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pages 98-100 of 100-2279-3

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In early 1944, the "Independent Voters Committee of the Arts and Sciences for Roosevelt" was reportedly formed in New York City. The "Sunday Worker", Communist news organ, in issue of December 24, 1944, carried an article entitled "Artists Stage Permanent Show for Political Action". This article revealed that a new "Independent Citizens Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions" had been organized for political action to insure victory and security. According to the article, this committee was an outgrowth of the Independent Voters Committee which had campaigned so actively and effectively for the re-election of President Roosevelt. Among the initiating sponsors of this new organization were Louis Adamic, James Garney, Bartley Crum, Howard Fast, Paul Robeson and Edward G. Robinson. The sponsors mentioned above were reliably reported to have close Communist affiliations and connections.


Source not known

Letter to Mr. James P. McTranery
assistant to the Attorney General
dated 4-11-46

Re: "Independent Citizens Committee
of the Arts, Sciences, and Profes-
sions, Inc."

100-35892-46, encl. p. 1

(6)

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page 102

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In 1944 the Los Angeles Office advised that information was obtained from publications in Hollywood setting forth the fact that Paul Trivers (screen writer) in collaboration with Dalton Trumbo wrote "Johnny Got His Gun" which was reproduced in a broadcast by James Cagney from the Mason Opera House in 1940.

[REDACTED]

B7C

Source not given

Los Angeles report 3-21-44

Re: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(3)

[REDACTED]

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The February 14, 1944 issue of "Time" contained an article captioned "The Battle of Hollywood." It stated that the Leftists announced a big Free World Association dinner at the Beverly Hills Hotel, starring Vice-President Henry Wallace. (Date not given).

The Hollywood Rightists formed a group called "The Motion Picture Alliance for the Preservation of American Ideals." The purpose of this organization was to correct "the growing impression that this industry is made up of and dominated by Communists, radicals and crackpots."

The article stated that more than 300 of screenom's best thinkers, from Jack Benny's Rochester to Thomas Mann turned up to hear Henry Wallace. Marquee names on the committee included Jimmy Cagney (veteran Hollywood labor leader), Rosalind Russell and Charles Boyer.

Source as given.
94-3-4-11-436
(13)

SI 100-90431-119
(13)

 870

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In March 1944 James Cagney was a sponsor of the "Free World Association".

March 17, 1944 issue of "Hollywood Variety"
Los Angeles rpt. dated May 24, 1944
Ent: [REDACTED] was; Internal
Security-C" **B7C**
100-370750-32
(3)

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[REDACTED]

Los Angeles rpt. dated May 20, 1944,
Re: "Free World, Inc.; Internal
Security-C"
100-90431-132
(3).

The articles of incorporation of the "Free World Association of Hollywood" were filed with the Los Angeles County Clerk on March 17, 1944. The wording of the articles indicated a strong attitude against all forms of totalitarianism including Communism.

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The "People's World" for April 21, 1944, closely indicated the method of attack planned by the Communist Party against the Motion Picture Alliance and was set out. The article was entitled "Screen Workers Spur MPA Fight" with a sub-heading "Pressure Group Plot to Capture Industry Spurs Rally for Freedom". The article in the "People's World" was written by Dolph Winebrenner. One of the paragraphs being set up verbatim reads as follows:

"The Free World Association had a dazzling roster of film names--Dudley Nichols, Thomas Mann, Jimmy Cagney, Orson Welles, John Garfield, Walter Panger, Walter Riggton and many other box office stars on the male side; Rita Hayworth, Olivia DeHavilland, Joan Fontaine, Bette Davis, Ingrid Bergman, Rosalind Russell and others in the ladies' lineup".

"People's World" dated 4-21-44
Letter from SAC Los Angeles to
the Director dated May 10, 1944
Re: "The Motion Alliance for the
Preservation of American Ideals-
Information Concerning File
100-271036-4, p. 17
(13)

~~_____~~ BTC

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Judge Bleakley, of Westchester County, one time Republican Candidate for Governor in New York, asked SAC Conroy to see his daughter, who was Story Editor for James Cagney, to talk about a picture that Cagney was thinking of doing, dealing with FBI activities.

B7C [REDACTED] The Bureau had previously been approached through [REDACTED] about Cagney's desire to make a picture wherein he, Cagney, would play the role of the Director. The Bureau turned this down because it was inappropriate and secondly, because they had a previous commitment with 20th Century Fox which precluded taking on anything else.

Original Source not given.
Memorandum from L. B. Nichols
to Mr. Tolson dated April 7,
1944.
94-4-2838-37
(11)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

James Cigney was one of 20 sponsors for the "Free World Association of Hollywood". Twenty of the sponsors had been connected with Hollywood front organizations and were considered (Communist) Party line followers. The Los Angeles County Communist Party evidenced some interest in the "Free World Association" and at one time started to take definite steps toward dominating it. The publication of the organization's platform by the Hollywood group, calling for a militant fight against Communism, caused considerable consternation among leaders of the Communist Party particularly the motion picture unit.

Original source not given
Quarterly Intelligence Summary
dated May 15, 1944,
100-90431-129
(3)

SI 100-90431-113
(3)

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As of June, 1944, 25 actors and actresses were reported to be members of Communist Party front groups. Included in the list of actors was the name James Cagney.

Original source
not shown.
Memorandum "Historical
Background and Use of
Communist Movement as
a Propaganda Pressure
and Espionage Medium"
dated October 1, 1945.
100-3-949
(9)

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The September 16, 1944 issue of the "Daily Worker" contained a column entitled "Film Front" by David Platt. The column is quoted in part as follows:

"George Murphy will be the new President of the Screen Actor's Guild. No opposition candidate having been named, his election is assured. He succeeds James Cagney."

Source as given.
100-138754-A
(1)

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The "ACT Bulletin" for November 1944, shows the "Screen Actors Guild" is an affiliate of the "Affiliated Committee for Television". The delegates of the Screen Actors Guild were listed and included the name of James Cagney.

Source: [unclear] p. 20

[unclear], Melvyn Douglas and James Cagney, presented an address to the Loyalists during the Spanish Civil War.

Original source: [unclear] 1/7
Los Angeles rpt. dated [unclear] 20, 1945;
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear] into the
Radio Industry, Los Angeles Field
Division; Internal Security - C
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear]

~~_____~~ B7C

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The November 21, 1944 issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article announcing that a group of screen stars signed a telegram greeting the American Soviet Friendship rally at Madison Square Garden on the previous Thursday. Following is a text of the message:

"In time to come the recognition of the Soviet Union by the United States will be remembered as the beginning of an era which brought savagery, ignorance and hunger to an end. It will be remembered as the first step taken toward new horizons of a world where security and culture are meant for the happiness of all people everywhere.

