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SUBJECT: (Optional)

Biographic Summary Report On: **RABINOWITZ, Victor****DRAFT**

FROM:

EXTENSION

NO.

EX-989

CI/OP

Robert**9477**

DATE

7 Apr 67

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

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1. **CI/R & A**
Attn: M. McElligott

Prepared by: **M. McElligott****SECRET**
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- 1 - Orig. for Final Report Signing
- 1 - CI Wash Group Biographic Summary
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SECRET

7 April 1967

SUBJECT: Victor RABINOWITZ

EX - 989

1. Victor RABINOWITZ has made a financial contribution to the Institute for Policy Studies.

2. He is an attorney and Director and President of the Louis W. RABINOWITZ Foundation, a tax-exempt charitable foundation, which has given grants to numerous persons and organizations connected with the Communist Party in one way or another. RABINOWITZ and his partner Leonard R. BOUDIN have been retained as legal counsel by the Government of Cuba, the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations, and the Embassy of the Government of Kenya, Washington, D. C. His clients have included such notorious persons as Frederick Vanderbilt FIELDS, Judith COPLON, Steve NELSON, and Vivian Glassman PATAKI. He has been a member of, or supported, numerous organizations cited as Communist front groups. He has had business transactions with the Vogue Travel Service; partners of the firm are Jack BJOZE and Victoria WILAINE. BJOZE is known to have been in clandestine contact with Polish Intelligence and he is a close friend of Morris COHEN (LONSDALE case).

3. Information received from the FBI reflects that some of the legal cases handled by Subject are:

Frederick Vanderbilt FIELD, who was a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party from 1937 to 1945, and a Soviet espionage agent.

Steve NELSON, member of the National Committee of the Communist Party, convicted and sentenced for violation of the Pennsylvania Sedition Law.

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- 2 - SECRET

Otto PERL, who in the years 1941-45 was a member of the Austro-American Youth group. Also connected with this group was Kurt L. PONGER and Otto VERBER (Soviet agents).

Vivian Glassman PATAKI, who was called to testify before a U. S. Grand Jury in New York on 8 April 1953.

Hyman STEINBERG, who was called to testify before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, in 1956 in New Haven, Connecticut.

Jack WINOCUR, officer in the American Communications Association, a Communist front group.

4. Subject's wife, Marcia RABINOWITZ (nee GOLDBERG) was a member of the Coney Island Communist Party Club in 1944, and in 1962 she was Treasurer of the National Guardian (cited as a subversive organization).

5. Subject, in 1952, was a member of the law firm NEUBERGER (Abraham S., a CP member), SHAPIRO, RABINOWITZ and BOUDIN, 76 Beaver Street, New York City. Later, Subject and Leonard R. BOUDIN formed their own firm, and in 1962 the letterhead of that firm carried the following names:

Arthur SCHUTZER /On the Board of Directors of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship in 1961/

Mary M. KAUFMAN /On the Board of Directors of the New York Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild/

Henry WINESTINE

Michael B. STANDARD

Barbara IZETT

Sidney WEINSTEIN joined the firm at a later date.

~~SECRET~~
- 3 -

SECRET

The New York address of RABINOWITZ and BOUDIN is 30 East 42nd Street, and the Washington, D.C. office is located at 711 14th Street, N.W.

6. On 5 December 1956 Subject and his wife arrived in Mexico City. They are close friends of Frederick and Anita FIELDS. Subject brought greetings from mutual friends in New York City to Dr. Henry David PRENSKY, Maurice Hyman HALPERIN, and Alfred K. STERN.

7. In October Subject was in Buffalo, New York, as legal counsel for several Communist Party members who were called to testify before the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

8. In 1959 RABINOWITZ and BOUDIN signed a contract in Cuba with the Cuban Government to act as its legal representative. Since that time RABINOWITZ has made numerous trips to Cuba. In November 1959 Lement Upham HARRIS, who is connected with the financial operations of the CP, USA, and a member of the CP National Office Finance Committee in Los Angeles, carried with him the name and telephone number of Subject.

9. Subject wrote a check on 12 May 1959 in the amount of \$1342 to the Vogue Travel Service, New York City. /Jack BJOZE and Victoria WILAINE are co-partners of the Vogue Travel Service. BJOZE is known to have been in clandestine contact with the Polish Intelligence Service, and he is a close friend of Morris COHEN (LONSDALE case).

The Vogue Travel Service is known to have received a letter on 11 November 1959 from William ROTHENBERG, 131 Blvd Brune, Paris, France, which is the address of Bernard Sidney REDMONT (aka ROTHENBERG) brother-in-law of Don ROTHENBERG, assistant to the Publisher of Ramparts magazine.

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- 4 -

10. In the 1959-1960 period Subject is known to have contributed money to the POWELL-SCHUMAN Defense Fund (on trial for violation of the sedition laws, and were associated with the China Monthly Review, Shanghai 1950-1953); Camp Woodland (managed by the CP according to HUAC Annuary Report of 1955); Elizabeth G. FLYNN, member at large of the National Committee, CP, USA; William ALBERTSON, Executive Secretary of the CP, New York State; and the SOBELL Committee.

