



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**GERALD L. K. SMITH**

**PART 6 OF 18**

**FILE NUMBER : 62-43818**

FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS  
RELEASE

SUBJECT: GERNOLD L. K. SMITH

FILE: 62-43818

SUB: \_\_\_\_\_

VOL: 13

PAGES REVIEWED: 99

PAGES RELEASED: 99

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
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MAIL ROOM  
62-43818

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8 BTJ/MC

Date: April 5, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

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

Subject: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
"Committee of One Million"  
INTERNAL SECURITY - SEDITION

Reference is made to the Bureau letters of January 18 and February 18, 1943, wherein you were requested to contact appropriate officials of the Ford Motor Company, for the purpose of securing information as to the details surrounding [redacted] trip to Indianapolis, where he was, at [redacted] apparently conducting some type of investigation in behalf of the Ford Motor Company. You were further requested to make a general inquiry of [redacted] and among his friends and associates in order to determine whether [redacted]

[redacted] You have previously been informed that the Department has specifically requested that a complete inquiry be made as to the circumstances surrounding [redacted]

Although your letter of January 18, 1943, set forth certain limited information having pertinence to this inquiry, it did not cover all of the information desired by the Bureau and the Department in this matter. Please see to it that this phase of the investigation is completed as soon as possible and that the Bureau is informed of the results by letter.

With further reference to the Bureau's letter of February 8, 1943, wherein, in part, you were requested to institute an investigation of subject's activities as a candidate for public office under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act, pertinent portions of a subsequent memorandum received from the Department concerning this phase of the investigation, are quoted for your information as follows:

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

"This refers to my previous memorandum, [redacted] requesting [redacted] investigation to ascertain whether or not Smith was a candidate at the Michigan general election for senator in 1942, required by the 1943 statement of campaign contributions and expenditures under the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925. Since the dispatch of [redacted] Smith has filed an account, in the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, Washington, D. C. This account was not notarized or dated, and the date of receipt is not a matter of public record. It shows contributions of \$355.31 and expenses of \$3895.02.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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"The omissions in the statement, taken with Smith's denial that he was a candidate in a letter filed therewith, suggest that he does not admit his candidacy; notwithstanding this quotation from The Cross and The Flag for December, 1942, page 8: "I sought the Senate as an independent sticker candidate". It is therefore requested that you continue the investigation ~~to~~ establish the exact facts of Smith's campaign with a view to proving his candidacy. It is also suggested that you determine his actual contributions and expenditures for comparison with those set out in his field statement. It will also be appreciated if you will procure and forward the statement of contributions in the primary election requested in the first paragraph of the memorandum referred to above."

It is believed that the information set forth in the above memorandum, will be of assistance to you in your further investigation of this case.

GERALD L. K. SMITH

PERSONAL HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

Gerald Lyman Kenneth Smith, better known as Gerald L. K. Smith, was born during February, 1898, at Pardeeville, Wisconsin. He attended Butler Seminary at Indianapolis, Indiana, and later was graduated from Valparaiso University (Indiana) where he pursued a course in theology. Smith's antecedents and early life were in no way unusual and are of no particular interest.

After leaving college, Smith took up active duty as a minister and successively held pastorates at Footville, Wisconsin, at the Seventh Street Christian Church of Indianapolis and at the King's Highway Church of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Prior to assuming his ministerial duties at Shreveport, Smith's activities were rather conservative and of a type characteristically befitting one in the ministerial profession. However, while in Louisiana, he became interested in the late Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" movement and eventually extended this interest to the point of actively and openly participating in politics as an adherent of Long. Attendant publicity evoked the displeasure of the Elders of his church, eventually resulting in Smith's dismissal during 1934. Following Long's death, Smith attempted to identify himself with the remnants of the Long machine but being unsuccessful in this left Louisiana in 1937 and came to New York where he attempted to organize an association called "The Committee of One Million." This effort was unfruitful. During the following year he moved to Detroit where he has since been located.

At Detroit, Smith reorganized "The Committee of One Million" as an organization "founded for the purpose of combatting the menace of Communism." During 1939, Smith shifted his policy, advocating the isolationist viewpoint, and since the involvement of the United States in war he has busied himself principally in directing criticism to the Government's war effort and what he is pleased to characterize as the Government's efforts to enslave the United States as an entity in an International State dominated by Great Britain.

More detailed comments are set forth subsequently as to Smith's connection with Huey Long and his activities as the organizer of "The Committee of One Million," but it is of significance to observe that it appears that the turning point of Smith's life dates from his association with Huey Long. Prior to that time he was the usual type of minister concerned with problems incidental to his calling. However, it seems that his participation in the "Share the Wealth" movement fired his ambition to the extent of self visualization of himself as a dominant political figure. Being unsuccessful in associating himself with Long's

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 Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Piper \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mg

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successors, he has apparently continued his dream of political prominence through his efforts in connection with his so-called "Committee of One Million." The fact that he still evaluates himself as an individual of at least potential political significance, is attested to by the fact that he has sometimes described himself in confidential conversations as being likely "Presidential timber." In an effort to further augment his political background and potentialities, Smith sought nomination as Republican candidate for United States Senator from the State of Michigan during the summer of 1942. This campaign was unsuccessful.

Smith's personal life appears to be normal. He is married, lives with his wife, and has one son, about twenty years of age. His wife is said to be a distant relative of a [redacted] described as an official of the Ford Motor Company. From time to time stories have been circulated attributing improprieties to Smith in connection with his associations with women other than his wife. However, nothing factual is known to substantiate these stories.

ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO 1938

While serving as pastor at the King's Highway Church, Shreveport, Louisiana, Smith became interested in Huey Long's "Share the Wealth" plan. He eventually met Long and shortly thereafter there developed, according to Smith's description, "a close and fast friendship" between the two. It is definitely known that shortly thereafter, and lasting for a period of several years, Smith assumed the position of one of Long's chief lieutenants. Although Smith is prone to describe this relationship as a personal one, several persons who were close to Long at the time, state that Long had little personal regard for Smith and apparently evaluated him as being untrustworthy and dishonest. These persons state that Long was merely utilizing Smith's services, and in this connection it is known that Long, as well as others associated with him, regarded Smith as a very dynamic and powerful public speaker. It appears that Smith was widely used by the Long organization in the role of a public speaker for the "Share the Wealth" movement. It is said that Smith, at one time, received as much as \$650 per week from the Long organization as reimbursement for expenses and as salary.

Information has been received that while associated with the Long movement, Smith joined William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirt organization. Nothing in the way of documentary evidence is available to prove this membership, but in recent years, Smith has, on several occasions, admitted membership in the Pelley movement. He states, however, that he joined Pelley's organization merely for the purpose of securing information in connection with his work in behalf of Huey Long.

Although during Huey Long's lifetime Smith was an outstanding personage in the Long machine, he rapidly lost his position after the death of Long. It appears that his services were continued for a short period of time by Long's

- 3 -

successors, but that he eventually was displaced due, allegedly, to his untoward efforts to attain personal power. By 1937, any influence which he previously had was completely dissipated and it was during that year that he left Louisiana for New York.

On arriving at New York Smith attempted to organize a group known as "The Committee of One Million." According to the self announced purposes of this organization its primary concern was that of combating the forces of Communism. However, Smith's efforts in New York met with little success, and reportedly he was disheartened to the extent of ceasing his activities and removing to Detroit, Michigan, early in 1938.

Toward the end of his stay in Louisiana, Smith's personal reputation apparently suffered to some extent. On November 3, 1936, he was arrested by the New Orleans Police Department on a charge of having disturbed the peace in the using of obscene language in a public place. Reportedly, this arrest resulted in his receiving a suspended sentence of \$10.00 and ten days.

During 1936 and 1937, Smith was also involved as a plaintiff in several libel and slander cases. These cases were apparently of minor importance, but the consensus of opinion appears to be that Smith's reputation suffered more than did the reputation of those whom he sought to sue.

#### CURRENT ACTIVITIES

On arriving in Detroit in 1938, Smith almost immediately set out to reorganize the defunct "Committee of One Million." In this connection he distributed a considerable amount of literature designating the purposes of "The Committee of One Million" as follows:

1. To rebuild the spirit of America.
  2. To wipe out the last vestiges of Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms.
  3. The redefinition of the American National character.
  4. The installation of a new spirit in American youth, dedicated to the maintenance of American institutions.
  5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known as an international plot to involve them in a world revolution.
  6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the church.
  7. To secure the maintenance of a well defined standard of American living.
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Other literature of "The Committee of One Million," sought particularly to stress the activities of this organization in combating Communist influences.

With the coming of the European war in 1939, Smith shifted the policy of "The Committee of One Million" to that of promoting the cause of isolationism. In various pieces of literature distributed during 1939, 1940 and 1941, he was especially critical of the Government's policy of rendering assistance to the allied Governments.

Since the involvement of the United States in the war, Smith has again shifted his policy as well as that of "The Committee of One Million" to the direction of criticism against the Government's efforts in prosecuting the war. He has not questioned the necessity of winning the war, but on the other hand, in various of his publications, as well as his public utterances, has been careful to lay stress on the necessity of the people's aiding and assisting in every way in defeating America's foes.

However, he has advanced contentions that the Government is using the war as an excuse for depriving the public of its just liberties. He has also freely voiced criticism against what he has been disposed to characterize as the Government's efforts to reduce the United States to a mere entity in a great international state dominated by Great Britain.

Smith carries on the work of "The Committee of One Million" through radio broadcasts over Station WJR at Detroit, the distribution of literature, and through the publication of a monthly magazine known as "The Cross and the Flag." Although Smith claims that "The Committee of One Million" has a following of three million persons, it appears that "The Committee of One Million" is really not an organization as such, and is merely a name used by Smith. Smith, of course, does have a rather large mailing list, and it seems that the persons who receive his literature and make occasional financial donations to him are considered by Smith as being members of the Committee. Available information indicates that Smith's claim of three million followers is grossly exaggerated.

Early in 1942, Smith sought to establish another organization known as "The Inner Circle." As suggested by its name, this group was described by Smith as consisting of the more prominent and trustworthy members of "The Committee of One Million." He announced the foundation of this group through the distribution of literature calling for the donation of additional funds, and it appears that its purposes were the same as those of "The Committee of One Million." According to information received, "The Inner Circle" is no more of a real organization than "The Committee of One Million" and was conceived and used by Smith merely for the purpose of collecting additional money from persons on his mailing list.

During the summer of 1942, Smith sought the Republican nomination for the position of United States Senator from the State of Michigan. He made a number of speeches and conducted quite an active campaign and in the primary



election received approximately 120,000 votes. Although this was not sufficient for nomination, political observers were of the opinion that Smith had made an unusually good showing. Even after this defeat, Smith continued his candidacy in the general election in November, 1942, when he projected himself as a write-in candidate. He was badly defeated in the general election, his following being less than that in the primary campaign.

Late in 1942, Smith publicly announced the intention of forming a third political party on a national scale. The proposed platform for this Party, as announced, was similar to that advanced by Smith in connection with his work as leader of "The Committee of One Million" and it is understood that Smith hopes to gain support from members of the now defunct "America First Committee." In recent months, Smith has toured the Middle West and has made a number of speeches in various cities, outlining his plan for a third political party. Recently, he has indicated that it may not be necessary to form this party if the Republican and Democratic Parties "present a real issue" for the 1944 Presidential Election.

At various times within recent years it has been reported that certain officials at the Ford Motor Company are interested in Smith and have collaborated with him to the extent of furnishing him information used in some of his speeches and his publication "The Cross and the Flag."

In connection with his various appearances as a public speaker Smith has attained the reputation of being a very effective and forceful speaker. Although he is somewhat bombastic, and at times given too freely to overemphasis, it does appear that he is an unusually good speaker and that he is effective in influencing audiences. Some persons have described him as among the foremost public speakers of the day.

It is of interest to note that Smith's publication "The Cross and the Flag" was named, along with a number of other publications, in indictments returned in the District of Columbia on July 21, 1942, and January 4, 1943, charging twenty-eight and thirty-four defendants respectively with having engaged in a conspiracy to violate the Sedition Statutes. These indictments have pertinence to the case popularly referred to as United States vs. Gerald B. Winrod, et al. Although Smith's publication was mentioned in the indictment, as being one of a number of publications throughout the country which has contributed to undermining the loyalty and morale of the Armed Forces, neither Smith nor the publication was named as a defendant.

RECORDED & INDEXED  
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Honorable ~~Marvin~~ E. McIntyre  
Secretary to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

~~BY SPECIAL MESSENGER~~

Dear Marvin:

Recently the President referred to me a copy of the March 19, 1943, issue of "The Hour" which is devoted primarily to a discussion of the activities of Gerald L. K. Smith, of Detroit, Michigan.

In reply to the President's inquiry as to what action is being taken in regard to Smith's activities, I wish to advise that this individual has been under careful investigation by this Bureau for more than a year. All of his pertinent activities, including his public speeches and publications, have been closely followed and all information developed has been referred to The Assistant to the Attorney General. He has stated that Smith's activities to date do not appear to warrant prosecution, but has requested that the investigation be continued under the theory of the Sedition Statutes. The Assistant to the Attorney General has also requested that inquiries be made to determine whether Smith violated any of the provisions of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act in connection with his candidacy for the United States Senate last year. The additional investigation requested is presently under way and the information developed will be appropriately referred to The Assistant to the Attorney General.

For your more complete information there is attached a memorandum setting forth a summary of detailed information as to Smith's background and activities and as to the results of the investigation conducted to date.

Pursuant to the President's request the issue of "The Hour" referred to me is returned herewith.

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
★ MAR 21 1943 ★  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Sincerely yours,

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 25, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

J. EDGAR HOOVER

Is anything being done  
about this? Please return for my  
files.

F.D.R.

*Mr. Tolson*

*Letter means to  
me the type (White Ho  
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of 3/19/43 issue  
returned per report. M  
cc made as Bureau  
already copy of  
for this date*

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8BPA

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

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3-26-43

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
DETAILS AND NUMBER

STICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

WB-ESL-101

146-28-43

April 7, 1943

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. A. Tamm	.....
Clegg	.....
Glavin	.....
Ladd	.....
Nichols	.....
Rosen	.....
Tracy	.....
Carson	.....
Coffey	.....
London	.....
Kramer	.....
McGuire	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Miss	.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Re: Gerald L. K. Smith -  
violation of National  
35-mile Speed Regulation

The requests for advice concerning the action desired with respect to the above named subject's admitted violation of the National Speed Regulation contained in your memoranda of February 19, 1943, and March 23, 1943, were recently referred to this Division.

The now existing National 35-mile per hour speed regulations did not become effective until sometime after the date when it appears the subject operated a motor vehicle in excess of thirty-five miles per hour.

The then existing speed regulation, which was issued by the Office of Defense Transportation on September 26, 1942, issued with the public announcement that no prosecutions under this regulation would be undertaken by the Federal Government, but that it was expected that state governments would implement and enforce the regulation.

For these reasons it has been determined that prosecution of the subject on this matter is not warranted.

Respectfully,

RECORDED

*Wendell Berge*  
62-43818-228

WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General 10 1943

FOR DEFENSE



53 APR 14 1943

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

FILE NO. 100-7483

REPORT MADE AT <b>CLEVELAND, OHIO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>2/2/43</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/11,12/43</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>AJR</b></span>
TITLE <b>GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases. THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY-C CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Under the auspices of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland, Ohio Branch, SMITH addressed capacity audience of approximately seven hundred at Franklin Auditorium on 2-11-43, SMITH scoriated Cleveland Mayor LAUSCHE, the City Council, and the Cleveland News for activity in refusing him the use of the Cleveland Public Auditorium. SMITH stated SIR WALTER BINGHAM should be sent back to England; WALTER WINCHELL should be court martialed; and Vice President WALLACE imprisoned. SMITH decried such internationalists as WILKIE, CLARENCE STREIT, and STASSEN. He suggested LINDBERGH, NYE, BROOKS, WHEELER, FISH, MARTIN L. SWEENEY, and EDDIE RICKENBACKER as acceptable candidates for America First Party. SMITH mentioned favorably FATHER COUGHLIN, FATHER SHEAN, HENRY FORD, and Representative CLARE LUCE. SMITH charged alien propagandists are looting the country from within; held that internationalists were plotting to turn control of United States over to a World Congress after the war. On 2-12-43 SMITH addressed approximately 175 to 200 persons at Toledo, Ohio, including former members of the Million and One Club, the Young Nationalists, and the German-American element in Toledo. SMITH stated there, "If margarine has to be served, keep butter here and serve margarine to our Allies." Newspaper comments set out. License numbers and names of registered owners of cars used at Franklin Auditorium 2-11-43 furnished this office by Cleveland Police Department together with names of persons recognized in attendance. Literature obtained in connection with the rally on 2-11,12-43 forwarded to Detroit.

**COPIES DESTROYED  
83 OCT 12 1964**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>L. V. Boardman</i> <small>SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE</small>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT ⑤ - Bureau 4 - Detroit (1 USA) - Enclosure 2 - Cleveland  <i>See Rowe L. V. Boardman 4/5/43</i>	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">62-43812-229</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">APR 6 1943</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">RECORDED</p> <p style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">INDEXED</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 10/4/00 BY SP-100/ma</p>

*Letter  
Cleveland  
4/13/43*

*ALL  
b7c*

100-7463

-RUC-

REFERENCE:

92 Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated 12-11-42 b7c  
at Detroit, Michigan.  
Letter from Detroit Field Division dated 2-8-43.

DETAILS:

At Cleveland, Ohio

The following investigation was made by Special Agents [REDACTED] and the writer. b7c

Under the auspices of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland Branch, a Gerald L. K. Smith Rally was held February 11, 1943 at 8:00 PM in the Franklin Auditorium, 2515 Franklin Avenue. A capacity crowd of approximately seven hundred persons were in attendance. Prior to taking the stage, GERALD L. K. SMITH greeted and spoke with numerous persons just off the stage. It was noted that among those in this group were a number of members of the United Mothers of America. The greater portion of those attending this rally were about the age of fifty or over.

Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America, Cleveland Branch, acting as chairman, read a few introductory remarks, the theme of which was, "no collaboration with foreign governments."

After having the audience rise and sing "America" and then say a prayer, SMITH indicated that whereas this meeting was in honor of Abraham Lincoln, he would make no further mention of Lincoln during his address except to say that if Lincoln were alive today, he would probably be advocating and acting the same as he, SMITH, was this night.

