

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**DR. WILHELM REICH**

**PART 1 OF 6**

**BUFILE:100-14601**

**SECTION 1**

DR. WILHELM REICH

100-14601

Section 1

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

6 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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Section 552

Section 552a

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For your information: Document originated with State Dept.

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KRM/bw

~~62-7559-6161~~

January 19, 1940

100-111111-1

Honorable George S. Messersmith  
Assistant Secretary of State  
State Department  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Messersmith:

I want you to know that I sincerely appreciate your courtesy in forwarding to me your letter of January 6, 1940 to which was attached a strictly confidential despatch of December 7, 1939 from an American Consul on duty in the Department of State.

Please be assured that the data submitted by you will be held in the strictest of confidence.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Polson \_\_\_\_\_
- Roth \_\_\_\_\_
- W. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*[Handwritten signature]*

January 19, 1940

100-1-1 -1

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Re: SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES - General.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a copy of a confidential letter of the State Department to the Bureau dated January 6, 1940 together with copies of the enclosure attached thereto, which is a strictly confidential despatch of December 7, 1939 from an American Consul now on duty in the Department of State. These data are submitted to you for your information.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosures

R

JAC:AM

~~61-7559-7033~~

March 26, 1940

RECORDED

100-14001-2

Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary of State  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Berle:

Reference is made to your letter dated January 6, 1940, with which you enclosed a strictly confidential dispatch from Honorable Paul C. Squire, American Consul, dated December 7, 1939, regarding certain individuals who may have Communist connections.

Information was obtained from a confidential source by the New York Field Office of this Bureau, to the effect that Dr. Wilhelm Reich was on the Medical Advisory Board of the Communist Party, United States of America, which Board is understood to have published the magazine entitled "Health and Hygiene." Ralph Deola was at one time the editor of this magazine. Telephone directories maintained by the New York Field Division of this Bureau indicate that Dr. Wilhelm Reich resides at 75-02 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, telephone, Boulevard 8-5997. The telephone directories also show a listing for Dr. Alith Buxbaum, 110 East 87th Street, New York, New York, telephone, Atwater 9-3587. There is also a listing for Dr. Harold Aaron, 161 West 74th Street, New York, New York, telephone, BRicott 2-4293. According to confidential sources, Dr. Harold Aaron actively participated in the examination of American volunteers who were going to Spain to fight for the Spanish Loyalist Government in 1937 and is reported as being a member of the Communist Party.

It is respectfully requested that you advise this Bureau whether the Department of State has any record of passports being issued to Dr. Wilhelm Reich, Dr. Alith Buxbaum, and Dr. Harold Aaron, whose addresses are set forth above.

Sincerely yours,

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED  
INDEXED  
MAR 26 1940  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

✓

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
New York, N. Y.

61-507  
61-4085

March 7, 1940

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY  
SOME INVESTIGATION S-  
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

The enclosed is copy of a letter of January 14, 1940 (New York file #1-7557) to which was attached a confidential letter from the Department of Justice to the Director, dated January 3, 1940 and the Bureau's letter of December 7, 1939 to the St. Lawrence, New York, Paul C. Cairns, American Council.

[REDACTED] advised in a letter, dated [REDACTED], of closure of Mr. Wilhelm Reich's office, which is the office, which I understand to have been the office of publication of the magazine, "Health and Wealth". Wilhelm Reich was interviewed by this office on [REDACTED] in connection with various matters, and at one time the editor of "Health and Wealth" and was interviewed separately by Mr. Reich. It is noted that the data furnished in connection with this office is located in New York City.

The telephone directory shows Mr. Wilhelm Reich at 75-32 Kessal Street, Great Neck, L.I., N.Y., telephone, number 4-9377. The telephone book also shows a listing for Dr. Wilhelm Reich, at the address given, 119 West 97th Street; telephone, number 4-9377. There is also a listing for Dr. Harold Aaron, at 111 West 74th Street, New York City, telephone, number 4-9377.

11 102

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COPIES DESTROYED

6/26/58  
R206

61-507

Letter to Bureau

March 7, 1940

This physician, according to the informant, participated actively in the examination of American volunteers who were going to Spain to fight for the Loyalist Government in 1937. According to the informant, Dr. Aaron was quite definitely a member of the Communist Party.

The informant was not familiar with the names Dr. and Mrs. Maurice Katam but he stated that there was a couple in Europe, both of them physicians, who were believed to be from Czecho-Slovakia and were active in various places in Europe on behalf of the Communist Party whose name to the best of his recollection was very similar to the name given, Katam.

It is respectfully requested that inquiry be made of the State Department to determine if passports have been issued to Dr. Wilhelm Feich, Dr. Edith Lombard and Dr. Harold Aaron whose addresses are given above, and if so, to furnish this office with any information obtained.

Very truly yours,

*P. E. Thompson*

P. E. THOMPSON  
Special Agent in Charge.



61-7559-7332

100-1461-3 April 11, 1940  
JAC:AM

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Re: COMMUNIST PARTY  
SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES - GENERAL

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated March 7, 1940, wherein you request that inquiry be made of the Department of State to determine whether passports have been issued to Dr. Wilhelm Reich, Dr. Edith Buxbaum and Dr. Harold Aaron.

I am transmitting herewith copies of a letter received from the Department of State dated March 29, 1940, which contains the above requested information.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E.A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Winterrowd
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
APR 11 1940  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
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Section 552

Section 552a

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KRM:bc  
100-14601 -4 ✓ March 26, 1941

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

The Bureau has just received a communication from the Department of State captioned "Communist Activities of Dr. Wilhelm Reich", prepared by Mr. A. R. Preston, American Consul of Oslo, Norway, dated January 18, 1941. Copies of this communication are being transmitted to the New York and Washington Field Offices with the request that efforts be made to ascertain whether Dr. Reich is presently in the United States and if so, to determine the nature of his activities and Communist connections in this country.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

cc - Washington

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

New York, New York

March 18, 1941

GJS:MF  
100-27

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter of April 11, 1940, Bureau file 61-7559 entitled Communist Party, Subversive Activities - General.

Reference is also made to a letter from the Albany office to the Bureau dated November 19, 1940, copy of which was furnished to the New York office, transmitting a copy of a Personal History of an alien applicant for professional license in New York State.

Please be informed that the Personal History of WILHELM REICH, the subject of this inquiry, as set out in the curriculum of the New School for Social Research in the Spring 1940 edition would appear to be possibly identical with the subject of the Personal History furnished by the Albany office with the letter referred to although the name on that personal history is spelled RIECH and not REICH. It is noted however, that this is probably an error inasmuch as there is a WILHELM REICH at the address given, 75-02 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York. Inasmuch as the letter of the Albany office of November 19, 1940 indicates that a copy of the Personal History was furnished to the Bureau, no information therefrom is being set out in this letter and no further investigative activity is being undertaken by the New York office in this matter and the inquiry will be considered closed unless additional instructions are received or additional information concerning WILHELM REICH, DR. EDITH LUKBAUM, or DR. HAROLD AARON comes to the attention of the New York office.

Yours very truly,

*B. E. Sackett*

B. E. SACKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

5  
SECTION

RECEIVED  
MAR 22 1941

April 28, 1941

KRM:MBB

RECORDED

100-14601-5

Assistant Director E. J. Connelley  
New York, New York

RE: WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

In connection with the letter from the New York Office dated March 18, 1941, please be advised that the Bureau desires your Office to conduct an investigation concerning the alleged Communist and subversive activities of the above-mentioned individual.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Fenwick \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 ★ APR 28 1941  
 F. B. I.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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May 6, 1941

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

Re: MRS. ELSA STAI

There is no information available regarding the above named subject nor is there any information available concerning Dr. William Forbes Thorburn.

Information has been previously furnished concerning Ingrid Warburg in a memorandum entitled "Heinz Behrendt, et al, dated January 30, 1941."

Concerning Dr. Wilhelm Reich, 75-02 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, information is available that Dr. Reich came to the United States in 1939 from Oslo, Norway. Dr. Reich is described as an Austrian and is reported to have been a paid Communist agent in Austria prior to the Anschluss and to have been expelled from Austria and other countries for his Communistic activities. Available information indicates that Dr. Reich had a considerable political following in Austria, especially among the women doctors. The divorced wife of Dr. Reich is also reported to be engaged in Communistic activities.

Information has been obtained from a confidential source to the effect that Dr. William Reich was on the Medical Advisory Board of the Communist Party, United States of America, which board is understood to have published the magazine entitled "Health and Hygiene."

A visa was issued to Dr. Reich on August 11, 1939, by the Department of State of the United States Government, inasmuch as he was able to prove that the New York Seminar for Vegetotherapy was a part of the New School for Social Research, which is an accredited educational institution.

A confidential source has advised that prior to 1933 Dr. Reich was a member of the German Communist Party and on his arrival in Norway became a member of the Norwegian Communist Party. However, in 1936, he was expelled from the Norwegian Communist Party for not adhering closely enough to the party line.

