

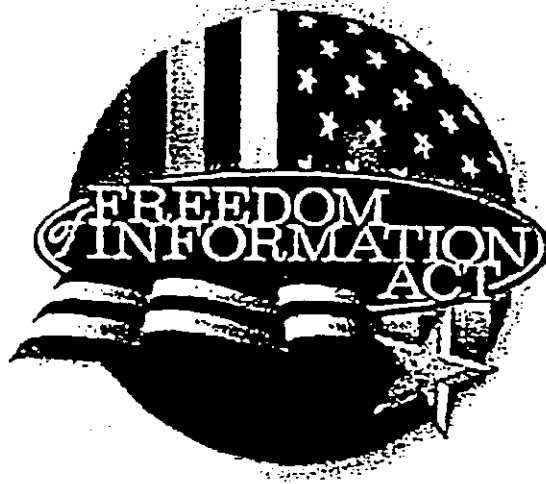
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

HANNS EISLER

PART 2 OF 4

FILE NUMBER : 100-195220

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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For your information: these pages are a continuation of the TABLE OF CONTENTS

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
100-195220-16 pg 79-84

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EH.
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100-195220-16A

SAC, Los Angeles

November 20, 1946

Handwritten: 10

RESERVED Director, FBI

7586

EX-8 HANNS RISLER
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

There is attached herewith a photostatic copy of a memorandum dated November 1, 1946, which was furnished to the Bureau by an unknown outside source concerning the above-captioned individual.

If the information contained in this memorandum is incorporated in an investigative report or transmitted to an outside agency, it should be appropriately paraphrased.

Enclosure

HOB:aop

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6/15/84 SP7 MAC/SPG
CA 247,008

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DEC 7 1946

Handwritten signature: [Signature]

Handwritten: HOB

- 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 _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Handwritten: 58 JAN 2 1947

Handwritten: 1947

HANNS EISLER

November 1, 1946.

Hanns Eisler is the brother of Gerhard Eisler, Communist leader. His home is at Malibu Beach, California. Eisler is considered one of the leading Communist song writers.

Now a successful song writer for the movies, Hanns Eisler's many revolutionary compositions were published in the "Red Song Book" issued by the Communist Workers' Music League.

A native of Leipzig, Germany, Eisler came to the United States in 1935 and was the subject of investigation by immigration authorities because of his radical connections.

He left the country and returned three years later, afterward collaborating with Oscar Levant in composing the music for "Pete Kuleva and His Cousins," a film displayed at the New York World's Fair.

Eisler received a \$20,000 grant from the New School for Social Research to study music in film production and was made a music professor at the school.

RUSS FILM

Described as "an ardent advocate of 'proletarian' music, Eisler participated in the musical work on a film depicting life in Soviet Russia and a documentary of conditions in China.

Eisler wrote film background for "Mr. Pickwick's Christmas" and the song, "Non-Surrender," for "Hangmen Also Die."

The \$20,000 grant to Eisler came out of the Rockefeller Foundation's coffers.

In 1942, the school granted Eisler a leave so he could come to Hollywood and continue his research on the Rockefeller project.

One of Eisler's revolutionary songs contains this stanza:

"We carry the flag of the working class
"Into the face of our class enemy
"We stand ready for the final attack
"On our enemy, the bourgeoisie."

Hanns Eisler, photograph

*11-20-46
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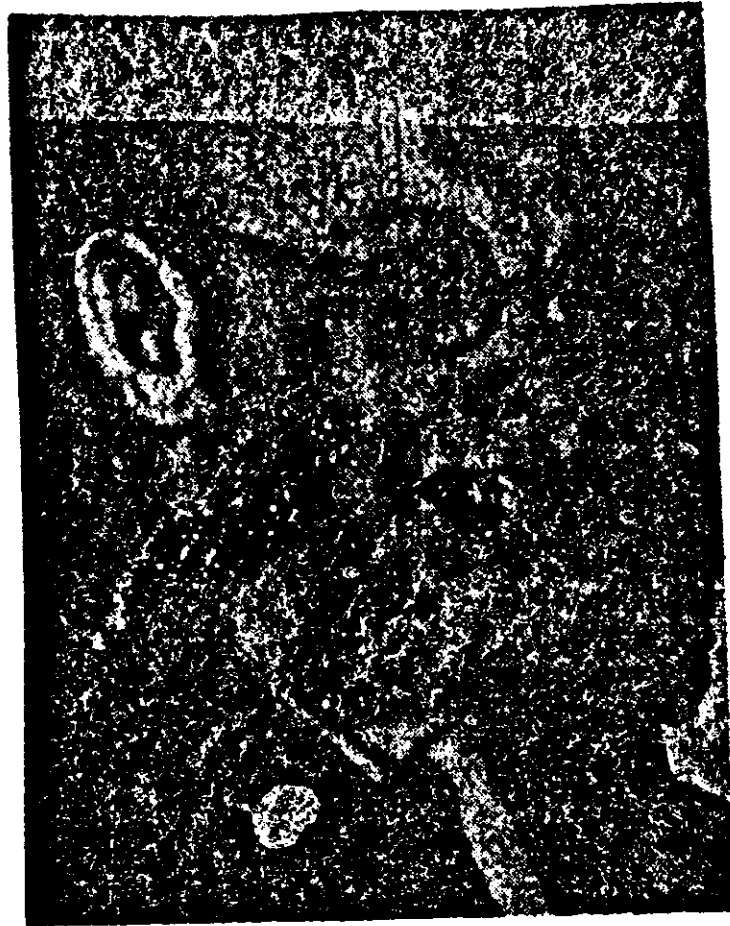
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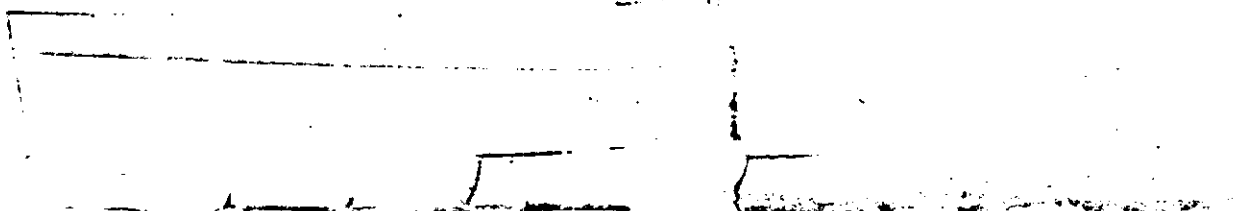
O HANNS FISLER.

COMMUNIST.

HOME - 1 MARIE J. BEACH. CALIF.



11/1/46



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

(CONFIDENTIAL)

DATE: August 29, 1946

TO : Director, FBI
 FROM : SAC, Los Angeles
 ATTENTION: TRANSLATION UNIT
 SUBJECT: HANNS EISLER, was.
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Under separate cover there is being transmitted to the Bureau for translation a large number of photographic reproductions of German Language letters obtained through a confidential source from the residence of the above captioned individual. *Y U*

It is requested that these photographs be returned to the Los Angeles Field Division upon the completion of the translation. *Y U*

EJV:GER
100-18124

6/15/84
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ON 7-7-84

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SLIP(S) OF classification

DATE 10/9/88 GSK/RLS

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED
INDEXED
EX-69

100-196220-1

Fitch
Callahan

TRANSLATION FROM THE GERMAN

100-195220-17

Re: HANNS EISLER with Alias
Internal Security--R

There is set forth in the following a listing of the correspondence comprising this group of documents together with the writers as identified and a brief statement concerning the nature of the contents of each item. In the examination special attention was given to the subject's connection with Communism and his contacts. Only references of such a nature are being mentioned in connection with the contents of the various items. & u

1. A group of letters are those written by one [redacted] possibly [redacted], to the wife of the subject, Louise Eisler. These letters are social in nature and reflect a mutual interest by both in such things as Asiatic culture, translation, languages, music and art. This group of letters covers the period from March, 1933, through July, 1945. The contents reveal that these two persons maintain an extremely close friendly contact and that they have a mutual friend [redacted] who is frequently mentioned. It is also noted that the writer of these letters is reported to have certain ability in 98 languages. In a letter dated June 2, 1945, it was noted that he was indebted to her in the amount of \$430.03. & u

2. A group of letters written by [redacted] covering the period from 1942 through 1945. The contents show that the writer spends most of her time playing Bridge and writes a great deal of social gossip. In the letters she refers frequently to one [redacted] who secured a job working for [redacted]. It was noted that [redacted] is a mutual acquaintance. There is also a frequent mention of the welfare of [redacted] who works for OWI and allegedly got the job through Mrs. Eisler's contact. & u

3. A group of letters from [redacted] covering the period from January to July of 1945, to the subject, deals with technical matters, the subject's compositions, etc. In one letter the writer thereof states that he will keep Hanns up-to-date and that he has a conference that day with [redacted] and later that day with [redacted] (illegible)-, and Brecht. The writer sends greetings to the Schoenberg family. It appears that the above-referred to conference concerns musical compositions by the subject since much of the contents of these letters deals with negotiations with Brecht in [redacted] presentation of the subject's music. & u

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DATE OF REVIEW *7-15-90*

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10/19/80 GSK/RLU*

ENCLOSURE

100-195220-17

4. A group of letters to Mrs. Eisler from [redacted] (apparently identical) [redacted]

covers a period from October, 1942, through January, 1945. A portion of the letter dated September 16, 1946, reads as follows: "To be recommended in the way of Austrian literature are the little bulletin of the Austrian Labor Committee (Adler-Deutsch, etc.), the paper of the Socialists, or the Austro-American Tribune, which is further left (colleagues, Viertel, Bruchan, Brecht, etc.). Czernin who represents the democratic center works together with the Tribune people; he wasn't successful, nor was the Tribune, in getting the Socialists to act uniformly, all of which you probably saw in the recent (illegible)." & u

[redacted]

and Brecht appear as mutual friends. & u

b7c

5. A group of letters to the Eislers from [redacted] covers the period (only few letters showing year and date line) from 1942 through 1944. [redacted]

[redacted] & u

6. A group of letters from subject to his wife (some dated letters indicated the period to be during the summer of 1942) were written from Hollywood where subject apparently was negotiating for a job in connection with music for various films. He mentions some contacts made: Social contact with Mr. and Mrs. Schoenberg; "Cliff" attempted to get a job for him, as did one "Harold"; he twice mentions a plan to approach Chaplin with his project; subject gets together occasionally with Brecht. In one letter the subject admonishes his wife to speak very carefully about the Schoenberg affair. The remainder of this reference in the subject's letter is illegible; however, the name Steuermann was mentioned in connection therewith. & u

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In one letter subject writes, "Enclosed is a paper with a diagram of the Freigoshen Opera House. Give it to Gerhard. Perhaps one could call upon Robeson to help." *u*

?

Included in this group is a letter, written by subject's wife, which appeals for financial assistance for one Ruth Fischer. At the conclusion of the letter the following names are listed--no identification as to purpose other than possibly in connection with seeking aid: Professor Horkheimer, 3524 D'este Drive, Pacific Palisades, Los Angeles; [redacted] Prof. J. Willich--Theological Seminary, 99 Claremont Avenue; Prof. Dr. Polloch; [redacted] 316 S Kenter Avenue, Brentwood Hts., Los Angeles; Mr. Peter Lorre, 243 55 Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.; [redacted]

7. A group of letters to Mrs. Eisler from [redacted] one of which is dated in May, 1944, contained mostly social chatter. [redacted]

The writer requests Mrs. Eisler to convey greetings to [redacted] *u*

8. A group of letters on the stationery of [redacted] to Mrs. Eisler from the [redacted] cover a period from May, 1943, through March, 1945. In a letter dated May 17, 1943, it was stated "the FBI also called on us recently. Everything is all right." It appears that [redacted] is interested in some way with the publication of a literary work by Brecht who is a mutual friend. *u*

b7c

9. A group of letters, some to the subject; however, mostly to Mrs. Eisler, were written by one [redacted]

The letters show that Brecht is a mutual friend; also [redacted] full name is [redacted] It appears that [redacted] The above letters cover a period from May, 1942, through June, 1945, during which time the following addresses were shown: [redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

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10. A group of letters from [redacted] to Mrs. Eisler covers a period from December, 1942 through June, 1945, and contains mostly social chatter. [redacted]

b7c

& u

11. A group of letters to the Eislers from Berthold Viertel, [redacted] covers a period from March through May, 1944. The contents reveal mutual literary interests and references to the writer's poems and novel fragments. She requests that the subject return her poems to her C/o Eduard Steuermann, 169 E 69 St., N. Y. C. Mutual friends are Brecht, Felix, Odetts, and Horkheimer. & u

12. A group of letters to Mr. and Mrs. Eisler from Hilde and Gerhard are being translated in full in view of possible interest in Gerhard who appears to be the brother of the subject. & u

[March 12, 1944] & u

Dear Hansel, Your girlfriend will soon be with you again and she will be able to tell you a lot about the life of the artists in New York. It is more than questionable whether I can visit you or not. As always, I am still hoping that you will pop up suddenly in New York. It seems to me a first class scandal which continually irritates me, the fact that your music remains burried and that there should be no chance for it to be presented there. Naturally there is also a tomorrow as for all fine things of this world. Otherwise things are not developing badly if you do not disregard the limitations within which things today can develop. I am still counting on 1944 as the year of victory over Hitler. However, no one knows anything definite. Didn't anything finally come of the "Seventh Cross?" a/ Gerhard. Regards from Hilde. & u

[April 17, 1944] & u

Dear Hansel, Finally another letter for me. I am very glad that you have finally gotten something, and I am not going to ask such idiotic questions as to why you were doing that right now. If I were to learn how to play these syndonies, melodies, cantatas, etc., and be able to pay you for them, that would be something different. Naturally I am peeved because of the fact that your desk is full of manuscripts and that there is no possibility for having the stuff presented. Undoubtedly many other things must also wait but it is not necessary for that. As you see I cannot get away from a certain ambition for the younger one. For various reasons I will not be able to come. Therefore, I must wait until you finally return to New York. Your girlfriend, whom I found very nice, showed herself to be very eager, and if it is necessary (illegible) in a (illegible) way. I hope I get your "little song" soon. & u

CONFIDENTIAL

In the meantime, very many things, decisive for the whole future, will occur in the next two months. These two months will solve many complicated questions or create a basis for their solution--or, however, will become questionable. (Illegible) speech as much of it as we know is a very positive sign for ... variante of development. & u

Then we can look at the stars together and contemplate the screeching of the birds. Among your feathered friends, by the way, there is also a Robin, which compared to the ... very nice bird. Filth knows no boundaries. Greet Lu and tell her she should save and put you on rations so that you can soon come to New York. s/ Gerhard. (There is a note at the end of this letter by Hilde, the contents of which are insignificant.) & u

New York City
July 8, 1945

Dear Hansel, A letter with so much pleasant news concerning your situation naturally gladdens my old heart. At your last visit when you asked whether you should turn, there you have your answer. People who under difficult circumstances sing your songs will always be gladdened when the composer returns to the place he left. A good ... Austrian composer such as you has ... chances in the near future (even when he makes some stupid errors). For some time I have been of the opinion that one of the kings of the herd, as example, Stokowski, should be secured to present some of your works. The fact that you immediately ... again is good for the procurement of daily bread, and if that cannot happen without musically enlightening...it is not your fault. & u