SMITH, at this time, requested the audience to stand up and point out anyone that was taking shorthand notes of his speech. SMITH explained that he wanted the identification of anyone taking shorthand notes because the Government is now accusing loyal Americans of sedition, and he wanted to know who was going to quote him. A Cleveland Plain Dealer newsmen taking notes identified himself. SMITH stated that if there was a Cleveland News reporter in the crowd, he would personally escort him to the door and "kick him out." SMITH stated that the Cleveland News was guilty of inciting to riot against his, SMITH's, life in endorsing McMAHON, a Cleveland City Councilman, who according to SMITH, had stated that there were enough lamp posts in Cleveland to hang SMITH and his followers.

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SMITH then began a tirade against Mayor LAUSCHE because LAUSCHE had barred him from speaking in the Cleveland Public Auditorium last year. SMITH referred to Mayor LAUSCHE as "LAUSHAY," "LOUSY," and as "a lousy Mayor." SMITH stated, "I'll tell you what's the matter with him. He thinks more about the politics of Yugoslavia than he thinks about the politics of the United States." According to SMITH, Democrats, Republicans, and "jailberg BROWDER" had been allowed to speak in the hall but not GERALD L. K. SMITH.

During the course of his speech, SMITH vehemently expressed himself as being against WILLKIE, whom he terms an internationalist, and against CLARENCE STREIT, lecturer and author of "Union Now." Likewise SMITH denounced Vice President WALLACE because of WALLACE's speech in Madison Square Garden on the twenty-sixth anniversary of the Russian Revolution, and stated that WALLACE ought to be impeached for belittling our Bill of Rights. According to SMITH, SIR WALTER BINGHAM, British Lend Lease Administrator, spoke in Washington before the Press Club. SMITH indicated that BINGHAM had made the remark that no accounts were being kept of the value of the material sent to England and "the books were thrown away." SMITH stated that BINGHAM should be sent back to England because of his international attitude.

SMITH referred to WALTER WINCHELL as "that character assassin" who according to SMITH, should be court martialed as a Naval officer, because he is making on the side, \$5,000 for radio and \$5,000 a week for his column. SMITH stated that Representative HOFFMAN had suggested the court martialing and he was in accord with this suggestion. SMITH in further denouncing WINCHELL said that WINCHELL had attacked such patriots as NYE, WHEELER, FISH, and BROOKS.

SMITH referred to Governor STASSEN as an internationalist and a "WILLKIE stooge." SMITH then told a story concerning Mr. DOW of the DOW CHEMICAL COMPANY, who, after a trip to Germany, had found that the Standard Oil of New Jersey was in control of certain patents which would make possible the production of synthetic rubber from such chief vegetables as potatoes and wheat. SMITH alleged that the Standard Oil was withholding these patents so as to force the direction of expansion of the synthetic rubber production into the use of crude oil.

SMITH stated that he was touring the United States to form a working nucleus for the America First Party so that they would be ready to announce their own candidate in case one of the existing parties does not nominate an isolationist for the 1944 election. SMITH referred to the America First Party as a "spare tire organization" which would not only serve as a disciplinary effect on the Republicans and Democrats, but would be an active

100-7463

participant in the coming elections should either of these parties nominate an internationalist candidate. SMITH stated that if the America First Party needed a candidate, he could suggest good men such as LINDBERGH, WYE, BROOKS, WHEELER, FISH, MARTIN L. SWEENEY, and EDDIE RICKENBACKER.

During the course of his speech, SMITH referred to FATHER COUGHLIN as his friend, mentioned favorably FATHER SHEAN, radio priest, and praised HENRY FORD as an isolationist. SMITH praised recent remarks of the woman representative, LUCE, and indicated that she was probably turning away from her ideal husband. SMITH indicated opposition to Communism. In speaking of STALIN and CHURCHILL, he referred to these leaders as being "all right" because they were for their respective countries "first" and he wanted someone in this country to be for the United States "first." SMITH stated that he was opposed to any foreign entanglements or alliances after this war and wants to make America self sufficient. He stated we should build a length of fortresses around America.

SMITH held a short intermission during which subscriptions and collections were taken up from the audience, and it was noted that some of the contributions were ranging from a dollar to ten dollars.

Later SMITH had one of the attendants bring forth placards, and he called upon members of the audience to come forth and hold them while standing in front of the stage. Some of these placards read as follows: "butter for Americans first"; "meat for America first"; "no fourth term"; "bring our boys home when the war is won"; "Rick is OK with the America First Party"; "God bless Rickenbacker"; "Order of loyalty: first to the soldiers, second to the civilians, third to the Allies and the rest of the world"; "Freedom for America First"; "we want a choice in 1944". SMITH stated that everywhere he had spoken so far there had been a small flurry, there had been a blizzard, or it had been extremely cold, and he said that if it was not that way this night, he intended to have a parade with these placards.

SMITH orally offered a resolution to court martial WINCHELL, and another resolution to ask Mrs. DAVID STANLEY to form a committee to again petition Mayor LAUSCHE for the use of the Public Auditorium. These resolutions were adopted with acclaim by the audience. SMITH also asked a vote of approval in regard to the asking of EARL SUTHERLAND to speak if and when they were able to obtain a Public Hall.

Leaflets had been passed out at the beginning of this rally, and at its close, copies of GERALD L. K. SMITH's magazine "The Cross and the Flag" were offered for sale.



100-7463

Members of the Cleveland Police Department were also in attendance at this meeting and a report has been received by this office setting forth substantially those facts as recited above, and in addition, affording the license numbers of cars and names of their registered owners which were used by persons attending this rally. This report likewise points out that a number of women, who had previously represented the United Mothers of America at the time that organization had picketed in front of the city hall while LORD HALIFAX was a visitor, were also in attendance. The names of several others in attendance at this speech were afforded in this report.

At Toledo, Ohio

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent [REDACTED]

On Friday, February 12, 1943, GERALD L. K. SMITH addressed a gathering of approximately one hundred and seventy-five to two hundred people in the Hunt Room of the Secor Hotel, Toledo, Ohio. SMITH was met at the train by [REDACTED] Toledo at 7:50 PM. Mr. SMITH was brought by car with his wife to the hotel, making his appearance at 8:05 PM.

In a two hour talk opened with a prayer and closing with the pledge of allegiance to the flag, SMITH scoriated WINCHELL, asked for the impeachment of Vice President of WALLACE for Communist leanings, praised WHEELER and LINDBERGH, and spoke of a new party for the 1944 elections. Admitting that he had no intent of making untoward remarks against Russia or England as our Allies, he repeatedly stated he didn't want any English or Russian propaganda spread around this country under the guise of Allied friendship. He likewise discussed the selling of butter under the lend lease program, stating on one occasion, "If margarine has to be served, keep butter here and serve margarine to our Allies."

Definitely anti-Communist in his talk, SMITH spoke before a sympathetic audience made up mostly of the Million and One Club and Young Nationalists. Strong representation of the German-American element in Toledo was present and included [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and her mother were also present at the meeting.

At Cleveland, Ohio

The Cleveland file reflects the following news article regarding the subject's rally at the Franklin Auditorium from the Cleveland Press of 2-11-43.

"BRICKER BRANDED AS ISOLATIONIST" - "Governor BRICKER was called "an isolationist at heart who wants to be President more than he wants to be an

100-7453

isolationist" today by GERALD L. K. SMITH isolationist and anti-New Dealer, who came to Cleveland to begin the local organization of his America First party.

Mr. SMITH, who was barred from speaking in Public Hall last year by Mayor LAUSCHE, talks tonight at Franklin Auditorium, 2519 Franklin Boulevard.

"If HENRY WALLACE and WENDELL WILLKIE are nominated by the Democratic and Republican parties in 1944, we'll have a candidate," he said today. "If the Democrats nominate BURTON WHEELER, we'll fold up. If the Republican Party is in the hands of The Chicago, Tribune crowd and Senator BROOKS and Senator NYE, we'll fold up."

As ideal candidates for his America First Party, Mr. SMITH suggested Col. CHARLES A. LINDBERGH or Capt. EDDIE RICKENBACKER."

An article from the Cleveland News dated 2-12-43, which is captioned, "MENTIONS SWEENEY IN PRESIDENCY LIST" points out that SWEENEY, Senator GERALD NYE, and others were rated by GERALD L. K. SMITH as acceptable presidential material.

An article in the Cleveland Plain Dealer dated 2-12-43 captioned "SWEENEY HAILED BY AMERICA FIRST," in which article is a report of the rally at the Franklin Auditorium and in one paragraph it points out, "Smith charged that alien propagandists were 'looting the country from within' and that 'internationalists in Washington' were plotting to turn control of this country to a World Congress after the war."

Leaflets, copies of the magazine "Cross and The Flag," and a press release obtained in connection with the above mentioned rally on the eleventh and twelfth of February 1943, are being forwarded as enclosures to the Detroit Field Division. The contents of this enclosure may be disposed of as is deemed appropriate by the Detroit Field Division.

- ENCLOSURE:
1. Card of admission to meeting held 2-11-43 received from the Cleveland Police Department.
  2. A copy of the January issue of the "Cross and the Flag" and other literature obtained at the above meeting.
  3. Special invitation and floater mailed to subject's followers in Toledo.
  4. Copy of C.O.D. order taken by Smith for "The Red Decade" by Eugene Lyons, and received 3-23-43 from Hdq. 5th Service Command, Service of Supplies, Fort Hayes, Columbus, Ohio for exhibit.
  5. April '42 thru Jan. '43 issues of "Cross and the Flag".
  6. Miscellaneous literature passed out at the Gerald L. K. Smith rally at Franklin Auditorium on 2-11-43.

100-7463

7. A "Press Release" dated January 10, 1943 obtained at Toledo, Ohio on 2-12-43.

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

RECORDED

1/8/43

62-4818-229

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.  
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhettis

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH;  
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;  
INTERNAL SECURITY; SEDITION.

For your information in connection with further consideration of this case there is transmitted herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted], dated April 2, 1943, at Cleveland, Ohio.

b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosure *ed*
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_ cc - Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge (with enclosure)
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_ MAILED 14.
- Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_ 13 10 P.M.
- Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Piper \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 APR 13 1943  
 P. M.

RECEIVED  
 12 22 PM '43  
 U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
 JAMES ROWE

*Shaw*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/ah

JPH:KLB:WMS

April 13, 1943

PERSONAL ATTENTION

19  
RECORDED

62-43818-229

SAC, Cleveland

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was;  
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted], dated April 2, 1943, at Cleveland, Ohio. b7c

It is noted that although the investigation in this matter was completed in your Division on February 12, 1943, a report descriptive of the investigation was not submitted until April 2, 1943.

Such a delay in submitting a report is entirely without justification and as the Bureau has unusual interest in the Smith case, it is a matter of particular importance in this instance.

Please see to it that any additional investigation concerning this subject which may in the future develop in your district is more promptly reported.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED 14  
 APR 13 P.M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 10/4/82 BY SP8 BTJ/SLK



APR 20 1943

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.  
Detroit, Michigan  
April 6, 1943

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. Lester	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/8/92 BY SP6 BJA/omj  
264, A33

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, with aliases, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

*Handwritten signatures and initials*

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that the following additional information has been received from [redacted] whose identity is known to you. b7D

On February 22, 1943, SMITH spoke at the Hungry Club, a luncheon club in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. SMITH was warned that the Communists had planned to interfere with the meeting and police protection was sought against such an occurrence. In sending out invitations for this meeting, SMITH was assisted by [redacted], Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and a [redacted] whose telephone number is [redacted] Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. b: SMITH was introduced at the meeting by Reverend CHARLES A. MADDEN, a Baptist preacher of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Invitations were sent out to the former members of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE.

SMITH also spoke at Franklin Auditorium in Cleveland, Ohio, on February 11, 1943, and the meeting was arranged largely through the assistance of [redacted] of UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA, Cleveland, Ohio. [redacted] requested SMITH to furnish her with a copy of the speech that he would give in Cleveland so that she could transmit it to the leader of the former AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE in Idaho. b7C

The Cleveland Plain Dealer newspaper on February 9, prior to SMITH's meeting in Cleveland, criticized SMITH in an editorial for attempting to start a new political party. They called him the worst rabble rouser in America and pointed out that arrangements for SMITH's meeting were being made in Cleveland by an organization which has been accused of spreading Nazi propaganda.

Informant advised that SMITH is continuing to correspond with Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN, of Michigan.

RECORDED  
INDEXED

FOR DEFENSE



BUY AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE  
UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS

SMITH has commented to [redacted] of the Nolle Prosequi in the prosecution of STANLEY NOWAK for fraud in obtaining his citizenship was a scandal.

62-43818-23

COPIES DESTROYED

83 OCT 13 1964

*Handwritten signature*

Letter to the Director  
April 6, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

When SMITH was advised through the newspapers, particularly PM Newspaper, that RICKENBACKER stated he would refuse to attend SMITH's meeting, at which RICKENBACKER was praised and suggested for President, SMITH replied that he thought it was anyone's privilege to praise Washington, Lincoln, or RICKENBACKER.

SMITH discussed with [REDACTED] the rumors that were rampant in the early part of February, 1943, that bank accounts were going to be frozen and SMITH said that he had heard that bank accounts were to be frozen on February 15, 1943. [REDACTED] said that WALTER WINCHELL was going to be investigated within a week by the Naval Affairs Committee under VINSON. SMITH informed her that reporters from PM Newspaper and Time Magazine interviewed him and he told them to go ahead and smear him because everything those publishers stood for would be dead five years from now. SMITH referred to two stenotypists that attended his meeting on February 7, 1943. He said that he had learned that they were sent from the AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE and that the next meeting they tried to attend he would go right down and show them the door. SMITH was rather jubilant over the turn of events in Washington and told [REDACTED] that "With a reversal of things in Washington we won't be needing much to get us over the hump and then it will roll like a big snowball."

On February 15, 1943, Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH ordered BERNARD DOMAN, SMITH's manager, to draw \$200.00 from the AMERICA FIRST PARTY bank account and place it in the SMITHS' account as a donation to the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN, INC., account.

Informant advised that SMITH is continuing to depend upon the cooperation of STADSKLEV, 2928 - 45th Avenue, South Minneapolis, Minnesota, for his organizational activities in the vicinity of St. Paul and Minneapolis. At one of SMITH's meetings in the Minneapolis area SMITH had on the platform Mrs. LUNDEEN, widow of the late Senator LUNDEEN. However, Mrs. LUNDEEN has more recently advised that while she would assist SMITH in every way possible she would prefer to avoid publicity and would rather not sit on the platform at any future meetings.

[REDACTED]

SMITH is continuing to work in collaboration with Reverend B. J. ROLLINGS, of Detroit, Michigan, who was closely affiliated with Reverend GERALD B. WINROD, of Wichita, Kansas. The collaboration has extended to the furnishing of information by SMITH to Reverend ROLLINGS for ROLLINGS' radio addresses. Informant also advised that SMITH was receiving support from the followers of

Letter to the Director  
April 6, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

Reverend Father CHARLES E. COUGHLIN, especially in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, area.

The investigation of SMITH's income for the past several years has been continuing by Internal Revenue agents. SMITH has expressed serious concern over this investigation at various times to Informant but has steadfastly contended that any income which could not be accounted for as office expense was undoubtedly taken by him for his personal living expenses, and the entire difference was accounted for by SMITH in his income tax returns.

The contacts which Informant has noticed between SMITH and the Ford Motor Company, particularly [REDACTED] office, have noticeably declined. SMITH has only contacted on rare occasions [REDACTED] secretary, [REDACTED] on comparatively minor matters.

During the month of February the principal issue that SMITH discussed at his meetings was the post war issue as to whether or not the United States should participate in any world confederation. SMITH, of course, was bitterly opposed to any such suggestion. SMITH has obtained what he called the "Union Now" flag and in his demonstration in Pittsburgh for the benefit of photographers he threw the flag on the floor and jumped on it. He has been most vehement in his assertion that until his death he would oppose any suggestion to tear down the stars and stripes and subjugate the United States and its flag to any world organization.

Informant stated that SMITH discussed with [REDACTED] conditions in the Army camps. SMITH revealed that he had received letters from boys in the camps complaining about the food and saying that they had to go out of the camps and buy additional food.

SMITH advised [REDACTED] of Radio Station WJR, that he attended a huge mass meeting in Detroit, Michigan, on Saturday, February 27, 1943. It is noted that the Michigan State Committee of the COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U.S.A. held its convention in Detroit, Michigan, that same weekend. SMITH told [REDACTED] that there were less than 100 gentiles present and that the most vocal cheering was made every time Russia was named. At the end of the mass meeting a resolution was adopted that the immigration laws should be changed to permit the entry of Jewish refugees into this country inasmuch as Palestine is now closed to them. [REDACTED] commented that this would mean more black markets in the United States.

Informant states that SMITH is maintaining contact with HUBERT LUCKER, former companion of the present [REDACTED] Nothing signifi-



Letter to the Director  
April 6, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

cant has come from this contact recently.

Informant stated that [REDACTED], of the News-Advertiser, informed SMITH that he had heard a report, supposed to be reliable, that SMITH was going to be indicted. SMITH told [REDACTED] that he had been thoroughly investigated and the only thing that was found out about him was that he was a crusader who had spent more on his crusade than he had taken in. [REDACTED] said that that is what one of the "Department of Justice Fellows" told him in Washington. [REDACTED] said he told the "Department of Justice fellow" that "You fellows are barking up the wrong tree. If you fellows will find out who the fellows who are always lighting the matches are, you will find that it is the same bunch that is against the Attorney General himself. It will either be a Walter Winchell or a Pelley in his bunch. Pelley was thrown out of Louisiana by SMITH because SMITH would not let him carry on his subversive activities." SMITH agreed with [REDACTED] comment and continued that SMITH, himself, investigated PELLEY at the request of HUEY LONG and then wrote to PELLEY saying that he had no interest in the PELLEY organization because he did not consider it to be American. [REDACTED] said that some of SMITH's friends were uneasy about the report that SMITH at a public meeting referred to "Christ killers" which was commonly understood to be an insulting hypothetical reply to Jews. SMITH answered that he did not say anything like that and that he had received an apology from the newspaper that printed it as such. SMITH insisted that he had never said anything against any race or creed.

Informant advised that [REDACTED] a preacher from Sioux City, Iowa, had spent considerable time in Detroit lately and was apparently collaborating with GERALD SMITH. From Detroit he took a train to Wichita, Kansas, presumably to contact Reverend GERALD B. WINROD.