Classified by 1216  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of declassification indefinite

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



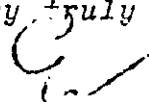
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.  
May 7, 1941

EAT:LS

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KRAMER

From the information furnished concerning Dr. Wilhelm Reich, sponsor of Mrs. Elsa Stai, it appears that this man is a potentially dangerous threat to the internal security. Please advise me - (1) whether we have prepared a custodial detention card upon him; (2) whether he is the subject of investigation, and, (3) whether we have brought the facts concerning his background to the attention of the Immigration and Naturalization authorities.

Very truly yours,

  
Edward A. Tamm

CC- Mr. Foxworth

5-11-41

21



137M

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

RPK:EK  
100-14601

May 8, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

With reference to your memorandum of May 7, 1941 concerning Dr. Wilhelm Reich, please be advised that a custodial detention card relative to Dr. Reich has been prepared, but has not as yet been approved. An investigation concerning Dr. Reich was requested of the New York Office by letter dated March 26, 1941, to determine definitely that he is presently in the United States and if so, the nature of his activities in Communist connections in this country, if any.

The facts concerning his background have not been brought to the attention of the Immigration and Naturalization authorities inasmuch as it was felt that further details developed during the investigation requested would make it possible to present a more accurate picture to these authorities.

Since the receipt of the Department of State memorandum of April 30, 1941, which lists Dr. Reich as an interested person in the visa application of Mrs. Elsa X Stai, giving his address in Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, it would appear that he is presently in the United States, and if you so desire, the information presently available will be communicated to the Immigration authorities.

100-14601-5X  
E

Respectfully,

*R. P. Kramer*

R. P. Kramer

ENCLOSURE

ME

100-14601-5X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 1 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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100-14601-5X

RECORDED KRM:MBB  
100-14601

-5X

May 29, 1941

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR ISRAEL B. SCHOFIELD  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

The following information concerning Dr. Wilhelm Reich is submitted to you for any attention you may deem appropriate.

Dr. Wilhelm Reich is presently residing at 75-02 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York.

A visa was issued to Dr. Reich on August 11, 1939, by the Department of State, and he arrived in the United States in 1939 from Oslo, Norway. Dr. Reich is reported to be an Austrian and is said to have been a paid Communist agent in Austria prior to the Anschluss. It is said that he was expelled from Austria and other countries for Communist activities.

It has been confidentially reported that Dr. Reich has in the past been on the Medical Advisory Board of the Communist Party, U.S.A., which Board allegedly published the magazine entitled "Health and Hygiene".

It is reported that prior to 1933, Dr. Reich was a member of the German Communist Party and on his arrival in Norway, became a member of the Communist Party of Norway. It is said that in 1936, he was expelled from the Norwegian Communist Party for failure to adhere to the "party line".

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Classified by ~~7706~~  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
~~405171 351632~~

113  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
★ MAY 29 1941 ★  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

100-14601-9281-10

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Wien \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_

KRM:bc

100-14601 - ~~1~~ May 29, 1941

Assistant Director E. J. Connelley  
New York, New York

RE: WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

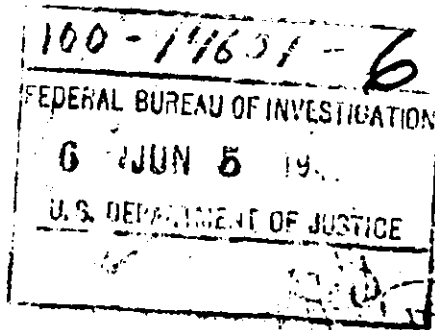
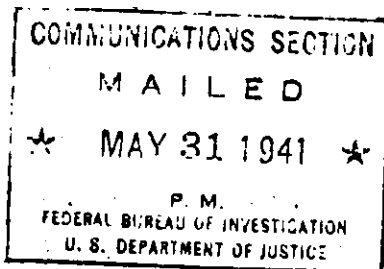
Dear Sir:

Please have reference to Bureau letter dated  
April 28, 1941, to the New York Office and advise  
immediately what steps have been taken to investigate  
the above entitled matter.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECORDED



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, N. Y.**

FILE NO. **100-1849**

REPORT MADE AT <b>WASHINGTON, D. C.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>6/16/41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/2/41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>WILHELM REICH</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY (C)</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject admitted to the United States on August 28, 1939, destined to New School of Social Research, 65 West 12th Street, New York City, to teach psychology.

- RUC -

**REFERENCE:** Bureau letter dated March 26, 1941 (100-14601).

**DETAILS:** AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

RALPH A. HORNER, Assistant Chief of the Division of Certification, Immigration and Naturalization Service, furnished Agent, for examination, subject's visa file which reflected the following pertinent information:

WILHELM REICH arrived in the United States from Oslo, Norway on the S. S. Stavangerfjord, landing at the Port of New York on August 28, 1939. He had in his possession a non-quota immigration visa, #19, issued him by the American Consulate at Oslo, Norway, on August 11, 1939; and an identification paper issued him by the Notary Public of the city of Oslo, Norway, dated May 27, 1939.

In his application for visa, subject declared that he was born at Dobrzanice, Poland, on March 24, 1897; is of

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5-Bureau 3-Asst. Dir. E. J. Connelley, NYC 2-Washington Field		100-1849-7	JUL 12 1941
		JUN 17 1941	<i>[Signature]</i>

the Hebrew race; divorced; and has two children: EVA, born April 27, 1924, and LORE, born March 13, 1938, both residing in New York City (address not indicated).

Subject claimed to have been a professor of psychology at the Psychological Institute of the University of Oslo, and came to the United States solely for the purpose of teaching psychology at the New School for Social Research, 66 West 12th Street, New York City. He is described as follows:

Height: 5' 10"  
Complexion: Fair  
Hair: Grey  
Eyes: Brown

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

AT NEW YORK CITY, will conduct appropriate investigation of the subject, who is alleged to be teaching psychology at the New School for Social Research, 66 West 12th Street, New York City.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

HR:dml

July 17, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. L. M. C. SMITH  
CHIEF, SPECIAL DEFENSE UNIT

There is transmitted herewith a dossier showing the information presently available in the files of this Bureau with respect to DR. WILHELM REICH whose address is 75-02 Kesel Street, Forest Hills Long Island, New York.

It is recommended that this individual be considered for custodial detention in the event of a national emergency. The information contained on the attached dossier constitutes the basis for appropriate consideration in this regard.

It should be understood, of course, that additional information may be received from time to time supplementing that already available in the Bureau's files, and as such data are received they will be made available to you so that the dossier in your possession may be supplemented thereby.

It will be greatly appreciated if you will advise this Bureau at your earliest convenience as to the decision reached in this case.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

CH

100-11-8

JUL 22 1941

JIT



KRM:bc

100-14601

July 16, 1941

Assistant Director E. J. Connelley  
New York, New York

RE: WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Please refer to my letters of April 28, 1941,  
and May 20, 1941, requesting an investigation of the  
above styled individual. I desire to be advised at  
once of any action taken by your office to comply with  
my request.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECORDED

100-14601-9

134  
112

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
★ JUL 17 1941 ★  
P. M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Drayton \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

HE :bc  
100-14601 - 5 July 31, 1941

Assistant Director E. J. Connelley  
New York, New York

RE: WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

I wish that you would refer to my letters of April 28, May 29, and July 16, 1941, requesting that the above styled individual be appropriately investigated by your office. Please advise me by return mail of the status of this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Foxworth \_\_\_\_\_
- Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_
- Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mumford \_\_\_\_\_
- Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

100-14601-10

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
8 AUG 4 1941  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
AUG 1 1941  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

INDEXED

AUG 1 1941

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CAH:FMS  
100-3422

August 16, 1941

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of Bureau letter dated July 31, 1941, Bureau File No. 100-14601 in which it is requested that the Bureau be advised as to the status of this case.

Please be advised that this case has been assigned and that a report will be submitted to the Bureau at the earliest possible date.

Very truly yours,

*E. J. Connelley*  
E. J. CONNELLEY  
Assistant Director

DECLASSIFIED BY 7206  
ON 6/25/77 BY SPS/CLC

RECORDED

100-3422-11  
1874

CONFIDENTIAL

REICH, DR. WILHELM (Alien)

COMMUNIST

75-02 Kosel Street

Forest Hills

Long Island, New York 5-8-41

Born in Austria about 1890. Reported to have been paid Communist agent in Austria prior to Anschluss and member of German C.P. before 1933. Went to Norway some years ago following his expulsion from Austria and other countries and became member of Norwegian C.P. In 1936 he was expelled from Norwegian C.P. for not adhering closely to party line. He is said to have had considerable political following in past, including many women physicians. His divorced wife is also reported to be engaged in Communistic work. Dr. Reich came to U.S. in late summer of 1939 from Oslo, Norway. Since he was able to prove that the New York Seminar for Vegetotherapy was part of the New School for Social Research, NYC, an accredited educational institution, he qualified for visa and was thus issued one on August 11, 1939 under Immigration Identification card No. 1, 000, 113. (Dispatch dated 12-7-39 from Paul C. Squire, American Consul, to State Dept., Washington, D. C. 100-1460-1 and dispatch dated 1-18-41 from A. R. Preston, American Consul, Oslo, Norway, to State Dept., Washington, D. C. 100-14601-4)

As so-called Medical Advisory Board of C.P., U.S.A., which board publishes "Health and Hygiene" magazine.