"On this occasion Hollywood wishes to add its voice to the voice of all Americans hailing the mutual bond which exists and which will continue to grow between our great country and our great allies. In this friendship lies not only the hope but the future of the world."

The telegram was signed by a group of screen stars including James Cagney.

Source as given.
100-146964-A
(1)

SI 100-146964-572
(9)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In December, 1944, the Los Angeles Office forwarded to the Bureau various memoranda on the Communist Political Association, U. S. A.

In the memorandum titled "Communist Infiltration into Labor Organizations", James Cagney was listed as President of the "Screen Actors Guild." It was also stated that ten Communists (no names given) were members of this guild.

Original source not shown.

Los Angeles letter to Director dated 12-31-44

Re: "Communist Political Association, U. S. A. Internal Security - C"

100-326-26-4, Enclosure #2, page 19
(3)

SI 100-326-26-3, Enclosure #2, page 16
(3)

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The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee planned a publicity campaign to raise \$750,000 from March 1 to June 1, 1945. On January 20, 1945, a letter was directed to all chapter secretaries concerning the selection of a campaign committee. The letter set forth a "proposed list of permanent persons for the National Campaign Committee". Included on this list was the name James Cagney.

 B2
A highly confidential and reliable source having access to the records of the JAFRC.
New York City rpt. dated April 9, 1945.
Re: "Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee; Internal Security-C"
100-7061-923
(9)

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The Los Angeles Daily News dated June 13, 1945, carried a list of Hollywood personalities who were active in the "Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions."

The name of James Cagney appeared on this list.

Los Angeles Daily News dated 6-13-45
Los Angeles report dated 8-27-45
Re: "Hollywood Independent
Citizens Committee of the Arts,
Sciences and Professions"
Internal Security - C
100-338892-15X2, page 6
(4)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

A conference of the "Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions," was called for June 22 and 23, 1945 at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City. The chairman of the conference called on the "Hollywood Writers Mobilization" to create an organization of a "film panel", representing writers, actors, producers, and directors. Fifteen persons were chosen to participate in these panels. Included on this list was James Cagney. It was reported by a reliable confidential informant that

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

B2

and [REDACTED] B2-B7D
Los Angeles rpt. dated July 4, 1945,
Re: "Hollywood Writers Mobilization;
Internal Security-C"
100-102217-42
(2)

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The Los Angeles "Daily News", dated June 13, 1945 reported that a Conference on the Post War World sponsored by the "Independent Committee of Arts, Sciences and Professions," New York City, and Hollywood, was scheduled to be held on June 22, and 23, 1945 in the Waldorf Astoria Hotel in New York City. The article reported that new techniques and new responsibilities in films, radio, music, writing, and publishing, fine arts, science, technology, education and the theater would be discussed by authorities in each field. The article reported that James Cagney was one of the Hollywood personalities active in the organization of the conference.

Source as stated
Los Angeles rpt. dated June 26, 1945,
Re: [REDACTED] with aliases;
Internal Security-C

B7C

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[REDACTED] B7C

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James Cagney telephonically contacted the Los Angeles Office (date not given) and advised of an instance where an individual had impersonated [REDACTED]. He made available a letter addressed to him by [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] This letter, dated July 27, 1945, advised that [REDACTED] had loaned [REDACTED] \$20 in Lima, Peru, on January 9, 1945. According to the letter the money was not repaid.

In his reply to [REDACTED] told him that he had been "had" and that others had fallen for the story of this same individual who apparently has within the past 10 years been working in the Orient.

Source as given.
Los Angeles letter to the
Director dated Sept. 20, 1945,
Re: [REDACTED] Information
Concerning [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
(2, 13)

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The Los Angeles Office reported on July 11, 1946, ^{B7C} that Lester Cole, [REDACTED], had completed a screenplay "Blood On The Sun" for the actor-producer James Cagney. In the first issue of the "Hollywood Quarterly" Cole wrote an article entitled, "Unhappy Ending," in which he bitterly criticized the Cagney brothers for changing portions of his script. He stated that the Cagney brothers had deliberately changed the ending he wrote for the picture and thus had delated the real meaning, that is, the political content of the motion-picture.

Original source
not shown.
Los Angeles report
dated July 11, 1946.
entitled, [REDACTED] ^{B7C}
[REDACTED] was; internal
Security - "C"
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On December 24, 1946, the radio program "Campus Salute" was broadcast over the Mutual Broadcasting System. The announcer opened the program by announcing "From the nation's capital, the Mutual Network in cooperation with the War Department, presents a tribute in words and music to the great colleges and universities of America. These great schools who trained many of our soldiers have once more turned to teaching the ways of peace, for knowledge is the foundation of freedom and the cornerstone of international understanding."

At the close of the program the announcer stated "and today there are those graduates whose actions and sayings are an influence on the lives of us all. To name a few there are Thomas E. Dewey, James Cagney, Clifton Fadiman, Oscar Hammerstein II, and Rabbi Stephen S. Wise. To those and other graduates and to those of the future the U.S. Army Band plays musical tribute with the 'Empire State Salute'".

The informant listed the Communist activities of four of the five listed graduates. Referring to James Cagney, the informant stated "listed as a sponsor of Moviel Bill presented by the Film and Photo League (New Theater, April 1934, page 23). Listed as sponsor, 10 September 1936, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, Abraham Lincoln Battalion, George Washington Battalion, Name appears as sponsor on letterhead of Abraham Lincoln Brigade March 23, 1949. Listed as guest of Writers Congress held on October 1, 2 and 3, 1943 under the joint auspices of the University of California and Hollywood Writers Mobilization. Sponsor of All Trade Union Conference on September 13, 1937 called by the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. In an article, "Daily Worker", April 23, 1936 'Left Theater Takes Stock' by Ben Irwin, Cagney is mentioned as appearing in a stage production 'Bury the Dead', a Communist vehicle designed to influence the public against preparation for war."

Original source not shown
Rpt. of Headquarters, Military District
of Washington, Washington 25, D. C.
dated Dec. 27, 1946.
100-7660-4178
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In the July 8, 1947 issue of "TYOKANSAN SANOMAT," organ of the Communist Party in Helsinki, Finland, there appeared a prominent article concerning Communists in Hollywood. In this article were mentioned stars in Hollywood who were not members of the Party (CP) but nevertheless defended the Spanish Loyalists cause, supported Roosevelt, supported the trade unions, and fought against race discrimination. Among those listed was James Cagney.

Original source as given
Letter from American Legation
Helsinki, Finland to State Dept.
dated July 14, 1947.
64-200-255-110, P. 1
(6)

~~_____~~ B7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On July 12, 1947, a "Conference on Thought Control" was held at the Beverly Hills Hotel, Los Angeles, California. The conference was sponsored by the Arts, Sciences, and Professions of the Progressive Citizens of America. Paul Draper, a well-known dancer, spoke at this conference. The speech concerned his part in the production of the movie, "Time of Your Life," written by William Saroyan.