SMITH's adopted son has been drafted into the Army and has been accepted for officers' training. Mrs. SMITH contemplates the organization of a Blue Star Mothers' Chapter.

SMITH contacted [REDACTED] and according to Informant, [REDACTED] commented that he wondered what was going on down in Washington in view of the recent events, such as the reversal of the GEORGE SYLVESTER VEIRIK conviction and the returning of a "no true bill" on the leaders of the NATIONAL WORKERS LEAGUE in Detroit, Michigan. SMITH accused WILLIAM POWER MALONEY, of the Department of Justice, of confusing war hysteria and justice. [REDACTED] stated that WILLIAM POWER MALONEY "has been here secretly conferring with the CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION several times in the last few months. He has secretly met with people who have tried to put you (SMITH) on the spot. I know the dates he met with them in Washington and he told them the material is good but that they will have to get some more; the fellow (SMITH) is no good, but more evidence is

Letter to the Director  
April 6, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

necessary. He [redacted] made a special trip here to meet with those people in hotel rooms - [redacted] and his crowd, and ALBERT KAHN, the author of 'Sabotage', was in the picture as sort of contact man. MILTON KENDIS, who used to be head of the CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION, and who now is in the NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES, was in the conference too. I believe that it was on July 8 that [redacted] met with [redacted] and on July 15 they had an emergency conference. I had to keep this to myself because I was afraid you would blast him. The releasing of the defendants in the NATIONAL WORKERS LEAGUE case indicates that they're sort of backing water down there in Washington." SMITH commented that "They certainly gave STANLEY NOWAK a greased path to freedom." [redacted] said "They bowed to the pressure of these Communists and BIDDLE did an about face. The Communists are right out in the open now. They're recruiting everybody." SMITH and [redacted] then discussed a full page ad which the COMMUNIST PARTY ran in the Detroit Free Press at a cost of \$1,370.00. [redacted] conjectured that the money was coming from the National Committee of the COMMUNIST PARTY in New York.

SMITH then asked [redacted] if he had been called downtown (presumably to the FBI) for any more interviews. [redacted] said he had not and he did not think they were going to, but he had heard that the Treasury Department was in SMITH's office, according to information he had heard from [redacted] SMITH agreed that they were and said that he told the Internal Revenue agents that if they wanted some first-class testimony against him they should see [redacted] [redacted] told SMITH that they had seen [redacted] and that he had given them stuff he took from the files in New York. SMITH commented "That keeps them chasing up blind alleys. They can't believe that a man will spend all his money on his campaign. I told them that I would sign an affidavit that I possessed nothing in this world. Lots of folks don't understand it. I'm just one of the screwballs who think that Communism is the worst thing on earth and they're out to get me."

SMITH asked [redacted] did he "cover MALONEY". [redacted] assured SMITH he did by covering conferences. He said that the Communists told MALONEY everything they could about SMITH and that MALONEY said it wasn't enough; to go back and get some more because SMITH was dangerous. They took all SMITH's publications, and having analyzed them, claimed that SMITH was following a pattern of defeatism. MALONEY agreed but told them to get some more information because they did not have anything on which to obtain a conviction in court.

[redacted] then remarked that the Communists put MALONEY on the radio when he was here and introduced him to Professor JOHN SHEPHERD of the CIVIL RIGHTS FEDERATION. SMITH inquired if WILLIAM POWER MALONEY was a Jew, and when [redacted] answered he didn't believe he was, SMITH said that he had heard that he was. [redacted] concluded by saying that MALONEY was "definitely no good because

Letter to the Director  
April 6, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SECTION

there's too many of these guys who think he is O.K."

On March 2, 1943 SMITH attempted to contact Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS, and was able to reach only his secretary, [REDACTED]. SMITH asked [REDACTED] to send him all available material in opposition to the relaxing of the immigration laws since he would need it at a big meeting in Detroit on that subject. [REDACTED] suggested that SMITH contact JOHN TREVOR's office. SMITH concluded by telling [REDACTED] to compliment REYNOLDS on his speech the other night and to advise him that whenever SMITH mentions his name before an audience it is received by wild applause.

SMITH was anxiously awaiting the material from "BOB REYNOLDS" or from the AMERICAN COALITION OF PATRIOTIC SOCIETIES. On March 5, 1943 he received a package from the CONSTITUTION FOR EDUCATIONAL RELIEF, and when his manager, BERNARD DOMAN, opened it, DOMAN advised SMITH that it contained a Department of Justice memorandum containing secret and confidential information from the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation regarding the AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS.

SMITH conferred with [REDACTED] again on March 5, 1943, and SMITH said that he heard Rabbi STEPHEN S. WISE on Sunday, February 28. WISE recommended that the immigration laws should be relaxed to admit Jewish refugees from Europe. SMITH said that he contemplated making his first attack on any Jew because he was against admitting more Jews to this country from Europe when we are already eating horse meat. SMITH said that the meeting was attended by 98% Jews and that WISE, himself, was one of the big Reds, and so was his son.

SMITH and [REDACTED] then discussed a book "The Red Decade" which summarizes the activities of Communists in this country. [REDACTED] stated that GITLOW and JAN VALTIN helped the author, EUGENE LYONS, in writing that book. SMITH said he had written a letter to ALBERT KAHN, who had criticized SMITH in his book "Sabotage" and his newspaper "The Hour". SMITH also wrote to GEORGE SELDERS, publisher of "In Fact". SMITH described SELDERS as a Red and said that he had sold one million copies of a circular to the Jews which they were going to distribute in case SMITH had been nominated for the office of United States Senator from Michigan. SMITH said, however, that the Jews in Michigan voted for FERGUSON instead. [REDACTED] stated that [REDACTED] had persuaded FERGUSON to run in the first place. SMITH was somewhat surprised.

On March 6, 1943, a Mrs. D\_\_, "the one who wrote the book", came to Detroit and stopped at the Hotel Book Cadillac. Informant believed that Mrs. D\_\_ was probably ELIZABETH DILLING. She was anxious to obtain some advice from SMITH, but Mrs. SMITH advised BERNARD DOMAN to stall her off. Later, Mrs.

Letter to the Director  
April 6, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

SMITH told DOMAN to tell Mrs. D\_\_\_ that Mr. and Mrs. SMITH would see her at the Hotel at 2:00 P.M., but he was not to carry on any conversation with her.

SMITH has discussed with various persons the article carried in local newspapers about huge quantities of coffee, meat and butter going to waste in Alaska. SMITH commented that things were getting worse all the time and he was afraid the bureaucrats would lose the war by making mistakes with humans like the mistakes they have made with coffee.

SMITH challenged Professor PRESTON SLOSSON, of the University of Michigan, to a public debate on the issue of "Resolved: That the United States Should Join an International Union Which Would Have as One of Its Objects the Enforcement of World Peace." SMITH made arrangements to rent the auditorium at the Cass Technical High School for March 22, 1943. However, he gave specific instructions to BERNARD DOMAN that the application for the hall should be made out as follows: Name of Organization: Special Committee, care of Dr. CRANE, of the Central Methodist Church; Purpose for which organized: To conduct a symposium; References: Dr. CRANE and Professor SLOSSON; Applicant's signature: [REDACTED] (SMITH's personal secretary); Speakers: Professor SLOSSON, and others; Any further questions: See Dr. CRANE. It was obvious to Informant that SMITH wanted to conceal the fact that he was going to have anything to do with the meeting.

In discussing the proposed debate with Mrs. KNOWLES, Mrs. KNOWLES informed SMITH that she had spoken at Cornwallis Hall in Flint, Michigan, on March 7, 1943, and that there were three FBI men and a Flint Police Department investigator present. SMITH asked how she knew they were FBI agents, and Mrs. KNOWLES said that [REDACTED] knew them because she had been called into the FBI office. Mrs. KNOWLES said that she left a copy of her speech with the Flint Police Department. SMITH commented that he thought the FBI was very fair and that he had found this man BUGAS a wonderful fellow. He said that the FBI would not hurt anyone and the people in Washington would find out that the Communists are not the real people of America. Mrs. KNOWLES stated that when she made a remark about Technocracy in America, one of the FBI men turned to the other and nodded his head. SMITH stated that FBI agents accept their assignments in the line of duty and that they are "just as good people as your husband or anyone else."

SMITH asked Mrs. KNOWLES what she thought of Rabbi WISE's idea of letting Jewish refugees into America. Mrs. KNOWLES said she has contended for some time that the more affluent Jews are furthering anti-Semitism in this country. [REDACTED]

Letter to the Director  
April 6, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

Informant reported that SMITH took in more than \$500.00 at his meeting on March 9, 1943.

SMITH, in giving a press release to the Toledo Blade Newspaper, stated that "All our alliances must be merely temporary; the foreign policy of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY is the farewell address of George Washington."

SMITH attempted to ascertain who employed a reporter by the name of [REDACTED] who took stenographic notes at SMITH's meeting. He ascertained only that [REDACTED] employer was [REDACTED] who does some work for various Jewish organizations in Detroit, but he was unable to ascertain the persons or organizations for whom the stenographic transcript was being made.

SMITH and [REDACTED] discussed [REDACTED] and the connivance of which he had been guilty. SMITH said that [REDACTED] had been a specialist with the old corporation auxiliary protecting plants from communism, and whenever things quieted down they would send a couple of men into plants to organize.

[REDACTED] of Chicago, Illinois, according to Informant, urged SMITH to encourage his followers to write to Congressman MARTIN DIES and other members of the Dies Committee to institute an investigation of WORLD FEDERATION UNION NOW and the people supporting these subversive movements.

SMITH encountered difficulty when he attempted to get the public auditorium in Cleveland, Ohio, because the Mayor was opposed to letting SMITH use it. SMITH finally rented Franklin Hall through [REDACTED], but the manager of the hall made a provision that SMITH must say nothing to interfere with the winning of the war and could not talk against the Government.

Mrs. SMITH called a local newspaper under pretext on the day following the SMITH-SLOSSON debate on world government and inquired how the debate came out and whether the newspaper would carry a story on it. The newspaper employee informed her that "SLOSSON tore the reverend doctor to pieces," and that "SMITH evidently did better when alone on the platform than when opposed."

Informant stated that SMITH has recently indicated that he contemplated engaging a professor from the University of Chicago in a debate to be held soon in Chicago, Illinois. SMITH described this professor as "One of these fellows who wants to hold down the stars and stripes and throw us in with Russia and China and make us just another state."

On February 18, 1943, BERNARD DOMAN informed Mrs. MURRAY KNOWLES that "The hitch-hiking boy, you know who, had written a letter to the President stating that he would thrust a red hot poker down his throat if he continued to destroy our wealth and represent the national Jewry, and that he is out on a

Letter to the Director  
April 6, 1943

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION; SEDITION

\$1,000.00 bond." (The reference to the hitch-hiking boy is no doubt intended to designate LORENCE ~~N~~ASMAN, whom SMITH has introduced at his public meetings as a Good American Boy.)

Informant advised that on February 27, 1943 [redacted] asked SMITH for an additional copy of the January issue of his magazine, "The Cross and the Flag", to send to his son in the Army, [redacted], who [redacted] described as a great follower of SMITH and who would do anything for SMITH.

Informant has advised that SMITH has been drawing from the Dies reports listing Communists for speech material from time to time.

On March 23, 1943, a woman, who described herself as [redacted] from Chicago, said she expected an emergency to come up in the very near future and she wanted to get in touch with SMITH. She left word that she could be reached at Dearborn 7989.

Very truly yours,

*John S. Bugas*  
JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[redacted]  
62-1126

ALL  
b7c

EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.  
Detroit, Michigan  
April 10, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases  
Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt;  
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G,  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION;  
SEDITION. (62-43818)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated February 8, 1943. Please be advised that all the leads suggested by the Departmental memorandum have been set forth to appropriate field offices for attention with the following exceptions:

~~DELETED~~  
[redacted] in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 23, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan was identified as [redacted] who subsequently gave a full account of all information in his possession concerning SMITH. Since that interview [redacted]

[redacted] in the report of [redacted] dated April 27, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan has been revealed to be [redacted] is now known to the Bureau and to me to be a thoroughly unreliable and untrustworthy informant. However, it is believed that he has already given all the information in his possession concerning SMITH'S connections with German agencies.

[redacted] has already been interviewed and the interview reported in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 16, 1943 at New Orleans, Louisiana.

The birth records at Pardeeville, Wisconsin have already been examined, and it was reported in the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 3, 1942 at Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The interview with [redacted] whose true name is [redacted] was duly reported by Special Agent [redacted] in his report dated September 2, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan.



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APR 12 1943  
b7c  
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APR 20 1943

Letter to the Director

April 10, 1943

[REDACTED] continues to advise that HUBERT  
\*LUCKER is maintaining frequent and cordial contact with Subject, and  
it is not deemed advisable to interview him at this time concerning  
Subject. b7D

The interview with the [REDACTED] law firm of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] has been previously reported in  
the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated January 18, 1943  
at Washington, D. C. b7C

Please be advised that your instructions have been carefully  
noted and this case will be accorded continuous and preferred attention  
in the future.

Very truly yours,

*John S. Bugas*  
John S. Bugas, SAC

[REDACTED]  
62-1126 b7C



# The Hour

NUMBER

19485

MARCH 19, 1943

NEWS-KEY

Smith Obstructs War Effort	.....	page 1
Detroit Career	.....	" 2
Inner Circle	.....	" 3
Hitlerite Poetry	.....	" 4

NOTE: *The Hour* is a confidential bulletin, published fortnightly by The Hour Publishing Co., Inc. The price of subscription is \$5.00 per annum, \$3.00 for six months.

51 E. 42nd St., New York  
Murray Hill 2-0154-5

RECEIVED MAR 23 1943

Board

Number 151-2

March 19, 1943

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## THE CASE OF GERALD L. K. SMITH

In the city of Detroit, where tens of thousands of war workers are making a major contribution to the cause of the United Nations, a notorious anti-democratic rabble-rouser is making a major contribution to the cause of the Axis. His name is Gerald L. K. Smith. His speciality is distributing defeatist and disruptive propaganda. His Detroit headquarters have become a national center of fifth column intrigue, menacing the war effort of the United States.

Gerald L. K. Smith is the editor and the publisher of a magazine called The Cross and the Flag. Eight months ago a Federal indictment listed this magazine as an agency which had been used in a conspiracy to sabotage the morale of American soldiers and sailors. The Cross and the Flag is still being published in Detroit. Each month a new issue carries Smith's virulent propaganda to Americans in every part of the country.

Gerald L. K. Smith is head of an organization known as the Committee of One Million. This organization has all the characteristic earmarks of a fascist party. It is now being used for the purpose of reviving the America First movement, with the object of launching a new nation-wide appeasement campaign.

Gerald L. K. Smith is the man who once proudly reported to America's would-be Hitler, William Dudley Pelley:

"... by the time you receive this letter, I shall be on the road to St. Louis and parts north with a uniformed squad of young men composing what I believe will be the first Silver Shirt stormtroop in America."

William Dudley Pelley, who was then Fuehrer of the pro-Nazi terrorist Silver Shirts, is now in jail, where he belongs. Gerald L. K. Smith, who was then Silver Shirter No. 3223 and Pelley's most trusted aide, is now very much at large, carrying on his old work in a new and far more deadly way.

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54 MAY 10 1943

## Past Record

The burly, smooth-shaven, rabble-rousing Smith, who was once a small-town preacher in Indiana, has come a long way since the days when he was a mere organizer of Silver Shirt stormtroop squads. After he and Pelley separated in the early 1930's, Smith moved steadily upward in reactionary and fascist circles. He served for a while as a lieutenant to the late Huey Long, and shortly after the death of the Dictator of Louisiana, he joined forces with Father Charles E. Coughlin. Together Smith and Coughlin organized support for the presidential candidacy of Representative William Lemke in 1936; and it was then that the intimate personal and political relationship, which has lasted until this day, first developed between Smith and the pro-Axis priest of Royal Oak.

Early in 1937 Smith founded the Committee of One Million (which at first had the somewhat less imposing title of Committee of Ten Thousand). From the beginning the organization had an obviously fascist character. Membership was secret. Cells were organized on a nationwide scale, the smallest having ten members and a "Leader." Smith's title was National Leader. For many months he stumped the countryside, endeavoring to build a mass following among the discontented and the insecure. His speeches were rabidly anti-Administration and anti-labor tirelessly stressing the favorite Axis theme of the "Bolshevik menace," he pictured the United States Government as overrun by Communists, the labor unions as Moscow-controlled, and himself as the great potential savior of private enterprise and the American way of life.

During the early days of the Committee of One Million, Smith was less cautious in his public utterances than he is today. After one of his speeches, the Cleveland News remarked that "Smith smells of Fascist KuKluxers a block away." Another newspaper had this to report about Smith's activities in the summer of 1938:

"In his recent speedy tour of Ohio, Rev. Smith has spoken in both urban and rural communities. In the urban communities he has made no reference to racial groups, but in the rural communities he has decried the sinister influence of Jews and Catholics."

## Work in Detroit

In January, 1939, Smith set up headquarters for the Committee of One Million in Detroit. His talents as a reactionary rabble-rouser were put to quick and profitable use in the city where the murderous Black Legion had been spawned. He was soon giving a series of anti-Administration, labor-baiting broadcasts from WJR, Detroit's largest

and most expensive radio station. The name of his sponsor was never made public, but it was fairly common knowledge that a close working relationship had been established between Smith and a prominent automobile manufacturer, well-known for his extremely anti-democratic views.

When the America First Committee was formed late in 1940, and fifth columnists flocked into this organization, it was inevitable that Gerald L. K. Smith should attach himself to the Wheeler-Lindbergh movement. Although he was never an official member of the Committee, he became one of its leading organizers and spokesmen. He helped arrange the largest America First rallies in Detroit, and energetically distributed vast quantities of the Committee's propaganda. He could justly have claimed the title of America First Gauleiter of Michigan.

In the spring of 1941, when America Firsters were making a furious effort to obstruct defense legislation, Smith went to Washington to testify against the Lend-Lease Bill at a hearing held by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Subsequently his arguments against sending aid to Great Britain and the Soviet Union were widely publicized in fifth column circles.