CONFIDENTIAL

CH-26

Classified by 7306  
Exempt from GDS, Category 2  
Date of Declassification Indefinite  
3/25/77 555652

110-1-12  
1941  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Jma

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REICH, DR. WILHELM

Copy of curriculum of New School for Social Research, spring 1940, reflects Dr. Reich of Vienna was Director of the Scandinavian Institute for Life Research in Sea Economy, Oslo and Copenhagen, formerly at Psychological Institute, University of Oslo, and formerly active as physician at various psychiatric and psychoanalytic clinics in Vienna. In 1940 instructor in psychology and physiology at New School for Social Research, NYU. (100-17826-195) *NYU*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

\_\_\_\_\_

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

\_\_\_\_\_

(b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

\_\_\_\_\_

(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. The subject of your request is listed in the title only.

Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld inasmuch as a final release determination has not been made. You will be advised as to the disposition at a later date.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pages were not considered for release as they are duplicative of \_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

100-14601-13

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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Addition

REICH, DR. WILHELM  
75-02 Kesel Street,  
Forest Hills  
Long Island, New York (5/8/41)

-2-

COMMUNIST

Daily Worker, 7/11/41 reports subject teaches Political Economy at Communist  
Workers School. (61-7559-A) (9/15/41) gcb

61-7559-A

100-11-14  
FIVE

gcb

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

\_\_\_\_\_

(b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

\_\_\_\_\_

(b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

\_\_\_\_\_

(b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. The subject of your request is listed in the title only.

Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld inasmuch as a final release determination has not been made. You will be advised as to the disposition at a later date.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pages were not considered for release as they are duplicative of \_\_\_\_\_

For your information: Document originated with INS

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages: 100-14601-15 Sec. 1

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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CCW/pk

November 27, 1941

100-14601-5

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Re: WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY — R

Dear Sir:

Your attention is directed to your letter in the instant matter dated August 16, 1941, wherein you state that this case has been assigned and that a report will be submitted to the Bureau at the earliest possible date.

To date no information has been received reflecting any investigative activity on the part of your office. It is requested that a report be submitted to arrive at the Bureau no later than fifteen days after the receipt of this letter.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED  
 NOV 28 1941  
 P. M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

100-14601-16  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 DEC 1 1941  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CUSTODIAL DETENTION APPREHENSION FORM

Reference:- NYC TWX 12-13-41

The following individual was: Taken into custody.

NAME:- WILHELM REICH, (GERMAN)

PLACE:-

DATE: 12-13-41

REMARKS:

1136

K3:eth

December 8, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. L. M. C. SMITH  
CHIEF, SPECIAL DEFENSE UNIT

There is submitted herewith an addition to a dossier dated September 18, 1941, concerning Dr. Wilhelm Reich, which was originally submitted under date of July 17, 1941, re Dr. Wilhelm Reich.

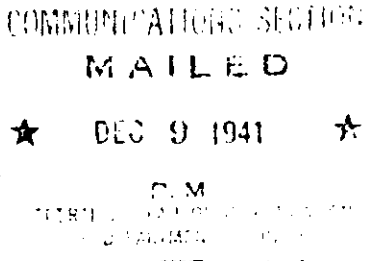
In view of the additional information, it will be appreciated if you will advise of your opinion in this case.

Very truly yours,

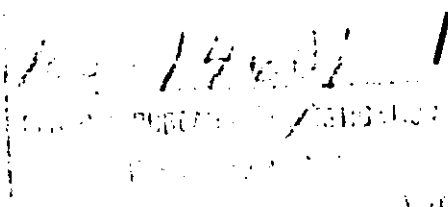
*J. E. Hoover*

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Attachment



RECORDED



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, New York  
December 23, 1941

RAW:EBM  
100-27

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: WILHELM REICH;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
(Bureau file 100-14601)

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that investigation in the instant case will be discontinued and the case closed under New York file 100-27 entitled WILHELM REICH; INTERNAL SECURITY - R, inasmuch as the results of the investigation recently conducted are being included in New York file 100-6422 entitled DR. WILHELM REICH; INTERNAL SECURITY - R, which is to remain in a pending status.

It is to be noted that DR. REICH is presently incarcerated at Ellis Island, New York City, in compliance with instructions contained in Bureau teletype to the New York Office dated December 9, 1941.

Very truly yours

*P. E. Foworth*

P. E. FOWORTH  
Assistant Director

78

2

file

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. **100-8422** EBM

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK, N. Y.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12/24/41</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/27, 30; 10/8-10, 20; 11/3, 12-14; 12/12, 16, 19/41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>DR. WILHELM REICH--ALIEN <del>CONFIDENTIAL</del></b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - G &amp; C; ALIEN ENEMY CONTROL.</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject apprehended on 12/12/41 and delivered into custody of Immigration and Naturalization Service, Ellis Island, NYC. Is of Austrian nationality, was born in Dobzownica, Austria 3/24/97. Entered US at Port of NY 8/26/39 on S.S. Stavangerfjord from Oslo, Norway, on non-quota visa; filed declaration of intention to become US citizen 11/20/39 in US District Court, Brooklyn, NY. Resides at 9906 69th Ave., Forest Hills, L.I., NY with common law wife, ILSE OLLENDORF. [REDACTED] NYC, advises subject is a psychoanalyst and a foremost student of political psychology and was active in the Socialist Movement in Germany and Austria; became interested in and joined the Communist Party in Vienna and Berlin, but severed all connections with the Communist Party in 1933 because of differences in political belief. Subject also reported to have been a member of the Communist Party in Oslo, Norway. No evidence of subject's Communistic connections in the US. Subject presently engaged in medical research, also in political and scientific writing for publication. Investigation reveals liberal political theories, but contact advised subject although liberal is not Communistic. Excerpts of writings being set out with results of search of residence. Subject heretofore considered for custodial detention.

*ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE*

*9-13-45  
on file in  
New York  
[Signature]*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>19</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(5) - Bureau</li> <li>3 - New York</li> <li>2 - USA; EDNY</li> <li>1 - Immigration, Ellis Island.</li> </ul>		

100-8422

REFERENCE; Bureau teletype dated 12/9/41.

Bureau letter to all Special Agents in Charge, dated April 30, 1941, entitled INTERNAL SECURITY; CUSTODIAL DETENTION.

with enclosure  
Bureau letter dated 3/26/41/entitled "COMMUNISTIC ACTIVITIES OF DR. WILHELM REICH (Bureau file 100-14601).

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], Washington, D. C., dated 6/16/41 in case entitled "WILHELM REICH; INTERNAL SECURITY - C."

DETAILS:

On December 12, 1941, upon receipt of reference teletype, subject, DR. WILHELM REICH, was apprehended at his residence at 9906 69th Avenue, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] together with Detective [REDACTED] of the 112th Precinct, New York Police Department, at 2:30 A. M., and he was immediately brought to the Office of the New York Field Division where he was fingerprinted by Special Agent [REDACTED] and where he was photographed.

At the time of his apprehension, Dr. REICH exhibited the copy of his declaration of intention, upon which his name appeared, and through which identification was made.

At the New York Office he advised Special Agent [REDACTED] that he was engaged in research and instruction in connection with the Orgone Research Institute located at 9906 69th Avenue, Forest Hills, Long Island, his residence; that his relatives were EVA REICH and LORE REICH, who reside with subject's former wife, who is now Mrs. ANNIE RUBENSTEIN, residing at 27 West 96th Street, New York City. At this time the subject claimed to be of Jewish descent, but advised that he was not of the Jewish religion, stating that he has no religion. It was also ascertained that he formerly resided at 75-02 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, Long Island.

At the New York Office subject further stated to Special Agent [REDACTED] that he was not actually married to ILSE OLLENDORF, but that he did reside with her as man and wife, considering her his common law wife.

The following description of subject was obtained at this time:

Age 44 yrs.  
 Sex Male.  
 Color White.  
 Complexion Very ruddy.  
 Eyes Brown.  
 Hair Gray.  
 Height 5' 9½".  
 Weight 158 lbs.  
 Build Stocky.  
 Race Jewish.  
 Nationality Austrian.  
 Date and Place of Birth, Dobzownica, Austria,  
 March 24, 1897.  
 Alien Registration Number 4505146.

Subject arrived at the New York Field Office from his residence at 3:10 A. M., and departed therefrom at approximately 4:00 A. M. on December 12, 1941, and at approximately 4:20 A. M. on this date, he was delivered into the custody of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Ellis Island, New York City.

On December 12, 1941, subject executed two copies of a consent to the search of his residence located at 9906 69th Avenue, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, authorizing Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to take any of his property which may be desired. Both copies of this consent are being retained in the files of this case in the New York Field Office.

