

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

NLT (REF. SUBJ.) 196



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

September 18, 1945

~~TOP SECRET~~

Honorable Matthew J. Connelly  
Secretary to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NLT- 79-5

Dear Mr. Connelly:

By DEB NLT Date 10-1-85  
(FBI Memo 9-21-85)

You will recall that on September 12, 1945, the Federal Bureau of Investigation furnished the President and you with information regarding Soviet espionage activities, particularly with regard to the atomic bomb.

Through the FBI contacts in Canada, this Bureau has now ascertained that Dr. Alan Nunn May, the British scientist who has been furnishing information regarding the atomic bomb experiments to the Soviets, was actually a secret member of the Communist Party of Great Britain and that the Soviet Military Attache in Ottawa, Canada, contacted Dr. May for information after receiving instructions from Moscow to do so. Documents which have been translated by this Bureau indicate that Dr. May has been paid well by the Soviets for his information. Records of payments indicate that he was given \$200.00 and two bottles of whiskey on the occasion of the regular meetings with the Soviet representative. This Bureau has now learned that in addition to a small quantity of uranium 233, Dr. May furnished the Soviets with specimens of uranium 235 which were carried by plane to Moscow by the Assistant Soviet Military Attache in Ottawa, Lieutenant Colonel Petr Motinov.

Through FBI contacts in Canada, this Bureau has also determined that Fred Rose, a member of the Canadian Parliament from Montreal and a well-known Canadian Communist who has previously been involved in fraudulent passport deals, has contacted a scientist in Washington, D. C., named Steinberg for the purpose of recruiting him as a Soviet spy. Investigation discloses that there is one Arthur Steinberg presently in Washington who has spent some time in the past at McGill University, Montreal, Canada, who is presently in the employ



of the Office of Scientific Research and Development and is assigned to the Operational Research Group of the Readiness Division of the Staff of the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Navy.

These circumstances are being checked with the Office of Naval Intelligence for the purpose of determining whether the Arthur Steinberg with the Office of Scientific Research and Development is identical with the person the Soviets are attempting to recruit.

This Bureau has also determined that Soviet spies operated by the Soviet Military Attache in Ottawa have been instructed to furnish data regarding the movement and reorganization of United States Army units in Europe, in the United States and in the Pacific. This information has been brought to the attention of Army Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

This Bureau has also determined that the Soviets have a spy in Los Angeles, California, who is traveling on false Canadian papers supplied him by Sam Carr, an official of the Communist Party of Canada now known as the Labor Progressive Party. On instructions from Moscow this spy has been and is traveling under the identity of one Ignatz Wetzak, a veteran of the Spanish Civil War whose passport was seized by the Soviets in Spain. The real Wetzak believed by the Soviets to be dead is presently residing in Canada.

At the present time the Soviets have spies in many of the Canadian Government departments and are attempting to recruit others in order to have complete coverage of Canadian governmental activity. They are so well entrenched, according to information now in the possession of this Bureau that they are able to obtain documents from the Minister of External Affairs of Canada and from the United Kingdom High Commissioner's Office in Canada with ease. This entire situation is being followed closely and any additional information will be brought to the attention of the President and you.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover