House Group Loves Lucy, for the Nonce

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 12—Lucille Ball, television's top actress, maintained today that she registered to vote as a communist in a 1936 primary election only to please her socialist grandfather.

But the red-haired comedienne, star of the "I Love Lucy" show, denies ever joining the Communist Party or ever casting a ballot for a communist candidate.

Rep. Donald Jackson (D, Calif.) of the House Un-American Activities Committee agreed "there is no indication that Miss Ball ever was a member of the Communist Party."

Nevertheless, "Miss Ball has co-operated with the committee investigator in all respects," Rep. Jackson said. "She has acknowledged her Communist Party registration."

Nevertheless, the committee plans to continue investigating Miss Ball's case because "no case is ever closed," he said.

The actress had this to say:
"I explained that the reason I did it was because my grandfather wanted me to. At that time, it didn't seem at all wrong to try and please him."

"It was the last few years. He had always been a Socialist... we registered—all my mother, brother and myself. That was all there was to it. I never voted myself... 17 years later they present me with this."

She Just Doesn't Know

Her husband, Desi Arnaz, who stars with her on the show, also denied he had ever been a member of the Communist Party.

"I was never a party member or had a card," he said. "She never belonged to any front organization or any committee. You know Lucy; she doesn't even know what the hell she's doing."

"I believe she was influenced considerably by the political reasoning of her late grandfather, who was in charge of a library of the school and the entire family last night," Rep. Jackson said.

"In your case, she even voted for her Miss. Mr. Arnaz said, 'we lost. We both lost.'"

Date: SEP 17 1953
House Investigators
Absolem Lucille Ball
Of Communist Ties

Registered as Red Voter
In '26, but Had No Other
Link, Jackson Says

By the Associated Press

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 29—Lucille
Ball, television's top comedi-
ance, never was a Communist,
says the House Un-American
Activities Committee, even
though she registered as one 17
years ago.

The star of the popular "I
Love Lucy" show firmly denied
to Committee Investigator Wil-
liam Wheeler that she registered
March 28, 1939, to vote for the
Communist ticket "because
Grandpa wanted all of us to." But
she emphatically denied ever
being a party member or ever
with the party apparatus.

"There is no evidence that
Miss Ball is or ever was a party
member," Representative Donald
Weston, Reputable, of Cali-
fornia House committee member, told
a news conference last night.

Widespread Known

Mr. Weston explained that
he had the conference at the
request of a majority of committee
members and that he was insistent
that Miss Ball, 46, whose
name was mentioned could be exonerated.

If the rumors hadn't been widespread, he added, it is un-
likely the committee would have heard the denials, since it
had known for several years of
Miss Ball's registration.

Mr. Weston said that there
was no question as to whether
Miss Ball ever voted the Com-
munist ticket, but added that
the issue was of a matter of
whether her name was on the
registration for

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Gearty
Mohr
Winterton
Tele. Room
Holloman
Miss Gandy

To be continued.

(See LUCY, Page 20.)
Lucille Ball

Lucy

(Continued from First Page)

of the Communist Party, but added that Miss Ball denied having authorized him to do so.

Testimony of Communist Party members of the 1930s corroborated Miss Ball's statements, Mr. Jackson said. He said they testified they never saw her at a party meeting.

Delighted by Greetings.

Informed of Mr. Jackson's statements, Miss Ball, filming one of her shows for later release, said last night, "Oh say, I'm so happy. I found out today who all my friends are."

Television officials said she had received hundreds of telegrams from well wishers.

Her husband and co-star, Desi Arnaz, signed an $8 million contract this year to produce the program for two more years.

Arnaz said, "Lucy has always had a clear conscience about what she's done and, what's more, she hates every Communist in Hollywood."

"Her grandfather was a sharecropper and you can't take it with you," said Arnaz.
T. T. ADD BALL, HOLLYWOOD (90028)

A 27-PAGE TRANSCRIPT OF TESTIMONY GIVEN BY MISS BALL BEFORE A COMMITTEE INVESTIGATOR DISCLOSED SHE ADMITTED REGISTERING TO VOTE AS COMMUNIST IN 1936 BUT DENIED EVER HAVING BEEN A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

REP. DONALD JACKSON (R-CALIF.) RELEASED THE TRANSCRIPT OF HER TESTIMONY GIVEN TO COMMITTEE INVESTIGATOR WILLIAM A. WHEELER ON SEPT. 4 IN HOLLYWOOD.

MISS BALL SAID IN THE INTERVIEW SHE AND THE REST OF HER FAMILY REGISTERED AS COMMUNISTS FOR THE 1936 PRIMARY ELECTION ONLY TO PLEASE HER SOCIALIST GRANDFATHER.

"IT WAS OUR GRANDFATHER," SHE TOLD WHEELER. "HE JUST WANTED US TO, AND WE JUST DID SOMETHING TO PLEASE HIM. I DIDN'T INTEND TO VOTE THAT WAY, AND AS I RECALL, I DIDN'T. WHEN I GO BEHIND THE CURTAIN TO VOTE, NOBODY KNOWS WHO I VOTE FOR." WHEN ASKED IF SHE HAD EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY, MISS BALL REPLIED, "NO, NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE. SHE ALSO DENIED, IN RESPONSE TO ANOTHER QUESTION, THAT SHE HAD EVER ATTENDED A COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING.

"I AM NOT A COMMUNIST NOW. I NEVER HAVE BEEN. I NEVER WANTED TO BE," SHE TOLD WHEELER.

9/12--ED347P
No Communist, 'Lucy' Says; Tried to Please Grandfather

Hollywood, July 22—Testimony of television star Lillian Gish helped to introduce the name of the last of the late-1920s and early-1930s movie stars to the audience. Miss Gish, who once appeared in the famous three-night series, is said to have said that she was a member of the Communist party, but that she later decided to leave the party because she was afraid of the authorities. Miss Gish, who lived in Hollywood for 15 years, said that she had always been a member of the party, but that she had left it because she was afraid of the authorities.

A transcript of the actress's testimony before William A. Wheeler, investigator for the House Un-American Activities Committee, was released by the committee on Friday.

In the 37-year career of Miss Gish, who starred in such films as "The Birth of a Nation" and "The Birth of a Nation 2," there were few public appearances. In the 1930s, Miss Gish was a member of the Communist party, but that she later decided to leave the party because she was afraid of the authorities. Miss Gish, who lived in Hollywood for 15 years, said that she had always been a member of the party, but that she had left it because she was afraid of the authorities.

Investigator Wheeler asked the actress if she had ever voted as a Communist or was planning to continue doing so. Miss Gish said she had voted as a Communist and was planning to continue doing so.

"Yes," replied Miss Gish. "We have been planning to vote as a Communist and I am not planning to change my mind."

Miss Gish, who was in her 90s, said that she had always been a member of the party, but that she had decided to leave it because she was afraid of the authorities. Miss Gish, who lived in Hollywood for 15 years, said that she had always been a member of the party, but that she had left it because she was afraid of the authorities.

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Lucille Ball's Rating Holds; CBS and Sponsor Back Her

WORLDPLAY, May 11.—The popularity of Lucille Ball apparently has been confirmed by the announcement that she registered to vote for the Communist party in 1938. In 1938, Harry Ackerman, president of CBS, TV said, today:

"We've had a very few phone calls, and almost all of them have been favorable. The people seem to think this is the right act. They all love Lucy.

CBS-TV reportedly signed a long-term $6,000,000 contract with Miss Ball and her husband, Desi Arnaz, stars of the program, "I Love Lucy." Although the contract includes a secret clause which would permit the sponsors to cancel it, spokesmen for Philip Morris, sponsors and agents of the show, said that at the time they were planning to revoke the clause.

No Shred of Evidence

Miss Ball said she had registered as a Democrat in 1938 with her mother and her brother at the request of her late grandfather, Fred Hunt, who was a Socialist. "We tried to keep him happy in his declining years," Miss Ball explained. She said she had never joined the Communist party.

Asked at a later press conference whether she had voted in the Communist party primary that year, Miss Ball said, "I don't know."

Advised that an endorsement on her registration indicated she actually did vote, the petite star indicated by panicking that she might have unknowingly, and commented: "Oh, it's a big thing."

In a sworn statement to the committee, Miss Ball said whether she voted in the primary or not, Miss Ball said: "That could have been."

She told the investigators: "All I remember was something about the primary and a day... I would have said I voted when I went to the primary."

Registration officials said that, having registered March 25, 1938, with the statement, "I intend to vote in the upcoming primary election with the Communist party, I should have gotten only a Communist ballot in the primary."

The registrar's record shows that Miss Ball's 1938 registration was cancelled Sept. 30, 1938, on a return of non-resident of the Appellate Division, the August primary and the general election of 1938.
FAIR ENOUGH

By Westbrook Pegler

Los Angeles — In some published comments on the "affair of gay Miss" — that is, a television actress who was exposed as a racketeer — Pegler said no party of 17 years ago, I detected a threat to free American who does not survive this woman will be punished. I do not react favorably to threats and would not tolerate her anyway, because she did not try to be clean but had to be cracked down and exposed. The assertions that she was "only 24 years old" and that her grandfather was a family tyrant, a Socialist who made her do this, have no value at all with me. I was 24 years old once and for a long time I supported a family in New York at $60 a week and worked and saved a nickel. The moment has been a moment in my life when I would have subscribed myself a pacifist, or devoice, of a party which is the enemy of my country.

I hate Communists. I wish it were possible to round up all those who are reasonably known to be Communists, including all who have invoked the 4th amendment and put them into concentration camps at places as the Arizona state prison, or the Louisiana state penitentiary or Angola, where a man will be stretched out their tendons tendon in chains. Composite. A disease of a country's condition is made to end in the world.

I would not like these to be restricted, no; but I would make sure to give them the treatment which they have been given by our hostile. For my law I would rely on the Supreme court in the case of a Japanese who had been deported, and business in California and placed in a compound under military guard in California and placed in a compound under military guard in California. The court of the Supreme court to authorize a military commander to order all these people, including many native people, to leave the area in place of assembly, deport them from state lines and keep them there. I would have to make sure that he had the power for its enforcement.

\[ \sqrt{0.19} \]

Date: SEP 22 1953
In the case of the 1934 film "I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang," the story was based on the life of a man named Elsa Cohl, who spent years in prison for a crime he did not commit. The film was directed by John Ford and starred Spencer Tracy as Cohl.

The story begins with Cohl being sent to a chain gang after being falsely accused of murder. He spends years working and suffering in the prison, but eventually finds a way to escape and start a new life. The film is a powerful commentary on the injustices of the New Deal era and the struggle for freedom and equality.

The film received mixed reviews, with some critics praising its dramatic performances and themes, while others criticized its depiction of the prison system. Despite the mixed reception, "I Am a Fugitive from a Chain Gang" remains a classic of American cinema and a powerful reminder of the struggles faced by those who were oppressed and marginalized during the Great Depression.
Arnaz Challenges Drunk Arrest

Hollywood, Sept. 19

(AP) — Desi Arnaz, TV actor-producer, says his arrest on a drunk charge early today was "a false alarm."

The 43-year-old Cuban-born entertainer was taken into custody by two plainclothesmen who said they observed him staggering along a Hollywood street.

He was released from jail an hour and a half later after posting up $21 bail.

Mr. Arnaz is the husband of comedienne Lucille Ball.

L.A. A. Jornes—said Mr. Arnaz refused to concede that he was drunk, that he talked incoherently and was unsteady on his feet.