On December 18, 1941, a search was conducted of the home of subject, 9906 69th Avenue, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Present at the time of this search was Miss CAROL BERNARD. Miss CAROL BERNARD, who advised that she resided at 114-15 Jamaica Avenue, Jamaica, New York, was Dr. REICH's medical assistant. She stated that she is a graduate of Paine Hall School of Technical Training, Jamaica, New York. She further advised that her salary is \$80.00 per month, and that this position was obtained through contact and acquaintance of Miss ILSE OLLENDORF, while attending Paine Hall School. She also advised that she had worked for Dr. REICH for the past 9 months and that he was the best employer that she had ever worked for, and that Dr. REICH made her feel as though "she were working with him rather than for him." She stated that her duties were principally those of assisting as a technician in Dr. REICH's laboratory.

100-8422

which is located in the basement of his residence and that in Dr. REICH'S absence she had been asked to stay with ILSE OLLENDORF.

While searching subject's house Agents observed that it was a two-story residence, in the basement of which subject has a technical laboratory where the following instruments were observed:

An Orgonometer, which bore the words "Pat. app. No. 377,277."  
A Multi-Violet Microscope.  
A motion picture machine, and  
A microscope, to which a camera could be attached.

In subject's library on the second floor, Agents observed approximately 1,000 volumes of technical books dealing with medical and political subjects. The following volumes were observed upon his shelves:

"Vorkriegs Imperialismus," by Wolfgang Hallgarten, published Paris, 1935, Editions Meteore Etudes Socialologiques.  
"Lenin," Leben und Werk, 1924, Verlag fur Literatur und Politik, Wien.  
"Mein Kampf," by Adolf Hitler.  
"Sowjet Union," by Hodann.  
"Die Staatsauffassung des Marximus," by Max Adler, Verlag der Wiener, Volksburchbandlung, VI Wien 1922.  
"Adolf Hitler," das zeitalter der Verant wartungslosigkeit,  
"Eine Biographie" by Konrad Heiden, Europaverlag Zurich, 1936.  
"Out of the Night," by Jan Valtin, Alliance.  
"Roosevelt," a Study in Fortune and Power, by Emil Ludwig, Hannish Hamilton, London, 1938.  
"Leo Trotzki Mein Leben," S. Fischer, Verlag, Berlin, 1930.  
"Revolution Betrayed," by Leon Trotzky, Faber and Faber, Ltd., London, 1936.  
"Mussolini Ohne Mythos," by Adolph Seager, Hess and Company, Verlag Wien, Leipzig, 1931.  
"Moskau," by Alexys A. Lidoron, Albertus-Verlag, Berlin, 1928.  
"Illustrierte Teschichte der Deutschen Revolution," published Internationaler Arbeiter-Verlag, Berlin, 1929.  
"You Have Seen Their Faces," Erskine Caldwell and Margaret Bourke-White, published N. Y. Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1940.  
"Red Virtue," Human Relationships in the New Russia, by Ella Winter, Victor Gollanz, Ltd., London, 1933.

The following books and writing were obtained from Dr. REICH'S home and are being retained in the files of the New York Field Office pending further action in this matter:



"The Development of Socialism from a Science to a Fact," by Karl Rudek, 1918, published by the Communist Party of German-Austria (a pamphlet).

"Through Democracy to Fascism, 1918-1928," by Johannes Wertheim, Publishing Company of the Labor Book Store, Vienna (no date). The last sentence of this booklet, which was translated by W. L. Warner, Translator of the New York Field Office, is as follows: "The way of democracy leads to Fascism, that is the result of the ten-year existence of the Austrian Republic. The determined mass struggle of the laboring class against the bourgeoisie and Fascism under the leadership of the Communist Party--that is the only way by which the laboring class of Austria can attain victory."

"The 17th Party Anniversary Day of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union," a report of the work of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, published 1934 by the Publishing Company of the Foreign Workers of the USSR, Moscow-Leningrad.

Also obtained from subject's files was a front-page of the Berlin illustrated newspaper bearing a portrait of Hitler, which sheet appears to have been contained in a notebook, since it bears two punch holes and has been trimmed down by someone. Also obtained were numerous photographs of Nazi soldiers during the occupation of Austria by Germany. All of these pictures are being retained in the New York Office. Also obtained was the front sheet of the newspaper entitled "Neue Front," Organ fuer Proletarisch-Revolutionaere Sammlung, dated September, 1934, and published by the Sozialistischen Arbeiter--Partei Deutschlands.

The following writings by subject were obtained from his library:

One volume entitled "Mass Psychology of Fascism," concerning sexual economy of political reaction and concerning proletarian sexual politics, written in memory of the Austrian fighters for a Socialistic Future, who fell. It was printed in 1933 by the Press for Sexual Politics in Kopenhagen, Prague and Zurich. This pamphlet is printed in German. The above was translated by Translator W. L. Warner of the New York Field Office.

Also obtained were two volumes, paper bound, being numbers 4 and 5 of a series of political pamphlets. Number 4 is entitled

100-8422

"The Natural Organization in Labor Democracy," by a laboratory worker, published in Oslo, Norway, January, 1939, by the Sexpol-Verlag. Number 5 is entitled "Future Problems of Labor Democracy," published by the Sexpol-Verlag, Europa, April, 1941.

It is noted that the subject made the statement at the time of his apprehension to Special Agent [REDACTED] that he was the author of the above pamphlets and he gave Special Agent [REDACTED] instructions as to where they could be located in his home. Miss CAROL BERNARD advised that a translation was being made of these works and she furnished Agents a copy of the English translation of the first 23 pages of the second part of Number 5. She advised that this translation was being made by Dr. THEODORE P. WOLFE at subject's request, and that subject plans to have it published in English as soon as the translation is completed. It appears from the translated parts which were furnished to Agents, and which are being retained in the New York Office, that this work is primarily Socialistic and that subject makes statements which tend to show his hatred of Hitler and of his dissatisfaction with Communism.

9-13-48  
to C.F.C.  
J.M.D.

Subject states in this work that "The first sensible thing to do would be to uproot Hitlerism." "The Soviet Union has not done anything towards advancing a solution of the problems of human society."

The above writings of subject are being retained in the file of this case in the New York Field Office.

Also obtained from subject's home were two files containing current correspondence, an examination of which failed to reveal any matter considered pertinent; however, it was learned that subject owns a summer home near Oquossoc, Maine, located on a RFD route. These files are being presently held in the New York Field Office and will be returned to subject at the outcome of his hearing.

The following investigation was conducted jointly by Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for the purpose of obtaining data for subject's further consideration for custodial detention, it being noted that he has heretofore been so considered. A review of the files of the New York Office reflects that Dr. REICH is the subject in New York file 100-27 entitled WILHELM REICH; INTERNAL SECURITY - R, in which file it appears that a letter from the Bureau, dated April 28, 1941 requested that New York Field Division conduct an investigation concerning alleged Communists and subversive activities of subject. This request was based upon information previously forwarded to the Bureau by the New York Office by letter dated March 18, 1941, to the

effect that the subject was an alien applicant for a professional license in New York State, this information having been received from confidential informant No. 1, who advised that personal history furnished by subject in connection with this application was forwarded to the New York Office; also, that the personal history of subject as set out in the curriculum of the New School for Social Research in the spring of 1940 shows subject's identity as the subject of a communication to the Bureau from the State Department, dated March 29, 1940, relative to the issuance of a passport to Dr. WILHELM REICH. Also contained in this file of the New York Office is a copy of a reference report of Special Agent [REDACTED], made at Washington, D. C., June 16, 1941, setting out that upon subject's arrival in the United States at the Port of New York, August 28, 1939, on the S.S. Stavangerfjord, he possessed a non-quota immigration visa No. 19, issued to him by the American Consulate in Oslo, Norway, and that on his application for a visa, subject stated that he was born at Dobrzanicke, Poland, on March 24, 1897, and that he had been a professor of psychology at the Psychological Institute of the University of Oslo, and came to the United States solely for the purpose of teaching psychology at the New School for Social Research, 66 West 12th Street, New York City.