Of all the unpleasant times I have experienced in my life, I find my present situation the fullest and most difficult one to bear, for to be here where it is finally possible to again begin to "live" and also not knowing how and when I can get away, makes me indescribably ill, frustrated and void of joy and desire. My asthma which has troubled me lately probably has something to do with it. It simply takes the very life out of me. Well, that will pass over some day too. Write soon. s/ Gerhard. (An insignificant note is added by Hilde). & u

New York City
August 15, 1944

My dear Children, I was glad to receive your letter of August 10. I thought to myself that Hanns' stooping to the noble business of making a living was the final reason for your silence. One can find such activities stupid but one naturally, after all, wants to create some & u

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

decent music. I hope the gentlemen read a great deal of ... since Harms has repeatedly refused to play anything for me, for that is the only possible form of hearing some of it. Naturally it would be very good if you were able to get some money out of it for the way back even though this way will not be so simple. There are Italians here who have been working for a year to return to their liberated country without any success. Naturally there are people who are of the opinion that freedom is only harmed when the way home is brought too close to these people. However, consideration must be given to these small but painful delays especially when one is a musician and to whom every way is not possible. *qu*

Otherwise I have placed my opinion on the European war being over by the middle of December; military development and ... development in Germany etc. In reference to the latter I am expecting further "fantastic surprises." The more hope you have to get some kind of a job the less possibility there is for your return to New York and that I regret more and more, for you know ... goes out into the "unfriendly life with its unavoidable distances." *qu*

If you intend to spend the whole winter in Hollywood perhaps I could consider seriously visiting you in the fall or in the winter. s/ Gerhard. (A note with insignificant contents by Hilde) *qu*

[September 20, 1944] *qu*

Dear Hansel, Your letter proves to me that your personal situation in general is taking a favorable turn and that makes my old heart very happy, for the new problems are to be solved by people of our kind, the solutions of which will be more than complicated, and in order to experience a good conclusion of them it would be necessary to be ... ten or twenty years. If I could answer this question I would have one less worry. Up to now one can only be hopeful in this regard and to imagine the difficulties which exist or which are facing me. *qu*

The bad thing about writers is that they do not, in spite of everything up to the present time, work in a decisive way, that is in such a way that the people are given to know that they have been spared a great loss of human life. There is still time for it; however, not if the Allied Armies are in Berlin. Even in a large city--in a large industrial section such as Paris would undoubtedly create a minimum of confidence in the ... anti-fascists, a confidence which does not even exist any more--not even in the progressive circles. With the exception of the old virtues, the past gifts, the description ... with words and arguments ... nothing is done--only *qu*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

visible negotiations and effective negotiations can be begun with the German anti-Fascists in order to bring about a change in the estimation of the Democratic circles in Germany. The outlook now is that for the present time the ice is getting colder and if you are thinking of anything do not think of a thaw but of the North Pole. Naturally all of that will change sometime but up until now and for the immediate future it is a complicated factor. You needn't be ashamed because of your Christmas music, especially since I do not doubt but what it is good. Not only because of the tendency of the times which runs parallel with the requirements of your bank account. I will play them. I am very curious about your music for the film. I saw the splendid film "Seventh Cross" with band and irrelevant music and thought to myself that you certainly would have done it differently and I was quite disgusted. What is Berthine doing? What are your plans? As far as visiting you is concerned, I can only say that ... whether I will be able to come some day. s/ Gerhard. (An insignificant note is added by Hilde.) *qu*

New York
October 23, 1944 *qu*

My dear Children, The situation is becoming better, not only in a military way but also politically. The military strategy of the Russians and their march through the Balkins and Hungary naturally facilitate historical changes in this "German corner" of Europe which soon perhaps can rank with many a modern city in "illumination," and perhaps Vienna will be a repetition of Paris if the Russians have passed Deutsch Allenberg, Fiachament, etc. I am speaking a lot of Austria and it will soon be known what concrete steps the Russians are planning to carry out in the German territories occupied by them. There will also be some surprises. *qu*

The questionable factor naturally is the eternal time element which will ... the people in the society of the revolution and ... country people and industry and will extinguish the last spark of respect in the world. That too will be corrected and ammended in the future but in spite of that it is a terrible situation. Well is he who is a Yugoslav. *qu*

As far as I can judge I think it is certain that Roosevelt will be elected by a type of landslide. However, my extremely sparse contact with the people might well make my estimate an error. If, however, this Dewey should become President there will be rain and well is he who has an umbrella which will protect him from summer showers and other things. However, the ... Europeans, the Russians included, who made it a habit of yapping at the Nazis will also make out the reactionary rain drops of Dewey. *qu*

Otherwise, I am getting along fine, as well as can be expected at least away from home and family. As far as the family boil is concerned, it is going right along and will continue to do so until it is lanced. *qu*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[CONFIDENTIAL]

I hope that the "lonely heart" will soon come to New York so that I can listen to it and so that my heart can turn to the more youthful. s/ Gerhard. (The writer then suggests that Bertine be asked for a loan of about \$1,000 so that he could come for a visit.) & u

[New York
November 18, 1944] & u

Dear Hanns, Received your letter. Hilde and I just bought "Mr. Pickwick's Christmas" records for an English friend for Christmas. For the time being I am touched every time I look at your photographs enclosed in the little book with the records. I will have to wait to play the records until I get a gramophone. Today we saw the film "None But the Lonely Heart." It is a fine and very human film marvelously planned and well made--reminds me of French films such as "Quaie de Bruemen" and "Gare du Nord" and in a pleasant way does not fall into the usual Hollywood style. I found the music delightful except at times I was deceived in certain hopes. When a piano appeared for the first time in the film I thought excitedly, aha, now we will have a few songs. However, there were no songs, but I suppose nothing can be done about it. Unfortunately, films are not made for music but music for films. That is all the more reason for my considering it time finally to hear you present a complete selection of music undisturbed by pictures. You certainly saw the acknowledging criticism in the "Times". In any event there is certainly no reason to make excuses for the music or the film. And if there were no more unpleasant ways of earning the necessary bread this in no way was the worst and most unpleasant. & u

I can't just pick up and come to visit you. I do not have the necessary money. I would have to fly there and fly back since I cannot stay away so long, and, therefore, not having the necessary wherewithal for this trip I cannot make it at the present time. Not being able to drum the \$1,000 from you it is terrible but what more can I do. Perhaps there will be a possibility later on to come to see you. Now it is especially complicated. The Doctor ordered Hilda to stop work for a few months which reduces the not too large income. It would be different naturally, if my trip were materially beneficial to the extent that in addition to traveling expenses an additional amount for general useful purposes were left over. However, as I said, I can imagine the people there where you are without seeing them in the films. & u

The elections turned out well and the results prevented many dangerous possibilities. Naturally there remain not only the final difficulties of the decisive battles but also the new complicated problems of renovation in the liberated countries. No person and no class can jump over its own shadow, and it is only natural that the class character of many a liberated army seeks to "change the fortune" towards the right. & u

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In spite of that, in view of the relationships between the larger powers and the inner relationships of forces, it now cannot have such an unrestricted effect as for example, if Dewey had been elected. *cu*

The self-destruction of Germany is making further progress. One of the greatest hopes which one can justifiably hold is the tremendous educational processes among the million German Prisoners of War in the Soviet Union. Real amazing and promising things have taken place there. Naturally such beginnings have also been made in the Prisoner of War camps here, more than is generally known and much less than would have been the case if such a development had been favored a little instead of rendered more difficult. *cu*

What other chances for Bertine's pieces? You no longer hear him in public. Didn't anything come of all the plans and expectations? That would be too bad. *cu*

Best of luck to you. See if you can't stand the boredom of Hollywood security. When you get a copy of your Hollywood songs send it to me. I also know that among the many Prisoners of War there is a real thirst for good old songs and for good new songs. If you have anything which is good for singing and for raising the morale send it to me. *cu*

I hope that the English and American troops are successful this time in penetrating the Rhineland. Naturally, I have no way of knowing whether or not that is the objective of the present offensive or whether or not it cannot be attained. If it is attained, however, many things can happen by the first of January. Especially if you consider that by t is time possibly the Russians could be in Vienna, Bruen and Prague. Well, we'll see. s/ Gerhard. (A note of insignificance is added by Hilde). *cu*

13. The miscellaneous group consists of individual items as follows: *cu*

a. Letter dated February, 1945, from [redacted] [redacted] Mr. and Mrs. Eisler requesting the subject to compose a contribution for a program to be held in honor of the 60th anniversary of Berthold Viertel. It was stated herein that Eduard St. is also concerned with the program; it was also stated that perhaps Robeson would sing. *cu* **b7c**

b. Two letters dated April and June, 1945, from [redacted] [redacted] addressed to, Dear Lu and Dear Adams. The letters concern music comedies and translations with which the writer is concerned. He states that he was formerly associated with Oscar Strauss, also that he is interested in publishing. *cu*

c. Letters dated June and July, 1945, [redacted] [redacted] to Mrs. Eisler contain social talk concerning news from relatives and friends in Europe. *cu*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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d. A letter dated July, 1941, to Mrs. Eisler from [redacted] contains innocuous chatter. *Y u*

e. A letter dated August, 1942, to Mr. Eisler from [redacted] The letter reveals that [redacted] and is feeling the subject out in regard to a job in Hollywood. *Y u*

f. A letter dated April 26, (no year), to Mrs. Eisler from [redacted] contains general talk concerning a trip by the subject to New York City. *Y u*

g. A letter dated February, 1944, from [redacted] addressed to the subject concerns a discussion on the republication of classics in Germany. *Y u*

h. A letter dated June, 1943, to the subject from [redacted] contains a request for money so that [redacted] can take a vacation cure. *Y u*

i. A letter to Mrs. Eisler from [redacted] whose husband appears to be [redacted] shows mutual friends to be Odetts, Horkeheimers and Pollock. *Y u*

j. A letter dated April, 1945, from the subject to Berthold Viertel is a congratulatory message on the latter's 60th anniversary. *Y u*

k. A letter from [redacted] to Mrs. Eisler discusses family affairs. *Y u*

l. A letter dated October, 1944, to Mr. and Mrs. Eisler is written by [redacted] Seven Seas Book and Stamp Shop, 10 W 23 St., New York City and contains nothing of apparent importance. *Y u*

m. A letter dated May, 1942, to Mrs. Eisler from [redacted] praises the subject's music. It is noted that [redacted] is a mutual friend. *Y u*

n. A letter dated July, 1942, to Mrs. Eisler from [redacted] is a reply to the former's inquiry concerning the use of [redacted] automobile for a trip. *Y u*

o. A letter dated August, 1942, to Mr. Eisler from [redacted] contains an appeal for money for medical treatment of Ruth, ostensibly the subject's sister. *Y u*

p. A letter dated August, 1944, to the subject from [redacted] reveals that the writer was staying in New York for five weeks having come from Mexico, after which he will return to Mexico. Prior to this departure from Mexico the writer had been in Mexico for three months. The writer refers to an unidentified character who associates with the subject and [redacted] and the writer can't understand it. *Y u*

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

q. A letter to the subject from "b" (Brecht(?)) concerns the subject's getting located in Hollywood, also the fact that someone claims to have translated some of "b's" material. "b" suggests that [redacted] come out and they can work out something, possibly a rehashing of the UI. Baerensprung is a mutual friend. *qu*

r. A letter dated March, 1945, from "The Tribune for Free German Literature and Art in America", 187 Pinehurst Avenue, New York City, requests the subject to take part in an anniversary celebration for Berthold Viertel. The letter is signed by [redacted] The Preparatory Committee is shown to be: [redacted] Albert Bassermann, Hermann Brochh, Hermann Budzislawski, Alexander Granach, Oskar Homolka, Eduard Steuermann, Bruno Walter, Bertolt Brecht. *qu*

s. Three undated letters - one to [redacted] one to [redacted] from Mrs. Eisler advising of a report the writer is sending to the Rockefeller Foundation, and one unaddressed letter dealing with the same topic. *qu*

t. An unsigned letter to the subject discussing some difficulties the subject had in connection with his employment in Hollywood and his unexpected departure from Hollywood. *qu* **67**

u. A notation appearing on a card reads as follows: "Dear Hanns enclosed #2 of 'Network', #3 comes this week. Give them to Gerhart. Also-- in Eisler language: To sleep with a person is often colossally overestimated (Hanns Eisler) e.P.N. is always underestimated. - [redacted]" *qu*

v. Also included in this group of documents is a pamphlet entitled "Friedrich Pollock, in Commemoration of His 50th Anniversary, May 22, 1944." It consists of philosophical fragments written by Max Horkheimer and Theodor W. Adorno and was published by the Institute of Social Research, Morningside Heights, New York City. The table of contents is as follows: Introduction; Dialectics of Enlightenment; Part I--Odysseus or Myth and Enlightenment; Part II--Juliette or Enlightenment and Morales; Industry of Culture--Enlightenment as Mass Deception; Elements of Anti-Semitism--Limits of Enlightenment; Sketches. (It is to be noted that the bulk of this publication is not included in this group, merely the introduction and table of contents.) *qu*

w. Included in this group of documents is a pamphlet of short poems by Bertolt Brecht, which poems are not being translated at this time. *qu*

x. Four newspaper clippings from a German newspaper concerning the subject. Two of the clippings due to photo-technical reasons are not subject to a complete translation. The other two read as follows: "Hanns Eisler in Moscow. The German Revolutionary Musician, Hanns Eisler, who a few weeks ago made an extended lecture tour through the United States at which time he appeared at numerous meetings and concerts in behalf of the *qu*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

fight against Hitler fascism recently proved at the Workers Olympiae-Strassburg and the Workers Music Festival in Reichenberg his close connection with the workers' musical movement the recent development of which is tied in closely to a great extent with his name. *cu*

"Hanns Eisler is the composer of 'Rote Wedding' and numerous other verses from Erich Weinert, which in music have become the property of the German proletariat and are sung by the workers of almost all countries. For approximately four years Hanns Eisler has been working closely with Bert Brecht among whose creations are 'The Mothers' and 'The Pinheads and the Roundheads', for which Eisler prepared the music. We understand that Comrade Hanns Eisler plans to write the music in Moscow for the new film of Joris Ivens." *Ivens cu*

The second newspaper clipping reads as follows: "Eisler's Program of the German Central Zeitung to be held on July 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the 'Author's Hall', Uliza Warowskowo 50. Program: Erwin Piscator will speak about Hanns Eisler. Carola Neher and Hanni Rodenberg will sing Eisler's melodies accompanied by the composer. Hanns Eisler will speak concerning his American tour. Presentations of Eisler's melodies sung by Ernst Busch. At the conclusion of the program Hanns Eisler will rehearse with the participants at the program his new 'Unity Front Song' (with words by Brecht). *cu*

"Tickets are available in the offices of the 'Deutsche Zentral Zeitung.'" *cu*

Translated by: *b7c*

9-27-46

mgl

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ CONFIDENTIAL November 5, 1946

100-145220-17
SAC, Los Angeles
Director, FBI

HANNS RISLER, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

RECORDED

C
2-7AJ

There are being transmitted herewith two copies of the translation which has been made by the Bureau Translation Unit of a large number of photographic reproductions of German language letters furnished to the Bureau by your office under the date of August 29, 1946, in the above captioned matter. *qu*

There are also being transmitted under separate cover to your office the photographic reproductions which were forwarded to the Bureau for purpose of translation. *qu*

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Classification

6/15/84
CLASSIFIED BY: SP7MAC/eww
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

DATE 10/9/80 6SK/120

Enclosure
APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Class
DATE 8/24/84 7210

