

MATERIAL REVIEWED AT CIA HEADQUARTERS BY  
HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS STAFF MEMBERS

FILE TITLE/NUMBER/VOLUME: LAWSON, JOHN HOWARD  
251-5603

INCLUSIVE DATES: \_\_\_\_\_

CUSTODIAL UNIT/LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

ROOM: \_\_\_\_\_

DELETIONS, IF ANY: THIRD AGENCY DOCUMENTS

DATE RECEIVED	DATE RETURNED	REVIEWED BY (PRINT NAME)	SIGNATURE OF REVIEWING OFFICIAL
13 May 78		Johnanne Smith	Johnanne Smith
7 Nov 78		BETSY WOLF	Betsy Wolf

NO DOCUMENTS MAY BE COPIED OR REMOVED FROM THIS FILE

C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L  
When Filled In

*leg*  
14 JAN 1975 197  
(Date)

Review of 201 File on U.S. Citizen

In accordance with the DDO's notice of 9 December 1974, I have reviewed the 201 file on L. LAWSON (surname) (201 number indicated below), and have determined that it can most accurately be categorized as indicated below:

- should be closed.
- witting collaborator. OI Code A1.
- potential witting collaborator; date opened \_\_\_\_\_  
OI Code A2.
- former witting collaborator (relationship terminated).  
OI Code A3.
- potential witting collaborator never contacted (security reasons, derogatory information). OI Code A4.
- counterintelligence case (i.e., involving a foreign intelligence or security service). OI Code A5.
- all others. OI Code A6.

Signed *J. Carroll* *Ops Officer CIRA/CA*  
(name) (title) (component)

This assignment of category has been entered into STAR.

Signed *ERL* *22 JAN 1975* 197  
(initials) (date)

This document is a permanent part of this file.

201-0005603

E2 IMPDET  
CL BY 054979

When Filled In  
C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L  
**SECRET**

FBI doc.  
(no date)  
Re: Lawson  
(X-ref form)

FBI doc.  
30 Aug. 67 (L.A.)  
Re: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
LA Field office - 100-21198

---

FBI doc.  
13 July 66 (L.A.)  
Re: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
LA Field office: 100-21198

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FBI doc.

28 Oct 47

(X-ref. form.)

Re: Lawson

SECRET

EX - 786  
5 December 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: "American Defectors to the USSR"

1. The attached material was part of a soft file entitled "American Defectors to the USSR", which was set up by SR/6 (Support) around 1960 and maintained by various SR components until ca. 1963. The compilations were derived from a variety of sources, and contain both classified and overt data.
2. In the fall of 1966, the files were turned over to CI Staff. In most instances, basic information was then abstracted for the US Defector Machine Program. In all instances in which the material was unique, or represented a valuable collation effort, it has been incorporated into the appropriate 201 file, along with a copy of this memorandum.
3. It is suggested that any dissemination of this data should be coordinated with SB Division and with CI Staff (CI/MRO), in view of the frequently inadequate sourcing and of the fact that disseminations have already been made through the US Defector Machine Program.

*JLBender*  
JLBender

Orig - CI/MRO  
1 - RMD/FI  
1 - SB/RMO  
1 - CI/R&A/JLBender  
1 - CI/R&A/Chrono

SECRET

201-005603

AH 20531

John Howard LAWSON  
DBF 96650  
18 Dec 1961

Subject is in sanitarium located near Moscow, USSR.  
Information was in A letter.

Plans to remain in the Soviet Union for approximately 8 months after  
release from Sanitarium to work with the movie industry.