By reference letter of March 26, 1941, from the Bureau to the New York Field Division (Bureau file 100-14601), the Bureau advised that it had received a communication from the Department of State captioned "Communist Activities of Dr. WILHELM REICH," copies of which were enclosed with this letter with a request that it be determined what subject's Communist connections and activities in this country were. From the enclosure, it appears that subject obtained Section 4 (D) visa in Oslo, Norway, on August 11, 1939, since he was able to prove that the New York Seminar for Vegetotherapy was a part of the New School for Social Research, an accredited educational institution; however, it was learned later by the State Department that before 1933 Dr. REICH was a member of the Communist Party and upon his arriving in Norway, he became a member of the Norwegian Communist Party from which he was expelled in 1936 for not adhering to the party line. However, his connection with the Communist Party in Norway could not be definitely established inasmuch as its files had been confiscated. *R*

At the Immigration and Naturalization Service, 641 Washington Street, New York City, a check revealed Dr. REICH to be the subject of file No. 2271-2-696856. From a copy of his application for certificate of arrival and preliminary form for a declaration of intention filed on September 11, 1939, it appeared that subject resided at 7502 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, New York. From his declaration of intention filed in the United States District, Eastern District of New York, Brooklyn,

100-8422

New York, on November 20, 1939, declaration No. 287944, it appeared that subject entered the United States at the Port of New York on August 28, 1939, aboard the S.S. Stavangerfjord as WILHELM REICH; that his parents were LEON REICH and CAECILIA ROMIJER (maiden name); that his last port of foreign residence was Oslo, Norway; that his destination in this country was the New School for Social Research, Dr. ALVIN JOHNSON, Director, New York City; that he was accompanied on his voyage by a student of technology, one KARL CONCHERON, from Oslo, Norway; that his occupation was given as professor of medical psychology; that his nationality was German--previously Austrian; that his race was German; that he was born on March 24, 1897 at Dobzonica, located in Austria, and subsequently to 1918 being in Poland, and in Ukraine; that his marital status is divorced from his former wife, Dr. ANNIE REICH in 1934 at Vienna; that he married her in 1922 in Vienna. He further stated that his former wife, ANNIE REICH, was born in Vienna, Austria, April 9, 1902; that she arrived at the Port of New York on July 21, 1938, and is now residing in New York City.

Subject states that he has two children, EVA, born in 1924, and LORE, born in 1928, both residing in New York City.

Nothing is contained in the files of the Immigration and Naturalization Service indicating that subject had applied for or received his final citizenship papers.

Through the courtesy of [REDACTED] the State Department of Education, 80 Centre Street, New York City, the records of the State Department of Education were checked, which included the register for 1940, the American Medical Association Directory for New York State, and the office files, with negative results.

Special Agents [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] interviewed [REDACTED] the New School for Social Research, 66 West 12th Street, New York City, which school is considered one of liberal education and of free thought. [REDACTED] advised that subject had been an associate professor in this school for 2 years during 1939 and 1940 at a salary of approximately \$1500.00 per year, conducting a lecture in psychiatry; that subject is an important figure in the medical world as a psychoanalyst, but that his teachings differed slightly from the theories of most psychoanalysts in that he concentrated his studies upon the growth and development of the deteriorated muscle tissue and combined biological functions of the human body with its mental functions.

[REDACTED] stated that subject's connection with the School was terminated after the spring term of 1941 because Dr. REICH seems to

100-8422

break with any of his acquaintances after he has known them for a while, and is very egotistical and disregards the ideas of other scientists; and he claims to have a cure-all for cancer—all of which ██████████ stated smacked of "quack" tactics on subject's part. ██████████ was reluctant to attempt any analysis of subject's political views and he advised that it was not his practice to discuss politics with subject inasmuch as the qualifications of the associates of the New School were based solely upon the ability of the individuals as instructors in their different fields, and that the School makes no inquiry of their political views or background.

██████████ suggested that ██████████, who resided at ██████████ New York City, formerly attended lectures of subject and was now in practice as a psychologist and had also been connected with Columbia University, New York City, and that ██████████ could furnish considerable information as to Dr. REICH's background and activities.

An interview was had with ██████████ the Psychiatric School, Columbia University, 168 and Broadway, New York City. He stated that he knew ██████████ and knew of nothing against his reputation, nor that he possessed any Communistic or Nazi tendencies, but stated that his acquaintance was very slight and suggested that Agent contact ██████████ at ██████████, New York City, who was a highly reputable psychologist and who, ██████████ positively stated, could be relied upon in this matter, and who was closely acquainted with ██████████ and with Dr. REICH.

In an interview with ██████████ at his office at ██████████ New York City, he advised that ██████████ had studied under subject for a number of years both in Europe and in this country, and that ██████████ was now a private practitioner and was also connected with the Vanderbilt Clinic in New York City. ██████████ advised that on one occasion he attended a lecture given by Dr. REICH at the New School for Social Research at the instance of ██████████. ██████████ also stated that he has read a number of articles written by subject, but that he does not have a personal acquaintance with him. He advised that subject is a Jewish refugee of German or Austrian descent; that he is not well known among doctors in this country and his reputation is not high professionally because he has gone off on a tangent to develop some new theories relating to sex psychosis and his work is looked down upon generally by the best psychoanalysts in this country.

██████████ advised that after attending one of REICH's lectures, he was not impressed enough to want to attend any others. He said that

100-8422

REICH's work on the sexual angle and the experiments that he conducts are based upon sexual emotions, and subject's income is principally derived from a few patients who attend his clinic and from a few doctors who attend the Seminar, which he conducts at his home in Forest Hills.

Concerning [REDACTED] advised that he studied with subject in Oslo and should be able to furnish considerable information of subject's political activities and sympathies; that he had known [REDACTED] a number of years and had never known him to exhibit any radical sympathies, and he felt that he could be relied upon. He advised that [REDACTED] is [REDACTED] a widely known psychiatrist in New York City, who stands very high medically and who is definitely very American.

[REDACTED] was interviewed at his residence at [REDACTED], New York City, and he advised that he had known Dr. REICH since 1920 as an important medical figure. He stated that Dr. REICH was associated in Vienna, Austria with the Vienna Psychiatric Clinic, which he headed in founding in 1922; that he was a leader in the technological Seminar of psychoanalysis in Vienna and was complimented by Dr. SIGMUND FREUD, founder of the study of mental conditions, for his work in connection with this Seminar; that from 1930 to 1933 subject worked in Berlin and conducted a Seminar at the Psycholitic Institute at the University of Berlin. Subsequently to 1933, subject worked as a psychoanalyst in Denmark, Sweden and Norway. In the latter country, he was connected with the Scandinavian Institute for Life Research in Sex Economy at the University of Oslo.

[REDACTED] further advised that in Vienna and in Berlin Dr. REICH was associated with the Socialist Movement and that later he became affiliated with the Communist Party. However, [REDACTED] did not state the extent of his activity nor his exact connection other than that he was a member of the Communist Party. [REDACTED] further stated that he believed subject joined the Communist Party because of the fact that he is a foremost student of political psychosis and as a result became interested in Communism. [REDACTED] stated, however, that Dr. REICH did not agree with the principals of Communism and for that reason he severed all connections with the Communist Party and has stated that Communism won't work because it is not practical, since people have not developed mentally to such a degree as to accept it. [REDACTED] furnished no definite information of the date or place of subject's last connections with the Communist Party. It was further ascertained from [REDACTED] that subject is now married to a Dr. ILSE OLLENDORF, who

is also a practicing psychoanalyst, residing at subject's home; that subject about ten years previously divorced his first wife, Dr. ANNIE REICH. [REDACTED] also advised that in 1939 Dr. REICH announced the discovery of a biological energy which, he states, comes from the body organs and that his work has been solely involved in experimenting with this energy, which he claims that he is able to control in such a way as to cure cancer; that he claims that at least one actual cure by its use; that subject has applied for a patent on his method of controlling this energy, which he has named "Orgone," and has now attempted to organize an association of psychoanalysts to be known as the Orgone Research Institute, the purpose of which organization was to commercialize subject's treatment of cancer. However, he seems to have made very little progress with it.

[REDACTED] further advised that subject is a member of the International Association for Sex Economy, which was organized in Oslo, Norway, and which studies the economy of biological energy in the body.

During the search of subject's home, it was ascertained that subject held an acknowledgment of indebtedness in the amount of \$1760.00 and being questioned concerning this debt, [REDACTED] stated that it represented his debt to subject for instruction received during 1938 and 1939 in Oslo at the University of Oslo and for instruction during 1940 in this country at Dr. REICH's Seminar.

[REDACTED] further stated that Dr. REICH had learned as an alien he should not possess photographic equipment, and that he had turned over to him [REDACTED] subject's Leica Camera No. 41288 and a Cine-Kodak motion picture camera, both of which subject used in his laboratory by attaching to a microscope. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] New York City, who is a professional psychiatrist and also employed as an instructor at Columbia University, advised that he had not been in touch with Dr. REICH during the past year, but that he had been told that Dr. REICH was devoting all of his time to research in an attempt to formulate a cure for cancer afflictions. [REDACTED] stated that he had met Dr. REICH in Vienna while he was studying there and that he was of the opinion that Dr. REICH is desirous of being a good citizen and that he was not aware of subversive activity on the part of Dr. REICH. He stated that his contacts and relationships with Dr. REICH had been entirely in the interest of science and research and, therefore, he had never discussed politics with Dr. REICH.

100-8422

[REDACTED], letter carrier at the Forest Hills Branch Post Office, advised that he delivered mail at the subject's present residence, but could furnish no information concerning him.

[REDACTED], another letter carrier at this Post Office Station, advised that he formerly delivered mail to subject at his former home at 7502 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, New York, and that subject operated a laboratory and office while at this location, and that on one occasion he was invited in by one of the assistants, but all that he remembers is having seen numerous cages of guinea pigs and white mice. He could furnish no further information about subject.

