

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1173422-1

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February 19, 1947

Handwritten signature

RECORDED 105-17521-X
~~62-79499-63~~

Honorable George C. Marshall
Secretary of State
State Department
Washington, D. C.

*Personally delivered
2/21/47*

My dear General Marshall:

Reference is made to your request of February 7, 1947, asking that I designate a Special Agent for an assignment of approximately three months to the United States Delegation at the Council of Foreign Ministers in Moscow, USSR. I am pleased to inform you that Special Agent John M. Matter has been designated for this assignment. Special Agent Matter is an experienced and thoroughly qualified communications technician. Arrangements are being perfected for his immediate departure to Moscow.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____ FPG:OME
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____ ✓
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

*per
to*

RECEIVED DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FEB 20 11 50 AM '47

Handwritten initials/signature

4 APR 8 1947

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: February 11, 1947

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: Request of Secretary of State Marshall for
~~Assignment of Bureau Technician to Conduct~~
~~Security Survey at Moscow~~

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

Social Microphone Installations In The U.S. Embassy, Moscow

There is attached a letter to you from Secretary of State Marshall, requesting that the Bureau assign on special assignment for a period of approximately three months a technician to conduct a security survey of headquarters to be used at the forthcoming Council of Foreign Ministers in Moscow on March 10, 1947.

Secretary Marshall has asked for the services of a communications technician to inspect the telephone system, rooms and offices to be occupied by the United States Delegation. The Bureau representative would accompany a representative of the Security Office of the State Department and would leave Washington on or about February 26, 1947.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the request of the Secretary be declined.

It is not thought we can send a man on such a mission because of our critical shortage of personnel for our domestic responsibilities. I might also point out that under the present setup, such a mission is the responsibility of CIG. Also, you will recall we were recently advised [redacted]

b7D

RECEIVED

[redacted]

If you approve, there is attached a suggested letter to Secretary Marshall.

Attachments

DETACHED AND HELD Ed

RRR:OME
JKM:MJJ

105-19581-X11
~~62-77477-61~~
FBI
19 MAR 31 1947

NOTE

BY THE ASSIGNMENT OF ONE MAN, THE BUREAU WOULD OBVIOUSLY NOT WANT TO ASSUME ANY RESPONSIBILITY HERE. IT WOULD TAKE A SIZEABLE STAFF TO EFFECT ANY SECURITY UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES PREVAILING IN MOSCOW.

JKM

54 APR 8 1947
Director
2/11/47
Ed

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

February 11, 1947

Handwritten notes and signatures:
 [Large scribble]
 [Signature]

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: REQUEST OF SECRETARY OF STATE MARSHALL FOR ASSIGNMENT OF BUREAU TECHNICIAN TO CONDUCT SECURITY SURVEY AT MOSCOW

While I am reluctant to recommend approval of the attached assignment involving the sending of a man to Moscow to conduct a security survey, I believe that under the terms of our appropriation we have no choice in this matter and must accede to it in the light of the Secretary's request.

Collaterally,

[Redacted block]

[Redacted block] I think consequently that we must agree to this assignment.

b7D

This being the second situation in the past week where we have had to comply with a State Department request about which we were not too enthusiastic, I think we have to give consideration at this time to the question of whether we desire to reword the provisions of the Appropriation Act to eliminate the proviso for investigations requested by the Secretary of State. This involves fundamentally weighing the benefits between the advantages of such a provision and the responsibilities attached to this provision. It seems to me, in the light of the present greatly unsettled situation relative to world-wide intelligence, that it is to our advantage to continue this phraseology in our appropriation through the current year since probably the advantages of this provision will outweigh the disadvantages.

Soviet Microphone Installations in
 the U.S. Embassy, Moscow

I think we should make the survey. I am opposed to

Respectfully,

EDW. A. TAMM

105-19581-X2
 62-7247-62
 MAR 31 1947

Attachment EAT:ml

change in appin
 2/12

Handwritten note: I concur. It should be a mature exp who could do the technical job & also keep his eyes open.