During the reading of the script, Draper noted that he was to speak a line which ridiculed Hitler and had the effect of calling Hitler the most serious menace of the day. Draper, realizing that the script should be revised, asked his director what line should be substituted for the Hitler line. The director told Draper to substitute the name Stalin for Hitler. Draper said that he could not say such a line in the movie.

Draper said that he talked to Jimmy Cagney, the producer, "Grips" and many other people around the studio lot. His director told Draper to substitute the name Molotov for the name Stalin.

Draper saw a representative of the J. Arthur Rank Productions with his script problem. He was told that they would not allow the distribution of any film in England that contained derogatory remarks concerning the Soviet Union. Draper then went back to see Jimmy Cagney and told him about this decision. Draper said that things began to happen and the lines were taken out of the script immediately and lines of no political significance were substituted.

At the end of a conference, during a panel forum, someone asked why Saroyan couldn't sue Jimmy Cagney for changing his script. Draper said that that would be impossible inasmuch as through the sale of the script, Saroyan had forfeited all rights to the use of his script and anything could be done with it that the producer wished.

Conference attended by Bureau Agent.
Los Angeles rpt. dated Aug. 7, 1947,
Re: "Communist Infiltration into the Motion Picture Industry; Internal Security-C"
100-138754-218
(13)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
B7C

147

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The October 19, 1947 issue of the "Worker" carried an article entitled "The Movies" by Harold J. Salemon.

The article stated, "Jimmy Cagney is rumored secretly preparing a film version of Dalton Trumbo's magnificent "Johnny Got His Gun," which he did several times on the radio before the war. It is one of the greatest anti-war novels ever written."

Source as given.
100-138754-A
(14)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ B7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The November 1, 1947 issue of the "People's Voice" carried a column entitled "From Me to You" by Lena Horne. The column is quoted in part as follows: "I happen to know many of Hollywood's Progressives who are under smear attack. John Wexley, Irwin Shaw, Charles Chaplin, Robert Rosson, Emmett Lavery, John Garfield, Alvah Bessie, Edward G. Robinson, James Cagney and dozens of others whom the Thomas Committee would like to drive out of employment in the movie industry, are all staunch believers in racial equality and the progressive integration of the Negro in our society. They are good people who deserve the support and encouragement of our people, the Negro people, during this time of crisis. I know that these Progressives would appreciate hearing from you, if only to know that out there in the great audience they serve there are millions who believe in decency, justice and fair play."

Source as given.

New York Rpt. dated Feb. 12, 1948

Ent: [REDACTED] B7C

(2)

[REDACTED] B7C

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pages 151 - 155

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In the April 10, 1950 edition of the "New York Mirror" there was an article titled "Nightlife" by Lee Mortimer. In this article it was stated that thousands in the entertainment industry; actors, writers, composers, directors, producers and union leaders at one time or another acted with, or fronted for, Communists or Communist Fronts. The name of James Cagney was one of those given in a list of many such individuals.

Source as given
100-138754-1 Section 20
(14)

SI 100-24628-913
(14)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ B7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Page 157

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Reference: 61-7559-7
(1)

Above reference not reviewed, although card is in General Indices. Consolidation section advised that serial in file was cancelled.

Reference is to the General Activities Communist Party in California in 1936.

This index card is being marked for destruction.

January 24, 1951

SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

⁰
JAMES CAGNEY
SECURITY MATTER - C

There is being transmitted herewith for the completion of your files, a summary of information concerning the above-captioned subject dated December 20, 1950, which has been compiled as a result of an examination of the Bureau's files.

This material should be carefully reviewed by you and a report thereafter submitted which will include all data not previously submitted by your Office in report form.

By letter dated July 17, 1950, the New York Office furnished information concerning subject as supplied by [redacted]. The current report which your Office will submit should embody the information as furnished by [redacted] a

B7D

Enclosure

Bufile 100-2279

RECORDED - 79

100-2279-4

JAN 25 1951
49

B7C EX-125

[redacted]

Follow up let
to S.A. 3/19/51
WET

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-3-86 BY SP-10 JCS/BJA
#269,782

dvz

- Olson _____
- Ad _____
- Lox _____
- Stein _____
- Nicola _____
- Wash _____
- Tracy _____
- Harbo _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

396
JAN 30 1951

COMM-FBI
JAN 24 1951
RECEIVED

[Handwritten signatures]

MR. A. H. BELMONT

March 16, 1951.

MR. C. E. HENRICH

EDWARD G. ROBINSON
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-6-86 BY SP1 GJ/dcg
#219,782

Purpose:

B7D

To recommend that the field be authorized to interview [redacted] concerning their knowledge of [redacted] captioned subject. To recommend that [redacted] not be interviewed because he has been described as unreliable and because he does not appear to have personal knowledge of Communist activities of Robinson.

B7C

B7D

[redacted] may have knowledge of the latter's Communist Party membership.

[redacted] may have similar knowledge.

Background:

You will recall that Edward G. Robinson during the latter part of 1950 testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities

LEGISLATIVE RECORD

[redacted] inasmuch as several allegations have been made that Robinson was a Communist Party member.

B7D

[redacted] The pertinent field offices were requested to interview these individuals unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau.

By teletype dated March 14, 1951, the pertinent field offices were requested to await Bureau authority before conducting interviews with [redacted]

B7D

- _____ Tolson
- _____ Ladd
- _____ Nichols
- _____ Belmont
- _____ Clegg
- _____ Glavin
- _____ Harbo
- _____ Rosen
- _____ Tracy
- _____ Egan
- _____ Gurnea
- _____ Hendon
- _____ Pennington
- _____ Quinn
- _____ Nease
- _____ Gandy

Attachment

100-337779

B7C

100-2279-✓

100-100-2279
100-19092
77-46838

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

Bureau files have been reviewed concerning those individuals as reflected below.

