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Agency Information

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RECORD NUMBER : 124-90113-10019

RECORD SERIES : HQ

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ORIGINATOR : FBI
FROM : WMFO
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SUBJECTS :
JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN
JACK WASSERMAN

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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

FILE NO. 101-1291

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D.C.	DATE WHEN MADE 7-13-48	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6-24, 27, 28, 11-48	REPORT MADE BY CHARLES D. CHAPMAN DCH
TITLE JACOB NATHAN WASSEMAN, aka Jack, Jake Chief Counsel, Bureau of Land Management, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C.			CHARACTER OF CASE LOYALTY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

JACOB NATHAN WASSEMAN is employed as Chief Counsel, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. Stated to be on active indices of Washington Chapter, American Peace Mobilization as of January, 1941. Also reported member National Lawyers Guild as of May, 1941. Persons interviewed have no knowledge of membership in APM nor any question regarding his loyalty to this country. Records of the Metropolitan Police Department, Special Investigations Squad, Metropolitan PD, Credit Bureau of Washington, D.C., negative. Confidential Informants C [redacted] C [redacted] and C [redacted] negative. Employee subject Hatch Act investigation in 1941. Signed statement set forth.

*Photo taken by [redacted]
[redacted] 6-23-48*

- R U C -

2-4-97 5668 JD/KSK

AGENCY *OS: DIST OFF 4*
REG. REC'D *6-17-58*
REPT. FORW. *7-8-58*
BY *[signature]*

REFERENCE: Bureau letter dated May 15, 1948.
New York Teletype dated June 1, 1948.
New York Teletype dated June 7, 1948.

*Re: Specific
request*

The Bureau's attention is directed to the teletype from New York dated June 1, 1948, which reflects the additional name of JAKE, as contained in the birth certificate of the employee.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="text-align: right;">SE 13</div> <div style="text-align: right;">RECORDED - 33</div> <div style="text-align: right;">INDEXED - 33</div> <div style="text-align: right;">EX-27</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 6 - Bureau 2 - Washington Field 62 NOV 30 1948	

WFO 101-1291

JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN
aka "Jack", Jake WASSERMAN
Chief Counsel
Bureau of Land Management
U. S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.
LOYALTY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Washington, D.C.
July 13, 1948

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-4-97 BY 5668 SLD/KSA
(JFK)

I. PERSONAL HISTORY

The personnel file of JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN as reviewed at the Personnel Office, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, reflects that the employee was born at New York City on January 19, 1910, and maintains his legal residence at New York. Mr. WASSERMAN attended the City College of New York from September, 1926 to June, 1930, and again from September, 1933 to February, 1934, at which time he received a Bachelor of Science Degree. He attended the Columbia Law School, New York City, from October, 1930 to June, 1933, receiving an LLB Degree. He is a member of the New York Bar, Federal District Court, the New York Supreme Court, the Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Court of Claims.

On October 6, 1941, Mr. WASSERMAN entered on duty as an Attorney in the Office of the Secretary, Office of the Solicitor, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., on transfer from the Lands Division of the Department of Justice. He was promoted from Senior Attorney General, Land Office, to Chief Counsel General, Land Office, on August 30, 1943, which position he presently holds. This position is supervisory in nature. From July, 1933 to February, 1934, he was employed by Professor RICHARD R. POWELL, Columbia University Law School. From February, 1934 to May, 1934, he was employed by the Law firm of GREENBAUM, WOLFF and ERNST, 285 Madison Avenue, and from May, 1934 to April, 1938, by the Law firm of MARSHALL, BRATTON and SELIGSON, 150 Broadway, New York City.

From April, 1938 until October, 1938, WASSERMAN was employed as a Research Assistant to Senator ROBERT L. WAGNER. He was employed at the U.S. Department of Justice

WFO 101-1291

from October 31, 1938 to October 5, 1941. Mr. WASSERMAN presently resides at 1500 South Barton Street, Arlington, Virginia, with his wife and child. //

II. BASIS FOR INVESTIGATION

JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN, 1500 South Barton Street, Arlington, Virginia, is stated by Confidential Informant Washington T-1, an Informant of known reliability, to have been, as of January 1, 1941, on the active indices of the Washington Chapter of the American People's Mobilization, formerly the American Peace Mobilization. This organization was declared by the Attorney General as being within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

III. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

Washington T-1 advised that the name of the employee was contained on the active indices of the Washington Chapter, American People's Mobilization, as follows: ~~WASSERMAN, JACOB N., 309 North Thomas Street, Arlington, Virginia, Chestnut 3904, Attorney, Department of Justice.~~

Washington T-1 was recontacted and advised that he could furnish no additional information concerning this employee. He refused to execute a signed statement, and would not consent to appear before a Loyalty Hearing Board.

