduce our fearless organizer and President Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN.

Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN: Thank you Mrs. PARKS and Good evening Mr. SMITH and Mrs. LUNDEEN. I think under the circumstances it would be well for me to tell you about the late husband of Mrs. LUNDEEN, the Senator from Minnesota who was killed in an airplane crash on his way to address an America First Rally in 1940 in Minneapolis. EARNEST LUNDEEN served as a Congressman for many years and his death brought to a close a career that was definitely and always concerned with the welfare of America first. He was first elected a representative and then a Senator. He opposed entry into World War I just as he opposed participation in World War II. After our Country plunged in World War I however he did everything possible for the welfare of the soldiers and was instrumental in securing the bonus for veterans of World War I. After his untimely death he was the target of such smear artists as Winchell and Pearson but his wife has courageously taken up the work where he left off. It now gives me great pleasure to introduce Mrs. LUNDEEN, wife of the late Senator from Minnesota.

MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN: It is a great pleasure to be called upon to speak before such an outstanding group of American citizens of Philadelphia and vicinity and to appear on a platform with such a man as GERALD L.K. SMITH. Mrs. BROWN was very kind in giving up the time allotted to her to tell you something of the life history of my husband, the late Senator LUNDEEN. All the men and women in this audience realize that we are engaged in a global war. Our sons and daughters have been called from their homes and places at our tables to take part in this struggle. It is our duty to help them in every possible way. It is our duty to win this war as quickly as possible so that our children can return and take up the duties of useful American citizens and follow the careers which they would have normally had not this terrible war intervened.. The statements which I am about to make apply to the period before this war and prior to Pearl Harbor. I ask again that you keep this in mind for it is very important. We hear a great deal these days about isolationism. I refer to call it nationalism. Whatever we are called be it isolationists, non-interventionists, nationalists or any other term, it is always well to remember that George Washington, the

Father of our Country, was an isolationist. He had the principles and courage to fight for his beliefs.. He worked and fought hard to free this Country from the constant turmoil of war which was always going on in Europe. However, Washington's policy was not one to make this a hermit Nation. In his farewell address he clearly states the great principles which he hoped would endure after he retired from public life. It was friendship for all nations, trade with all nations and entangling alliances with none. Under this type of leadership this Nation grew to true greatness. We pursued this policy faithfully until the fatal year of 1917 when we deviated from it and became involved in World War I. Since that time a certain element in this Country has been trying steadily and with success to destroy the policy of America first which lead to our greatness.

Just what do they mean by the myth of isolationism. I say it is no myth. It has been the strong foundation upon which a great American Nation was built. On the contrary I would say Internationalism is a falsehood and a myth. I wish to cite an article from the Washington Times Herald, it is entitled "We Missed These." It is a list of the wars fought in Europe since Columbus discovered America. There have been 462 minor and major conflicts since that time, almost one a year since Columbus arrived on these shores. We missed these wars by minding our own business and it was the desire of our forefathers to escape these wars and the overburdening weight of taxation which goes with such conflicts. Europe has been a battle ground for centuries and always will be. How can it be any different when people put hate in their children's hearts before they do anything else.

I tell you our present trend must stop. We must bring our boys and girls home away from this senseless slaughter and make America impregnable. I ask you to write to your Congressman, asking him to support the bill which would hold up the invasion until we know what we are fighting for and what we will gain by invading Europe. It is time that we brought our children home and taught them to love their neighbors, instead of teaching them to invade other countries and make enemies of their inhabitants. We all know something of the tax burdens of today. It is costing America billions and billions of dollars to carry on this war of internationalism. \$10,000,000 an hour is what it is costing us every hour. Next year Mr. Morgenthau says it will cost a whole lot more and we are now taxed to the limit. I tell you we cannot be armory, bank, commissary and bread basket of all of the Nations of the world. The most terrific burden will be casualties. Our brave boys will finish this job but many will never return and others will come back horribly maimed, but they will finish the job.. Let's have an America when they return where they can re-establish themselves, where all races, creeds and colors can live harmoniously. Let's not have a repetition of the last war when long lines of veterans walked the street hungry and ill clothed. I say wake up America.

Think what this war has cost this Nation to date in actual dollars. The figures are staggering but there is another important and often over-looked fact: It has cost us 5 times as much as Great Britain, 6½ times as much as Russia, 10 times what it cost Italy and 14 times what it has cost Japan. These figures come from the

Ph #100-22780

New York State Economic Council and explain why 27,000,000 people paid income taxes in 1943 while only 4,000,000 had to pay taxes in 1940. Another example was the international food conference held in Virginia. Leaders of many foreign governments were present and plans were made to dispose of the food supply grown by our American farmers. Elected representatives of the people from Congress and representatives of the press were denied admission. Think of it, plans were under way and made to dispose of our present food supplies as well as those grown after the war and the people of the United States are not supposed to know what those plans are. This is a working example of internationalism right under our very noses. I say destroy this myth and wake up America.

When my husband the late Senator LUNDEEN began demanding that we remain neutral at the outset of the present war in Europe, he was immediately subjected to a smear campaign by the Winchells and the Pearsons. Senator LUNDEEN fought against sending our boys to Europe in 1917 so this smear campaign is nothing new to me. I helped in that fight and have been trying to get back to real Americanism since 1919. Let's stop trying to settle the age old quarrels of Europe, let's get out of Europe now and stay out. Let's think of America first and not be carried away by sympathy for some group, or groups, of people to our own detriment.

I was looking through the files of my late husband and found a card which he used in the election of 1916. It bears a phrase which is familiar to all of us "America First". Let's think of a bonus for our boys. It was through the efforts of Senator LUNDEEN who began working in 1920 that the Veterans of the World War I received a bonus a few years ago.

These smear campaigns are nothing new to me. I have been subjected to the tactics of the Winchells and Pearsons for many years but my husband who died a year and a half before we got into this war was a target of their campaigns continuously. They called him pro-Nazi and any other name that would villify his character. Imagine the feelings of myself, my son who is a Lieutenant in the Armed Forces and my daughter who is a student at the University of Minnesota when these men started on Senator LUNDEEN after he was dead. They knew that the law states that you cannot libel a dead man and he could not reply to their charges.

I had a taste of the smear campaign very early in life, right after Mr. LUNDEEN and I were married. I was a school teacher in Hawaii and met the Senator on the boat going to Honolulu. A year later we were married and I went back to Minnesota to live. People began to stare at me on the street and it finally became annoying. I asked my husband if there was anything wrong with me and he said "No". Finally a little 14 year old girl came to visit me one day and was sitting on the porch. Mrs. LUNDEEN she said, may i ask you a question. I replied certainly and if I can I will answer it. Well, she said, when you were a girl in Hawaii did you always wear a grass skirt. See what they did, they had circulated a story that I was a native of the Hawaiian Islands.

In 1941 I requested the Blue Network for an opportunity to answer the charges hurled at my late husband by Winchell and the opportunity was granted me. I think I have the distinction of making the first attack on Winchell and my remarks are included in the Congressional Record of March 1941.

As long as we have such people in our Nation as third termites and now they are fourth termites in our midst why shouldn't we have a law on our Statute books instead of an unwritten law that no man shall occupy the Presidency more than two terms. Roosevelt broke an American tradition and rotation in high office is essential to our form of Government. Under this system this Nation became one of the greatest in the world and it is a fine thing that so many of you are here to listen to a man like GERALD SMITH who is thinking of the interests of his Country first.

Think of it, while our sons and daughters are fighting a global war over a half million refugees are in this Country safe and secure taking their jobs and letting them fight for them. I say deport these people to their own countries - put them in uniform and let them fight their own war. Can't you see friends that if Uncle Sam continues fighting this war and spending billions of dollars and plays Santa Claus to the world he will become a very bedraggled old man with only his whiskers and very few of them.

My husband advocated the securing of island bases surrounding the Nation ago and they laughed at him. Oh, you couldn't touch the possessions of other countries in this hemisphere. Now we have them on 99 year leases and our boys are fortifying them and building a ring of steel about the Nation. I tell you if Mr. Churchill were in the White House and Mr. Roosevelt were in England it would be a different story. We would have had the islands and a lot more to boot. The Nations of Europe never paid, or made any attempt to pay, the debt they owed us after the last war and they will do the same thing this time.

The issue of America First should not be controversial. Everyone in this great Country should be for it. Do you realize that the men you send to Congress control the lives of sons and daughters and the welfare of the soldiers serving around the world. Congress will say after the war whether we are continuing the policy of sending our boys abroad to act as policemen for Europe, Africa, Asia and the globe. There is too much pity and foreign thought in this Country today.

Let me cite an editorial to you from the Chicago Tribune. It is a very enlightening piece of news and gives you some insight into what was going on when we were supposed to be neutral in this country and before we went to war, the same kind of neutrality which we are demanding of Spain and Sweden. (She then read the editorial which in effect stated that at the outbreak of the present war General MacArthur had 35 bombers and 75 pursuit planes in the Phillipines). Think of it friends - goods which were urgently needed by our Armed Forces and were ordered by the Army and Navy Departments were taken away or not delivered to the men protecting American territory and they were unable to cope with the Japanese attack when it came. I do not know who is responsible for this condition but

certainly someone in the Administration in Washington should be held accountable when this war is over. There were enough planes produced in this country up to that time to have adequately supplied MacArthur. A few hundred bombers and pursuit planes would have turned back the Jap attack and saved the lives of many and the untold suffering of others who were captured by the Japanese. Now while this terrible condition went on, MacArthur supplied with 35 bombers, our State Department's bungling attempt was made to keep peace in the Pacific. If such a condition existed, and they should have known so in the State Department, they had no right to deliver a note to Japan which was practically an ultimatum late in November. This is the sort of thing against which we are fighting and which true Americans will not stand for. I say wake up America.

Congress controls the purse strings of America and it is the duty of the people to size up the candidates and what they stand for before sending them to Congress, not to spend time pitying poor Russia, poor Poland, or poor France. We can sympathize with these people but we must control our sympathies and think of America first.

Good friends and neighbors can't be bought and do not have to be bought, pouring money into South America on lend-lease, or the good neighbor policy will not make them our friends.

We pledge Allegiance to one flag and one Country. We broke all ties to foreign countries when we came here seeking peace and freedom and that one allegiance is to America.

Churchill is for England first, he is a Nationalist. Stalin is for Russia first, he is a Nationalist. Why shouldn't our leaders be for America first and be Nationalists.

Our program is win the war first, that is our first duty now that we are in it, then elect members of Congress who will revive and maintain American traditions. Bring our sons home where they belong and have the country which Washington described in his farewell address as "Friendship with all nations, trade with all nations and entangling alliances with none".

The Chairman then introduced the main speaker of the evening, GERALD L. K. SMITH.

GERALD L. K. SMITH: Good evening Mrs. PARKS, Mrs. BROWN, Mrs. LUNDEEN and you loyal American ladies and gentlemen of Philadelphia and vicinity. I certainly appreciate the remarks of Mrs. PARKS when she introduced me as the next President of the United States.. It shows that she at least believes that there is going to be a change. You know some persons have given up and think we will have a Roosevelt forever. Just the other day I read that a group of people in New York have started grooming Colonel James Roosevelt for the Presidency in 1948 to perpetuate the dynasty, but this isn't going to happen. We are going to get rid of Roosevelt and the bureaucrats in the November election and save this Country for real Americans, and it will be through the efforts of the America First Party.

Ph #100-22780

Just who the candidate will be I do not know, but we are not looking for the type of candidate who can out-Roosevelt Roosevelt. What we need in this country is more Congress and less President, we have had too much President for the last 11 years coupled with bureaucratic tyranny in Washington. We don't want a man who can out-Roosevelt Roosevelt. Roosevelt is a champion in his own class, he has out-spent anyone in history and heaven knows we don't want anyone who can do better in that line than he has. He has built up a Federal payroll of three-million people, handed out our resources with a free hand by lend-lease and the so called good neighbor policy. We are spending money on this war at the rate of \$10,000,000 an hour and I tell you that this cannot keep up without plunging this Country into financial ruin which will make the 1932 debacle look like a boom.

We are on the verge of the invasion of Europe. Our boys are scattered throughout the world fighting on many battle fronts, fighting for God only knows what. I am sure I don't know, but I do know that while they have been conscripted and taken from their homes and jobs to fight this war, 580,000 aliens have moved in to take their jobs and places at the table. I say deport these people to the countries they came from, they left because they would have to fight, I say deport them, let them then put on a uniform and fight their own war and leave our boys alone.

Our forefathers left Europe because they did not want to be engaged in ceaseless brawling. They wanted to escape the heavy taxation that is the inevitable result of wars and they came here and set up a government which they intended to keep out of Europe's troubles. Right here in Philadelphia men like Washington, Jefferson, Franklin and others made decisions that involved blood-letting but they never lost sight of the fact that they were leaving a heritage for us to follow when making these decisions. They wanted us to be friendly with all nations but have entangling alliances with none.

I read in the paper recently that this Country has demanded that Spain and Sweden act as true neutrals in the present conflict. Now I ask you if this Country acted as a true neutral in 1939, 1940 and 1941. We took sides with one of the belligerent nations in Europe, supplied them with arms and conscripted an army here at home. And what for? At present it looks as though it was done to let the Communists rule Europe. France was ruled by these low slimy creatures. I have read some of the books written by Leon Blum, who was Prime Minister of France. In them he says that he can see nothing wrong in incest, imagine that nothing wrong with incest, which is sexual relation between brothers and sisters. Such Godless people have now made an inroads into this Country and are taking over the Government under the very noses of real Americans today. What happened to France? She was rotten to the core and could not defend herself, and mark you - I want your attention to what I have to say, this Country will meet the same fate unless a strong Nationalist Party comes to the front, takes over the reins of power, throws out these tyrannical bureaucrats that are eating the heart out of this Country, conserves our resources for America, builds a ring of steel

around this Country and fortifies it as a citadel.

We are facing a time such as has never been faced in this great Country before and it is the duty of the America First Party to bring these things to the attention of everyone. There are millions of people in this Country who feel the same way as I do but they do not speak up. It is now time for them to speak up and act.

Winston Churchill is for England first and Stalin is for Russia first, why our leaders in Washington are not for America first or don't speak up, I cannot comprehend. It is the duty of every Republican member of the House and Senate to speak up at this time and stop this shameful waste of our money and the lives of our young men.

I want to know what we are going to gain by invading Europe. Are we just going to let the Communists rule Europe? If you go into a store and lay one-hundred dollars on the counter you want to know what you are getting. Well we are putting at least a million lives on the line for they will be casualties in dead, wounded, missing and prisoners. What are we going to do about it? I want to know and every member of The America First Party wants to know and should force the issue with his Congressman. Remember he is your elected representative under our form of constitutional government and has the right to demand a showdown with that clique in Washington.

One thing that I am going to demand strongly, I do not want British interference in our elections. I have heard that they are ready to spend three millions to re-elect Roosevelt. Anthony Eden's paper Yorkshire Post came out and said that the election of anyone but Roosevelt and a Congress which supports him would be the death blow to Britain's hopes. Well get your bottle of brandy ready Mr. Churchill for just what you don't want is going to happen in November and the America First Party is going to be the cause of your trouble. We are going to elect a man who has the interest and welfare of this Country at heart. You have said that you would not preside at the dissolution of the British Empire but we will not send our boys to India to help keep down the Indians and keep Gandhi in jail. In other words we are not going to conscript our boys to police Europe, Asia, Africa and let the other countries go ahead and do as they please. Mr. Roosevelt and Mrs. Roosevelt have visions of becoming the head of a world state. If he is elected this time when the war is over he will resign to become head of this super-duper government. And what does this mean, a flag over our flag; a government over our government, a Congress over our Congress. I tell you that as long as there is a breath in my body and a pulse in my wrist this condition will not come to pass. They call me a rabble rouser and the leader of the lunatic fringe, but as God is my judge, I will never permit such a condition to come to pass as long as I have the power of speech to shout against it.

These bureaucrats in Washington who want to control every inch of our lives don't do things in a small way. When people began to speak up against this profligacy they immediately conspired to put them in jail. I tell you that they wanted to

Charles E.
put Father Coughlin in jail, Charles Lindbergh, Burton Wheeler, Bob Reynolds, Gerald L. Sweeney and Gerald Smith. We were investigated by the FBI, Internal Revenue and any other Government agency controlled by these rats who might be able to get anything on us but they couldn't do it and we are here today.

When they couldn't put us in jail they started out on a new tack. They got those arch smearers Winchell and Pearson to work on us and attempt to smear characters of such out-standing Americans. Imagine a rat like Winchell trying to smear Father Coughlin and Charles Lindbergh.

Then they had another of the same stripe, a man named Carlson write a book "Undercover" which smeared these men and many others including Henry Ford. I tell you America is in terrible shape when such men as Winchell and Pearson can do things like this.

Look at that woman whom you just heard speak (pointed to Mrs. LUNDEEN), imagine the feelings of her children and herself, when such rats started to smear her husband before the earth had packed on his grave. He came to his death in an untimely airplane accident while on his way to address an America First meeting in Minneapolis and the crash has never been satisfactorily explained. That woman is the type we should be proud to have in the White House, not one who is traveling all over the world or the Carribbean stirring up trouble and even going so far as to stir up trouble at home. That is one of the troubles today with this Country. Women are acting like men, dressing like men, and men are acting like women. If my wife ever comes home dressed in trousers, chewing tobacco or smoking cigarettes, I serve notice on you that I will do something no woman can do, I will grow a beard down to my waist.

