87/H.R. 1395 passed the House on June 27, 1961 and is now pending before your committee.

Passed Senate May 29, 1962
SECRET
COVER SHEET

This cover sheet shall be placed on all SECRET MATERIAL or FILES immediately after preparation.

SECRET
COVER SHEET
CONFIDENTIAL

The Committee is referred to the Bureau of Security and Commercial Affairs, Department of State, for information concerning the beneficiary and his wife, Eliza Lewis.
MEMORANDUM OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION FROM INTELLIGENCE AND
NATIONALIZATION SERVICE FILES RE SYDNEY CRUZON, BENEFICIARY OF
M. R. 1939

This Service is in receipt of information from another government agency to the effect that;

At a press luncheon held on December 1, 1943 in Washington, D. C. under the auspices of the Institute of Pacific Relations, the wife of the beneficiary was one of many newspaper correspondents expected to attend, and that according to a report issued in July 1950 by the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security, the SSR had been considered by the American Communist Party and by Soviet officials as an instrument of Communist policy, propaganda, and military intelligence which disseminated and sought to popularize false information, including information originating from Soviet and Communist sources. Further, that the small core of officials responsible for directing the activities and policies of the SSR were either Communists or pro-Communists;

At a cocktail party given by Sydney Grunon and his wife aboard the SS "Batory", upon its departure from the United States in August 1947, there was among the guests the former President of the Polonia Society of the International Workers Order, who was also active in Communist circles in the United States. The IWO had been cited by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 9950;

Information received in May 1952 indicated that in November 1949, Sydney Grunon, then residing in Moscow, was anti-Communist; but that in June 1950 he was reported as probably a Communist but not a Communist; that he enjoyed good relations with the Polish authorities, whereas his wife, Flora, described as a sincere believer in Marx, had experienced the opposite relations, the Polish authorities having received her dispatches coolly. The wife had shown unscrupulous professional conduct on several occasions and could not be wholly trusted;

In November 1950 that the names of the beneficiary and his wife appeared on a list of names and addresses in the possession of a person who was the subject of an espionage investigation, the significance of this information being unknown;

Information received in February 1952 indicated that Sydney Grunon retained pro-Communist sympathies according to a personal acquaintance; and that Grunon had stated at that time at a dinner party in Mexico City that the United States was the aggressor in Korea;

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In May 1952, in a conversation concerning Communism in Mexico, the impression was gained by the listener that Sydney Gruson and his wife retained pro-communist views. Information in September 1952 did not indicate that Sydney Gruson had taken part in Communist Party activities in Mexico City prior to that time.

In June 1952 it was learned be reliable, that Sydney Gruson, although known as an outspoken and unorthodox journalist, did not have the impression of any definite left-winged persuasion, noting that the "New York Times" was very careful in the selection of its representatives from this point of view.

On November 16, 1952, by a certain named individual, while he was under the influence of alcohol, that Sydney Gruson, a reporter of the New York Times in Mexico City, was a secret member of the Communist Party; that Gruson was also a friend of Judith Coplon and Marlon Berdejo. The next day the individual if he had mentioned Gruson and the others during the previous evening's conversation. Upon learning that he had, he became upset and requested the informant not to repeat the information inasmuch as it was a relationship which he should not have mentioned. It was reported that the person who did the talking was a frequent visitor at the Berdejo home, and that he and Berdejo had a common interest, in that they were among the organizers and chief proponents of the organization recently formed in Mexico City known as "Amigos Del Clas" (Friends of the Nation Picture), for the purpose of seeking financial backing for motion pictures of "social significance", or which followed the Communist Party line.

According to an article which appeared in the February 3, 1954 issue of the "Washington Star", a Washington, D.C., daily newspaper, Sydney Gruson, "New York Times" correspondent for Mexico and Central America, was one of two U.S. servicemen expelled by the Guatemalan leftist Government, having been accused of trying to discredit the Guatemalan Government;

Information in April 1954 indicated that Sydney Gruson had been referred to by various members of American Communist groups in Mexico City as having pro-Communist sympathies. stated that Gruson did not associate with the Communist groups at their special gatherings, but that members of the group appeared to be personally acquainted with him.

Investigation conducted by this Service does not reveal any derogatory information concerning the beneficiary and his wife.

The Committee is referred to the Bureau of Security and Consular Affairs, Department of State, for additional information concerning the beneficiary and his wife.