Washington T-2, an Informant who over a long period of time has furnished reliable information, advised that as of May, 1941, the records of the National Lawyers Guild contained the name "WASSERMAN, JACOB N., 309 North Thomas Street, Arlington, Virginia" among its list of active members.

Washington T-2 was recontacted, at which time he could furnish no additional information. He would not furnish a signed statement and would not consent to appear before a Loyalty Board.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities in its report of March 29, 1944, cited the NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD as a Communist front.

WFO 101-1291

In the Fall of 1940, Mr. ADOLPH A. BERLE, then Assistant Secretary of State, in a letter resigning from the NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD, stated as follows: "The NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD was formed in the hope that expression might be given to the liberal sentiment in the American bar. It is now obvious that the present management of the Guild is not prepared to take any stand which conflicts with the Communist Party line. Under the circumstances and in keeping, I think, with most progressive lawyers, I have no further interest in it."

LOUIS FRANCIS BUDENZ, former managing editor of the "Daily Worker", and former member of the Communist Party National Committee, advised the Committee on Un-American Activities of the House of Representatives that the Communist Party considers the NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD to be a working ally.

The records of the House Committee on Un-American Activities indicate the name JACOB N. WASSERMAN, 707 20th Street, NW, Washington, D.C., as a member of the National Lawyers Guild, and also as a candidate from the Washington, D.C. chapter for delegate to the National Convention of the National Lawyers Guild in 1940.

Washington T-3, another Government Agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations, advised that the name JACOB WASSERMAN appears as Chairman, Membership Committee, National Lawyers Guild.

Mr. FRED W. JOHNSON, Attorney, Bureau of Land Management, Interior Department, advised that he was former Solicitor of this Bureau, and has been acquainted with the employee since 1941. His association has been entirely official, and he has no knowledge of any organizations of which Mr. WASSERMAN might be a member. Mr. JOHNSON does not believe that WASSERMAN would be a member of any ~~subversive~~ ^{disloyal} organizations, but stated that he believes the employee is a "Leftist" to the extent of being ready to accept changes for the progress of the country by constitutional means. Mr. JOHNSON stated that he has no question concerning the loyalty of this employee.

WFO 101-1291

Mr. HARRY M. EDELSTEIN, Assistant Solicitor, Public Lands Division, Department of the Interior, has been acquainted with Mr. WASSERMAN since he came to the Interior Department. He said that their association has been primarily official, although they have visited socially on a few occasions. He has no knowledge of any organizations of which Mr. WASSERMAN might be a member, and stated that he considers the employee to be a very conventional person who is absorbed in his work and his family. Mr. EDELSTEIN concluded by stating that he would be very surprised if the employee were tied up in any way with any organization.

IT IS NOTED THAT
~~Concerning Mr. HARRY M. EDELSTEIN, reliable informant~~
~~of this Office advised that he and his wife, FRANCES, are~~
on intimate terms with HARRY DEXTER WHITE and his wife, ANNE, subjects in a Soviet espionage conspiracy in Washington, D.C. and New York City during the early 1940's; also that he is a close associate of known Communists and pro-Soviet sympathizers. He corresponds frequently with MICHAEL F. NAIGLES, suspected espionage agent in New York City. ~~IN THE PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION OF MR EDELSTEIN IT WAS ALSO DETERMINED THAT EDELSTEIN AND HIS WIFE WERE MEMBERS OF THE~~
Washington Bookshop, the United American-Spanish Aid Committee, and that Mr. EDELSTEIN was listed as a member of the National Lawyers Guild and a contact of Commonwealth College in Mena, Arkansas.

The records of the Circuit Court at Polk County, Mena, Arkansas, reflect that on January 29, 1941, criminal proceedings were instituted against Commonwealth College, charging that the college had displayed an illegal emblem, the hammer and sickle, had failed to display the American flag, and had taught anarchy. On January 30, 1941 the College was found guilty as charged and judgment entered by the court in favor of the state of Arkansas. In addition, the Court ordered the certificate of incorporation of the college to be cancelled.