But now I want to tell you more about the coming fight in the Presidential election this year. The months roll around quickly and November will be here Before long and there is much work to be done. First of all I want to tell you about Wendell Wilkie, that fraud who ran for President against Roosevelt in 1940. The Democrats and the Republicans nominated Roosevelt and Wilkie right here in Philadelphia and then the farce started. Roosevelt started to promise something over here and Wilkie came right back and promised something better over there. They spent most of the campaign out-promising each other and it made no difference in the long run which one was elected, things would have been just the same. We weren't ready for them and were caught napping and they just laughed at us, but we are ready this time and have disposed of that fraud Wilkie already. You know he started all over again talking internationalism and talking about spending large sums of the public money when we are already taxed to the limit. But let me warn you Morgenthau has said that more money will be necessary next year to support this profligate and spendthrift outfit and unless they are thrown out of Washington in November you will be ground down further this year. Well, he started up and down the Nation trying to gether delegates for the National Convention but he found out that the America First Party as well as other people were working against him so he decided to come to Wisconsin and make a test of sentiment for he knew he had

to have votes from the Middle West to get the nomination again. So he decided to come right out into my bailiwick and make a campaign and I welcomed the opportunity for a showdown with this rascal...You know Wisconsin is a great dairy state so he came out there and squirted milk all over himself in an effort to fool the farmers. You know the last time he tried to pose as a grass roots farmer, he got down in the grass in Indiana and rolled around until he had the smell of horse and cow on him and fooled some of the people but he wasn't fooling anybody this time.

Now I want you to remember all the papers in Wisconsin were for him except one. He started his campaign by saying GERALD L.K. SMITH - that terrible man - was against him and thought all the people would flock to him. That suited me perfectly for I knew the strength of my organization in the state. My organization was not composed of money interests or powerful people in public life. They are just the plain people, hard working and out-spoken who can be relied upon in any emergency to deliver the utmost, particularly if the future of America is at stake. Well, I called them together and told them to get out and work against Wilkie. I told them what to do and supplied them with the necessary literature to carry on the fight.

He started his campaign in a small town amidst the rolling hills of Wisconsin. Just to salve the audience of farmers along he told them that some great people came from this town. I sent him a telegram saying I agreed with him for I came from that town. Well, he had a caravan of twelve automobiles travelling with him on the trip. You know our gas ration coupons were cut from three to two gallons but Wilkie must have gas for his campaign and Eleanor must betaken through the Caribbean. Then his caravan moved on to Sheboygan and as they entered the town a hearse coming out of a cemetery fell in behind them. I told them this was a bad omen for Wilkie's success, a hearse the 13th car in his entourage. We both worked through the state, the papers playing right into my hands and saying Wilkie was against Gerald Smith.

Newspaper men came to me for a prediction since I had accepted Wilkie's challenge to fight it out in Wisconsin and I must say that most of them published my interview correctly. I went out on a limb and predicted that he would not secure one delegate for I knew the strength of America First. No other politician dared to make so rash a prediction. The best any other said was that he would secure at least five of the delegates. Well, the results began to pour in and I was in my hotel the next day. Well that bare foot boy from Wall Street can go back to where he came from. You know I always said that I would send him to Moscow and now his friend Roosevelt can send him there if he wants to do it. We showed him definitely that we want no part of him.

But now something else has happened which is definitely worrying me and was a slap in the face for every loyal member of the America First Party. Governor Dewey of New York who has been making a strong showing among Republicans made a remark which he must take back or he loses our support. He was addressing a Jewish Welfare meeting in New York and made the remark that "He wanted no part of GERALD SMITH and his rodents - He and his ilk should not pollute the stream of American life". I immediately wired Dewey asking him what he had said. At

the same time I looked up the definition of rodent and this is what I found: a rodent is an animal which gnaws with its teeth. It mentioned the rat and that is bad, then it said squirrel and that isn't so bad for they bury nuts in the ground. Then it said porcupine and that is alright and finally it said beaver and that is fine. If he wants to class us as beavers we certainly have no kick. Why Dewey made this remark in front of a Jewish meeting I cannot understand. I am against no man for his race or creed, but the Jewish element in this Country is against GERALD SMITH, I know that. Why this is I don't understand because if I were a Jew in America - the only country where they are free today, I would fall down on my knees and thank God for being here.

Those arch smearers Winchell and Pearson have attacked me and attempted to smear me in every possible way. Why I want to tell you that we were turned down on several halls in this town through the efforts of these people. Who do you think rented us this hall which we are using tonight? Well I'll tell you, the colored Elks. Think of it the colored people laid aside their prejudices and opened their facilities to us. Maybe the Jews could take a lesson from them. I serve notice on them that they would be doing better to open their synagogues to us and let us hold our meeting there than they would by carrying on their campaign of hate against me and the America First Party. I'll give any person a necktie that can show me one Jewish organization that is not against me. Any sensible person knows that 99% of the Jewish vote in America will go to Roosevelt at the coming election so why the America First Party, which Colliers Magazine admits has three million members, and I will tell you that it is double that number, should be kicked in the teeth to secure 1% of the Jewish vote makes me mad. Think of it, kicked in the teeth to secure 1% of the Jewish vote.

Well things started to happen after I sent Mr. Dewey the telegram. He said that he didn't mean it. To forget it and not worry about it. One of his close lieutenant called me by long distance phone in Cleveland the next day and said now please forget it, he did not mean it. I replied so he did mean it, well you mean he has just read the results of the Wisconsin primaries. The speaker did not say anything more but apologized again and asked me to forget it, but the matter is not settled and we must have a distinct understanding and a strong Nationalist plank in the Republican platform before we support Mr. Dewey.

You know that Mr. Roosevelt just got back from a vacation spent in the south at the palatial estate of Bernie Baruch, that sinister figure which has been haunting the White House for the past eleven years, beside the time which he spent around there when Woodrow Wilson was President. They had the President down there for his health, tanning his skin to get him ready for the coming campaign. They are afraid to let him slip out of their sight for a minute and want to keep him in hand all the time. Them and the arch spenders of the palace guard the Hopkins, the Wallaces and the rest.

Those dirty Communists, Browder and the rest. You know Browder actually spent time with the President in the 1940 campaign and he is with him again, this time under a new name. You know Stalin dissolved the Communist Party or Internationale, probably for his own purposes, and I really can see no sense to him having one in the United States which takes orders from Moscow and must be sup-

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ported financially when the Vice President of the United States runs up and down our Country making speeches for him. You know he made a speech in Oregon in which he described the coming revolution and paid high praise to the Russian system of government, well I say if he likes Russia so well why doesn't he go there? You know I said I would make him a milkman in China. Well I didn't think they would take me so seriously but now I see they are sending him to China. That is a good place for him, maybe the Russians will decide to take over there and he can have just what he wants for he and his ilk are no good to this great Country.

How can we accomplish all these things which we want to do to keep our Country the same as it was designed by the great founders Washington, Jefferson and Franklin. Well I will tell you, you can't just make it as you want it by hating Roosevelt, the bureaucrats and tyrants that have taken over Washington. You have to love your Country. I married Mrs. Smith whom you see seated here on the platform. I made love to her and courted her and I won her by making love to her and not by telling her how much I hated other women. Well that is the way it is in every day life, you must love something to be constructive not just hate. We will be married 20 years come June God willing. We don't belong to clubs or go in for entertaining. We don't have time.. We lead a simple life carrying on the fight for American Freedom to which I devote practically all of my time. (Told of his son who is in the Armed services and presently in a hospital in India - says when he returns he wants him to take up the life of a useful citizen.)

We have set the roots of a powerful Nationalist Party in this country and if we are defeated this year we will be able to go on to 1948 and win the election that year. I know Americans such as are in this audience will always be for America first.

Now I want to report on the progress we have made since the last meeting. We have a definite program for the America First Party in the coming election and have a five plank platform which I hope the Republicans will be sensible enough to incorporate in their platform and ratify at the Convention in Chicago. They have had a taste of the power of the America First Party in Wisconsin and they know they can't win without the support of the America First Party this year.

Well here is our platform:

1. A \$1,000 bonus for every veteran of this war who has served more than a year in the Armed Forces. Think of it only \$1,000 but at the present it is the best we can do for them without increasing the burden of taxation. These men were conscripted - dragged from their homes and families and deserve every consideration after fighting this global war. How will this money be obtained. We will stop such foolishness as lend-lease and the good neighbor policy. You don't have to buy good neighbors. A friend is a friend. Those traitors in Washington have dumped six billion dollars into South America buying good will. This will be stopped. Think of that amount of money it would pay \$1,000 each to the first six million men demobilized and we would be a long way on the way to demobilization and the return to peace.

2. Take care of the workers by paying salaries of \$10, \$15, \$20, \$25 dollars a day. Concerns in this country are able to do this and I cite the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland. This Company shares profits with employees and it is not uncommon for an employee to make \$5,000 to \$5,400 a year. The concern is one of the soundest financially, has paid dividends regularly for the past twenty years and still pays its employees these salaries. They have found over a period of time that such a system steadily increases a workers output of production - sometimes as much as four times as much as one who does not share in the profits. Pass a law saying that over a certain amount which is used to pay dividends, all profits in excess of that amount which are not shared among employees must be paid to the Government in taxes.
3. A cash bonus to farmers for producing, not for destroying, food. Think of farmers ploughing under wheat and cotton when all this can be corrected by reform of the process of distribution and a clean-up in our money system. An era of plenty can replace an era of want if we let the American farmer produce as much as possible, pay him a reasonable wage for his work and price for his commodities and see that it is properly distributed to where it is needed. If we do this there will be an abundance of butter, meat, milk and all goods now rationed. There is no need for such nonsense in this great Country of ours.
4. Restore private enterprise by outlawing monopoly and eliminating bureaucratic interference in business. Think of it during the present war 250,000 small business men have gone to the wall. Do you know that 80% of the billions spent on this war and let in Government contracts have been to less than one-hundred firms in the country. I would restore the profit motive to business by decreasing taxes, furnishing employment and doing away with bureaucratic interference. The little business man must have a chance. If your son or husband comes home from the war and wants to start a clothing store, gasoline filli station, grocery store or any other kind of business with his \$1,000 bonus he must feel free to do so.. He must not be afraid that some big monopoly will put him out of business. Take the big oil monopoly, we know it is controlled by five companies but has no right to put any man out of business. Neither should the clothing monopoly before the man has his suits /first suits/ sold from the rack.
5. Our foreign policy. No world government. No international bank. A strong National defense. Trade with all nations - permanent alliances with none. The America First Party is opposed to any form of world government, no matter what name or form is assigned to it by the tyrants in Washington. We don't want our boys to police the world. We want them to come home after this war is over and won and take up a useful place as citizens of this great country. If you don't believe me ask one of them and he will tell you in no uncertain terms. You know this international bank turns people's stomachs and sometimes it gets so strong even too strong for those who advocate it thoroughly. I

want to read an editorial from the Philadelphia Record of May 22nd. This editorial is in a paper which has consistently supported the policies of internationalism put forth by Roosevelt. Mr. Stern the publisher and editor is among the leading proponents of international cooperation in the country. This editorial deals with a United Nations Allies scheme put forth to lure us away from the American System (read part of the editorial). It was even too strong for Mr. Stern's stomach and it turned over. Now let me point out to you, even Mr. Stern could not stand this program. Once you enter into this conglomeration you cannot withdraw. Now isn't that something. Imagine you sign away your birth right to enter a nefarious scheme and can never get out of it no matter what happens.

The last point is no matter what happens you cannot go to war under any circumstances. Think of it, wouldn't the world have a lot of fun with us. Suppose Stalin decided that the Mexicans should cross the Rio Grande and take half of Texas. All he would have to do was tell the Mexicans to go ahead and he thought it was a good thing and the Mexicans would boil over the border and we could not go to war and chase them back where they belong. Anything like that could happen to us. Well Mr. Stern soured at this. I don't give him credit for being a great statesman but he is a smart editor and publisher and has good nostrils. He tell which way the wind is blowing and scent what the American people want. He tell you we must build a strong fortified citadel with a ring of steel composed of islands like Iceland, Bermuda, Greeland and Hawaii and lest the rest of the world mind their own business.

Now they are proposing an international bank. Morgenthau came out with that scheme not long ago. Nations of the world are supposed to put in money according to their share of the world's gold. Well there is no use of me telling you what will happen. We have all of the gold so we will put in all the money. In any of those super-duper schemes which they want to set up with headquarters in Casablanca they always want one or two Americans in the group to write and sign checks. And by the way I might tell you that since we took all the gold in the country to Fort Knox and buried it in the ground, I am demanding that it be counted. Let's see if it is all there, I want to know if any of it has been shipped or taken away to some foreign country for some sort of nonsense, or to set up some sort of wild scheme. I don't trust the people who have had control of our gold.

I have more good news for you. We have arranged a giant rally to be held in Chicago by the America First Party the night before the opening of the Republican Convention. There will be two thousand of our leaders there from all over the country. The rent of the hall will cost eight hundred dollars. We will demand a showdown with the Republican Convention and they must insert our planks in their platform. We are particularly interested in the strong nationalist plank. If they don't do this we will not support them in the election and they can't win without the support of the America First Party. If they refuse to accept our program I will be the candidate for President of the America First Party. I know it is a trip to the cross but I will make the sacrifice for I know that our Nation faces a crisis such as it has never faced in its history. If I am defeated we will have laid the groundwork for 1948 and then we will win for nationalism

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will have swept the Country.

I know that it will require a great deal of me physically but I have a strong body given to me by the loins of a God-fearing father and the womb of a Christian mother. I have counted up in the past 2 weeks and I have had just 48½ hours sleep. You ask me how I do it. Well God gives me strength. I will continue this fight as long as I have a breath in my body and a pulse in my wrist. My father will celebrate his 58th wedding anniversary this year and he retired from the ministry on his 50th wedding anniversary.

Now friends at this point I would like to stop. People often ask why I don't drop the curtain at this point and I would like to do so very much. I am covered with sweat and I would like to go back to my hotel room, take a bath and rest for I must catch a train at 20 minutes to one and ride until late tomorrow morning to get the point which I want to reach. You know I was late tonight. Well a long distance phone call from Detroit delayed me. It was about an article for the magazine Cross and Flag on which I had to make a decision. You know paper is scarce and I have a few copies which you may secure as you go out as long as they last. Leave any contribution you desire or just take one. I would like to stop but how many will remain seated for 10 minutes, maybe it will only take 8 minutes. You know if I stopped at this point it would be very nice but I would go back to my hotel without knowing your names and nothing would happen. We can't carry on this fight that way.

Now will you ushers please step to the front and I want some volunteers from the audience. Just step up here. Now hand them the envelopes. Hold them in your hands until everyone has one. Now take out the pencil and write in the upper left hand corner the number of tickets you want for our next big rally in Philadelphia, 100, 50, 25, 10 or 5. We are going to have a big one I think in Convention Hall and I am trying to make arrangements to have Senator Rob Reynolds, Chairman of the Senate Military affairs committee on hand to address you. Now write your name and address on the envelope and put into it any amount which you see fit. You can make it on a monthly basis or if you don't want to do that put in any amount of cash you desire. Now replace the pencil for they are scarce and seal the envelope. Pass them toward the aisles and hold them up so the ushers can see them. Someone take care of the galleries please. Who is going to the galleries. Answers (Mrs. MILLER and Mrs. LEITERBACH). They will take care of it.

Now just one more word, I have some other good news for you, a coalition of Democratic and Republican Congressmen whom I visited the other day have promised me that they are both working in their parties to get rid of this new deal element which are fighting so hard. Think of it even Democrats want to get rid of these traitors. There are some copies of J. Edgar Jones "So They Indicted Me" just a few on hand and you may secure them as you go out along with copies of Cross and the Flag while they last.

I want to pay high tribute to the great Catholic Church and the Catholic hierarchy

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for the way in which they handled a situation which was created by those tyrants in Washington and which they then tried to shove over on the church when their diabolical plot was discovered. You know when we went to war over Poland, at least that was the excuse for starting the war when the Germans invaded Poland. Now the picture has changed and it looks like Poland is to be invaded from the east by Russia. Well to win back this Polish vote they got a Polish Priest and he went to Washington where Roosevelt initialed his passport, put him in a special plane and flew him by the most secret route to Russia. In Moscow he was supposed to confer with Stalin, come back to America and give the New Deal credit for saving Poland. The scheme backfired and criticism arose in this Country of the plot. Immediately he was said to have made the trip on his own initiative, but the Catholic hierarchy knew how to handle the matter. He was ordered home and was unfrocked as well as other disciplinary action. The whole scheme was exposed for just what it was, a New Deal trick to regain the Polish vote. The Church lost no prestige, but instead has increased in stature in the minds of true Americans for their firm and decisive action in a matter where they might have been drawn in New Deal politics.

Stalin ordered the White House to have the Government destroy all the copies of investigations made against the Communists, but when I left Washington this morning the records were still intact.

He then had all persons stand and repeat the Lord's Prayer in unison.. He then stated: The ushers will pass out cards to you bearing the five planks in our platform as you go out the door. Take as many as you want and pass them along to your friends. You will have to pardon me if I seem to rush away without shaking hands with all of you but I must take a bath and catch my train. However, Mrs. LUNDEEN would like to shake hands with each and everyone of you and if you so desire just step up here to the platform. Good night now and God bless you all.

There were no signs or decorations in the auditorium. A legal size American flag was properly displayed on the stage. There were approximately 450 persons in attendance. The audience was very orderly. It is not known the amount of money that was collected."

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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7-4-44

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of this case,
there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent
[redacted] at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on June 23, 1944. b2c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/02 BY SP-6/BJL

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 14
★ JUL 6 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

59 JUL 12 1944

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

JPH:WJ
6-26-44
62-43818

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. R. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information in your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Cleveland, Ohio, on June 15, 1944.