### The Inner Circle and Congressional Friends

Immediately after the United States entered the war, Smith formed a secret society called The Inner Circle. Its headquarters were in Detroit. We exposed the existence of this cabal in the February 21, 1942 issue of The Hour, reporting that its purpose was to serve as a brain trust for reactionary, appeasement forces in the United States. One of the first projects of The Inner Circle was The Cross and the Flag, a monthly magazine filled with propaganda assailing the United States war effort and harshly criticizing America's allies. The first issue of the publication appeared, by what seemed scarcely coincidence, in the very same month that Father Coughlin's Social Justice was banned from the U.S. mails because of its seditious content.

Before the second issue of The Cross and the Flag had been published, The Hour revealed that certain die-hard isolationist Congressmen who had previously worked with the America First Committee were helping promote the circulation of Smith's defeatist magazine (see The Hour for April 19, 1942). We named Senator Robert R. Reynolds, Senator Gerald P. Nye and Representative Roy Woodruff as Smith's most enthusiastic Congressional supporters.

On July 23, 1942, a Federal Grand Jury in Washington, D.C., handed down an indictment naming The Cross and the Flag as one of several agencies which had been used in a conspiracy to sabotage the morale of the United States armed forces. Nevertheless, Smith has continued to publish the magazine, featuring flagrantly disruptive and defeatist propaganda in every issue. Here are the titles of typical articles appearing in The Cross and the Flag: "Union With Britain -- International conspirators seek to destroy America's sovereignty in the name of wartime emergency and peacetime chaos"; "Will Refugees Take the Jobs Left Vacant by Soldiers?"; "Is President Roosevelt Being Used by the

Red Smear Artists?"; "Sir Stafford Cripps -- Whose Man is he? Churchill's or Stalin's?" Commenting on the war, the magazine rumors that "much bad news is being kept from us because it is feared it would break the morale of the people." The United States is described as being "overrun with brain trusters, intellectuals, ... war mongers, politicians, international financiers, pressure groups, special interests." We do not know what sort of victory we are fighting for, writes Smith, although "we are to exhaust our financial and physical resources ... to fill rivers with blood and oceans with ships, and battlefields with the dead and dying."

### Need for Government Action Against Smith

Smith's latest undertaking is the reorganization of the America First movement, which Dr. Joseph Paul Goebbels once praised as "truly American and truly patriotic!" In January of this year Smith formed the America First Party, with himself as National Chairman. He claims that his Party has no connection with the former America First Committee. It is clear, however, that the fundamental purpose of the new organization is to resurrect the old Committee and renew its pro-Axis, appeasement operations.

The time has obviously come for the Federal authorities to put an end to the disruptive activities of Gerald L. K. Smith. The United States is fighting its sixteenth month of war against the Axis. Defeatist propagandists and anti-democratic plotters, who menace the war effort of this country, have no place in America today. Gerald L. K. Smith falls within this category. The Hour therefore urges that the Department of Justice take prompt action against him.

\* \* \* \* \*

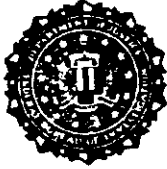
### POEMS FOR HITLER

Tens of thousands of copies of scurrilous anti-Semitic poems are being distributed around the country, particularly in war plants, in a special Nazi propaganda campaign to incite animosity against American Jews and thus disrupt our war effort. Some of these virulent Jew-baiting rhymes are in the form of printed pamphlets and leaflets; others are on mimeographed sheets and a number are simply typed, with multiple carbon copies. All spread the familiar Hitlerite canard that the present war was brought about by "World Jewry," and that the Jewish people are now reaping immense profits from it and are shirking every patriotic duty.

A typical poem is entitled "The Official Song of the Kosher Air Wardens." Another, called "The Marine Hymn," which pro-Axis elements are circulating among defense workers in navy yards, concludes with the comment that, after this war is over, "You will find the Jews are ruling you, in Washington's old White House." "America's Fighting Jew" pictures the Jewish people as "setting up black markets in steel and hoarded food" as "the Gentile soldiers go marching proudly by." A poem called "Rejected" is followed by this note: "Copyrighted by Satan & Satan, Inc., Jew York, Jew York." Another, headed "Three Wise Men", ends with this line: "Damned if I don't think Hitler's right."

The Hour recommends that the Federal Bureau of Investigation immediately investigate the printers, publishers and distributors of this new form of pro-Axis propaganda.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

Detroit - Michigan  
April 21, 1943

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. Kramer	.....
Mr. McGuire	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

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204,433

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases  
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; CUSTODIAL DETENTION;  
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

There is being set forth hereinbelow the results of information obtained from [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. Informant has advised that this information was obtained during the period from March 23, 1943 through April 19, 1943: b7D

Informant has stated that SMITH has apparently been maintaining rather close contact with Mrs. BEATRICE KNOWLES during this entire period, and that SMITH has carried on lengthy discussions with Mrs. KNOWLES as to future policies of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE. Mrs. KNOWLES has apparently contacted one of the leading officials of the American Legion in this area with the idea in mind of registering a complaint as to the philosophy presently being taught in the Detroit schools to the younger children.

It has been also ascertained that SMITH has been maintaining close contact with a Reverend [redacted] believed to be from the vicinity of Denver, Colorado, who has been in Detroit for the past several weeks conducting revival meetings.

On April 8, 1943 Informant advised that SMITH had made a long distance call to [redacted] of Chicago, Illinois, and on that occasion SMITH advised [redacted] that he, SMITH, had received a wire from one [redacted] (phonetic); that [redacted] was apparently booked to speak at one of SMITH's meetings in Detroit, but that [redacted] had advised SMITH that he would be unable to talk. At this time [redacted] advised SMITH that it was his opinion that [redacted] did not want to talk inasmuch as he did not believe [redacted] wanted to endanger his candidacy in Indiana. b7C

FOR DEFENSE



On April 9, 1943 Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that on that date SMITH had advised his wife to call up [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company, and tell [redacted] that she wanted to see him about something important she had to tell him concerning a fellow from the east who was coming to Detroit within the next few

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Letter to the Director  
April 21, 1943

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; CUSTODIAL DETENTIO  
SEDITION

days and that [REDACTED] and the man that was coming from the east ought to get together. In this connection Mrs. SMITH is alleged to have made several attempts to contact [REDACTED] with apparently negative results.

Informant stated that SMITH is apparently still being investigated by the Internal Revenue agents at Detroit, Michigan, but that SMITH was of the opinion they had not developed anything important to date.

On April 10, 1943 Informant stated that SMITH called C. O. STADSKLEV at Minneapolis, Minnesota; that SMITH inquired as to whether or not STADSKLEV was coming to Detroit, and that STADSKLEV said that he was coming to Detroit. SMITH apparently made reservations for STADSKLEV at the Book Cadillac Hotel.

On April 11, 1943, in a conversation with Mrs. KNOWLES, SMITH stated that he was lining up the procedure he was going to follow in an attempt to have some sort of investigation made relative to the textbooks being used by the Detroit schools. Mrs. KNOWLES advised that she had some conferences with the head of the Legion in this area and that they promised to issue some material relative to this matter in the name of the Legion.

On April 12, 1943 Informant stated he had received information to the effect that STADSKLEV had arrived in Detroit and was staying at the Book Cadillac Hotel, and that a [REDACTED] (phonetic) had apparently come to town with STADSKLEV.

On April 13, 1943 SMITH again contacted [REDACTED] and advised the [REDACTED] that Mrs. LUNDEEN had promised to speak at a SMITH meeting in Chicago, apparently on the 30th of April. SMITH promised that Mrs. LUNDEEN was going to say quite a bit about WALTER WINCHELL.

Informant stated that he had received information on April 14, 1943 to the effect that SMITH was organizing his followers with the idea in mind of picketing a speech to be made by LANGSTON HUGHES, an alleged colored Communist, who was to speak on that particular date at Wayne University. (It was ascertained through other sources that SMITH's followers actually picketed the Wayne University at the time HUGHES spoke, and at that time his followers passed out copies of a poem which HUGHES was supposed to have written entitled "Goodbye Christ".)

Informant stated that he had information to the effect that SMITH had apparently been successful in his negotiations with the Cass Technical High School in Detroit for the rental of the school on the night of April 28, and that in all probability Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN would be a speaker

Letter to the Director  
April 20, 1943

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, was, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; CUSTODIAL DETENTION  
SEDITION

for the meeting that night.

On April 17, 1943 Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had telephonically contacted Mr. MARTIN SWEENEY, of Cleveland, Ohio, and that SWEENEY was apparently a former Congressman from that district. SWEENEY, during the course of his conversation with SMITH, evidenced great admiration for former Senator LUNDEEN, and seemed pleased with the fact that Mrs. LUNDEEN was to address several SMITH meetings. SWEENEY was requested by SMITH to introduce Mrs. LUNDEEN at her Cleveland speech, and SWEENEY replied that he was thinking seriously of accepting this invitation.

On April 19, 1943 a [REDACTED] of New York City, telephonically contacted SMITH, at which time he stated that he expected to be in the City of Detroit on the morning of April 20 and requested SMITH to make reservations at the Book Cadillac Hotel for him.

On that same date SMITH received a call from [REDACTED] (phonetic), at which time [REDACTED] advised SMITH that something had come up which necessitated his going to Washington. At the time of this call, SMITH advised [REDACTED] of meetings to be held by SMITH in Cleveland, Dayton, Pittsburgh, Detroit, and Chicago. SMITH stated at this time that he expected to be in Washington soon inasmuch as he had written to Senator FERGUSON relative to the "Gestapo Bill" and that FERGUSON invited him to appear before some committee in Washington.

On April 8 Informant stated that he had received information to the effect that SMITH had telephonically contacted the Social Security Board in Detroit with reference to Social Security payments due [REDACTED] formerly connected with the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION. SMITH at this time stated that [REDACTED] had never been employed by the FEDERATION, [REDACTED] and that [REDACTED]. SMITH claimed the organization was a non-profit educational organization and exempt from taxes. No definite answer was given relative to this query.

On April 10, 1943 information was received from Informant to the effect that SMITH had received a special delivery letter from a [REDACTED] (phonetic) of Dayton, Ohio, and that [REDACTED] was inquiring as to whether or not May 6 was to be the reservation date for a speech which SMITH was apparently to give in Dayton, Ohio. [REDACTED] stated that she was carrying on negotiations with the County Commissioner for rental of Memorial Hall. [REDACTED] stated that she had contacted [REDACTED] (phonetic) relative to the advisability of contacting Governor BRUCKER of Ohio as to his ideas of world government.

Letter to the Director  
April 20, 1943

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, ~~was~~, et al  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G; CUSTODIAL DETENTION;  
SEDITION

On April 16, 1943 BERNARD <sup>K</sup>DOMAN, an employee in SMITH's office, telephonically contacted [REDACTED] at which time DOMAN advised [REDACTED] he was sending her some tickets for the LUNDEEN meeting. b7c

Very truly yours,

*John S. Bugas*  
JOHN S. BUGAS, SAC

[REDACTED]  
66-1126 b7c



43 Detroit, Mich  
April, 1943

My dear Subscriber Friend;

By the time you receive this letter I will have been publishing THE CROSS AND THE FLAG for one year. I wonder if you realize what a heavy load this has placed on my shoulders.

For the first three months the magazine was printed by a different printer each month. The printer would be threatened, he would receive anonymous telephone calls, everything imaginable was done to intimidate our printers, and then the next month we would have to find a new printer.

My life has been threatened. Walter Winchell, the character assassin, would scream out my name over the radio in accusing terms. In an article in the Liberty Magazine he became so desperate that he said that I had been indicted. The magazine was forced to apologize abjectly for this statement in their issue of September 12.

Since we started THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, I have been a candidate for the United States Senate. All experts agree that I got a majority of the Republican votes. Under the Michigan law the members of both parties can vote for any primary candidate. Fearful of my victory, the New Dealers and the internationalists ganged up on the Republican Party, because there was no contest in the Democratic primary. Every student of political affairs in Michigan knows that I won a great and surprising victory. That was the first time that the New Dealers and the internationalists realized just how strong our kind of people are in America. An indication of my strength in Michigan is in the fact that I polled more votes in the primary than did Mr. Prentiss Brown the year he was nominated.

I am now in the midst of a nationwide tour, visiting large cities and populous centers in the interest of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. Each month I shall report to the subscribers of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG interesting experiences I am having on this tour.

The enemies of America stop at nothing in attempting to prevent me from speaking in their communities. They riot, they picket, they threaten my friends, they attempt to close meeting halls to me - but when I reach the auditoriums, they are always full, frequently all standing space is taken. I never speak less than an hour and a half and sometimes three hours. Occasionally, we give the people a recess. They go out and come back in again. Such is the hunger of the American people for fearless truth spoken by a Christ-loving citizen who has the courage to put his country first.

Frequently, I have to work all night. Thank God, I have at my side a sweet and lovely and loyal wife who, like myself, reads and thinks and plans day and night for the extension of this cause.

We, of course, hope and pray that the AMERICA FIRST PARTY will never need to be used. We hope that one of the two old parties will fall into the hands of leadership on the order of Wheeler and Nye - but we do know this, that Willkie has lined up his Wall Street friends and his international financiers who are determined that he shall be the Republican nominee for 1944.

Of course, we know that Mr. Roosevelt is now campaigning for his fourth term. Should we get a Willkie and a Roosevelt, we must have a third choice. That's one of the things I am working on day and night.

FIVE

I thank God for good health. I cannot help but believe that this good health is the answer to prayer. I try not to be santimonious - but, believe me when I tell you that my faith in prayer increases every day.

On February 27 God gave me a 45th birthday. Surely, He has kept me alive and healthy for some noble purpose. I have promised God that I will carry on a crusading fight this year, such as I have never indulged in before.

One or two very sensational and surprising events are about to take place. If I live and have my liberty, I shall keep you informed through the pages of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG. Every conspiring trick known to the enemy will be attempted in the next few months to stop the publication of this crusading journal. Whoever dreamed that the time would come when it would be dangerous in America to glorify the name of Christ and to put America first!

*X Winsor*

My son, Gerald, Jr., whom we call Gerry, has been in the Army about a month. We made no effort whatsoever to defer him or to postpone his call, because we know that he is no more precious to us than your loved one is to you. The war is on and we have but one task now and that is to win it. The real battle for those of us who are left at home is to preserve our American independence for our boys when they return.

In the future issues of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG I shall try to keep you posted concerning the diabolical conspiracy being attempted by those who would take us into an international government. Foreigners are now in Washington attempting to work up a scheme to put the United States into a post-war government known as the United Nations of the World with the world parliament over us and with foreigners making rules for our people to obey. This, under God, must never happen.

If a paper shortage cuts down the number of issues which we are permitted to print of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG, naturally, the regular paid-up subscribers will come first. That's why I am writing you this letter, in order that you may be sure to renew your subscription which expires with the April issue.

If you have already renewed your subscription for the coming year, be sure to follow the instructions of this letter concerning some other matters in which you will be interested.

If you have not renewed your subscription, be sure to do so at once, so that you will be a part of our regular paid-up list of subscribers.

I prophesy that the day will come when these magazines will be worth much more than the subscription price. When the history of America is written, regardless of what posterity says about my poor ability as an editor, the historians will say: **THERE WAS A MAN WHO HAD THE CHRISTIAN COURAGE TO BE FEARLESS WHEN MANY MEN WERE COWARDS**

You will need THE CROSS AND THE FLAG for many reasons, but among others are the following reasons:

1. It will contain the best things said by our best Congressmen.
2. Continuation of the Huey Long series.
3. Regular exposures of Communistic propaganda.
4. Facts about Washington published nowhere else.
5. Continuation of remarks by Congressman Dies.
6. The growth of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.
7. The activities of the Committee of 1,000,000.

78. Fearless statements about the coming Presidential election.
79. The real truth about the internationalists and the World Government gang.

Here is a suggestion. If you are a real friend of this crusade, you will not only want to be a subscriber - and if you have not renewed your subscription, do so at once - but you will want your friends and important people to get this magazine. Why don't you subscribe for others, as well as yourself?

1. Subscribe for your Congressman
2. Subscribe for your Governor.
3. Subscribe for your Mayor.
4. Subscribe for your Pastor.
5. Subscribe for a relative.
6. Subscribe for your best friend.

If you do not want to subscribe for these people for an entire year, why don't you pay for an introductory subscription, which would bring them THE CROSS AND THE FLAG for six months for \$1.00?

These are days when most editors are afraid to print the truth and most speakers are afraid to speak the truth.

I promise you that before I will surrender my right to speak and print the truth, I shall face a firing squad, a sentence to prison, or whatever may be necessary to demonstrate my determination to be true to the America of Lincoln and Washington and to the Christ and faith of our fathers.

If you would like to make a donation for subscribers, we have a list of names of people who have expressed a desire to get the magazine but cannot afford to subscribe for it. If you desire to renew your own subscription and enclose a donation, we shall use the donation for such complimentary subscription.

Please use the attached form to express your desires in helping us to carry on the publication of THE CROSS AND THE FLAG.

Sincerely yours in the name of the Living Christ,

GERALD L. K. SMITH

GLKS/U

P.S. Persuade others to subscribe.

April 23, 1943

~~62-13878~~

b7c

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC, Detroit

RE: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
The Committee of One Million  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION  
SEDITION

Dear Sir:

A review of the Bureau's file in this case reflects that your office has been neglecting the submission of the required weekly letters relative to the services of ~~\_\_\_\_\_~~

b7D

It is expected that the desired letters will be forthcoming regularly in the future.

Very truly yours,

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

John Edgar Hoover

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/puc

RECORDED

62-13818-235

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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COMMUNICATION SECTION  
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b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.  
Detroit - Michigan  
April 12, 1943

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

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. Krenn	.....
Mr. McGuire	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Director, FBI

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases  
Gerald L. K. Smith, Gerald L. K. Schmidt;  
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G,  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION;  
SEDITION. (62-43818)

*Handwritten:* Stamp of the

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated April 5, 1943, in which letter the Bureau requested that the Detroit Office contact appropriate officials of the Ford Motor Company in an effort to ascertain the details surrounding [redacted] trip to Indianapolis, and the Bureau also requested that inquiries be made relative to [redacted]

[redacted], an employee [redacted] for a number of years and a contact of the Detroit Office, upon interview stated that although he had not known [redacted] for a great length of time [redacted]

[redacted] of Ford Motor Company, approximately two or three months prior to the time [redacted] went to Indianapolis on business for the Ford Motor Company.