IN THE PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION OF MR EDELSTEIN IT WAS ALSO DETERMINED THAT
Mrs. EDELSTEIN is listed as a member of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, the American Peace Mobilization, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. The Washington Bookshop, the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, and the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties are organizations declared by the Attorney General to fall within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Mr. WARNER W. GARDNER, Hibbs Building, 725 15th Street, NW, advised that he was acquainted casually with Mr. WASSERMAN at the Department of Justice, and also at the Interior Department. Mr. GARDNER stated that when he was

Mrs. HARRY E. EDELSTEIN

WFO 101-1291

management of the apartment building located at 1224 M Street, NW in 1940. They have no records relating to tenants prior to that time, and have no knowledge of the firm managing the building in 1938.

At the office of BRODIE and COLBERT, real estate company, 1931 K Street, NW, it was determined that apartment #12 at 707 20th Street, NW, was formerly occupied by Mr. THOMAS WRIGHT, who is presently a tenant in apartment #2 at the same address. Mr. WRIGHT stated that the employee roomed with him for a few months several years ago, and that his activities while at his apartment were satisfactory. Mr. WRIGHT was unable to recall the names of any of the other boys who roomed here at the same time, and could furnish no information pertaining to the loyalty of WASSERMAN.

At the Rental Office of Buckingham Community, 313 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia, it was determined that Mr. WASSERMAN came to the community on October 1, 1939, occupying an apartment at 309 North Thomas Street with his mother, father and sister. This apartment was taken over in the name of the employee's father, ABRAHAM, on January 1, 1941. No complaints have been received concerning any activities at this address.

Mrs. J. WILLIAM MAGEE, 309 North Thomas Street, stated that she has lived at this address for only two years, and knows JACOB WASSERMAN only through seeing him when he comes to visit his parents who occupy the apartment across from her. She could furnish no information pertaining to the loyalty of the employee.

Mrs. BRIAN BELL, 309 North Thomas Street, advised that she has resided at this address for several years, and that she could furnish no information pertaining to the loyalty of the employee.

Mrs. EILLEN S. CASE, 309 North Thomas Street, has been at this address since 1942. She stated that she knows Mr. WASSERMAN to see him, but that she knows nothing concerning his activities and nothing pertaining to his loyalty.

At the office of Arlington Village Apartments, 2508 Columbia Pike, Arlington, Virginia, it was determined

WFO 101-1291

that Mr. WASSERMAN has been renting apartment 598 at 1500 South Barton Street since January 1, 1941. No complaints have been received concerning his activities.

Mr. JOE K. McWILLIAMS, apartment 600, 1500 South Barton Street, has known Mr. WASSERMAN for four years. During this time they have had very limited social relationship and have engaged in no discussions of national and international affairs. Mr. McWILLIAMS stated that he has never had occasion to question the activity or the loyalty of the employee to this country.

Mr. EDMUND BARCLAY, apartment 597, 1500 South Barton Street, has been acquainted with Mr. WASSERMAN for approximately one and one-half years. During this time they have had no social contact. Mr. BARCLAY stated that the employee is home nearly every evening, and that when he does go out he is usually accompanied by his wife and child. Mr. BARCLAY stated that he has never had occasion to question the activities or the loyalty of Mr. WASSERMAN.

Mr. J. J. WHITE, apartment 599, 1500 South Barton Street, advised that he has been at this address only ten days, and that from what he has seen of the employee he appears to be a very nice person; however, he was unable to furnish any information pertaining to the loyalty of Mr. WASSERMAN.

Doctor MOSS PARSONS, Arlington Animal Hospital, 2624 Columbia Pike, advised that he formerly resided in apartment 599, 1500 South Barton Street, for approximately five years, and that during this time he visited on frequent occasions with the employee. He stated that he has never had occasion to question the loyalty of WASSERMAN to this country, and has never had an occasion to regard him as anything but a good citizen.

The records of the Identification Division, Metropolitan Police Department, the Special Investigations Squad of the Metropolitan Police Department, and the Credit Bureau of Washington, D.C., reflect no information pertaining to the loyalty of this employee.

The records of the Potomac Credit Bureau and the Arlington County, Virginia, Police Department, reflect no

WFO 101-1291

information concerning the employee.

The files of the Washington Field Office reflect that the employee was the subject of a Hatch Act investigation in 1941, and on September 15, 1941, furnished the following signed statement:

"Washington, D.C.
September 15, 1941

"Statement made by JACOB N. WASSERMAN in the presence of C. E. WEEKS and B. P. CRUISE, Special Agents, FBI, and MARY E. WOOD, Stenographer, FBI.