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP7MAC/eww 7/15/82
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 7-13-90

- 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
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE
MAILED
NOV 5 1946
RAC:alcd;td
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-7MAC/eww
ON 8-22-84

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ CONFIDENTIAL

3
58 DEC 12 1946



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Los Angeles 13, California
December 26, 1946



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. 100-18124

Director, FBI *W.S.C.*
1-13-47

RE: JOHANNES EISLER, WAS.
SECURITY MATTER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

It is recommended that a Security Index card be prepared relative to the individual named below:

Name: JOHANNES EISLER
Aliases: Hanns Eisler, Hans Eisler

Residence Address:

188 Malibu Beach, Los Angeles County, California

Business Address:

E.I.P. 5

_____ Native Born Alien _____ Naturalized

(German)

Communist _____ German _____ Miscellaneous

_____ Fascist (Italian) _____ Japanese

Russian

Date of Birth July 6, 1898

Place of Birth Leipzig, Germany

Entered U. S. October 22, 1940 at Calexico, California

Naturalized (date) _____

Naturalized (place and Court) _____

RECORDED 100-195256-17
F B I

EX - 88

Very truly yours, JAN 3 1947

R. B. Hood.

R. B. HOOD *w.s.b.*

SAC

pjm:kc
100-18124

Tendency both Communist & Russian

*Typist
W. B. Jones, Jackson
3-6-47*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/15/80 BY SP1 GSK/RC
6/15/84 SP7 MAC/cww
CF#247,098

[Handwritten signature]

March 6, 1947

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED 100-195220
Special Agent in Charge
EX - 51
Los Angeles, California

RE: SECURITY MATTER

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF Declassification
DATE 11/9/80 GSK/125

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that a security index card has been prepared at the Bureau, captioned as follows:

EISLER, JOHANNES ALIEN
Aliases: Hanns Eisler, (German)
Hans Eisler

188 Malibu Beach
Los Angeles County, California (Res.)

COMMUNIST
(Russian)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/15/84 BY SP7MAC/fmw

DECLASSIFIED BY SP16SK/HA
ON 7-15-80

The above caption should be checked immediately for accuracy against the information contained in your files, and the Bureau should be informed of any discrepancies. You will prepare without delay a 5" x 8" white card captioned as above and reflecting your investigative case file number for filing in your Confidential Security Index Card File. In the event the above caption is not correct, the card you prepare should be correctly captioned, and the Bureau should be informed of the correct caption.

The caption of the card prepared and filed in your Office must be kept current at all times and the Bureau immediately advised of any changes made therein in that connection.

Very truly yours,

- 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 _____
- Miss Gandy _____

HR:jd

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
MAR 6 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

21 1947

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

FROM : *TK* Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division

SUBJECT: HANNS EISLER, with aliases: Hans Eisler, Johannes Eisler;
Internal Security

DATE: February 25, 1947
TLC:KDA:vng
146-13-2-12-4372

676 *Ray*
Allen

The Department file in this case reflects that the most recent report received is that of Special Agent ~~_____~~, dated September 28, 1943, at Los Angeles, California.

It will be appreciated if you will furnish copies of all subsequent reports.

Reply
5-3-47
RAC

57

100-195220-19

RECORDED
EX-20

F B I
15 MAR 7 1947

Assistant Attorney General T. L. Caudle

March 3, 1947

Director, FBI

HANNS EISLER, with aliases;
Hans Eisler, Johannes Eisler
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

RECORDED

06 - X

100-195220-19

Reference is made to your memorandum dated February 25, 1947, requesting that you be furnished with copies of all reports subsequent to that of Special Agent [redacted] dated September 28, 1943, at Los Angeles, California.

b7c

There is attached a report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 16, 1946, at Los Angeles, California. This is the only report in this case which has not previously been furnished to you.

K.C.
2-7/47

G. I. R. - 5

Attachment

RAC:rb

- 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
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 7
 MAR 4 1947 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

57 MAR 15 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/15/80 BY SP-16SK/KG

4/15/84 SP7MAC/eww
CA 247,098

GAB
Jea

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

DATE: February 28, 1947

FROM : D. M. LADD *ok*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: JOHANNES EISLER,
aliases Hans Eisler, Hanns Eisler;
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

- 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 Gandy

see yellow

ORIGIN:

6/15/84
CLASSIFIED BY: SP7MAC/EWA
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

Johannes Eisler was born July 6, 1898, at Leipzig, Germany. He is the son of Rudolf Eisler and Marie Ida Eisler, nee Fischer. He is the brother of Gerhart Eisler and Ruth Fischer, both of whom have figured prominently in recent disclosures by the un-American Activities Committee of the House of Representatives.

According to a confidential source having access to the personal effects of Hans Eisler on May 30 and August 13, 1945, it was ascertained that Eisler had in his possession a rough draft typewritten document "Life History" which states that Hans Eisler graduated from high school and spent three years in the military service. He studied music in college and university and while a student held the position of teacher at Vienna People's High School and the Laborers' University. In 1924 he obtained a prize for music given by the City of Vienna, which was the highest honor a composer could attain. He moved to Berlin, Germany, at the end of 1924, where he became a teacher in the Workers' University. He immigrated to the United States in 1933 and in 1935 became a professor of music at the New School for Social Research in New York City. *lu*

"Current Biography - 1942" contains a biography of Hans Eisler which lists his address as c/o New School for Social Research, 66 West 12th Street, New York City. This biography contains the following pertinent information other than that set out above: Eisler served on the Italian front during the First World War (1918) and upon his discharge from the army studied composition with the prominent modern composer Arnold Schoenberg at the Academy of Music in Vienna. Eisler's recognition throughout Europe and to some extent in the United States was brought about by his musical compositions, as well as his work on German film scores. All of Eisler's work in music was banned when Hitler came into power in 1933. He composed the musical score for the film "Song of Heroes" in 1932. This was a film on life in the Soviet Union. Eisler escaped from Germany in 1933 and thereafter worked in Paris, the United States and England. This article states that in February, 1940, the Rockefeller Foundation allocated \$20,000 to the New School for Social Research for research and study of music and films, and the school in turn commissioned Eisler to work on musical scores for the New York Philharmonic. In May, 1942, the New School for Social Research granted Eisler a leave of absence to continue his work on the Rockefeller project in Hollywood. *lu*

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1 GSK/46 7/15/80
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 (2.3)
DATE OF REVIEW 7-15-90

RECORDED 100-195-20-20
EX-47
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memo for the Director
Re: HANS EISLER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

February 28, 1947

According to the above biography, as well as through the result of investigation, it has been determined that Eisler married Louise Anna Goszotonyi, born March 6, 1906, at Vienna, Austria. They were married in Czechoslovakia on December 7, 1937. Eisler had been previously married and divorced, but the identity of his first wife is unknown. ~~X~~ U

RESULTS OF BUREAU'S INVESTIGATION RE EISLER'S BACKGROUND AND COMMUNIST AFFILIATION: ~~X~~ U

In the early 1930's Hans Eisler collaborated with Bertolt Brecht, a German revolutionary writer presently in the United States who is closely associated with Hans Eisler at this time. They produced a play entitled "Die Massnahme" (The Disciplinary Measure). This play has appeared in print in both Germany and Czechoslovakia. The complete play is in the possession of the Bureau and has been translated, and it is noted the authors call it an educational play. It deals with the work of four Communist agitators who go from Moscow to Mukden, Manchuria, to spread propaganda and support the Chinese Communists among the industries of Mukden. The action of the play takes place before the "Control Committee" when the four agitators return to give an account of their work and especially account for the fact that they had been forced to kill a young Communist comrade whose intentions were good but whose death was deemed a necessity by the four agitators since his activity threatened to endanger the Communist movement among the Chinese. ~~X~~ U

A letter dated May 12, 1930, at Berlin, Germany, is published along with the foregoing play and the letter is signed by both Brecht and Eisler. The authors defend their play, object to its censorship and suggest that the play be presented by those for whom it was intended, that is, workers, choruses, groups of amateur players and school choruses. This play is clearly of a Communist propaganda nature. ~~X~~ U

The February 18, 1935, issue of the Daily Worker, page 4, contains an article which describes Eisler as "the brilliant revolutionary composer of 'Comintern', 'Rote Front', 'Kuhlewampe', 'Parade of the Cotton Pickers' and 'Song of the Coal Miners'. Though not yet 37, this militant worker composer has been associated with the workers' movements in Germany for the last seventeen years. Through the rising of Fascism in Germany he was in the forefront of the workers resistance to Hitler. Song after song came from this tireless and prolific composer, songs that now help the masses in militant demonstrations.....In addressing the delegates of the German singing societies, the Pierre De Geyter group, the Artist Union, the anti-Nazi Federation, the Workers Dance League, the Workers Music League, International Workers Order and others, Hans Eisler stated that in the American workers' use of revolutionary music, unity is achieved not only by the American workers of all nationalities but among all workers throughout the world." The article also referred to a concert on March 2, 1935, to be held in New York City which would be one of a national tour, including Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, St. Louis, San Francisco and other cities in which Eisler would appear. ~~X~~ U

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memo for the Director
RE: HANS EISLER

February 28, 1947

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Also in the February 18, 1935, issue of the Daily Worker on page 7 Eisler is described in another article written by Sergi Redamsky in the following manner: U

"Hanns Eisler, the famous revolutionary German refugee composer, arrived in this country a few days ago. Every effort has been made by the Hitler government to ferret out all of Eisler's music and to destroy his influence with the worker. To own one of his records in Germany is punishable by imprisonment, nevertheless, thousands upon thousands of records of Eisler's revolutionary mass songs are still played in Nazi Germany and his popularity is as high as ever there. The spreading of revolutionary music among the German workers was not an accident nor was it easily accomplished. The Communist Party in Germany had to fight the old beer garden atmosphere and nationalistic ditties of the middle class which had found their way into the masses. In this cultural and music development, the German workers were led by Hanns Eisler. The class struggle in Germany strikes barricades, first of May celebrations and other demonstrations are bound up with his name. Eisler is a pupil of Schoenberg. Only when Eisler came into the struggle of the working class did he find his medium and with it grew his power of composing music which expressed not only the life and battles of the German workers, but of the working class of the entire world. U

"Eisler has taken an active part in the struggle of the working class of Germany. That is why his songs find instant responses from the masses. Two workers and peasants of the Soviet Union were quick to appreciate this and his 'On Guard', 'Comintern' and others are tremendously popular. The revolutionary movement under the leadership of the Communist Party has brought to its rank many musicians whose activities are of great help to the class struggle. Eisler is one of the leading spirits in music for the worker and outstanding as a musician, a comrade and always on the battle line with the rank and file."

According to the records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Eisler first entered the United States on February 13, 1935, at New York City. He left May 4, 1935, and again entered October 4, 1935, at New York City. He departed from the United States in December 1935. Regarding his first trip to the United States, it is noted that according to the highly confidential source having access to Eisler's personal effects on May 30 and August 13, 1945, at Los Angeles, California, Eisler is mentioned in a Russian language article which appeared July 20, 1935, in the issue "Soviet Art" published in the Soviet Union. The article quotes Eisler at length and is prefaced by a remark that Eisler's first words to the interviewer upon arrival in Moscow were his impressions of the "new face of Moscow" and especially of the difference between it and what he saw in the U

Memo for the Director
RE: HANS EISLER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

February 28, 1947

capitalistic countries. Eisler is then quoted as saying he made a picture in London entitled "Abdul the Damned", which was based on the Turkish Revolution of 1908. He states that this picture included such contemporary episodes as the anti-Soviet burning of union homes, the punishment of revolutionists, the underground work of the Communist Party, etc. He stated that the film was produced through the efforts of political immigrants from Fascist Germany. Eisler also related that while in London he, together with Bertolt Brecht, wrote "Song of the United Front", which he stated he later discovered to be the favorite song of the "American proletariat". The article then describes Eisler's concepts on his trip to North America and he states that his purpose was to "actively support the anti-Fascist federation in the United States." He stated that there is a strong sympathy in the United States toward the Soviet Union and that a person returning from the Soviet became the delegate for many requests "to accurately portray life in a country of conservative socialism". Eisler then refers to his most dramatic moment on the trip, which he says was his visit "to the unjustly suffering revolutionary, 18 years imprisoned in an American prison, Tom Mooney". He states that he was permitted a short ten-minute interview with the "prisoner of capitalism", but that this was insufficient for him to tell Mooney what he wanted to know most of all, namely "the new life of the proletariat of 1/6 of the entire globe". *cu*

In the article Eisler comments that he had been invited as a professor of music at the New York "New School for Social Sciences", which he was glad to accept because it "will give me the opportunity to teach new ranks of revolutionary composers". Other articles regarding Eisler's visit to the Soviet Union subsequent to his trip to the United States were noted among his effects. One dated July 18, 1935, appeared in the Moscow Daily News. In this article Eisler is quoted as saying he would return to America in the fall, where he would teach at the New School for Social Research in New York City. *cu*

In a brief article under the date of July 27, 1935, appearing in "Pravda" Eisler is mentioned as having arrived in Moscow and is described as a "representative of the International Union of the Revolutionary Theater". Also according to this confidential source Eisler's scrapbook contains an article which appeared in the "Evening Moscow" newspaper sometime during July, 1935. This article reads in part as follows: "The name Eisler is not vainly associated with such names as Frederick Wolf, Bert Brecht and Irvin Piskator. These are the names of our foreign living comrades who have made their talents into a sharp weapon for Communists." The article states that Eisler attended the International Musicians Olympiad as a representative of the International Union of the Revolutionary Theater and concerning this Eisler is quoted as follows in the article: "This celebration may boldly be called an expression of solidarity between the Czechs and German labor living in Czechoslovakia. When the first columns with red banners waving appeared on the scene, eyes of the German workers filled with tears upon the sight of this anti-Fascist demonstration." *cu*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memo for the Director
RE: HANS EISLER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

February 28, 1947

The scrapbook also contains an article in the Russian language which appeared in the "Literary Gazette"/dated July 30, 1935. It is set out in part as follows: *Q u* in Moscow, Russia,

"I found Hans Eisler at work. He was dictating an article for one of the Moscow newspapers. While waiting for my interview, I began to examine some books which were placed in a small group on a shelf. 'Companions Forever'--'Revolutionary Artists'--Marx--Engels--Lenin--and Stalin. My attention was drawn to the German translation of 'Chapaev'.

"Only recently have I "cracked" Furmanov', smilingly said Hans Eisler. 'I read "Chapaev" all the way from America to Europe. What strength! What bottomless, revolutionary passion and energy! I couldn't tear myself away from this book. These are the talents which we revolutionary writers and artists of the west must have. In what is the uplifting strength of such works as "Chapaev". It is that in them is revived not only the magnificent talents of the artists, but also the fiery Communistic ambition. Only that kind of unity can give creations of heroic strength.'" *Q u*

The Immigration and Naturalization Service files contain a letter dated October 6, 1935, from J. E. Wilkie, Secretary of the Arizona Peace Officers Association, written to Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, protesting to the Department of Labor the right of Hans Eisler to remain in the United States and engage in a concert tour of this country. The letter states that Eisler had remained for many months in Moscow and had again reentered the United States "to aid his fellow Communists in arousing mass feelings. Eisler's songs and compositions are all of a revolutionary and propagandical nature, being designed for the most part for workers' choruses and his activities in proceeding hither and yon about the United States to appear under Communist auspices are believed to be sufficiently detrimental to our already steadily menaced peace and tranquility to warrant his expulsion from this country".