Enclosure ^{AB}

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-9677/MC

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

EX-11

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HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

62-43818-499
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 29 1944
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
JUN 28 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

This case originated at **DETROIT, MICHIGAN** Detroit File No. **62-1126**

Report made at DETROIT, MICHIGAN	Date when made 6/9/44	Period for which made 4/3,8,15,22; 5/8,15,22/44	Report made by [REDACTED]
Title GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY		Character of case INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] advises SMITH has been engaged in extensive speaking tours for the past two months. SMITH apparently intends to take active part in next presidential election and has expressed viewpoint that he may decide to have himself nominated for the presidency. SMITH has filed petitions with Michigan Secretary of State requesting that AMERICA FIRST PARTY be placed on ballot at time of next election. SMITH contacted VIVIAN KELLEMS of Connecticut relative to her dispute with the Government over alleged illegal disclosure of mail written by herself, and requested KELLEMS to address SMITH rally but KELLEMS refused to participate. No further recent evidence to indicate SMITH intends to organize war veterans. SMITH continues to evince interest in sedition trials in Washington, D. C.

*cc Clark - 3/24/49
 copy to read 6/17/44
 copy to [unclear] 6/27/44
 [unclear]*

*ENCLOSURE
 ENCL. BEHIND FILE
 99*

*b7D
 [Handwritten notes and signatures]*

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], dated March 27, 1944, at Detroit, Michigan.

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27 OCT 20 1964

Approved and forwarded	Special Agent in Charge	HANDLED BY	STOP WORK RECORDED
R.A. Guerin		62-1126-500	INDEXED
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2-Baltimore	2-Pittsburgh <i>cc chief</i>		
2-Buffalo	2-St. Louis <i>6/27/44</i>		
2-Cincinnati	2-Milwaukee <i>YPB</i>		
2-Cleveland	3-Detroit		

*6/15/44
 7-25-74
 [Handwritten notes]*

*Let to Detroit
 C. Washington
 6/27/44
 [Handwritten notes]*

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 205 OCT 10 1964**

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-4 [unclear]**

Re 62-1126

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan

All of the information set forth hereinafter, unless otherwise stated, has been received from [REDACTED] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

Informant advised that in the month of March, 1944, SMITH had contacted [REDACTED] formerly connected with the Ford Motor Company, at which time [REDACTED] stated that he had attended a recent Reverend Father COUGHLIN meeting, and that at this meeting comment was made to the effect that the National Service Act would create chaos and that it would be used as a bayonet in labor's back to allow the Administration to take over twenty-five thousand dollars that the various labor unions had accumulated. SMITH at the time of his conversation with [REDACTED] stated to [REDACTED] that all of Father COUGHLIN'S friends were his friends all over the country. b7C

This same informant advised that SMITH had been contacted by Reverend [REDACTED] of Baltimore, Maryland, at which time [REDACTED] and SMITH had attempted to secure a meeting place in Baltimore, Maryland. At that time SMITH advised [REDACTED] that he wanted [REDACTED] to arrange a meeting with WALTER RIDDLE of Maryland; that RIDDLE was desirous of running for the Senate and wanted to seek the advice of SMITH. Informant stated further that on or about March 15, 1944, SMITH had contacted the Ford Motor Company and at that time he had related that [REDACTED] had allegedly met SMITH at the Statler Hotel in Detroit, and at that time [REDACTED] had expressed a desire to contact Father COUGHLIN. b7C

This same informant advised that some time in March, 1944, SMITH had attended a meeting at the Central Methodist Church, which meeting was addressed by MAX LERNER, whom the newspapers described as a "liberal from the East," and at that time SMITH became quite aroused over statements made by LERNER and jumped onto the stage and challenged LERNER to a debate, which challenge was not accepted.

Informant advised further that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had contacted one [REDACTED] of Detroit in March, 1944, and at that time [REDACTED] advised that he was a disabled World War 1 veteran and presently resided at 5031 Lincoln Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. At this time SMITH mentioned to [REDACTED] that he was trying to organize a Veterans Committee in the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, and that SMITH was desirous of securing the aid of a World War veteran to help the cause and serve on the committee. [REDACTED] allegedly contacted a [REDACTED] at the Veterans Hospital in Detroit, b7C

and [redacted] supposedly promised to contact the Commander of the local American Legion Post in an attempt to locate an individual who would be able to help SMITH organize the World War Veterans of War No. 2. Since that time, however, there has been no further evidence to indicate that SMITH actually intends to follow through with his announced intentions of organizing the Veterans Committee of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

b7c

Informant advised that SMITH had recently apparently been having some trouble with his local printer, and SMITH was of the opinion that the Anti-Defamation League in this area had contacted his printer and attempted to persuade the printer to discontinue printing SMITH'S publications. SMITH stated along these lines that the printer was supposed to have contacted the Police Department, and at that time was advised by the police that if he did not print the material someone else certainly would, so he might just as well print the publications and get the business.

1944
1947

On March 20, 1944, it was ascertained by informant that EDWARD JONES of Louisiana, the author of the book entitled, "And So They Indicted Me," had on or about that date sent a check to SMITH in the amount of \$890.00 to pay the bill then owed by SMITH to the Embassy Press, his local printer. SMITH stated at that time that he intended forwarding five thousand books to JONES.

See Bureau memo file

Information was received from this informant that SMITH had received a letter from one [redacted] and that [redacted] was apparently in some sort of trouble in Coral Gables, Florida.

[Large redacted block]

b7c
b7d

SMITH had no difficulty in finding plenty of friends who would help him in his difficulties.

Informant related further that SMITH had been in contact with GEORGE SOKOLSKY, a New York commentator, and that SMITH had been discussing with SOKOLSKY the possibilities of DEWEY becoming elected President.

SMITH contacted Miss VIVIAN KELLEMS of Westport, Connecticut, at which time he expressed his sympathy to her after her alleged accusations against the United States Government of illegal disclosure of mail written by

herself. SMITH stated that he was entirely in accord with the views expressed by Miss KELLEMS and extended an invitation to KELLEMS to address one of the SMITH rallies, advising KELLEMS that in all likelihood she would receive a tremendous ovation from the people in the Midwest for her attitude in this dispute. KELLEMS stated that until the matter had been settled by appropriate Senate Investigating Committee, she definitely did not want to participate in any SMITH meetings.

Informant has advised the Detroit Field Office on numerous occasions that SMITH apparently is very interested in the outcome of the present sedition trials in Washington, D. C. SMITH apparently is interested mostly in the outcome of the case against GERALD WINROD; and has expressed the opinion on several occasions that WINROD is not guilty in this particular matter. SMITH has also expressed the opinion that the Government has taken five or six guilty seditionists and linked their names with twenty or twenty-five patriotic Americans with the idea in mind of smearing the "good, patriotic Americans" in the eyes of the public. Along these lines, SMITH has been continuously advised as to the progress of the trials by [REDACTED] b7c an acquaintance of SMITH, who apparently is attending the trials in Washington, D. C.

Informant advised the first week of May, 1944, that SMITH had filed petitions with the Michigan Secretary of State for the purpose of having the AMERICA FIRST PARTY placed on the next ballot in the State of Michigan.

This same informant advised that SMITH became very interested in the Montgomery Ward case, and that SMITH sent a telegram of congratulations to SEWELL AVERY, Operations Manager for Montgomery Ward, congratulating AVERY for his courageous stand. SMITH has also expressed the opinion that men like AVERY should be persuaded to run for the presidency.

SMITH has recently been in contact with JOSEPH FEW of the Sun Oil Company in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, who is, according to SMITH, "a great political leader in the East," and at that time SMITH inquired of FEW as to the identity of the candidate FEW was supporting for the Presidency. FEW at that time stated that he was interested either in the candidacy of BRICKER or DEWEY, and informant stated that although FEW seemed to be quite cordial in his statements with SMITH, FEW definitely did not indicate any desire to have any political affiliation or social affiliation with SMITH or the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

De 62-1126

Informant stated that in the early part of May, 1944, SMITH had met a group of his constituents in Flint and Saginaw, Michigan, with the idea in mind of having those persons circulate petitions in the northern part of Michigan, requesting that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY be placed on the next ballot in Michigan.

Informant also related that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had persuaded DONALD LOHBECK of St. Louis, Missouri, to participate in SMITH meetings in various sections of the country. SMITH apparently is desirous of securing the services of LOHBECK to help make arrangements for various meetings throughout the country. LOHBECK, along these same lines, has indicated a desire to actively participate with SMITH in various meetings throughout the country, and in fact there is a great possibility that LOHBECK might be a permanent member on the SMITH payroll.

In connection with a meeting which was to be held in Cleveland, Ohio, on May 15, 1944, SMITH, prior to that time, had communicated with Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS in Washington, D. C., and requested that the Senator send a telegram of congratulations to the SMITH group on the evening of May 15, the night of the contemplated SMITH meeting in Cleveland. REYNOLDS at that time promised SMITH that he would send the telegram of congratulations.

On or about this same date SMITH, in a conversation with DONALD LOHBECK, stated that when LOHBECK was making arrangements for SMITH meetings to be held in the St. Louis area LOHBECK should not pay any attention to the Slovak groups but should find out about the Polish, German and Irish churches and also suggested that the appropriate officials in the various Lutheran churches might be approached for active support of the SMITH cause. SMITH was more or less planning on a meeting to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on June 1, 1944, although SMITH has apparently become involved in some dispute with the Milwaukee authorities concerning the rental of a hall in Milwaukee. There is a great possibility that SMITH will not be able to secure a meeting place in Milwaukee on June 1, 1944, the date which he has specified he desired to conduct this particular meeting.

The following information was received from [REDACTED] whose identity is known to the Bureau. [REDACTED] and as such has obtained the information set forth hereinafter. The information received from this informant is being set forth verbatim. b7D

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7D

Subject GERALD L. K. SMITH attended a meeting at the Christian Temple, Pontiac, Michigan, on May 4, 1944, which meeting was attended by Special Agent [REDACTED] of the Detroit Field Office. Information relative to this meeting, as submitted by Special Agent [REDACTED] is being set forth as follows:

b7C

"SMITH stressed particularly the "Montgomery War Case," stating that this was a striking example of "Hitlerism" and of "Bureaucratic Fascism" and stated that if the Bureaucrats could throw a businessman out of his place of business, they could also throw a preacher out of his church.

"SMITH stated that he had been in Washington recently, had talked to a prominent member of the United States Senate and had been advised that the United States forces would suffer a million casualties within the next ninety days as a result of the invasion. He stated this would be the greatest "blood bath" in all history, and that it could have been avoided if President Roosevelt had spent the country's money, from 1933 on, for ships and guns instead of for various "boondoggling projects."

"Subject explained that he had tried to prevent the United States from entering the war, and that he was proud of what he had done in this effort. While, he stated, he was now behind the war one hundred per cent, he did not want any internationalists, such as President Roosevelt, to run the country any longer or to dictate peace terms. Subject stated he did not begrudge the billions of dollars which were being spent on training army and feeding American soldiers, but that he did denounce the Administration for spending additional billions for "useless lend lease" and for purchasing good will in South America.

"With reference to the sedition trial now being held in Washington, Subject said this was an exhibition much like the "Moscow trials" of several years back; that the Administration had been afraid to indict any important individuals, such as Senator NYE, Colonel LINDBERGH or himself, and had stooped to the device of indicting a lot of "little people." Subject stated that this trial marked a new high spot in un-constitutional activity by the New Deal since the defendants were being tried in Washington, instead of in their home localities, which procedure is completely un-constitutional, according to the Subject.

"Subject also referred to the AUSTIN-WADSWORTH Labor Draft Bill as being slavery and stated that a bill of this kind could become law nowhere else in the world except in Russia or Germany.

"At frequent intervals Subject referred to his AMERICA FIRST party, stating that its slogan was "Christ first in America." After the meeting went on it developed that the principal purpose of SMITH'S appearance was to obtain about five hundred signatures on petitions to put this party on the ballot in Michigan. The pastor of the Christian Temple, Reverend MARION, is a close friend of the Subject and evidently had circulated petitions among the members of his church. SMITH appeared very displeased when he learned that only one hundred fifty names had been obtained and insisted that the church would have to get out and get another three hundred fifty names before Sunday. He wound up by offering several prizes to the people who got the greatest amount of names.

"SMITH was the only speaker on the program, being introduced by Reverend MARION. The latter recently got into considerable difficulty with the OPA in Pontiac as a result of alleged illegal use of gasoline rationing coupons. In the course of his remarks, Subject defended MARION, stating that his courage in facing the OPA had been instrumental in obtaining more gasoline for all preachers throughout the country since it had brought the situation to the attention of Congress. About one hundred fifty persons were in attendance at the meeting."

De 62-1126

Under date of May 18, 1944, the Detroit Field Office was advised by the Milwaukee Field Office that [REDACTED] had advised an informant of the Milwaukee Office that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU - Miscellaneous literature obtained from confidential informants.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

IN ACCORDANCE WITH BUREAU INSTRUCTIONS INVESTIGATIVE REPORTS
SUBMITTED IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO
OTHER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

BUFFALO FIELD OFFICE

At Buffalo, New York, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the AMERICA FIRST meeting on May 17, 1944, and submit results of investigation in report form.

BALTIMORE FIELD OFFICE

At Baltimore, Maryland, will conduct similar investigation at the time of the Baltimore meeting, May 22, 1944.

CINCINNATI FIELD OFFICE

At Greenville, Ohio, will conduct appropriate investigation at the time of the AMERICA FIRST rally in Greenville on June 4, 1944.

CLEVELAND FIELD OFFICE

At Cleveland, Ohio, will conduct similar investigation at the time of the SMITH meeting in this city on May 15, 1944.

At Toledo, Ohio, will conduct similar investigation at the time of the SMITH meeting in Toledo on June 2, 1944, at the Hotel Secor.

PHILADELPHIA FIELD OFFICE

At Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, will conduct similar investigation in this city at the meeting held on May 25, 1944.

PITTSBURGH FIELD OFFICE

At Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, will conduct similar investigation at the time of the SMITH meeting in this city on May 18, 1944.

MILWAUKEE FIELD OFFICE

At Milwaukee, Wisconsin, will conduct similar investigation in that city with reference to the contemplated meeting of the SMITH group in the first week of June, 1944.

DE 62-1126

DETROIT FIELD OFFICE

At Detroit, Michigan, will maintain contact with confidential informants mentioned in the body of the instant report with reference to further activities of Subject.

LETTERS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO THE RESPECTIVE OFFICES
RELATIVE TO MEETINGS TO BE HELD BY THE AMERICA FIRST
PARTY IN THEIR PARTICULAR CITIES.

- PENDING -

De 62-1126

IDENTITY OF INFORMANTS

The identity of confidential informants mentioned in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] are as follows:

b7c

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

b7D

INDEX GUIDE

TITLE: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY

CASE: INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION

S. A. :

[REDACTED]

b7c

DATE: JUNE 9, 1944

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Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY
SECTION

For your further information in your consideration of this case there is attached a copy of an additional report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] at Detroit, Michigan, on June 9, 1944. b7c

Also attached are photostatic copies of the following enclosures which are described or otherwise mentioned in the body of the report:

1. The April, 1944, issue of "The Cross and the Flag."
2. A statement prepared by subject Smith and headed, "Personal Messages Concerning Desperate Opposition and Other Matters."
3. A circular headed, "Petition."
4. A statement prepared by subject Smith dated at Detroit, Michigan, and headed, "Special Message for April, 1944."
5. Releases purportedly prepared by subject Smith for release on the following dates: May 10, May 16, March 25, and March 27, 1944.
6. A message headed, "The 30," purportedly prepared by Smith in the form of a press release.

meB
signature

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DATE 10/1/82 BY [signature]

DE-INDEXED

DATE: 10/25/97

4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

12 1944

RECEIVED MAIL ROOM
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED MAIL ROOM
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
JUN 20

FEDERAL BUREAU
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS
RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERALD L.K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: _____

VOL: 30

PAGES REVIEWED: 73

PAGES RELEASED: 57

NOTES: _____

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : D. A. BRYCE, SAC, El Paso Field Division
SUBJECT: GERALD LYMAN SMITH
SECURITY MATTER - G, SEDITION

DATE: June 21, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/18/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mc

Reference is made to Bureau memorandum dated March 20, 1944 advising that one [redacted] who arrived as a passenger from Mexico at El Paso, Texas, via American Air Lines on March 9, 1944, may be identical with one [redacted] who is an active supporter of the above captioned individual and subject of a pending case in the Detroit Field Division. This memorandum further reported that information was also received that subject was a supporter of Fritz Kuhn and his various activities in connection with the German American Bund.

[Large redacted block]

Height
Weight
Eyes
Hair
Marital status
Finger printed
Complexion

[Redacted block]

ALL b7c

It is to be noted that this passenger, when given his travel questionnaire enroute from Mexico City, would not fill it out and return it to the hostess; however, upon his arrival an interview indicated that he had failed to make out a questionnaire and after being assured

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127-621-43818-50

JUN 24 1944

50 JUL 10 1944

by the Army official on the panel that the presentation of such information would expedite his being handled by the panel, he became very cooperative and after learning also that the FBI was participating in the panel, stated that if the information was for the FBI, it was okey as he would "do anything for the FBI."

The above information is being furnished to the Bureau, Detroit, and New York Field Divisions as being information of possible value in this case.

 b7c
100-3501
cc - Detroit
New York

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Mumford	.....
Mr. Starke	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : JOHN B. LITTLE, SAC, Buffalo
Federal Bureau of Investigation

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, w.a.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G. (Bureau File #62-43818).

DATE: June 21, 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated June 15, 1944. Your attention is respectfully directed to my letter of June 14, 1944, in the above-captioned matter, advising that the temporary microphone surveillance on the subject's rooms, Numbers 606 and 608, at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, New York, was maintained from 12:17 A.M. to midnight, May 17, 1944, and has been assigned [redacted]. The plant on this surveillance was located in Room Number 506 in the same hotel.