54 APR 8 1947

Soviet Mission in Washington
United States Embassy, 7th Floor

Moscow, U.S.S.R.
March 15, 1947

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Handwritten signatures and initials

"JUNE"

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

Dear sir:

Upon arrival at the Moscow military airport on Feb. 28, 1947, Russian authorities boarded the plane and required that we surrender our passports before we left the plane. Transportation to the National Hotel was provided by Intourist. Since the Moscow Hotel, in which all the delegations were to be housed, was still in the process of renovation, a six day stay at the National was necessary. The latter hotel was also in the process of renovation. By Friday, March 7, the Moscow was opened, but on registering it was again required that the passports be surrendered. On March 15, the passports were again collected inasmuch as it was discovered that the Russian Foreign Office had not passed on them since our arrival.

The National is a fourth rate hotel at the best. The Moscow is second rate by our standards. It is interesting to note that the waiters were wearing plain white jackets prior to the arrival of the main bodies of the delegations. They now are garbed in tuxedos, ill fitting for the most part.

The people on the streets are warmly dressed in most cases, although shabbiness is much in evidence and several layers of thin clothing are often seen instead of one or two heavy garments. There is little laughter or other signs of happiness. Most faces are grim. Some shoes and leather boots are to be seen, but the most common foot apparel is the high-top wool felt boot. It is not difficult to spot those who have money, since their wool or fur coats stand out in vivid contrast to the shabby black ones worn by the vast majority.

The food situation is acute. Strict rationing prevails for all, but those who have money can buy almost any item on the open market, provided they are willing to pay the price. For example, ten rationed eggs sell for about \$0.85. In the same store under government sanction, unrationed eggs sell for \$0.80 each. Soap is virtually unobtainable. The food ration of the Ambassador is so short that he finds it necessary to bring food in from Berlin to maintain a well balanced diet. His monthly egg ration is 10 eggs. In order to avoid paying the open market prices, he is keeping 25 chickens in the Embassy residence yard. Now that he has the chickens, though, he is having extreme difficulty in obtaining chicken feed.

The food at the Hotel is good, but the portions are very small. All members of the delegation have ration books, and must surrender the proper ticket for each particular meal. At the regular rate of exchange, 5 to 1, the meals would cost approximately \$13.00 per day. At the diplomatic rate, 12 to 1 we are paying about \$6.00.

Harvey
W. H. ...
Victor
P. Jones
W. H. ...
7-11-47

COPY FILED IN 100-2-9449

105-19581-X6

RECORDED

EX-17 31 APR 18 1947

Edg A

7

To date, the writer has completed the technical check of the Ambassador's office and of 12 rooms at the Embassy residence. It was possible to complete the check on all rooms to be used as offices before the delegation arrived, and also the bedroom now occupied by the Secretary of State. No microphones have been discovered. One phone was found to be wired, so that the microphone in the earpiece could be used when the phone was not in use. An examination of the wiring indicates, however, that the extra wire used to jump the switch was installed at the factory. The sensitivity of the microphones in both the earpiece and the mouthpiece is poor in comparison to those of the Western Electric instruments. The earpiece microphone is of the magnetic type, while that in the mouthpiece is of the carbon type. The carbon particles in the microphone are packed so loosely that when the handpiece is on the cradle, the microphone will not function, thus eliminating its use when the phone is not in use.

In the attic, the writer discovered approximately 60 feet of extremely fine, cotton-insulated wire characteristically used in installations where concealment of the wire is essential. About 9 feet of this wire was concealed in the dirt of the sub-roof, and led to a hollow space in the wall and ceiling above the room formerly occupied as an office by former Ambassador Davies, and now occupied by Mrs. W.B. Smith as a bedroom. A hole just large enough to permit an average-sized man to squeeze through had been cut through the 4-inch concrete sub-roof which is covered with dirt. The remainder of the wire was found in the hollow space which is about 18'x 2'x 3'. A thorough search failed to reveal any microphone. While the building is a regular maze of old telephone, buzzer and power wires, no other indication of surveillances has been found.