The officer said that when asked if he wanted to make a telephone call, Mr. Arnaz replied: "Yes, get me Gene Bocanquet (former Los Angeles County Sheriff) and J. Edgar Hoover (FBI chief)."
FILE DESCRIPTION

SUBJECT  Lucille Ball

FILE NUMBER  LA 100-41702
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Mr. William Wheeler

Address of Subject

Character of Case

DESCRIPTION OF SUBJECT:

FACTS OF COMPLAINT: Complainant advised that a Mr. William Wheeler has requested an interview with Lucille Ball. Wheeler displayed credentials as an "Investigator for U.S. Congress." Wheeler related that he was from House Committee on Un-American Activities. Mr. Wheeler made initial contact with a Mr. H. E. Hitchcock, agent for Lucille Ball. Complainant feels Wheeler may be an impersonator.

ACTION RECOMMENDED BY AGENT:

Route to Supp. in handling

DEAD 100-41702

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
APR 1952

100-41702-1
WILLIAM A. WHEELER, Special Investigator, HCUA, advised the writer this date that he has obtained a copy of a registration of voters affidavit which reflected that LUCILLE BALL, actress, 13th Ogden Drive, Los Angeles, registered as Communist in 1936.

WHEELER advised he has made inquiries through the Screen Actors Guild and has determined that LUCILLE BALL, the screen and TV actress, resided at 13th Ogden Drive in 1936.
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SA
FROM: SA
SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL, Was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: 8/24/52

This case was opened on the basis of information furnished to the writer by WILLIAM A. WHEELER, Special Investigator, HCUA, on 4/4/52, to the effect that the Subject had registered to vote in 1936 expressing her preference for the Communist Party.

WHEELER further advised that he interviewed BALL in this regard and that she advised him that in 1936 she, her grandfather, her brother and her mother registered as Communists at the insistence of the grandfather. She pointed out that the grandfather was an old man who was losing his mental balance, and that he repeatedly nagged his family to register as Communists. She advised that according to her mother, her grandfather was a Communist; however, she never actually saw a Communist Party card in his possession.

A review of the Los Angeles indices revealed that the foregoing information and all other pertinent information concerning the Subject was furnished to the Bureau by letter dated 10/2/51, entitled, "FRED HENRY BALL, SECURITY MATTER - C".

A review of the office indices failed to reflect any activities on the Subject's part in the Communist Party or any current activity in Communist-dominated organizations.

California, advised the writer on 7/18/52, that he was a member of the Communist Party in Hollywood from 1936 to 1943, and had no information in his possession which would reflect that the Subject was a member of the Communist Party or in sympathy with this Party's ideologies.

[Redacted] who was familiar with the activities of the Communist Party in the Northwest Section during the period 1943-45, could furnish no information concerning Subject.

[Redacted] who was familiar with the activities of the Communist Party in Los Angeles County during the period 1945-47, could furnish no information concerning Subject. Inasmuch as there is no information available to this office which would reflect Communist Party membership on the Subject's
part and further, inasmuch as there is no current activity in Communist-dominated organizations on the Subject's part, subsequent to January, 1942, this case does not merit investigation, and it is recommended that this case be placed in a closed status administratively. It is noted that the Bureau has been previously advised of the past activities of the Subject.

CLOSED.
On 12/12/52, the FBI telephonically furnished the following information to the writer in strict confidence, of the National Heart Association:

the NHA and their program for their coming fund drive in February, 1953, is centered around a "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953." The two individuals who had been tentatively selected for "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953" were the above captured individuals - LUCILLE BALL and DESI ARNAZ.

advised that upon learning of the selection of LUCILLE BALL and DESI ARNAZ, he immediately contacted the NHA, and very confidentially advised him that LUCILLE BALL was not the proper type of person to represent the NHA because of her connections with subversive activities and organizations. That he had heard from a fairly reliable source that the HCUA might possible subpoena LUCILLE BALL in the coming year, and he felt that with the fund drive of the NHA in February the organization would not be able to stand the unfavorable publicity which might result if LUCILLE BALL were to be subpoenaed.

the promoters of the NHA have since withdrawn their support of LUCILLE BALL, and they are in the process of selecting a new "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953."
DIRECTOR, FBI

March 27, 1953

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41702)

LUCILLE BALL, was.
SECURITY MATTER - C

The National Heart Association, furnished the following information to SA in strict confidence.

The National Heart Association and their program for the fund drive in February, 1953 was to be centered around a "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953". The two individuals who had been tentatively selected for "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953" were LUCILLE BALL, the well-known television and screen actress, and her husband, DESI ARNAZ.

Advised that upon his learning of the selection of LUCILLE BALL and DESI ARNAZ, he immediately contacted the National Heart Association, and very confidentially advised him that LUCILLE BALL was not the proper type of person to represent the National Heart Association because of her connections with subversive activities and organizations. He had heard from a fairly reliable source that the House Committee on Un-American Activities might possibly subpoena LUCILLE BALL in 1953, and felt that with the fund drive of the National Heart Association in February, 1953 the organization would not be able to stand the unfavorable publicity which might result if LUCILLE BALL were to be subpoenaed.

promoters of the National Heart Association withdrew their support of LUCILLE BALL and are selecting a new "Mr. and Mrs. Heart of 1953".

Mr. WILLIAM A. WHEELER, Special Investigator, House Committee on Un-American Activities, advised that he had obtained information to the effect that LUCILLE BALL had registered to vote in 1936, expressing her preference for the Communist Party.

Mr. WHEELER further advised that he interviewed Miss BALL in this regard and that she advised him that in 1936 she, her grandfather, her brother...
and her mother registered as Communists at the insistence of her grandfather. She pointed out that the grandfather was an old man who was losing his mental balance and that he repeatedly "nagged" his family to register as Communists. She advised that according to her mother her grandfather was a Communist. However, she never actually saw the Communist Party card in his possession.

Mr. Wheeler related that in view of Miss Ball's explanation and inasmuch extensive investigations and hearings held by the HCUA in Hollywood had failed to reflect that Lucille Ball has ever been a Communist Party member, she will not, in his opinion, ever be subpoenaed to appear before this committee.

It is to be noted that informants who have been familiar with the identities and the activities of members of the Communist Party in the motion picture industry have not reported any information reflecting Communist Party membership on the part of Miss Ball.

The above information is being submitted for the information of the Bureau. It is to be noted that additional information concerning Miss Ball was submitted by Los Angeles letter to the Director, dated 10/2/51, entitled "FRED HIBBARD, "SECURITY MATTER-C"."
Mr. WILLIAM A. WHEELER, West-Coast Representative, HCUA, advised this office this date that the Committee will hold an executive hearing on 9/3/53-9/4/53 at the DelMar Hotel in Santa Monica, California. The testimony will be given before the two California Congressmen on this Committee - DONALD M. JACKSON and CLYDE DUPLIN. The interrogation will probably be conducted by Mr. WHEELER.

WHEELER advised that the following individuals will appear as witnesses during this executive session:

LUCILLE BALL (Mrs. DESI ARNAZ), prominent motion picture and television actress, who is best known for her portrayal of OLLIE in the "I Love Lucy" television series.
Mr. WHEELER advised that the Committee has had information in the past to the effect that BALL had registered to vote in 1936, expressed her preference for the Communist Party. He advised that he interviewed BALL in this regard in the Summer of 1952, and that she had advised her and her grandfather, her brother and her mother registered as Communists in 1936 at the insistence of her grandfather. She pointed out that her grandfather was an old man who was losing his mental balance and that he repeatedly "mugged" her family to register as Communists. She relates that, according to her mother, her grandfather was a Communist; however, she never actually saw a Communist Party card in his possession. Mr. WHEELER stated that BALL's explanation was satisfactory and that it was not contemplated until recently to subpoena her before this Committee. He pointed out, however, that the NCUA had recently learned that NENA VA, a former Communist Party member, has authored a book to be published in the coming Fall wherein she states that she attended a Communist Party meeting which was held in LUCILLE BALL's home and that, although BALL was not present during this meeting, she knew of the character of the meeting and approved of its taking place in her home.

Mr. WHEELER displayed to this office a booklet entitled "Republican, Democratic, Socialist, Prohibitionist, Progressive, Commonwealth and Communist State Central Committees" appointed pursuant to Section 24 of the direct primary law of California dated September 26, 1936, and certified by FRANK C. JORDAN, California Secretary of State, which reflects on Page 30 that LUCILLE BALL was a member of the Communist Party State Central Committee.

Mr. WHEELER also displayed a certificate headed "Form Six", prepared by the Secretary of State and the Attorney General entitled "Sponsor Certificate (Section 5, Direct Primary Law)". The body of this certificate states "I, the undersigned sponsor for EMIL FREED for the Communist Party nomination to the office of Member of the Assembly, 57th District, to be voted for at the primary election to be held on the 25th day of August, 1936.

"My knowledge of the said EMIL FREED is sufficient to warrant my urging his election to the office of Member of the Assembly, 57th District. I am a qualified voter of Los Angeles County and I am registered as affiliated with the Communist Party. On line No. 23 of this Sponsor Certificate, there appears the name LUCILLE BALL, 1344 Ogden Drive, occupation - artist, Precinct - 1936.

Mr. WHEELER advises that he has ascertained through the record of the Supreme Actors Guild, Hollywood, California, that BALL, the screen and television actress, residing at 1344 Ogden Drive, Los Angeles, in 1936.

It is to be noted that information concerning BALL was set forth in Los Angeles letter to the Bureau March 27, 1953, entitled "LUCILLE BALL, WAS; SECURITY MATTER - C" and in Los Angeles letter to
Bureau 10/2/71 entitled "FRED HENRY BALL; SECURITY MATTER - G".

Mr. WHEELER advised that at present the Committee intends to hold this executive session in strict secrecy, however, he pointed out that in matters of this nature, information concerning the identity of witnesses is often "leaked" to the press.

Mrs. DESIREE BALL, mother of LUCILLE BALL, who also registered in 1936 as a Communist Party voter, will appear as a witness at the abe session.
AIR-TEL - AIR MAIL - REGISTERED

FBI, LOS ANGELES
9-11-53  5:30 p.m.

DIRECTOR, FBI

URGENT

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UNAMERICAN ACTIVITIES. LA PRESS TODAY RELEASED INFO RE RECENT APPEARANCE OF LUCILLE BALL, PROMINENT MOVIE AND TV ACTRESS, BEFORE AN INVESTIGATOR OF THE HCUA IN LA REGARDING HER NINETEEN THIRTY-SIX REGISTRATION AS A CP VOTER. THE INFO RE BALL'S APPEARANCE BEFORE THE HCUA WAS NOT RELEASED BY THE HCUA. WILLIAM K. WHEELER, HCUA REPRESENTATIVE, LA, ADVISED THIS OFFICE TODAY THAT A STATEMENT TO THE PRESS RE BALL'S TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMITTEE WILL BE MADE TODAY AT SIX P. M., AT WHICH TIME THE HCUA WILL MAKE THE STATEMENT THAT BALL HAS APPEARED BEFORE THE HCUA, THAT SHE REGISTERED TO VOTE ON THE CP, THAT SHE SIGNED A PETITION FOR THE NOMINATION OF EMIL FREED ON THE CP AND THAT HER NAME APPEARED ON THE CENTRAL STATE COMMITTEE OF THE CP. THE HCUA WILL MAKE THE STATEMENT THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF CP MEMBERSHIP OR ATTENDANCE AT CP MEETINGS FOR BALL. WHEELER ADVISED THAT THE RELEASE OF THE INFO RE BALL...
BY THE LA NEWSPAPERS STEMS FROM THE RECENT RADIO ANNOUNCEMENT OF WALTER WINCHELL RE THE SUBPOENA OF A PROMINENT TV AND MOVIE ACTRESS BEFORE THE HCUA IN LA. WHEELER ADVISED THAT THE HCUA WILL RELEASE THE INFO RE BALL TOMORROW A.M.