It is noted that this letter was written two days after Eisler's second entry into the United States on October 4, 1935, at New York City. The Immigration records reflect that Eisler stated on this second trip that he was destined to the "New York School for Social Research" and that he intended to remain in the United States for a period of six months. Eisler actually left in December, 1935.

The Daily Worker of December 19, 1935, contains an article entitled "Working Class Song Records". This article advises that "working class and revolutionary songs were being recorded for distribution to the working class. Hans Eisler, the world's acknowledged master composer of workers' songs, garnered the finest of his melodies". The article continues by stating that the song "Comintern" is undoubtedly one of Eisler's most popular songs and "has been sung throughout the world for the past eight years and still stirs the crowds at outdoor demonstrations and political meetings". *X u*

Memo for the Director
RE: HANS EISLER

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

February 28, 1947

According to the source having access to Eisler's scrapbook, it is noted that there is contained a newspaper article dated January 17, 1936, in the English language. It is not indicated where this article was published, but it appears that it is from the Daily Worker. This article is entitled "Eisler's Songs Will Feature Lenin Meeting". The sub-title is "Browder, Ashford and Amter to Address Memorial". The article states, "Well known songs by Hans Eisler, internationally famous revolutionary composer, will feature the musical program to be played and sung at the Lenin Memorial Meeting in Madison Square Garden Monday, January 20 (1936)." This article states that the International Workers Order Band would play Eisler's songs and would feature a new arrangements of the "Internationale". Also, that they would play Eisler's most popular compositions, "Red Front", "Comintern", and "United Front". The article stated that Earl Browder, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the United States, would speak for forty-five minutes and discuss Lenin's work in building the Russian revolutionary movement. *qu*

Hans Eisler next entered the United States on January 21, 1938, at the Port of New York. The Immigration records reflect that his last permanent residence was listed at that time as Vienna, Austria, and his intended future residence at the time of issuance of his passport was Vienna, Austria. Eisler was accompanied by his wife, Louise, also known as Lottie Eisler. The Immigration records reflect that on June 8, 1938, subject applied to extend his temporary visa and also applied for immigration to Cuba with permission to reenter the United States.

On August 9, 1938, the Immigration authorities directed a letter to Dr. Alvin Johnson, Director of the New School for Social Research, advising that Mr. and Mrs. Hans Eisler had been granted an extension of time until January 21, 1939, to remain in the United States. Prior to this Eisler had been questioned by the Immigration and Naturalization Service on June 10, 1938, at which time he advised that since his entrance in January, 1938, he had been lecturing under the auspices of the New School for Social Research and had been offered a five-year contract at \$3,000 a year. In direct answer to the question, "Have any of your compositions been used in connection with political or patriotic songs?" he answered, "In Germany I wrote songs which were anti-Nazi in character. I am a refugee." He was asked if those songs were Communistic in character and he answered, "No, only in character against Nazi Germany." He also stated that his reason for desiring to reenter the United States by way of Cuba was because of his anti-Nazi belief. He advised that he had been exiled from Germany because he was against Naziism and Fascism.

In August, 1938, Mr. Walter Steel testified before the Dies Committee as follows: "The Timely Recording Company of New York City produces and sells Communist propaganda records for amplifying systems. These records deal with various angles of Communism. Some of the recorded songs are 'Rise Up', 'Internationale', 'Forward', 'United Front', 'Soup Song', 'Sit Down' and 'Solidarity'.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Memo for the Director
RE: HANS EISLER

February 28, 1947

"These records are produced under the supervision of the German refugee Hans Eisler, who we understand is connected with the Work Projects Administration." Mr. Steel further testified "music and dancing are no means neglected by the radicals and their allies for the purpose of subversive propaganda. However, in the revolutionary work is Hans Eisler, alien revolutionary composer who went to Moscow for several months' inspiration. His return on a visitor's permit was widely lauded in the radical press of the United States of America, but there have been many protests to the Labor Department by non-radicals because of his acquired permission from Secretary of Labor Perkins to reenter this country." It is noted in this regard that the Bureau conducted an inquiry regarding Hans Eisler's alleged employment with the Work Projects Administration and it was determined that the records of that organization failed to reflect anyone under that name having ever been employed by them.

The Immigration records reflect that on March 4, 1939, Eisler and his wife were advised that they were to depart from the United States on or before March 7, 1939. However, this was subsequently changed so that Eisler and his wife could remain in the United States until April 7, 1939.

The Immigration authorities on March 27, 1939, questioned Hans Eisler in connection with certain articles appearing in the Daily Worker which have been set out previously in this memorandum. Eisler stated that he was not responsible for these articles appearing in the Daily Worker or in any other newspaper of the United States, although he was aware of certain articles appearing in the Daily Worker concerning his activities. He stated that he had been in Boston, Massachusetts, to speak to the Jewish "Gezangsveren", which he explained means a singing society. Under further questioning Eisler stated that he was not a member of the Workers Party in Germany, where he had last been in 1933. He also stated that he was not a member of the Communist Party.

In connection with various concerts given by Hans Eisler, he stated he had given concerts at the Mecca Temple in New York City and in theaters in Boston, Massachusetts, and Chicago, Illinois, the itinerary of these trips being arranged by the anti-Nazi League in New York City. Eisler continued, stating that he was in Moscow in 1936, remaining there for a period of eight weeks. He stated that all of his concerts there were given under the auspices of the Communist Party. However, he stated he was invited to Moscow by the Concert Bureau. He admitted also that he was paid by certain Soviet officials in Russian money for conducting these concerts. Eisler denied that he desired any change in the United States form of government or its school system. In direct answer to the question, "What system of government would you say is superior - the United States Government or the Soviet form of government?" he answered, "The United States system of government is superior".

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February 28, 1947

Memo for the Director
RE: HANS EISLER

On the same date, March 27, 1939, Eisler's wife was questioned by the Immigration authorities, at which time she identified herself as an author. The Immigration file contains correspondence on behalf of Hans and Louise Eisler written by Carol King with offices at 100 Fifth Avenue, New York City. It is noted that Carol King is a prominent Communist attorney in New York City and is presently representing Gerhart Eisler and appeared with him before the recent hearing held by the House of Representatives un-American Activities Committee, at which time Gerhart Eisler refused to be sworn as a witness. By letter dated March 15, 1939, Carol King protested the Eislers' departure from the United States and advised the Immigration authorities that she would appear in Washington shortly after the date of the letter on their behalf and requested an extension of time pending this appeal. The Immigration authorities requested the Eislers to leave the United States on or before April 15, 1939, and they actually left at Laredo, Texas, on April 12, 1939. They reentered the United States at Laredo, Texas, on September 11, 1939, and were granted a visa to January 28, 1940.

On July 17, 1940, a warrant was issued by the I&NS instructing that Hans and Louise Eisler be arrested inasmuch as they were in the United States in violation of the Immigration Act of 1924, in that they remained in the United States for a longer time than permitted under the regulations. The I&NS was informed by the authorities at Calexico, California, that the subject and his wife had left for Mexicali, Mexico, through Calexico on September 19, 1940. At that time the Calexico Immigration office was not aware that a warrant was outstanding for the subject and his wife. On September 20, 1940, according to the Immigration records at Ellis Island, Eisler and his wife were issued non-quota visas by the American Consulate at Mexicali, Mexico.

[REDACTED]

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RE: HANS EISLER

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February 28, 1947

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On September 26, 1940, a hearing was conducted by the Immigration Hearing Board, at which time Eisler and his wife were placed under oath. On the basis of the information obtained at this hearing, the Immigration Board decided against the issuance of non-quota visas for Eisler and his wife. The transcript of the hearing was submitted to the Board of Appeal in Washington, D. C., and the subject and his wife were subsequently granted the visas for which they had applied. It is noted that in this transcript the subject and his wife made statements under oath which do not coincide with information developed during the course of the Bureau's investigation. Eisler stated that he was not a Communist and although specifically asked about it he denied that he had ever written music for Communist productions. It appears the I&NS authorities had doubts along this line and the subject was asked about the nature of "Die Massnahme", for which the subject wrote the music. Eisler referred to this play as "The Expedient" and stated that it was not Communistic in nature but that it concerned the unification of China. As previously stated in this memorandum, the title of this has been otherwise translated as "The Disciplinary Measure" and is a play which advocates world revolution and openly identifies itself with Communism and Moscow as its headquarters. Eisler also stated under oath that he was in Russia in 1935 and 1936 for the purpose of directing concerts in which his compositions were played. Eisler side-stepped the question as to whether he had been in Russia on any other occasions.

The I&NS records reflect that the warrant of July 17, 1940, outstanding for the arrest of Hans and Louise Eisler was cancelled and on October 22, 1940, they were admitted as non-quota immigrants.. The basis for this status was the subject's occupation for two years immediately prior to application with the New

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School for Social Research. At that time the subject was traveling on a passport issued by the Consul General of Czechoslovakia in New York City. This passport was issued March 11, 1940, and was valid until March 10, 1941. It listed the subject's nationality as "uncertain". His wife had a similar passport in her possession and it is noted that her nationality was listed as "unknown".

Hans Eisler traveled to Mexico sometime during the latter part of 1940 and reentered the United States upon a reentry permit dated January 6, 1941.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Ruth Fischer is the sister of Gerhart and Hans Eisler. It is noted that she recently testified before the House of Representatives un-American Activities Committee, at which time she identified her brother Gerhart as a comintern agent in

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the United States and as a "dangerous terrorist". She also identified her brother Hans Eisler as a music composer in Hollywood who is a Communist and whom she also described as "dangerous". Ruth Fischer has furnished to the Bureau information relative to the Free German Movement in the United States and Mexico. She has identified her brother Hans as active in this movement. In May, 1944, Ruth Fischer conferred with Bureau representatives, at which time she advised that she considered her life to be in danger due to her expose and denouncements regarding various pro-Stalin German refugees in the United States. She furnished to the Bureau numerous "exhibits" setting out her reasons for believing that her life was in danger and indicating that the NKVD would possibly "resort to violence in an effort to silence her".

Among the "exhibits" furnished was a letter which Ruth Fischer wrote to her brother Hans Eisler and his wife, Louise Eisler, dated April 27, 1944. In this letter Ruth Fischer advised him she felt her life was in danger and accused him and her other brother, Gerhart Eisler, of being agents of the OGPU. She stated in this regard, "If the local branches of the GPU can succeed in making a clever arrangement for a natural death---it will not succeed this time. Not for you nor for Gerhart Eisler, Chief of the German GPU Division in the United States, the dreamer of the 'fictional battles with machine guns' whose dreaming consisted of fifteen years of betrayal, the corrupt liquidator of Chinese, German, Spanish and anti-Stalin comrades. This time it will not be made so easy for you. You always play with terror and are always afraid to take the responsibility for your acts. I have made the following preparations: 1-Three physicians have given me a thorough examination. I am now in good health. There is no cause for a natural death. I am constantly under a physician's care and am taking care of myself in a sensible manner. The doctors are informed and in case of any trouble will testify accordingly. 2-A number of reputable journalists and politicians have been informed and possess a copy of this letter. A number of German immigrants have also been appraised." The above information, as well as additional information in the Bureau's files concerning Ruth Fischer, was furnished on May 12, 1944, and June 12, 1944, to the Attorney General.

EISLER'S CONTACTS IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA: *CU*

672, 672

who is a confidential informant and who is [redacted] advised that among the German refugees who are sympathetic to the Soviets are Hans Eisler, Bert Brecht, Lion Feuchtwanger, Heinrich Mann and others. He further stated that undoubtedly if any one of the above individuals were given an invitation to return to Germany they would no doubt accept. This informant identified Hans Eisler as being very active in the Free German Movement in Los Angeles and stated that this group, including Hans Eisler, has been very close to Mr. and Mrs. William Dieterle and Charlie Chaplin, who have been prominently associated with the Communist Party. *CU*

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February 28, 1947

b7c, b7D

[REDACTED] who is a confidential informant, advised on March 13, 1943, that Bert Brecht and Hans Eisler were co-authors of a march known as the "Song of Solidarity" (Solidarietaets-Lied), which was written in about 1931. According to this source, the march was adopted with the permission of Brecht and Eisler as the song of the Communist Youth Organization in Germany prior to Hitler's rise to power. *qu*

[REDACTED] b1
(C)

[REDACTED] a confidential informant [REDACTED] b7c b7D
[REDACTED] Eisler is the composer of music set to the picture "Komsomol" (Song of Heroes) produced in Moscow in 1932. The scenario for this picture is credited to Joris Ivens, who is known to be a close personal friend of Eisler. This picture is described as the film of the Soviet League of Youth, which reveals a completely new sociological outlook. The informant states that the name "Komsomol" is that of the Young Communist League in Russia and that the translation of the title by the authors as "Song of Heroes" is entirely inaccurate. Eisler also collaborated with Joris Ivens in 1934 and 1938 in making the pictures "New Earth" and "Four Hundred Millions". Also according to this informant the subject met with Joris Ivens on the evening of May 8, 1943, in Los Angeles. A surveillance by Bureau Agents identified nine other individuals who met with Ivens and Eisler at the home of Oscar Homolka in Bel Air, California. Three of the individuals at this meeting are known Communist Party members. *qu*

On September 15, 1943, a technical surveillance was established at the home of Hans Eisler, 1650 Amalie Drive, Pacific Palisades, Santa Monica, California. This technical source was discontinued on February 10, 1944, due to non-productivity. However, during the time that this installation was in effect it was noted that Hans Eisler was in direct free contact with his brother, Gerhart Eisler, and was further in close association with known Communist Party members in the California area, as well as with members of the Soviet Consulate. It was further developed that Eisler was in close touch with Bertolt Brecht, Lion Feuchtwanger and other individuals active in Communist affairs, as well as the Free German Movement. *qu*

On September 27, 1943, Assistant U. S. Attorney John M. Gault, having considered the facts in the Hans Eisler case, advised that no request would be made for a Presidential Warrant for the subject's arrest as a dangerous alien enemy at that time. Mr. Gault referred to the collaboration between the subject and Bertolt Brecht and the similar nature of the facts in their individual cases. He further referred to the decision of the Department in the alien enemy case

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against Bertolt Brecht, stating that no Presidential Warrant was authorized for Brecht's arrest under the existing conditions since Brecht's beliefs seemed to be anti-Nazi and anti-Fascist and, therefore, was not considered a danger to the war effort of this country. Mr. Gault stated that his decision on the Eisler case was based upon that of the Department in the case against Brecht.

The Bureau's investigation has also reflected that Eisler has been in close personal contact with Friedrich Christian Lang, who is a motion picture director in Hollywood and who is a known Communist and affiliated with the Free German Movement. Lang collaborated with Bertolt Brecht in 1943 in the motion picture "Hangmen Also Die", for which Hans Eisler wrote the music. Eisler is also known to be a contact of Clifford Odets, a playwright in Hollywood who is said to have written several plays produced by the Communist Party. He is a reported member of many Communist front organizations and has been active in all Communist affairs in California. He assisted Hans Eisler in obtaining a position with RKO Studios in Hollywood, California. /

[REDACTED] b1

As has been set out previously, on May 30 and August 13, 1945, the personal effects of Hans Eisler maintained at his residence were obtained through a confidential source. It is noted that among the letters in Eisler's possession he has been in close touch with

[REDACTED]

The Bureau investigation does not reflect that the Eislers are separated at this time

[REDACTED] fu

The Bureau has furnished to the Department copies of all reports in the Eisler investigation.