BTD

[REDACTED]

OPERATIVE RECORD

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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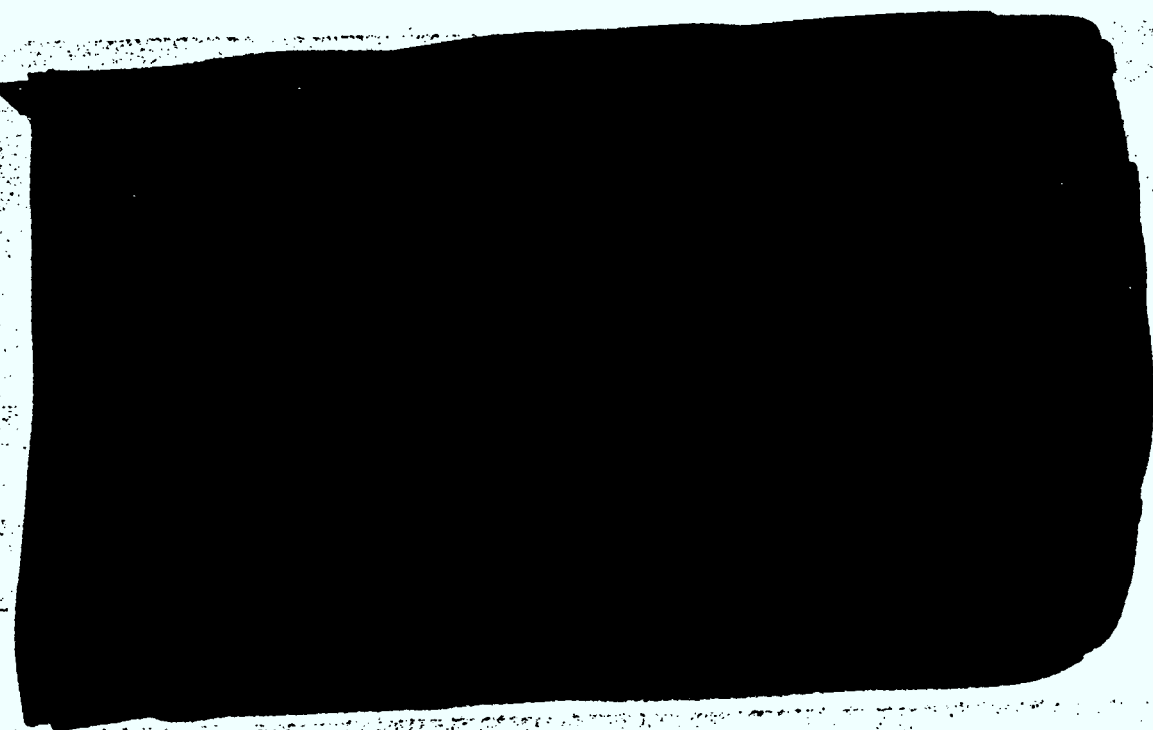
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B7A
B7C



Recommendations

It is recommended that the field be authorized to interview [redacted] may have personal knowledge of the membership of Robinson in the Communist Party. It is also recommended that authority be given for [redacted] to be interviewed for the same reason notwithstanding the fact that [redacted] was previously uncooperative with the Los Angeles Office. It is recommended further [redacted] should not be interviewed because he has been described as unreliable and because there is no indication that he has any personal knowledge of Communist activities of Robinson. There is attached, for your approval, a teletype authorizing interviews with [redacted]

B7D

B7C

B7D

ADDENDUM:

The Internal Security Section has reviewed the above proposals and has no objections to the interview of [redacted]. However, this Section advises it is not in a position to state whether the interview with [redacted] would be successful since no active investigation has been conducted of him. However, such interview would not interfere with any present or contemplated investigation of security matter cases.

B7D

[redacted] B7C

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SAC, Los Angeles

April 4, 1951

Director, FBI

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

JAMES CAGNEY
SECURITY MATTER - C

ReBulet January 24, 1951, which instructed that a report should be submitted by your Office which would include information supplied by [redacted] as well as data appearing in a summary of information concerning Cagney as prepared by the Bureau.

B7D

In connection with the reporting of information in the Correlation Summary, the following instructions should be followed:

- (1) None of the material contained in instant Correlation Summary is to be incorporated in the investigative section of a report except where such material clearly qualifies for dissemination.
- (2) Where you feel that such information should be incorporated in the investigative section of a report but you are in doubt as to the suitability of such information for dissemination, your doubt should be resolved through correspondence either with the Field Office submitting the original information or, where the information originated outside the Bureau, by correspondence with the Bureau.
- (3) Material contained in instant Correlation Summary which does not qualify for dissemination may, of course, be incorporated in the administrative section of a report.

Bufile 100-2279

RECORDS SECTION
APR 6 1951
100-2279-5

RECORDED - 41

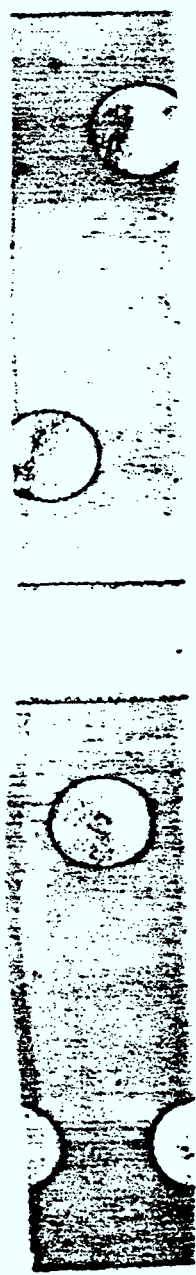
EX-130

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-8-86 BY SP-10/ldg
#269,782

[redacted]

Tolson _____
 Ladd _____
 Nichols _____
 Belmont _____
 Clegg _____
 Glavin _____
 Harbo _____
 Rosen _____
 Tracy _____
 Egan _____
 Gurnea _____
 Harbo _____
 Mohr _____
 Pennington _____
 Quinn Tamm _____
 Nease _____
 Gandy _____

APR 11 1951



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: March 7, 1951

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES

MARK

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

[REDACTED]

B7D
|

See Ser 4
7/2/51

Reference Bureau letter to Los Angeles dated March 19, 1951.

BK

Attached hereto are five copies of report of SA [REDACTED] dated March 6, 1951, at Los Angeles, in connection with the actor JAMES CAGNEY as requested by the Bureau in referenced letter.

[REDACTED]

B7E

32540

[Handwritten signature]

100-2279-6
APR 3 1951

[Handwritten signature]

RECORDED - 67

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10/3/86 SP105/accg
9,782

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DK

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-32540

B7C

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 4/6/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/28, 30, 31; 4/2-4/51	REPORT MADE BY
-------------------------------	--------------------------	--	--------------------

TITLE JAMES FRANCIS CAGNEY	CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C
-------------------------------	--

CLASSIFIED BY: *Sp-1 Cuyler*
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
11-16-86 269,782

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject is a movie actor most commonly known as JAMES CAGNEY. He was born July 17, 1899, at New York City. In 1933 or 1934 he was reported to have contributed to the Communist Party's Strike Committee Fund at the time of an agricultural strike in the San Joaquin Valley, California. This fact subsequently became publicly known as a result of a reported raid on one of the Communist Party Strike Offices.

A bulletin of the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy in 1937 lists JAMES CAGNEY as a sponsor of that organization.

In 1939 his name was listed on the letterhead of the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade as a sponsor of that organization.