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66-781

DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/hc

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
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EX-7

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b7c

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 [Signature]
 [Signature]
 [Signature]

JPHa:WMA

62-43818
SAC, Detroit

June 27, 1944

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C; SECURITY MATTER; SEDITION.

In the various reports submitted in this case (as well as letters received from your office) it is noted that occasionally mention has been made of one [redacted] who apparently resides at Washington, D. C. You will recall that [redacted] has been in touch with Smith from time to time and that the report submitted by Special Agent [redacted] dated at Detroit, Michigan, on June 9, 1944, shows that according to the latest information received, [redacted] is apparently attending the Joseph E. McMillans, et al, sedition trial at Washington and is keeping Smith "continuously advised" as to the progress of the trial. You will further remember that some time ago [redacted] called on an official of the Ford Motor Company, advancing a "proposition" relative to the so-called Tyler Kent espionage case in England. On that occasion there was some indication that Smith might have arranged or sought to have arranged for [redacted] interview at the Ford Company.

In view of this individual's recurrent association with subject Smith as well as the fact that he reportedly has somewhat of a mysterious background, the Bureau desires that you furnish the Washington Field Division all pertinent information in your files as to [redacted] and that thereafter the Washington Field Division conduct a very discreet investigation for the limited purpose (at present at least) of developing pertinent data as to [redacted] background, previous activities, employment, current efforts, etc.

cc - Washington

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/6/82 BY SP-955/MRC

RECORDED

HANDLED BY

62-43818-503

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JUL 1 1944

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Mumford	_____
Mr. Jones	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
★ JUN 28 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUL 3 1944

RECEIVED
JUN 28 5 55 PM '44

Handwritten signatures and initials: "D.H.", "All b7c", "Mia", and other illegible marks.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, Saint Louis

DATE: June 28, 1944

SUBJECT: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY; 61790
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; SECURITY MATTER: SEDITION
(Bureau File No. 62-43818)

Bureau letter dated June 19, 1944, requested the Saint Louis Field Division to advise regarding the source of information concerning the presence of Communists in front of the meeting hall at the time SMITH gave his recent talk in Saint Louis on June 6, 1944.

Special Agent [redacted] of the Saint Louis Field Division, who knows several members of the Communist Party on sight, observed [redacted] and [redacted] in front of the hall distributing a leaflet entitled, "Back the Battle of Liberation". This leaflet dealt with the opening of the Second Front and was signed by the "State Committee, Missouri Communist Party".

All of the above named individuals are members of the Communist Party.

Several copies of the above mentioned leaflets are being retained in the files of the Saint Louis Field Office.

Very truly yours,

G. B. Norris

G. B. NORRIS
Special Agent in Charge

[redacted]
100-6013

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DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-800/ak

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

FILE NO. 100-7463

REPORT MADE AT Cleveland, Ohio	DATE WHEN MADE 6/15/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/2/44	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] mam b7c
TITLE GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, wa Gerald L. K. Schmidt The Committee of 1,000,000			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

*synopsis copied on all copies
4/24/44
7/6/44
SPH*

Meeting held 6/2/44, Secor Hotel Ballroom, Toledo, Ohio. Approximately 350 persons in attendance. SMITH alleged committee has become a pressure group to make labor party cater to will of people. SMITH denounced New Deal, Communist Party and any international affiliation following the war. Guest speaker was CHARLES G. BINDERUP, former U.S. Congressman from Nebraska.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File No. 62-43818.

Letter from the Detroit Field Division dated May 23, 1944.

DETAILS:

At 8:30 p.m., June 2, 1944 GERALD L.K. SMITH, National Director of the American First Party addressed an audience of approximately 350 persons in the Ballroom of the Secor Hotel at Toledo, Ohio. To gain admission to the hall it was necessary to present a card of admission which is described as follows:

"This card will admit bearer and friends to American First Rally". Place and date also set forth. "Speakers: Congressman CHARLES G. BINDERUP of Nebraska, subject: International Conspirators; GERALD L.K. SMITH, just returned from nation-wide tour." Among many topics to be discussed were the following:

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *W. B. Fletcher*
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT (5) - Bureau 4 - Detroit 2 - Cleveland <i>7/11/44 S #1 BVI #41 cc clerk 6/26/44 SPH</i>	62-43818-505 JUN 20 1944 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/1/02 BY SP-808/mrc
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20 OCT 13 1964

CV F.O.
100-7463

"The "No Election" Conspiracy - Slave Act 666 -
Bureaucratic Tyrants - New Deal Communists - The
Farm Crisis - The Internationalists - Treason in
Washington - World Government - The Fourth Term
Plot - Dynamic issues - Fat Bureaucrats and Hungary
Veterans - International Bankers - International
Politicians

Admission Free"

Also circulated prior to the meeting was a pamphlet entitled
"America First Principles" and is summarized as follows:

"SMITH sets forth that America must be put
first at all times

2. No compromise of National Sovereignty.
3. Repeal Bureaucratic Fascism.
4. Fight New Deal Communism.
5. Less Money For Foreign Politics and More
For Discharged Veterans.
6. No Labor Draft.
7. Restoration of the System of Private
Enterprise."

Also set forth as emergency issues on the same pamphlet
are:

- A. Fight the Slave Act--Senate Resolution No. 666.
- B. Fight All Attempts To Call Off the Election.
- C. Expose Conspiracy To Steal the Soldiers' Vote.

The meeting was opened with the singing of the first and
last stanza of "America" following which SMITH summed up the advances
made by The Committee of 1,000,000. He stated that the numbers in
the organization were increasing daily and that the power of the group
was being recognized by politicians and the newspapers. He further
said that because of his personal contacts WENDELL WILLKIE had been
defeated in his attempt to gain the Republican nomination for pre-
sident. He further stated that the organization has become a pre-
ssure group and that pressure has been and is being applied upon
Republican leaders to force them to follow certain policies of the
committee. He said that a mammoth rally was arranged in Chicago,
Illinois to be held the night preceding the Republican National
Convention at which time the committee's demands will be formulated
and presented to the Republican leaders.

CV F.O.
100-7463

He stated that some of the noteworthy accomplishments are:

1. WILLKIE out of the presidential picture,
2. Republican National Convention being held out of New York City in the East and
3. Making the Republican Party recognize the strength of his group.

In connection with WILLKIE's failure to gain backing in Wisconsin, SMITH said that he personally was in Wisconsin and spoke against WILLKIE because following the last presidential election he had sold out to the New Deal Bureaucrats. He said also that as a result of the power of the group and his personal speeches the Republican National Convention was being held in the Midwest at Chicago, Illinois. He explained that this was desirous inasmuch as the galleries could not be packed by New Dealers to applaud someone to their liking into the Republican nomination.

Following this, he stated that various articles have been written by newspapers over the country which recognize the power of his group. He alleged that an article had been written in the Cleveland Plain Dealer, which set forth that in the political editor's opinion GERALD L.K. SMITH's party held the balance of power between Republicans and Democrats in Ohio.

Following his attack on WILLKIE and the New Deal, he presented five aims for which the "Crusade" is presently fighting:

1. "\$1,000 to every Veteran of this War when mustered out. (Less money for foreign politics—more money for American Veterans.)

In a discussion of this item SMITH alleged that in South America alone approximately 6 million dollars was spent in trying to buy control and in attempts to control the political issues in those countries. He stated that if this money had been kept at home it would be sufficient to give 6,000,000 men \$1,000 when mustered out of the Armed Forces. He stated that after the last war the Veterans had no money to go back into private enterprise or organize a small business and as a result they were on the country's bread line in a short time following the country's war. He alleged that the spending of the above mentioned money in South America could have no lasting beneficial value inasmuch as friendship between countries or individuals could never be bought.

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100-7463

SMITH criticized at length the lack of organization and the incompetent measures being taken by the Government at present to care for wounded and discharged soldiers of this war. According to SMITH the "25¢ flop houses" in Detroit, Michigan are presently filled with wounded and disabled veterans of this war who have not been cared for following their discharge from the Armed Service. SMITH played upon the sympathy of his audience by suggesting that their sons would be treated likewise when they were discharged from the Army.

2. "\$10. - \$15. - \$20. plus per day for workers by instituting profit sharing as practiced by the Jack & Heintz Co. and Lincoln Electric Co. of Cleveland, Ohio."

SMITH elaborated on the systems used by these two companies by saying that articles produced are purchased by the Government for less money than they can be purchased from other companies and that production in these plants per item is approximately 4 times as great as in other plants producing the same materials. He said that last year the Lincoln Electric Company in addition to paying an average scale of almost \$20 per day to its employees, give cash bonuses at the end of the fiscal year of over \$5,000 to each employee. He stated that he was much in favor of the profit paying system in plants where the workers and management were in harmony. At the same time he criticized the labor barons who pitted the workers against the employers for their own personal gain. He stated that in this type of system there could never be mutual understanding between the workers and the employers and that as a result the wages were lower, the employers made too much profit, and the unscrupulous labor leaders took the balance.

3. "Cash bonus to farmers for production rather than for destruction. Increased prices for farm commodities, to be maintained by distribution reform and a clean-up in our money system. Would produce an abundance of butter, milk, meat, etc."

SMITH, inasmuch as many of his audience were farmers dwelt heavily on this point, and reiterated time and again the shortcomings of farm legislation under the A.A.A. He criticized the plowing under of crops and the payments to farmers for cutting down on production on their farms. In SMITH's opinion the distribution system should be drastically changed so that the farmers could produce as much as their lands would give up. He pointed out that

CV F.O.
100-7463

when production on farms was curtailed and crops were plowed under through the A.A.A. program, that persons were on relief and starving throughout the country.

In relation to cleaning up the money system in the country as was set forth in Item #3 he informed that he would leave this to be discussed by Congressman BINDERUP.

4. "Restore private enterprise by outlawing monopoly and eliminating bureaucratic interference with business."

At this time SMITH stated that approximately 80 per cent of the income of this country was being received by approximately 10 per cent of the population and he alleged this to be true because the Government has allowed monopolies to flourish throughout the country. He further pointed out that 90 per cent of all the war contracts in the country have been let to approximately 80 or 90 large industrial concerns and as a result small businessmen have been forced "against the wall". He talked at length on the fact that the country as well as our constitutional Government was originally founded on the basis of small business and individual enterprise and that under the present system, small business could not exist.

5. " Foreign policy. No world government. No international bank. A strong national defense. Trade with all nations--permanent alliances with none."

In a discussion at this point SMITH followed his usual trend by saying that tariffs should be reduced to allow free world trade. He attacked strongly any postwar allowance with foreign nations and stated that the future of America depended on maintaining a strong defense setup and maintaining the national integrity of this country. He stated that he did not want to see STALIN give us a form of government or CHURCHILL dictating our foreign policies.

Following the discussions of the five points for which the committee stands, he again discussed the political situation in the country. He said that if the Republicans failed to put up an individual who would enforce legislation backed by his party, that the voting support of the group would be put behind some other individual who would enforce his ideals. He said that at present the membership of the group is approximately 3,000,000 nationally and that it is growing rapidly.

CV F.O.
100-7463

He said further that nothing should be spent on Russia, China or anybody else following the war until our own soldiers are cared for. He pointed out that CHURCHILL had said that it would be a catastrophe if ROOSEVELT was not elected. He continued by saying that CHURCHILL wants America to pay for the war and further alleged that presently approximately \$2,000,000 per hour is being given to Great Britain under the ROOSEVELT Government.

SMITH and his guest speaker Congressman CHARLES G. BINDERUP were the only persons who appeared on the stage during the meeting and following his talk, SMITH introduced BINDERUP.

BINDERUP said that he had been in Congress for several years having been defeated for re-election in the 1930's because he tried to force the banking issue in Congress. He stated that under the constitution of the United States the power to coin money and issue currency was vested to the Congress of the United States but that following the initiating of the Federal Reserve System this power has been usurp.

According to BINDERUP, since the day of JOHN HAMILTON, the influence of the bank of England on the monetary system of this country has been a controlling factor. He said that MONTIGUE NORMAN, head of the Bank of England personally controls the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, and that through this method has controlled the money system of this country. He pointed out that the power to issue and recall currency, which is presently vested to the Board of Governors in the Federal Reserve System, has been the cause of depression cycles in the economic history of this country.

At this time, he discussed the depression of 1920 which was caused, according to BINDERUP, by the Federal Reserve System recalling outstanding loans throughout the country. He said that the minutes of the meeting which was held by the Board on June 29, 1920 was subpoenaed by the Congress of the United States, and that these minutes reflected that orders were issued to banks on that day to call in loans by banks to private individuals.

He said that at that time and at the present time about 90 per cent of the currency in this country is paper money which is created by banks whenever they choose to do so. He alleged that the depression started on the same day at which the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System met on June 29, 1920 and pointed out that it was on that day that the stock market crashed. He said further that the minutes of this meeting reflected that the Board of Governors came to a decision that there was too much money in the country in the hands of individuals, that they were spending too freely on

CV F.O.
100-7463

unnecessary articles, and that although drastic, the only way to curb the situation was to cause a scarcity of money. *the*

BINDERUP told the group that this was brought home to him by the fact that when he went into the bank in his home town in Nebraska to pay an installment on a note which he had with the bank, that his banker told him that he would have to pay up. He said that he questioned his banker concerning the reason for this sudden change in policy and was shown at the time a letter which his banker had received from the Federal Reserve Bank in Kansas City to the effect that if the banker did not have at least 50 per cent of all outstanding notes cleared within 6 months time that his re-discount rate would be raised to an exorbitant rate. BINDERUP explained that the banker was helpless because if he did not follow the dictates of a Federal Reserve Bank, his bank would fold. He explained that this was the clearest example that manipulation of currency and our money system is directly responsible for all depressions. He said that our currency system would have to be stabilized in order to avoid depressions and that this could only be done by placing the power to issue money back in the hands of Congress where it belonged.

At this point, he advised that although the public generally assumes that the banks were very patriotic in purchasing large quantities of war bonds, it was nothing more than a creation of money at the time the purchase was made and that the banks in reality paid nothing for the bonds. He explained that when war bonds were issued to a bank or were purchased by a bank, the bank in turn merely set up credit to the Federal Government in the amount of the cost of the bonds, and that this was nothing more than putting more money in circulation which right belongs, under the Constitution, in the hands of Congress.

He further pointed out that since the Federal Reserve System was in existence that both parties, the Republicans and the Democrats, have from time to time placed on their campaign platforms promises to stabilize our system of money and currency and to give back to Congress the power to issue currency. He alleged, however, that nothing has ever been done about it because of the powerful money block which controls Congress.

He explained that he was not re-elected to Congress because he had attempted to get legislation into the House of Representative which would curtail the activities of the bankers in issuing currency. He said that the power of the group was well demonstrated by a conversation he had with Congressman STEAGALL, deceased, who was for many years in charge of the Money and Banking Committee in the House of Representatives. He alleged that once in a discussion with STEAGALL concerning the bill which he proposed STEAGALL told him that if he

CV F.O.
100-7463

ever allowed such a bill to reach the Floor of the House of Representatives, that he could not expect to be re-elected, that it would be political suicide for him.

BINDERUP informed that STEAGALL told him that four banks run all politics in the State of Alabama and that it was impossible for any person to attempt to buck this group and be re-elected to Congress.

BINDERUP ended his speech by saying that it was his idea that reforms in our banking system could only be initiated by a new powerful party.

Following BINDERUP's speech SMITH again took the floor and explained that the cost of holding the meeting and traveling expenses were approximately \$800 and requested that his audience give money to aid him in defraying his expenses and to carry on the "Crusade". He said that there were some "Doubting Thomases" in the audience who always wanted to know how much money was made and how much he personally made on each speech. SMITH stated that the collections which he took up at the meetings never quite paid for the expenses of the meeting, and that it was only through donations from loyal supporters who were unable to attend the meeting at all that the work could be carried on.

The meeting was closed following the taking of the collection, after which a prayer was said by SMITH.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPH:WML

62-13818 - 505
SAC, Cleveland

June 27, 1944

RECORDED

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. E. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SELECTION.

EX-3
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Reference is made to the report submitted in this case at Cleveland, Ohio, on June 15, 1944, by Special Agent [redacted] b7c

The Bureau desires that a comma be placed between the words, "Deal" and "Communist," in the fourth sentence of the synopsis of reference report in order that the sentence will read, "Smith denounced New Deal, Communist Party and any international affiliation following the war." The omission of the comma leaves the sentence subject to an entirely different construction and, as indicated, this punctuation should be placed on all of the copies of the report maintained by the Detroit and Cleveland Field Divisions.

cc - Detroit

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 10/1/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/juc

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quir Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
★ JUN 28 1944 P.M.
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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: June 14, 1944

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

17

TO : Director, FBI, ~~Buffalo~~

FROM : JOHN B. LITTLE, SAC, Buffalo

SUBJECT: Federal Bureau of Investigation

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases
 THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
 INTERNAL SECURITY - G
 SECURITY MATTER
 SEDITION

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
 AND FIELD OFFICES
 ADVISED BY ROUTING
 SLIP(S) OF Class
 DATE 4/11/83

Reference is made to [redacted] from [redacted] the Buffalo Field Division to the Bureau dated [redacted] and to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated June 14, 1944 at Buffalo in the captioned case of Detroit origin.

Please be advised that the temporary microphone surveillance on the subject's rooms Nos. 606 and 608 at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, New York, maintained from 12:17 A.M. to midnight, May 17, 1944 has been assigned [redacted] for the purpose of the above referenced report.

The use of this informant having been terminated, as stated, the symbol [redacted] will not be used in the future, and the informant's index card is being marked "Cancelled" in the Buffalo Field Division.