RAC:PES

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: February 28, 1947

FROM : D. M. Ladd

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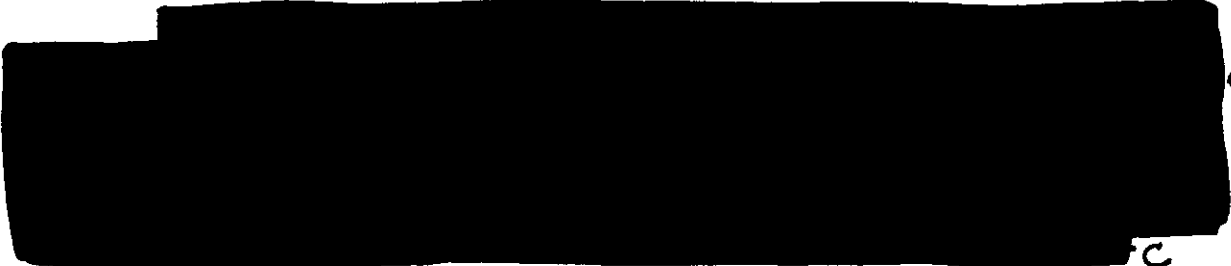
SUBJECT: JOHANNES EISLER, with aliases,
Hans Eisler, Hanne Eisler
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

- 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

Pursuant to your request there are attached a memorandum reflecting the information contained in the Bureau files regarding Hans Eisler and a blind memorandum concerning him.

It will be noted that Hans Eisler was born July 6, 1898, at Leipzig, Germany. He entered the United States as a visitor four times between 1935 and 1940 and finally entered as a nonquota immigrant on October 20, 1940, at Calexico, California. Eisler's wife, Louise Eisler, is presently with him in the United States. Hans Eisler is presently writing music for films in Hollywood, California. He has collaborated with Bertold Brecht on numerous productions including a play written by them in the early 1930's in Europe. This play is entitled "Die Massnahme" (The Disciplinary Measure) which is a play advocating world revolution and is openly identified with Communism.



Ruth Fischer, who is the sister of Hans Eisler and Gerhart Eisler, recently testified before the House of Representatives Un-American Activities Committee at which time she identified her brother Gerhart as a Comintern agent and described her brother Hans as a music composer in Hollywood who is a "Communist and dangerous." Ruth Fischer, who has furnished information to the Bureau, has also advised that her brother Hans Eisler is closely connected with the Free German Movement in the United States and is affiliated with the Soviet Intelligence organizations.

From September 15, 1943 to February 10, 1944, a technical surveillance was in effect at the home of Hans Eisler at Santa Monica, California. This was discontinued due to nonproductivity. The Bureau's investigation has identified Hans Eisler with many individuals who are known Communists and who are known to be in contact with Soviet Intelligence agents in the United States.

ENCLOSURE

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A confidential source had access to Hans Eisler's personal effects on May 30 and August 13, 1945, and through this source Eisler's reputation as a composer of Communist songs and as a writer for Russian periodicals was established. *fu*

The reports regarding Hans Eisler have previously been made available to the Department.

Enclosure

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

March 12, 1947
~~February 23, 1947~~

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

JOHANNES FISLER,
alias Hans Elser, Hans Elser

ORIGIN CONFIDENTIAL

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Johannes Elser was born July 6, 1893, at Leipzig, Germany. He is the son of Rudolf Elser and Marie Ida Elser, nee Fischer. He is the brother of Oskar Elser and Ruth Fischer, both of whom have figured prominently in recent disclosures by the Un-American Activities Committee of the House of Representatives.

According to a confidential source Hans Elser graduated from high school and spent three years in the military service. He studied music in college and university and while a student held the position of teacher at Vienna People's High School and the Laborers' University. In 1924 he obtained a prize for music given by the City of Vienna which was the highest honor a composer could attain. He moved to Berlin, Germany, at the end of 1924, where he became a teacher in the Workers' University. In 1935 became a professor of music at the New School for Social Research in New York City. *ju*

"Current Biography - 1942" contains a biography of Hans Elser which lists his address as c/o New School for Social Research, 66 West 12th Street, New York City. This biography contains the following pertinent information other than that set out above: Elser served on the Italian front during the First World War (1918) and upon his discharge from the army studied composition with the prominent modern composer Arnold Schoenberg at the Academy of Music in Vienna. Elser's musical compositions, as well as his work on German film scores, brought him recognition throughout Europe and to some extent in the United States. All of Elser's work in music was banned when Hitler came into power in 1933. He composed the musical score for the film "Song of Heroes" in 1932. This was a film on life in the Soviet Union. Elser escaped from Germany in 1933 and thereafter worked in Paris, the United States and England. This article states that in February, 1940, the Rockefeller Foundation allocated \$20,000 to the New School for Social Research for research and study of music and films, and the school in turn commissioned Elser to work on musical scores for the New York Philharmonic. In May, 1942, the New School for Social Research granted Elser a leave of absence to continue his work on the Rockefeller project in Hollywood. *ju*

According to the above biography, as well as through the result of investigation, it has been determined that Elser married Louise Anna Gosztonyi, born March 6, 1906, at Vienna, Austria. They were married in Czechoslovakia on December 7, 1937. Elser had been previously married and divorced, but the identity of his first wife is unknown.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION RE FISLER'S BACKGROUND AND COMMUNIST AFFILIATION:

In the early 1930's Hans Elser collaborated with Bertolt Brecht, a German revolutionary writer presently in the United States who is closely associated with Hans Elser at this time. They produced a play entitled "Die Massnahme" (The Disciplinary Measure). This play has appeared in print in both

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Germany and Czechoslovakia. The complete play has been translated, and it is noted the authors call it an educational play. It deals with the work of four Communist agitators who go from Moscow to Mukden, Manchuria, to spread propaganda and support the Chinese Communists among the industries of Mukden. The action of the play takes place before the "Control Committee" when the four agitators return to give an account of their work and especially account for the fact that they had been forced to kill a young Communist comrade whose intentions were good but whose death was deemed a necessity by the four agitators since his activity threatened to endanger the Communist movement among the Chinese. *U*

A letter dated May 12, 1930, at Berlin, Germany, is published along with the foregoing play and the letter is signed by both Brecht and Eisler. The authors defend their play, object to its censorship and suggest that the play be presented by those for whom it was intended, that is, workers, choruses, groups of amateur players and school choruses. This play is clearly of a Communist propaganda nature. *U*

The February 18, 1935, issue of the Daily Worker, page 4, contains an article which describes Eisler as "the brilliant revolutionary composer of 'Comintern', 'Rote Front', 'Kuhlewampe', 'Parade of the Cotton Pickers' and 'Song of the Coal Miners'. Though not yet 37, this militant worker composer has been associated with the workers' movements in Germany for the last seventeen years. Through the rising of Fascism in Germany he was in the forefront of the workers resistance to Hitler. Song after song came from this tireless and prolific composer, songs that now help the masses in militant demonstrations.....In addressing the delegates of the German singing societies, the Pierre De Gayter group, the Artist Union, the anti-Nazi Federation, the Workers Dance League, the Workers Music League, International Workers Order and others, Hans Eisler stated that in the American workers' use of revolutionary music, unity is achieved not only by the American workers of all nationalities but among all workers throughout the world. The article also referred to a concert on March 2, 1935, to be held in New York City which would be one of a national tour, including Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Chicago, Boston, St. Louis, San Francisco and other cities in which Eisler would appear. *U*

Also in the February 18, 1935, issue of the Daily Worker on page 7 Eisler is described in another article written by Sergi Bedaevsky in the following manner: *U*

"Hanns Eisler, the famous revolutionary German refugee composer, arrived in this country a few days ago. Every effort has been made by the Hitler government to ferret out all of Eisler's music and to destroy his influence with the worker. To own one of his records in Germany is punishable by imprisonment, nevertheless, thousands upon thousands of records of Eisler's revolutionary mass songs are still played in Nazi Germany and his popularity is as high as ever there. The spreading of revolutionary music among the German workers was not an accident nor was it easily accomplished. The Communist Party in Germany had to fight the old beer garden atmosphere and nationalistic ditties of the middle class which had

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found their way into the masses. In this cultural and music development, the German workers were led by Hans Eisler. The class struggle in Germany strikes barricades, first of May celebrations and other demonstrations are bound up with his name. Eisler is a pupil of Schoenberg. Only when Eisler came into the struggle of the working class did he find his medium and with it grew his power of composing music which expressed not only the life and battles of the German workers, but of the working class of the entire world.

"Eisler has taken an active part in the struggle of the working class of Germany. That is why his songs find instant responses from the masses. Two workers and peasants of the Soviet Union were quick to appreciate this and his "On Guard", "Comintern" and others are tremendously popular. The revolutionary movement under the leadership of the Communist Party has brought to its rank many musicians whose activities are of great help to the class struggle. Eisler is one of the leading spirits in music for the worker and outstanding as a musician, a comrade and always on the battle line with the rank and file."

Eisler first entered the United States on February 13, 1935, at New York City. He left May 4, 1935, and again entered October 4, 1935, at New York City. He departed from the United States in December 1935.

A protest was made to the Department of Labor concerning the right of Hans Eisler to remain in the United States and engage in a concert tour of this country. It was stated that Eisler had remained for many months in Moscow and had again reentered the United States "to aid his fellow Communists in arousing mass feelings. Eisler's songs and compositions are all of a revolutionary and propagandical nature, being designed for the most part for workers' choruses and his activities in proceeding hither and yon about the United States to appear under Communist auspices are believed to be sufficiently detrimental to our already steadily menaced peace and tranquility to warrant his expulsion from this country".

It is noted that this protest was made two days after Eisler's second entry into the United States on October 4, 1935, at New York City. Eisler informed officials on this second trip that he was destined to the "New York School for Social Research" and that he intended to remain in the United States for a period of six months. Eisler actually left in December, 1935.

The Daily Worker of December 19, 1935, contains an article entitled "Working Class Song Records". This article advises that "working class and revolutionary songs were being recorded for distribution of the working class. Hans Eisler, the world's acknowledged master composer of workers' songs, garnered the finest of his melodies". The article continues by stating that the song "Comintern" is undoubtedly one of Eisler's most popular songs and "has been sung throughout the world for the past eight years and still stirs the crowds at outdoor demonstrations and political meetings". X U

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Hans Eisler next entered the United States on January 21, 1938, at the Port of New York. His last permanent residence was listed at that time as Vienna, Austria, and his intended future residence at the time of issuance of his passport was Vienna, Austria. Eisler was accompanied by his wife, Louise, also known as Lottie Eisler. On June 8, 1938, subject applied to extend his temporary visa and also applied for immigration to Cuba with permission to re-enter the United States.

On August 9, 1938, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Eisler were granted an extension of time until January 21, 1939, to remain in the United States. Prior to this Eisler had been questioned by the Immigration and Naturalization Service on June 10, 1938, at which time he advised that since his entrance in January, 1938, he had been lecturing under the auspices of the New School for Social Research and had been offered a five-year contract at \$3,000 a year. In direct answer to the question, "Have any of your compositions been used in connection with political or patriotic songs?" he answered, "In Germany I wrote songs which were anti-Nazi in character. I am a refugee." He was asked if those songs were Communist in character and he answered, "No, only in character against Nazi Germany." He also stated that his reason for desiring to re-enter the United States by way of Cuba was because of his anti-Nazi belief. He advised that he had been exiled from Germany because he was against Nazism and Fascism.

In August, 1938, Mr. Walter Steel testified before the Dies Committee as follows: "The Timely Recording Company of New York City produces and sells Communist propaganda records for amplifying systems. These records deal with various angles of Communism. Some of the recorded songs are 'Rise Up', 'Internationale', 'Forward', 'United Front', 'Soup Song', 'Sit Down' and 'Solidarity'. These records are produced under the supervision of the German refugee Hans Eisler, who we understand is connected with the Work Projects Administration." Mr. Steel further testified, "Music and dancing are no means neglected by the radicals and their allies for the purpose of subversive propaganda. However, in the revolutionary work is Hans Eisler, alien revolutionary composer who went to Moscow for several months' inspiration. His return on a visitor's permit was widely lauded in the radical press of the United States of America, but there have been many protests to the Labor Department by non radicals because of his acquired permission from Secretary of Labor Perkins to re-enter this country." It is noted in this regard that the Work Projects Administration records fail to reflect anyone under that name having ever been employed by them.

On March 4, 1939, Eisler and his wife were advised that they were to depart from the United States on or before March 7, 1939. However, this was subsequently changed so that Eisler and his wife could remain in the United States until April 7, 1939.

The Immigration authorities on March 27, 1939, questioned Hans Eisler in connection with certain articles appearing in the Daily Worker which have been set out previously in this memorandum. Eisler stated that he was not responsible for these articles appearing in the Daily Worker or in any other newspaper of the United States, although he was aware of certain articles appearing in the Daily Worker concerning his activities. He stated that he had been in Boston, Massachusetts, to speak to the Jewish "Gesangsverein", which he explained

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means a singing society. Under further questioning Eisler stated that he was not a member of the Workers Party in Germany, where he had last been in 1933. He also stated that he was not a member of the Communist Party.

In connection with various concerts given by Hans Eisler, he stated he had given concerts at the Mecca Temple in New York City and in theaters in Boston, Massachusetts, and Chicago, Illinois, the itinerary of these trips being arranged by the Anti-Nazi League in New York City. Eisler continued, stating that he was in Moscow in 1936, remaining there for a period of eight weeks. He stated that all of his concerts there were given under the auspices of the Communist Party. However, he stated he was invited to Moscow by the Concert Bureau. He admitted also that he was paid by certain Soviet officials in Russian money for conducting these concerts. Eisler denied that he desired any change in the United States form of government or its school system. In direct answer to the question, "What system of government would you say is superior - the United States Government or the Soviet form of government?" he answered, "The United States system of government is superior."

On the same date, March 27, 1939, Eisler's wife was questioned by the Immigration authorities, at which time she identified herself as an author. Correspondence on behalf of Hans and Louise Eisler was filed by Carol King with offices at 100 Fifth Avenue, New York City. It is noted that Carol King is a prominent Communist attorney in New York City and is presently representing Gerhart Eisler and appeared with him before the recent hearing held by the House of Representatives Un-American Activities Committee, at which time Gerhart Eisler refused to be sworn as a witness. By letter dated March 15, 1939, Carol King protested the Eisler's departure from the United States and advised that she would appear in Washington shortly after the date of the letter on their behalf and requested an extension of time pending this appeal. The Immigration authorities requested the Eislers to leave the United States on or before April 15, 1939, and they actually left at Laredo, Texas, on April 12, 1939. They re-entered the United States at Laredo, Texas, on September 11, 1939, and were granted a visa to January 28, 1940.

On July 17, 1940, a warrant was issued by the Immigration and Naturalization Service instructing that Hans and Louise Eisler be arrested inasmuch as they were in the United States in violation of the Immigration Act of 1924, in that they remained in the United States for a longer time than permitted under the regulations. The Immigration and Naturalization Service was informed by the authorities at Calexico, California, that the subject and his wife had left for Mexicali, Mexico, through Calexico on September 19, 1940. At that time the Calexico Immigration office was not aware that a warrant was outstanding for the subject and his wife. On September 20, 1940, Eisler and his wife were issued non-quota visas by the American Consulate at Mexicali, Mexico.