[Large redacted block]

With reference to [redacted] trip to Indianapolis, [redacted] continued by relating that he had been contacted by [redacted] sometime in the fall of 1942, and at that time [redacted] explained to him, unofficially, [redacted]



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/huc

83 OCT 13 1964

*Handwritten:* This is one to [redacted] memo 7. Rowe 4/29/43

*Handwritten:* FIVE

Letter to the Director

April 12, 1943

that [redacted] (phonetic), [redacted] of the Ford Naval Training Station at Dearborn, Michigan, had informed [redacted] that he had serving under him at that particular base a man by the name of [redacted], that [redacted] had been called a "submarine" and had been threatening to turn [redacted] in for alleged irregularities on the part of [redacted]

[redacted] contacted [redacted] with the idea in mind, according to [redacted] that the Ford Company might unofficially find something out about the character of [redacted] who allegedly resided in Kansas City, and that [redacted] himself had formerly been quite active in boy scout circles in Indianapolis, Indiana.

[redacted] stated that he had then contacted [redacted] and explained that [redacted] was to go first to Kansas City and then to Indianapolis in an effort to find out something detrimental relative to [redacted] if possible. [redacted] proceeded to Kansas City where he succeeded in obtaining a great deal of derogatory information concerning [redacted]

[redacted] then went to Indianapolis, where he contacted [redacted] of the Ford Motor Company at Indianapolis, and explained to [redacted] the purpose of his mission; that [redacted] had allegedly worked with [redacted] the entire morning in an effort to locate some derogatory information concernin [redacted] that shortly after [redacted] had his lunch, he [redacted]

[redacted] stated that all of the information which he furnished relative to the purpose of [redacted] mission was very definitely given to the Detroit Office as a matter of confidence, and that he did not desire this confidence violated by having the exact reason for [redacted] trip known to outside sources. [redacted] stated that in the event it became known that he had supplied this information, he might become involved in a great deal of trouble at the Ford Company.

[redacted] stated that he had always understood it to be more or less general knowledge that [redacted] and continued by stating very definitely that the above reasons were the exact reasons why [redacted] was in Indianapolis [redacted] and that [redacted] was not in Indianapolis in any connection with the GERALD L. K. SMITH matter.

[redacted]

Letter to the Director

April 12, 1943

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In the absence of any further instructions from the Bureau along this line of the investigation, no further inquiries will be made by the Detroit Office.

Very truly yours,  
*John S. Bugas*  
John S. Bugas, SAC

[REDACTED]  
62-1126

*b7c*

b7  
b-

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mh

JPHq:WBJ  
RECORDED-29-43 - 43818 - 236

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.  
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

Further reference is had to my memorandum of January 21, 1943,  
wherein I outlined the results of a certain investigation conducted at your  
request as to the circumstances surrounding [REDACTED]

For your further information in this regard, the Bureau's Detroit  
Office has recently been advised by [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

☆ MAY 1 - 1943 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAY 6 1943

*[Handwritten signatures and initials]*



Memorandum for Mr. James Rowe, Jr.

Page Two

[REDACTED] For your further information, it has been determined from a confidential and reliable source that [REDACTED] was not in Indianapolis [REDACTED] concerning any matter having pertinence to this case or the activities of subject Smith.

b7c  
b7d

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

FILE NO. **100-7463**

REPORT MADE AT <b>CLEVELAND, OHIO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4-23-43</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4/3, 16/43</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases. THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY-C CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

On April 3, 1943 for the second time in Cleveland, at the Franklin Auditorium, an America First Party Rally was held, sponsored by the United Mothers of America. GERALD L. K. SMITH, speaking to an audience of approximately five hundred persons, announced that Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America, had arranged with Mayor LAUSCHE for the holding of a similar rally in the Cleveland Public Auditorium April 27, 1943. SMITH announced that he expected the widow of ex-Senator ERNEST LUNDEEN to be present April 27, 1943 as a guest speaker. SMITH repeated many of the statements previously made at this same auditorium, and in addition, ridiculed prominent New Deal figures, including HARRY HOPKINS and BERNARD BARUCH. SMITH, after displaying a flag, (a combination of the British and United States flag with the union jack placed where normally the stars would be), threw it to the floor and trampled on it. SMITH introduced Captain EARL SOUTHARD, Past Departmental Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chicago, Illinois, who spoke criticizing plans of certain "internationalists" and the New Deal's prosecution of the war. A list of some of the persons attending this meeting, as reflected by license numbers of cars, is being retained in the Cleveland file.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/10/2011 BY SP7MAC/3  
#8844**

DEFERRED RECORDING

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated 4-9-43 at Detroit, Michigan.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 4 - Detroit 2 - Cleveland COPIES DESTROYED OCT 13 1964 cc [Signature] 5/31/43	<b>67-43871-237</b> <b>14 APR 26 1943</b> <b>RECORDED</b> <b>INDEXED</b> EX-3

100-7463

DETAILS:

For the second time in Cleveland on Saturday night, April 3, 1943 at 8:00 PM, an America First Party Rally was held at the Franklin Auditorium, 2515 Franklin Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio. Introductions were made by Mrs. DAVID STANLEY, President of the United Mothers of America. Mrs. STANLEY read from a prepared speech in which she stated that this was a world of hypocrisy and destructive evils. Mrs. STANLEY condemned the proposed "World Court and World Government" allegedly being advocated by internationalists within the Federal Administration.

Besides Mrs. STANLEY on the platform were Mr. and Mrs. GERALD L. K. SMITH and Captain EARL SOUTHARD. The audience was approximately five hundred in number, completely filling the hall, comprised in a large part of members of the United Mothers of America, their husbands and friends, together with elderly couples of German descent.

Mrs. STANLEY introduced GERALD L. K. SMITH, National Chairman of the Committee of 1,000,000 and national organizer of the "America First Party."

SMITH announced that Mayor FRANK LAUSCHE, after being again petitioned by Mrs. DAVID STANLEY and her group, did finally allow him, SMITH, to speak April 27, 1943 in the ballroom of the Public Auditorium. SMITH stated that he hoped to have with him as a speaker, Mrs. ERNEST LUNDEEN, wife of former Senator LUNDEEN of Minnesota. SMITH's remarks were mainly, but more briefly, the same as those made at his previous rally in this hall, 2-11-43.

SMITH verbally attacked leading New Deal figures and the internationalists' ideas as to a post war type of government. He repeated his remarks that Vice President HENRY A. WALLACE should be impeached for his address on the anniversary of the Russian Revolution. SMITH mentioned that miners and steel workers were having to live on the meat rationed them. In comparison, he ridiculed HARRY HOPKINS and BERNARD BARUCH, pointing out that BARUCH had given a party at Washington where the price of the dinner was \$110 a plate with seven kinds of meat, forty kinds of food, and a rare vintage of champagne was served.

SMITH likewise attacked food administrator CLAUDE R. WICKARD for having a thousand pounds of meat and twelve hundred pounds of lard in his refrigerator, stating that WICKARD should be on his way to the Federal Penitentiary. SMITH praised Representative HAMILTON FISH for submitting an amendment to a recent bill before the National Congress which dealt with sabotage.

100-7463

SMITH also pointed out that WALTER WINCHELL had been ordered to take off his uniform when making his radio addresses.

SMITH displayed a flag which he stated was that of the "internationalists". The flag is made up basically of the United States flag with a replica of the British union jack in place of the normal field of stars on the United States flag. SMITH after displaying the flag, to the audience, threw it down to the floor and trampled on it, stating, "That's what I think of it."

A good portion of SMITH's speech was taken up in the attack on the Block Plan which was sponsored by the Office of Civilian Defense. SMITH claimed that this plan was being used by men close to the President as a basis for a fourth term campaign.

SMITH also criticized the plan on the belief that the leaders of this system would use it as a Gestapo agency within the United States; thus, the Block leaders would be instructed to talk to persons within their area and report whatever information they obtain.

Before introducing Captain SOUTHARD, SMITH asked for donations and pledges for the America First Party, and baskets were passed in the audience collecting such. SMITH requested that those contributing put a number up on the edge of their pledge cards or donation cards indicating the number of invitations they would be able to distribute for the meeting to be held on April 27, 1943.

Captain EARL SOUTHARD, Past Departmental Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars, of Chicago, Illinois, addressed the audience for approximately an hour to an hour and a half. SOUTHARD, less vitriolic than SMITH, reviewed the progress of the war, criticized the policies of the present administration, and denounced the ideological form of government sponsored by the "internationalists".



-PENDING-

100-7463

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION

At Cleveland, Ohio

Will report on the America First Party Rally  
scheduled for April 27, 1943 in the ballroom of the Cleveland  
Public Auditorium.

-PENDING-

JMA:WMJ

5-3-43

62-43818 - 237

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.  
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhett

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

For your information, there is transmitted herewith a copy of a report submitted in connection with the above-entitled matter by Special Agent [redacted], at Cleveland, Ohio, on April 23, 1943. b7c

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure *W*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
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DATE 10/20/81 BY SP7MAC/STO  
#88444

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
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★ MAY 5 1943 P.M.  
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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5-4-43  
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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES ROWE, JR.  
THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Attention: Mr. C. E. Rhette

Re: GERALD L. K. SMITH  
THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
SEDITION

Reference is made to our previous correspondence and to the reports which have heretofore been made available to you in connection with the investigation of this case.

For your further information, there are transmitted herewith copies of the following additional reports which have recently been received:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Detroit, Michigan, on April 9, 1943.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] submitted at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on April 14, 1943.

I am also transmitting with this memorandum copies of the January, February, and March, 1943, issues of subject's publication, "The Cross and the Flag," which, as you will note, are listed as enclosures on page twenty-three of Special Agent [redacted] report.

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

Very truly yours,

62-43818-238

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 8  
ENCLOSURE 5-10-43 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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John Edgar Hoover  
Director  
MAY 6 1943  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8BTJ/mk

J.P. HARRATTY; WJ  
4-30-43

BOOKLET ENTITLED, "DANGEROUS ENEMIES"

A booklet of approximately one hundred pages entitled, "Dangerous Enemies," was published by Gerald L. E. Smith at Detroit, Michigan, during 1939. According to an advertisement leaflet circulated with this booklet, it purportedly describes the relationship between "over 700 radicals, Reds, fellow travellers, spies, agitators, Hitlerites, Stalinites," and American schools, churches, labor unions, and governmental agencies. An introductory page to the booklet states that the data set forth therein are founded on "Congressional Committee Reports, police records, photostatic copies of documentary evidence, and the affidavits of living witnesses."

The booklet was apparently written by Smith and according to a notation appearing therein, was published in furtherance of Smith's efforts as leader of the "Committee of One Million."

Gerald L. E. Smith was born at Pardeeville, Wisconsin, during February, 1898, and after having graduated from the Valparaiso (Indiana) University, took up active duty as a minister. He held several pastorates and ultimately became located at Shreveport, Louisiana, as the minister of the King's Highway Church of Shreveport.

During 1932 and 1933 Smith became interested in the political movement of the late Senator Huey Long, and eventually in 1934 left the ministry and took up duties as a public speaker and organizer for Senator Long. He remained so engaged until Long's death.

In 1938 Smith moved to Detroit, Michigan, where he endeavored to found an organization known as the "Committee of One Million." The self-announced principles of this organization were listed as follows:

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| Mr. Tolson _____     |  |
| Mr. E. A. Tamm _____ | "1. To rebuild the Spirit of America.  |
| Mr. Clegg _____      | "2. To wipe out to the last vestige, Communism, Nazism and Fascism in all forms.   |
| Mr. Coffey _____     | "3. To redefine the American National Character.   |
| Mr. Glavin _____     | "4. To instill a new spirit in American Youth, dedicated intellectually and physically to the maintenance of American institutions.          |
| Mr. Ladd _____       | "5. To issue a call to farmers and laborers to resist what is now known to be an international plot to make them part of a world revolution. |
| Mr. Nichols _____    | "6. To rededicate the citizenry of America to the family altar and to the spirit of the Church.  |
| Mr. Rosen _____      | "7. To secure the maintenance of a well-defined standard of American living."  |
| Mr. Tracy _____      |  |
| Mr. Carson _____     |  |
| Mr. Harbo _____      |  |
| Mr. Hendon _____     |  |
| Mr. McGuire _____    |  |
| Mr. Mumford _____    |  |
| Mr. Piper _____      |  |
| Mr. Quinn Tamm _____ |  |
| Mr. Nease _____      |  |
| Miss Gandy _____     |  |

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Smith distributed a good bit of literature in attempting to promote the "Committee of One Million" but reportedly was never successful in establishing an organization of any significant size. According to Smith, the "Committee of One Million" still exists, but it is understood that in recent months Smith has been principally engaged in an attempt to form a third political party known as the America First Party. Allegedly Smith hopes to gain support for this party from the remnants of the America First Committee.

According to his own statements, Smith has always been strongly opposed to Communism, and it is known that from time to time he has distributed a good bit of literature concerning Communism, and its alleged efforts to penetrate the American way of life.

Smith reportedly was a strong advocate of isolationism before the involvement of the United States in the war, but it is understood that in recent months his public statements have been directed primarily against the rationing system and alleged dictatorial trends in this country.

During the summer of 1942, Smith unsuccessfully sought the Republican nomination for United States Senator from the State of Michigan. Even though he was defeated in the Primary Election, he maintained his candidacy in the general election as a "write-in" candidate. It is understood that he made a rather poor showing in the general election.

Incident to his work as leader of the "Committee of One Million" and the America First Party, Smith has published a magazine known as "The Cross and the Flag." This publication has from time to time set forth his general policies and programs as outlined above.

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

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

FILE NO. 100-5778

REPORT MADE AT <b>PITTSBURGH, PA.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>4/14/43</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4/1/43</b>	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <span style="float: right;">b7</span>
TITLE <b>GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases THE COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - G Custodial Detention SEDITION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

GERALD L. K. SMITH spoke before a crowd of 750 people at North Side Carnegie Free Library, Pittsburgh, Pa. on 4/1/43 denouncing the Administration's rationing program, criticizing present U. S. relationship with Russia and England, and demanding impeachment of Vice President WALLACE. No seditious statements noted.

- DEFERRED RECORDING -  
- RUC -

**DETAILS:**

Inasmuch as the Detroit Office had requested that an agent be present at the speech given by GERALD L. K. SMITH at Pittsburgh on February 22, 1943, information regarding which Subject was reported in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated March 20, 1943 at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, it was deemed advisable to cover the subsequent meeting held by SMITH in Pittsburgh on April 1, 1943.

At this meeting, which was held in the evening at North Side Carnegie Free Library, SMITH, to a large extent, repeated what he had said in his talks previously given in Pittsburgh which were reported in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] referred to above.

SMITH criticized the nation's rationing program; he assailed Senate Bill #666 on manpower conscription, terming it the "Gestapo Bill" inasmuch as he claimed an effort was being made to catalog and regiment the entire population in order to take away constitutional rights of the people, further claiming that the Bill would authorize the separation of families involuntarily, forcing husbands to work in war industries in some part of the country while the wives might be forced to work in another part of the United States, and in addition, claiming that the Bill would require all men to work or fight.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>H. A. Johnson</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>62-45116-240</b> RECORDED
COPIES OF THIS REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 Bureau</li> <li>2 Detroit</li> <li>3 Pittsburgh</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>COPIES DESTROYED</b> 83 OCT 13 1964</p> <p>58 MAY 4 1951</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mc</p>

SMITH assailed BERNARD BARUCH as a supporter of the "Gestapo Bill". He alleged that BARUCH asserted that if people refused to submit to the demands of the Government to do war work, their rations would be cut. He referred to BARUCH'S farewell party given in honor of LEON HENDERSON at the Carlton Hotel in Washington, D. C. SMITH declared that BARUCH and the Administration were attempting to so control the lives of the people that when peace came we would have a peace time dictatorship.

SMITH declared that Vice President WALLACE should be impeached for his pro-Communist attitude and that someone like CHARLES LINDBERGH should be elected president; he believed that the next president would be from the America First Party.

SMITH read a newspaper article appearing in the Pittsburgh Sun Telegraph newspaper dated April 1, 1943 giving account of a verbal attack made by representative BRADLEY of Michigan on the alleged fourth term aspirations of the Administration, supposedly being engineered by LANDIS, NEYHUS, WICKARD, C. DAVIS and others. SMITH pointed out that the Sun Telegraph is a Hearst newspaper and that he has noted that this newspaper has been the strongest Pittsburgh paper to support the principles for which the America First Party stands. He stated that BRADLEY was introducing a bill to limit the number of terms that a president may hold office to two terms. He further referred to the Sun Telegraph newspaper, and it was apparent that he was making considerable effort to advertise the paper, doing everything but suggesting that supporters of the America First Party read the Sun Telegraph newspaper regularly.

He remarked that WALTER WINCHELL'S navy uniform had been taken away from him and that WINCHELL is now back in private life.

SMITH referred to the "thousands" of able bodied "draft dodgers" who now hold Government clerical jobs in Washington, D. C.

SMITH criticized the lend lease program whereby Russia was permitted to borrow Henry Ford's rubber plant. He alleged that Japan was selling rubber to Russia, that Russia is selling rubber products to the United States in return for food and supplies, and that as a result, in effect, the United States is buying rubber from Japan and selling Japan war materials with which to fight us.

SMITH declared that WALTER VENIG, English government representative recently in the United States, said that England has kept no records of the amount of material obtained from us and that England does not intend to keep any records either now or after the war, and that VENIG had implied that England has no intention of paying for the material which she is now obtaining from the United States under the lend lease program.

Mrs. MARIE LOHLE, mentioned in the previous report of Special Agent [REDACTED] acted as chairman of the meeting. Mrs. CHARLES H. MADDEN, also referred to previously, was on the speaker's platform. b7

During the course of the meeting SMITH again asked for contributions to the America First Party and passed out envelopes which members of the audience would use to indicate the amount which they could regularly give each month to the America First Party cause. Any amount which they cared to contribute on that evening in question was also to be placed in the envelopes. SMITH stated that he did not desire that anyone pledge himself to give less than \$1.00 per month to the fund.

At the meeting there was also distributed to the audience a printed leaflet entitled "Awake America To The Dangers Of World Government". This leaflet attacked the efforts made by organizations in support of a world government or world union to control world affairs subsequent to the present war. At the bottom of the leaflet was a notation that any voluntary contributions to the organization (meaning the America First Party) should be sent to the Defenders of George Washington's Principles, Post Office Box 8227, Pittsburgh (17), Pennsylvania. A copy of the said leaflet is being retained in the Pittsburgh file.