"Questions by Mr. WEEKS:

- Q. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God, in connection with this inquiry into your status as a government employee?
- A. I do.
- Q. Will you state your full name?
- A. My name is JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN.
- Q. Will you tell us where you are employed and how long?
- A. I am an attorney in the Lands Division of the Department of Justice since October 31, 1938.
- Q. Mr. WASSERMAN, are you a member, or have you been a member of an organization now known as the American Peoples Mobilization which was formerly known as the American Peace Mobilization?
- A. Never.
- Q. You have never been a member?
- A. Never.

WFO 101-1291

"Q. Have you ever attended meetings or made any contribution to an organization of either of those names?

A. Never.

Q. Have you ever received literature indicating to you you were on the mailing list of such an organization?

A. I can't answer that question yes or no. I recall that when this organization in its earlier phase was very active that I received its literature, requests for contributions, etc., but a good deal of this was placed in under the apartment door. I think some of it came through the mail but I have no recollection as to how it was addressed and can't say whether it was a stencil, which would show whether I was on the mailing list.

Q. Then as I understand it, you have no way of knowing whether your name would be on a mailing list, or any other type of list maintained by this organization.

A. No.

Q. In this connection, have you ever been a member of, or contributed to the Communist Party or any affiliated organization or the German American Bund, or any group that has in its program the advocacy of the overthrow of the American form of Government.

A. No."

(Signed) JACOB N. WASSERMAN

Witnesses:

(Signed) C. E. WEEKS,

(Signed) B. P. CRUISE,

Special Agents

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, D.C.

Page 13

Confidential Informants T-4, T-5 and T-6
were contacted for information regarding
the employees and they advised they had
no information ~~pertaining to~~ regarding
employees.

~~Confidential Informant T-6, C-202, C-400 and~~

100-1-1001

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT T-1 - is a highly confidential source mentioned in the report of SA T.W. DAWSEY dated February 17, 1941, at Washington, D.C.

T-2 - is a highly confidential source mentioned in the report of T.W. DAWSEY dated May 15, 1941 at Washington, D.C.

T-3 - is the Civil Service Commission.

T-4 - is C
T-5 - is C
T-6 - is G

The report of SA J. BERNARD COOK dated July 19, 1946, at Washington, D.C., entitled, "GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION, THE UNITED STATES, INTERNAL SECURITY - R", shows a check for the amount of \$100. dated April 30, 1946, payable to J. WASSERMAN and listing the payee as the Riggs National Bank. It is not known whether the J. WASSERMAN above is identical with the subject.

A highly confidential source in the report of SA J. BERNARD COOK dated May 26, 1941 at Washington, D.C., entitled, "GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION, INTERNAL SECURITY - R" lists JACOB N. WASSERMAN, 303 North Thomas Street, Arlington, Virginia on the active indices of the Capital City Forum. Following the name of Mr. WASSERMAN appears the abbreviation, "Coop." indicating that WASSERMAN is a member of the cooperative movement in Washington, D.C.

4 Confidential Informants C- [redacted], C- [redacted] and C- [redacted] were contacted for information pertaining to this employee with negative results. C.C.C.

At the time of this report the check of the employee's fingerprints with the Identification Division of the Bureau had not been received.

INITIAL
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100-1-11-1

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

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- T-3 - is the Civil Service Commission.
- T-4 - is C [REDACTED]
- T-5 - is C [REDACTED]
- T-6 - is C [REDACTED]
- T-7 - is a highly reliable and Confidential source known only to SA NED P. HOLMAN Jr., FBI mentions T-7 report date June 7, 1948 of SA WILLIAM A. LEECH entitled FELIX S. COHEN, Associate Solicitor Department of Interior, Washington, D. C. Loyalty of Government Employees.

The report of SA J. BERNARD COCK dated July 19, 1946, at Washington, D. C., entitled, "GOVERNMENT PURCHASING COMMISSION OF THE SOVIET UNION IN THE UNITED STATES, INTERNAL SECURITY - R", shows a check in the amount of \$100. dated April 30, 1946, payable to J. WASSERMAN and listing the payee as the Riggs National Bank. It is not known whether the J. WASSERMAN above is identical with the subject.