On September 26, 1940, a hearing was conducted by the Immigration Hearing Board, at which time Eisler and his wife were placed under oath. On the basis of the information obtained at this hearing, the Immigration Board decided against the issuance of non-quota visas for Eisler and his wife. The transcript

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of the hearing was submitted to the Board of Appeal in Washington, D. C., and the subject and his wife were subsequently granted the visas for which they had applied. Eisler stated that he was not a Communist and although specifically asked about it he denied that he had ever written music for Communist productions. It appears the Immigration and Naturalization Service authorities had doubts along this line and the subject was asked about the nature of "Die Massnahme", for which the subject wrote the music. Eisler referred to this play as "The Expedient" and stated that it was not Communistic in nature but that it concerned the unification of China. As previously stated in this memorandum, the title has been otherwise translated as "The Disciplinary Measure" and is a play which advocates world revolution and openly identifies itself with Communism and Moscow as its headquarters. Eisler also stated under oath that he was in Russia in 1935 and 1936 for the purpose of directing concerts in which his compositions were played. Eisler side-stepped the question as to whether he had been in Russia on any other occasions.

161-946

The warrant of July 17, 1940, outstanding for the arrest of Hans and Louise Eisler was cancelled and on October 22, 1940, they were admitted as non-quota immigrants. The basis for this status was the subject's occupation for two years immediately prior to application with the New School for Social Research. At that time the subject was traveling on a passport issued by the Consul General of Czechoslovakia in New York City. This passport was issued March 11, 1940, and was valid until March 10, 1941. It listed the subject's nationality as "uncertain". His wife had a similar passport in her possession and her nationality was listed as "unknown".

Hans Eisler traveled to Mexico sometime during the latter part of 1940 and reentered the United States upon a reentry permit dated January 6, 1941.

Ruth Fischer is the sister of Gerhart and Hans Eisler. It is noted that she recently testified before the House of Representatives un-American Activities Committee, at which time she identified her brother Gerhart as a comintern agent in the United States and as a "dangerous terrorist". She also identified her brother Hans Eisler as a music composer in Hollywood who is a Communist and whom she also described as "dangerous". She has identified her brother Hans as active in the Free German Movement. In May, 1944, Ruth Fischer contacted a number of individuals and advised that she considered her life to be in danger due to her expose and denouncements regarding various pro-Stalin German refugees in the United States, and indicated that the NKVD would possibly "resort to violence in an effort to silence her".

She furnished to these individuals a letter which she wrote to her brother Hans Eisler and his wife, Louise Eisler, dated April 27, 1944. In this letter Ruth Fischer advised him she felt her life was in danger and accused him and her other brother, Gerhart Eisler, of being agents of the OGPU. She stated in this regard, "If the local branches of the GPU can succeed in making a clever arrangement for a natural death---it will not succeed this time. Not for you

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONFIDENTIAL

ner for Gerhart Eisler, Chief of the German GPU Division in the United States, the dreamer of the 'fictional battles with machine guns' whose dreaming consisted of fifteen years of betrayal, the corrupt liquidator of Chinese, German, Spanish and anti-Stalin comrades. This time it will not be made so easy for you. You always play with terror and are always afraid to take the responsibility for your acts. I have made the following preparations: 1-Three physicians have given me a thorough examination. I am now in good health. There is no cause for a natural death. I am constantly under a physician's care and am taking care of myself in a sensible manner. The doctors are informed and in case of any trouble will testify accordingly. 2-A number of reputable journalists and politicians have been informed and possess a copy of this letter. A number of German immigrants have also been appraised."

EISLER'S CONTACTS AND ACTIVITY IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA:

According to a confidential informant [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Eisler is the composer of music set to the picture "Komsomol" ("Song of Heroes") produced in Moscow in 1932. The scenario for this picture is credited to Joris Ivens, who is known to be a close personal friend of Eisler. This picture is described as the film of the Soviet League of Youth, which reveals a completely new sociological outlook. The informant states that the name "Komsomol" is that of the Young Communist League in Russia and that the translation of the title by the authors as "Song of Heroes" is entirely inaccurate. Eisler also collaborated with Joris Ivens in 1934 and 1938 in making the pictures "New Earth" and "Four Hundred Millions". Also according to this informant the subject has been in contact with Joris Ivens in California. *f u*

A confidential informant [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] that among the German refugees who are sympathetic to the Soviets are Hans Eisler, Bert Brecht, Lion Feuchtwanger, Heinrich Mann and others. He further stated that undoubtedly if any one of the above individuals were given an invitation to return to Germany they would no doubt accept. This informant identified Hans Eisler as being very active in the Free German Movement in Los Angeles. *f u*

A confidential informant advised on March 13, 1943, that Bert Brecht and Hans Eisler were co-authors of a march known as the "Song of Solidarity" (Solidaritasts-Lied), which was written in about 1931. According to this source, the march was adopted with the permission of Brecht and Eisler as the song of the Communist Youth Organisation in Germany prior to Hitler's rise to power. *f u*

On September 27, 1943, the U. S. Attorney's Office at Los Angeles, California, having considered the facts in the Hans Eisler case, advised that no request would be made for a Presidential Warrant for the subject's arrest as a dangerous alien enemy. The U. S. Attorney's Office referred to the collaboration between the subject and Bertolt Brecht and the similar nature of the facts in their individual cases. Further reference was made to the decision of the

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Department of Justice in the alien enemy case against Bertolt Brecht, and it was stated that no Presidential Warrant was authorized for Brecht's arrest under the existing conditions since Brecht's beliefs seemed to be anti-Nazi and anti-Fascist and, therefore, was not considered a danger to the war effort of this country. The U. S. Attorney stated that his decision on the Kislser case was based upon that of the Department in the case against Brecht.

Investigation has also reflected that Kislser has been in close personal contact with Friedrich Christian Lang, who is a motion picture director in Hollywood and who is a known Communist and affiliated with the Free German Movement. Lang collaborated with Bertolt Brecht in 1943 in the motion picture "Hangmen Also Die", for which Hans Kislser wrote the music. Kislser is also known to be a contact of Clifford Odets, a playwright in Hollywood who is said to have written several plays produced by the Communist Party. He is a reported member of many Communist front organizations and has been active in many Communist affairs in California. He assisted Hans Kislser in obtaining a position with RKO Studios in Hollywood, California.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 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
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

(N)

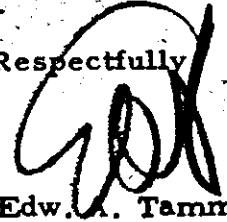
March 7, 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Attached hereto is a memorandum for your information and a blind memorandum summarizing the Bureau files on Johannes Eisler, alias Hans Eisler. Johannes Eisler is the brother of Gerhard Eisler and the attached memorandum was prepared in the belief that the House Committee on Un-American Activities will ultimately investigate and publicize Johannes Eisler. It should be noted that all of the information in the Bureau files has heretofore been furnished to the Department.

SUMMARY

Respectfully



Edw. A. Tamm

Attachments
EAT:DMG

RECORDED & INDEXED

100-195220-20
F B I

EX-47 I think we should send to A. G. advising him we understand the committee will soon take up this case & while all here contained has previously been sent the Dept by St B we thought he would like a summary in view of publicity which may ensue.

see G. HONE
memo of 2/28
for blind memo
memo AG
3-12-47
WKN: P&S

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/80 BY SP-16SK/ky
SP7 MAC/eww

6/15/84
CF 247,098

THIS MEMORANDUM IS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES
TO BE DESTROYED AFTER ACTION IS TAKEN AND NOT SENT TO FILES

The Attorney General

March 12, 1947

Director, FBI

JOHANNES KISLER, with aliases,
Hans Kiser, Hanns Kiser

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

RECORDED 60-195220-20

EX-47

You will recall that the above individual, a musician present-ly residing in Hollywood, California, is the brother of Gerhart Kiser, known former comintern agent concerning whom full information has previously been furnished you.

It is understood that the House Committee on Un-American Activities plans within the near future to inquire into the activities of Hans Kiser, and it is noted that Committee has indicated its intention of subpoenaing Hans Kiser to testify before it. In this connection it is noted that I have pre-viously made available to the Department all pertinent infor-mation concerning Hans Kiser. However, I thought you would be interested in the attached summary memorandum concerning him in view of the publicity which may possibly ensue as a result of the inquiries of the House Committee.

2-7

G.I.R. 2

Attachment

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF

DATE

Declassification

WKH:PES

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/15/81 BY SP7MAC/aw

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAR 13 4 00 PM '47
RECEIVED READING ROOM
MAR 13 12 27 PM '47

SENT FROM O.
TIME 5:39
DATE 3-17-47
O'D FORS THIS

2 MAR 22 1947

DECLASSIFIED BY SP7GSK/aw
ON 7-15-80

FROM

DO-7

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO
OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

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

*Get the Cong getting
int country
Des can show
interacted from
Wells*

- See Me _____
- Note and Return _____
- For Your Recommendation _____
- What are the facts? _____

*memo on Rockefeller
grant - K. Chokley
Veterans & OAM*

Remarks: *The James E. ...
to Mrs. B. & Rockefeller grant.*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/15/80

BY SP-16SK/80
SP7 MAC/eww

6/15/84
C# 247,098

100-175220-21

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. LADD
FROM : E. G. Fitch
SUBJECT: HANS EISLER;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

DATE: 3/18/47

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

Callahan

Pursuant to your request, Mr. Roach checked with the State Department to determine those persons interested in the issuance of a visa to Hans Eisler to come to the United States.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b3
per
State

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dir. R.S. mtd

100-195220-21

58 MAR 27 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED


#247098

6/15/84

DATE 7/15/80 BY SP1GSK/29 SP7 MAC/eww

Memorandum for Mr. Ladd

63 per State


If you desire and at such time as the visa file is available, complete data will be obtained from it.


ERR:AJB

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, F.B.I.

DATE: March 20, 1947

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES

SUBJECT: HANNS EISLER, with aliases
Johannes Eisler and Hans Eisler
INTERNAL SECURITY - R
Bureau File 100-195220

G. I. R. - 8
K.C.
1-7

The interview of subject HANNS EISLER, who is the brother of GERHARDT EISLER, subject of an investigation in the New York Field Division, is contemplated by the Los Angeles Field Division, if such an interview will not prejudice or embarrass the investigation of GERHARDT EISLER or any other investigation now going on.

It is thought that the subject's interview could be along the lines of his connection with the GERHARDT EISLER case and such other contacts in the Free German Movement as HANNS EISLER may have had.

Since the Bureau's connection with the GERHARDT EISLER case is already well known, contact with HANNS should not be considered by him to be extraordinary. He has already intimated that he has expected to be called to testify, perhaps by the Congressional Committee which recently took up GERHARDT's case.

If this proposed interview is approved by the Bureau, there may be questions concerning the GERHARDT EISLER case or other cases coming within the scope of the Free German Movement which should be put to the subject. The Bureau and the New York Field Division are requested to forward any such questions as they may wish to have asked.

This interview will not be made until communication is received from the Bureau approving it.

PJM:AAH
100-18124
c.c. New York

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

168

100-195220-20
F B I
34 MAR 25 1947

Opfer

8-211

210
57 APR 10 1947
cc - NYC
12/47
RAC

memo Mr. Lead
4/7/47
RAC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/80 BY SP1 GSK/R
6/15/84 SPT MAC/END
C# 247,099

Los Angeles, California
February 14, 1947

Director, FBI

RE: POLICE TRAINING IN CALIFORNIA

Dear Sir:

It has been learned that a series of 16 mm films for use of police departments are in the formative stage of development at Eddie Albert Productions. The Bureau will recall that information has been received to the effect that this concern, through former Attorney General ROBERT KENNEY and his associate, ROBERT B. POWERS, is going to make films for training of police officers and also on the subject of Race Relations. It is reported that an unknown individual, undoubtedly POWERS, is now working with the studio getting necessary background for the films.

Information has been received indirectly that the Rockefeller Foundation is financing some of this project and I wish to call the Bureau's attention to the fact that, according to the item in the February 7th issue of the Los Angeles Herald and Express, HANS EISLER, Hollywood composer and brother of GERHARDT EISLER in New York, was allegedly previously affiliated with the New School of Social Research and was awarded \$20,000.00 by the Rockefeller Foundation to study music and film production. The tie-in of the Rockefeller Foundation to these two items is being called to the Bureau's attention.

Very truly yours,

RBH:AB
1-100

CC SAN FRANCISCO
SAN DIEGO

R. B. HOOD, SAC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/80 BY SP-1 GSK/AG

6/15/84

SP7 MAC/ekw

C#247,098

RECORDED

100-195220-23

F B I
MAR 29 1947

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 62-18970-111

SAC, Los Angeles

Mar 21, 1947

Director, FBI

RECORDED

100-195220-23

1/1/47

EX-48

The Bureau is in receipt of a letter dated February 14, 1947, from the Los Angeles Office captioned "Police Training in California" wherein reference is made to grants by the Rockefeller Foundation for the production of training films, and for benefit of Hans Eisler.

I thought you would be interested in knowing that I have taken this matter up with a friend who is closely associated with the Rockefeller Foundation and I have been advised that in 1940, the Rockefeller Foundation did grant some \$20,160 to Hans Eisler for the purpose of conducting research on music and film production. These funds were exhausted in July, 1941, and there has been no additional grant of funds to this individual.

I have also been informed that former Attorney General Robert Kenny did make application to the Rockefeller Foundation for a grant of funds for the purpose of producing motion picture films to be used in connection with the training of law enforcement officers in the handling of race riots. Following this application terrific pressure was exerted on the Rockefeller Foundation; however, the Foundation declined to grant the funds for the purposes stated and will not grant any funds for this purpose.

cc-San Francisco
San Diego

LBN:RC

b7c

(NOTE: [redacted] called me on 3/14/47 and furnished the foregoing information. LBN)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/80 BY SP/IGSK/86
6/15/84 SP7MAC/BAW
0#247,098

62-12781-29 IN REPLY TO OFFICE

1 APR 3 1947

February, 7th, 47.

b7c

Mr. Edgar I. Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir :

Several days ago, I read a statement by Mr. Hans Eisler, brother of Gerhart Eisler who is now under investigation. In this statement Hans Eisler denied his being an active communist and pretended to be, but an innocent composer. I wish to say that I know (from my former activities at a great German Publishing House) that Hans Eisler was one of the most outspoken and violent communists among German intellectuals. He composed several musical pieces expressly destined to incite people to class warfare.

I draw your attention to the magazine "Das Wort" (The word), a magazine published in German in Moscow. In this magazine you find the contributions of many intellectuals now in this country; their tactics can be well recognized in the articles published in that magazine. It has been discontinued since. The Columbia Library possesses a whole set of that magazine.

If necessary, I shall be glad to give you any desired information about the former activities of intellectuals ~~and~~ who have been continually working for communism. (I am an American citizen)

Sincerely yours

[Redacted signature area]

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/15/80 BY SP-166K/YS
6/15/84 SP7 MAC/ekw
CF 213,098

ok 9/17/47
to file
7-14-47
RAC

100-195220-23X
REC'D
JUN 27 1947
66

[Handwritten signatures and initials]
Harvey
✓ Mr. [unclear]
[unclear]

February 17, 1947

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lc
0

[Redacted]

67c

RECORDED

Dear [Redacted]

Your letter of February 7, 1947, has been received. I appreciate the courtesy which prompted you to write as you did and to furnish the information contained in your communication. If on any other occasion you should receive data which you believe may be of interest to this Bureau please do not hesitate to communicate with me again.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: He refers to Hans Eisler. See file 100-195220. Files were checked on the correspondent with negative results.