201-5603

*Not Input by Proj  
No additional info  
14/X11/66 EJB*

201-005603

SECRET  
(When Filled In)

DOCUMENT TRANSFER AND CROSS REFERENCE

SUBJECT OF DOCUMENT		DOCUMENT IDENTIFICATION			
		1. FILE NO.			
		2. DISPATCH OR SOURCE DOC. SYMBOL NO.			3. DATE
		4. SOURCE CRYPTONYM	5. DATE OF INFO.	6. EVALUATION	
7. ANALYST	8. DATE PROCESSED	9. DISSEMINATED IN		10. DATE	
DOCUMENT DISPOSITION					
11. CROSS REFERRED TO THIS FILE			12. TRANSFERRED TO FILE NO.		
PERTINENT INFORMATION					
<p>13.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LAWSON, JOHN HOWARD 201-005603 SEX M DOB ?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CIT USA OCC CINEMA SCRIPT WRITER RESIDENCE - MOSCOW - 63</p> <p style="text-align: right;">074-006-676703 SX -05230 28 NOV 63</p> <p style="text-align: right;">R-6608054029</p> <p style="text-align: right;">FILE IN 201- <u>5603</u></p>					
14. FILE THIS FORM IN FILE NO.		➔			



FBI doc.  
21 May 63 (copy)  
Re: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
NY file: 100-80918

---

FBI doc.  
22 Jun. '65 (L.A.)  
Re: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
L.A. Field Off. - 100-21198

---

FBI doc.  
15 July '64 (L.A.)  
Re: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
L.A. Field Office: 100-21198

FBI doc  
20 Oct 61 (L.A.)  
Re: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
L.A. Field Office - 100-21198

---

~~FBI doc  
Re: John Howard Lawson  
December 61 (L.A.)  
Bufile 100-370750~~

FBI doc

Re: John Howard Lawson  
(?) Dec. '61 (Wash.)  
Profile: Illegible

14-00000

Dept. of State  
12 Jan 54  
(X-ref form)  
Re: Lawson, John Howard

FBI doc.  
25 June 1963 (L.A.)

RE: Mr. and Mrs. John Howard Lawson  
no Bufile given

FBI doc.  
27 Aug. '64  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
(x-ref. form)

FBI doc.  
10 July '63 (LA.)  
RE: Sue Lawson  
Bufile: 100-390999  
Field office (LA): 100-29552

FBI doc.  
15 May 1963 (LA)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
no Bufile given

FBI doc.  
6 May 1963 (LA)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
Field Office (LA): 100-21198

FBI doc.  
1 May 1961 (LA)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Sue Lawson  
no Bufile given

FBI doc.  
3 July 1951  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
aka: Jacob Levy, Jack Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750

14-00000  
FBI doc.  
17 Sep. '62 (LA)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
Field Office: 100-21196

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FBI doc.  
10 July '62 (LA)  
RE: Sue Lawson  
Bufile: 100-390999  
Field Office: 100-29552

---

FBI doc.  
26 Feb. '62 (LA)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Field office & no Bufile given

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FBI doc.  
28 Mar. '62 (LA)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
Field office: 100-21198

---

FBI doc.  
18 Dec. 1961 (Wash.)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750

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SECRET  
(WHEN FILLED IN)

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

FROM: <i>FF/EE/RE</i> <b>Montgomery</b> <b>Rm. 2115 L</b> <b>Ext. 2119</b>				COMMENTS
TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS
		RECEIVED	FORWARDED	
1. C/EE/ER				<i>[Signature]</i>
2.				
3. RID/DP		5 JUN 1961		<i>[Signature]</i>
4.				
5. RID/AN		<del>5 JUN 1961</del>		<i>[Signature]</i>
6.				
7. RI/Files				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				

*Subj: 201 Hotel Room*

**RECORD COPY**

# DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION  
S-E-C-R-E-T

PROCESSING

TO	Chief of Station, Bucharest; Chief of Station, Sofia	PROPOSED	ACTION	ACCOMPLISHED
		X	MARKED FOR INDEXING NO INDEXING REQUIRED	
INFO.			ONLY QUALIFIED HEADQUARTERS DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING	
FROM	Chief, EE		ABSTRACT	
			MICROFILM	
SUBJECT	SHIRO/MEBU/ZOMBIE John Howard LAWSON			

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

- In accordance with instructions furnished previously, it is requested that addressees report any information coming to their attention in regard to the following individual, Mr. John Howard LAWSON, who is expected to visit Rumania and Bulgaria during the course of a visit to Eastern Europe. LAWSON sailed from Montreal, Canada, on 17 May 1961, and expects to be in Eastern Europe for approximately a year.
- ODENVY has identified Subject as a Communist Party member who has served time in an ODYOKE correctional institution in FBPRIME from 9 June 1950 to 9 April 1951.