THE LA PRESS DISPLAYED A PHOTO OF BALL'S NINETEEN THIRTY-SIX VOTERS REGISTRATION IN THE CP AND STATED THAT A CP NEW MEMBERS' MEETING FOR INSTRUCTIONS IN COMMUNISM WAS HELD AT BALL'S HOME AT ONE TIME. DESILU PRODUCTIONS RELEASED A STATEMENT FROM BALL SAYING THAT SHE HAD TALKED TO A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HCUA AND THAT SHE HAD GIVEN FULL AND TRUTHFUL ANSWERS TO ALL THEIR QUESTIONS. THE NEWSPAPERS QUOTE BALL AS SAYING QUOTE I AM VERY HAPPY TO HAVE HAD THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REPLY TO UNFOUNDED RUMORS AND HOPE VERY MUCH THE COMMITTEE WILL SEE FIT TO RELEASE A COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT OF THE INFO I GAVE OUT UNQUOTE. WHEELER ADVISED THAT

TESTIFIED BEFORE THE HCUA TODAY REGARDING THEIR FORMER CP ACTIVITIES.

MALONE
Lucille Ball Faces Check on Few Points

No Case Closed, Jackson Says, Going to Latin America

Investigation of Lucy Ball's "grandpa" inspired Communists to register yesterday was in status quo coincident with the departure of Rep. Donald L. Jackson of the House Un-American Activities Committee for South America.

The Congressman, who on Saturday released the text of transcripts of testimony by the famed television star in which she told of registering and voting as a Communist in 1936 to humor a "sweet old guy," will be gone for six weeks.

Jackson disclosed that investigation of the case would be continued, explaining that "no case is ever closed," and that "there are a couple of points we want to check.

Registered

Transcripts of testimony before the committee last September 4 by Miss Ball, her mother, Deseree E. Ball, and her brother, Fred H. Ball, disclosed that they registered as Communists voters to pampet the ailing grandfather, the late Fred Hunt.

At a press conference at their San Fernando Valley ranch home, Lucy and her TV partner, Desi Arnaz, explained how Grandpa Hunt dominated the family's political thinking prior to his death in 1946.

Meanwhile, it was announced at the Arnaz home that the telephone was ringing constantly and telegram were being sent from television fans and politicians, all expressing their confidence in Lucy's career.

At Columbia Broadcasting headquarters here, which carries the popular "Love Lucy" program, spokesmen who were contacted yesterday said that they would have no statement to make until today.

However, Lucy and Arnaz said they had received a telephone message from their sponsor with whom they have an $8,000,000 contract, assuring them of his support.

And yesterday, red-haired Lucy, who has vowed she "never was interested in politics" and is now, was doing housework and tending her babies at the Arnaz home.

Cook's Day Off

"The housekeeper and the cook are gone today," explained Desi. "Lucy is busy with the cooking and the babies, and I'm answering the phone constantly.

"We're tremendously happy and grateful to everyone all over the country for their support," Desi told the Examiner. "We've had thousands of wire and telephone messages and they're still pouring in.

He added that he and his wife were grateful to the press for its complete handling of the facts.

When he released Lucy's sworn statement to the press, Representative Jackson said that there was no evidence that the actress was a member of the Communist Party.

Overjoyed

"I'm overjoyed and humbled that thousands of people have written and telegraphed that they are behind me," exclaimed Lucy at her home.

She insists she does not feel that her career has been injured or that the public will misunderstand her motives in registering as a Communist voter 12 years ago.

LUCY THANKS WELL-WISHERS

Star Feels Career Uninjured—That Public Understands

(Continued from Page One)
Happy to Have Cleared Up Rumors, Lucy Tells Columnist Hedda Hopper

BY HEDDA HOPPER

This morning, Lucille Ball, star of the "I Love Lucy" television show, told me over the phone: "It is true that I have talked to a representative of the Un-American Activities Committee and gave full, truthful answers to all his questions. I am very happy to have had this opportunity to reply to all the unfounded rumors and hope that the committee will release a full transcript of the information I gave them."

Report on Radio

Following a radio report that the "top television actress had been confronted with a membership card in the Communist Party," I began hearing from people who said: "To us the top television actress is Lucille Ball. Tell us the report isn't true."

I called Lucille and Desi Arnez and asked them about the matter Wednesday.

"That is the most ridiculous thing in the world," said Arnez. "Lucille has never been accused of being a Communist. She is completely in the clear. All anybody has to do is check with the Un-American Activities Committee. If she was a Communist they would call her for investigation."

Denies Affiliation

Lucille herself came on the phone and denied that she was in any way affiliated with the party. I asked if she had ever attended any of its meetings, and was told she hadn't. Desi said:

"You tell your readers this, Hedda, the only thing that is red about this kid is her hair — and even that is not legitimately red. We are in the clear all the way."

Confirms Report

This morning Desi called to confirm the report that Lucille had been questioned by an investigator of the House Un-American Activities Committee, William Wheeler.

She was first approached by an investigator in April of this year.

"They had found a registration card in the 1936 primaries," Lucille told me this morning. "They asked me about it; they refreshed my memory. I didn't recall anything about it. I explained that the reason we didn't see it was because 'Daddy' wanted us to — 'Daddy' meaning my grandfather. At that time it didn't seem at all wrong to try to please him. It was his last few years. He had always been a Socialist. It wasn't a matter of

THE WEATHER

U.S. Weather Bureau forecast: Variable high cloudiness but generally sunny today and tomorrow. Chance of few sprinkles. Continued warm with a high today near 95 at Civic Center and 82 at the beaches. Continued high fire hazard. Yesterday's high, 93; low, 68.

Turn to Page 6, Column 4
HOPPER

a political thing anyway. It was a man in the district who could do something grandpa wanted done. I've forgotten what it was. It was some man in the primaries he wanted us to vote for. We registered—my mother, brother and myself. That was all there was to it. I never voted myself. I was working. And 17 years later they presented us with this."

Her Voice Breaks

At this point Lucille's voice broke.

"The reason we didn't tell you the other day was that the committee had asked us not to," she explained.

"Did you register as a Communist or a Socialist in the election?" I asked.

"I don't know what they called the party then," she answered. She was crying as she continued.

"The committee was satisfied twice. The second time they came to me they said they had to clear themselves for sure, for they had heard that some magazine was coming out with the story. So they reopened the investigation privately. They asked me again, for they wanted to make sure they had their story straight and there was no way of stopping the magazine.

Writing Book

"I was told there was an ex-Communist woman who was writing a book and she had information that we couldn't verify. We had never heard of anything like that and we had to get some answers on it. That is why they opened the case up again. I never had anything to cover up or be frightened about but they now have a sworn statement testifying."

At this point Lucille could not continue. So Desi came on the phone and said:

"It's terrible, Hedda. That something the poor kid did in 1936 to please her grandfather can kick back in her face now. She has never in her life done wrong to anybody; she has never had any sympathy for these Commies. You know, the girl has never even been connected with these pinkos out here; she has never gone to meetings; never been a member of their party—this is terrible, Hedda.

Denies Card

"It was reported she was confronted with a Communist Party card. That is a lie. She never had a card."

"But why didn't you tell me this when I asked the other morning?" I asked. "If you had told me the committee didn't want this known you should have said, 'no comment, in a few days you'll understand.'"

Desi replied, "If I did something wrong to you the other day, please forgive me. When you put a spot like this you don't know what the hell you're doing."
Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz, comforted by stacks of telegrams from well-wishers, luxuriated in the privacy of their Chatsworth home yesterday, glad that the storm was over.

They said they were happy that the full transcript of Miss Ball's testimony before the House Un-American Activities Committee had been printed in The Times, and they hope the ordeal is over.

"Lucy and I just have nothing more to say," said Desi. "Everything has been said. All the truth has been told. Everybody has been wonderful. We never knew how many friends we had."

Alone With Children

The cook, the maid and the nurse were off for the day. Except for the telephone, which rang every few minutes, the stars of "I Love Lucy" were alone in the house with their children, Lucy, 2, and Desi IV, 8 months.

Desi took an early dip in the pool while Lucy made the beds and a pot of coffee.

Desi said they felt no resentment over their questioning by hordes of newspaper reporters since Lucy's 1938 registration as a Communist was made public by the House committee.

"We're lucky this happened to us in America, where newspapermen ask the questions," Desi said. "In other countries they shoot first and ask the questions later."

The TV stars said they plan to be back to work as usual at 9 a.m., today to prepare for the filming of another Lucy script next Friday night.
Quiz by Solon Probers Told By Actress

IFORNIA,
LOS ANGELES, 88.

AFFIDAVIT OF REGISTRATION.

Ad aellant, being duly sworn, says: I will be at least twenty-one years of age at the time of registration, a citizen of the United States ninety days prior thereto, and a resident of the State ninety days, and of the Precinct forty days next preceding such election, and will be an elector from any other precinct in the State since January 1, 1936.

Preceding paragraph, marshall the word "not" and fill out the appropriate blanks at the top of the affidavit.

Miss Lucille D. Ball

1344-North Ogden Drive

Hollywood, California

I, Lucille D. Ball, do hereby certify under oath that I am an American citizen, and that I intend to affiliate at the ensuing primary election with the Communist Party.

5 feet 6 1/2 inches.

New York

COPY OF LUCILLE BALL'S AFFIDAVIT OF REGISTRATION IN COMMUNIST PARTY

The Affidavit of Registration was dated March 19, 1936, and says: "I intend to affiliate at the ensuing primary election with the Communist Party."
TV's sensational, titi-titi-tita-terific last of the "I Love Lucy" show, Lucille D. Ball, 42, registered in Los Angeles on March 19, 1936, as a Communist Party voter, it was disclosed here today.

An investigator for the House Committee on Un-American Activities, it was learned, actually confronted the vivacious actress with the registration recently.

At that time, it was reported, Miss Ball emphatically denied that she is a member of the Communist Party.

EXPECT REPORT

The House Committee will make an official report on the matter in the very near future, it was said in Washington. The report is expected to show that she was a registered Communist voter but is not one now.

In 1936, it was also disclosed today, Lucille Ball was listed by then Secretary of State Frank C. Jordan as a member of the Communist state central committee, and her address as 1344 North Ogden drive.

The "I Love Lucy" show of which the tempestuous Lucille is the star has the highest TV rating for any long run show. It is scheduled to return to the air waves on Oct. 5 after the summer vacation.

Despite determined efforts of the Herald-Express to reach her this morning for an explanation of her 17-year-old Los Angeles county vote registration, the flaming-haired actress delayed making any comment.

ISSUE STATEMENT

Several hours later, however, after the Herald-Express news story appeared, Miss Ball's representative finally issued the following statement:

"It is true I have talked to a representative of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and have given full and frank answers to all questions.

"I am very happy to have had this opportunity to reply to unfounded rumors and hope very much the committee will see fit to release a complete transcript of the information I gave."

Fiery Cuban Actor Desi Arnaz, husband and partner of Miss Ball in the "I Love Lucy" show, was indignant. He adamantly refused to allow reporters to talk to the star herself, but said:

"Lucille registered for the first time last year with me, as Democrats, and we voted for Eisenhower. I know that she's never registered as a Communist. You can check with the Un-American Activities Committee. That will prove she isn't a Communist."