- 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
- Miss Gandy

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7/15/80 BY SP4GSK/BJ
4/15/81 SP7 mac/eww
07-217,078

[Handwritten initials]

10377

SAC, Philadelphia

July 14, 1947

Director, FBI

HANS KISLER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

There are enclosed copies of a communication dated February 7, 1947, from [redacted]

[redacted] wherein he furnishes information concerning Hans Kessler, who is presently under investigation by the Bureau. [redacted] has indicated that he would furnish the Bureau with any information in his possession concerning the activities of Communists and especially Hans Kessler, whom he identifies as an outspoken and violent Communist.

b7c

The Bureau indices are negative concerning any information on [redacted]. You are requested to have [redacted] interviewed in the immediate future by experienced Agents in order that all pertinent information in his possession can be made available to the Bureau. Hans Kessler will in the immediate future be called before the House of Representatives Un-American Activities Committee in Washington, D. C., to testify and the results of the interview with [redacted] should be furnished to the Bureau as soon as possible.

Enclosure

RECORDED

100-195220-2521

EX-53

Handwritten notes and signatures, including "JUL 15 1947" and "JUL 15 1947".

RECEIVED COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 10

★ JUL 15 1947 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/00 BY SP-16SK/ycg

7/15/84

BY SP-16SK/ycg
SP7 mac/eww
CA 247,098

20144

7588

March 3, 1947

U.P.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

b7c

I think it would be well to call [redacted] on the phone and furnish him the attached information in Mr. Hood's letter advising of the Rockefeller Foundation financing motion pictures wherein individuals such as Hans Eisler and Attorney General Kenney are associated.

Respectfully,

L.B. Nichols

Attachment
LBN:FC

Nichols should do this. H

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/16/80 BY SP7 GSK/jls
SP7 MRC/lsk

RECORDED

100-195226
F B I
78 MAR 29 1947

57 APR 5 1947

2/15/84 CH 247,098

957d

COPY 25

March 13, 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

b7c

I called [redacted] with reference to the Rockefeller Foundation grants to Hans Lister and to the making of police training pictures. [redacted] former Attorney General Robert Kenney and Robert Powers. I told him the Director had heard of this and wanted the information passed on on a personal and confidential basis. [redacted] was very appreciative and stated he had not known of this and would check into it immediately.

copy

He then stated he had received the Director's letter at his apartment regarding the new retirement bill but that the Director was a little cagey in his letter, and since he knew the letter was not sent to him just to read he wondered what would be the best thing for him to do. I told him the bill so far had been receiving considerable response and if he could indicate to his friends who were in a position to do anything his interest in it, this would be the most he could do. He stated he was very close to Senators Byrd and Robertson and would call both of them personally. I told him I thought this would be an excellent thing to do, particularly in view of the influential position which Senator Byrd occupies. He stated he would do so at once.

original copy filed in 62-10770-11

Respectfully,

L.S. Nichols

LEW:RC

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/16/80 BY SP1 GSK/104

6/15/84

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SP7 MCT/ew
CP 247,098

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RECORDED

100-1952-20-25

FBI
28 MAR 20 1947

EX-68

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

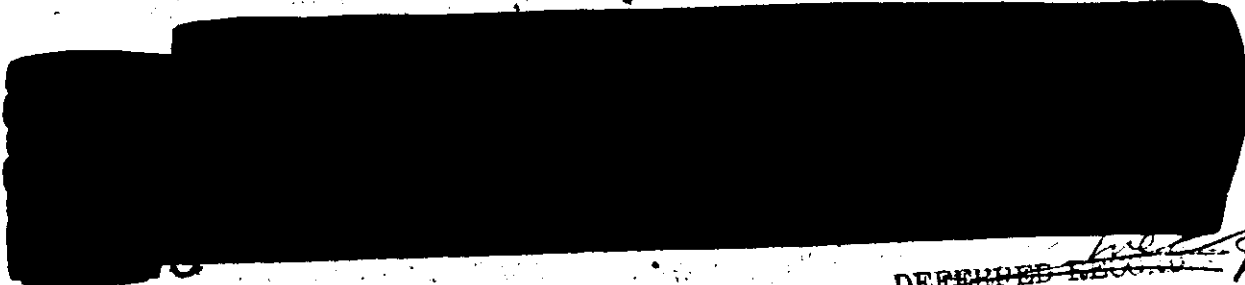
TO : Director, FBI
FROM : SAC, Los Angeles
SUBJECT: HANNS EISLER, was.
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

DATE: March 18, 1947

7589

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Card
b1



There is being enclosed herewith a photograph of subject.

ENCLOSURE

Enclosure

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF
DATE 10/10/80

PJM:GER
100-18124

cc: Los Angeles File 100-17094

6/15/84
CLASSIFIED BY: SP7MAC/eww
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

RECORDED & INDEXED
100-195220-26
F B I
31 APR 2 1947

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP1GSK/eww
REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 2-18-90

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF *Class*
DATE 3/24/84

Callahan
Hansler

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

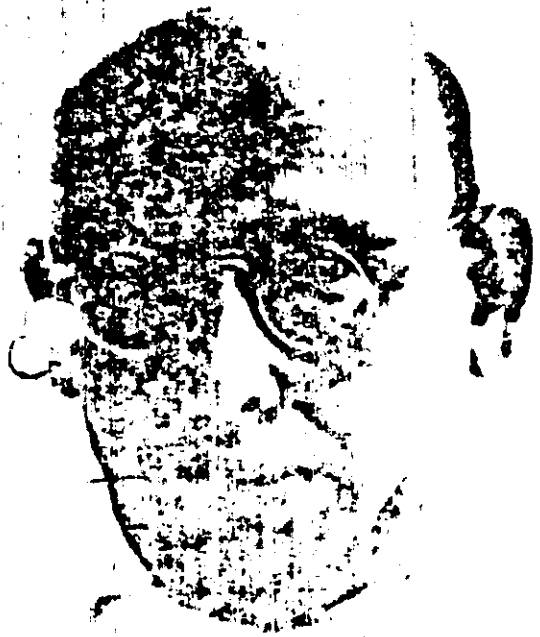
51 MAY 10 1947

Hanns Eisler - Photograph

C()

C()





100-10550-20-400



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. Ladd

FROM : Mr. J. C. Strickland

SUBJECT: HANNS EISLER, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: April 7, 1947

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

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 _____
Miss Gandy _____

You will recall that Gerhart Eisler has previously been interviewed by Bureau Agents. He has also been the subject of considerable inquiry by the House Un-American Activities Committee. His brother, Hanns Eisler, has also been mentioned as a possible witness to be called by the House Un-American Activities Committee. Ruth Fisher and other witnesses have furnished evidence connecting Hanns Eisler with the Communist Party in this country. The Bureau has a pending investigation on Hanns Eisler; however, there are many gaps in the investigation which could be cleared up by interview with the subject.

The Los Angeles Field Office has requested that such an interview be approved and has stated that he would be interviewed along the lines of his connection with the Gerhart Eisler Case and his contacts with the Free German Movement.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the fact that Gerhart Eisler has been interviewed previously and that Hanns Eisler has been publicly acclaimed as a possible witness before the Congressional Committee, it is believed that contact with Hanns Eisler would not be considered by him as extraordinary and that much valuable information could be obtained from him regarding his background and activities as well as the activities of the Free German Movement. It is also possible that he will furnish pertinent information regarding his brother Gerhart Eisler. There is attached for your approval a letter to the Los Angeles Field Division requesting that this interview be conducted in the immediate future.

Attachment

RAC:edm

RECORDED & INDEXED
100-195220-27
FBI
31 APR 9 1947

CLASS. & EXT. BY SP-1 GSK/AFH
REASON-FRM IN. 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 7-15-90

247,018
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-15-80 BY SP-1 GSK/AFH
6-15-84 SP-7 MAC/ENW

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

100-195220-27

CONFIDENTIAL

April 7, 1947

RECORDED

SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

HANNS KISLER, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

6/15/84
CLASSIFIED BY: SP-7MAC/ewj
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

X EX-6
150
X

Reurlet March 20th instant regarding interview with subject. Authorization is granted for you to conduct this interview in the immediate future. The subject's background and activities in Germany, Russia, France, England, and other countries should be ascertained in detail. Also, you should ascertain information concerning the subject's numerous entrances into the United States and especially the identities of individuals sponsoring or in any way aiding the subject in his negotiations with the State Department. You should also obtain from the subject the names and identifying data of all plays or songs written by the subject especially those songs composed by him for the German Workers Movement in Germany.

It is noted that a great deal of information concerning the subject was obtained by you through a confidential search of subject's effects. During the course of your interview pertinent information reflecting his association with Communists or revolutionary movements in Germany as well as his visits to Russia and activities in that country should be ascertained if at all possible without disclosing the basis for your inquiries. It is felt that the subject may possibly furnish press clippings from Russian newspapers which he is known to possess in his efforts to furnish biographical data. *2 u*

The New York Field Division is requested to furnish to the Los Angeles Office in the immediate future any information obtained by it through the investigation of Gerhart Eisler or collateral investigations which may be an aid to the Los Angeles Office in the interview of Hanns Eisler.

cc - New York

100-195220

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-7MAC/ewj
ON 8-9-84

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING

DATE 8/24/84 EXT. BY SP-1 GSK/eg
DATE OF REVIEW 7/15/80

APR 8 9 30 AM '47
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
APR 8 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 1/15/84 BY SP-1 GSK/eg

32 APR 22 1947

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 10, 1947

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: HANNS EISLER, with aliases;
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Reurlet April 7th last to the Los Angeles Field Division authorizing an interview with HANNS EISLER. In the Alien Hearing given to GERHART EISLER on March 31, 1947, GERHART EISLER admitted that he had been illegally in the United States, arriving in 1933 under a false French passport and remaining in the United States until June 19, 1935 at which time he left the United States on an American passport under the name of SAMUEL LIPTZEN. Using the same passport, he returned to the United States on October 30, 1935 and again left the United States on this passport on April 23, 1936.

All of the above has been verified through the steamship manifest on file with the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

GERHART EISLER further admitted that he had used the name EDWARDS while in the United States and claimed that he was in the United States as a representative of the Central Committee of the German Communist Party. He also stated that he was in contact with American Communist Party leaders throughout the United States and received money and assistance through them. He also admitted being in the San Francisco and Los Angeles areas during the waterfront strike of 1934.

HANNS EISLER is believed to have entered the United States in 1935 and, undoubtedly, was in contact with his brother at that time. It is felt during the interview with him he should be questioned as to his knowledge that his brother, GERHART, was in the United States and an effort should be made to ascertain the names GERHART used, the purpose of GERHART's being in the United States and when and where they met in the United States.

In addition to the foregoing, HEDWIG MASSING, who is GERHART's first wife, has recently been interviewed and she advised that HANNS used to visit her husband and herself at their farm in Quakertown, Pennsylvania. She states that during these visits, HANNS EISLER would become quite anti-Soviet in his opinions. However, as soon as he became in contact with his Communist friends, he would switch back to Soviet views.

HEDWIG MASSING considers him to be very weak politically but a person who has always been strongly dominated by his brother.

RJL:MXW
100-26648 COPIES DESTROYED
cc 100-12376
cc Los Angeles - AMSD

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DATE 7/15/80 BY SP7MAC/EDW

60 APR 10 1947/03

6/15/84

SP7MAC/EDW

G.I.R.-5

Letter to Director
NY 100-26648

April 10, 1947

~~RUTH FISCHER~~, during recent interviews, has voiced the same opinion as that of Mrs. MASSING.

The above is being pointed out as being of possible value in the questioning of HANNS EISLER. However, the fact that HEDWIG MASSING is furnishing information to this office should not be made known to him.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: March 17, 1947

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES

SUBJECT: HANNS EISLER, with aliases;
INTERNAL SECURITY - R
Bureau file 100-195220

Reference is made to letter dated March 20, 1947 from the Los Angeles Field Division to the Bureau in which permission was requested for an interview of subject HANNS EISLER.

By letter dated April 10, 1947, the New York Field Division indicated that they had received a copy of a Bureau letter dated April 7, 1947 to the Los Angeles Field Division authorizing HANNS EISLER's interview.

This latter letter, however, seems not to have been received by the Los Angeles Field Division and it is requested that a copy be forwarded for our information.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED *EX-247,098*
DATE *7/15/80* BY *SP7 MAC/PCW*
6/15/84

PJM:lrk
100-18124

*Copies of letter sent
with letter of
4-18-47
RAC*

RECORDED

EX - 50

100-195220-21
APR 22 1947
[Signature]

April 28, 1947

SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

HANNS EISLER, was
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Reurlet March 17 instant advising no copy of Bureau letter dated April 7 instant received your office.

There are enclosed copies of this letter for your information. You will note that since this letter was sent your office news reports have carried information to the effect that the Un-American Activities Committee, in its hearings on the West Coast, will call Hanns Eisler as a witness.

Enclosures *✓*

RECORDED 100-195220-29
EX-18 RAC:mjj *mjj*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/15/80 BY SP-1 GSK/llc
6/15/84 ~~SP-7 RAC/llc~~ C#247, DTS

- 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 _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
★ APR 28 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

57 MAY

Handwritten signatures and initials

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

510 South Spring Street, Room 908
Los Angeles 13, California
May 11, 1947

Director, FBI

RE: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my letter of May 12th, my teletype of May 12th and to Bureau teletype of May 13th concerning the request of Chairman J. PARNELL THOMAS of the Committee for information concerning certain individuals in the Hollywood area.

Complying with Bureau instructions, memoranda were prepared and at 6:15 P.M. on May 13th, after I had personally talked to Congressman THOMAS, Mr. ELLSWORTH and I delivered to ROBERT STRIPLING, Chief Investigator of the Committee, the originals of memoranda on the following individuals:

- BERT BRACHT
- HARVEY EISLER
- FRITZ LORTER & PETER LORGE
- SALMA VIERTEL

b7C

A memorandum was also delivered to Mr. STRIPLING re: COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN HOLLYWOOD.

For the Bureau's records, I am enclosing two copies of these memoranda.

Mr. THOMAS and Mr. STRIPLING appeared to be very friendly and appreciative of this cooperation afforded them. They advised that on May 11th they would be receiving testimony from ROBERT TAYLER, motion picture actor, RICHARD WILSON, Mrs. LAILA HUGHES and JACK LANGER.

Very truly yours,

R. E. BELMONT, Director

Handwritten signatures and initials:
Blix

JE:mas
62-1708
Enc. 2



Re: HANNS ~~EISLER~~ *Summary*

EISLER was born July 6, 1898 at Leipzig, Germany. He is reported to have resided in Austria until 1924 when he went to Germany. He remained in Germany, according to information received, until 1933. Since that year he is reported to have traveled throughout Europe, visiting Russia in 1932 and 1935. He is reported to have entered the United States for the first time on March 13, 1935 at New York City and to have departed from this country on May 4, 1935. His next visit is said to have been in October of 1935, again landing in New York and departing in December of the same year. He is reported to have returned to this country on January 4, 1938, remaining until April 12 of the following year. In 1939 EISLER entered the United States on September 11 at Laredo, Texas, and then left the country eight days later. He is reported to have re-entered the United States on October 22, 1940 at Calexico, California on a non quota immigration visa.