Neither of these carriers could suggest any reliable neighbors of subject at either place, inasmuch as most of the neighbors were either German refugees or German people.

Confidential informant No. 2, who is a [REDACTED] by profession and who has many contacts in the neighborhood in which the subject resides, advised that he had made numerous attempts to find individuals in the neighborhood of 9906 69th Avenue, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, who were acquainted with the subject, with negative results. He advised that in this particular locality of Forest Hills that many wealthy refugees have taken up residence within the past few years and that they did not mingle with the general public and lived rather secluded lives.



The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent (A) [REDACTED]

In connection with the report that subject DR. WILHELM REICH had recently purchased a home at 9906-69 Avenue, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, Agent [REDACTED] contacted Confidential Informant 1 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Informant

[REDACTED] did state, however, that the property at the above address formerly was owned by DANIEL F. SULLIVAN and wife; that the bank foreclosed on this family and on June 23, 1941 DR. WILHELM REICH signed a contract of sale for this property, with an agreement that the deed would be delivered to him not later than September 15, 1941. DR. REICH'S address at that time was given as 75-02 Kessel St., Forest Hills, Long Island, New York. The real estate broker handling this matter was indicated to be LOUIS McGAHIE, 106-22 Continental Avenue, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York.

[REDACTED] further indicated that on September 8, 1941 DR. REICH assigned the property in question to ILSE OLLENDORFF, whose address was given as being identical with that of the Doctor. No information [REDACTED] concerning ILSE OLLENDORFF, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the aforementioned sale was finally consummated on September 10, 1941; that the total price of the house was \$14,000.00; [REDACTED]

100-8422

The indices of the New York City office were checked for the name of [REDACTED] with negative results.

A check of [REDACTED] New York City, indicates that WILHELM REICH, 75-02 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, was employed by the New School of Social Research, 66 West 12 Street, New York City, as a professor; that no salary figures were available; that DR. REICH was similarly engaged at one of the universities in Norway prior to coming to the United States; and that he holds a degree as Doctor of Philosophy. No bank reference was given [REDACTED]

It was further ascertained from this source that subject is 40 years of age, and married, although the identity of his wife was unknown; further, that this family has resided at 75-02 Kessel Street since August or September 1939, where a domestic was employed. The name of the landlord could not be obtained [REDACTED] however, the monthly rental for this property, which is a detached one family private home, was estimated to be over \$100.00.

No further information was available [REDACTED] concerning the REICH family.

100-8422

By letter of October 1, 1941, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] the results of which failed to provide anything of value in this investigation.

Investigation at [REDACTED] failed to reflect a record on subject.

100-8422

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York.

Will follow and report subsequent action taken in this matter.

- P E N D I N G -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The confidential informants listed in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated at New York City December 24, 1941, are:

Confidential Informant 1 is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Confidential Informant 2 is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Confidential Informant 3 is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK, NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-8422 HS

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK CITY</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1/23/42</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>12/26/41</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>DR. WILHELM REICH</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - G &amp; C Alien Enemy Control</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject afforded hearing Eastern District of New York December 26, 1941. Board recommended unconditional release.

- P -

**REFERENCE:**

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] at New York City, New York, dated December 24, 1941.

**DETAILS:**

DR. WILHELM REICH was afforded a hearing before Alien Enemy Hearing Board Number One on December 26, 1941 in the Eastern District of New York. This board was composed of Charles H. Kelby, C. Walter Randall, Henry Vallmer Jr., and Stuart H. Steinbrink.

After having been presented with the facts as outlined in the reference report and after allowing the Alien an opportunity to speak on his own behalf, the Board recommended that the Subject be released unconditionally.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		-20 RECORDED
(3) - Bureau 1 - USA, EDNY 5 - New York		

7:12

January 31, 1942

Confidential

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE. INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my letter of August 19, 1941, to all Special Agents in Charge enclosing a copy of a memorandum from Mr. Lawrence M. C. Smith, Chief of the Special Defense Unit of the Department of Justice, relative to the classification, as to dangerousness, of the individuals under consideration for custodial detention and the classification, as to sufficiency, of the evidence upon which the dangerousness classification is made.

Please be advised that information has now been received from the Special Defense Unit that

Dr. Wilhelm Reich  
75-38 Kew-Forest Rd.  
Forest Hills, Long Island, N. Y.

21

has been tentatively placed in:

Group A. Individuals believed to be the most dangerous and who in all probability should be interned in event of War.

Group B. Individuals believed to be somewhat less dangerous but whose activities should be restricted.

Group C. Individuals believed to be the least dangerous and who need not be restricted in absence of additional information, but should be subjected to general surveillance.

DECLASSIFIED BY 7306  
ON 3/28/77

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF THIS MESSAGE  
DATE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
JAN 31 1942  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The evidence relating to Subject has been classified by the Special Defense Unit as:

1. Sufficient to establish the charges upon which the dangerous classification was made.
- x   2. Not satisfactory to substantiate the charges.

With respect to citizenship status, Subject has been tentatively classified by the Special Defense Unit as:

- x   (A) An alien
- (N) A naturalized citizen
- (NB) A native born citizen

The above classifications are subject to revision in the light of additional information and you will be promptly informed of any revision of the status of the above named individual.

This investigation must be given preferred and expeditious attention in accordance with existing Bureau instructions and concluded at the earliest possible date. The citizenship status of Subject should be definitely ascertained as soon as possible where this has not already been done.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

John Edgar Hoover  
Director



In the Matter of

WILHELM REICH,

Alien Enemy

D. J. File No. 146-13-2-51-113

ORDER

WHEREAS, Wilhelm Reich, of Forest Hills, Long Island, New York, a citizen of Germany, over the age of fourteen years, is within the United States and not a naturalized citizen thereof and has heretofore been apprehended as being potentially dangerous to the public peace and safety of the United States, and;

WHEREAS, the Alien Enemy Hearing Board has recommended that said alien enemy be released; NOW, THEREFORE, upon consideration of the evidence before me,

IT IS ORDERED that said alien enemy be released.

FRANCIS BIDDLE

ATTORNEY GENERAL

RECORDED

100 14601-22
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
2 FEB 4 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILED 6 DEW 2

January 27, 1942

Letter to  
62 + ONI  
4/14/42  
CWE

APR 25 1942

*File to SO  
New York City  
4/11/42  
CWE*

HE:LM

February 7, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL  
REGISTERED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE: INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of

~~x~~ an addition to the Custodial Detention card relating to Subject. This addition is to be attached to the photostatic copy of the Custodial Detention card already in your possession.

----- a revised Custodial Detention card relating to Subject to be substituted for the photostatic copy of the Custodial Detention card presently in your possession which should be destroyed.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S)  
DATE

DECLASSIFIED BY 7/11/81  
ON 4/29/81

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
Enclosure FEB 7 1942  
P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

146-23  
FEB 9 1942  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

N.Y. FILE NO. 100-8422

ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 2-7-42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-2-42	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
DR. WILHELM REICH			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - G & C ALIEN ENEMY CONTROL

OFFICE OF FACTS: Attorney General concurs in Board's ruling that the subject be released. Disposition sheet has been submitted.

- 3 -

RE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], New York, dated January 23, 1942.

RE: Honorable Francis Biddle, Attorney General for the United States in a ruling dated January 27, 1942 concurred in the Alien Enemy Hearing Board's recommendation that the subject WILHELM REICH be released. Disposition sheet has previously been sent to the Bureau.

- C I . S E D -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED MAR 14 1942 <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-8422-24 FEB 19 1942
COPIES OF THIS REPORT - Bureau - U.S.A. - U.S. Dept. of Justice		

**COPY IN FILE**

100-8422

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

Will report the final decision of the  
Attorney General with respect to the Board's ruling.

- P E N D I N G -

OMAL JAE

RECORDED COPY OF THE ORIGINAL  
IN THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



CONFIDENTIAL

25

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CHE:EVR  
100-14601-27

April 1, 1942

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Re: WILHELM BRONN,  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R,  
ET AL.

Dear Sir:

For your information, the Bureau has received from the Department a copy of an order dated January 27, 1942, in which the Attorney General ordered that the above named individual be released.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
★ APR 1 - 1942 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

-26

APR 8 1942

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
New York, New York

CRS:DM

March 20, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Re: INTERNAL SECURITY  
ALLIANCE FOR AMERICA

Enclosed herewith are disposition sheets re-  
flecting action taken on the following aliases:

[REDACTED]

INTERNAL SECURITY

W. J. ...  
...  
...  
Assistant Director

- cc (11)
- cc 100-17819
- cc 100-18883
- cc 100-17812
- cc 100-17811
- cc 100-17815
- cc 100-17822
- cc 100-17816
- cc 100-123
- cc 100-17869

-27

CR-12



PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Shover  
100-14441-13  
4/14/42

Rear Admiral T. S. Wilkinson  
Director  
Office of Naval Intelligence  
Navy Department  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that information has been received that on January 27, 1942, the Attorney General ordered the release of Wilhelm Reich who was previously apprehended by the New York City Field Division of this Bureau as an alien enemy of German nationality.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DECLASSIFIED BY 7346  
ON 3/29/87

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 3  
★ APR 15 1942 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

100-14441-28

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

J. E. H. W.  
100-1.600-37  
4/14/42

Brigadier General Raymond E. Lee  
Assistant Chief of Staff  
G-2, War Department  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

This is to advise that information has been received that on January 27, 1942 the Attorney General ordered the release of Wilhelm Reich who was previously apprehended on the New York City Field Division of this Bureau as a German enemy of our nationality.