The writer arranged to talk to [redacted]

As to the Conference, the usual Russian snags have been encountered. No concrete progress has been made to date. The general opinion is that it will last about one month.

Snow removal in Moscow is little short of amazing. It has snowed all except three days since the arrival of the writer, and yet the main streets are dry. This is accomplished by the use of hundreds of women, boys, and older men. They scrape, sweep and shovel the snow into the gutters. Then the snow is shoveled into trucks and hauled away. They are at their task shortly after the snow starts falling, regardless of the time of day, and keep at it until all snow is removed. One sidelight of this snow removal is the fact that the writer has not observed a single car equipped with chains.

Very truly yours,

John M. Matter

John M. Matter
Special Agent

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1947

APR 12 1947

- The Director _____ Records Section
- Mr. Tolson _____ Personnel Files
- Mr. Ladd _____ Send File
- Mr. Rosen _____ Bring file up-
- Mr. Clegg _____ No-date
- Mr. Glavin _____ Search, serial-
- Mr. Nichols _____ ize, and route
- Mr. Tracy _____ Reading Room
- Mr. Harbo _____ Mechanical Section
- Mr. Hendon _____ Bureau Supply Section
- Mr. Pennington _____ Mail Room
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Coyne _____
- Miss Gandy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Miss Gray _____ Stamp and mail
- Miss Lyon _____ Prepare tickler
- Miss Butcher _____ Call these files

Handwritten notes and signatures:
 Mr. E. A. Tamm
 Mr. Clegg
 Mr. Ladd
 Mr. Nichols
 Mr. Rosen
 Mr. Tamm
 Mr. Harbo
 Mr. Hendon
 Mr. Pennington
 Mr. Quinn Tamm
 Mr. Nease
 Miss Gandy
Conrad

See Me

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

Moscow, U.S.S.R.
April 2, 1947

" JUNE "

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear sir:
Though no copies are yet available in Moscow, it is my understanding that a recent issue of the New York Times carried an article regarding the finding of some microphones by the British in one of their buildings here. The following information was obtained by the writer from



*Soviet Microphones Amatecollations
In the United States Embassy, Moscow*

b7D

GM
61 MAY 16 1947

RECORDED 105-19581-89
EX-70

Prices of consumers goods definitely reflect inflation. A man's cap -- \$16.00. Adults' shoes -- \$100.00. Shoes for children -- \$40.00. Watches -- \$400.00 to \$500.00. Electric phonographs -- \$300.00. Single-unit hot plates of very poor quality -- \$25.00. Ordinary upright pianos -- \$1000.00. Soap -- \$3.00 a bar. Women's blouses -- \$50.00.

Surveillances of delegation members has been spotty. The writer has not been under surveillance at any time. From talking to other persons, it would appear that there is no definite program of surveillance of delegation members. In the few instances known to the writer, the purpose seems to have been to keep the individual under observation regardless of whether the fact of the surveillance became known.

Secretary of State Marshall is followed by two cars containing 12 men whenever he leaves the Embassy residence. In addition a Russian Army Captain accompanies him in his own (Marshall's) car. Ambassador Smith has a one car escort at all times. The purpose of the surveillance seems to be as much for protection as for information on contacts and places visited.

Several Soviet Nationals have guardedly expressed to the writer their desire to visit the States, but have pointed out the fact that it is next to impossible to get an exit visa. They wish it was not that way. One stated that the fear of the NKVD (MVD) constantly restrains the activities and thoughts and speech of almost all Soviet citizens. Another praised the standard of living of American citizens and complained that even with all the five-year plans, the average Soviet has no more, and in some cases less than he had under the Czar. One even stated that things might be different had Lenin lived.