11. In March 1960 Subject flew to Paris, France, then Prague, Czechoslovakia for a meeting of the World Federation of Trade Unions. In the 1960-61 period Subject had several contacts with Isidore Gibby NEEDLEMAN, a practicing attorney in New York City. NEEDLEMAN was formerly employed by Amtorg Trading Corp in a legal capacity, and as of 1961 he reportedly continued to report to Amtorg from time to time. One source stated in March 1953 that NEEDLEMAN acted as a Soviet espionage (Subject) agent. He flew to Cuba on 4 November 1960 and it was reported that Subject put up \$1000 for the publication of Castro's speech "History Will Absolve Me".

12. Invitations to attend a testimonial dinner for John J. ABT on 2 December 1960 were signed by: Victor RABINOWITZ, Chairman; C. B. BALDWIN (National Secretary of the Progressive Party); Edward K. BARKSY (sentenced June 1950 for contempt of Congress); W.E.B. DU BOIS (Lenin Peace Prize); Stanley FAULKNEW (Executive Board Member of the National Lawyers Guild); Royal Wilbur FRANCES (Executive Secretary, National Lawyers Guild); Shirley GRAHAM (Board of Directors, Mainstream); Leo LINDER (described as a "concealed Communist"); and James T. MC MANUS (General Manager of the National Guardian)

~~SECRET~~
- 5 -

SECRET

13. Subject and his wife are friendly with Dr. Cheddi JAGAN, Premier of British Guiana, and his wife. They have entertained the JAGANs in their home and on 3 February 1962 Subject and his wife planned to fly to British Guiana as guests of the JAGANs.

14. David REIN, an attorney, was in contact with Zdenek PISK 2nd Secretary of the Czech Embassy, Washington, D.C. on 20 February 1962, in connection with the sale of Cuban property. REIN had been referred to PISK by RABINOWITZ. (REIN, a Washington lawyer, was reported by Herbert FUCHS as a member of the Communist Party group at the National Labor Relations Board during the 1937-42 period.)

15. The Castro Government was reported to use the firm RABINOWITZ and BOUDIN for propaganda purposes and for the handling of other matters of interest to the Cuban Government. Money received from the Castro Government by RABINOWITZ and BOUDIN is in turn sent to the "Brennen (sic) or Bremen (sic)" law firm. The amounts sent to the RABINOWITZ and BOUDIN firm range from \$25,000 to \$70,000 quarterly. Funding is done with the National Bank of Cuba and the Royal Bank of Canada.

16. Subject has been the attorney for Dagoberto MOLERIO Remujo, leader of the 26th of July Movement, in New York. He was also retained, in July 1962, by Robert Braun WALDER, who has been in Cuba since 1959. WALDER attempted to have shipped to him in Cuba military drawings, electric and technical equipment, and two AEC documents formerly classified. This shipment was seized by U.S. Customs in Miami, and WALDER wanted to obtain a release for the shipment.

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- 6 -

17. On 5 September 1962 Subject traveled from Havana to Prague, and on 8 September flew from Prague to London, and to New York on the 12th. In London he conferred with attorneys Sigmund SEIFERT, Communist solicitor in London, and E. LAUTERPACHT.

18. At the end of August 1963 Isidore NEEDLEMEN reportedly stated that Subject left his wife and was living with Joanne GRANT. (GRANT is a CP member and is on the editorial staff of the National Guardian (cited as a subversive organization)). It was verified in November 1965 that Subject and Joanne GRANT were living together at 101 West 12th St., New York City.

19. In 1964 (March 14) Subject received a Hungarian visa to travel to Hungary for the International Democratic Lawyers Conference on 31 March 1964 (travel not confirmed).

20. RABINOWITZ and BOUDIN registered in June 1965 as foreign agents with the Department of Justice for the Republic of Cuba and its instrumentalities; Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations; and the Embassy of the Government of Kenya, Washington, D.C.

21. He was reported to have traveled in mid-May 1966 from Havana to Madrid on Iberian Airways, however, this travel has not been confirmed.

22. See attachment for list of organizations with which Subject is connected.

23. The files of this Agency reveal that in 1964 an American lawyer, believed to be Subject, left "some dollars" with Sobral PINTO, of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, who was quoted in the Diario Carioco of 21 December 1964 as refusing to accept fees for his services "since (they) would be from Peking Government, of which he (is) an intransigent adversary".

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SECRET

- 7 -

24. In November 1964 RABINOWITZ and one (fmu) PEREZ, a Puerto Rican, were reported to be involved in the funding of the People's Progressive Party (in British Guiana) through the National Guardian group.