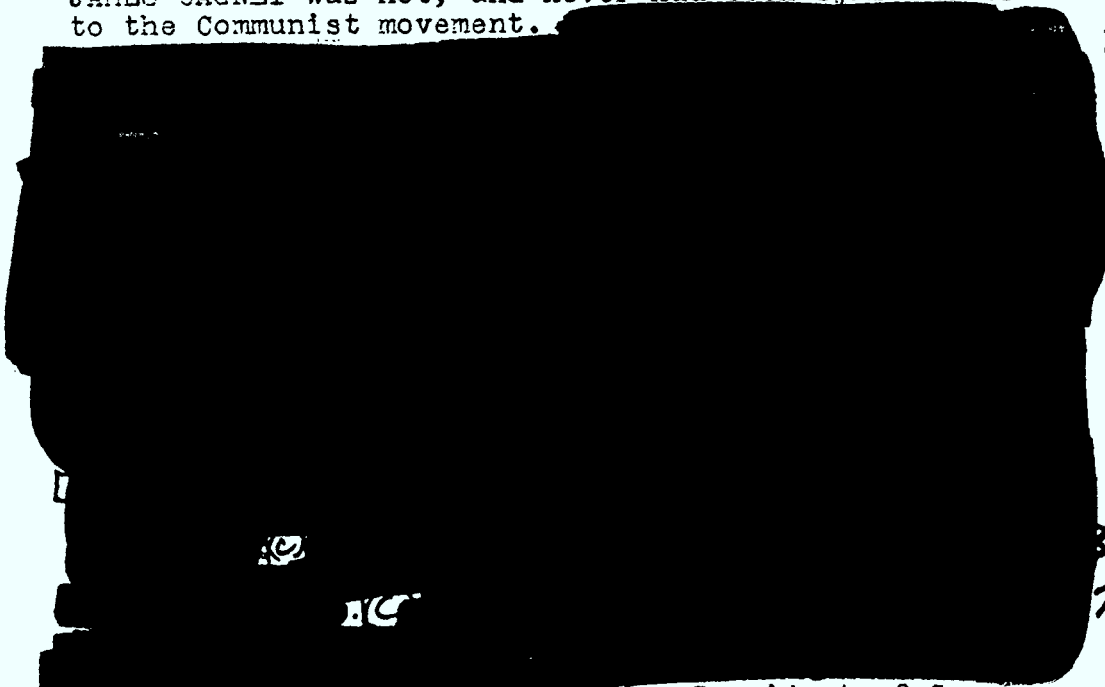
REVERSE SIDE FOR
DISSEMINATION.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R.B. Gooch</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		100-2279-6
5 - Bureau (100-2279)(AMSD)		SE 26
3 - Los Angeles		RECORDED - 67
APR 23 1951		INDEXED - 67

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The "Washington Times Herald" for August 21, 1940, lists Chairman MARTIN DIES of the House Committee Investigating Un-American Activities, as stating JAMES CAGNEY was not, and never had been sympathetic to the Communist movement.



B7D

Subject is Vice-President of Cagney Productions, Incorporated, 4000 Olive Avenue, Burbank, California.

B1
7D

B7D

- C -

DETAILS:

All informants designated by a T symbol in this report are of known reliability unless otherwise indicated.

PERSONAL HISTORY

Name:

JAMES FRANCIS CAGNEY, as advised by [redacted] during the course of interview had with [redacted] on March 20, 1951.

B7D

- 2 -

~~X~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-30540

37D
1

[REDACTED]

Past Residences:

651 West Holloway Drive, Beverly Hills, California
as reflected in the report of the [REDACTED]

B7D

621 North Hillcrest, Beverly Hills, California, as re-
flected in the report of [REDACTED]

Occupation:

B7D

Actor and Vice-President of Cagney Productions, Incor-
porated, 4000 Olive Avenue, Burbank, California (Warner Brothers
Studio Lot), telephone GARfield 3201.

2
37D

[REDACTED]

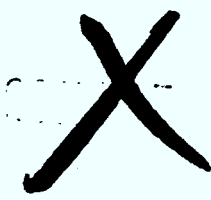
B2 [REDACTED] a Governmental agency which conducts intelligence
investigations, furnished the following previous business ad-
dresses of the subject:

From 1930 to 1942 subject was employed by the Warner
Brothers Studio, 4000 Olive Avenue, Burbank, California, as an
actor;

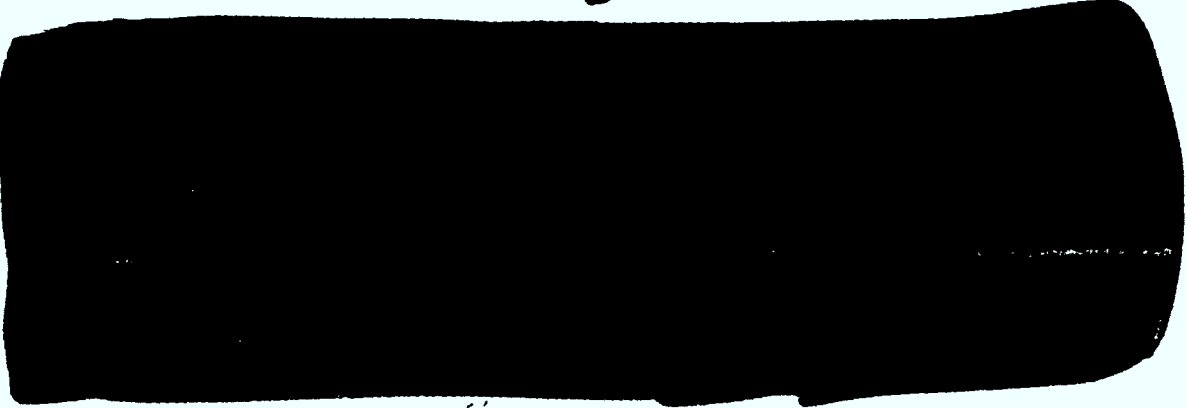
From 1936 to 1937 he was also reported to have been
employed by the Grand National Pictures, Santa Monica Boulevard
and Formosa, Hollywood;

From 1942 to 1943 he was engaged in the production of
motion pictures under the name of Cagney Productions, Incorporated,
1011 North Formosa, Hollywood.

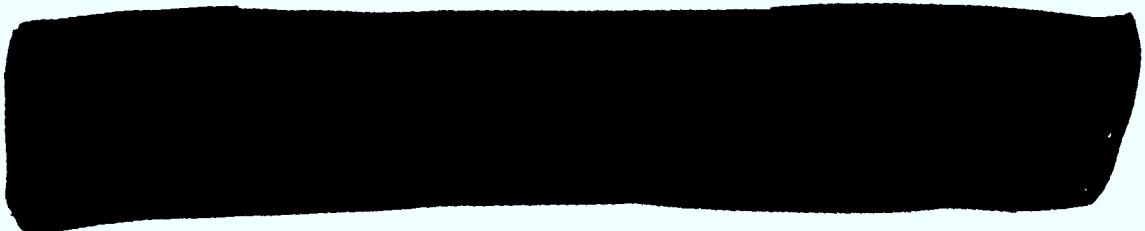
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BTD



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BTD



Citizenship:

American citizen; born July 17, 1899, at New York City, as advised by the subject on March 28, 1951.