*Thomas B. Hirdler*  
Thomas B. Hirdler

Distributions:  
2-COS, Bucharest  
2-COS, Sofia

DATE TYPED		DATE DISPATCHED	
2 June 1961		5 JUN 1961	
CROSS REFERENCE TO		DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER	
		EREW-126	
CLASSIFICATION		HEADQUARTERS FILE NUMBER	
S-E-C-R-E-T		201-5603	
OFFICE		ORIGINATING	EXT.
EE/ER	Robert E. Montgomery	lmh	2119
COORDINATING			
OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE	OFFICER'S NAME	

Distributions:  
3-EE/ER  
1-RI  
*WIS*



Dear,

Emma Brock is doing  
the following research  
Areas -

Robert Areas is the  
Nephew of son probably  
Harriet.

Thomas probably done  
Area in his research

00000  
FBI doc.  
2 June 1961 (Wash.)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Sue Lawson  
no Bufile given

FBI doc., 11 May '61 (NY)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
Field office; 100-80918

FBI doc.  
19 April 1961 (LA)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
Field Office: 100-21198

FBI doc.  
12 April 1961 (Wash.)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Sue Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
100-390999

FBI doc.  
30 Jan. '61 (Seattle)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
Field office: 100-6230

FBI doc.  
27 Sep. '60 (LA)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750  
Field office: 100-21198

FBI doc.  
28 Oct. '60 (Seattle)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
~~no Bufile given~~

FBI doc.  
11 Aug. '60 (Wash.)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-270750

FBI doc.  
27 Sep. 1960 (Wash.)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
Bufile: 100-370750

FBI doc.  
23 Mar. '53 (LA)  
RE: John Howard Lawson  
aka: Jacob Levy, Jack Lawson, "Egg"  
Bufile: 100-370750  
Field office (LA): 100-21198

CONSOLIDATED FILE INDEX			File No.
Name (last)		(first)	(middle)
Address			Date of Birth
Aliases, etc.			Other
Document Date	RI File No.	Dispatch No.	Remarks
28 Oct 47	100-4-2-173 CIA-3	000 - Prop Secret Document	
	100-2-5-124	Old FBI Correspondence	X-ref
18 Mar 49	100-7-31-56	Counterattack No. 05	"
27 Apr 49	200-4-88-16	DFB-C	"
9 Jun 49	100-4-10-326y	OGC	"
24 Jun 49	100-4-12-53	*FBI correspondence	"
19 Jan 50	100-4-10-290	DFB-889	"
7 Jul 50	100-7-31-25	Counterattack	"
27 Jul 50	201-1200-1	DFB-3010	"
25 Aug 50	201-1427-1	DFB-5042	"
14 Nov 50	201-1427-4	DFB-6099	"
2 Mar 51	201-4113-1	DFB-7920	"
22 Mar 51	201-4113-2	Cable # 227 In. S 30100	"
31 Mar 51	200-4-125-2	DFB-9483	"
24 May 51	200-4-5-373	DFB-9755	"
24 May 51	100-4-10-773	DFB-9622	"
8 Jun 51	201-5281-1	DFB-10131	"
2 Jul 51	100-4-10-809	DFB-10468	"
3 Jul 51	201-5603-1	DFB-10592	Previously in folder
27 Jul 51	201-5603-2	TRE-171794	" " "
1 Aug 51	100-4-10-827	DFB-11172	X-ref
9 Aug 51	100-2-18-2791	DFB-11268	"