DECLASSIFIED BY 6050/LE/du
 ON 8-11-77

14-7

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
 AND FIELD OFFICES
 ADVISED BY ROUTING
 SLIP(S) OF Class
 DATE 4/11/83

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4/11/83

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162-43818-500
 FBI
 37 JUN 29 1944

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

55 AUG 7 1944

File

18

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
 Detroit, Michigan
 June 23, 1944

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Jones	.....
Mr. Mumford	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Mr. [unclear]	.....
Mr. [unclear]	.....
Mr. [unclear]	.....
Mr. [unclear]	.....
Mr. [unclear]	.....

Director, FBI

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH was
 AMERICA FIRST PARTY
 INTERNAL SECURITY - G
 SECURITY MATTER
 SEDITION
 (Bureau file 62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated June 19, 1944, in the above-captioned matter. In our letter to you dated June 12, 1944, there was mentioned the fact that SMITH was being sued for \$100,000 in New York City for using the name "America First."

For your information an article appeared in the Detroit "Times" on June 7, 1944, stating an action had been filed in the Federal Court by CARL C. COUNTRYMAN of New York, a professional lecturer, who alleged that he originated the term "America First" several years ago and charged that SMITH had used the slogan "falsely, slanderously, and barbarously" and because of SMITH's usurpation of the term COUNTRYMAN's reputation had been "wantonly and cruelly damaged, his earning power reduced, and his financial resources drained." Any further information developed relative to the above suit will be forwarded to the Bureau promptly.

For your further information an article appeared in the Detroit "News," Detroit "Times," and Detroit "Free Press" on June 22, 1944, reflecting the fact that a federal tax lien had been filed against the subject for the amount of \$398.00, which amount was due on the 1942 income of SMITH.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerinn
 R. A. GUERIN, SAC

HANDLED BY
 STOP DESK

162-43818-50
 FBI

36 JUN 29 1944

DECLASSIFIED BY 6050 L Ed/ck ON 8-11-77

62-1126



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DATE 10/17/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mh

55 AUG 7 1944

1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

FILE NO. **14-7 FLA**

REPORT MADE AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK	DATE WHEN MADE 6-14-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/11, 15, 18; 5/20/44	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i>
TITLE GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

SMITH and MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN addressed "America First Rally" sponsored by Economics League of Buffalo at Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, N.Y., 5/17/44. Attendance approximately 650; no servicemen in audience. CHARLES A. MADDEN, American Legionnaire, Pittsburgh Pa., did not make appearance although advertised as speaker. SMITH outlined Five Point Platform of America First Party, condemned wasteful spending in South America, assailed HILLMAN, the C.I.O. and the administration. SMITH stated mistreated veterans who cannot pass physical examinations for employment filled the flop houses of Detroit. MRS. LUNDEEN declared herself against the "Myth of Internationalism", assailed PEARSON and WINCHELL and asked: "Why are healthy refugee men living in comfort in the U.S. while our sons are sent to fight on foreign soil?" Excerpts of speeches set out. Distribution of "Peace Now" literature outside Hall after meeting apparently without connection with subject's Rally and program. SMITH and wife; Secretary, [REDACTED] and MRS. LUNDEEN departed for Pittsburgh, Pa., 5/18/44. A.M. *b7c*

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 12/1/82 BY SP-6 BJA/STJ

- RUC -

~~SECRETED RECORDING~~
me

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated April 14, 1944, at Buffalo. *b7c*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>John P. Fittler</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	HANDLED BY DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED 205 OCT 13 1964 COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - Detroit 3 - Buffalo <i>cc Clark 6/27/44</i>	62-43818-508 JUN 29 1944 <i>DMK</i>
	RECORDED & INDEXED 5

DETAILS: AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK

[redacted] of Kleinhans Music Hall Management, Inc., The Circle and 14th Street, advised that JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, 98 Comstock Avenue, had engaged the Mary Seaton Room at the Music Hall for 7:30 P.M., May 17, 1944, at which time, according to STOFFEL'S letter, GERALD L. K. SMITH, MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN and CHARLES A. MADDEN would make addresses. [redacted] said that the STOFFEL request was on the letterhead of the Economics League of Buffalo and that arrangements were completed for the Hall at the agreed rental of \$75 plus \$10 for use of the public address system.

b7c
b7D

[redacted] advised that prior to the meeting there was a rumor that there would be demonstrations and trouble at the meeting presumably by Communists and C.I.O. demonstrators and that in order to avoid any difficulty she had made arrangements with the Buffalo Police Department to have additional officers on hand at the time of the meeting.

[redacted] at the Bethlehem Steel Corporation, Lackawanna, New York, advised that he had received notice of the meeting and had obtained a number of tickets for the meeting, which he made available to the Buffalo Field Division. The invitation or ticket reads as follows:

This card will admit bearer and friends to:

"AMERICA FIRST RALLY
KLEINHANS MUSIC HALL

(Mary Seaton Room) The Circle and 14th, Buffalo, New York
WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 1944-8 pm

Principal Speaker: GERALD L. K. SMITH Nat'l Director

THEME "MAKE WAY FOR LIBERTY"

Among the many topics with which Mr. Smith will deal in his address will be the following:

- | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| The "No Election" Conspiracy | Treason in Washington |
| Slave Act 666 | World Government |
| Bureaucratic Tyrants | The Fourth Term Plot |
| New Deal Communists | Fat Bureaucrats and Hungry |
| The Internationalists | Veterans |

Other Speakers:

- Mrs. Ernest Lundeen (Widow of the United States Senator)
- Mr. Charles A. Madden (Commander of American Legion)
- Admission Free
- Post No. 715, Pittsburgh

[REDACTED] of the Americanism Committee of the American Legion, 281 Hartwell Road, advised that although the above tickets had apparently been furnished in numbers to Buffalo residents, they were not necessary in order to obtain admission to the meeting, that the meeting was open to the public and was characterized as an "America First Party Rally".

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED] advised that GERALD L. K. SMITH had made reservations at the Hotel Statler for two double rooms for May 16, 1944. He advised that Mr. SMITH and his wife checked into room 606 of the Statler Hotel at 12:17 A.M., May 17, 1944 and that SMITH furnished on the Hotel register the address 1753 Seyburn Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

b7D

[REDACTED] advised that in SMITH'S party were [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] Detroit, Michigan and MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, 320 Essex Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and that these individuals checked in at the same time, 12:17 A.M., May 17, 1944, taking room 608 adjoining the SMITHS'. [REDACTED] that CHARLES A. MADDEN of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania had not made reservations at the Hotel and had not subsequently registered at the Hotel during subject SMITH'S stay there. He said that SMITH and his party checked out of the Statler Hotel at midnight, May 17, 1944.

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED] stated that MRS. SMITH advised him that she had contacted JOSEPH H. STOFFEL, Chairman of the Economics League of Buffalo on the morning of May 17, 1944 relative to publicity on the meeting that evening, that STOFFEL had advised her the Buffalo Evening News had carried a small stick under City Briefs, but that otherwise the meeting had been accorded little publicity.

b7D

STOFFEL further advised MRS. SMITH that there were reports that the C.I.O. was going to gang up on the meeting and that SMITH should expect trouble at the Hall, although he, STOFFEL, had asked for extra police protection.

[REDACTED] said that SMITH received this information from his wife with the comment that it would be the Jews who were ganging up. [REDACTED] said that SMITH regarded the Jews on this and other occasions in very disparaging terms.

b7D

[REDACTED] stated that subject SMITH had told him he had been in contact with BERNIE (BERNARD) DOMAN in Detroit

on May 17, 1944 with regard to the Philadelphia mail and that he had instructed BERNIE, who is subject's business manager, to send 100 of the best duplications to Mrs. BROWN (Mrs. CATHERINE BROWN, head of the Blue Star Mothers of America). He said that he had further instructed BERNIE to send 1,000 units to Pittsburgh but had decided that 1,000 would not be enough and that he should send an additional 500 so that they would be there for him when he arrived in Pittsburgh on May 18, 1944. SMITH said that he did not expect a full house at Kleinhans but just his own people, about 500.

[REDACTED] advised that SMITH made arrangements to meet STOFFEL at 2:30 P.M., May 17, 1944, and that they met in the lobby of the Statler Hotel and believed that they then went together to Kleinhans Music Hall where they looked over the Hall and discussed further the arrangements for the meeting that evening. b7

[REDACTED] advised that MRS. SMITH had told him that when her husband returned from Kleinhans Music Hall he had observed: "There wasn't anything wild about her (Mrs. COREY). We met the old gentleman, the President of the Board of Directors, who was very nice. They all get meek when they come up against the hard facts. They expect to see horns and everything else."

Special Agent [REDACTED] of the Buffalo Field Division advised that the meeting at Kleinhans Music Hall started shortly after 8:00 P.M., May 17, 1944. He stated that he made notes on the addresses as he received them over the public address system in the sound booth at the Hall, and excerpts of the speeches are set out below. b7c

Special Agent [REDACTED] stated that Mr. STOFFEL opened the meeting and referred to it as an "America First Party Meeting" sponsored by the Economics League. He described Mr. SMITH as the founder of the Party and wished him every success.

SMITH in his introductory remarks alluded to the fact that the Communist Party had used the same Hall three times, and he referred to conversations had with Mrs. COREY, Manager of the Hall and Mr. LETCHWORTH, President of the Board of Directors of the Hall, when he had made arrangements for his meeting there that night. He said that these persons had told him that they trusted the F.B.I. and the Internal Revenue and that until those agencies told them that SMITH was wrong, he, SMITH, could enjoy the rights of free speech.

Special Agent [REDACTED] stated from this opening SMITH discussed for a time free speech and stated that it was sometimes limited here, although the declaration of the Four Freedoms are that it is to be established all over the earth. SMITH referred to the fact that he has a son in the Army in India and that Mrs. LUNDEREN'S son was about to go abroad in the service. SMITH stated: "We are all in this thing, but the war is not the issue." He stated that "when these boys come back after we have wiped Hitler and the pagan treachery of Japan, we don't want little Hitlers in America, we want them to come back to the country that has free speech", etc. b7c

SMITH stated that as one of the leaders of the Nationalistic movement he wants the Republicans to nominate a Nationalist, wants the Democrats to nominate Roosevelt and let the candidates debate the issue of Nationalism versus Internationalism, in the campaign. He stated that the Republicans thought they had a candidate in 1940, but as it turned out the Republicans had no candidate and the Democrats had two candidates, Roosevelt and Wilkie.

SMITH condemned the wasteful spending of the administration in South America and stated that six billion dollars had been spent on this venture. SMITH declared: "We are anti-New Deal. We are Nationalists. We believe in private enterprise." He said that the Hillman machine is the Left Wing Branch of Labor and that it is out to prove that the Republicans are Fascists.

He spoke of the difficulty he had in obtaining halls in Buffalo and Minneapolis and referred to the suit which he had instituted in Minneapolis when he had been denied the auditorium. He said that he had conducted a survey or investigation of the witnesses who had appeared against him in that instance and found they were all Fourth Termers and former Commies.

SMITH stated that he has a friend who heads a C.I.O. Union of seven thousand men and that this friend is anti-Communist. He said, however, when Hillman gave the order to collect from the workers a fund to nominate and elect Roosevelt, \$44,000 was collected from this friend's local. SMITH said: "Hillman makes the old manufacturers' associations look like tin cup men in collecting funds." He further stated that not one worker in the C.I.O. has a right to say whether money is to be deducted from his pay and that Hillman can force the enemies of the Fourth Term to contribute to the Fourth Term candidacy.

SMITH then outlined his philosophy of Americanism and traced the origin of the freedom seeking people. He spoke of the Constitution and its system of checks and balances and remarked: "If any branch of the Government goes haywire, we still have the other two branches." , but in this connection he stated that he was against three terms because it enables the President to appoint too many of his own persuasion, etc. and that the system of checks and balances is thus destroyed. He indicated favor for the filibuster, stating that it gives the minority an opportunity to warn the populace what the majority is really trying to do. He stated that he and his followers propose to offer a Constitutional amendment to prohibit any chief executive from serving more than eight years.

SMITH referred to EARLY BROWDER as the man who for the last twenty-five years has been trying to put the Red flag above the American flag, and referred to Hillman as the person who was not born in the United States, who contributed \$3,000 through his wife's name to support a failing Communist newspaper and who ten or fifteen years ago wanted to raise money for the support of Russia. He stated that these are the men who are telling us who is to run for President and forcing the workers to contribute to that cause. He observed further that these same men are the ones who are opposing him, SMITH.

He said that STALIN does not need a "little smelly" Communist Party here when he has Vice President Wallace talking for him, that is why they are committing harri-kari. SMITH quoted Wallace as saying: "If the U.S.S.R. continues its progress for the next twenty or twenty-five years, it will surpass the United States, and then SMITH suggested that WALLACE run for Vice President of Russia.

SMITH told a story about Secretary of Agriculture WICKARD, who he stated had a large farm and that on one occasion in WICKARD'S absence his father, who is an honest old Hoosier who would not know better than to tell the truth, was present on the farm when a caller inquired as to how meat rationing affected them, the WICKARDS. He reported WICKARD'S father as stating: "We are ready for it.", and that thereupon the elder WICKARD showed the caller a large cooler of 800 pounds of meat. SMITH observed that WICKARD should be in the penitentiary for this.

SMITH then related a story allegedly appearing in the Washington, D.C. Times Herald relative to HARRY HOPKINS and his wife. He stated that HOPKINS was the man who advised us that we must all tighten our belts, draft men and women and go without food and that MRS. HOPKINS suggested to Bernard Baruch that the latter give a party honoring their, the HOPKINS'S,

marriage. BARUCH allegedly gave a dinner for forty people at \$110 a plate and that on that occasion champagne at \$20 a bottle was given away and the guests were served seven kinds of meat, twenty-two kinds of food, and all in honor of the man who said, "We will have to go hungry".

The subject asked himself the question what could be done about helping the morale of the armed forces. He replied to himself that it was too late to improve it by having the ROOSEVELT boys line up before a Conscription Board and take it from Buck Private up like the rest of our boys are doing. He suggested that there should be no dynasty in the United States and that the ROOSEVELTS should be retired from public life by the vote of the people, that WILKIE be sent to Moscow and that HENRY WALLACE be made a milkman in China.

SMITH declared that about four months ago he organized the America First Party and stated that it opposed the threats of aliens conspiring to bring pressure on our Congress to under-write the bills of the whole world. He stated that he is against a super-central government and any flag above our own. He then quoted from George Washington's comments relative to entangling alliances. SMITH stated that he was against lend-lease in his testimony before the Senate Committee when that bill was being proposed, not because it would help Great Britain but because it would give one man too much money to spend.

The subject referred to a speech printed in the Cross and Flag by Sir WALTER BENNING (phonetic), which address was allegedly made before the Press Club in Washington relative to expedite lend-lease contracts and in which BENNING supposedly announced that Britain did not keep accounts on lend-lease contracts to determine how much this country was the creditor or debtor of the other. SMITH thereupon condemned any policy of foreigners meddling in American politics.

He stated that there is a tendency toward collective state management in Washington and the threat of bureaucratic tyranny demonstrated with the Attorney General dumping a respectable businessman into the street.

SMITH outlined the Five Point Program of the America First Party as it appears on literature which was distributed at the meeting, a copy of which is set out below:

"AMERICA FIRST PARTY

"stands for the following;

1. \$1,000 to every Veteran of this War when mustered out. (Less money for foreign politics--more money for American Veterans.)
2. \$10 - \$15 - \$20 per day for workers by instituting profit sharing as practiced by the Jack & Heintz Co. and Lincoln Electric Co. of Cleveland, Ohio.
3. Cash bonus to farmers for production rather than for destruction. Increased prices for farm commodities, to be maintained by distribution reform and a clean-up in our money system. Would produce an abundance of butter, meat, milk, etc.
4. Restore private enterprise by outlawing monopoly and eliminating bureaucratic interference with business.
5. Foreign policy. No world government, no international bank, a strong national defense. Trade with all nations. Permanent alliances with none.

* * * * *

"For free literature and information explaining the above points in detail, write the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, GERALD L. K. SMITH, DIRECTOR, P.O. Box 459, Detroit 31, Michigan.

"Note: Keep this with your Social Security card."

At the close of the meeting the subject told again the story of J. EDWARD JONES in his book "So They Indicted Me", which is reported in reference report of Special Agent [REDACTED]. He offered to send the book to any person subscribing \$1. He then asked all in the audience who approved of what he had said at this meeting to stand. b7c

SMITH introduced MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, widow of the former United States Senator, who spoke at length concerning the "Myth of Internationalism" and stated that "George Washington was the first isolationist." She declared herself for isolationism but preferred to call it Nationalism.

Mrs. LUNDEEN spoke disparagingly of the Burton-Ball-Hatch Hill resolution as "pussy footing". She referred to the terrific cost of war and declared: "We cannot be the commissary for all Allied nations after the war."

Mrs. LUNDEEN assailed PEARSON and WINCHELL and recommended for reading DIES' expose of JOHN CARLSON, author of "Under Cover". She asked the question, "Why are healthy refugee men living in comfort in the United States while our sons are sent to fight on foreign soil?" She then declared that we invited the Jap attack by a virtual ultimatum in our note of November 26, 1941 and stated that this was a criminal offense against the men on Bataan who were left without means of defending themselves because (by implication) we had sent all our equipment to England under lend-lease.

At the conclusion of the meeting subject SMITH introduced Attorney JAY BARNSDALL of Buffalo, attorney for the Civil Liberties Union, but no address was made.

