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DATE : 01/26/1943
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SUBJECTS :

HERBERT JOSEPH BIBERMAN
JOHN HOWARD LAWSON

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **100-6769**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 1/26/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/6 to 12/24, 30/42 1/13, 15, 17, 18/43	REPORT MADE BY JOHN R. VICARS	DRB
TITLE HERBERT JOSEPH BIBERMAN, ET AL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R CUSTODIAL DETENTION	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

BIBERMAN and LAWSON signed petition sponsored by League of American Writers advocating the immediate opening of a second front. [Informants disclose that subject has been ill and has not been particularly active. Has attended meetings with other Hollywood fellow travelers as in the past. Also interested in the sale of certain tickets, believed to be for EARL BROWDER mass meeting.] No contact between the subjects and EARL BROWDER noted. File reviewed, leads set out. Bank account of subjects fail to reflect any unusual transactions. Some personal history of BILLIE KREL, associate of BIBERMAN, set out.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE~~

(C) (u)

- P -

6/17/87
Classified by [signature]
Declassify on: OADR

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent JOHN R. VICARS, Los Angeles, dated 11/9/42.

DETAILS:

DECLASSIFIED BY 5628-328/mde
ON 6-16-95 (JFK)

During the period of this report, subject BIBERMAN, according to informants, has not been active in one sustained drive following the Communist Party line, as he has been in the past. He has attended various meetings with Communist fellow travelers who have been associated with him during the current investigation. [According to Confidential Source A, he was ill with the flu, as was his wife, GALE SONDERGAARD, which may account for his inactivity.] (C) (u)

The People's World dated September 23, 1942, on page 5, contains an article entitled "American Writers Call for Second Front Now". The

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article states that among the signers of this petition to the President as announced by DANIELA BISHOP, President of the League of American Writers who sponsored this petition, are JOHN HOWARD LARSON and ROBERT BISHOP. Others who have been associated with subjects and who signed this petition are ALBERT BISHOP, ALVIN KAPLAN, DONALD OWEN STEWART, GUY BROWN, MARVIN CALDWELL, LIONEL MONTAGNA, and W. L. RIVER. It will be noted that the report of the writer dated September 15, 1942, refers to a drive led by BISHOP advocating a second front.

Concerning the meetings BISHOP has attended, it was ascertained from Confidential Source B that MARJORIE FISKE conferred with BISHOP on November 5, 1942, stating she was expecting him to come to Beverly Hills that evening. Apparently MARJORIE stated that BISHOP should come to the home of MARSHALL BISHOP, where MARJORIE is a daily visitor. (C)(U)

On November 6, 1942, according to Source B, BISHOP visited BARBARA ALEXANDER BISHOP, wife of HENRY BISHOP, and advised her that he wished her to be present at a meeting Monday evening to discuss the elections. He made an appointment to see HENRY BISHOP at the Shrine Auditorium meeting Sunday, November 8, 1942, in order to give BISHOP instructions which were to be passed on to BARBARA. In this connection it should be noted the Communist Party of the Los Angeles area has also held meetings to discuss the election results. Further, it is noted that a car registered to BARBARA ALEXANDER was spotted by Bureau Agents being entered by a person or persons who attended a closed meeting of the Communist Party for general functionaries held December 14, 1942. This car bore license number 5D-2-518 and was listed to BARBARA ALEXANDER, address 2159 West Wilshire Avenue, Hollywood. This would indicate that BARBARA or HENRY BISHOP mingle with the Los Angeles C communists as distinguished from the Hollywood Movie Industry Communists, such as BISHOP and LARSON. (C)(U)

On November 7, 1942, GAIL STEPHENS was in contact with LINDA COLLINS, and a discussion ensued concerning the Citizen's Committee to Defend the American-Mexican Youth, which committee was set up by the Communist Party of Los Angeles, with LA RUE McNEIL as Secretary in order to give McNEIL a strong plank in her campaign platform as a defender of the minority groups. LINDA COLLINS stated she was working on this committee. Both she and GAIL were somewhat concerned over Mayor PETERSON BROWN's blast at the committee which appeared in the Los Angeles newspapers the previous day to the effect that the committee was prompted by " sinister forces". It was subsequently ascertained through this informant that ROBERT BISHOP was contacted by LINDA COLLINS and invited to attend the meeting at the Beverly Hills Hotel, the purpose of which was to enlighten movie industry people about the Citizen's Committee for the Defense of American-Mexican Youth, and the work it was doing in the "Sleepy Lagoon" murder trial. BISHOP was instructed to get a lot of people to come to the meeting. This meeting was covered by Special Agents MARCUS M. BRIGHT and FRANK J. KANE, but BISHOP was not observed at this meeting. (C)(U)

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Reference report contains information that BISHOP was interested in the Congress of American Soviet Friendship, a two-day affair culminating November 8, 1942, at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, with a program entitled "Salute to Our Russian Allies". Despite the fact that BISHOP was writing the script to be used by one of the speakers on the program, it is noted from a perusal of the program which was obtained from Confidential Source