It is noted that several copies of admission cards which were necessary to gain entrance at the meeting held at the North Side Carnegie Free Library on April 1, 1943, were received at the Pittsburgh Office. Copies of these cards are being retained in the Pittsburgh file as well as a handbill advertising SMITH'S scheduled talk on April 1, 1943.

It is further noted that SMITH announced at the meeting that Mrs. ERNEST LUDEEN, wife of the late Senator LUDEEN, would come to Pittsburgh in the near future and speak to an audience of America First supporters.

Since there are no further outstanding leads in this Division, the case is being Referred Upon Completion To The Office Of Origin.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.  
Detroit, Michigan  
April 7, 1943

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

Director, FBI

Attention: Mechanical Section

Re: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,  
with aliases;  
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000;  
INTERNAL SECURITY;  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION;  
SEDITION. (62-43818)

*[Handwritten signature/initials]*

Dear Sir:

There is being enclosed herewith a roll of exposed minipan film containing exposures of papers made in connection with the investigation of the above-entitled case.

It is respectfully requested that this film be developed and three prints, 8 x 10 inches in size, be developed and returned to the Detroit Field Office.

In view of the extreme importance of this case, it will be greatly appreciated if this matter could be given expeditious attention.

Very truly yours,

*John S. Bugas*  
John S. Bugas, SAC

*62-43818-43*  
*ROR*

*b7c*

Enclosure  
62-1126

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-8 BTJ/mh

*1-10-43*  
*(R-7-4)*

62-1126-24  
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RECORDED MAY 4 1943

COPIES DESTROYED  
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*out 4-21-43*

*Spec. 1-2522.3582. mm*  
*Dev. 4 Emb. 3 sec*  
*4-12-43*



Date: April 26, 1943

To: SAC, Detroit

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

Subject: CAROLD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH,  
with aliases;  
THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000  
INTERNAL SECURITY;  
CUNTOIAL DETENTION;  
SEDITION. (62-43618)

RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/4/82 BY SP-9857/1

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

Reference is made to your letter to the Bureau dated April 7, 1943, transmitting one roll of film containing exposures pertaining to the above named case.

In accordance with your request, three enlarged photographs of each exposure and the negatives are being returned to your office under separate registered covers.

RECEIVED  
APR 27 1943 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*EW*

*DL*  
b7c

*W. J. ...*  
*...*

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Origin	DETROIT, MICHIGAN		DETROIT	File No.	62-1126
Made At	Made	Period	Made by		
DETROIT, MICHIGAN	4/9/43	1/23, 24, 26; 3/22; 4/5-7/43	[REDACTED]	BJG	
Title			Character		
GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH, with aliases. Gerald L. KO Smith; Gerald L. K. Schmidt; THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000			INTERNAL SECURITY - G CUSTODIAL DETENTION SEDITION		

SYNOPSIS:

Subject SMITH continuing to organize AMERICA FIRST PARTY in Michigan and several other mid-western states. Support received from former members of AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, followers of REVEREND CHARLES E. COUGHLIN, UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA and other isolationist groups. Plans made for isolationist president candidate in 1944 from Republicans or Democrats; otherwise AMERICA FIRST PARTY will furnish one. LINDBERGH and BURTON K. WHEELER suggested. Campaign against world federation after war launched by Subject in propoganda and debates. SMITH sponsored picketing of CLARENCE K. STREIT'S lecture and distributing of literature obtained from COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN WOMEN AGAINST COMMUNISM INCORPORATED, NEW YORK CITY. SMITH attempted to unseat Michigan State Senator STANLEY NOVAK as a Communist. SMITH believed to have contact with REVEREND GERALD B. WINROD, Wichita, Kansas; MRS. ELIZABETH DILLING, Chicago, Illinois; REVEREND HARRY B. CLARK, Sioux City, Iowa; and REVEREND E. J. ROLLINGS, Detroit, Michigan. Subject continues monthly publication of "The Cross and the Flag" magazine with circulation of approximately 7,000. Printed and spoken propoganda of Subject criticizes Administration's policies in rationing, internationalism, Communist influence and other aspects of the Administration's war effort. SMITH shows keen interest in nation-wide indictment for seditious conspiracy. January issue of "The Cross and the Flag" sent to a member of the armed forces.

DELETED READING

4  
ENCL BEHIND FILE  
8:00 PM  
15

COPIES DESTROYED  
85 OCT 20 1964

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7/8/92 BY SP6BJA/TOM/S  
204,433

John A. Bugas		14-	43718	- 242	
Copies		APR 12 1943			RECORDED & INDEXED
5 Bureau	2 New York	cc Wendell Berry 5/2/43			P116
1 Chicago (Information)					
3 Cleveland	2 San Antonio				
2 Indianapolis	2 Washington Field				
2 Kansas City	1 USA-Detroit				
1 Milwaukee (Information)	5 Detroit				

(Detroit file 62-1126)

REFERENCE: (62-43818) - Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] b7c  
[REDACTED] dated January 25, 1943 at Detroit,  
Michigan.

DETAILS: At Detroit, Michigan:

[REDACTED], whose identity is known to b7c  
the Bureau, has advised upon recontact that SMITH is  
continuing to organize the AMERICA FIRST PARTY in Michigan and several other  
mid-western states. His meetings are now being held under the name of the  
AMERICA FIRST PARTY rather than under the name of THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000. |  
The AMERICA FIRST PARTY is registered as an independent organization distinct  
from THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000 and the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF  
MICHIGAN INCORPORATED, a Michigan corporation which has heretofore been used  
as a fiscal agent by Subject.

SMITH has explained to informant that the purpose of  
the separate identity was to keep the nature of the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZA-  
TION OF MICHIGAN INCORPORATED and THE COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000 completely non-  
political. It was also pointed out that under the charter of THE COMMITTEE  
OF 1,000,000 and the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN INCORPORATED,  
those corporations were not empowered to take up any collection for political  
purpose.

Informant stated that the trade name THE AMERICA FIRST  
PARTY was registered with the Clerk of Wayne County Court in Detroit,  
Michigan, and the headquarters was given as 2006 Industrial National Bank  
Building, Detroit, Michigan, which has been the headquarters of SMITH'S  
COMMITTEE OF 1,000,000 and FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN  
INCORPORATED.

Informant stated GERALD L. K. SMITH was the instigator  
of the picket line that surrounded the entrance of the Detroit Athletic Club  
on January 13, 1943, when CLARENCE K. STREIT, author of "Union Now" and  
advocate of world federation, addressed the members of the Detroit Athletic  
Club. Informant stated that Mrs. SMITH told him that the women who were  
picketing STREIT were the same group that had picketed LORD HALIFAX when he  
visited Detroit last year.



(Detroit file 62-1126)

While the picket was going on SMITH'S adopted son, GERALD Z. SMITH, distributed numerous circulars criticizing CLARENCE STREIT'S plan as set forth in "Union Now." These pamphlets were obtained by SMITH from THE COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN WOMEN AGAINST COMMUNISM INCORPORATED, NEW YORK CITY. MRS. GERALD L. K. SMITH herself led the picket line and other women picketers were recruited from the ranks of MOTHERS OF AMERICA by MRS. HURRAY KEMLES.

A photograph of the picket line appeared in the "Detroit Free Press" on January 14, 1943 under the caption "UNION NOW PROVOKES PROTEST IN DETROIT." The photograph shows women pickets in front of the Detroit Athletic Club protesting world union plan of CLARENCE K. STREIT. "Mrs. Gerald L. K. Smith (second from left) led the pickets while Streit addressed Detroit business men." The picket signs read as follows:

"KEEP AMERICA INDEPENDENT"  
"AMERICA FIRST"  
"STREIT SHOULD BE IN ARMY"  
"STREIT IS A TRAITOR"  
"UNION NOW IS TREASON"

Informant stated that SMITH is maintaining a close contact with CAPTAIN EARL SOUTHARD of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Chicago, Illinois. SOUTHARD complimented SMITH for causing a sensation in picketing CLARENCE STREIT at the Detroit Athletic Club. SOUTHARD informed SMITH that he himself assisted in the writing of the pamphlet which was distributed by THE COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN WOMEN AGAINST COMMUNISM of New York City.

SOUTHARD told SMITH that he himself wrote a letter denouncing any attempt at world government, and that the letter was written on the stationery of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Consequently, SOUTHARD was going to be court-martialed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars for having written such a criticism on the official stationery.

Informant stated that SOUTHARD and SMITH discussed the meeting that was held in Chicago, Illinois on January 15, 1943 with the assistance of SOUTHARD and WILLIAM GRACE. Over one thousand people attended and SMITH obtained subscriptions to magazines to the extent of more than one hundred dollars.

Informant stated that he believed SMITH was maintaining contact with GERALD B. WEROD of Wichita, Kansas through the intermediary REVEREND E. J. ROLLINGS of Detroit, Michigan and REVEREND LELAND MARION of Portice, Michigan.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

SMITH expressed his regret to informant that the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE had disbanded after December 7, 1941. He had decided to organize the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE all over the United States as a working nucleus of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. It would not be necessary for a member of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY to withdraw from either the Republican or the Democratic Party. The purpose of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, according to SMITH, was to assure the good people of the United States that they will have a real choice for president in 1944 and be protected from a recurrence of the 1940 situation when they had to choose between ROOSEVELT and WILKIE.

SMITH himself composed the slogans that were to be displayed at the organizational meeting on January 10, 1943 at Eagles Hall, Detroit, Michigan. The slogans read as follows:

"BILLIONS FOR DEFENSE; NOT A PENNY FOR INTERNATIONAL PROPAGANDA"

"BUTTER FOR AMERICA FIRST"

"ORDER OF LOYALTIES--ARMED FORCES FIRST, CIVILIANS SECOND, ALLIES THIRD, REST OF WORLD LAST"

"BRING THE BOYS HOME WHEN THE WAR IS WON"

"NO FOURTH TERM"

"WE MUST HAVE A CHOICE IN 1944"

"AMERICA FIRST LEANS FEED, CLOTHE AND DEFEND AMERICANS FIRST"

"THE FOUR FREEDOMS FOR AMERICA FIRST"

"DRIVE THE INTERNATIONALISTS OUT OF WASHINGTON"

"WE FIGHT ALL ATTEMPTS AT WORLD GOVERNMENT"

"GEORGE WASHINGTON AND NOT HENRY WALLACE WILL DECIDE THE DESTINY OF AMERICA"

"AMERICA FIRST IN WAR AND PEACE"

At SMITH'S meeting on January 10, 1943, he announced the formation of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY and distributed a press release to that effect. A copy of this press release was obtained by Special Agent [REDACTED] and is set out as follows:

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"To be released not earlier  
than 4:00 p.m., Sunday,  
January 10, 1943.

Press Release

AMERICA FIRST MOVEMENT REVIVED.

GERALD L. K. SMITH LEADS IN LAUNCHING AMERICA FIRST PARTY ON NATION-  
WIDE BASIS.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS TO BE IN DETROIT.

COMMITTEE OF 1000 IN 48 STATES BEING APPOINTED BY SMITH.

500 LEADERS MEETING IN DETROIT APPROVE PLANS.

WILD ENTHUSIASM PREVAILS AS SMITH CRIES OUT FOR "INDEPENDENT DESTINY"  
FOR AMERICA AFTER THE WAR.

ASSAILS WILLKIE-WALLACE INTERNATIONALISM.

"FORMATION OF AMERICA FIRST PARTY SAFETY-FIRST MOVE," SAYS SMITH, "IN  
CASE OLD PARTIES GO INTERNATIONALIST IN 1944."

EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT OF PLANS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO GET ON BALLOTS IN  
STATES REQUIRING NOTICES LONG IN ADVANCE.

SMITH TO TOUR NATION. MEETINGS ALREADY SCHEDULED IN CHICAGO, ST. PAUL  
AND MINNEAPOLIS.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPRESENTING ALL STATES TO MEET IN SPRING TO PLAN  
STRATEGY.

"In a surprise maneuver Gerald L. K. Smith, nationally-known  
isolationist and bitter enemy of the Henry Wallace philosophy of inter-  
nationalism and the Willkie philosophy of world politics, called  
together 500 of his picked leaders in Detroit, Sunday afternoon, January 10.

"He not only revived the America First idea, but formed a working  
committee and launched a campaign to organize an America First party.

"Cheering delegates, reminiscent of the old America First rallies  
and rallies conducted under the auspices of the Committee of 1,000,000,  
paraded and marched up and down the aisles under banners bearing the  
following slogans:

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"BILLIONS FOR DEFENSE - NOT ONE PENNY FOR INTERNATIONALIST PROPAGANDA!  
BUTTER FOR AMERICANS FIRST! ORDER OF LOYALTY: 1. ARMED FORCES  
2. CIVILIAN 3. ALLIES 4. REST OF WORLD! BRING BOYS HOME  
THE WAR IS WON! WE FIGHT WORLD GOVERNMENT! NO FOURTH TERM!  
WE MUST HAVE A CHOICE IN 1944! AMERICA MUST REMAIN INDEPENDENT!  
BUTTER FOR AMERICANS FIRST! AMERICA FIRST MEANS - FEED, CLOTHE,  
DEFEND AMERICANS FIRST! THE FOUR FREEDOMS FOR AMERICA FIRST!  
AMERICA FIRST IN WAR AND PEACE! RUN THE INTERNATIONALISTS OUT OF  
WASHINGTON!

"The conduct of the war is not an issue," said Smith. "We all assume that every patriotic American will do all in his power to effect an early military victory. The alarming activities of such internationalists as Henry Wallace and Wendell Willkie in their attempt to promote us into a world government after the war have inspired the formation of this emergency party.

"The best way for the Democrats to kill this new party movement is to put a man like Burton K. Wheeler in leadership, and the best way the Republicans can kill this party movement is to respect the editorial policy of such journals as the Chicago Tribune, quit 'pussy-footing' and follow the course marked out by men like Taft, Brooks and Landbergh."

"Midst cries of great enthusiasm, Smith continued by saying: "Here is the text of our campaign - This gesture to form a new party, called the America First party, is a safety-first measure. We must devise the mechanics and set up the machinery for a new party. This will not be a "Third" party. This is to be an active, aggressive party just in case the two old parties merge, as they virtually did in 1940 when we were forced to choose between Willkie and Roosevelt."

"Continued Smith, "This step is being taken eighteen months in advance of the National Conventions of the two parties, because if we wait until 1944 or even late this year, we will not be able to get on the ballot in some states. If we do not set up the machinery for a new party, we will have no means for expressing our independence in 1944 - should both old parties nominate internationalist and give us no choice, as they did in 1940."

"If we set up the machinery for a new party and the two old parties merge, then we will have preserved the two-party system. If, on the other hand, the Democrats rescue their party from the New Deal Communists and

(Detroit file 62-1126)

bureaucratic Fascists and nominate a good man - we can support him. If the Republicans also nominate a good man, devoted to an independent destiny for America, then our new party can dissolve, because if both old parties remain true to the traditions of the people by putting America First in their platform and in the selection of their leadership and in the nomination of their candidates - there will be no need of the America First party."

"But, if the bureaucratic Fascists and the New Deal Communists keep control of the Democratic party and the Republican party goes Willkie or takes a do-nothing attitude - then we shall strike!"

"Smith advised all the leaders attending the meeting to continue to be active in one of the old parties in order that the America First sentiment might be generated within the old parties, but he called on his people to be prepared to do whatever necessary in order to set up the machinery for a safety-first party to be known as the AMERICA FIRST party."

"Leaders all over America" said Smith, "will set up units such as the George Washington, the Lindbergh unit, the Wheeler unit, the Taft, the Brooks unit. These units can name themselves after any public figure, living or dead, who has taken a courageous stand in favor of an "independent destiny" for America."

"In fact," said Smith, "we wouldn't doubt but what a unit might be named after the late Senator Lodge, who almost single-handed held back the tidal wave of internationalism when he took the floor of the United States Senate following the last war against foreign entanglements and our membership in the League of Nations."

"We wish," said Smith, "that all Americans could concentrate on just one thing at this time -- winning the war as soon as possible. But, inasmuch as our Vice President and the titular head of the Republican party, Wendell Willkie, and thousands of others in positions of great political power and prominence are working day and night to get us into some sort of world state - those of us who are still foolish enough to believe in the Declaration of Independence and the philosophy of George Washington concerning foreign entanglements feel that the time has come for us to devise an instrument to be used in the expression of our will concerning these matters."

"Smith announced that a working committee of one thousand would be appointed all over the United States, who would be asked to carry out in detail plans for launching the committee."

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"Continuing, he said: "I hope and pray that the two old parties, or at least one of the two old parties, will so rescue themselves from the tentacles of internationalist political conspiracies to the end that the consummation of this movement will be unnecessary - but at this moment the picture looks so dark that we cannot run the risk of being caught between two evils, as we were in 1940."

"We expect to be sneered and dubbed with all the bitter nicknames the enemy can command. Politicians who in this dark hour can afford to sit down to \$40-per plate dinners and 23 kinds of food, while the working people of America cannot even get butter and meat, naturally are prepared to persecute those of us who rise up to say - We, the people, are still here."

"We are proud of the slogan "America First in War and Peace" and we are unashamed to pray for and fight for an independent destiny for America after this war."

"Although chief emphasis at the initial meeting had to do with the issue of international politics, Smith announced "at an early date we shall emphasize other potent issues."

"We shall support a thorough investigation of Lend-Lease activities, as being inaugurated by Senator Burton K. Wheeler. We shall put the interests of service men, such as compensations, bonuses and reemployment projects ahead of money squandering schemes now being hatched by those who would scatter our wealth all over the world after the war."

"We shall fight all tendencies toward bureaucratic Fascism."

"We shall support all patriotic Labor movements which are kept in the hands of patriotic American leadership."

"We shall oppose any relaxation of the immigration laws after the war."

"We shall support a protective tariff in order that the American worker be guaranteed protection against slave labor competition in foreign nations."

"We shall support the American Farm Bloc in Congress now attempting to save the American farmer from being reduced to regimented peonage on a par with the peasantry of foreign nations."

"We believe in lifting the standard of world living by example and good will but not by the reduction of the living standards of our own people."

(Detroit file 62-1126)

"(The contents of this release have been read by me and are correct.)

(signed) GERALD L. H. SMITH-----"

SMITH explained to MURRAY KNOWLES, a former leader of the AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE, Detroit, Michigan, that he would appoint a committee of one thousand as an Executive Committee for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY. His purpose in doing this was to require his opponents to "scatter their shots" instead of singling out a few people to harass.