CONSOLIDATED FILE INDEX			File No. 01-5603-20
Name (last)	(first)	(middle)	Analyst Kinsharf
Edward	John	Howard	Date 2 Sept 52
Document Date	RI File No.	Dispatch No.	Remarks
22 Apr 51	100-4-10-842	DFB-11507	X-ref
24 Apr 51	100-4-10-844	DFB-11580	"
20 Sept 51	100-4-10-848	DFB-11988	"
12 Sept 51	100-4-10-851	DFB-11967	"
15 Oct 51	100-4-10-882	DFB-12741	"
5 Nov 51	100-4-10-894	DFB-13193	"
9 Nov 51	201-6072-4	DFB-13392	"
10 Nov 51	100-7-31-69	Counterattacks	"
16 Nov 51	100-4-10-904	DFB-13463	"
23 Nov 51	100-4-10-915	DFB-13716	"
22 Jan 52	100-4-10-950	DFB-15037	"
23 Jan 52	100-4-10-957	DFB-15289	"
1 Feb 52	100-4-10-960	DFB-15443	"
1 Feb 52	100-4-10-960	DFB-15443	"
8 Feb 52	100-4-10-964	DFB-15624	"
5 Feb 52	100-4-10-968	DFB-15787	"
2 Feb 52	100-7-31-80	Counterattacks	"
7 Mar 52	201-10552-1	DFB-16174	"
14 Mar 52	100-7-31-83	Counterattacks	"
21 Mar 52	201-11067-1	DFB-16639	"
15 Apr 52	201-11736-1	DFB-17242	"
30 Apr 52	201-12590-1	DFB-19803	"
12 Mar 52	100-4-10-979	DFB-16377	"
12 May 52	100-4-10-1013	DFB-16377	"

SECRET

CONSOLIDATED FILE INDEX			File No
Name (last)	(first)	(middle)	Analyst
Document Date	RI File No.	Dispatch No.	Remarks
28 May 52	100-4-10-1029	DFB-19710	X-ref
28 May 52	100-4-10-987	DFB-19710	"
28 May 52	201-14-06	DFB-19704	"
2 Jun 52	201-14-06-1	DFB-19779	"
6 Jun 52	201-15-09-1	DFB-19711	"
25 Jun 52	100-4-10-1050	DFB-19704	"
7 Jul 52	201-17172-1	DFB-19739	"
21 Jul 52	201-522-101	DFB-19706	"
To Date	100-4-2-v T/S CI 39000 - Top secret document		
201-1427-9	DF-6770 Incl. 1 - Same information as contained in 201-1427-4		
The following references were checked under the alias of Jack LAUSON and were found not identifiable with subject of this 201-5603-15			
1-5-0-26-	TAB-7046		
4-5-2-356	RI-5335		
4-5-0-28	TAPA-2356		
201-701-6y	TCS-1006		
11-5-2-386	ELA-7075 T/S CI 2770		
The following references are checked under the name of ILLIC, fru and were found not identifiable with the subject of this 201-5603-15			
64-4-1-77	ATS-757 rel 1		
The following references were checked under the alias of Jacob L VY and were found not identifiable with subject of 201-5603-15			

SECRET



RI CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document : Counterattack No. 95  
Date of document : 18 Mar 49  
Title of document : Counterattacks  
Document to be filed in : 100-7-31-756  
Cross-reference form to be filed in : 201-5603-NS

Excerpt of pertinent information :  
LAWSON, John Howard

P.6 #9 Identified as GP member (card no.47181) by House UN-American Activities Committee. Dalton Trumbo and John Howard LAWSON have been convicted of contempt and are appealing their jail sentences.

THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT  
TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.