On August 20, 1940, when subject testified before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, then holding hearings in San Francisco, California, CAGNEY stated



LEGISLATIVE
RECORD

Background:

Volume 26 of "Whose Who in America" 1950-1951, states that CAGNEY was born in New York City on July 17, 1904. He is listed as having attended grammar school and high school, leaving the latter to go to work. In 1922 he married FRANCES VERNON. He started working in vaudeville in 1924 and in motion pictures in 1931, having been connected with the latter industry since that date. He received "The Best Actor of 1942" award from Critic's Circle for his acting in "Yankee Doodle Dandy". He is reported to have been Vice-President of Cagney Productions since 1942.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-1763

The 1942 issue of "Current Biography" lists subject's father as JAMES CAGNEY and his mother as CAROLYN WELSON CAGNEY. The report states that his father owned a saloon at 8th Street and Avenue "D", New York, a neighborhood that was known to policemen as the "gorilla jungle". After graduating from grammar school he entered Stuyvesant High School. During the next four years he is stated to have had the following jobs: Office boy for the "New York Sun"; bundle wrapper for "Wanamakers"; page-boy at "Friars" at New York City; and custodian of the Webster Branch of the New York Public Library.

As a result of his interest in becoming an artist he is reported to have enrolled in Columbia University. When family reverses forced him to leave, he sought a new way to make money and chose the stage. He became a chorus boy in the production "Pitter Patter" and remained in this job for 32 weeks. Following the closing of the show he became engaged in a vaudeville sketch playing a part in Jewish dialect. During the next seven years he toured all of the tank towns in the East, returning to the legitimate stage in 1925. In 1929 he became connected with Warner Brothers Studio.

The item reports that CAGNEY's wife, FRANCES VERNON, is a former professional actress who gave up her career following her marriage. His sister is listed as JEAN CAGNEY, a starlett with Paramount Pictures. Two of his brothers are stated to be physicians; and his brother WILLIAM is President of CAGNEY Productions.

The International Motion Picture Alamac from 1933-1934 lists some of the productions in which JAMES CAGNEY has appeared as follows:

- 1931 - 1932
 - "Doorway to Hell"
 - "Summer Holiday"
 - "Steel Highway"

- 1933
 - "Blond Crazy"
 - "Crowd Roars"
 - "Taxi"
 - "Winner Take All"
 - "Herd to Handle"
 - "Picture Snatcher"
 - "The Mayor of Hell"
 - "Footlight Parade"
 - "Lady Miller"

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

1934	"Here Comes the Navy" "Jimmy, the Gent" "He was Her Man" "St. Louis Kid"
1935	"Devil Dogs of the Air" "A Midsummer Nights Dream" "Frisco Kid" "The Irish in Us" "G-Men"
1936	"Ceiling Zero" "Great Guy"
1937	"Something to Sing About"
1938	"Boy Meets Girl" "Angels with Dirty Faces"
1939	"Each Dawn I Die" "Roaring Twenties"
1940	"The Fighting 69th" "Torrid Zone" "City for Conquest"
1941	"The Strawberry Blond" "The Bride Came C.O.D."
1942	"Captin of the Clouds" "Yankee Doodle Dandy"

He is reported in the above publication as having formed his own company with his brother, WILLIAM CAGNEY, to release pictures through United Artists. In September, 1942, he was elected President of the Screen Actors Guild. He was voted among the first ten money making stars in the Motion Picture Herald Fame Poll for 1935, 1940, 1941 and 1942.

The 1949-1950 International Motion Picture Almanac lists his most recent pictures as:

"Johnny Come Lately"
"Blood on the Sun"
"13 Rue Madeline"
"Time of your Life"

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Pages 7+8 of 100-2279-6

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-1763

B7D

[REDACTED]

B2
B7D

[REDACTED]

^{B2} advised in 1938 that JAMES CAGNEY had been paying \$100 a month for dues to the Communist Party with an additional assessment of \$400 every four months. Informant advised that the contribution was made in such a way that by the time the money reached the Party, it would be difficult to local its origin.

32
B7D

[REDACTED]

B

[REDACTED] (C)

~~X~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-33510

B1

[REDACTED]

(C)

B2
B7D

[REDACTED]

The August 21, 1940, issue of "Washington Times Herald" carried an item stating that Chairman MARTIN DIES of the House Committee Investigating Un-American Activities said today that JAMES CAGNEY and two others (whom he named) were not and had never been sympathetic to the Communist movement. According to the item, DIES made the announcement a few minutes after concluding a hearing with CAGNEY who flew to San Francisco from Massachusetts to deny charges previously filed with DIES.

B2
B7D

[REDACTED]

B1
1

[REDACTED]

(c)

~~X~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

B1

[REDACTED]

B2
B7D

[REDACTED]

The Los Angeles News for October 2, 1946, contained an article under the caption "More Actors Irked by Red Stooze Story". The article stated that the "anti-Matthew Woll faction in Hollywood was bolstered yesterday by the addition of two more actors who said they resent the AFL Vice-President's action in branding them Communist stooges". The article listed JAMES CAGNEY as one of those named by WOLL as glamorous traitors. The article quoted CAGNEY as stating "It is ridiculous. I won't even dignify it with a statement. WOLL is just trying to make himself a big fellow at other people's expense".

B7D
B7C

[REDACTED]

B2
B7D

[REDACTED]

B2 [REDACTED] a Governmental agency which conducts intelligence investigations, advised that as a result of its investigation of subject conducted in 1943, this agency came to the conclusion that there appeared to be no reason to question the loyalty of subject to the Government of the United States.

~~X~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-32540

ALLEGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNIST PARTY DOMINATED ORGANIZATIONS.

The "New Theater" Magazine for April, 1934, announced a motion picture costume ball to be presented by the Film and Photo League April 27th at Webster Hall, 119 East 11th Street, New York City. The article listed JAMES CAGNEY as one of the sponsors of the ball. The "New Theater" Magazine was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities March 29, 1944. The Film and Photo League was described in the 5th report of the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities as "a Communist front for revolutionary films".

The "Daily Worker" for April 23, 1936, contained an article entitled "Left Theater Takes Stock" by BEN IRWIN. The article announced that the Biannual National Conference of the "New Theater" Magazine was held during the previous weekend in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The article stated in part as follows: "The delegates from the Contemporary Theater of Hollywood, where JAMES CAGNEY and LIONEL BARRYMORE are to appear in a stage production of 'Bury the Dead', now being prepared ... were especially greeted when they told of the sensation that this new and powerful anti-war play made in their community after a public play reading of it".