A highly confidential source in the report of SA T. W. DANSEY dated May 26, 1941 at Washington, D.C., entitled, "CAPITAL CITY FORUM, INTERNAL SECURITY - C" lists JAMES W. WASSERMAN, 309 North Thomas Street, Arlington, Virginia on the active indices of the Capital City Forum. Following the name of Mr. WASSERMAN appears the abbreviation, "Coop." indicating that WASSERMAN is a member of the cooperative movement in Washington, D. C.

Confidential Informants C [REDACTED] C [REDACTED] and C [REDACTED] were contacted for information pertaining to this employee with negative results.

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 5668 SLD/KSR
ON 2-4-97 (JFK)

Title: JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN
also known as "Jack", Jake Wasserman
Chief Counsel
Bureau of Land Management
U. S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C.
LOYALTY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Report of: Special Agent Charles D. Chapman

Date and Place: July 13, 1948, Washington, D. C.

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necessary, copies should be made of this copy.

14

WFO 101-1291

JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN
aka "Jack," Jake Wasserman
Chief Counsel
Bureau of Land Management
U. S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C.
LOYALTY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-4-97 BY 5668 SLD/KSK
(JFK)

Washington, D.C.
July 13, 1948

I. PERSONAL HISTORY

The personnel file of JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN as reviewed at the Personnel Office, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior, reflects that the employee was born at New York City on January 19, 1910, and maintains his legal residence at New York. Mr. WASSERMAN attended the City College of New York from September, 1926 to June, 1930, and again from September, 1933 to February, 1934, at which time he received a Bachelor of Science Degree. He attended the Columbia Law School, New York City, from October, 1930 to June, 1933, receiving an LL.B. Degree. He is a member of the New York Bar, Federal District Court, the New York Supreme Court, the Circuit Court of Appeals, and the Court of Claims.

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WFO 101-1291

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II. BASIS FOR INVESTIGATION

JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN, 1500 South Barton Street, Arlington, Virginia, is stated by Confidential Informant Washington T-1, an informant of known reliability, to have been, as of January 1, 1941, on the active indices of the Washington Chapter of the American People's Mobilization, formerly the American Peace Mobilization. This organization was declared by the Attorney General as being within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

III. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

Washington T-1 advised that the name of the employee was contained on the active indices of the Washington Chapter, American People's Mobilization, as follows: "WASSERMAN, JACOB N., 309 North Thomas Street, Arlington, Virginia, Chestnut 3904, Attorney, Department of Justice."

Washington T-1 was recontacted and advised that he could furnish no additional information concerning this employee. He refused to execute a signed statement, and would not consent to appear before a Loyalty Hearing Board.

Washington T-2, an informant who over a long period of time has furnished reliable information, advised that as of May, 1941, the records of the National Lawyers Guild contained the name "WASSERMAN, JACOB N., 309 North Thomas Street, Arlington, Virginia" among its list of active members.

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Mr. FRED W. JOHNSON, Attorney, Bureau of Land Management, Interior Department, advised that he was former Solicitor of this Bureau, and has been acquainted with the employee since 1911. His association has been entirely official, and he has no knowledge of any organizations of which Mr. WASSERMAN might be a member. Mr. JOHNSON does not believe that WASSERMAN would be a member of any disloyal organizations, but stated that he believes the employee is a "Leftist" to the extent of being ready to accept changes for the progress of the country by constitutional means. Mr. JOHNSON stated that he has no question concerning the loyalty of this employee.

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It is noted that Mr. HARRY M. EDELSTEIN, as determined in a previous investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and his wife, FRANCES, are on intimate terms with HARRY DEXTER WHITE and his wife, ANNE, subjects in a Soviet espionage conspiracy in Washington, D. C. and New York City during the early 1940's; also that he is a close associate of known Communists and pro-Soviet sympathizers. He corresponds frequently with MICHAEL H. NAIGLES, suspected espionage agent in New York City. In a previous investigation of Mr. EDELSTEIN it was also determined that EDELSTEIN and his wife were members of the Washington Bookshop, the United American-Spanish Aid Committee, and that Mr. EDELSTEIN was listed as a member of the National Lawyers Guild and a contact of Commonwealth College in Mena, Arkansas.