MARRIED 13 YEARS

Later, Arnaz told reporters:

"She has never been a Communist. This is ridiculous. I have been married to the girl for 13 years and I should know."

Congressman Donald J. Jackson, Republican of California, a member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, declared "in committee" to Miss Ball's attorney, but said he would hold a news conference following the hearing.
Lucille Ball Registration
As Red in 1936 Bared

(Continued From Page 1)

ence this evening at the Statler Hotel. He indicated he would discuss Miss Ball’s case.

Congressman Jackson pleaded that he couldn’t say anything at present, although he admitted that the full House Committee on Un-American Activities is being polled on the possibility of releasing Miss Ball’s testimony.

Jackson was asked if it wasn’t true that Miss Ball once supported Emil Freed when he ran for Congress in 1938 on the Communist Party ticket, but replied emphatically that he couldn’t talk until a poll had been taken of the whole committee.

When the Herald-Express reporters went to the couple’s sprawling ranch home, “DesiLu” at 3700 Devonshire Street in exclusive Northridge in the San Fernando Valley, Miss Ball refused to meet them.

The reporters told Arnez that the Herald-Express possessed a photostatic copy of an affidavit showing that Miss Ball had registered in 1936 as a voter intending to affiliate with the Communist party.

Arnez, however, flatly denied this, declaring it was a falsehood.

“What are you going to do, spread it all over the country?” the actor, barefooted and attired in a gray bathrobe, demanded.

When the Herald-Express reporter insisted that this newspaper had a photostatic copy of his wife’s voting registration, Arnez said he flatly did not believe that, then added:

“So what?”

A maid met the reporter at the front door.

“Miss Ball and Mr. Arnez are asleep. I couldn’t possibly wake them up now,” said the maid.

“Please tell her I’m from the Herald-Express and want to talk with her about her political registration,” pleaded the reporter.

“I can’t disturb her now,” said the maid.

At this point the newspaperman saw Miss Ball enter the living room to see who was at the door.

“She’s up now. Will you ask her to see us?” asked the reporter.

“Just a moment,” said the maid, closing the door.

A few minutes later, Arnez re-opened the door, and the reporter explained again that he wished to talk with Miss Ball about the registration.

“It’s early, isn’t it?” queried Arnez. “Let’s see your credentials.”

After scanning the credentials, Arnez asked:

“OK. Now what do you want?”

The reporter said: “We’d like a statement from Miss Ball regarding her registration as a Communist party voter.”

Told that the Herald-Express possessed a photostatic copy of the affidavit showing that Miss Ball had registered in 1936 as a Party voter, Arnez snapped:

“You’re a . . . liar!”

But he invited the newspapermen inside the house and after scanning their credentials for the second time, made his statement about the couple’s Democratic registration.

AFFIDAVIT ON FILE

Her 1936 Affidavit of Registration, No. 847,864, is on file at the office of the Los Angeles County registrar of voters. He canceled it Dec. 30, 1938, for non-voting.

Miss Ball in 1936 listed her address as 1344 North Ogden drive.

A woman witness told the State Legislature’s 1943 Committee on Un-American Activities that she had attended Communist party new members’ meetings for instructions in Communism at a North Ogden drive home.

The witness testified that an elderly man had told the new members that the residence was that of Lucille Ball, and that the sessions were held to discuss the new Communist party membership meetings.

LOUIS ANGELES HERALD-EXPRESS
DA FA IN STAR QUIZ REVEALED

Affidavit on Communist Party Registration Given Probers

Following is the full text of the statement issued last night by Rep. Donald L. Jackson, member of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, concerning Lucille Ball: "For many months the House Committee on Un-American Activities has been in possession of information indicating that Miss Lucille Ball did, on March 18, 1936, register to vote in the California primary election of that year, and that she specified her party affiliation as Communist.

"In addition, it has been determined that on the 18th of September, 1936, Miss Ball was appointed a member of the State Central Committee of the Communist Party by one Emil Freed, a well known functionary of the Communist Party in the city and county of Los Angeles, who was, in 1936, a candidate for public office on the Communist Party ticket.

"Since the original information came into the possession of the committee, a staff investigator has made a careful and detailed investigation into the circumstances relating to Miss Ball's affiliation with the Communist Party for voting purposes and her subsequent appointment as a member of the Communist Party State Central Committee.

Telephone Poll of Committee

"Recently, information on these matters has also been obtained by independent sources other than the committee, and the release of such information has served to spur conjecture and rumor with respect to Miss Ball and the extent of her association with and activities on behalf of the Communist Party.

"By direction of the Honorable Harold H. Veide of Illinois, Chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, and following a telephonic poll of a majority of the members of the committee who could be reached today, I am authorized and directed by the chairman to make the following statement with respect to the status of the Lucille Ball matter insofar as the House Committee on Un-American Activities is concerned.

The committee is departing from its usual procedures in this instance to the end that fact may be separated from rumor and that the actual status of Miss Ball's association may be presented factually and officially.

"The House Committee on Un-American Activities is not unaware of the tremendous responsibility resting upon it to insure that those guilty of participation in the Communist conspiracy be exposed whenever and wherever possible. By the same token, there rests upon the committee an obligation to insure that distortion of available facts be not permitted and that rumor not be substituted for the truth in any case. The prominence of Miss Ball as an outstanding moving picture and television artist is secondary to the committee's determination to be fair and just in all instances.

Sworn Affidavit

"In light of the fact that irreparable damage may result to Miss Ball unless the full extent of the committee's information is disclosed, the committee has decided to release to the press and radio a sworn affidavit given to a committee investigator by Miss Ball relating to her registration as a Communist Party voter and to her designation as a member of the State Central Committee of the Communist Party in 1936.

"Miss Ball has cooperated with the committee investigator in all respects. She has acknowledged her Communist Party registration. She was given the opportunity to testify before the committee.

"She has denied that she was ever in attendance at any Communist Party meeting, or that she participated in or attended the meeting of the Communist Party State Central Committee held in Sacramento in 1936.

"In an effort to determine the truth of these statements, the committee investigator has carried on a thorough and careful investigation.

"The then-chairman of the Communist Party State Central Committee has been interviewed to determine whether or not Miss Ball was in attendance at the convention. The then-chairman, friendly witness, co-operated fully with the committee in past investigations of Communist activity in California and has never met Miss Ball.

"Other cooperative witnesses have in the past, before the committee and cooperated fully in exposing the activities of the Communist Party in California. Miss Ball was interviewed by a committee investigator, and none has been able to identify Miss Ball as a party member during the period she is in question, nor has she at any time in any capacity of the Communist Party been a member.
Investigations Will Continue

The investigations of the committee will, of course, continue with respect to this case.

"The unusual procedure of releasing an affidavit rather than to place Miss Ball in the witness chair has been necessitated, in this instance, by the release of certain information which has led to a welter of confusion and rumor.

"The committee, in making public the transcript of Miss Ball's testimony, assumes no position of advocacy. However, it is felt that justice requires that the action be taken and that the facts available to the committee now be made available to the American people.

"During the same period that Miss Ball registered as a member of the Communist Party for purposes of voting, the same registration was effected by her mother, Mrs. Desiree Ball, and by her brother, Fred H. Ball. Her grandfather, Fred C. Hunt, since deceased, also registered as a Communist during the same period.

"The reverse side of Miss Ball's affidavit of registration indicates that on June 16, 1936, she signed a Sponsor Certificate on behalf of Emil Freed, who was a Communist Party candidate for election to the California State Assembly from the 57th Assembly District. This sponsorship is acknowledged by Miss Ball.

"The other members of Miss Ball's immediate family, who have also been interviewed by a committee investigator, likewise acknowledged the authenticity of their sponsorship to Mr. Freed, while denying any activity in or behalf of the Communist Party in any other respect.

"Miss Ball stated to the committee investigator that while she has no personal knowledge of a petition she is alleged to have signed for the repeal of the California Criminal Syndicalism Act, it is possible she did so at the request of her grandfather.

"These points, in summary, constitute the sum of the information presently in the possession of the committee, and all of the points enumerated have been acknowledged by Miss Ball in her sworn affidavit aforesaid.

"Copies of the affidavit executed by Miss Ball will be available for distribution to press and radio at 10 a.m. tomorrow."
Transcript of Star's Secret Testimony to Investigator

Here are the principal portions of the transcript of TV Star Lucille Ball's secret testimony before William Wheeler, Investigator of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, in which she admitted having registered as a Communist Party voter.

After Miss Ball stated she was appearing voluntarily and after she told how she got her start as a film actress at $50 or $75 a week in Hollywood, the testimony in part was as follows:

MR. WHEELER. When did you first register to vote?

MISS BALL. I guess the first time I ever did was in '36.

MR. WHEELER. I would like to hand you a photostatic copy of your voter's registration and ask you if that is your signature.

MISS BALL. That looks like my handwriting.

MR. WHEELER. You will note that the party that you intended to affiliate with at that time was the Communist Party.

MISS BALL. In '36.

MR. WHEELER. Yes.

MISS BALL. I guess so.

MR. WHEELER. You did register to vote then as a Communist or intending to vote as the Communist Party ticket.

MISS BALL. Yes.

MR. WHEELER. Would you go into detail and explain the background, the reason you voted or registered to vote as a Communist or person who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. It was our grandfather, Fred Hunt. He just wanted us to, and we just did something to please him. I didn't intend to vote that way.

MR. WHEELER. What was the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. It was our grandfather, Fred Hunt. He just wanted us to, and we just did something to please him. I didn't intend to vote that way.

Mr. Wheeler. Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. No, not to my knowledge.

Mr. Wheeler. Have you ever been asked to become a member of the Communist Party?

MISS BALL. I can't remember.

Mr. Wheeler. Did you ever attend any meetings that you later discovered were Communist Party meetings?

MISS BALL. No.

Mr. Wheeler. Do you know that you were registered as a Communist Party voter without your knowledge or consent.

MISS BALL. I guess not.

MR. WHEELER. Do you know who could be responsible for your name appearing on this document?

MISS BALL. Possibly.

MR. WHEELER. Did you ever attend the meeting of the State Central Committee at Sacramento.

MISS BALL. I didn't even know there was one. I still don't know what it means.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall whether or not you were contacted by any individual to obtain from you your voting proxy at the Central Committee Meeting?

MISS BALL. Never.

MR. WHEELER. I would like to refer to the report of the un-American activities in California for the year 1943, and refer page 127 of that book, which is a portion of an affidavit submitted by Rona M. Vele.

In this affidavit she has admitted she was on time a member of the Communist Party and she is discussing how she became a member.

"That within a few days after my third application to join the Communist Party was made, I received a notice to attend a meeting on North Orange Drive, Hollywood; although it was a typed, unsigned note, merely requesting my presence at the address at 3 o'clock in the morning on a given date, I knew it was the long-awaited notice to attend Communist Party meetings."
FEARED ANOTHER STROKE
That was fine, and we went along with it wherever we could. Sometimes it got a little ridiculous because my position in the so-called capitalist world was pretty good and it was a little hard to reconcile the two. We didn't argue with him very much because he had had a couple of strokes and if he got overly excited, why, he would have another one.

So finally there came a point where my brother was 21, and he was going to see that Freddie registered to help the working man, which was, in his idea then, the Communist Party. At that time it wasn't a thing to hide behind doors, to be a member of that party.