B2
B7C

[REDACTED]

The New Theater Magazine was cited by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities on March 29, 1944, as a Communist front.

The 5th report of the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities for 1949 lists the Contemporary Theater as a Communist front.

B2
B7D

[REDACTED]

This organization is listed in the 4th report of the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities as having been formed in September, 1936, and terminated in August, 1939, at the time of the Stalin-Hitler Pact. The above report further reflects that this organization was conceived

~~X~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

by the Communist Party and had for its purpose the support of the then current foreign policy of Soviet Russia.

A weekly organizational bulletin of the "North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy" dated May 19, 1937, page 5, states that JAMES CAGNEY was a sponsor of the Los Angeles Chapter of the above organization in 1937.

The North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities January 3, 1940.

The publication "Social Justice" for April 10, 1939, formerly published by Reverend CHARLES COUGHLIN, contains an article under the caption "Communism is Passe; It's 'Democracy' now". The article reads in part as follows: "Communism is out of date, it has socially taken over the more respectable name of Democracy. AND the cultural center for this Communist 'Democracy' is to be the new Hollywood. The Communist Daily Worker (January 7) lists its 1938 honor roll for service to Communism -- pardon us 'Democracy' -- says: 'Pictured above are seven of a score or more of Hollywood highlights who greatly aided the cause of progress during the last year they have also shown their sympathy on many occasions for Loyalist Spain and have generously contributed money and talent to its aid:.....'". The photograph referred to above was reprinted in the "Social Justice" issue of April 10, 1939 previously mentioned, and included in the group of seven individuals appearing in the photograph was JAMES CAGNEY.

The above issue of "Social Justice" also carried a photograph of an ambulance together with a placard reading "The Motion Picture Artists Committee sends this ambulance to help the defenders of Spanish Democracy". Standing alongside the ambulance in the photograph appeared LIONEL STANDER. Among the several names listed on the side of the ambulance appeared the name JAMES CAGNEY.

The North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy was declared by the Attorney General on April 21, 1949 to fall within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The 4th report of the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities for 1949 states: "The Motion Picture Artists Committee was an affiliate of the North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, which was also part of the campaign to aid Spanish Communists".

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The "Federated Press" for September 30, 1937, lists fifteen leading movie actors and actresses who had signed their names to two ambulances for Spain. The name of JAMES CAGNEY appeared on the list.

B7C

On August 22, 1938, [redacted] testified before the House of Representatives, Special Committee on Un-American Activities.

[redacted]

B2 [redacted] advised that the letterhead of the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, Room 617, Union League Building (333 West 2nd Street), Los Angeles, California, in 1939 carried a list of the names of sponsors of the organization. Included in this list appeared the name JAMES CAGNEY.

The Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade was cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, March 29, 1944.

B2
B7D

[redacted]

The Hollywood Writers' Mobilization was declared by the Attorney General on November 24, 1947 as being within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The November 21, 1944, issue of the "Daily Worker" carried an article announcing that a group of screen stars had sent a telegram of greeting to the American Soviet Friendship Society at Madison Square Garden on the previous Thursday. The

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 100-32540

message was quoted in part as follows: "In time to come the recognition of Soviet Union by the United States will be remembered as the beginning of an era which brought savagery, ignorance and hunger to an end". The telegram was reported to have been signed by a group of screen stars, including JAMES CAGNEY.

B2
B7D

[REDACTED]

B7D

[REDACTED]

B2
B7D

[REDACTED]

B1

[REDACTED] (C)

B1

[REDACTED] (C)

The American Russian Institute of Southern California was declared by the Attorney General on April 29, 1949 as being within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

B1

[REDACTED] (C)

~~X~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Civil Rights Congress has been declared by the Attorney General on November 24, 1947, to be within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

B2

DESCRIPTION

[REDACTED] furnished a report in December, 1943 setting forth the following physical description of subject:

Name	JAMES FRANCIS CAGNEY
Place of birth	New York City, New York.
Date of birth	July 17, 1899.
Height	5'7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Weight	160
Hair	Red
Eyes	Blue-green
Father	JAMES FRANCIS CAGNEY
Mother	CARRIE WILSON CAGNEY

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- C L O S E D -

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deleted under exemption(s) B1-B2 -B7C-B7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

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Page 17 of 100-2279-6

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ADMINISTRATIVE

B1 | [REDACTED] (C)

B7C The Voters Registration records for Los Angeles were checked by SE [REDACTED] and reflect no current registration for JAMES CAGNEY. The records indicate that on March 4, 1936, he registered as a Democrat in Los Angeles County, describing himself as an actor, 5'8" tall, born in New York. This registration was cancelled in the 1943-1944 cancellations.

B7C SE [REDACTED] checked the files of [REDACTED] **B7D** | and [REDACTED] and found no record for the subject.

B7D | [REDACTED]

B7D | [REDACTED]

B7D | [REDACTED]

B7D | [REDACTED] **B1** (C) [REDACTED]

INDIVIDUALS

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Pages 19-25 of 100-2279-6

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LA 100-32540

ADMINISTRATIVE

B7D

[REDACTED]

The Fourth Report of the California Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities (1948) lists the Motion Picture Democratic Committee as a Communist front.

National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners

[REDACTED]

National Council of American Soviet Friendship

[REDACTED]

New Theater League

[REDACTED]

North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy

[REDACTED]

Scottsboro Defense Committee

[REDACTED]

LA 100-32540

ADMINISTRATIVE

"Soviet Russia Today"

[REDACTED]

Spanish Refugee Appeal

[REDACTED]

Tom Mooney Case

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Writers Congress Continuation Committee

[REDACTED]

Inasmuch as confidential informants of the Los Angeles Office have furnished no information indicating that subject is currently a member of the Communist Party or that he is presently active in any Communist Party dominated organizations, no recommendation is being submitted that CAGNEY be made the subject of a Security Index Card

B7D

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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3

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For your information: _____

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page 28 - 30 of 100-2279-6

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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-2279-17

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES
SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: June 8, 1951

[REDACTED] B9D
[REDACTED]
SECURITY MATTER - C
[REDACTED]

B7C
Reference is made to Los Angeles letter to the Bureau dated March 7, 1951, transmitting 5 copies of the report of SA [REDACTED] in the case entitled "JAMES FRANCIS CAGNEY, Security Matter - C", Bureau file 100-2279, Los Angeles file 100-32540, which report bore date April 6, 1951.

Above transmittal letter should bear the date April 7, 1951, instead of March 7, 1951. The second paragraph of this letter reflects the report as dated March 6, 1951. This should read April 6, 1951.