Very truly yours,

John M. Matter

John M. Matter

May 5, 1947

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Honorable George C. Marshall
Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear General Marshall:

The Agent of this Bureau who at your request accompanied your Delegation to Moscow for the Foreign Ministers' Conference has returned to the United States and has prepared a complete memorandum covering his technical assignment. Two copies of this memorandum are attached.

It is noted that a complete physical and electronic check was made by our Agent of all of the rooms at the Ambassador's residence (Space House) as well as seven rooms of the United States Embassy building. This check failed to reflect the existence of any microphones installations.

A technical check was also made of the phone system at Space House and at the Embassy which revealed no evidence of wire tapping within the limits of the building. Included in the memorandum are a series of recommendations regarding future security of Space House and the Embassy building.

I am informed that every possible courtesy and assistance was rendered our Agent in Moscow for which I am deeply appreciative. I trust that you will find the attached memorandum of interest.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

105-19581-X9
RECORDED
EX-75

Original in [unclear] for [unclear] in the U.S. Embassy Moscow

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

ENG: [unclear]

[Large handwritten signature and initials]

20194778

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SERIAL CHARGE-OUT

* This form is consolidated with the old FD-654, based on a Sentinel review.

Date 7/24/09

Document Classification: Unclass Confidential Secret Top Secret

Document Type: Letter Airtel LHM Memo Report
 Facsimile Teletype Misc EC Email
Enclosure Attachment _____

SCI TYPE: *requires special handling

Other _____ (specify)

b7E

FD-501 Number _____

Date of Mail 1/26/61

Originating Office or agency State Dept.

This serial has been removed and placed in:

Special File Room, FBIHQ FBIHQ, Room _____

Field Office-Room # Container # or Other Location Where Material Is Stored

File _____
Class. Office of Origin Case No. Last Serial

Pending Closed

Serial No.	Description of Serial	Date Charged
<u>10</u>	<u>Encl. Behind File State Dept. docs</u>	

b6
b7C

Employee _____

RECHARGE Date _____

To _____ From _____

Initials of Clerk

SERIAL CHARGE-OUT

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 09-15-2014 by F26M48K40 KSA

RECORDED: 415-19581-10

Date: September 8, 1952
To: Mr. John H. Ford
Chief, Division of Security
U. S. Department of State
515 22nd Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

VIA LIAISON
"JUNE"

Personal file
Released
9/9/52
[Signature]

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: MICROPHONE INSTALLATIONS AND WIRE TAPPING DIRECTED AGAINST DIPLOMATIC ESTABLISHMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES ABROAD

7-1
11-1

Reference is made to discussions with representatives of this Bureau regarding [redacted] of the United States abroad, with particular reference to the period from 1949 to date, including incidents in [redacted] as well as the suspected penetration of [redacted]

b7D

In connection with these incidents, it would be helpful to know whether the occurrences in [redacted] have been traced by investigation to Communists or Soviet-inspired activity.

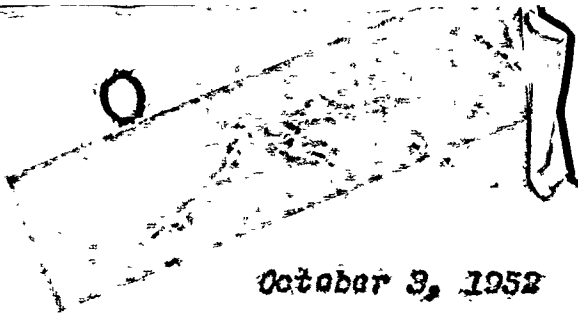
Because of the domestic intelligence responsibilities of this Bureau, any additional data regarding these previous incidents or additional incidents in the future would be of considerable interest.