As I recall, because of this he influenced us. We thought we wanted to do him a favor. We thought we could make him happy. I was no time intended to vote. And I remember discussing it with my mother, how I could register and make him happy? When I go behind a curtain to vote, nobody knows who I am for.

He also considered it a personal victory at the time, that he had the entire family to register. He didn't influence us enough at any time to vote; at least, he didn't influence me.

DECEIVED HE WAS WRONG
He influenced us to give a great deal of thought to whether he was right or wrong, and we always decided he was wrong, because the things he was saying about didn't seem to be practical for this country. He admired the working man and the peasants all over the world, the Five-Year Plan, and anything that was great for the working man.

MR. WHEELER. He considered the Communist Party as a working man's party?

MISS BALL. That is all I ever heard. I never heard my grandfather use the word "Com-

home at 1344 North Ogden drive?

MISS BALL. No, I know nothing of that. I don't believe it is true.

MR. WHEELER. How old were you in 1938?

MISS BALL. I am 42 now;

INTRODUCED AS EVIDENCE
The document referred to was marked Ball exhibit No. 1 and was received in evidence.

MR. WHEELER. This affidavit of registration is signed by Lucille Ball and dated the nineteenth day of March, 1936.

Have you ever known an individual by the name of Emil Freed?

MISS BALL. I have never heard the name before, to my knowledge, as I recall.

MR. WHEELER. Have you ever known an individual by the name of Jacob or Jack Breger?

MISS BALL. Not until I read it today.

MR. WHEELER. Are you aware that you were a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party for the year 1936?

MISS BALL. Was I aware before you told me, you mean?

MR. WHEELER. Yes.

MISS BALL. No.

NAMED TO COMMITTEE
MR. WHEELER. Well, I would like to hand you a document entitled "Appointment of Members of the State Central Committee Meeting at Sacramento in the Year 1936." It is stamped "Communist Party." This document discloses that Emil Freed was a delegate by nomination to the State Central Committee of the Communist Party for that year. And he appointed three individuals as delegates.

Those appointed, according to the document, are Jacob Breger, 822 North Orange drive; Fred Hunt, 1344 North Ogden drive, and Lucille Ball, 1344 North Ogden drive.

Now, I would like to hand you this document and have you give any explanation that you desire.

MISS BALL. I have no explanation. I haven't signed it. I don't know where it came from, or what it means. My name is misspelled. The address is right, that is all.

GRANDFATHER NAMED
I don't know Emil Freed. I never heard of Emil Freed, and if Emil Freed appointed me as a delegate to the State Central
Ball, and also registered as a person who intended to affiliate with the Communist party on the 12th day of June, 1936. What relation is Deseree Ball to you?

MISS BALL. My mother.

MR. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not she was ever a member of the Communist party?

MISS BALL. Not to my knowledge.

MR. WHEELER. I have a second photostat here, a voter's registration, signed by Fred E. Hunt, who also intended to affiliate with the Communist party.

MISS BALL, Fred E. Hunt?

MR. WHEELER. Well, it looks like "F. E." What is his middle initial?

MISS BALL, Fred C. Hunt. Rather. This document is dated the 12th day of June, 1936, and also shows he changed the vote to Democrat 11-15-40.

MR. WHEELER. I have a third photostat here, a photo-photostat of an Affidavit of Registration, bearing the signature of Fred H. Ball, who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party in the ensuing election of 1936. It also shows the 12th day of June, 1936. What relation is Fred H. Ball to you?

MISS BALL. Brother.

MR. WHEELER. Do you know whether or not he was ever a member of the Communist party?

MISS BALL. Not to my knowledge, nor to his.

MR. WHEELER. Where is your brother presently residing?

MISS BALL. Scottsdale, Ariz.

MR. WHEELER. I have been investigating your family. Do you know whether or not he has ever been investigated by the government or any agency or employer who does government contracts, in regard to this Communist registration?

MISS BALL. Yes. I have.

MR. WHEELER. What was the outcome of this investigation?

MISS BALL. It has always been cleared.

MR. WHEELER. You mean, he has been cleared of employment or any other activity?

MISS BALL. Yes.

MR. WHEELER. I don't know. He can tell you more about that. I don't think he has always remained his political rights they are all standing up for now. Is that what it means?

MISS BALL? Did I sign it?

MR. WHEELER. Well, it means more or less like this: "An act defining criminal syndicalism and sabotage, proscribing certain acts and methods in connection herewith and in pursuance thereof and providing penalties and punishments therefore:"

MISS BALL. It is the act I had ever seen that I would have never signed it. Did I sign it?

MR. WHEELER. Well, the voters registration indicates that you did sign it. In other words, when a petition is signed they check each signature to ascertain if the individual is a registered voter. When it is ascertained that the individual is a registered voter then mark on his voter's registration, this particular number, 164-F, which indicates the person who registered did sign that petition. However, I have been unable to locate the actual petition.

MISS BALL. Because you register you are in sympathy with all this (indicating)?

MR. WHEELER. Well, it indicates as much. I mean, if a person signs a particular document requesting that the Criminal Syndicalism Act be removed from the statutes, it would seem to indicate to me that you would be against the Criminal Syndicalism Act.

SHE DOESN'T KNOW

MISS BALL. Well, anyway, I don't know what it means.

MR. WHEELER. You were previously contacted by myself, an investigator for the House Committee on Un-American Activities?

MISS BALL. Yes.

MR. WHEELER. Do you recall the date as April 3, 1937?

MISS BALL. Yes.

MR. WHEELER. Are you acquainted with the Committee of the First Amendment?

MISS BALL. Am I acquainted with it?

MR. WHEELER. Yes.

MISS BALL. Not to my knowledge.
time I was of a mind to try to do something that would please Daddy. It just didn’t seem like an important, awful thing to do, like it does these days. But, to my knowledge, I didn’t ever see the first part of this certificate I signed.

MISS BALL. What does it mean?

MR. WHEELER. Criminal Syndicalism.

MISS BALL. I didn’t see it.

MR. WHEELER. According to the vote’s registration for the year 1936, the reverse part of it, you signed a petition 164 F. This particular petition was for the Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act in California.

MISS BALL. I don’t know what it means.

MR. WHEELER. The Communists were taken to court and tried for criminal syndicalism, and—

MISS BALL. And I signed something else.

MR. WHEELER. You signed this petition to take the Criminal Syndicalism Act off the statutes of the State of California.

MISS BALL. I did; that is, without my knowledge. May I see the signature?

MR. WHEELER. Unfortunately, they have been destroyed, those particular petitions.

MISS BALL. By whom?

MR. WHEELER. They are retained a few years, under law, and they can be destroyed.

NICE TO DADDY WEEK

MISS BALL. Was this the same time we were being nice to Daddy week?

MR. WHEELER. It was in the year 1936. However, I do have a photostat of a sample copy of the petition which was dated July 10, 1936, and this particular petition was circulated by the California Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act at 68 Haight street, San Francisco, Cali. Have you ever heard of that organization?

MISS BALL. No.

MR. WHEELER. It was also circulated by the Southern California Council for Constitutional Rights, 113 West Second street, Room 224, Los Angeles, Calif. Have you ever heard of this second organization?

MISS BALL. No. I have since then, probably, I imagine that it goes with the radical American business scientists; constitution—

WORKING ON PICTURE

MISS BALL. Fine. Then I have no knowledge of signing it. However, I do recall I was at a studio, and I was working on a picture and I got a call in the afternoon. I don’t know who called me. I assume now—I did then—it was the Screen Actors Guild, but I can be wrong. I don’t know who called me now.

It was something that was through a union or the studio wouldn’t have felt compelled to send me off a set and hold up production until I got back. It had nothing to do with me.

I got the call to go to a radio station. As I remember, it was MG-M—it may not have been. I remember an executive excused me and sent me to this broadcast.

I got down there and said “What am I supposed to do?” She said, “Dorothy Peterson,”—whenever she is—“she is ill. We have to go on the air.”

PETITION ON OKIES

I haven’t seen her in years; I don’t know her.

She said, “Will you read this?”

It was a long petition, or whatever you call them, as I recall. As I recall—I am not certain of this—it was about the Okies upstate California, Fresno or some place, about admitting the Okies. I read it. They thanked me and they sent me back to work.

I don’t know how long after that that it was, that I was called downtown in an FBI office and asked why I did it. Apparently, it was wrong. It was my first knowledge it was wrong.

I had no answer at all, because I didn’t do it by own volition. I had been sent there. It didn’t seem wrong to go some place the studio had sent you.

HAD NO REASON

I tried to explain why I had done it. I had no reason except that I had been called.

MR. WHEELER. How long ago did you go to the FBI?

MISS BALL. I have no idea.

I have no idea when I did this broadcast. I have no idea how long after that they called me. But that is the first time I ever—

MISS BALL. It was three or four years ago.

MR. WHEELER. Did they discuss with you at any time—

MISS BALL. No. I have since then, probably, I imagine that it goes with the radical American business scientists; constitution—
I certainly will do anything in the world to prove that we made a bad mistake by, for one week or a couple of weeks, trying to appease an old man. But there has never been any thought of belonging or wanting to belong to the Communist Party.

MR. WHEELER. I have no further questions. Thank you for your cooperation.

It sounds a little weak and silly and corny now, but at the time it was very important because we knew we weren't going to have Daddy with us very long. If it made him happy, it was important at the time. But I was always conscious of the fact I could go just so far to make him happy. I tried not to go any farther.

ALWAYS FOR ROOSEVELT

In those days that was not a big, terrible thing to do. It was almost as terrible to be a Republican in those days. I have never been too civic-minded and certainly never political-minded in my life.

Since I got any feelings on the subject at all, we went maybe a little strongly Democratic one year and we got into trouble doing that. That is when Roosevelt was still alive. We were always very much for Roosevelt and did everything that Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt asked us to, as all of Hollywood, or as most of Hollywood was doing.

He was the only President I had ever known. It was a wonderful thing to get out and help him with his March of Dimes or bond tours during the war, and we were very busy. Never in my life have I had any other feeling than the Communists were wrong, that anybody in this town would dare to think of changing any of it or complaining about what they had is just the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard of.

I certainly was never in sympathy with the Dmytryks. I can't remember any of the other names.

How we got to signing a few things, or going among some people that thought differently, that has happened to all of us out here in the past 10 or 12 years, and it is unfortunate, but...
They Still 'Love Lucy' — Public, Sponsor, Gov't, CBS Assure Ball As Storm Subsides

Everybody still loves Lucy!

That's what CBS-TV v.p. Harry Ackerman said yesterday, following a Communist-labeling madstorm involving the network's top star, Lucille Ball. Ackerman said public reaction thus far has been overwhelmingly with the actress, given a clean bill of health by the House Un-American Activities Committee after it was disclosed she filed a Communist voting registration in 1936.

Philip Morris, sponsor of the nation's No. 1 video show, "I Love Lucy," starring Miss Ball and her husband, Desi Arnaz, has also expressed complete satisfaction, "and is in Lucy's corner," Ackerman said. Miss Ball has been flooded with wires from all over the country, with the fans saying they're on her side, states Ackerman.

"We've had very few phone calls, and virtually all were favorable. The people seem to think this thing is silly, not serious, and they all love Lucy," Ackerman enthused.

The CBS-TV exec, who said he knew of Miss Ball's testimony, Sept. 4, 1952, before House Un-American Activities Committee investigator William Wheeler since last Fall, said that the record is now clear for anyone to read, and that the network "is satisfied, just as are Rep. Donald Jackson and Wheeler that Miss Ball is not and never has been a member of the Communist Party."