SMITH justified the revival of the AMERICA FIRST movement in the form of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, inasmuch as the activities of HENRY WALLACE and WENDELL WILLKIE had put the United States into the danger of being drawn into a post-war world government.

SMITH explained to Mr. KNOWLES that if the Democrats should nominate BURTON K. WHEELER for president in 1944, or if the Republicans should nominate TANT or LINDBERGH, it would be unnecessary for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY to nominate its own candidate. The AMERICA FIRST PARTY was instituted as an aggressive force in case the Democrats and Republicans substantially merge as they did in 1940 when the people had to choose between ROOSEVELT and WILLKIE.

SMITH stated that if the Democrats nominate a good man and rescue their party from the New Deal Communists and bureaucratic Fascists and if the Republicans nominate a good man devoted to an independent destiny for America - then the AMERICA FIRST PARTY could be dissolved.

SMITH proposed to MURRAY KNOWLES that the platform of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY as tentatively drawn by him would urge an investigation of lend-lease activities, support compensations, bonuses and re-employment for servicemen, fight all attempts at bureaucratic Fascism, support all patriotic labor movements in the hands of patriotic Americans, support a high tariff, support a farm bloc in Congress and to set an example of high living standard for the world instead of lowering the American standard of living in order to raise the standard of living in the rest of the world.

Informant stated that SMITH has instructed his manager, BERNARD A. DOUGAN, to sign all necessary papers in the following manner: "AMERICA FIRST PARTY, BERNARD DOUGAN, AGENT."

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Informant stated that SMITH embarked on an active campaign to drive State Senator STANLEY NOWAK out of his seat in the Michigan Senate. SMITH advised several State Senators in Michigan that he had information of his own that would prove that NOWAK was a Communist and therefore unfit to represent the people of Michigan.

SMITH had been in contact with the office of [REDACTED] of Ford Motor Company, attempting to obtain information from the files of the Ford Motor Company to the effect that NOWAK had engaged in Communist activities. [REDACTED] assigned one of his employees, [REDACTED] to assist SMITH in gathering this information and to turn over to SMITH any information which [REDACTED] himself had or which was in the files of the Ford Motor Company concerning NOWAK'S Communist affiliation.

SMITH advised informant and many other of his friends that he had indisputable proof that NOWAK'S wife, MARGARET NOWAK, has been head of the Educational Committee for the Communist Party of Michigan for several years.

SMITH also obtained some information about NOWAK from [REDACTED] another employee of [REDACTED] of the Ford Motor Company.

SMITH demanded to be heard by the Michigan State Senate on the unfitness of NOWAK as a State Senator, but he was never permitted to address the Michigan State Senate.

On the recommendation of [REDACTED] SMITH also contacted [REDACTED] [REDACTED] advised SMITH that he knew STANLEY NOWAK'S name had appeared on releases of the Proletarian Party. Informant stated that SMITH explained that NOWAK was successful in gaining his seat in the Michigan State Senate even after he had been indicted for fraudulently concealing his Communist affiliation when he was naturalized through the efforts of JUDGE O'BRIEN. SMITH said that O'BRIEN was the same man that had been the Attorney General who quashed the indictments in 1919 when EARL BROWDER and other Communists were raided at Bridgman, Michigan.

Informant stated that SMITH is somewhat concerned over the investigation that is being made of SMITH'S income by Internal Revenue Agents. Informant said that SMITH'S bookkeeping is rather primitive, and that numerous discrepancies have been found. SMITH steadfastly contends that any discrepancy between money received and money spent for his educational and crusading activity was SMITH'S personal income, which was properly reported in his income returns.



(Detroit file 62-1126)

Informant stated that SMITH has been contacting [redacted] b7c  
[redacted] of Barrington Chicago, Illinois, but he was unable to state  
what was the nature of the business transacted between them.

Informant further believed that SMITH had attempted to  
contact CHARLES LINDBERGH but found out that LINDBERGH was temporarily not  
in Detroit. Informant stated that SMITH was interested in obtaining and  
finally succeeded in obtaining a quotation made by BERNARD BARUCH before a  
Congressional committee about 1936, in which BARUCH revealed that there was  
a scheme of regimentation forced upon the people compelling them to work and  
fight and that by this scheme people could be deprived of food, fuel and  
other necessities of life if they did not obey orders. After SMITH obtained  
this quotation, he commented on it, saying that BERNARD BARUCH in 1936  
suggested that the only way to keep the American people "in line" would be  
rationing their necessities and punishing those who do not cooperate by  
withdrawing their ration books.

Informant stated that SMITH made a tour of leading  
mid-western cities in January and February of 1943. He organized AMERICA  
FIRST PARTY rallies in Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota, with the assistance  
of REVEREND CARL O. STADSKLEV. In Chicago he was assisted by EARL SOUTHARD  
and WILLIAM GRACE. In Cleveland he was assisted by MRS. DAVID STANLEY of  
Cleveland, Ohio, leader of UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA. SMITH was also  
attempting to arrange rallies in Milwaukee through the cooperation of MRS.  
WENDELEBERG and WILLIAM E. TAMM. The name of PHIL GRAU was also suggested to  
SMITH by CAPTAIN SOUTHARD as a possible contact in Milwaukee since GRAU and  
MRS. WENDELEBERG were the principal leaders of the former AMERICA FIRST  
COMMITTEE in Milwaukee. SMITH arranged his meeting in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania  
with the cooperation of [redacted] Pittsburg, b7c  
Pennsylvania, and [redacted]

Informant stated that REVEREND HARRY B. CLARK, Sioux City,  
Iowa frequently visited Detroit and Wichita, Kansas, and informant believed  
that CLARK was an intermediary between GERALD WINROD and GERALD SMITH. On  
one occasion informant heard CLARK tell SMITH that he had spoken to WINROD  
and advised WINROD of the sacrifices and troubles that SMITH was undergoing  
for WINROD'S sake, and WINROD gave CLARK the message that he did not know  
how to thank SMITH adequately. WINROD acknowledged that he would not have  
"gotten to first base" if it had not been for SMITH. SMITH answered CLARK  
that any good Christian man would have done the same thing for anyone who  
is being libeled; that everyone was supporting the United States Government,  
but that SMITH did not want to see his friends persecuted by criminals.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

SMITH assured CLARK that he would not claim any expense money from WINROD for anything that he was doing for him and also assured him that there would be no penny-pinching on SMITH'S part. SMITH suggested that he could furnish a lawyer that would be suitable for the purpose, and that this lawyer had taken unpopular causes and could be trusted perfectly. Informant suspected that SMITH was referring to Detroit Attorney [REDACTED] b7c

SMITH inquired of CLARK how WINROD felt about his case, and CLARK indicated that WINROD was optimistic because the Government was free to go ahead on the indictment and had asked for a postponement, but that the defense attorney was aggressive and would not consent too readily to a postponement. CLARK commented that WINROD was going to bring "the real issue" to the front and that they knew it.

Informant stated that SMITH is continuing to publish "The Cross and the Flag" and that 7,000 issues are printed monthly and distributed in practically everyone of the forty-eight states. About one thousand magazines are distributed in the vicinity of Detroit, Michigan.

Informant stated that SMITH ordered stationery printed for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY bearing the following inscriptions: "AMERICA FIRST PARTY, Gerald L. K. Smith, Director and Organizer; Bernard A. Doman, Secretary-Treasurer." At the bottom of the sheet is to be "For God and Country."

Informant stated that he was advised by SMITH that the Internal Revenue Agents investigating SMITH'S income asked SMITH about income that he had received in New York City as far back as 1936. SMITH explained that all this income was spent in the course of SMITH'S crusading campaign, and that none of it was personal income to him except what little amounts he required for personal expenses.

Informant stated that SMITH had publicly complimented RICKENBACKER at his meetings but did not openly suggest that RICKENBACKER should be boomed for president in 1944. When questioned by newspapermen, SMITH said that he thought anybody would have the right to praise WASHINGTON, LINCOLN or RICKENBACKER. He added that he had never suggested RICKENBACKER for president at his rallies, but he admitted that his private opinion was that RICKENBACKER would make a good president.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Informant stated that on February 5, 1943, he heard SMITH discuss a conversation which SMITH had presumably had with GERALD WINROD of Wichita, Kansas, as SMITH was anxious to have the AMERICA FIRST PARTY organized in the state of Kansas. SMITH was advised that the attorney had proposed to drop the case. Informant surmised that the reference was to the indictment of WINROD and thirty-two others as conspirators in violating the Sedition Act. It was also suggested to SMITH that since the people in Washington had gotten cold feet this would seem to be the opportune moment for aggressive action. SMITH was requested to go to Washington, D. C., and supply information to BURTON K. WHEELER and Senator TAFT for the investigation of the action taken by the United States Department of Justice in indicting thirty-three persons for sedition.

Informant stated that SMITH had circulated to at least some of his intimate friends a rumor that the Government was going to freeze bank accounts as of February 15, 1943. On February 15, 1943, [REDACTED] was ordered by [REDACTED] to transfer \$200 from the AMERICA FIRST PARTY bank account to SMITH'S bank account as a donation to the FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN. b7

Informant stated that SMITH was also seeking the indorsement of the widow of late Senator LUNDEEN of Minnesota. Mrs. LUNDEEN did sit on the platform at one of SMITH'S meetings, but she has expressed herself as being reluctant to publicly support the AMERICA FIRST PARTY at any future rallies.

Informant stated that REVEREND E. J. ROLLINGS, of Detroit, Michigan, who is believed to be associated with GERALD B. WINROD, Wichita, Kansas, is collaborating with GERALD L. K. SMITH. He has called upon SMITH to furnish material from time to time for ROLLINGS' radio addresses since SMITH has been taken from the radio.

Informant stated that SMITH has taken a very definite stand against any attempt to enter the United States into any world confederation during or after the war, and he has also publicly expressed himself against the suggestion that Jewish refugees be permitted to enter the United States.

Informant has stated that SMITH is on rather intimate terms with [REDACTED] of the News Advertiser newspaper, and informant believes that [REDACTED] divides his time between Flint, Michigan and Washington, D. C. [REDACTED] advised SMITH that he had told a member of the Department of Justice that SMITH was not subversive in any way, and that only certain b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

persons with axes to grind were instigating investigations against SMITH. [REDACTED] told SMITH that he assured the member of the Department of Justice that SMITH had thrown WILLIAM DUDLEY PELLEY out of Louisiana when he ascertained by an investigation ordered by HUEY LONG that PELLEY and his organization were un-American. SMITH agreed with [REDACTED] that SMITH was not subversive in any way and had never said anything against any race or creed even though he had been misquoted at a meeting as having referred to Jews as "Christ killers."

SMITH contacted the office of Senator ROBERT REYNOLDS and requested of the Senator's secretary, [REDACTED], that all available material in opposition to relaxing the Immigration Laws in favor of Jewish refugees be sent to SMITH. SMITH contemplated opposing the stand taken by RABBI STEPHEN S. WISE that the Immigration Laws should be relaxed. SMITH said he did not see why more Jews should be admitted to this country from Europe when we were already eating horse meat.

SMITH commented that he contemplated distributing a new book "The Red Decade" by EUGENE LYONS, since it was such an excellent expose of Communist activities in the United States. [REDACTED] stated that MITCHELL and JAN VALTIN assisted EUGENE LYONS in writing that book. SMITH told [REDACTED] he heard that GEORGE SEIDERS, publisher of "In Fact," had sold one million copies of a circular to the Jews which were going to be distributed in case SMITH had been nominated for the office of United States Senator from Michigan. Instead all the Jews voted for FERGUSON.

*of Chicago?*  
Informant advised that SMITH was contacted by a [REDACTED] who was described as "the one who wrote the book" on March 6, 1943. [REDACTED] was stopping at the hotel Book-Cadillac and was visited by Mr. and Mrs. SMITH that afternoon according to informant. Informant stated that he read in the newspapers that huge quantities of coffee, butter and meat were going to waste in Alaska. He stated that things were getting worse all the time and feared that the bureaucrats would lose the war by making mistakes with humans like the mistakes they have made with coffee.

SMITH challenged Professor PRESTON SLOSSON of the University of Michigan to a public debate on the issues of "Resolved: That the United States should join an international union which would have as one of its objects the enforcement of world peace." SMITH had arrangements made to rent the auditorium of Cass Technical High School on March 22, 1943, but insisted that SMITH'S own name should not appear in the application.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Informant stated that SMITH was encouraged by EARL SOUTHWARD of Chicago, Illinois to urge his followers to write to Congressman MARTIN DIES and other members of the Dies Committee to institute an investigation of World Federation, "Union Now" and the people supporting these "subversive" movements. According to informant, SMITH has been drawing from the Dies Committee reports listing Communists for speech material from time to time.

Informant stated that on February 27, 1943, SMITH ordered an additional copy of the January issue of his magazine "The Cross and the Flag" sent to [REDACTED] who had requested the additional copy for his son [REDACTED] who is in the Army.

On March 23, 1943, informant stated a message was given to SMITH that a woman who described herself as [REDACTED] from Chicago" wanted SMITH to call her at [REDACTED] since she expected an emergency to come up within a day or two.

Special Agent [REDACTED] attended the first rally of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY in the Maccabees Building auditorium, 5057 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, on Sunday afternoon January 24, 1943.

This meeting was attended by over five hundred people who completely filled the auditorium. When the Subject and his wife entered the hall; a stooge in the back of the room stood up and shouted, "Give them a hand," whereupon the crowd began to applaud, stamp their feet and shout.

About 3:15 p.m. the meeting started with the Subject making a few preliminary remarks. He then called upon Mrs. SMITH to accompany the audience in the singing of the first and last verses of America. While the audience was still on their feet the Subject made a few more remarks concerning the Christian angel of his program and asked that the people also join in reciting the Lord's Prayer which followed.

The meeting last nearly three hours during which the Subject spoke of the following items:

On February 7, 1943, the next meeting of the party was tentatively scheduled, the time and place yet to be announced. At this meeting Captain EARL SOUTHWARD, Department Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Chicago, will be the principal speaker and will follow the program of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY which is strictly isolationist.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

During the course of his talk, the Subject constantly referred to Vice-President HENRY WALLACE and continually spoke of him as being a bureaucratic Communist and many other names. He told the story of how WALLACE was actually nominated at the Chicago convention when the delegates actually pushed him. He told how HARRY HOPKINS sat in a large hotel suite in the Morrison Hotel in Chicago together with Mr. KELLEY and Mr. NASH, and held openly a private wire to the White House so that the final orders could be received as to who was to be nominated. The Subject further pointed out that 65% of the delegates to this convention were on the public payroll and in nominating WALLACE they were only thinking of their own jobs. The speaker further spoke of WALLACE as being against the United States and not for it in his program of world peace.

The Subject also spoke of HARRY HOPKINS and STEVE EARLY as being Communists and bureaucrats who were the powers behind the President and who were controlling the program which would bring the United States into the world picture after the war instead of minding her own business here at home.

The Subject derided LEON HENDERSON and complained of the orders which he was giving to the nation in connection with his position as director of the OPA. He told how people were starving because of the rationing program while the powers that be in Washington were having large banquets at the OPA plate including eight kinds of meats. He told how LEON HENDERSON had made many orders in connection with the rationing program and then resigned his position because he had a sore back, but the night that he resigned he and left his position because of his sore back he went to a large Washington hotel and danced until 4:00 a.m. SMITH said, "The only thing I can say to that is some back."

The Subject went into the question of why organize the AMERICA FIRST PARTY at this time rather than wait until next year which would be closer to the campaigns. He pointed out that in a good many states considerable time is necessary in order to get on to the ballots in some states and this time often is a year prior to the general election; therefore, plans are being made now so that if it is necessary to put a slate on the national ticket in 1944, they will be ready to do so and will have no trouble in getting complete coverage in the 48 states. Mr. SMITH stated that the whole question of the program of the party in the 1944 general election would depend solely upon the action taken by the Republican and Democratic Parties. He pointed out that if these parties would wake up and present a candidate, either one party or the other or both who was for America first, then this new party would not enter into the election. However, if the two parties put

(Detroit file 62-1126)

up candidates who figured on entering into a world program, then the AMERICA FIRST PARTY must enter the campaign.

As to the words as Mr. SMITH discussed the question, he pointed out that if the Democrats put up HENRY WALLACE for President and the Republicans put up WENDELL WILLKIE, whom the Subject termed was simply a New Deal stooge, then it would be absolutely necessary for this new party to act. However, if these parties woke up and put up such candidates as CHARLES A. LINDBERGH, Senator BURTON K. WHEELER, Senator GERALD P. NYE, Senator C. WHELAN BROOKS, Senator LEE O'DANIEL, Congressman HAMILTON FISH or Congressman CLARE HOFFMAN then this AMERICA FIRST PARTY would not act. The subject, while apparently not tooting his own horn, seemed to make it evident that he would be very responsive of a nomination for President by the new party. However, he indicated that his choice openly would be CHARLES A. LINDBERGH. (Applause).

The Subject very openly opposed the activities and action of the COMMUNIST PARTY and was also opposed to many of the things being done by Russia. He answered the demand of the Communists and of Russia that we open a second front in Europe by stating that the last move had been made by the United States when they invaded Africa and that now it was time for Russia to act and give us a helping hand with a second front of their own by declaring war on Japan with whom, at the present time, they are not at war. He pointed out that Russia is fighting only Germany at the present time while the United States and Britain are fighting all the Axis nations and that if Russia wants our continued help she also should wage war on Japan.

The Subject pointed out some instances which he said should be stopped at once. He advised that he was for America first and for the American people first. He told of the loading of a boat on the West Coast with oleo-margarine which was to be sent to Russia for their use instead of butter. However, Russian officials pointed out that the people of Russia did not know how to use oleo-margarine and so this boat was unloaded and butter was taken from the people of the United States and sent to Russia and we got the oleo-margarine simply because the Russians did not know how to use it.

The Subject told also of a deal that was to be made in which Russia would supply the United States with crude rubber. He pointed out that Russia had no supply of rubber and that she would have to get it from another source. He advised that the United States was going to supply Russia with iron and steel in exchange for crude rubber and that Russia would trade the iron and steel with the source of supply for the crude rubber and then pointed out again that Russia was not at war with Japan and that Japan controlled

(Detroit file 62-1126)

the source of supply of crude rubber and that Russia would trade the steel and iron coming from the United States to Japan for the crude rubber and that Japan would use the steel and iron from the United States to blast our soldiers and sailors out of the Pacific. He then demanded that this practice be stopped at once.