**SECRET**



(All documents listed below are cross-referenced to 201-5603)

FBI doc.  
27 April '49  
RE: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
World Intellectual for Peace

FBI doc.  
28 Oct. 1947  
RE: LAWSON, John Howard  
Old FBI Correspondence

FBI doc.  
21 July '52  
RE: LAWSON, John Howard  
Wasserman, Ursula

FBI doc.  
7 July '52  
RE: Eddie Laine

FBI doc.  
25 June '52  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
6 June '52  
RE: FBI on Leon Sangamon Becker

FBI doc.  
2 June '52  
RE: Herbert Maurice Porter

FBI doc.  
28 May 1952  
RE: Harold Buchman

FBI doc.  
28 May 1952  
RE: Communist Activities in USA General

FBI doc.  
28 May 1952  
RE: Communists Activities in General

FBI doc.  
30 April 1952  
RE: Stuart Schulberg

FBI doc.  
15 April 1952  
RE: Mrs. Frances Nelson

RI CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document : Counterattacks  
Date of document : 14 Mar 52  
Title of document : Counterattacks  
Document to be filed in : 100-7-31-83  
Cross-reference form to be filed in : 201-5603-NS

Excerpt of pertinent information :

LAWSON, John Howard

Why do CP press and the Congress plug Douglas for President? Why is a letter urging a concerted Douglas campaign sent out to hundreds of "liberals like Lewis Mumford, who now opposes Communism though he was once a backer and leader of CP fronts including at least one that openly proclaimed its Communist revolutionary arms?

// Part of answer is in Douglas record as a Supreme Court Justice. He has dissented when Supreme Court Justice, made anti-CP decisions upholding: (a list) Contempt citations of Hollywood screen writers John Howard Lawson and Dalton Trumbo.

THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT  
TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.

SECRET

RI CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing:

Station number of document Counterattack

Date of document 22 Feb 52

Title of document Counterattacks

Document to be filed in 100-7-31-80

Cross-reference form to be filed in 201-5603-NS

Excerpt of pertinent information :

LAWSON, John Howard

P.2 #4 ASHE cited the "Blockade"... "a Communist film from start to finish"... as just one example. He said he believed Clifford Odets wrote it, though John Howard LAWSON took credit for it.

THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTAINING  
TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.

(All documents listed below are cross-referenced to 201-5603)

FBI doc.  
21 March '52  
RE: Stefan Heym, was Helmut Flieg

FBI doc.  
12 March 1952  
RE: Communist Activities in USA General

FBI doc.  
12 May 1952  
RE: Communist Activities in General

FBI doc.  
4 Mar. '52  
RE: Otto Nathan

FBI doc.  
15 Feb. '52  
RE: Communist Activities in USA General

FBI doc.  
8 Feb. '52  
RE: Communist Activities in USA General

FBI doc.  
1 Feb. '52  
RE: Communist Activities in USA

FBI doc.  
1 Feb. '52  
RE: Communist activities in the USA

FBI doc.  
23 Jan. '52  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
14 Jan. 1952  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
26 Nov. '51  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
16 Nov. '51  
RE: Communist Activities

WI-CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document Counterattacks  
Date of document 16 Nov 51  
Title of document Counterattack  
  
Document to be filed in 100-7-31-69  
Cross-reference form to be filed in 201-5603-NS  
Excerpt of pertinent information :

LAWSON, John Howard

Paul Robeson, Howard Fast, John Howard LAWSON, and Lester Cole were a few of the professed and identified CP members who sponsored or took part in this party demonstration with Downes and Hagen.

THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT  
TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.