25. An American lawyer (fmu) RABINOWITZ from New York was in Geneva, Switzerland, 29 June 1964, where he contacted the Chinese Communist Consulate and stated that he was the defense lawyer for "the nine Chinese comrades arrested in Brazil", and that he is a friend of Wang Yen Yu in Cuba, that he represented the Cuban regime and would like to call at the Consulate if convenient. RABINOWITZ arrived in Geneva from Rome, Italy.

26. Travel recorded for Subject, other than numerous trips to Mexico/Cuba, is as follows:

September 1962 - CSR to the UK

December 1963 - Cuba to Spain

27 March 1964 - intended travel to Hungary

7 March 1964 - Cuba to Spain

7 May 1964 - Cuba to French West Indies.

Subject's daughter *Jonk (nee Jean)*, born 3 July 1941, traveled from Finland to the USSR in August 1962.

One Rose RABINOWITZ, born 22 February 1895 indicated an intention to travel in July 1963 to the CSR and on to the USSR and Israel.

The name of Subject's mother is Rose RABINOWITZ (nee NETTER).

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SECRET

- 8 -

List of organizations with which Victor RABINOWITZ is associated:

Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade (cited as subversive).

American Communications Association, expelled in June 1950 from the CIO on charges of Communist domination.

American Committee for Protection of the Foreign Born (cited as subversive).

American Peace Crusade (cited as subversive)

Bronx Civil Liberties Committee (formed in 1952 by the Communist Party).

Civil Rights Congress (cited as subversive).

Committee to End Sedition Laws.

Emergency Civil Liberties Committee (listed as front group by HUAC).

Fund for Social Analysis (formerly Foundation for Marxist Studies)
Irving KAPLAN, identified by Elizabeth BENTLEY as Soviet agent,
was connected with this Fund.

International Workers Order (cited by the Attorney General).

National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions.

National Council of American-Soviet Friendship (cited by the Attorney General).

New York Guild Lawyers (cited as subversive).

Rally for the Rosenbergs.

Seamen's Defense Committee, New York City (organized by the CP Waterfront Section).

Washington Area Forum (successor to the Progressive Party of the District of Columbia, and reported as a Communist front organization inasmuch as the speakers follow the Party line.

The Worker - Subject's name appeared on the list of current subscribers of May 1959, and he is contact of William PATTERSON, General Manager of The Worker, an East Coast Communist weekly newspaper.

- 9 -

SECRET**Biographic Information on Victor RABINOWITZ:**

Born 2 July 1911, New York, N.Y., son of Louis N. RABINOWITZ (dec), born 16 September 1887, Rosanne, Russia, and Rose (nee NETTER), born in the United States. His father lived in the United States from 1901 to 1957 (date of his death). He was naturalized a U.S. citizen. In 1916 he became president of the L.N. RABINOWITZ Co., Inc., 120 E. 16th St., New York City.

Subject married Marcia GOLDBERG (born 30 March 1913, New York City) on 24 June 1935.

Children: Peter and Joan M. (aka Joni).

Sister: Lucille A. PEARLMAN.

Education: University of Michigan.

Address: (1944) 1080 E. 8th Street, Brooklyn, New York

(1950) 7 Serpentine Drive, New Rochelle, New York.

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SUBJECT: Victor RABINOWITZ

Supplement to EX - 989, dated
7 April 1967~~SECRET~~

Reference paragraphs 23 and 25.

23. The files of this Agency contain information that during the week of 20 April 1964, an unidentified American lawyer approached Dr. Heracrito da Fontoura Sobral Pinto in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and asked him to defend the nine Communist Chinese who had been arrested earlier in the month for espionage and subversive activities. The nine Chinese were in Brazil as news and trade representatives. The unidentified American lawyer said that, as an American, he could not defend the Chinese, and, according to Pinto, the American lawyer left "some dollars" as legal fees and for expenses. The unidentified American lawyer was believed to be Victor RABINOWITZ, who arrived in Rio de Janeiro on 23 April 1964, from Paris accompanied by his wife. The Rio press of 5 December 1964 quoted Sobral Pinto as stating that a telegram was received from an "international group of lawyers" based in London who were sending six of its members to observe the final judgment of the Chinese on trial. This "international group of lawyers" is probably the International Association of Democratic Lawyers which was founded in 1946, and expelled from Paris in 1950 by the French Government for its obvious Communist front activity. The Association moved its headquarters to Brussels, Belgium. It has close ties with the World Peace Council and other Communist front organizations. It is quick to denounce actions of the West and full of praise for Soviet and Chinese actions. It is noted that, on 14 March 1964, Victor RABINOWITZ received a Hungarian visa to travel to Hungary to attend a meeting.

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Margaret McElligott, CI Staff

Summary is based on 201-259853, plus additional FBI reports.

Information in Paragraph 1 was received from the Internal Revenue Service via the Office of Security.

Paragraph 25 is from [REDACTED] [REDACTED] 3770 (IN 35283),

25 July 1964.

Paragraph 26 is from ZOMBIE machine run.