These corrections have been noted on the Los Angeles file copy of above transmittal letter, and it is respectfully requested that the Bureau similarly correct their copies of this letter.

[REDACTED] B7C
100-32540

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-3-86 BY SP-10g/dsq
#269,782

RECORDED - 96

100-2279-8
JUL 9 1951
18

EX-35

Robertson
Five
Phil

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nease

DATE: February 26, 1958

FROM : M. A. Jones

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-6-86 BY SP/AG/deg

Tolson	_____
Nichols	_____
Boardman	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Parsons	_____
Rosen	_____
Tamm	_____
Trotter	_____
Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holloman	_____
Gandy	_____

SUBJECT: PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION
TV SERIES BASED ON THE DIRECTOR'S BOOK
"PERSONS IN HIDING"

B2c 2-1

By way of background, [redacted] wrote the Director on January 29, 1958, and pointed out that he was a friend of the Bill Howards (Dorothy Lamour) and wanted to know if it would be possible to do a series on TV based on the book "Persons in Hiding." By letter dated 2/5/58 we advised him that due to our tremendous responsibilities at the present time we did not have manpower available for such an undertaking.

[redacted] now writes back and says that they would not use any manpower and that all they wanted is permission from the Director to use his book as a "format" for the project. He asked for a half-hour interview to present his views. He also says that his good friend James Cagney is interested in the project.

Bufiles reflect a main file on James Francis Cagney under the title of Security Matter--C.

B7D

This file reflects that informants have advised [redacted]

[redacted] his name was listed on the letterhead of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade as a sponsor. His name has also been linked to numerous Communist front organizations.

B7D

[Large redacted block]

100-2279
NOT RECORDED
FEB 28 1958

Certainly with this background we don't want to have anything to do with Cagney.

RECOMMENDATION: That attached letter be sent to Lyles turning him down flatly.

Enclosure

B7C

Handwritten notes: "eck" with checkmark, "PRIME" with checkmark, and other scribbles.

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Not recorded mail dated 8-5-59

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~~SECRET~~

March 4, 1968

BY LIAISON

DECLASSIFIED BY *Sp-2 TAP/AMR 5-22-79*
Sp-2 TAP/AMR 5-22-79

ON *11-7-86* *269,782*
Mrs. Mildred Stegall
The White House
Washington, D. C.

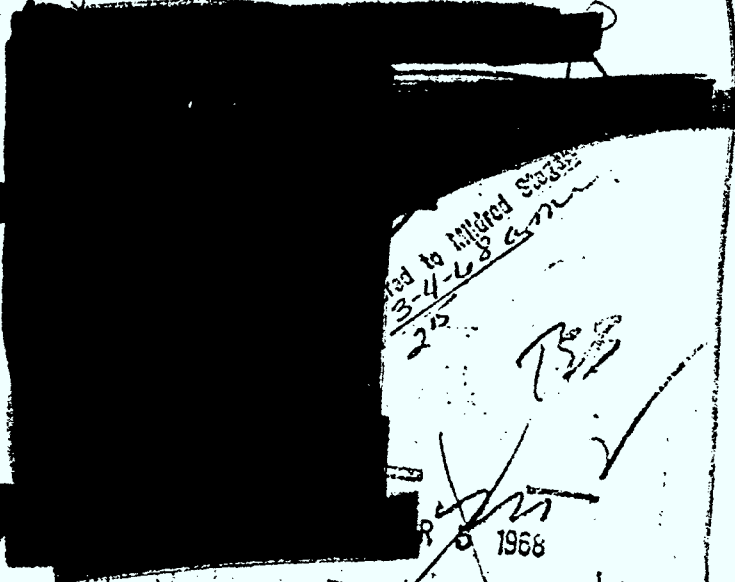
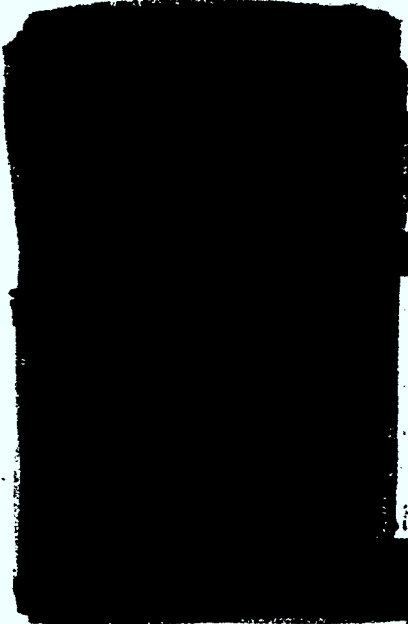
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *11-7-86* BY *Sp-2 TAP/AMR*
#269,782

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

Reference is made to your name check request concerning entertainers and others who may visit the White House.

The central files of the FBI reveal no pertinent derogatory information identifiable with the following individuals:

^x
Vince Lombardi B.6. 11-13, BROOKLYN, NY



B7C 50366

ALL NAMES

Refer

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Tranter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____

ENCLOSURE

~~SECRET~~

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (sent direct) - Encs. *EX-103*
- 1 - Mr. Gale (sent direct) - Encs.

(7) B7C

ENCLOSURE

5 XEROX
MAR 6 1968
alt

NOT RECORDED
126 MAR 6 1968

66 MAR 19 1968

ORIGINAL FILED IN

~~SECRET~~

Mrs. Mildred Stegall

DC FOR ALL NAMES

[REDACTED]

B7C

The fingerprint files of the Identification Division of the FBI contain no arrest data identifiable with the above individuals with the possible exception of [REDACTED]

B7C

Attached are copies of FBI Identification records which may pertain to these individuals.

Attached are separate memoranda on the following individuals:

Tallulah Bankhead
James Cagney

B7C

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

B7C

Tennessee Williams

A copy of this communication has not been sent to the Attorney General. This letter of transmittal may be declassified when the enclosure bearing this classification is removed.

Sincerely yours,

B7C

[REDACTED]

DC

Enclosures (17)

~~SECRET~~

March 1, 1968

JAMES CAGNEY

*Dec 17, 1924
who's who*

James Cagney, the well-known movie actor who was born on July 17, 1899, at New York, New York, was the subject of a security-type investigation conducted by the FBI in 1951 based on the allegations that he [REDACTED] had supported various Communist Party organizations.

B7D

B7D

[REDACTED] (100-2279)

The fingerprint files of the Identification Division of the FBI contain no arrest data identifiable with captioned individual based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

NOTE: Per request of Mrs. Mildred Stegall, White House Staff.

B7C

[REDACTED] (7)
ma *gcf*

m
TS
J

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-3-86 BY Sp/ag/deg
#269,782

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Bishop _____
Mr. Casper _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. Felt _____
Mr. Gale _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

100-2279-9

ENCLOSURE