(All documents listed below are cross-referenced to 201-5603)

FBI doc.  
9 Nov. '51  
RE: Darner, Hanna

FBI doc.  
5 Nov. 1951  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
15 Oct. 1951  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
12 Sep. '51  
RE: Communist Activities in USA

FBI doc.  
10 Sept. '51  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
24 Aug. 51  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
22 Aug. 51  
RE: Communist Activities in US

FBI doc.  
9 Aug. 51  
RE: FBI Information and Requests

FBI doc.  
1 Aug. 51  
RE: Communist Activities in USA

# OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA

AIR

OVER

DISPATCH NO

FBI-W 1744  
201-5603

CLASSIFICATION

TO

DATE

JUL 27 1951

FROM Chief of Station, Mexico City

SUBJECT Chief, WH  
GENERAL

SPECIFIC American Communists

John Howard LAWSON

Ref: TMM-W-1739

On 3 July 1951 the FBI forwarded a memorandum concerning subject to the Department of State, with a copy to this organization. The following excerpt from the memorandum is for your strictly confidential information in view of the possibility that subject may travel to Mexico, and the Bureau requests that no distribution be made outside the agencies to which it was addressed:

"Lawson was born September 25, in 1894 or 1895, in New York City or Long Island, New York. He has, in the past, been employed as a motion picture writer in Hollywood.

"As of 1946 Lawson was reported to have been a member of the Communist Party for twelve years. One source has advised that Lawson was sent to Hollywood from New York by the Communist Party Political Bureau to obtain employment for Communist writers. This source stated that Lawson's activities in Hollywood have been very extensive and that Lawson has, in the past, been the leader of the Communist movement in Hollywood. According to the source, one of Lawson's functions in Hollywood was to make certain that money was raised from directors and actors for Communist purposes.

"Another source, who was a member of the Cultural Group of the Communist Party in Hollywood prior to 1948 said the Communist Party was 'at its peak' in Hollywood during 1938 and 1939. Lawson was considered by this source as one of the most important persons in the movement during that time. Another source stated that he always understood that Lawson was the 'great white father' of the Communist Party movement in Hollywood and Lawson dealt directly with the National Communist Party Headquarters in New York rather than the local county office of the Communist Party.

RELEASING OFFICER  
Chief, WH

COORDINATING OFFICER

*[Handwritten signature]*

DFB-10592  
201-5603

SECRET

CLASSIFICATION

(728)

	-	2	2
INTELLIGENCE			
JUL 30 1951			
INTEGRATION DIVISION			
ABSTRACT		INDEX	

"It is known that a Communist Party membership book was issued to Lawson in 1943. Communist Political Association cards were issued to him in 1944 and 1945. When the Communist Party, USA, was reorganized, Lawson was issued a Communist Party registration card in 1946.

"It has been established that Lawson has been quite active in numerous organizations which are known as Communist front organizations.

"Lawson was one of ten individuals who were cited for Contempt of Congress for refusal to testify before hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities in October, 1947. On April 19, 1948, he was found guilty of Contempt of Congress and was later sentenced to one year's imprisonment and was fined \$1000. After appeal of his case he was incarcerated and served his sentence at the Federal Correctional Institute at Ashland, Kentucky. He was released from imprisonment on April 9, 1951. He has maintained a permanent residence at 9354 Burnett Avenue, San Fernando, California.

"His wife, Sue Lawson, has also been identified as a member of the Communist Party.

"The following is a description of John Howard Lawson:

Birth: September 25, 1894 or 1895  
at New York City or Long Island, New York  
Height: 5 ft. 7; in.  
Weight: 190 lbs.  
Build: Medium-heavy  
Eyes: Brown  
Hair: Dark Brown, graying at temples  
Complexion: Medium ruddy  
Peculiarities: Right leg 1 1/2 inches shorter than left,  
walks with a limp

"We shall inform you should we learn of this subject's actual presence in Mexico. We shall appreciate being informed of any information you may obtain concerning this individual."