[REDACTED], stated that he took shorthand notes verbatim on SMITH'S address. He said, however, that he was not transcribing his notes but would maintain them in his file since his primary interest in covering the meeting was in behalf of the American Legion of Buffalo who had expected CHARLES A. MADDEN of the American Legion of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to address the meeting; that inasmuch as MADDEN had not appeared and SMITH made no comments which were of concern to the Legion in its interest in the MADDEN case, he, for the present, would not transcribe his notes. b7c
b7D

Special Agent [REDACTED] notes on the address of subject SMITH and [REDACTED] are being maintained in the 1-A serial of instant file. b7c

[REDACTED] advised that SMITH had commented to him after the meeting indicating that he, the subject, was pleased with the attendance and response and noted that [REDACTED] of the Erie County American Legion and another Legionnaire present in the audience were the only ones who had not stood when he, SMITH, had requested the audience to rise if they were in agreement with what he had said on old fashioned Americanism. b7D

When it was called to his attention that [REDACTED] had a picture of MADDEN attending his, SMITH'S, private meeting at the

Hotel Statler on March 31, 1944 SMITH said: "They are paid to do that." He stated that everyone figured that MADDEN would be at the meeting and that he had purposely publicized MADDEN but did not bring him. He said: "Madden didn't even know his name was on the program, but they (the people) weren't cheated."

[redacted] stated that after this discussion the subject, his wife, his secretary [redacted] and Mrs. LUNDEEN went to the New York Central Terminal to catch the 1:40 A.M. train for Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. b7c b7d

[redacted] of the Americanism Committee of the American Legion of Buffalo, advised that he was in attendance together with [redacted] of the American Legion at the Rally. He said that he and [redacted] alone did not stand when SMITH called for a response from the audience. He stated that the audience consisted of approximately 650 persons, for the most part elderly, middle class persons and that there were no servicemen or servicewomen in the group. He said there were no disturbances whatsoever at the meeting and that the crowd was fairly enthusiastic, although this enthusiasm may not have been entirely sincere inasmuch as it is SMITH'S manner to frequently interrupt himself with a command to the audience, "Now give that a hand." b7c b7d

[redacted] advised that although scheduled to appear, according to his information, CHARLES A. MADDEN of Pittsburgh was not present at the meeting. He stated that the persons on the platform were the subject SMITH, his wife, MRS. ERNEST LUNDEEN, Attorney JAY BARNSDALL and JOSEPH H. STOFFEL.

[redacted] advised that after the meeting and outside the Kleinhans Music Hall, apparently without any connection and without being part of SMITH'S Rally and program, a man was distributing "Peace Now" literature. He stated that he himself did not see this individual but understood him to be an elderly man, that he, [redacted] had obtained a copy of the literature and furnished it to the reporting agent.

Although a review of instant file indicates no connection between the America First Party and the Peace Now Movement and there is no evidence that it was part of SMITH'S program on this occasion, the literature is set out below because it purports to be an appeal from the Peace Now group to the America First Party to join forces:

"PEACE NOW! HOW TO GET IT!

"POPE PIOUS XII, Says:-

"Nothing can be lost by peace, All may be lost by war. Do not shatter or smother the peoples yearning for peace."

"24,000,000 Catholics must help His Holiness to make his prayers come true. First, send a letter or post card to your Congressmen and Senators. Then get five of your friends to do the same-have all to get five more to do the same- thus keep it going out to fives on fives till we have tons of mail on our Congressmen's desks.

"Tell them YOU WANT PEACE, NOW! and to have a committee appointed at once to meet with a similar one from the Axis to arrive at peace terms. The Axis are ready to sign on the QUAKER PLAN NOW. To which has been added a paragraph by the "We the People."

"Japan can be treated later.

"24,000,000 Catholics can't be wrong.

"The News-Week of February 28th, on page 15, says: The Methodists are flooding Congress with petitions to get peace now."

"11,000,000 Methodists can't be wrong.

"12,000,000 Baptists are showing signs of calling for peace now.

"22,000,000 Mothers and Fathers of our soldiers must also send word to your Congressmen and Senators, and canvass for others, to also notify Congress WE WANT PEACE NOW.

"NEW YORK - We must defeat Senator Robert F. Wagner (D) Congressmen: 40th Dis., Walter G. Andrews (R); 41st Dis., Joseph Mruk (R); 42nd Dis., John C. Butler (R). All above Congressmen are in Buffalo, N.Y.

"We also invite the 3,000,000 AMERICAN FIRST to help win the war by negotiation, rather than by killing a million or so of good American boys.

"All who wish to help push this plan to an early conclusion, may contribute what they care to, to

"PEACE NOW MOVEMENT
20 BERKLEY STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

"We the People, extend our hands to the 200,000 Quakers-
and say: "God Bless You."

"We must defeat all in Congress, now, who fail to
make an effort for peace - NOW."

It was ascertained that the New York Central P. & L.E. train departed from Buffalo at 1:40 A.M., May 18, 1944 and arrived at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at 7:50 A.M., May 18, 1944 and that that was the only train subject SMITH could have traveled at that hour.

The Pittsburgh Field Division and the office of origin were accordingly advised by teletype of subject's departure from Buffalo and his contemplated arrival at Pittsburgh at 7:50 A.M., May 18, 1944.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

BU 14-7

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

Newark entitled "GERALD E. K. SMITH,
with aliases, THE AMERICAN PARTY,
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, SECURITY MATTER,
SUSPENSE"

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED]

JPHa:WLLJ
6-27-44
62-43818

RECORDED

EX-35

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your further information in your consideration of the above-captioned case, there is attached a copy of an additional report prepared by Special Agent [redacted] at Buffalo, New York, on June 11, 1944. b7c

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/2/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/MRC

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
★ JUN 28 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

78 AUG 5 1944

SELF-RECORDING UNIT
JUN 28 1944 07 PM '44

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

- Mr. Tolson ✓
- Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
- Mr. Clegg ✓
- Mr. Coffey ✓
- Mr. Glavin ✓
- Mr. Ladd ✓
- Mr. Rosen ✓
- Mr. Tracy ✓
- Mr. Mohr ✓
- Mr. Carson ✓
- Mr. Hendon ✓
- Mr. Mumford ✓
- Mr. Jones ✓
- Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
- Mr. Nease ✓

JUN 26 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/7/82 BY SP8BPM/ML

WASH FROM CHICAGO 11 26 6-34 P

CONF TO DIRECTOR AD SAC DETROIT ROUTINE

WANT. GERALD L. K. SMITH WAS, AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY G, SECURITY MATER, SEDITION. AT ABOUT TWO THIRTY PM JUNE TWENTY FIFTH, FORTY FOUR, SEVEN HUNDRED WOMEN WEARING BRICKER FOR PRESIDENT BUTTONS ENTERED THE GRAND BALLROOM OF THE STEVENS HOTEL, CHICAGO WHERE AN N B C ORCHESTRA WAS PLAYING. AT ABOUT TWO FORTY PM SMITH ENTERED THE BALLROOM AND STATED THE REPUBLICAN PARTY LEADERS HAD FORCED THE HOTEL TO BREAK A CONTRACT FOR THE THE USE OF THE BALLROOM BUT THAT HE WAS ESTABLISHING A BEACHHEAD FOR FREE SPEECH AND TOOK OVER THE BALLROOM. ABOUT ONE THOUSAND ADDITIONAL PEOPLE ENTERED THE BALLROOM IN SUPPORT OF SMITH. THE HOTEL MANAGEMNT DID NOT ATTEMPT TO STOP THE MEETING AS THEY DID NOT DESIRE TO CAUSE A DISTURBANCE. SMITH SPOKE FOR TWO HOURS CONDEMNING THE JEWS, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT, WILKE AND GOVERNOR DEWEY. SMITH SUPPORTED COL. CHARLES K LINDBERG FOR REPUBLICAN NOMINATION FOR PRESIDENT. SMITH HAD A TENATIVE ARRANGEMENT FOR USE OF THE BALL ROOM BUT IT WAS CANCELLED JUNE TWENTY SECOND, FORTY FOUR.

DRAYTON

ACK PL

*memo for Clark
6/13/44
JP/ML*

cc: Ladd

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

36 JUL 4 1944

(5) - 07/4

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

62-43818-509

PK

y

V. J. D.

b7c

Handwritten initials

JPHa:VMJ
6-30-44

62-43818-509

RECORDED
6

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

95-13

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

The following data which has been received from the Bureau's Chicago Field Division is being set forth for your information in connection with your consideration of the activities of subject Smith:

At approximately 2:30 P. M., June 25, 1944, about 700 women wearing "Bricker For President" buttons entered the Grand Ballroom of the Stevens Hotel in Chicago where, at the time, certain musical renditions were being given by an NBC orchestra. These women waited in the Grand Ballroom until about 2:40 P. M., when subject Smith made his appearance and publicly announced "that the Republican Party leaders had forced the Hotel to break a contract for the use of the Ballroom but that he was establishing a beachhead for free speech."

At that time approximately 1000 additional Smith supporters appeared at the Ballroom and Smith, together with his following, took over the Ballroom. Smith delivered a speech, said to be of about two hours' duration, in which he reportedly condemned the Jews, President Roosevelt, Mr. Willkie, and Governor Dewey. He allegedly stated that he and his followers were supporting Colonel Charles Lindbergh for the Republican nomination for President.

According to information available to the Bureau, Smith had a tentative arrangement with the Stevens Hotel for the use of the Grand Ballroom but this tentative arrangement or agreement was cancelled on June 22, 1944. The Hotel management reportedly did not attempt to block Smith's taking over the Ballroom as described above as it was felt that such an endeavor might have given rise to a disturbance or other males.

JUL 3 12

RECEIVED

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ JUL 3 1944 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-807J/mh

RECEIVED READING ROOM
JUN 30 5 53 PM '44

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Tamm

JUL 1 1944

Handwritten signatures and initials, including "Mh" and "JPHa".

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
 Detroit, Michigan
 June 23, 1944

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Mumford	.....
Mr. Starke	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Director, FBI

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 6080/LEP/2
 ON 8-11-77

Re: ^① GERALD L. K. SMITH was
 AMERICA FIRST PARTY
 INTERNAL SECURITY - G
 SECURITY
 SEDITION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-5BTJ/MK

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth the substance of information obtained from [redacted], whose identity is known to the Bureau, for the period June 8 to June 22, 1944, inclusive. b7D

Review

The informant advised that the suit started against SMITH in New York for \$100,000 involved the use of the name "America First" and was started by a resident of New York. Informant stated the controversy with the Board of Education of the city of Detroit over the use of the public schools by the subject for his meetings had been postponed from June 6 to June 13, 1944, to permit subject to appear and state his contentions. Subject failed to appear on June 13, advising the Board of Education he was speaking in Minneapolis, Minnesota, on that date, and the time for his appearance was postponed to June 20, at which time subject was again out of town. The Board of Education proposed the resolution requiring SMITH to apply directly to the Board before he would be issued any permit for the use of a public auditorium in Detroit, Michigan. The informant stated the Board considered subject had violated their rule with respect to commercializing the use of school buildings in conducting his meetings.

The informant said [redacted] and an attorney by the name of [redacted] as well as Communist and labor organizations, were active in objecting to the use of school auditoriums by the subject.

The informant advised the Reverend L. L. MARION of the Regular Republicans had ordered pamphlets on the Lincoln "profit-sharing plan" from Cleveland, Ohio. The informant also stated Reverend MARION had been requested by subject to be present in Chicago, Illinois, on June 25 to preside at subject's rally for the Independent Republicans held at the grand ballroom of the Stevens Hotel, Chicago on that date.

RECORDED & INDEXED

The informant advised [redacted] had received a telegram from [redacted], requesting [redacted] to furnish information to him for Mrs. DILLING for use in her sedition trial. The information concerned a meeting in New York in October 1938 arranged by [redacted]



COPIES DESTROYED
 205 OCT 13 1964

*Memo to Clark
 7/4/44 w/for. E. McWilliam's
 pp. 1-4*

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
 AND FIELD OFFICES
 ADVISED BY ROUTING
 SLIP(S) OF [redacted]
 DATE 8/17/77

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

*McWilliam's
 6
 [Handwritten signatures and initials]*

Letter to the Director
June 23, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH was et al
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

[redacted] and informant stated [redacted] said Dr. EDWARD LODGE CURRAN, International Catholic Truth Society, Reverend NORMAN VINCENT PEALE (who delivered the invocation), and Major General BYRNES were on the platform at this meeting.

The informant advised that subject had two wonderful meetings at St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota, but that they were forced to change buildings in St. Paul when a crowd threatened to blow up the first one, but subject had a good crowd at the second building. The informant also advised subject has made extensive plans for his preconvention rally at the grand ballroom of the Stevens Hotel, Chicago, scheduled for Sunday afternoon, June 25. Informant said 2,500 invitations had been mailed.

The informant also advised the Stevens Hotel had cancelled subject's contract for the use of the grand ballroom on June 25, since their agreement with the Republican National Committee required the Committee's approval before letting public space to a private group during the period June 23 to June 30. Informant said subject intends to have the meeting regardless, stating, "We are fighting; anything that happens will do us good."

Informant advised subject is mailing a second notice to all persons receiving invitations, advising them not to believe the false report put out by Internationalists that their meeting for the grand ballroom of the Stevens Hotel had been cancelled, and requesting them and their friends to be present. Informant also advised the Farmers Guild of Indiana has requested subject to plan a meeting for them in the near future, and JOSEPH H. STOFFEL of Buffalo, New York, has requested the subject to conduct a meeting in Buffalo sometime during August, and to have either Senator REYNOLDS or ex-Congressman BINDERUP speak at this meeting. Informant stated subject plans a meeting in Detroit, Michigan, probably in July of 1944.

The informant advised a [redacted] of a Detroit newspaper has requested subject to give him a running general story on the racial issue. Informant also stated [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company has requested subject to place a congratulatory message in his Legion post's publication in honor of HENRY FORD's eighty-first birthday.

The informant advised subject intends to offer as a premium to his followers a book, "Forty Years of Roosevelt."

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin

R. A. GUERIN, SAC

[redacted]
62-1126

ALL
b7c

62-1-818-510

RECORDED

Handwritten: 20ml, 100-14, 1ml

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark
Attention: Mr. O. John Rogge
J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

UNITED STATES vs. JOSEPH E. McWILLIAMS, ET AL;
SEDITION.

A confidential source of information, the identity of which cannot be revealed, has informed the Bureau that one [redacted] of [redacted], recently sent a telegram to [redacted] (presumably at Detroit, Michigan), requesting [redacted] to furnish "information for Mrs. Dilling for use in her sedition trial." Although the exact nature of the information desired was not clear, it reportedly related to an alleged meeting in New York in October, 1938. It was further stated that Dr. Edward Lodge Curran, Reverend Norman Vincent Peale, and "Major General Dymos" were present on the platform at this meeting.

b7c

Although the data set forth above as received from the confidential source of information is incomplete, I thought it should be brought to your attention for informative purposes. Should further information be received, it, of course, will be referred to you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mc

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Harford _____
- Mr. Jones _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
JUL 6 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM
JUL 9 10 43 AM '44
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Handwritten: Eam

Handwritten signatures: DL, JTB, Ma

74 AUG 18 1944

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

ST. PAUL FILE NO. 100-4156

REPORT MADE AT ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA	DATE WHEN MADE 6/24/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/6,13/44	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i> CMO
TITLE GERALD L. K. SMITH, with alias THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - G SECURITY MATTER SEDITION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 10/27/92 BY SP-8 BCD/jmc

Scheduled America First meeting on 6/12/44 at American House, St. Paul, Minnesota, cancelled by SMITH when C.I.O. labor union representatives challenged the manager of the hall to boycott further use by unions of the hall. Participated in dedication program of the Truth and Liberty Temple, Minneapolis on 6/11/44 where Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV, ardent American Firster, is pastor. He spoke to an over flow crowd estimated at 1200 on 6/13/44 at the Truth and Liberty Temple, Minneapolis; stated that SIDNEY HILLMAN, Chairman National C.I.O. Political Action Committee, dominated Minneapolis City Council in refusing his use of the Minneapolis Auditorium; that Roosevelt had Communist EARL BROWDER released to campaign for Roosevelt's Fourth Term. He expressed hope of speaking in the Minneapolis Auditorium by having Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS (NC) Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee speak on same program; also stated "New Deal will become out and out Communist Party;" that candidates of the America First Party will win in elections of 1946 and become power in proceeding election, 1948, with subject as presidential nominee.

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Bureau File Number 62-43818.
Reference letter, dated June 2, 1944 from the Detroit Field Division.

DETAILS:

Reporting Agent, obtained from a highly confidential source, admittance cards to subject's scheduled speeches in the Twin

HANDLED BY

<p>APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</p>	<p>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; text-align: center;">62-43818-511</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.5em;">22 JUL 12 1944</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">RECORDED & INDEXED</p> <p style="text-align: right; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">EX - 50</p>
<p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑤ - Bureau - Enclosure ② - Detroit ② - St. Paul <p><i>10 ne</i> <i>252 cc Clark</i> <i>10/14/44</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">(5)</p>

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St. P 100-4156

Cities area and it was ascertained that the subject spoke on Sunday, June 11, 1944 on the dedication program of the Truth and Liberty Temple, 2601 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota, of which Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV, ardent America Firster, is pastor. SMITH spoke at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and 8 o'clock in the evening on this date on the theme, "Christ First in America."

It was ascertained by the Reporting Agent that this building was originally the property of the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company and had been used as a telephone exchange for many years after which it was used by the Christian Radio Mission until recently Reverend STADSKLEV took option on the building which has been recently repainted and a sound proof ceiling installed in the interior of the building.

In an article of the St. Paul Pioneer Press, dated June 10, 1944 entitled "G. L. K. SMITH cancelled talk;" says "Terrorists run St. Paul," in which GERALD L. K. SMITH of the America First Party said in Chicago on 6/9/44 that he would not address the people of St. Paul because "the left wing terrorists are in command of that city."