He said he had discussed the case with CBS toppers in NY, and that reaction seemed to be the same throughout the country. The press has been generally fair. We are pleased at the attitude of the trade and the press who have offered their support, he added.

By late afternoon Friday, after the first story was broken by the L.A. Herald-Express, Miss Ball was given a clean bill of health by the House Un-American Activities Committee which emphasized, in an unprecedented action, that "there is no indication that Miss Ball ever was a member of the Communist Party." Save for the potential seriousness of the situation, the rapid-fire events of the weekend assumed an opera bouffe quality that might have been taken right out of an "I Love Lucy" script.

First "I Love Lucy" film of the season was filmed as scheduled Friday night before an audience that applauded Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz who asked that the public study the transcript of the act's interrogation by the House Un-American Activities Committee before forming any opinions.

CBS sources said Miss Ball had received hundreds of telegrams expressing good wishes from video fans. A transcript of the interrogation released Saturday, mentions that a former Communist, Bena M. Vale, told the State Un-American Activities (Tenny) Committee that she had attended a CP meeting at Miss Ball's home in 1936. Her testimony indicated that the meeting may have been conducted by the actress' grandfather, but Miss Ball said she had no knowledge of any such meeting.

The information concerning Miss Ball's voting registration was a matter of public record. Jackson pointed out, and the Committee has known for some months that "independent sources" were checking on the situation. The Committee's investigation thus far had not warranted any publicity, he added. The Committee member added that he was satisfied there had been no "leakage" of information from Committee sources but pointed out there was nothing that could be done about publication by "independent sources" of material which was in public record.

Rep. Jackson's press conference at which he gave Miss Ball's clean bill of health was comprehensively shown on KNXT, CBS-TV station here, Friday night in an astute piece of public relations work by the web. Both the L.A. Times and the L.A. Examiner devoted over a full page yesterday to carrying the full transcript of Miss Ball's testimony before the House investigator. It was very evident that the complete coverage given the story by the newspapers here as well as those in key cities all across the country greatly helped Miss Ball fully present her side of the story.
ILE FROM LUCY — Actress Lucille Ball laughs as her husband, Desi Arnez, contemplates an answer after her Red-Flag question. "I’m going to the doctors," he said. The two are starlets of CBS’s "I Love Lucy," and are shown at a recent location on the show's Los Angeles set. Setting aside their personal worries, the two are to appear in a live special on NBC, July 4th.

9-13-53
Lucille Ball Explains 1936 Communist Link

Star Confident Election Registration Won’t Prove Damaging to Her Career

Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz faced the press beside the swimming pool of their Chatsworth ranch home yesterday and said they were glad the truth was out about Lucy’s fleeting affair with Communist politicians 17 years ago.

The nation’s top television star and her costarring husband were interviewed at home by the House Un-American Activities Committee released the transcript of her secret testimony before it.

(The full transcript starts in adjoining columns on Page 1 of today’s Times.)

Confidence Expressed

Miss Ball, the red-haired star of TV’s “I Love Lucy,” said she was confident the current stir over her registration as a Communist in 1936 would not damage her career.

“Hurt me?” she said. “I have more faith in the American people than that. I think any time you give the American people the truth they’re with you.”

Miss Ball told that records showed she had not only registered as a Communist but also voted the Communist ticket in 1936, declared she couldn’t remember voting at all.

There were press agents present. One stepped forward, told Lucy she had voted after all, in the primary election, although she had failed to vote in the following general election.


Big deal.

By Side

Desi and Lucy sat side by side in a green canvas yacht chairs under the trees beside the rustic pool which Desi himself designed. She wore pink linen slacks and an embroiled white silk blouse. Her orange hair was caught up in a thick bow.

Lucy explained why neither nor Desi had made any public statement during the year and a half that her brief political past had been under investigation.

“They told us not to talk to people,” she said. “They said there was no reason to talk to anybody.”

Telephone Home

Lucy said the quiet investigation which exploded last week in the public eye began a year ago last April, when an investigator for the House committee, William Wheeler, telephoned the Arnaz home and said he would like to interrogate her.

“I got news for you,” Desi interrupted. “I investigated him! He called up the FBI. I say, ‘Who is this Wheeler?’ They tell me there is a man named Wheeler, all right, but I should like to see his credentials.

Lucy said Wheeler visited the house and talked to her.

“He asked only a few questions,” she said. “There was no sworn testimony. Then he said, ‘I’m satisfied, there’s nothing wrong here. Thank you very much. You’ll probably never hear of this again.’

Asked why, then, the investigation was revived, Lucy said:

“That’s their business. When Mr. Wheeler came back, I was glad to see him. If he had any questions he wanted to ask, I wanted to answer them.

Cuban-born Desi agreed.

“Any time there are rumors of any kind it’s their duty to investigate,” he said. “So it didn’t happen here what it happened in Cuba.”

Lucy explained why neither nor Desi had made any public statement during the year and a half that her brief political past had been under investigation.

“They told us not to talk to people,” she said. “They said there was no reason to talk to anybody.”

Express Gratitude

Both Desi and Lucy expressed deep gratitude for the heartwarming reception an audience of 300 fans gave them Friday night when they filmed an “I Love Lucy” sequence for an October release.

“I was pretty numb,” said Lucy. “But I was thrilled that the way the audience acted. It was sensational. Unbelievable. More than you could hope for.

She said there had not been another letter note in the public reaction.

“They tell me telegrams have poured in by the thousands at the studio, and there hasn’t been a single dissenting vote, anywhere.”

Miss Ball Insisted she was glad the whole thing was out. We asked them, begged them to bring it out.

She said she had not even met Rep. Donald L. Jackson, who has stated emphatically that Miss Ball was never a member of the Communist Party or involved in Communist activity.

“All I know is I saw his picture in the morning paper. He said, ‘He’s a pretty good looking guy.’

Hold Back Tears

Two or three times during the interview Lucy’s saucy eyes welled up, but she held them back. Lest anyone think they took the situation lightly. Desi kissed her on the cheek from time to time and murmured:

“This has been terrible, terrible.

While Lucy was pretending to be tears, she told the interviewer she had climbed off. He climbed off, the whole pool. He kept yelling, dripping, and cool.

“You know, Desi,” said a reporter, yesterday was one of the hottest days of the year.

“You talkin’ me?” said Desi.

Career Question

“Now, Lucy,” he said. “I wanna tell you. I have been married to you 15 years and on that time you have signed away how many upholstered chairs and papers. And you haven’t read one of them yet.”

“Didn’t you think then, back in 1936, that this might hurt your career?” Lucy was asked.

“Career!” said Lucy, “I didn’t have any career. I was just a stock girl at RKO. Down in the small print it said I had to sweep out the office if the workman didn’t want it.”

“How old were you then?”

“I don’t even know how old I am now,” snapped 42-year-old Lucy.

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BCT 2
Lucille Ball’s Testimony on Red Link Released by House Committee

Testimony of Television Star

Lucille Ball concerning her registration as a Communist in 1936 was released yesterday by Rep. Donald L. Jackson (R) of the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Release of the transcript followed the sensational disclosure that the red-hairied actress had registered to vote as a Communist Party ticket 17 years ago, when she was 24 years old.

Jackson issued a statement after the disclosure saying that while she had registered as a Communist, evidence now before the committee indicates Miss Ball never had a role in the Communist Party.

He ordered the transcript released for publication, as the actress requested, to “present Miss Ball’s status factually and officially.”

The transcript was made available by William A. Wheeler, Westinghouse Investigator for the House committee. It identifies her appearance before Wheeler in executive session last Sept. 4 in Hollywood.

In addition to the actress’ testimony, that of her mother and brother is also given. They have also registered to vote as Communists.

Three exhibits, including a copy of her registration, were made a part of the transcript, and are further identified in the testimony.

“Following is the complete record of her testimony as taken by Investigator Wheeler.”

Wheeler: How long have you been engaged as an actress?
Miss Ball: Since ’33, I guess.
Wheeler: What is your educational background?
Miss Ball: Just school, high school.
Wheeler: Are you under subpoena or are you appearing voluntarily?
Miss Ball: I am appearing voluntarily.
Wheeler: You graduated from high school?
Miss Ball: No, I didn’t even graduate.
Wheeler: You have been employed in motion picture work since that time, since you left school?
Miss Ball: No, I was in New York working.
Wheeler: How long have you been a resident here?
Miss Ball: ’33.
Wheeler: You have been acting since that time?
Miss Ball: Yes.
Wheeler: For whom have you worked in the studios?
Miss Ball: Goldwyn and Columbia and RKO and Paramount and M-G-M.

Wheeler: How much does it pay you a week?
Miss Ball: Where were you employed in 1936?
Miss Ball: I was, I think, RKO. It might have been Columbia.
Wheeler: What was your salary bracket in 1936, approximately?
Miss Ball: Well, if it was at Columbia I was getting $75 a week. If it was RKO I was getting $50.
Wheeler: Did you have any screen credits at that time?
Miss Ball: I might have been getting more in ’36, maybe $75.
Wheeler: Did you have any screen credits at that time?
Miss Ball: No screen credits. Maybe a bit part here and there. I doubt that, even in ’36, possibly a bit part.
Wheeler: Did you ever reside at 1344 N Ogden Drive?
Miss Ball: Yes.
Wheeler: Where were you born?
Miss Ball: Jamestown, N.Y.
Wheeler: You are presently resident of Los Angeles County?
Miss Ball: Yes.
Wheeler: And your parents?
Miss Ball: Actress, television actress now.

Rented Her House
Wheeler: Who owned that residence?
Miss Ball: We rented it.
Wheeler: When did you first register to vote?
Miss Ball: I guess the first time I ever did was in ’36.
Wheeler: I would like to hand you a photostatic copy of a voter’s registration and ask you if that is your signature.
Miss Ball: That looks like my handwriting.
Wheeler: You will note that the party that you intended to affiliate with at that time was the Communist Party.
Miss Ball: Yes.
Wheeler: In ’36.
Miss Ball: I guess so.

Explains Background
Wheeler: You did register to vote then as a Communist intending to vote the Communist Party ticket?
Miss Ball: Yes.
Wheeler: Would you go into detail and explain the background, the reason you voted or registered to vote as a Communist or person who intended to affiliate with the Communist Party?
Miss Ball: It was our grandfather, Fred Hunt. He just wanted us to and we just did something to please him. I did not intend to vote that way. As I recall, I didn’t.

My grandfather started years ago—he was a Socialist as long as I can remember. He is the only father we ever knew, my grandfather. My father died when I was tiny, before my brother was born. He was my brother’s only father.

Taken by Daily Worker

Though his life was the farce of a Socialist, as far back as Eugene V. Debs, and he was in sympathy with the working man as long as I have known and he took the Daily Worker.

It never meant much to me because he was so radical, the subject that he pressed I point a little too much. Actually, probably, during our childhood, because he finally ever our heads and we did do anything but consider his nuisance, but as a dad, and got into his 70’s, and it became so vital to him that the world must be right 21 hours a day, he was truly his damnedest to do the best he could for everybody—specially the working man that is, from the garbage in the kitchen, the studio worker, the facts in the worker. He never lost a chance to do what he considered to be their positions.

That was fine, and we along with it, whenever could. Sometimes it got a little ridiculous because my position in the so-called capitalist world was pretty good and was a little hard to recon the two. We didn’t argue with him very much because he had a couple of strokes and he got overly excited, why, would have another one.