It has been stated that EISLER was associated with BERTOLT BRECHT in writing "Die Massnahme" (the disciplinary measure), which is self-styled, (an educational play). This play is alleged to advocate Communist world revolution by violent means and was published in London, England by the Malik-Verlag Publishing Company in 1938. This volume is the collected works of BERTOLT BRECHT. This volume contains a letter written by EISLER, defending the play and advocating that it be presented by and to labor groups. It has also been reported that EISLER is the co-author with BRECHT of a march known as "Song of Solidarity" (Solidaritasts-Lied) which was written in 1931.

EISLER has been reported as having been in Russia in 1932 and during the months of June and July in 1935. During this latter visit he was associated, according to reported information, with BRECHT, who was showing a motion picture entitled, "Kuhlewampe", a picture with Communist tendencies. EISLER is reported to have written the music for this film. In the book entitled "Documentary Film", by PAUL ROTH, EISLER is noted as the composer of music for it to the motion picture "Konsomol" (Song of Heroes), which was produced in Moscow in 1932 and written by JORIS IVINS. It has been stated that Konsomol is the name of the Communist Youth organization in Russia, and that "Song of Heroes" is an inaccurate translation.

On February 18, 1935 the Daily Worker had an article on page four which described EISLER as the "Brilliant revolutionary composer of COMINT RN, ROTE FRONT, KUHLE WAMPE, BALLAD OF THE COTTON PICKERS, and SONG OF THE COAL MINERS." Although not yet thirty-seven, this militant worker composer has been associated with workers' movements in Germany for the last seventeen years. Song after song came from this tireless and prolific composer, songs that helped now the masses in militant demonstrations

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ENCLOSURE

Re: HANNS EISLER

"In addressing the delegates of the German Singing Societies, the Pierre De Ceyter Club, the Artist Union, the Anti-Nazi Federation, the Workers' Dance League, the Workers' Music League, WIR, IWO, and others, HANNS EISLER stated that in the American workers' revolutionary music, unity is achieved not only by the American workers of all nationalities but among all workers throughout the world".

On page seven of the same issue of the Daily Worker, EISLER is described in an article written by SERGI RADAMSKY as having been a leader of the German workers in the cultural and musical development, and that it was only when EISLER came into the struggles of the working class that he found his medium, and with it grew his power of composing music which expressed not only the life and battles of the workers but of the working class of the entire world. RADAMSKY said that EISLER had taken an active part in the struggle of the working class of Germany and that the workers and peasants of the Soviet Union were quick to appreciate this and his "On Guard", "Comintern", and others of his works.

It was reported that EISLER had a brother named EDWARDS who is said to have been the comintern representative in the United States, and that EDWARDS could only be identified by the fact that HANNS EISLER was his brother. HANNS EISLER was alleged to have come to this country not as a musician but rather to contact the OGPU. It was reported also that EISLER, while in Germany, was alleged to have actual Communist connections.

In the "Current Biography for 1942", which contained a short biography of HANNS EISLER, it was noted that he has worked with men who were prominent stage and film producers both in this country and abroad. In 1940 this article states that the New School For Social Research was granted \$20,000.00 for a two year study of music in film production by the Rockefeller Foundation. EISLER was placed in charge of that project. The article also stated that it was not surprising to find a music critic writing of him, "He is an ardent advocate of proletarian surrounded by music."

It has been reported that EISLER stated that in the film, "Our Russian Front" made by LEWIS MILESTONE and JORIS IVENS, music of EISLER was used.

In an article appearing in the "Moscow Daily News" of July 18, 1935 it was stated that EISLER, "at the age of twenty-eight had gone to Berlin, Germany where he cast aside his early concern for the pure surrounded by "aesthetics" of musical composition and turned his intelligence toward the more profound problems that were afflicting the art." "The people of many countries whose lives had been brightened and strengthened by the songs and ballads of HANNS EISLER by such stirring tunes as the 'Comintern', 'Solidarity', 'United Front', and others, can

Re: HANNS EISLER

understand that his art is an instrument capable of expressing concrete ideas."

In a Russian language article appearing in the July 20, 1935 issue of "Soviet Art", EISLER's first words to the interviewer upon arriving in Moscow were his impressions of the new face of Moscow and especially the difference between it and what he saw in the capitalistic countries. The article went on to state that EISLER discussed a picture he had made in London entitled "Abdul the Damned", which was produced entirely through the efforts of political immigrants from Fascist Germany. This film was directed by KARL GRUNE and starred FRITZ KORTNER. EISLER informed the interviewer that while in London he had composed the music to the play "Furnace Fire" written by the German revolutionary author, ERNEST TALLER. EISLER informed the interviewer also that he had written several new fighting songs together with BERT BRECHT, one of which was the "Song of the United Front", which he stated was the favorite song of American proletariats. EISLER informed the newspaperman that the most dramatic moment of his trip to the United States in 1935 was his visit "to the unjustly suffering revolutionary eighteen years imprisonment in an American prison, TOM MOONEY". In the interview EISLER placed JACOB SCHAEFER, whom he described as a young genius composer and conductor among the "proletariat" American composers. EISLER stated that "We, the proletariat musicians, must accept him as an important master amidst our ranks". EISLER stated at the same time that he was very happy to accept the post of professor of music at the New York New School for Social Sciences, as it had given him an opportunity to teach new ranks of revolutionary composers.

In a Russian language article appearing in the July 22, 1935 issue of "Pravda", written by S. TRET'YAKOV, it was stated that, "For us, EISLER — is first of all a song, the — 'Red Wedding', the — 'Chaitern'". With the songs of EISLER on their lips the foreign living proletariats fought in the barricades of Berlin and Vienna. With the songs of EISLER they demonstrated in Zurich and Antwerp... a feeling of anarchist protest awoke in the young composer. In 1927 EISLER wholeheartedly entered the proletariat 'Agitpropgroup' movement and began work as a political music journalist...

"With all his natural fighting temperament, EISLER tore into reformistic song group, from a Communist wing. The battle was successful. It directed the attention of the entire musical world, gathered travelers, and cultivated such military musicians as RANKEL, FOGLE and VOLPE....

Re: HANS EISLER

"He has been with us before he made notes on KAZAK melodies on the steps of Mt. Magnitnoi, where the young Communists were building a blast furnace. It was about then he wrote the 'Ural Young Communist'."

"EISLER can help me in the Soviet Choral Movement. Our nation needs songs and knows how to value a good one. This is obvious in EISLER'S 'Comintern', deeply imbedded in our golden song fund."

In an article appearing in the Russian language newspaper "Evening Moscow" dated July 27, 1935, EISLER stated that "a telegram from Moscow from the Music Bureau of the International Union of the Revolutionary Theater sent many to the Strassbourg Olympiad..."

"In closing I want to share with you my impression of Moscow, where I have been invited to reorganize the Music Bureau of Mort.... You can imagine the feelings of a foreigner as he looks upon a Soviet citizen who has before him such wide horizons and who is sure of a brilliant future."

An article appeared in the "Evening Moscow" some time during July of 1935 which stated in part as follows: "...The name EISLER is not vainly associated with such names as FRIEDRICH WOLF, BERT BRECHT, and IRVIN PISKATOR. These are the names of our foreign - living comrades who have made their talents into a sharp web for Communism".

In a Russian language article which appeared in the "Literary Gazette" dated July 30, 1935 and signed by DELLMAN, it was stated that "...Mentioning the Paris Congress gave HANS EISLER'S ideas their impetus in music direction. He speaks of the Congress as being one of the best symptoms which show the turning of the foreign living intelligencia towards revolution: "...How can we, the artists, help but feel elated? We who have allied our fate with the fate of the working classes, the fate of revolutionists with our own blood?"

In an article appearing in the Rochester, New York, "Post Express" dated October 23, 1935 and headlined "Singer Faces Deportation as Red", it was stated that HANS EISLER had come to this country to spread Communistic propaganda through revolutionary songs, and that he was under investigation by Federal Immigration Commissioner MacCORNACK. The article further related that the complaint against EISLER was filed by J. E. WILKIE, secretary of the Arizona Peace Officers' Association, who demanded that EISLER be deported.

Re: HANNS EISLER

An article appearing in the November 22, 1935 issue of the "Daily Worker" carried a review of the play "MOTHER" written by BERT BRECHT, the music for which was written by HANNS EISLER. It is noted that this play was based upon MAXIM GORKY'S novel of Revolutionary Russia.

It has been reported that EISLER'S songs were featured at a LENIN meeting held at the Culture House Theater, 268 East 78th Street, New York City, and that a new arrangement of the "INTERNATIONAL" by EISLER was performed.

It has been reported that HANNS EISLER has been associated with the following motion pictures:

"JEALOUSY"

Produced by Gong Productions, Inc.
7324 Santa Monica Boulevard

"THE SPANISH MAIN"

Produced by RKO Radio Pictures, Inc.

"NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART"

"RAIN"

(A documentary film)
Directed by JORIS IVENS

"HANGMEN ALSO DIE"

Directed by FRITZ LANG

"THE LITTLE SYMPHONY"

Published in Moscow

Re: HANNS EISLER

It has been reported that EISLER in speaking of his credit titles, referring to motion pictures, have been used by United Artists, the French Film Industry, the English Film Industry, and the Russian Film Industry. In this latter case EISLER stated that "The Russians too have made many come over there".

It has been reported that ALRIAN SCOTT and EDWARD DAYPRICK had endeavored to secure HANNS EISLER as the composer of the musical score for the motion picture "So Well Remembered", which was made in England by the Arthur Rank Alliance Productions with which RKO had a financial interest.

Re: HANNS EISLER

Acquaintances of EISLER having reported Communist sympathy and connection with the motion picture industry, include:

CLIFFORD ODETS, Writer
J. W. LOSEY, Director-Producer

[REDACTED]
LION FEUCHTWANGER, Writer
ARNOLD PRESSBURGER, Producer

[REDACTED]
JOHN GAFFNEY, Actor
OSCAR HOLDLER, Actor
ELEANOR HUNTER

[REDACTED]
JEAN RENOUX, Writer-Director

b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 29 1947

TELETYPE

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. Mohr	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

Handwritten signature: [unclear]

WASH 3 AND LOSA 1 FROM NEW YORK 29 3-42 PM

DIRECTOR AND SAC URGENT

HANS EISLER, ISR. RE LA TEL TO NY MAY TWENTY EIGHT INSTANT ADVISING THAT HANS EISLER HAS RESERVATIONS HOTEL EDISON, NY, FOR JUNE FIFTH BUT HAS BEEN ASKED TO COME TO NYC EARLIER FOR GERHARTS TRIAL ON JUNE FOURTH. LA REQUESTED COVERAGE OF HANS ACTIVITIES. THE TRIAL OF GERHART EISLER FOR CONTEMPT IS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE FOUR IN WASHINGTON, DC, AND IT IS POSSIBLE THAT HANS WILL BE A WITNESS. THIS OFFICE WILL ATTEMPT TO COVER HANS ACTIVITIES IF HE COMES TO NYC THROUGH ESTABLISHED SOURCES BUT WILL NOT CONDUCT ANY OTHER INVESTIGATION UNLESS ADVISED TO CONTRARY.

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cc: Mr. Harvey

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Los Angeles 13, California
May 29, 1947

7590

AIR MAIL

mem

Director, FBI

RE: HANS EISLER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

G. I. R. 5

Dear Sir:

HANS EISLER is believed to be going to Washington, D.C., as a possible witness for his brother, GERHART EISLER, whose trial for contempt is scheduled for June 4, 1947, in Washington.

HANS EISLER is also scheduled as a witness before the House Committee on Un-American activities on June 16, 1947.

The Washington Field Office is requested to furnish this office with information concerning HANS EISLER's activities while in Washington, D.C. through established sources of information.

Very truly yours,

R. B. Hood

R. B. HOOD
SAC

HANDLED BY
STOP

JRB:gmw

100-18124

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CC - Washington Field Office

INDEXED 100-195220-30X

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AIR MAIL

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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CONFIDENTIAL

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-18124

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 6/21/47	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/5,6,18,27;3/2,3,8,10,22,25-28;4/1-5,7-12,14-19	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE CHANGED HANS EISLER, was. Hans Eisler, Johannes Eisler H. Eisler		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: **DECLASSIFIED BY SP7 MAC/EAU ON 6/15/84**

Subject employed by RKO Radio Pictures as composer on one-picture contracts. He has signed year's lease on house in Malibu Beach Colony, LA. He is in contact with many well-known literary and motion picture industry members. He appeared before Congressional Un-American Activities Committee in LA; has been subpoenaed from Wash., D. C. session of the committee 6/16/47. Plans to be in N.Y. early part of June until the time of committee appearance. **HILDA EISLER**, wife of **GERHART EISLER**, subject's brother, visited subject and his wife while she was in raising funds for defense of **GERHART EISLER** in recent Federal charges.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF CLASS. DATE 8/24/84 CJA

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REFERENCE:

**6/15/84 CLASSIFIED BY SP7 MAC/EAU - P
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REASON-FCIM II, 1-2.4.2 2.0
DATE OF REVIEW 7-15-90**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Los Angeles dated [REDACTED] per 16, 1946.

DETAILS:

The title of this case is being changed to reflect the additional alias of **HARRY EISLER**.

Translations were received from the Bureau of a number of letters in the German language and other foreign language documents from the personal [REDACTED]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES DESTROYED 5-15-84 COPIES OF THIS REPORT: ⑤ - Bureau 2 - New York 2 - San Francisco 3 - Los Angeles		100-195220-31 F B I 1 JUN 28 1947	SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED

100-195220-31
July 8, 1947
(carried page in OR copy) [REDACTED]

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GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-67082-1
CONFIDENTIAL

effects of HANNS EISLER as set forth in referenced report. These consisted of letters written by [REDACTED] (believed to be [REDACTED]) to subject's wife, LOUISE EISLER. Extremely close friendship is revealed by these letters which are mainly social in nature. [REDACTED] a linguist and is supposed to have ability in ninety-eight languages. In a letter dated June 2, 1945, he mentioned a debt to her in the amount of \$430.03. *ku*

Another group of letters written by a woman under the name of [REDACTED] reveals [REDACTED] as a mutual acquaintance. There is also frequent mention of the welfare of one [REDACTED] who allegedly got a job with OWI through Mrs. EISLER's contact. These letters constitute social gossip in the main. *ku*

[REDACTED] writes of EISLER's compositions and technical musical matters. The letters were dated from January to July of 1945. This was an acquaintance and possibly a business associate with BRECHT (Probably BERT BRECHT) and ARNOLD SCHOENBERG. Other persons mentioned are [REDACTED]. *ku* **62**

A writer who signed herself [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] covers a period from October, 1942, through January, 1945, and discusses her work [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] mentions the New School for Social Research and in a letter dated October, 1942, it is noted that [REDACTED] was on a committee in a New School. [REDACTED] mentioned that she spoke fifteen minutes for OWI on her first broadcast after the invasion. Both [REDACTED] and BRECHT appear as mutual friends. *ku*

[REDACTED] wrote from 1942 through 1944. She mentions her husband's name as [REDACTED]. *ku*

A group of letters from subject to his wife, LOUISE (probably in the summer of 1942) were written from Hollywood at a time when the subject was apparently trying for a job writing music for the films. He mentions social contacts with Mr. and Mrs. SCHOENBERG, BERT BRECHT and twice mentions a plan to approach CHARLIN with his project. In one letter subject writes, "Enclosed is a paper with a diagram of the Freigroschen Opera House. Give it to GERHARD. Perhaps one could call upon ROBESON to help." *ku*

A letter written by subject's wife appeals for financial assistance *ku*

100-195550-31