A decision to cancel the meeting scheduled for the American House, 444 Rice Street, was made SMITH today after the manager had been threatened "in many ways, both physically and otherwise."

IGNAZ WERNER, Manager of the hall, the article continues, said on 6/9/44 he cancelled an agreement for the use of the hall after representatives of six unions, who regularly held meetings in the auditorium, had called on him and advised that they would no longer use the hall for meetings if he allowed SMITH to speak there. WERNER said he returned the \$20.00 deposit which he had received in a letter from Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV of the Truth and Liberty Temple, Minneapolis because he did not want to lose the union patronage. WERNER denied any threats of violence.

Reporting Agent attended the closed meeting of the America First Party on June 13, 1944 at the Truth and Liberty Temple, 2601 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis. At approximately 7:45 P.M., the entire seating capacity of the Truth and Liberty Temple Building was filled to over flow. Through a loud speaker address system, sympathizers were directed into two rooms in the basement of the church and a loud speaker was in a position so that people on the outside of the church could hear his talk. It is estimated that there were approximately 1200 sympathizers who attended this meeting. The meeting was opened at approximately 8:15 P.M. with a prayer delivered by Reverend HENRY J. SOLTAU. It is noted that SMITH did not arrive until approximately 8:30 P.M. when he took the platform and immediately began a lengthy repetitious two and one half hour speech which is being set out as follows:

The Truth & Liberty Temple was formerly the Christian Radio Mission, and originally the property of the telephone company.

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The entire structure had been repainted and a soundproof ceiling installed. Reverend CARL O. STADSKLEV is to be the pastor, and future speakers include the Reverend HENRY J. SOLTAU, who was present at the Smith meetings Sunday, Monday and Tuesday nights.

Sunday night, June 11th dedicatory services were held for the new temple, SMITH was guest speaker. STADSKLEV announced they would have Bible teachers who not only could teach the Scriptures; but also the nationalistic message in the Bible. He declared that a picture of the Truth & Liberty Temple might some day be found in the pages of every history book in the land.

SMITH talked for several hours, principally on a religious theme, among other things likened the Twin Cities to Sodom & Gomorrah in relation to the opposition he has had from the C.I.O. and Communistic elements. He claimed the C.I.O. brought pressure to bear on the Manager of the American House in St. Paul, which resulted in his refusing the use of this building to Smith, and the subsequent cancellation of SMITH's St. Paul meeting. SMITH said that when the Manager called MRS. LUNDEEN she could almost hear his bones rattle, so thoroughly had he been intimidated. The management stated that they had threatened to "blow the place up."

SMITH declared America was a constitutional republic; not a democracy. He mentioned the Jews several times, and stated he was sorry to say that they had opposed him on almost every hand, and that if anybody should be for America First the Jews should, as they had been chased out of every country in the world except America; furthermore, 500,000 Jewish refugees had entered the United States since the start of this war.

Tuesday night SMITH's address was scheduled for 8:00 p.m.; we arrived at 7:30 p.m., at which time the entire first floor of the building was full. We found a seat in the basement, where two rooms had been fitted up with loudspeakers. By 8:00 p.m. the entire building was filled to capacity, and an overflow sitting in the yard. The crowd numbered approximately 1,000. Reverend SOLTAU started the meeting with a prayer.

SMITH's speech followed his usual pattern:

"There is one man responsible for the Council refusing us the use of the Auditorium, and that man is SIDNEY HILLMAN, and his Political Action Committee. The local C.I.O. brought pressure on your City Council, which resulted in that refusal. Seventeen Communists - and everyone a fourth termite - bore false witness against me in the council chambers. Councilman HENRY BANKS was afraid to ask me questions, so he kept feeding his questions to a fellow that lives right in this ward; a man by the name of MURPHY. Now, I have nothing against the Irish, personally I like the name of Murphy; but I don't like this Murphy. These two men Alderman MURPHY and Alderman

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BANKS engineered the scheme which kept me from having the Auditorium. So those of you who have to stand, blame these two gentlemen for your discomfort. MRS. FISS (phonetic) is organizing a committee to campaign against everyone of the aldermen that opposed my use of the Auditorium. I would like to know what you think about having MRS. LUNDEEN, MRS. FISS and a committee go down to the public Auditorium tomorrow and again apply for the use of that building; this time for an address by Senator ROBERT R. REYNOLDS, D. (NC), Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, and GERALD L. K. SMITH! All in favor of that say "I" ("I!"). MR. REYNOLDS has assured me that he will not speak here if they deny me the use of the Auditorium. I just love to put these little council members on the spot; let's see if they dare to deny the right of free speech to a United States Congressman - and a Democrat at that.

"When I was refused the use of the Auditorium a few weeks ago, I sent a telegram to Governor STASSEN, and one to Senator BALL, asking them: "Do you favor free speech for us?"; and do you know, they didn't even give me the courtesy of a reply! Senator BALL, you might just as well press your pants and comb your hair, because you don't look like Abraham Lincoln anyway.

"How many favor the idea of polling the City Council and forcing them to show how they stand on this matter in writing? Is there any St. Paul people here? Raise your hands! Yes, I see there are a lot of you.

"There is a great dynamic movement developing in the hearts of the American people that is not to be trampled down. We made and built America, and by the grace of God, we are going to run America! The man who presided at the Council Meeting was judicious, fair and impartial, that man is Councilman JENS CHRISTENSEN, and he is here tonight. Stand up Alderman CHRISTENSEN. Alderman ROBB was impolite, short and mean to anybody who called on him to answer a question. He was very discourteous; and he is supposed to be a conservative. It's a shame that he should be "taken-in" so completely by a book like "Under Cover." A book which lists DR. W. B. RILEY, Pastor Emeritus of the First Baptist Church of your city, as a member of the political underworld. Anyone who will believe an alien with six aliases, who assassinate the character of the pastor of the biggest Baptist Church in Minneapolis is not to be trusted.

"Among the people this book lists as members of the political underworld are HIRAM JOHNSON, Senator ROBERT LA FOLLETTE, GERALD NYE, BURTON WHEELER, FATHER COUGHLIN, CHARLES LINDBERG, and--GERALD L. K. SMITH, along with Reverend RILEY. If these men are members of the political underworld, I count it an honor to be listed with them. HIRAM JOHNSON was elected to office on the Republican ticket, the Democratic ticket and the Progressive ticket - all in one year.

"You may not agree with HENRY FORD's policies, but he IS a great American. This man CARLSON (author of "Under Cover") stood up in Detroit, and in answer to the question, "Do you think you are a better American than HENRY FORD?", this alien, this man with six aliases said, "Yes"!

"EARL BROWDER spoke in the city of Detroit, and said, "They ought to take GERALD SMITH and lock him up in the same prison I was in at Atlanta, Georgia." ROOSEVELT had the communist, EARL BROWDER released from this penitentiary so that BROWDER could back ROOSEVELT for the Fourth Term. You notice that the communists and BROWDER speak for the ROOSEVELT Fourth Term. That is why he was released.

"We are the balance of power in Ohio. There are 90,00 New Deal job holders in Ohio alone, on the public tit, and you folks who have lived on a farm know how hard it is to pull a young pig off the tit; but we are going to do it. We are going to do it and you will sure hear them squeal; the big pigs and the little pigs. I was scheduled to speak at Greenville, Ohio; farmers from 200 miles around came to hear me, the last minute they cancelled my contract for use of the fairgrounds, but that night 100 farm lads took over the fairgrounds and the next afternoon when I arrived, there sat 7,000 farmers waiting to hear me. And that's what would happen here in Minneapolis if you had that kind of "guts".

"Every Jewish organization in Minneapolis has tried to keep me out of the Auditorium. Whenever you mention America First to a Jew he starts having hysterics. He is scared, and when a Jew is scared, well, he's scared! They intimidated the council in Buffalo by threatening to foreclose the mortgages they held on council members, and by threatening to contribute to the campaign funds of the incumbents' opponents. This thing went to the courts in Buffalo, and we licked them. The city of Buffalo said to us, "Let us save our face, and we'll give you another auditorium, better than the city auditorium, better than you asked for." And so they gave us the use of the Kleinheinz Music Hall, one of the most beautiful auditoriums in the country.

"Some of you wonder how I have the strength to continue this fight. I am 6' tall, weigh 220 pounds and I don't know what the word "fatigue" means. Sometimes I speak 12 times a day as hard as I am talking right now. I am completely dedicated to this thing, and I will fight as hard for your liberty as the men who fought for theirs back in 1776.

"The speech made by ROOSEVELT on D-Day contained not one word of Christ in it and at the end of the day, ROOSEVELT went to bed with liquor on his breath, having had two liquor cocktail while our boys were giving their lives at the time.

"Tonight my boy is in India, he was with a task force on the Burma Battle Front, and as I speak to you he lies sick on a hospital bed. He weighed 170 pounds when he was dropped behind Japanese lines; when he came out he weighed 130. He wasn't wounded, but they shot holes through his canteen.

"I am going to come back, and keep coming back until I have whipped the Communists. I was meeting in Chicago with 500 Republican leaders to prepare for a meeting prior to the Republican Convention. When I arrived there was a big crowd outside, and as I walked up I saw a photographer, "What's going on here?" I asked. He said, "Somebody is supposed to get shot here tonight." "Who?" He answered, "The main speaker." He didn't know that I was the main speaker. But I am not afraid, if there is some Communist that wants to shoot me, let him shoot. I won't go until my time comes. I told those independent Republicans that the only candidate acceptable to us is a man who is for America First, and if they don't put one up, we will elect our own candidate.

"There was a time when anybody against anything New Deal, was going to be put in a concentration camp. WALTER WINCHELL said I was going to be put in jail. But it took GERALD SMITH to beat the New Deal candidates in an off-year election. We have three million followers in the most strategic states in the union.

"Collier's Magazine spent \$25,000 to see if Wall Street or other big interests were financing me. WALTER DAVENPORT came back from this investigation and said, "No, this man is supported by the great rank and file of Americans; he has been investigated by the F.B.I., Internal Revenue, G-2, and other government agencies; and they can't get anything on him. You may not believe in his policies; but he IS sincere!"

"You know, it used to be that when I went to Washington my friends wouldn't ask me to come out on the Hill and see them; they'd phone me and ask, "What room are you in, Gerald? We'll come up and see you." But on my next visit to Washington, I wasn't Mae West anymore. They asked me to come out on the Hill, and most of them slapped me on the back, shook hands with me; a few walked by and kind of winked as much as to say, "We are for you Gerald, but you are still a little too hot to handle."

"A Long Island newspaper publisher, a Jew, said that men like GERALD SMITH should be liquidated like they do in Russia; brand us as traitors because we are against ROOSEVELT and the New Deal; not because we have done anything contrary to our country in time of war. Well, I've got some good news: the Supreme Court has just ruled that we can even criticize FRANKLIN during time of war. That's something, when his own court says that - remember he put most of them in there.

"We had trouble in St. Louis, but they finally gave me the public auditorium. The St. Louis Post Dispatch, a paper opposed to me politically said, "We are for free speech 100%; SMITH should have the use of the auditorium. At that meeting we were picketed by the Communists and Jews, and they threatened physical violence. They put out a pamphlet with

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Hitler's picture on the front with the caption: "ADOLF HITLER congratulates his American voice - SMITH." Inside this pamphlet was pictures of MRS. LUNDEEN, LINDBERG and others, who were referred to as Nazis. SENATOR ROYAL WOODRUFF of Michigan is a statesman if there ever was one, and they even had his picture in there. That's the trouble, they always overdo it so folks can't believe what they say.

"In St. Louis we had 3-1/2 times as many people attend our meeting than WILLKIE did. And, he had favorable publicity, and a brass band; we had unfavorable publicity - and no brass band. We defeated WILLKIE in Wisconsin, and people wondered - wondered how a great big respectable man like WILLKIE could be beaten by a great big disreputable man like SMITH.

"JOHN COWLES, the man who runs your press here, went to Moscow with WILLKIE, and also went through Wisconsin with him. He advised WILLKIE: "Smith is your big enemy, play it up, that's the way to get votes." WILLKIE had all the gas he wanted, he had 12 cars and drove each car 1,600 miles on his campaign tour.

"In ELEANOR's trip to the South Seas she burned enough gas for 5,000 automobiles to travel from Los Angeles to New York and back. Now I know why they reduced the value of our gas coupons, it's so ELEANOR could go through the Caribbean, and WILLKIE through Wisconsin.

"WILLKIE stopped in Sheboygan, and said, "I am against SMITH and all he stands for." As he passed the cemetery a hearse drove out and followed his 12 cars; not only that but it made the 13th car.

"SENATOR BALL is a big internationalist; he works for COWLES, and COWLES works for LAMONT, senior member of the House of Morgan.

"Our movement is like a young bulldog straining at the leash. You tie him to the woodshed, and he strains and pulls, and you think he will never get away; but all of a sudden he breaks the leash, and away he goes down the street, biting everybody in sight between the house and the post office. There is a lot of Americans thinking just the way I am talking, and some day the lid is going to pop off the teakettle. Just give us the radio and public auditoriums - then watch us go! They are afraid to give me two hours in your public auditorium, because they know if they do I'll retire all the councilmen who denied me free speech.

"I challenged SENATOR BALL to a debate, and he said, "I wouldn't sit on the same platform with him, he is HITLER's man." WILLKIE admitted we sent him to the showers; when he reported back to LAMONT, he said, "The country is all shot to hell, the America Firsters beat us."

"Nationalism is growing so fast that I look for ROOSEVELT to come out for it. He is the greatest band-wagon-jumper-oner there ever was - he will do anything to get elected.

"We don't want internationalism, our boys are on 64 battle fronts, and when this war is over we want them to come home. I recently made the statement: "We do not want anything that will compromise the sovereignty of our nation." MR. ROOSEVELT came out the other day with this: "Following this war, although we want free relationships with all nations of the world, we will do nothing that will compromise the sovereignty of our nation." One of the reporters present asked, "Do you really mean that? Where did you get that idea?" And ROOSEVELT said, "I take ideas wherever I can get them, even if I have to go to the lunatic-fringe." In other words, I am the lunatic-fringe, and you the lunatics. I am going to have to push him off my band-wagon. That man would do anything to get votes. He would endorse EARL BROWDER, GERALD SMITH, and CHIANG-KAI-SHAIK if need be.

"The public auditorium in Denver seats 3,300 people; we spent \$900 on railroad transportation, \$400 on rent, and the Monday night before the Tuesday we were going to speak, the city council had a sneak meeting and voted to cancel the use of the auditorium. The pressure, as usual, was brought by the Jews and Communists. The Scripps-Howard paper there published the facts, and people began to call up the Mayor, who stated, "We are going to keep our contract." One hundred Communists started a riot; they called out a riot squad of 300 policemen; they took care of the Communists, and MRS. SMITH and I walked in.

"My wife just handed me a note, it says: "Don't worry about being heard, they can hear you a block away." In the next five to eight years we will see great political changes in this country. The New Deal will become an out-and-out Communist Party. There will be another party; which will be known, perhaps, as the Nationalist Party, or the America First Party - but it will be a nationalist party. It will elect a few senators in 1946, and will name the president in 1948.

"These two parties will be lined up, one against the other, and it will be nip and tuck; there will be fighting in the streets and bloodshed, but we will win.

"Before this war is over there will be one million American boys dead, two million wounded, shell-shocked, and nervous wrecks. The boys who have been discharged can't get jobs. They can't go in defense industries, because most of them couldn't pass the physical examination.

"The St. Louis Star-Times had some of the first assault pictures of the second front. It said that the first troops were mowed down,

but others climbed over their bodies and pushed on. HANSON BALDWIN comments on the same page that the word "rejoice" should not be used in relation to the opening of the Second Front. On the back page of this very same paper was a portrait of the President, leaning back in his shirt-sleeves laughing, not the day before, but the very hour of the invasion, and the caption read: "The President laughing on "D" day after learning that the invasion was going well and up to schedule." The word "rejoice" shows a lack of comprehension of what our boys are going through. Do we want such a president in 1945? He wrote a prayer for the world, and left out the word "Christ" for a Christian nation; he laughed when our boys were over there dying; and from what we know of his habits, he went to bed with two stiff drinks under his belt.

"The C.I.O. can't promise any more. They have to jump on SMITH to collect union dues. Well, the Lincoln Electric Company of Cleveland, Ohio saw this thing coming, and they have solved this problem by the use of a profit sharing system. The Lincoln Electric Company is not a war baby, it's an old established firm. They employ over 2,000 people, and on a profit sharing basis they paid their workers - those who work with their hands - an average of \$5,400 each last year. This is four times as much as their competitors were able to pay operating under the union scale. And, they could do it because it was on an incentive basis and their profits rose accordingly.

"If we are to get the votes in coming elections there are four groups which we must serve: veterans, manufacturers, workers, and farmers. I propose the farmers be paid a bonus for production not destruction. That's Americanism, that's Christianity. There never was an overproduction; but rather an under-consumption. Would there have ever been too much cotton if they had distributed two extra curtains for every window, four suits of underwear for every person, two new shirts for every man, etc. It works that same way right down the line. If people have the purchasing power there won't be any overproduction.

"ROOSEVELT said he was going to drive the money-changers out of the temple - he drove them out of Wall Street, and then invited them into the White House. I know a small businessman that had to quit because of the bureaucratic red tape he had to go through each month. In the space of a year he had to make out 233 reports to the Government. He said he had to spend all his profits hiring lawyers. About 244 thousand little businessmen have gone to the wall because of monopoly and bureaucratic interference. FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT, lover of the little man, has given two thirds of the war contracts, totaling 150 billion dollars, to 82 big corporations. The little businessman is being crucified by the two thieves: monopoly on one hand, and bureaucracy on the other. Our plans for the little businessman is to outlaw monopoly.