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Mr. WARNER W. GARDNER, Hibbs Building, 725 15th Street, NW, advised that he was acquainted casually with Mr. WASSERMAN at the Department of Justice, and also at the Interior Department. Mr. GARDNER stated that when he was

WFO 101-1291

Solicitor at the Interior Department he would have contact with the employee approximately once a week, and that when he later was Assistant Secretary of the Interior their contact was approximately once a month. Mr. GARDNER stated that he had no social contact with the employee, and has no knowledge of any organization of which he might be a member. He continued by stating that the employee is the type of person he would expect to join the National Lawyers Guild and the American League for Peace and Democracy. He gave as his reason for saying this, the fact that the employee is apparently liberal and got out of school during a depression and war period. Mr. GARDNER does not believe the liberalism of the employee borders on Communism, and qualified his statement by saying that WASSERMAN believes in progress and changes through constitutional means.

Mr. FELIX S. COHEN, Attorney, 1624 Eye Street, NW, advised that he was acquainted with Mr. WASSERMAN at the Department of Justice and also at the Department of the Interior. He stated that his association with the employee was almost entirely official, and that he has no knowledge of any organizations of which WASSERMAN has been or is a member, and further that he has no reason to question the loyalty of the employee to this country.

Washington T-7, a reliable confidential informant, advised that as of 1942 the name of FELIX S. COHEN was included on the active indices of the United American-Spanish Aid Committee.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities in its report of March 29, 1944, cited the UNITED AMERICAN SPANISH AID COMMITTEE as a Communist front.

Washington T-4, an Informant of established reliability who is acquainted with and who has associated with many known and admitted Communists, stated that the UNITED AMERICAN SPANISH AID COMMITTEE in Washington, D. C., was organized by the Communist Party and completely controlled by it. Washington T-4 declined to furnish a signed statement or to testify before a Loyalty Board.

Washington T-5, a former member of the Communist Party who has furnished reliable information and who assisted in forming numerous front organizations for the Communist

WFO 101-1291

Party, stated that the UNITED AMERICAN SPANISH AID COMMITTEE in Washington, D.C., was organized and controlled by the Communist Party and that it was an important transmission belt of the Communist Party. This informant is unwilling to appear before a Loyalty Board or to give a signed statement.

Washington 7-6, a member of the Communist Party who over a long period of time has furnished reliable information, stated that the UNITED AMERICAN SPANISH AID COMMITTEE in Washington, D.C., was completely controlled by the Communist Party but that the organization had no active membership and many of its members had no active association with the organization. Washington 7-6 does not wish to testify before a Loyalty Board or furnish a signed statement.

The records of the House Committee on Un-American Activities reflect that FELIX S. COHEN has served on various committees of the National Lawyers Guild including the Lawyer's Committee on American Relations with Spain. In connection with his membership on this committee, COHEN signed an appeal to lift the Spanish embargo, which appeal appeared in the issue of the "Daily Worker" of February 17, 1939. The "Daily Worker" is an East coast Communist daily newspaper.

Mr. ARNOLD LEVY, Room 829, Washington Building, 15th and New York Avenues, NW, advised that he and the employee are very close personal friends. He stated that they were formerly associated at the Department of the Interior, and that he believes the Americanism of Mr. WASSERMAN is beyond any question. He said that they have discussed all types of controversial issues, and that there was never any occasion for concern to this country. Mr. LEVY has visited in the home of Mr. WASSERMAN on numerous occasions, and has never observed any literature or publications of a questionable nature.

Mr. J. EDWARD WILLIAMS, First Assistant, Lands Division, Department of Justice, advised that WASSERMAN worked on research work regarding land acquisition and later on an appellate work in the same division. Mr. WILLIAMS presented a form letter from the file of WASSERMAN which was dated in January of 1939, and on which letter Mr. WASSERMAN lists membership in the National Lawyers Guild.

Mr. JOHN F. COTTER, Assistant Chief, Appellate Section, Lands Division, knew the employee from February, 1940 to October, 1941, while the employee was in his section. He advised that WASSERMAN was associated with the National Lawyers Guild and used to go through the Office leaving invitations on the desks for the other employees to attend luncheons for the Lawyers Guild. Mr. COTTER stated that at one time WASSERMAN and some other members of the division wrote some articles in which they indicated their association with the Department of Justice and which he did not feel was proper on their part. He stated that the employee made no expressions concerning his political feelings, and that he could furnish no information pertaining to the loyalty of WASSERMAN.

Mr. LELAIND YOST, Trial Attorney, Lands Division, has known WASSERMAN since November, 1939 and stated that they worked together in the Research Division until WASSERMAN left the Justice Department. Mr. YOST knows nothing concerning the activities of the employee prior to his coming to the Department of Justice, and has no knowledge of membership by the employee in any organization. Mr. YOST advised that he has no reason to question the loyalty of Mr. WASSERMAN.