The Subject went into the program of the British representative in connection with the Lend-Lease program in Washington. He pointed out that this gentleman had stated that Britain was keeping no accounts of materials which were being supplied by the United States to Britain and he also was demanding a program which called for an international currency which would do away with the present money system in the individual countries. This British leader also called for an international parliament which would sit one year in Washington, one year in London and possibly one year with the cannibals of South Africa. The Subject then stated that we must have no part of this program and that when this war is over we must bring our boys back home and stay out of any international program of any kind and build a wall of steel around our country so that the foreign aggressors cannot take what we have got.

The Subject stated that the program of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY was being pushed all over the country. He advised that the active launching of the party would probably be done in a small community in Northern Michigan which is strongly Republican and where the editor of the newspaper has already pledged the complete support of the community. He pointed out that the great Republican Party had been launched in a small community in Michigan. He further stated that he wanted all of the members present at the rally to continue their work in their present parties because if the programs of these parties in 1944 is such, it will not be necessary for the AMERICA FIRST PARTY to act. Mr. SMITH reported that he had spoken in Chicago on January 15, 1943, at a meeting which was in charge of Captain EARL SOUTHWARD, Department Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Chicago. The Subject reported that this meeting was packed and the enthusiasm was high and he was given the go ahead signal by the people present to proceed with the formation of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

MR. SMITH then reported he proceeded to St. Paul where he spoke on January 16, 1943. Mr. SMITH stated that upon arriving in St. Paul he was confronted with a newspaper article with a double headline which stated that the police would investigate the SMITH meeting. The article told of how the St. Paul police, together with the F.B.I., was going to investigate that was behind the meeting of GERALD SMITH in St. Paul and take whatever action was necessary. Mr. SMITH said this did not stop him nor did the below zero weather and he went to the meeting to find the hall packed with over twenty-five



(Detroit file 62-1126)

hundred people. He stated that he looked around the hall and saw no policemen and he also did not believe that the F.B.I. was present because if they were it would be an insult to the Detroit F.B.I. because he had been here in Detroit for a long time and if the F.B.I. really wanted him they could have had him any time they wanted to and it would be foolish to chase him clear to St. Paul in twenty-two-degrees-below-zero weather just to get him.

MR. SMITH reported that the next day he went to Minneapolis where two meetings were held, both of them packed to the doors, in below zero weather and where the enthusiasm again ran high for the formation of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY.

Mr. SMITH condemned CLARENCE K. STREIT, President of Federal Union Incorporated, who appeared at the Detroit Athletic Club about two weeks ago. At that time Mrs. SMITH, together with eight or nine men and women of the AMERICA FIRST PARTY, picketed the Detroit Athletic Club on behalf of the Subject and his new party. The Subject had Mrs. SMITH speak for herself in connection with this picketing and she told of the great success in the passing out of pamphlets condemning the program of "Union Now". She reported that the men who went in to the meeting seemed pleased on one or two occasions concerning the activities of this small group who formed the picket line. The Subject pointed out that a reply to this picketing was contained in the "Detroit Free Press" of January 24 in a letter to the editor from CLARENCE STREIT. This clipping is being placed in the Subject's file as a matter of record.

The Subject pleaded for no foreign entanglements and continued to impress that we praise America first. He pointed out that we have a definite order of loyalty in this country: First to our own armed forces; second to our own civilians; third to our allies and then if anything is left to the rest of the world. We must change our present program wherein we are thinking of others first and ourselves last. The Subject pleaded that we fall in the footsteps of the man whose picture will head their place on the ballot and whose program is not too old for us to follow today, GEORGE WASHINGTON, whose program was to place America first in war, first in peace and first in the hearts of their countrymen. He also stated that we must forget the present program of internationalism and get back to our own problems here in America.

Mr. SMITH advised that he knew there were spies at that meeting, that there were people who were trying to persecute him and to get something on him. He knew that the F.B.I. was present and that they would be noted because they would be taking notes. He stated that the chances were

(Detroit file 62-1126)

75 to 25 that he would be arrested or that he might even be assassinated. He stated that he was with HUEY LONG when he was assassinated and that the gun which killed LONG was also meant for him. He pointed out that they were still after him but that he was warning them that when they got him he was going to tell all because he was the only living man in America who knew the whole story behind the assassination of HUEY LONG and the tie-up between those who got LONG and the powers that be in Washington. He said that when they got him and he told what he knew it would be greatest expose in the history of the world. He said that when he made this statement it would blast the country wide open so let them come if they must. "I am ready!"

Mr. SMITH stated that the program was being spread out and meetings were to be held in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa next. He said that a big meeting was being planned in central Iowa at a time and place to be announced as soon as final plans were completed.

The Subject pointed out that Detroit had been honored a day or two before with a visit of one of the greatest men in America, EDDIE RICKENBACKER. He said that RICKENBACKER was on the original AMERICA FIRST board. The subject condemned the labor leaders who that morning in the "Free Press" made statements against the stand of RICKENBACKER, and he said that these men had no right to talk because they were making salaries of \$10,000 a year or over which money was taken from the poor worker's \$100 and \$150 a month. He pointed out that it was things like this which were causing trouble in this country.

Also, Subject referred to his monthly magazine "The Cross and the Flag" all through the lecture and always spoke of it as being the paper which he edited. He said that the question as to whether the United States still had a free press was constantly being discussed but that that could easily be answered to the effect that the United States has a free press whenever "The Cross and the Flag" comes off the press.

The meeting was brought to a close when many placards were brought on the stage and were given to loyal followers to hold across the front and around the side of the auditorium. These placards were principally propaganda and set out such things as "BILLIONS FOR DEFENSE; BENT FOR AMERICANS FIRST; DEFEND AMERICA FIRST, etc." The meeting was finally brought to a close with the audience standing and repeating the Allegian to the Flag.

Special Agent [REDACTED] received while attending this meeting a copy of the press release which was dated January 10, 1943 and which has been set forth above.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Special Agent [REDACTED] also attended the debate on March 22, 1943, at Cass Technical High School, Detroit, Michigan between GERALD L. K. SMITH and Professor PRESTON SLOSSON. SLOSSON took the affirmative side and SMITH took the negative side of the question, "Resolved: That the United States should join in an international union which would have as one of its objectives enforcement of world peace." b7c

It was noted that the auditorium was packed and that people were standing around the side of the auditorium. It was estimated that there were approximately five thousand people in attendance. The chairman of the meeting was DOCTOR HENRY HITT CRANE, a Detroit minister who is an affirmed pacifist. There were also on the stage several unidentified individuals.

It should be noted that when Professor SLOSSON came on the stage there was a scattering of applause, but when MR. SMITH came on the stage there was shouting and whistling and stamping of feet to greet him.

CRANE opened the meeting and explained the fact that each speaker would be allowed certain time for his talk and for his rebuttal, and then explained the purpose of the meeting. He stated that there were two viewpoints present on the question of world union and it was well to present them to a democratic American audience such as was present at that time. DR. CRANE stated that we had heard several speakers on this question and that one of them was Prime Minister WINSTON CHURCHILL, of England. At the mention of CHURCHILL'S name there was a scattering of applause, but there was a very loud and extended period of boos.

Professor SLOSSON in his presentation advised that there were four points on which both of the speakers could agree, namely, hate war, love peace, be good patriots and be good Christians. However, they differed on the question in issue. Professor SLOSSON stated that there had been a general breakdown of alliances that had been made throughout the world and that to maintain peace there would have to be an enforced peace by a world police system. He favored a collective security which would include all people all over the world. He pointed out that in the United States we had a union of states and in a similar area in South America there was no union but a series of different nations which were constantly at war and were constantly in trouble. He pointed out that there had been one dispute between the states of the United States and that was all. This alone was proof that a union of nations would be feasible and would prove successful.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

Professor SLOSSON in the question period following his talk made the statement that he is opposed to the Russian Government and is opposed to principles that have come out of Russia but he could not overlook the fact that a million Russian soldiers had given up their lives and that in their doing so they had saved the lives of thousands of American boys.

Mr. SMITH, who advocates America First, maintained this principle throughout his talk and his comments. He stated that we cannot have a union of countries such as we have a union of the states in the United States. He stated that his philosophy is the philosophy of GEORGE WASHINGTON who advised that we keep out of foreign alliances and entanglements. SMITH stated that recent speakers had all been talking along the lines of getting the United States back into the British Empire, which he was opposed to, and he knew that every red-blooded American was opposed to it. SMITH condemned Vice-President WALLACE, WENDELL WILLKIE, and JOSEPH STALIN, as being one and the same type of individual. He pointed out that Russia and Japan had an alliance although one was an ally and one was an opponent of the United States. SMITH used this as an example to show that you could not trust other nations and that we should keep out of any entanglement or agreement after this war is over.

It was noted during the question period following the debate that Professor SLOSSON was very capable in answering the questions that were put to him, but that Mr. SMITH, when he got away from the prepared manuscript which he read during his talk, was a little at a loss and evaded several of the questions asked him.

[REDACTED]

b7c, b7d

(Detroit file 62-1126)

ENCLOSURES:

TO THE BUREAU

Two copies of "The Cross and the Flag" dated  
January, 1943

Two copies of "The Cross and the Flag" dated  
February, 1943

One copy of "The Cross and the Flag" dated  
March, 1943

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CLEVELAND FIELD DIVISION:

At Cleveland, Ohio, will report proceedings at AMERICA FIRST PARTY rally in Franklin Auditorium on February 11, 1943. As previously requested by Detroit letter dated February 8, 1943, will also report the extent of support afforded to SMITH by UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA or any organization or persons which might in any sense be considered subversive.

Will report proceedings of AMERICA FIRST rally in Hunt Room of Seore Hotel, Toledo, Ohio, on February 12, 1943. As previously requested by Detroit letter dated February 8, 1943, will also report extent of support afforded to SMITH by UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA or any organization or persons which might in any sense be considered subversive.

THE KANSAS CITY FIELD DIVISION:

Will ascertain through confidential informants whether REVEREND GERALD B. WINROD placed any telephone calls to GERALD L. K. SMITH in Detroit, Michigan in February, 1943.

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

\*\* Will, if advisable, contact DR. L. M. BURKHEAD, Director of FRIENDS OF DEMOCRACY for information in his possession about GERALD L. K. SMITH and his activities. This lead was originally set forth in report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated January 25, 1943, but it has since been ascertained that [REDACTED] is dead and the remaining portion of the lead is therefore deleted. b7c

\*\* Will cover lead requested by Department as follows: "Referring to page 2 of the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated May 23, 1942 at Detroit, Michigan in which mention is made of an article carried by the United Press from noon on October 20, 1936, concerning the announcement by SMITH of the formation of a Fascist organization to seize the Government of the United States. It is requested that an effort be made to secure a copy of SMITH'S announcement if it was in writing and in any case that you attempt to locate and interview concerning the context thereof persons present when SMITH made such announcement." b7c

(Detroit file 62-1126)

\*\* Will cover leads as requested in Departmental memo quoting:  
"Information has been received that the attorneys for Time and Life magazines with offices in New York City. have compiled a large file of information on SMITH in which may be reflected facts which will interest this (Criminal) Division. It is requested that this file be secured or duplicated if it does exist and that any leads which may be indicated thereby be developed by investigation as soon as possible

Additional information has been received in this office that the law firm [REDACTED] of New York City handled a law suit against SMITH and some individual identified to the Criminal Division as the 'Banana King, and that one [REDACTED] or some other functionary in this law firm has some information about SMITH which developed as a result of this law suit that may not be available elsewhere. It is requested that this lead be developed and a report be supplied to the Criminal Division as soon as possible."

\*\* Will cover lead requested in Departmental memo as follows:  
"Other information reaching this office is that during the time SMITH was established in New York, one [REDACTED] was intimately associated with him. It is desired that you endeavor to ascertain the identity of this individual and the nature of her connection with the Subject."

Will contact [REDACTED] and will obtain or ascertain present location of membership cards in PELLEY'S SILVER SHIRTS OF AMERICA issued to GERALD L. K. SMITH and his wife.

Will obtain from [REDACTED], information concerning GERALD L. K. SMITH.

THE SAN ANTONIO FIELD DIVISION:

Will forward to Technical Laboratory letter from Subject to [REDACTED] San Antonio, Texas, dated July 8, 1933, requesting that an examination be made to ascertain whether the letter was actually written by Subject. Will notify Detroit Field Office when this is done so that a known specimen of SMITH'S handwriting may be sent to the Technical Laboratory.

(Detroit file 62-1126)

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

\*\* Will cover lead requested in Departmental memo as follows:  
"The Criminal Division likewise has learned that certain of PELLEY'S files were seized in 1934 or 1935 by the McCORMACK - DICKSTEIN Congressional Committee and are presumed now in the custody of the Clerk of the House." This lead was originally set forth in report of Special Agent [REDACTED] [REDACTED] dated January 25, 1943, but it has since been ascertained that H. E. MARTIN is dead and the remaining portion of the lead is therefore deleted. b7c

\*\* Will attempt to locate and interview [REDACTED] whose address has been given as [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is said to have been a principal contact of the Ford Motor Company with GERALD SMITH, ELIZABETH DILLING and Rev. CHARLES E. COUGHLIN. b7c

Will consider the advisability of interviewing [REDACTED] [REDACTED], as suggested by the Department. [REDACTED] claimed to possess information concerning the payment of money by [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] and that SMITH among others cooperated with [REDACTED] in a plot to weaken the United States. b7c

\*\* Will endeavor to locate [REDACTED] through the office of [REDACTED], and ascertain from [REDACTED] what he knows concerning the activities, background and associations of Subject. This lead was first set forth in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated January 13, 1943 at Washington, D. C. It should be noted, however, that [REDACTED] is still communicating with Subject on a rather friendly basis. b7c

THE DETROIT FIELD DIVISION:

At Detroit, Michigan, will attempt to ascertain whether SMITH has had any contact with known German agents. It is noted that in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated May 23, 1942, [REDACTED] referred to SMITH'S connections with a [REDACTED] Schoolcraft Road, both of whom were believed to be Nazi sympathizers. b7c b7d

Will obtain and forward to the Bureau for the Department a copy of SMITH'S report to the Clerk of Wayne County, Michigan setting forth contributions and disbursements of SMITH while campaigning for the Republican nomination for the office of United States Senator from Michigan and also as



(Detroit file 62-1126)

an independent "sticker" candidate for the same office. Special attention should be made to ascertaining the source of an anonymous contribution of \$1,500.

Will obtain and furnish information concerning Subject's campaign as a "sticker" candidate to establish that SMITH was a "candidate" within the meaning of the Federal Corrupt Practices Act of 1925.

Will check the registration of the tradename "THE AMERICA FIRST PARTY" with the Clerk of Wayne County Court at Detroit, Michigan.

Will ascertain whether Mrs. ELIZABETH DILLING of Chicago, Illinois was registered at the Hotel Book-Cadillac, Detroit, Michigan, on March 6, 1943 under her true name or any known alias.

Will ascertain the person to whom the telephone [REDACTED] is listed and if advisable will ascertain by discreet inquiry who was at that home on March 23, 1943 who described herself as [REDACTED] b7c

Will examine bank accounts utilized by SMITH and will verify that [REDACTED] b7c

Upon notification from the San Antonio Field Office that SMITH'S letter to [REDACTED] has been forwarded to the Technical Laboratory for examination, will forward to the Technical Laboratory samples of SMITH'S known handwriting and signature. b7c

- P E N D I N G -

(Detroit file 62-1126)

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c, b7D

TITLE: GERALD LYMAN KENNETH SMITH  
MISC. MATTERS

S.A. [REDACTED]

b7c

DATE: APRIL 9, 1943

TABLE OF CONTENTS

AMERICA FIRST COMMITTEE	11,9,4,1,
AMERICA FIRST PARTY	1,2,4,5,6,7,9,11,12,13,15, 16,17,18,19,24,27.
AMERICAN WOMEN AGAINST COMMUNISM, INCORPORATED	
BECKER, MRS.	22,
BENNETT, HARRY	26
BURKHEAD, L. M.	10
CLARK, HARRY B.	24
COMMITTEE OF AMERICAN WOMEN AGAINST COMMUNISM, INCORPORATED	1,11,12,
COMMITTEE OF ONE MILLION	1,3
[REDACTED]	1
[REDACTED]	2,22
COUGHLIN, CHARLES E.	1
CRANE, HENRY HITT	21
CROSS AND THE FLAG, THE	12,1
DILLING, ELIZABETH	1,27
DOMAN, BERNARD	13
DOMAN, BERNARD A.	9
[REDACTED]	25,27
[REDACTED]	26
FEDERATION OF AMERICANIZATION OF MICHIGAN, INCORPORATED	2,13
FEDERAL UNION, INCORPORATED	19
FRIENDS OF DEMOCRACY	24
GITLOW, BENJAMIN	14
GRACE, WILLIAM	3,11
GRAU, PHIL	11
[REDACTED]	26
[REDACTED]	22
[REDACTED]	25
[REDACTED]	15,27
KNOWLES, MURRAY	9
KNOWLES, MURRAY MRS.	3
[REDACTED]	11

b7D

b7c

LYONS, EUGENE	14
[REDACTED]	13,14,26
MARION, LELAND	3
MOTHERS OF AMERICA	3
NOWAK, MARGARET	10
NOWAK, STANLEY	1,10
[REDACTED]	10
RED DECADE, THE	14
RICKENBACKER, EDDIE	20
ROLLINGS, E. J.	1,3,13
SELDERS, GEORGE	14
SILVER SHIRTS OF AMERICA	25
[REDACTED]	22
SMITH, GERALD L. K.	13
SOUTHARD, EARL	3,11,15
STADSKLEV, CARL O.	11
STANLEY, DAVID	11
STREIT, CLARENCE K.	1,2,3,19
[REDACTED]	15
[REDACTED]	15
TAY, WILLIAM E.	11
[REDACTED]	11
UNION NOW	2,3,15,22
UNITED MOTHERS OF AMERICA	1,11,24
[REDACTED]	22
VALTIN, JAN	14
[REDACTED]	26
WENDELBERG, MRS.	11
[REDACTED]	26
WINGROD, GERALD B.	1,3,11,12,13,24
[REDACTED]	25
WORLD FEDERATION	15

ALL  
b7c