Wm. M. Wheeler, Jr.  
Wm. M. Wheeler, Jr.  
R. Connally  
By R. Connally

10:11

201-5603-2



To: Mexico City

From: Chief, WH

Subject: American Communists  
John Howard LAWSON

Ref: TML-1-1739

On 3 July<sup>1951</sup>, the FBI forwarded a memorandum concerning subject to the Department of State, with a copy to this organization. The following excerpt from the memorandum is for your strictly confidential information in view of the possibility that subject may travel to Mexico, and the Bureau requests that no distribution be made outside the agencies to which it was addressed:

INSERT PENCILLED PORTIONS

DFB-10592  
201-5603

EJO  
18 Jul 51

TRANSMITTAL SLIP

10 July 1951

DATE

TO: Chief, Staff C, OSO

BUILDING

L

ROOM NO

1603

REMARKS:

forwarded for your information.

*CVB*  
*3*

CVB

FROM: Chief, Security Division, I&SO

BUILDING

I

ROOM NO

2052

EXTENSION

736

FORM NO. 36-8  
SEP 1946

(All documents listed below are cross-referenced to 201-5603)

FBI doc.  
2 Jul. '51  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
8 June 51  
RE: Misha Altman

FBI doc.  
24 May 1951  
RE: Communist Activities in USA - General

FBI doc.  
24 May '51  
RE: Communist Activities in Latin America

FBI doc.  
31 Mar. '51  
RE: Telepress

Dept. of State doc.  
A-327  
22 Mar. '51  
RE: Peter Viertel, et al

FBI doc.  
2 Mar. 51  
RE: Peter Viertel

FBI doc.  
14 Nov. '50  
RE: Gustaf Gilbert

FBI doc.  
15 Aug. 50  
RE: Gustave Gilbert, was.

FBI doc.  
27 Jul. '50  
RE: Varian Russel Robert Show, was.

RI CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document : Counterattack  
Date of document : 7 Jul 50  
Title of document : Counterattack  
Document to be filed in : 100-7-31-25  
Cross-reference form to be filed in : 201-5603NS

Excerpt of pertinent information :  
LAWSON, John Howard

P.1 #3 John Howard LAWSON, who has since started serving a prison term for contempt of Congress, attended the meeting...and was heartened by what took place. He stated that he and his fellow convictees (CP leader Eugene Dennis, the "Hollywood Ten", members of exec board of Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, etc.), as a result of the meeting expected to "get out of prison long before our terms expire."

THIS IS ALL THE INFORMATION PERTINENT  
TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.

SECRET

(All documents listed below are cross-referenced to 201-5603)

FBI doc.  
19 Jan. '50  
RE: Communist Party, USA

FBI doc.  
14 June '49  
RE: Mandy Lawson

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RI CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document : OCC  
Date of document : 9 Jun 49  
Title of document 6 : Communist Activities Among Aliens and  
National Groups  
Document to be filed in : 100-4-10-326y  
Cross-reference form to be filed in : 201-5603-NS

Excerpt of pertinent information :

LAWSON, John Howard

Testimony of Louis Francis Budenz, Westwood, N.J.

P.242 Encl. 1. Index

In regard to Spain, though, the question was asked as to the party's attitude on Spain, and there you may be interested to know that the moving picture Blockade was written by John Howard LAWSON under order of the political committee of the Communist party. He was the author of that production and he is one of the most noted Communists of that group of writers. So that gives the attitude on Spain, which was to employ "democratic" propoganda for the achievement of a Red Spain.

THIS IS THE INFORMATION PERTINENT  
TO THE SUBJECT IN THIS DOCUMENT.

SECRET

201-5603-NS

RI CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document : MS

Date of document : 5 Nov 45

Title of document : \_\_\_\_\_

Document to be filed in : 100-4-22-1 T/S CIA-30002

Cross-reference form to be filed in : 201-5603-NS

Excerpt of pertinent information :

John Howard Lawson

Top secret document P.25-F. in Top secret room

RI CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document : FBI

Date of document : No. Date

Title of document : \_\_\_\_\_

Document to be filed in : 100-4-2-y T/S CIA-39000

Cross-reference form to be filed in : 01-5603-NS

Excerpt of pertinent information :

LANSON, John Howard

Top Secret document filed in Top Secret Room.

SECRET