Miss WILMA MARTIN, Attorney, Appellate Section, Lands Division, has known Mr. WASSERMAN since he came to the Justice Department. She stated that she has visited socially in his home on a few occasions, and that he never mentioned membership in any organization or tried to influence her to join any organization. She concluded by stating that she had never observed any activity on his part which would cause her to question his loyalty.

Mr. PHILIP NICHOLS, JR., Office of the Chief Counsel, Bureau of Federal Supply, advised that he was acquainted with Mr. WASSERMAN while employed at the Justice Department. He stated that he sees him on occasion at the present time, but that he has had no social contact with him. Mr. NICHOLS advised that the employee was a member of the National Lawyers Guild as was he, and that sometime around 1939 or 1940 the employee made the statement to him that he thought the National Lawyers Guild was becoming infiltrated by Communist element, and that he was opposed to their activity. He stated that Mr. WASSERMAN wanted the National Lawyers Guild

WFO 101-1291

to be progressive but WASSERMAN was out of sympathy with the Communist element and their purposes. Mr. NICHOLS stated that he did not question the loyalty of Mr. WASSERMAN to this country.

Mr. PHILIP MARCUS, Trial Attorney, Antitrust Division, advised that he was acquainted with the employee for approximately two years during which time they worked together and visited socially. He said that he has seen the employee on only two or three occasions since he left the Department. Mr. MARCUS advised that the employee never discussed any organizations in his presence, and that he has no reason to suspect the loyalty of the employee.

Mr. ROGER P. MARQUIS, Chief, Appellate Section, Lands Division; Mr. ROBERT E. MURPHY, Chief, Lands Division; Mr. CUS VANDER, Assistant Attorney General in charge of Lands, advised that they could furnish no information pertinent to the loyalty of JACOB M. WASSERMAN.

At the Office of Senator ROBERT F. WAGNER, Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C., Miss EDNA RUPPERT advised that she has been associated with the Senator for twenty years, and that she has no knowledge of the employee, and further that his name has never appeared on the payroll of the Senate.

Mr. PHILIP LEVY, 1625 K Street, NW, advised that he knew the employee from 1930 to 1933 while both were students at Columbia University Law School, where they served together on the Staff of the School Law Review. They were associated again in 1938 in connection with the election campaign of Senator WAGNER. Mr. LEVY stated that he was Secretary to Senator WAGNER at that time, and that WASSERMAN did research work in connection with the campaign. He stated that in addition the employee did work for the Senator when the Senator was chairman of the Democratic Convention of the State Constitutional Committee. Mr. LEVY concluded by stating that his association with Mr. WASSERMAN since coming to Washington, D.C., has not been very close, and that he has no knowledge of any organizations of which WASSERMAN is or has been a member.

At the Office of JESS FISHER, Real Estate Company, 1420 K Street, NW, it was determined that this firm took over

WFO 101-1291

management of the apartment building located at 1224 K Street, NW in 1940. They have no records relating to tenants prior to that time, and have no knowledge of the firm managing the building in 1938.

At the office of BRODIE and COLBERT, real estate company, 1931 K Street, NW, it was determined that apartment #12 at 707 20th Street, NW, was formerly occupied by Mr. THOMAS WRIGHT, who is presently a tenant in apartment #2 at the same address. Mr. WRIGHT stated that the employee roomed with him for a few months several years ago, and that his activities while at his apartment were satisfactory. Mr. WRIGHT was unable to recall the names of any of the other boys who roomed here at the same time, and could furnish no information pertaining to the loyalty of WASSERMAN.

At the Rental Office of Buckingham Community, 313 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia, it was determined that Mr. WASSERMAN came to the community on October 1, 1939, occupying an apartment at 309 North Thomas Street with his mother, father and sister. This apartment was taken over in the name of the employee's father, ABRAHAM, on January 1, 1941. No complaints have been received concerning any activities at this address.

Mrs. J. WILLIAM MAGEE, 309 North Thomas Street, stated that she has lived at this address for only two years, and knows JACOB WASSERMAN only through seeing him when he comes to visit his parents who occupy the apartment across from her. She could furnish no information pertaining to the loyalty of the employee.

Mrs. BRIAN BELL, 309 North Thomas Street, advised that she has resided at this address for several years, and that she could furnish no information pertaining to the loyalty of the employee.

Mrs. EILLEN S. CASE, 309 North Thomas Street, has been at this address since 1942. She stated that she knows Mr. WASSERMAN to see him, but that she knows nothing concerning his activities and nothing pertaining to his loyalty.