Very truly yours,

*J. Edgar Hoover*

J. Edgar Hoover  
Director

DECLASSIFIED BY 7/20/88  
ON 10/1/88

- 29

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Holloman
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 M A I L B O X 3  
 ★ APR 15 1942 P.M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*JH*

ADDRESS REPLY TO  
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"  
AND REFER TO  
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

WB:JMcI:rh

146-2

June 10, 1942

Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Mr. Gandy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR,  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

There is transmitted herewith for your information a photostatic copy of a letter dated June 2, 1942, addressed to the Police Commissioner of New York City by Wilhelm Reich, M.D., Director, Orgone and Cancer Research Laboratory, 99-06 Stafford Avenue, Forest Hills, New York, in which the writer comments on the investigations made concerning his activities.

Respectfully,

*Wendell Berge*  
WENDELL BERGE,  
Assistant Attorney General.

Enclosure  
No. 279782

*Handwritten notes:*  
Approved  
by  
J. Edgar Hoover  
Director

RECORDED

*Handwritten:*  
1 JUL 10 11

14-30

JUN 11 1942

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

June 2, 1942

To the Police Commissioner  
Police Headquarters,  
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

About a week ago a friendly neighbor of mine told me that he has been visited by two plain-clothes police men who made enquiries about me. They told him that a police investigation was under way because I am suspected of being a fascist or a communist, and an abortionist. They also told him some stories about me which they had picked up somewhere, apparently some neighbor gossip, which they interpreted in a peculiar manner. For instance, that I had paid my rent at 75-02 Kessel Street, Forest Hills, punctually every first of the month, and that this made me suspect, because: Where did I get the money from? Or that I had grown high hedges around my house and this was suspicious too. None of such stories made me suspicious of the "policemen", for instance, the story that they had the permission to tap my wire but that they could not do this for one reason or the other.

My wife visited threfore the Assistant District Attorney, Mr. Vine Smith in Brooklyn and told him the story. Mr. Smith confirmed again the fact that the District Attorney's office was completely satisfied with the results of a hearing held in December, 1941, after a thorough investigation through the F.B.I. regarding my activities. There was nothing whatsoever to incriminate me.

Should another investigation be in process now, I would appreciate it if you would accept my offer of a complete and thorough investigation at my home. I have nothing to hide and I would like to avoid the creation of bad rumors and nasty stories in my neighborhood about me. I shall be only too glad to give you any information you may desire.

My arrest through the F.B.I. on December 12th, 1941, was due to a denunciation and, having been unconditionally released, I would appreciate very much the protection of the police against farther denunciation, defamation of character and damaging results of this first happening which by Mr. Pugh of the F.B.I. was called most unfortunate.

A copy of this letter has been sent to the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. and the District Attorney's Office in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Yours very truly,

RECORDED

EABM:gb  
100-14601-30

July 15, 1942

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

Re: DR. WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G & C  
ALIEN ENEMY CONTROL

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing herewith copies of a memorandum from Mr. Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General and the enclosure thereto.

You are instructed to immediately advise the Bureau whether or not your office has any information pertaining to the alleged visit of "plain-clothes policemen" to the home of a neighbor of the subject in order to gather information with regard to Reich's Fascist and Communist affiliations.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 9  
★ JUL 15 1942 P.M.  
ENCLOSURE

Enclosure

- r. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- r. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_
- r. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- r. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

204  
17 JUL 20 1942

CUSTODIAL DETENTION APPREHENSION FORM

Reference:- NEW YORK LETTER 12-26-41

The following individual was: Taken into custody.

NAME:- WILHELM REICH (GERMAN)

PLACE:-

DATE:

REMARKS:

PRESIDENTIAL WARRANT FORM

Reference:- File # 100-2-60- (Enclosure #37)

Presidential Warrant issued for;

NAME:- DR. WILHELM REICH

PLACE:- Forest Hill, L.I. NY

NATIONALITY:- German

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

TJJ:JB  
100-8422

July 27, 1942

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

RE: DR. WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - G & C  
ALIEN ENEMY CONTROL

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated July 15th, 1942,  
Bureau File 100-14601.

From a review of the file in instant matter there is no indica-  
tion that an investigation has been conducted concerning the captioned in-  
dividual since his release by the Alien Enemy Hearing Board, dated January  
27th, 1942, which is set forth in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED]  
dated February 7th, 1942, at New York City.

However, there does appear a complaint received in this office  
from [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] New York City, concerning the  
captioned individual, wherein she furnished certain information concerning  
DR. REICH which she had obtained from [REDACTED] dealer in medical  
stationery, [REDACTED] New York City. No action was taken by this  
office on this complaint.

The files further reflect that on May 29th, 1942, Patrolman  
[REDACTED] of the New York City Police Department, telephonically requested  
this office as to the disposition of the alien enemy case concerning Dr.  
REICH. It is further reflected that on June 28th, 1942, an inquiry was  
made at this office concerning Dr. WILHELM REICH by [REDACTED] of  
Special Squad #1 of the New York City Police Department. It should be noted,  
however, that this later inquiry by the New York City Police Department was  
made subsequent to the date of the letter sent to the Police Commissioner at  
New York City by Dr. REICH.

No further action will be taken in this matter by this office un-  
less advised to the contrary by the Bureau. IMPERIAL

Very truly yours,

*P. E. Foxworth, Jr.*  
P. E. FOXWORTH,  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



COPIES DESTROYED 2-0-51  
R-206

31



HR:mcf

July 31, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL  
REGISTERED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE: DR. WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

There is enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of

X an addition to the Custodial Detention card relating to Subject. This addition is to be attached to the photostatic copy of the Custodial Detention card already in your possession.

----- a revised Custodial Detention card relating to Subject to be substituted for the photostatic copy of the Custodial Detention card presently in your possession which should be destroyed.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

DECLASSIFIED BY 7306  
ON 3/28/77 TDS/WS

Enclosure

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF  
DATE

RECORDS SECTION

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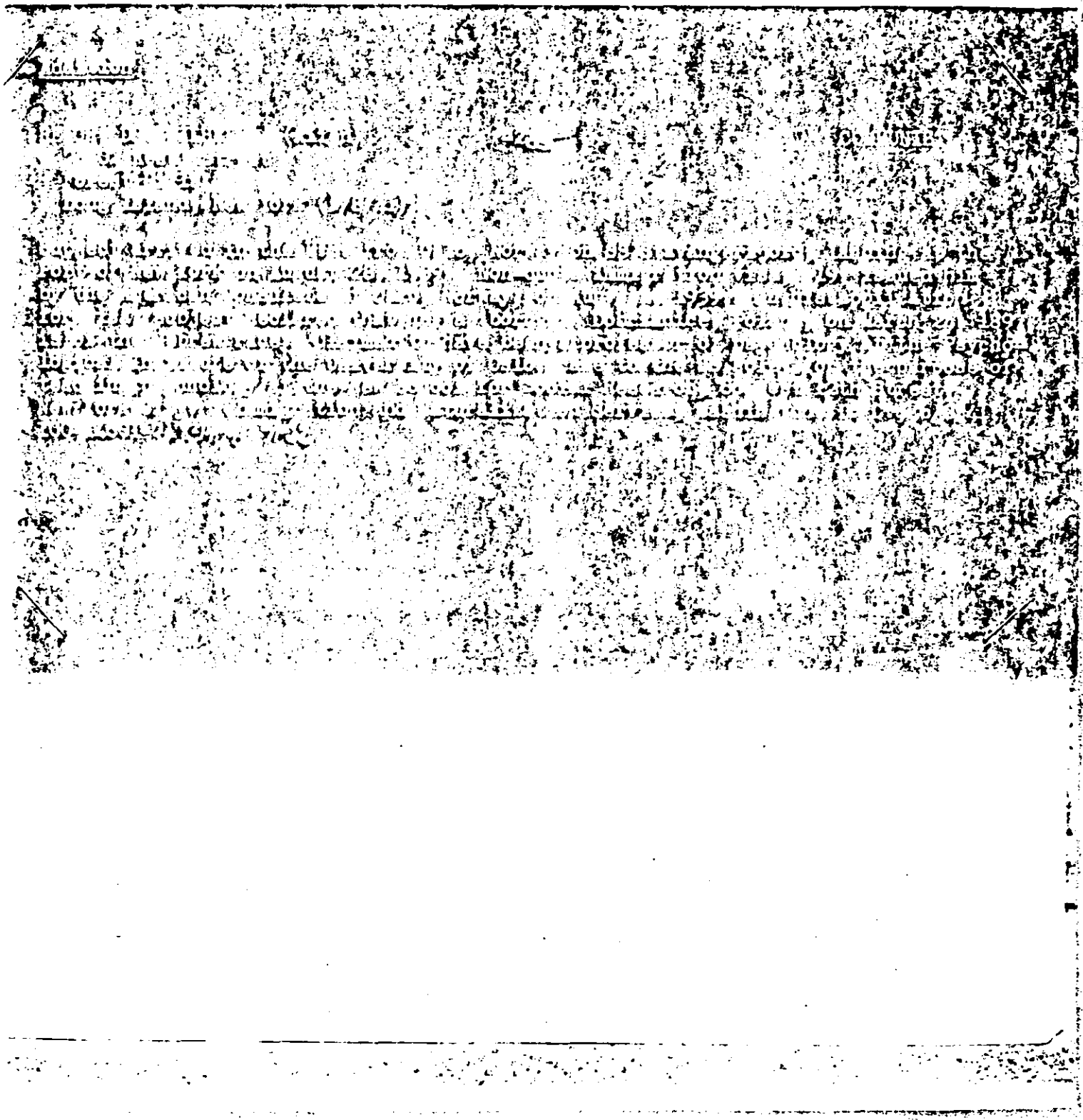
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51 APR 1953