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Laughlin
- Mohr
- Tele. Rm.
- Holloman
- Gandy

LW: ewj

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED READING ROOM
SEP 8 1952

[Handwritten signatures and stamps]
SEP 8 5 28 PM '52
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE



MR. A. H. BELMONT

October 9, 1952

MR. W. A. FRANIGAN

CONFIDENTIAL FILES MAINTAINED
IN ROOM 6527

PURPOSE

To recommend that the file on "Microphone
and Technical Installations in the [redacted]
[redacted] Bureau
file 105-19581, be maintained with the confidential files
in Room 6527.

b7D

DETAILS

The file on [redacted]

b7D

[redacted]
matters directly affecting the relations of the United
States with the Soviet Union and its satellites.

Much of the technical information has been
designated "JUNE" and consequently maintained in Room
1726. Nevertheless, the balance of the information in
this file relating to countermeasures and policy relates
to data classified, "Security Information - Top Secret."

ACTION

It is recommended that this file be maintained
in Room 6527 and that its contents be made available only
on a "strict need-to-know basis."

CS-17404

cc-105-19581

LN:esj

*File should
continue to remain
in conf file room
6/7/67
WTS*

105-19581-
NOT RECORDED
OCT 9 1952

57 OCT 17 1952

CONFIDENTIAL - INFORMATION IN THE UNITED STATES

- Tolson
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Belmont
- Clegg
- Glavin
- Harbo
- Beane
- Tracy
- Laughlin
- Rohr
- Tele. Rm.
- Holloman
- Gandy

ORIGINAL FILE IN 105-1744-15

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Harbo *RB*
FROM : I. W. *W. Conrad*

DATE: September 23, 1952

SUBJECT: MICROPHONES AND TECHNICAL INSTALLATIONS
IN US EMBASSIES ABROAD
ESPIONAGE - R

JUNE

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Mohr _____
- Tele. Rm. _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

Reference is made to memorandum under date of September 11, 1952, from Mr. A. H. Belmont to Mr. D. M. Ladd advising of the finding of an ultramodern radio transmitter concealed in the library in the residence of the U.S. Ambassador in Moscow. The transmitter was found by State Department technicians.

The transmitter mentioned above was delivered to the Laboratory and examined by personnel of the Radio and Electrical Section on September 16 and 17.

RESULTS OF LABORATORY EXAMINATION

It was found that the "ultramodern radio transmitter" consisted of a cavity resonator with a condenser microphone built into the high impedance end of the cavity and with a $1\frac{1}{2}$ wave length antenna extending out the side of the cavity. It was immediately apparent that the device was designed for use as a microphone unit without any external wire connections by beaming a UHF radio signal of suitable strength and frequency toward the antenna of the unit and by using suitable UHF radio receiving equipment which would pick up and demodulate the re-radiated and modulated signal emitted by the antenna of the device.

Attempts were made by using the available electronics test equipment in the Laboratory to determine the UHF operating frequency of the device. These attempts were at first unsuccessful due to the fact our test equipment would not operate at frequencies higher than approximately 400 mc. Personnel of the electronics division of the National Bureau of Standards were then contacted in an endeavor to locate suitable test equipment for this project. As a result of this contact, the Bureau was able to borrow, for a period of one day, one Power Oscillator, Airborne Instruments Laboratory, Inc., type 124, range 300-2500 mc; one Hewlett-Packard model 610A UHF Signal Generator with range 450-1200 mc; one tuning unit TN-19/APR-4 (975-2200 mc range), and one tuning unit TN-54/APR-4 (2150-4000 mc range). After obtaining the above equipment from the Bureau of Standards and checking throughout the frequency range of 100-2500 mc it was determined that the "ultramodern radio transmitter" was designed to operate on a frequency between the limits of approximately 1650-1800 mc, the exact operating frequency being determined by the setting of an adjustment which was built into the cavity resonator of the unit.

Soviet Microphone Installations in the United States Embassy, Moscow

H. J. ...
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