At the office of Arlington Village Apartments, 2508 Columbia Pike, Arlington, Virginia, it was determined

WFO 101-1291

that Mr. WASSERMAN has been renting apartment 598 at 1500 South Barton Street since January 1, 1941. No complaints have been received concerning his activities.

Mr. JOE K. McWILLIAMS, apartment 600, 1500 South Barton Street, has known Mr. WASSERMAN for four years. During this time they have had very limited social relationship and have engaged in no discussions of national and international affairs. Mr. McWILLIAMS stated that he has never had occasion to question the activity or the loyalty of the employee to this country.

Mr. EDMUND BARCLAY, apartment 597, 1500 South Barton Street, has been acquainted with Mr. WASSERMAN for approximately one and one-half years. During this time they have had no social contact. Mr. BARCLAY stated that the employee is home nearly every evening, and that when he does go out he is usually accompanied by his wife and child. Mr. BARCLAY stated that he has never had occasion to question the activities or the loyalty of Mr. WASSERMAN.

Mr. J. J. WHITE, apartment 599, 1500 South Barton Street, advised that he has been at this address only ten days, and that from what he has seen of the employee he appears to be a very nice person; however, he was unable to furnish any information pertaining to the loyalty of Mr. WASSERMAN.

Doctor MOSS PARSONS, Arlington Animal Hospital, 2624 Columbia Pike, advised that he formerly resided in apartment 599, 1500 South Barton Street, for approximately five years, and that during this time he visited on frequent occasions with the employee. He stated that he has never had occasion to question the loyalty of WASSERMAN to this country, and has never had an occasion to regard him as anything but a good citizen.

The records of the Identification Division, Metropolitan Police Department, the Special Investigations Squad of the Metropolitan Police Department, and the Credit Bureau of Washington, D.C., reflect no information pertaining to the loyalty of this employee.

The records of the Potomac Credit Bureau and the Arlington County, Virginia, Police Department, reflect no

WFO 101-1291

information concerning the employee.

The files of the Washington Field Office reflect that the employee was the subject of a Hatch Act investigation in 1941, and on September 15, 1941, furnished the following signed statement:

Washington, D.C.
September 15, 1941

"Statement made by JACOB N. WASSERMAN in the presence of C. E. WEEKS and B. P. CRUISE, Special Agents, FBI, and MARY L. WOOD, Stenographer, FBI.

"Questions by Mr. WEEKS:

- Q. Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God, in connection with this inquiry into your status as a government employee?
- A. I do.
- Q. Will you state your full name?
- A. My name is JACOB NATHAN WASSERMAN.
- Q. Will you tell us where you are employed and how long?
- A. I am an attorney in the Lands Division of the Department of Justice since October 31, 1938.
- Q. Mr. WASSERMAN, are you a member, or have you been a member of an organization now known as the American Peoples Mobilization which was formerly known as the American Peace Mobilization?
- A. Never.
- Q. You have never been a member?
- A. Never.

WFO 101-1291

"Q. Have you ever attended meetings or made any contribution to an organization of either of those names?

A. Never.

Q. Have you ever received literature indicating to you you were on the mailing list of such an organization?

A. I can't answer that question yes or no. I recall that when this organization in its earlier phase was very active that I received its literature, requests for contributions, etc., but a good deal of this was placed in under the apartment door. I think some of it came through the mail but I have no recollection as to how it was addressed and can't say whether it was a stencil, which would show whether I was on the mailing list.

Q. Then as I understand it, you have no way of knowing whether your name would be on a mailing list, or any other type of list maintained by this organization.

A. No.

Q. In this connection, have you ever been a member of, or contributed to the Communist Party or any affiliated organization or the German American Bund, or any group that has in its program the advocacy of the overthrow of the American form of Government.

A. No."

(Signed) JACOB E. WASSERMAN

Witnesses:

(Signed) C. F. WEEKS,

(Signed) B. F. CRUIER,

Special Agents

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U.S. Department of Justice

Washington, D.C.

WFO 101-1291

Confidential Informants T-4, T-5 and T-6 were contacted for information pertaining to employee and they advised they had no information regarding employee.

The employee's name was checked against the records of the Identification Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and no criminal record was found.

WFO 101-1291

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~~WASHINGTON T-7 A RELIABLE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT~~
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WFO 101-1291

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WFO 101-1291

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WFO 101-1291

7
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