Does Favor for Him

So finally there came a particular time where my brother was 21, and he was going to see that F. L. still registered to help the working man, who was, in his id...
as they talked to the friend, early in the morning, or anybody doing any kind of a menial task, he would say, "Why are you doing that? Why aren't you doing something else?"

He was just a fanatic on bettering the world. That is as far as we know, and that is why we could endorse it at all.

Never a Red

Wheeler: Have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?
Miss Ball: No, not to my knowledge.
Wheeler: Have you ever been asked to become a member of the Communist Party?
Miss Ball: No.
Wheeler: Did you ever attend any meetings that you later discovered were Communist Party meetings?
Miss Ball: No.
Wheeler: Do you know whether or not any meetings were ever held in your home at 1341 N Ogden Drive?
Miss Ball: No.

Asked About Fred

Wheeler: I know nothing of that. I don't believe it is true.

Wheeler: How old were you in 1926?
Miss Ball: I am 20 now.
Wheeler: I would like to introduce the affidavit of registration as Ball Exhibit No. 1, Registration No. 847854. (The document referred to was marked Ball Exhibit No. 1 and was received in evidence.)
Wheeler: This affidavit of registration is signed by Lucille Ball and dated the 19th day of March, 1926. Have you ever known an individual by the name of Emil Freed?
Member of Committee
Miss Ball: I have never heard the name before, to my knowledge, as I recall.
Wheeler: Have you ever known an individual by the name of Jacob or Jack Breger?
Miss Ball: Not until I read it today.
Wheeler: Are you aware that you were a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party for the year 1936?
Miss Ball: Was I aware before you told me, you mean?
Wheeler: Yes.
Miss Ball: No.
Wheeler: Well, I would like to hand you a document entitled "Appointment of Members of the State Central Committee Meeting at Sacramento in the Year 1926." It is stamped "Communist Party" and this document discloses that Emil Freed was a delegate by nomination to the State Committee of the Communist Party for that year. And he appointed three individuals as delegates.

Has No Explanation

Those appointed, according to the document, are Jacob Breger, 822 N Orange Drive; Fred Hunt, 1341 N Ogden Drive; and Lucille Ball, 1341 N Ogden Drive.

Wheeler: Now I would like to hand you this document and have you give any explanation that you desire.
Miss Ball: I have no explanation. I haven't signed it. I don't know where it came from or what. My name is misspelled. The address is right, that is all.
Wheeler: I don't know Emil Freed. I never heard of Emil Freed and if Emil Freed appointed me as a delegate to the State Central Committee it was done without my knowledge or consent.
Wheeler: I notice your grandfather, Fred Hunt, was also appointed as a delegate for the year 1936. Were you aware of that?

Didn't Attend Meeting

Wheeler: Do you know who could be responsible for your name appearing on this document?
Miss Ball: Possibly my grandfather, Fred Hunt.
Wheeler: Do you recall if anyone contacted you in 1926 in regard to obtaining your proxy to vote?
Miss Ball: No, except my grandfather. Is that what you mean?
Wheeler: You stated that you were appointed without your knowledge or consent, is that right?
Miss Ball: That is right.
Wheeler: I assume you did not attend the meeting of the State Central Committee at Sacramento.

Introduction as Exhibit
Miss Ball: I didn't even know there was one. I still don't know what it means.
Wheeler: Do you recall whether or not you were contacted by any individual in order to obtain from you your voting proxy at the Central Committee meeting in Sacramento?
Miss Ball: Never.
Wheeler: I will introduce as Ball Exhibit No. 2, dated the 15th day of September, 1926.
Miss Ball: I should say never, to my knowledge.
- \textbf{At the Meeting}\n
That there were about seven or eight other members of this class, but the only names I recall are those of Herb Harris, an actor, whom I encountered from time to time within the Communist Party, and who took part in the play The Blackguard," which ran for several years in Los Angeles around 1928 and 1933, and Libby Jacobson, who, in 1933, was active in consumer cooperatives in Los Angeles.

Do you have any knowledge of any meetings held in your home. Miss Ball?\n
Wheeler: None whatsoever.

Miss Ball: I have heard the name before in my life.

\textbf{Never Left Alone}\n
Wheeler: Are you acquainted with or have you ever been acquainted with Sidney Martin or Sidney Davidson?\n
Miss Ball: No, sir. I never heard the name.

Wheeler: Are you acquainted with or have you ever been acquainted with Herb Harris?\n
Miss Ball: I never heard the name.

Wheeler: Do you know whether or not he was ever a member of the Communist Party?\n
Miss Ball: Not to my knowledge. No, I don't think so.

Wheeler: Where is your brother presently residing?\n
Miss Ball: Scottsdale, Ariz.

Wheeler: Do you know whether or not he has ever been investigated by the government or any agency or employer who does government contract work in regard to the Communist registration?\n
Miss Ball: Yes, I do.

Wheeler: What was the outcome of this investigation?\n
Miss Ball: He has always been cleared.

\textbf{Asked About Work}\n
Wheeler: You mean he retained his employment?\n
Miss Ball: I think so. I don't know. He can tell you more about that. I don't think he has always retained his employment, no. If during the war there was a hint of that suspicion, the investigation probably went on, but you didn't retain your employment.

Wheeler: I notice now that your mother and your brother are both grandparents and registered on the 25th day of March. Is there any significance to that?\n
Miss Ball: Not to my knowledge.
ing the document. It states that you are the man and a morally, physically and mentally qualified.

Miss Ball: It is something I signed without looking at it, or if I looked at it, it didn’t seem like a big thing at the time.

Grandfather Signed, Too

Wheeler: I believe your grandfather’s signature appears on there, as well as the whole family.

Miss Ball: Yes, Fred, myself and my mother and my grandmother. My name appears on the second page of this document. Our names appear there. It is possible that this was handed to us just as a list of names, with no strong-sounding sponsor certificate on the front of it.

I don’t recall that I ever heard anything from the other one. I don’t recall that I ever heard any word from the other one. I don’t recall that I ever heard any word from the other one.

Miss Ball: Well, I don’t recall that I ever heard anything from the other one. I don’t recall that I ever heard any word from the other one.

Wheeler: Are you familiar with the words or the phrase “criminal syndicalism”?

Miss Ball: I have no idea what it means.

Wheeler: Criminal syndicalism?

Miss Ball: What does it mean?

Wheeler: According to the voter’s registration for the year 1936, the reverse part of it, you signed a petition 164-E.

[This particular petition was for the Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act in California.]

Miss Ball: What does it mean?

Wheeler: The Communist Party in California was taken to court and tried for criminal syndicalism, and I signed something else.

Wheeler: You signed this petition to take the Criminal Syndicalism Act off the statutes of the State of California.

Miss Ball: I didn’t; that is, without my knowledge. May I see the signature?

Wheeler: Unfortunately, they have been destroyed, those particular petitions.

Miss Ball: By whom?

Wheeler: They are retained in a manner under law, and cannot be destroyed.

Miss Ball: Was this the same time we were being nice to Daddy this week?

Wheeler: It was in the year 1936. However, I do have a photocopy of a sample copy of the petition which was dated July 10, 1936, and this particular petition was circulated by the California Conference for the Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act at 68 Haight St., San Francisco, Cal. Have you ever heard of that organization?

Miss Ball: No.

Miss Ball: Has Heard of Group

Wheeler: It was also circulated by the Southern California Councils for Constitutional Rights, 129 W 2nd St., Room 255, Los Angeles, Calif. Have you or any one of your family any knowledge of this organization?

Miss Ball: No. I have since then, probably. I imagine that it is something that is not liked by the un-American business activities, construction rights they are all standing up for now. Is that what it means?

Wheeler: Well, it means more than this: “An act defining criminal syndicalism and sabotage, prescribing certain acts and methods in connection therewith and in pursuance thereof and providing penalties and punishments therefor.”

Miss Ball: If I ever seem to have signed it, I would have none signed it. Did I sign it?

Wheeler: Signing Indicated

Wheeler: Well, the voter’s registration indicates that you did sign it. In other words, when a petition is signed they check each signature, to ascertain if the individual is a registered voter.

When it is ascertained that the individual is a registered voter they mark on his voter’s registration, this particular number, 164-E, which indicates the person who registered did sign that petition. However, I have been unable to locate the actual petition.

Miss Ball: Because you register they are in sympathy with all this (indicating): Wheeler: It would indicate as such, if a person signed a particular document requesting that the Criminal Syndicalism Act be removed from the statutes it would seem to indicate to me that you would be sympathetic to the Criminal Syndicalism Act.

Wheeler: You were previously contacted by myself, an investigator for the House Committee on American Activities. Miss Ball: Yes.

Miss Ball: Never Joined Committee

Wheeler: You recall the date as April 3, 1932?

Miss Ball: Yes.

Wheeler: Are you acquainted with the Committee of the First Amendment?

Miss Ball: Yes.

Wheeler: Have you been acquainted with the Committee of the First Amendment?

Miss Ball: Yes.

Wheeler: Miss Ball: Not to my knowledge.

Wheeler: Or were you a member of the Committee of the First Amendment?

Miss Ball: No.

Wheeler: Miss Ball: Not to my knowledge.

Wheeler: Well, your name is mentioned in the Daily People’s World, the issue of 10-24-47, page 1, columns 5 and 6, as one of the high personalities who were sponsoring or a member of the Committee of the First Amendment.

Wheeler: Can’t Recall Signing

That committee was formed here in Hollywood to oppose the Congressional hearings in 1931.

Miss Ball: If I ever seem to have signed it, I would have none signed it. Did I sign it?

Wheeler: Refresh my memory on it. I can’t imagine ever signing that. Did I sign that, too? Was it under an assumed name?

Wheeler: That I don’t know. Was there a reference to it. Miss Ball: What is the People’s World? Is that like the Daily Worker?

Wheeler: Yes, a Communist publication of the Western States.

Wheeler: Ask to See Copy

Miss Ball: In ’47, that certainly was not for Grandpa. Grandpa was gone by then. I can’t imagine doing anything for these people. If I was hoodwinked into it, with one of those long-demoted, down-names, that is something else. I would like to see it. Could I see that?

Wheeler: I don’t know if I have the copy of the People’s World for that date.

Miss Ball: Am I supposed to have signed something as being in sympathy?

Wheeler: Your name was used as:

Miss Ball: Was it used or did I sign something?

Wheeler: I have no knowledge of signing it. However, I do recall it was in a studio, and I was working on a picture and I got a call in the afternoon. I don’t know who called me. I assume now I did then—it was the Screen Actors Guild, but I can’t recall. I don’t know who called me now. It was something that was through a union so the studio wouldn’t have felt compelled to send me off set and hold up production until I got back. It had nothing to do with me.

I got the call to go to a radio station. As I remember, it was the MGM—may not have been. I remember an executive came and sat me down and started to broadcast.

I got down there and said, “What am I supposed to do?”

She said, “Dorothy Petersen, you are the—she is in the audience. We have to go out on the air.”

Read a Petition

I haven’t seen her in years. I don’t know her.

She said, “Will you read this?”

It was a long petition, whichever you call it, a recall. As I recall—I am not...
sure of this—it was about the
Okies upstate California, no or some place, about admitting the Okies. I read it. They thanked me and they sent me back to work.

I don't know how long after that it was that I was called downtown in an FBI office and asked why I did it. Apparently, it was wrong. It was my first knowledge it was wrong.

I had no answer at all, because I hadn't done it of my own volition. I had been sent there. It didn't seem wrong to go. Some place the studio had sent you.