"These men who have been in the South Seas for four years need \$1,000 when they come back to give them a breathing spell, a chance to adjust themselves. We believe that every service man should have \$1,000 when he comes back. When you teach thirteen million men to kill and hate, it takes time for them to readjust themselves. We may have built up a Frankenstein which no man can estimate.

"If one of these boys comes back and wants to open up a little store, and is informed that he has to see the inspector of the inspector of something or other, and that inspector refers him to the inspector of the inspector of the inspector's inspector, and then he finds out the chain store across the street will undersell him at a loss just to get the business. It's going to be bad.

"After the last war we had something to go on; this time we haven't a cent in the bank. Somebody asked me if I thought the Townsend Plan would ever go through. I said that I didn't, but Britain has it, We are sending her two million dollars an hour in goods, etc.

"I propose the following: An emergency bonus for the soldiers, profit sharing for the workers, production inducements for the farmers, the outlawing of bureaucracy and monopoly for the benefit of the small businessman, and a nationalistic government in Washington, D. C."

SMITH employed the same technique which he has used in the past with signal success. He has from time to time come out with a platform for the America First Party - a platform which has varied in its objectives; but in his speeches he concentrates on five main themes, which he dings away at incessantly. They are, in the order of their prominence:

- (1) Bureaucracy
- (2) Communism
- (3) "I love the Jews, but--"
- (4) Internationalism
- (5) "Give me that old-time religion"

Two martyrs to the "Cause": HUEY LONG, SENATOR LUNDEEN.

The meeting was over at approximately 10:45 P.M. and at approximately 10:50 P.M., SMITH was seen to leave the side entrance of the church and proceed to Second Avenue South, and from there, he got into a 1942 Chrysler, Four-door sedan bearing 1944 Minnesota License Number 1321. Reporting Agent ascertained from [REDACTED] Minnesota State Automobile Registration Bureau, State Capitol, St. Paul, Minnesota, that this license was in the name of NORMA WARD LUNDEEN, 820 Essex Street South East, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

St. P 100-4156

A small card was obtained by the reporting agent at this meeting, entitled "America First Program" which is being set out as follows:

"AMERICA FIRST PROGRAM

"For free literature explaining the program in detail,
write the

"AMERICA FIRST PARTY

"GERALD L. K. SMITH, DIRECTOR

P. O. Box 459

Detroit 31, Michigan

1. "\$1,000 to every Veteran of this War when mustered out. (Less money for foreign politics - more money for American Veterans).
2. \$10, \$15, \$20, per day for workers by instituting profit sharing as practiced by the Jack & Heintz Co. and Lincoln Electric Co. of Cleveland, Ohio.
3. Cash bonus to farmers for production rather than for destruction. Increased prices for farm commodities, to be maintained by distribution reform and a clean-up in our money system. Would produce an abundance of butter, meat, milk, etc.
4. Restore private enterprise by outlawing monopoly and eliminating bureaucratic interference with business.
5. Foreign policy. No world government. No international bank. A strong national defense. Trade with all nations - permanent alliances with none."

This meeting was altogether orderly and there was no distribution of Communist literature, either preceding or following the meeting.

A small blue colored through sheet, advertising a speech by Reverend HENRY J. SOLTAN on Sunday, June 25, 1944 at the Truth and Liberty Temple was obtained and on the back of this through sheet is set out a pledge of allegiance and support to Minnesota Good Government League, Inc., 2022 Park Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, in voting for honest officials, better law enforcement and the preservation of Constitutional Government.

All of the above exhibits obtained by the reporting agent at this meeting are being retained in instant case in the St. Paul Field Division.

Reporting Agent obtained a copy of "The Cross and the Flag", Volume 3, Number 2, 1944 which is being sent to the Bureau as an enclosure.

St. P 100-4156

E N C L O S U R E

TO THE BUREAU:

One copy of "The Cross and the Flag", Volume 3, Number 2, 1944.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JPHa:WM
7-6-44

12-43818-511

RECORDED

Assistant Attorney General Tom C. Clark

J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

GERALD L. K. SMITH; THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

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For your information there is attached a copy of a report submitted in the above-entitled matter by Special Agent [redacted] at St. Paul, Minnesota, on June 24, 1944. Also attached is a photostatic copy of the May, 1944, issue of subject's publication, "The Cross and the Flag."

Enclosure

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/ah

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
JUL 7 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit, Michigan

July 6 - 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/9/80 BY [signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY - G
SECURITY MATTER
SEDITION

CLASS. & EXT. BY
REASON-FCIM 2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW

Dear Sir:

Information has been received from confidential sources indicating that Subject SMITH is to sponsor a rally at the LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, July 17, 1944. A hall has been rented in the name of the AMERICAN NATIONALISTS COMMITTEE FOR INDEPENDENT VOTERS and it is expected that Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS may appear on the program.

DEFERRED RECORDING

[redacted], whose identities are known to the Bureau, advise Subject SMITH is planning to organize a third party and is contemplating a national convention for the America First Party to be held at St. Louis, Missouri, sometime in August.

[redacted] advised that Subject is considering changing his headquarters to Chicago, Illinois.

For the information of the Bureau and the Chicago Field Division, SMITH left Detroit, Michigan, June 2, 1944, for meetings at Toledo and Greenville, Ohio, and St. Louis, Missouri, arriving in Chicago June 8 and spending his time since June 8 either in Chicago or Delavan, Wisconsin, with the exception of June 12 and 13 on which dates Subject held meetings in St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minnesota. It is noted that Subject's mother resides in Delavan, Wisconsin.

For the information of the Chicago Field Division, Subject travels with his wife, and employ [redacted] as a personal and confidential secretary; [redacted] as his general helper; DON LOHBECK, who assists in arranging and conducting meetings, and BERNIE TOMAN, as his Detroit office manager.

HANDLED BY
[redacted] DESK

78 AUG 27 1944

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20 JUL 13 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-327200-1

Letter to the Director
July 6, 1944


Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, et al.
INTERNAL SECURITY - G, et

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Informants advise SMITH has been staying at the Blackstone Hotel in Chicago, Illinois, and has made numerous contacts and telephone calls both from Chicago and Delavan.

Very truly yours,

R. A. Guerin
R. A. GUERIN, SAC

mam
62-1126
cc: Chicago
b2c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

America Firsters Want Wheeler on Ticket

By the Associated Press. *A-2*
 CHICAGO, July 10.—Gerald L. K. Smith, leader of the America First party, said yesterday his group would meet here July 17 and call on the Democrats to nominate Senator Wheeler of Montana for President.

He also said he would ask his party leaders to approve a resolution urging Gov. Thomas E. Dewey to resign Republican presidential nomination "in order that Gov. Bricker, whom the people love and want, may be given the right of way to become the victorious presidential candidate."

"If the Democrats go internationalist and nominate Mr. Roosevelt," he added, "we shall call a national convention of America First people and nominate our own candidate for President unless Dewey resigns, as he should. If we call our own convention I am convinced that our people will attempt to draft Charles A. Lindbergh for President."

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd <i>✓</i>
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Carson
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

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DATE 10/7/92 BY SP-9 BJS/ML

This is a clipping from
 page A-2 of the
 Washington Star for

JUL 10 1944

Clipped at the Seat of
 Government.

ENCLOSURE

62-43818-512

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JHh:MLJ 62-43818
100-327230

TO : ~~The Director~~ *E. A. Tamm*
FROM : D. M. Ladd
SUBJECT:

DATE: July 11, 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 1/10/80 BY SP1/BJC/STC

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

Early in June, 1944, local newspapers carried announcements that Senator Robert R. Reynolds had formed an American Nationalists' Committee of Independent Voters. These announcements were to the effect that he was interested in forming a nucleus of public expression against the present Administration and in favor of the "nationalist" theory of government. Several weeks ago Mr. Walter Winchell mentioned this matter on his Sunday evening broadcast.

The Bureau has now received information through a technical surveillance (in the Smith case) that Smith has rented the ballroom at the LaSalle Hotel in Chicago for a meeting on July 17, 1944. This, of course, will be coincidental with the beginning of the Democratic convention, and the reservation was reportedly made in the name of the American Nationalists' Committee of Independent Voters. The confidential source of information previously mentioned reported that Smith plans to have Senator Reynolds speak on this occasion and from several late newspaper comments, it appears that Smith will attempt to launch a new "nationalist" party in the event the Democrats renominate President Roosevelt. You will recall, of course, that Smith, with several hundred of his followers, staged a sit-down strike in the ballroom of the Stevens Hotel during the time of the Republican convention. Apparently this action was occasioned by Smith's disapproval of Mr. Dewey and the further fact that the hotel was reluctant to allow the meeting to go on while the convention was in progress.

Although it is known that Senator Reynolds has been very friendly with Smith in the past, this report of a meeting to be held in Chicago featuring Smith and Senator Reynolds as speakers is the first definite indication that Smith and the Senator may be collaborating and that Smith has an interest in the American Nationalists' Committee of Independent Voters.

ACTION:

CLASS. & EXT. BY *SP1/BJC/STC*
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW *2/7/70*

The Detroit Field Division has advised the Chicago Office of this contemplated meeting and has made arrangements for the Chicago Office to cover the meeting. In this connection you will recall that for the past year the Bureau has been covering all of Smith's speeches and has been conducting its investigation of this individual at the request of the Department.

However, in this particular instance it is felt inasmuch as the meeting is being held in the name of the American Nationalists' Committee of Independent Voters (which is Senator Reynolds' organization) it would not be wise to have the Chicago Office cover the meeting. It is further pointed out that the meeting will take place amid the preparation for the beginning of the Democratic convention and undoubtedly Smith will seek to gain a lot of publicity in his attacks on the President and Mr. Dewey.

As it would seem that the entire matter has a definite political aspect, a teletype is attached for your approval to the Chicago Office advising them not to cover the meeting but to report any information of pertinence which may come to their attention.

Auto checked and sent
78 AUG 2 1944

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-327230

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JPH:KLV

FULLY ENCODE

ROUTINE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

JULY 10, 1944

Transmit the following message **ENC**
CHICAGO

#5
0-13

GERALD L. K. SMITH, THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY, INTERNAL SECURITY, SEDITION.
REFERENCE DETROIT LETTER JULY SIX LAST CONCERNING SMITH'S PLAN TO SPONSOR
RALLY AT LASALLE HOTEL JULY SEVENTEEN NEXT UNDER NAME ~~AMERICAN NATIONALISTS'~~
COMMITTEE OF INDEPENDENT VOTERS. DO NOT COVER THIS RALLY OR ANY ALLIED
GATHERINGS OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH IS REPORTEDLY A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION SPONSORED
BY SENATOR ~~REYNOLDS.~~ HOWEVER, REPORT ANY PERTINENT DATA CONCERNING SMITH'S
ACTIVITIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE COMMITTEE WHICH MAY COME TO YOUR ATTENTION.

HOOVER

CC - DETROIT (BY MAIL)

ENC. BMB

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-301/MAW

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

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

JUL 12 1944

*sent copy to
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HANDLED BY
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162-43818-514
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29 JUL 19 1944

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Handwritten signatures and initials

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SENT VIA 7/12/44 7:52 P M

Per MEF

R

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

JPHa:WMLJ

TO : Mr. E. A. Tamm

DATE: June 19, 1944

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT:

GERALD L. K. SMITH
THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION

61789

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

I thought you would like to know that according to a report submitted in this case at St. Louis, Missouri, on June 10, 1944, by Special Agent [redacted] subject Smith, while addressing a public meeting of his constituents in that city on June 7, 1944, stated that in the late summer or early fall United States Senator Robert R. Reynolds "will speak with him (Smith) in St. Louis under America First sponsorship." Smith stated that Senator Reynolds has already agreed to appear with him as a speaker and further, Smith observed that Senator Reynolds will cooperate "in endorsing and helping to elect America Firsters to the United States Senate and House of Representatives."

It is noted, of course, that previous reports submitted in the Smith case have shown that on a number of occasions in the past, dating back several years, Smith has corresponded frequently with Senator Reynolds and has otherwise indicated that the latter is sympathetic to him. Smith has publicly stated that he visited Senator Reynolds about a year ago in Washington, D. C., and at the time was warmly received and otherwise well entertained.

Although no prosecutive action has been authorized, the Department has from time to time requested that the Smith investigation be continued and, accordingly, this is being done and all of Smith's important speeches are being covered by Bureau Agents as was this particular speech at St. Louis. All information of pertinence which is developed will, of course, be referred to the Department.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/7/82 BY SP-8BJT/mc

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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7-20-44

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~BY SPECIAL MESSAGE~~

Major General Edwin H. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 10/2/82 BY SP-8075/mhr

Dear General Watson:

On March 21, 1944, I sent you a letter with an enclosed memorandum captioned, [redacted] setting out certain information which had come to the Bureau's attention indicating that [redacted] and others were soliciting sums of money for the purpose of securing copies of cablegrams alleged to have been exchanged between the President and Mr. Churchill. These alleged cablegrams purportedly related to the so-called Tyler Kent espionage case in England.

In addition, you will recall that on June 7, 1944, I furnished you in a memorandum headed, [redacted] information relative to [redacted] reported contact with certain persons in New England in an attempt to solicit financial support for the securing of the alleged cablegrams pertaining to the Tyler Kent case.

[Large redacted block]

In this connection it has been noted that an article captioned, "Mysterious Death of Owen Linked to Tyler Kent Jailing," appeared in the July 18, 1944, issue of the Washington "Times Herald," stating that Upton Close had asked whether the "mysterious" death of John Bryan Owen, free-lance journalist in Greenwich Village, New York, last January 2 was connected with the imprisonment of Tyler Kent, American Embassy Clerk in England. This newspaper article, a copy of which is attached, contains a few statements relative to the so-called Kent case.

No action is being taken by this Bureau with reference to this matter. However, I thought it should be brought to your attention as of possible interest to the President. In the event this Bureau receives further information in this matter, it will be promptly made available to you.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

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

Enclosure
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Cary
JL

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
JUL 21 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED
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JUL 28 AM 11

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JUL 21 1944
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JUL 28 AM 11

DECLASSIFIED BY 6034/ELM
ON 8-11-77

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Detroit - Michigan

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 62-1126

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DATE 10/7/82 BY *SA [unclear]* ~~PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL~~



APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF *DECLASSIFIED*
DATE *4/11/77*
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Director, FBI

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY;
INTERNAL SECURITY - G.
SECURITY MATTER - SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

There is being set out below the pertinent information
obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to
the Bureau for the period July 7 through July 25, 1944. Informant
advised that SMITH had informed one of his close associates [redacted]
[redacted] that he had been approached by responsible persons in the Re-
publican Party but that he had no business with them because it was
their intention to trade off this country to the British. SMITH
said that the Republican Party is in the complete control of Governor
DEWEY and that DEWEY is in the hands of a bunch of "obnoxious Jews."

Furthermore, DEWEY had called for SMITH'S liquidation
and had referred to SMITH as a "rat." SMITH said that he was going to
have to build a good, strong Nationalist ticket and would probably
run [redacted] for Congress on the AMERICA FIRST ticket. Referring to
DEWEY once more, SMITH said that he belonged to CHURCHILL and that
the British Empire was to write his speeches.

[redacted] also advised that SMITH had had a conversation with
Captain SOUTHARD of Chicago wherein SOUTHARD revealed that he had been
embarrassed by a faction of his group under the leadership of
GERTRUDE KRUGER who accused him of giving the membership list of his
organization to SMITH. At this time SMITH told SOUTHARD that a per-
son from Washington, D. C. who had written a book which had never been
published, had been conferring with him and had given him some very
interesting data. SMITH also asked SOUTHARD if he had heard anything
from [redacted] or [redacted] to which SOUTHARD replied, "No."

The Informant stated that SMITH had been in contact with
Mrs. BILLINGS, Secretary of the "We, The Mothers" of Chicago, and had
discussed with her the possibilities of merging with her and various

DECLASSIFIED BY *6880 L E D M*
ON *8-11-77*

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EX - 38

27 JUL 31 1964

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53 AUG 10 1964

[Handwritten signature]

Letter to the Director
dated July 28, 1944

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was;
AMERICA FIRST PARTY

other organizations. SMITH stated that there was a great deal of work for them to do and said that he favored a program that would give every organization freedom of expression. He didn't think the organizations should be federated because it weakens their usefulness.

Informant advised that certain members of SMITHS following are quite perturbed at the stand he has taken against the Republican Party. One of these followers in particular, Mrs. KNOWLES, head of one of the mothers' clubs in Detroit, thought that SMITH should make a compromise with the Republican Party. When advised of this stand SMITH stated that he had no other course of action to take inasmuch as Governor DEWEY of New York had practically called him and his people "rats."

The Informant stated that SMITH had his office manager, BERNIE DOMAN, contact various groups such as the Detroit Temperance, the Prohibition Party, and Michigan Commonwealth Federation and inquire of these people where and when they were going to hold their state conventions and who their candidates would be.

The Informant also advised that SMITH was in contact both personally and by letter with [REDACTED], that SMITH'S 'phone number might possibly be listed under the name of [REDACTED] that he had received a communication from a person named [REDACTED] from Missouri; that the Post Office in Detroit was holding up the delivery of the latest issue of SMITH'S magazine until he sent a letter of explanation to the Post Office as to why he had combined two months in one issue.

Other persons in contact with SMITH during this period were HARRY ROMER; Senator ROBERT RAYNOLDS of North Carolina; [REDACTED] phonetic - probably Pfc [REDACTED] who is hospitalized in the Army Hospital at Battle Creek, Michigan.) The Informant also advised that SMITH'S office manager, BERNIE DOMAN, had reserved the Jade Room at the Detroit-Leland Hotel on July 31, 1944 for a state convention of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY of Michigan.

Very truly yours,


R. A. GHERIN, SAC

[REDACTED] dmk
62-1126

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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