I need to explain why I had done it. I had no reason except I had been called.

Wheeler: How long ago did you go to the FBI?

Miss Ball: I have no idea. I have no idea when I did this broadcast. I have no idea how long after that they called me. But that is the first time I ever—

Wheeler: It was three or four years ago?

Miss Ball: It is more than that.

Wheeler: Did they discuss with you at that time?

Miss Ball: Must have been six, eight, nine years ago, maybe 10. There were two broadcasts. I don't know who sent me on the first one and I don't know what the second one was about. It was something the everybody was doing. You just get asked to do these things. I again was called in at the last minute.

'I Don't Know'

I had nothing to do with whatever it was. I didn't know what I was doing, but you assumed at the time, when you are called by a union or one of your— I don't know who called me. I know both times I was called to replace someone.

Wheeler: Did you discuss this material today with the FBI or did they question you regarding your voter's register?

Miss Ball: No. That was apparently just something I heard on the radio I shouldn't have. I don't know.

Wheeler: Do you have anything in addition you would like to add for the record?

Miss Ball: I am very happy to have this opportunity to discuss all the things that have cropped up, that apparently I have done wrong.

Never Helped Reds

I am aware of only one thing I did was wrong, and that at the time wasn't wrong, but apparently now it is, and that was registering because my grandfather wanted us to. I at no time thought it was the thing to do, nor did I ever intend to vote in the Presidential election. I guess it was at that time, I don't know. To my knowledge I didn't vote, but I did register. Since then I have never done anything knowingly against the United States, I have never done anything for Communists, to my knowledge, at any time. I have never contributed money or attended a meeting or ever had anything to do with people connected with it, if to my knowledge they were.

I am not a Communist now. I never have been. I never wanted to be. Nothing in the world could ever change my mind. At no time in my life have I ever been in sympathy with anything that even faintly resembled it. I was always opposed (indicating) to how my grandfather felt about any other way this country should be run. I thought things were just the way they were.

I sounds a little weak and silly and corny now, but at the time was very important because we knew we were going to have daddy with us very long. If it made him happy, it was important at the time. But I was always conscious of the fact I could go just so far to make him happy. I tried not to go any farther.

'Never Political Minded'

In those days that was not a big, terrible thing to do. It was almost as terrible to be a Republican in those days. I have never been too civic-minded and certainly never political-minded in my life.

Since I got any feelings on the subject at all, we went maybe a little strongly Democratic one year and we got into trouble doing that. That is when Roosevelt was still alive. We were always very much for Roosevelt and did everything that Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt asked us to do, as all of Hollywood, or as most of Hollywood, was doing.

He was the only President I had ever known. It was a wonderful thing to get out and help him with his March of Dimes or bond tours during the war and we were very busy. Never in my life have I had any other feeling than the Communists were wrong, that anybody in this town would dare to think of changing anything of it or complaining about what they had is just the most ridiculous thing I have ever heard of.

Questioning Ends

I certainly was never in sympathy with the Dmytryks, I can't remember any of the other names.

How we got to signing a few things or going among some people that thought differently, that has happened to all of us here in the last 10 or 12 years and it is unfortunate, but I certainly will do anything in the world to prove that we made a bad mistake by, for one week or a couple of weeks, trying to appear an old man. But there has never been any thought of belonging or wanting to belong to the Communist Party.

Wheeler: I have no further questions. Thank you for your cooperation.
TOWN MEETING

Says Lucy Didn’t Seem Red

Town Meeting: One of the surest ways to promote communism is to convince the rank and file that a loved one doesn’t find it repugnant. I don’t number myself among the followers of “I Love Lucy,” because television is for me still too “nouveau,” “joven,” or expensive—I don’t even own a set—but I do know Lucy is loved by millions of Americans. I knew Lucille Ball in 1936. If she was a communist then she was the queerest-acting communist (besides being the greatest actress) anyone ever heard of. She was not a communist.

The fourth estate has a responsibility to the nation in direct proportion to the number of people it influences. To use its influence to subvert is to turn freedom of the press into license and lawlessness.

—RUTH AGNEW.

HOLLYWOOD CITIZEN-NEWS
SEPTEMBER 6, 1953
KLASS PALMER, JR. - MANAGING EDITOR
Dear Winchell;

What are these bums trying to prove? Lucille Ball defended the UNFRIENDLY TEN as late as 1948 and Granpop was not around to guide her at that time.

Clyne of the Biow Agency knew this dame was on the Pinko side when he signed her for Morris Cigarettes. Now Metro and the Morris people are trying to save what they can out of the mess by pushing aside Winchell and others who had the guts to PROVE THAT THIS DAME SIGNED WITH THE COMMIE PARTY.

Ball is 42 now. In 1936 she was 29—well over the 21 year old mark and should have had all of her marbles regarding political parties. FIVE YEARS AGO 1948, she STILL SHOULD HAVE HAD ENOUGH BRAINS TO KNOW THAT THE UNFRIENDLY TEN OF HOLLYWOOD WERE STILL COMMIE BUMS....But no she went along with them.

If Walter Winchell had bothered to call Dizie he would have handed Winchell the same lies he handed the Herald Express the other day—namely she never registered as a member of the Communist Party. WHEN THE HERALD HAD THE SIGNED PROOF RUNNING IN THE PAPER AS DEZIE DENIED IT. I still think the show should be called

I LOATHE LUCY and every real American feels that way too.
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: SAC, Los Angeles (100-41702)

FROM: Director, FBI (100-400465)

DATE: September 24, '55

SUBJECT: LUCILLE BALL, was.
SECURITY MATTER – C

For the additional information of your office and the completion of your file, there are attached two copies of a self-explanatory communication forwarded to the Bureau by Mr. Walter Winchell under postmark of 9-18-'53. The writer of the attached letter is not identifiable in Bufiles.

Since the envelope in which this communication was transmitted to Winchell is not available to the Bureau, neither the postmark nor the point of origination can be determined.

In view of the source of the attached, you are requested that, in the event it is necessary to utilize this information at some future time, the source be fully protected and the material paraphrased appropriately.

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-28-53 BY 375
375 375

100-41702 - 20
SEARCHED SERIAL: 12/95
SEP 29 1953
FBI - LOS ANGELES
War Vets Protest
To 'Lucy's' Sponsor

Indianapolis, Oct. 6 — A war veterans group here made public today a petition it has sent to Philip Morris protesting the cigarette company's employment of Lucille Ball as star of "I Love Lucy" on the CBS-TV network. Vets based their complaint against Miss Ball on fact she once registered to vote as a Communist in a California Primary Election.

The vets, who identified themselves as including two former American Legion Post commanders, warned Philip Morris that they will boycott that company's cigarettes until Miss Ball is replaced. Indianapolis is the national headquarters of the American Legion.
CHARGE-OUT SLIP

FILE 00 4138 V 12-9-52
Class Number Last Serial Date

Serials 22 12th Date

Serials 14 9th Date

Serials Date

Employee: 

RECHARGE Date

To: From: b7c
One of the points to be cleared up about Lucille Ball as announced by Congressman Jackson, appears on Pages 107 and 108 of the 1943 Taftney Report. Hearing transcript quoted John M. Weatherwax as testifying under oath that he knew her and that he was appointed to the Party's State Central Committee at the same time she was. Weatherwax may be called to testify again on how well he knew Lucy.

The Hollywood Reporter
9-18-53
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FD-5
(7-10-52)
'WGA released a pamphlet entitled Investigation of Communist Activities in the Los Angeles area, Part 7, which includes testimony of the following individuals given before the committee on September 4, 1953 in California:

Lucile Desiree Dale Arnaez
Desiree Ball
Fred Henry Ball

A copy of this pamphlet is enclosed for the Bureau and each office receiving a copy of this communication.

For the information of the Phoenix office there is enclosed herewith a copy of Bureau communication No. 500 dated June 1, 1953, outlining the procedure to be followed in reviewing WGA testimony.

see 101
DIRECTOR, FBI (100-400465) 12/16/53

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-41702)

LUCILLE BALL, was.
3M-C

ReBulet dated 1/18/52 captioned "CP, U.S.A., DISTRICT 13, Los Angeles Division, IS-C" and remyAir-Tel to Bureau 9/11/53 captioned "HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES".

The subject furnished an executive statement to WILLIAM A. WHEELER, West Coast Representative, House Committee on Un-American Activities, on September 4, 1953, at Hollywood, California. BALL stated that in 1936 she registered to vote as a Communist or intended to vote the Communist Party ticket because her grandfather, FRED HUNT, now deceased, wanted her to register as such. She stated that FRED HUNT had been a Socialist all his life and she had registered as a Communist to make him happy and to do him a favor. She stated she at no time intended to vote as a Communist.

BALL stated she has never been a member of the Communist Party to "her knowledge"; had never been asked to become a Communist Party member; did not ever attend any meetings which she later discovered were Communist Party meetings; did not know whether or not any meetings were ever held at her home at 1344 North Ogden Drive; stated she did not know EMIL FREED and if he had appointed her as a delegate to the State Central Committee of the Communist Party in 1936 it was done without her knowledge or consent; did not recall signing the document sponsoring EMIL FREED for the Communist Party nomination to the office of member of the assembly of the 57th District; and has never heard of the California Conference for Repeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act, the Southern California Council for Constitutional Rights, or the Committee for the 1st Amendment.

A review of the subject's file reflects no activity that would warrant her inclusion on the Security Index. The subject's file is being maintained in a closed status. On October 30, 1953, the Washington Field Office furnished the Los Angeles Office with a copy of the subject's executive statement which is located in Los Angeles file 100-41702-1al.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 2-26-54 BY SC

100-41702-2
530 Broadway
San Diego, California
October 21, 1954

CONFIDENTIAL

DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: LUCILLE BALL
Mr. Desi Arnaz
SECURITY MATTER - C
(HCUA Hearings in San Diego)

Dear Sir:

The House Committee on Un-American Activities held hearings at San Diego, California from April 19 to April 22, 1954. The results of these hearings are reported in "Investigation of Communist Activities in the State of California". (Part 1-10)

Information concerning the above-captioned person appears as follows:

Part 1, Page 4525

On February 24, 1953, during the testimony of STANLEY M. TANGCOCK, Circulation Manager, Long Island Daily Press, Jamaica, Long Island, New York, a discussion arose concerning the fact that the State Committee of the Communist Party was composed of persons who were not actually State leaders. Congressman DONALD L. JACKSON commented that Miss LUCILLE BALL, who was a member of the State Committee, had stated in an affidavit that she had no knowledge or recollection of having been so appointed.

Part 4, Pages 4710, 4711, 4713

On April 19, 1954 DANIEL POWER ROY TAYLOR, Los Angeles, California, who testified he had been a member.

cc: Los Angeles (Info.) (REG.)
DIRECTOR, FBI

RE: LUCILLE BALL, aka.

October 21, 1954

of the Communist Party from 1935 until 1941, also testified concerning the State Committee that although the name of LUCILLE BALL was on the Committee, TAYLOR believed she was never a Communist.

Subsequently during TAYLOR's testimony, Congressman JACKSON commented that the LUCILLE BALL matter should be more clearly put in the record. He stated that although Miss BALL had knowledge of registration in the Communist Party she denied any activity or of having attended any Party functions during the period of time she was registered.

Since this subject resides within the territory of the Los Angeles Division, no recommendation is being made by San Diego concerning the placing or retaining on or removal of her name from the Security Index, same being left to the discretion of the Office of Origin.

Very truly yours,

GALEN M. WILLS
Special Agent in Charge