JCM:jlg

May 15, 1943

CONFIDENTIAL  
REGISTERED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Special Agent in Charge  
New York, New York

RE: DR. WELM IM REICH  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION - C

Dear Sir:

There is enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of

X an addition to the Custodial Detention card relating to Subject. This addition is attached to the photostatic copy of the Custodial Detention card already in your possession.

a revised Custodial Detention card relating to Subject to be substituted for the photostatic copy of the Custodial Detention card presently in your possession which should be destroyed.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover  
Director

Enclosure

DECLASSIFIED BY 730 F  
ON 3/28/77

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF  
DATE 5/15/43

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

51 MAY 19 1943

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 15, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR  
HUGH B. COX, ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL  
AND  
J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

I refer to Mr. L. M. C. Smith's memorandum to me dated June 28, 1943, which reviews the history, development, and meaning of the Special Case work and of the danger classifications that were made as a part of that work.

After full re-consideration of these individual danger classifications, I am satisfied that they serve no useful purpose. The detention of alien enemies is being dealt with under the procedures established by the Alien Enemy Control Unit. The Special Case procedure has been found to be valueless and is not used in that connection. There is no statutory authorization or other present justification for keeping a "custodial detention" list of citizens. The Department fulfills its proper functions by investigating the activities of persons who may have violated the law. It is not aided in this work by classifying persons as to dangerousness.

Apart from these general considerations, it is now clear to me that this classification system is inherently unreliable. The evidence used for the purpose of making the classifications was inadequate; the standards applied to the evidence for the purpose of making the classifications were defective; and finally, the notion that it is possible to make a valid determination as to how dangerous a person is in the abstract and without reference to time, environment, and other relevant circumstances, is impractical, unwise, and dangerous.

For the foregoing reasons I am satisfied that the adoption of this classification system was a mistake that should be rectified for the future. Accordingly, I direct that the classifications heretofore made should not be regarded as classifications of dangerousness or as a

100-74601

57 AUG 25 1943

determination of fact in any sense. In the future, they should not be used for any purpose whatsoever. Questions raised as to the status or activities of a particular person should be disposed of by consideration of all available information, but without reference to any classification heretofore made.

A copy of this memorandum should be placed in the file of each person who has hitherto been given a classification. In addition, each card upon which a classification appears should be stamped with the following language:

"THIS CLASSIFICATION IS UNRELIABLE. IT IS  
HEREBY CANCELLED, AND SHOULD NOT BE USED  
AS A DETERMINATION OF DANGEROUSNESS OR OF  
ANY OTHER FACT: (SEE MEMORANDUM OF JULY 16,  
1943 FROM THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO HUGH B.  
COX AND J. EDGAR HOOVER)."

Attorney General

E.B:rb

100-14601

Date: July 21, 1943

To: SAC, Newark

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: DR. WILHELM REICH; INTERNAL SECURITY - G & C  
ALIEN ENEMY CONTROL

It is noted that this subject's name is carried on your key figure list. A review of his case file indicates that the case was closed with the report of Special Agent [redacted] made at New York City on February 7, 1942, and that the investigation conducted did not indicate that he has been active in Communist affairs in this country.

On the basis of the information developed up to the time of the last report, it would not appear that his activities were sufficiently extensive to warrant carrying him on the key figure list. The Bureau desires that you advise whether any significant information has been received subsequent to the date of the last report which would warrant keeping his name on the key figure information has been received, his name should be deleted.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
 MAILED 11  
 JUL 22 1943 P.M.  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

100-14601-32  
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
 JUL 23 1943  
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED  
 JUL 21 1943  
 ROOM 4001

RECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-14601-32

45 JUL 26 1943



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 United States Department of Justice  
 1836 Raymond-Commerce Bldg.  
 Newark, N.J.

100-2903  
 WAC:EVL

August 10, 1943

Director, FBI

RE: DR. WILHELM REICH  
 INTERNAL SECURITY (G) & (C)  
 ALIEN ENEMY CONTROL  
 (Bureau File 100-14601)  
 (Bureau File 100-160780)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of July 21, 1943, in which you advise that the case on the above named subject was closed with the report of Special Agent ██████████, made at New York City, on February 7, 1942, and the investigation conducted did not indicate the subject had been active in Communistic affairs in this country.

I wish to point out that WILLIAM ROBERT REICH, INTERNAL SECURITY (C) CUSTODIAL DETENTION, is a key figure in the Newark Field Division, and is very active in Communist affairs, operating a book store, located at 216 Halsey Street, Newark, N.J., which is considered the State distribution center of the Communist Party of N.J. for communist propoganda. WILLIAM ROBERT REICH was also State Literature Director for the Communist Party of N.J., and is a teacher in the Workers School, 35 East 12th Street, New York City, N.Y., which is also operated by the Communist Party.

In view of these facts it is believed that Dr. WILHELM REICH mentioned in reference letter, and WILLIAM ROBERT REICH, a key figure in the Newark Field Division are not identical.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*  
 S. K. MC KEE  
 SAC

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RECORDED

-33



A. I. F.

57 SEP 6 1943

COPIES DESTROYED 12-28-68



100-14601

Date: September 27, 1943

To: SAC - New York

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: DR. WILHELM REICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

With reference to the above captioned individual who is carried on your key figure list, it is noted that the case was closed with the report of Special Agent [redacted] of your Office, dated February 7, 1942, and the investigation conducted does not indicate that he had been active in Communist affairs in this country. It is desired that a report be submitted in the near future setting forth all significant information which has been received by your Office subsequent to the date of the last report and which might tend to substantiate the key figure status which has been given this subject. It is not desired that any active investigation be instituted in this case at this time unless significant information, received since the date of the last report, would make such action advisable.

You are reminded that in June of 1942, this the New York Police Department and to the Department of Justice of an alleged investigation which was being conducted

RECORDED
INDEXED
SEP 29 1943
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SEP 29 1943

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

2 OCT 1 1943

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
New York, 7, New York

October 11, 1943

RSQ:SS  
100-8422

Director, FBI

RE: DR. WILHELM REICH  
SECURITY MATTER - C  
Bureau file 100-14601

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated September 23, 1943, stating that the above captioned individual is carried on the key figure list of the New York office, although it was noted by a review of the case that investigation did not indicate he had been active in Communist affairs in this country, and that it was desired that a report be submitted setting forth all significant information received by this office subsequent to the closing report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated February 7, 1942, at New York City, which might tend to substantiate the key figure status given the Subject.

A careful examination of the key figure list maintained by the New York office fails to reflect the name of Dr. WILHELM REICH, although there does appear the name of WILLIAM REICH, an instructor at Worker's School. This office has no information as yet tending to substantiate whether these individuals are identical, although a new case has been opened on WILLIAM REICH. An investigation is presently in progress to ascertain his identity and activities.

Until and unless investigation proves that Dr. WILHELM REICH and WILLIAM REICH are one and the same individuals, the case on WILHELM REICH will be considered closed.

RECORDED  
Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY, SAC.

-35



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RECORDED

100-11601 - 35  
~~100-169789~~

Date: November 2, 1943

To: SAC, New York City

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: WILLIAM REICH; INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Reference is made to your letter of October 11, 1943, captioned, "Er. Walter Reich; Security Matter - C" in which you state that Dr. Reich's name is not carried on your Key Figure list, but that the name of one William Reich does appear on the list. This William Reich you identify as an instructor at the Workers School and you state that an investigation of him is presently in progress.

For your information, it is pointed out that the Newark Field Office is presently investigating a William Robert Reich who operates a book store located in Newark, New Jersey, which is considered the state distribution center of the Communist Party of New Jersey. This William Reich is also the New Jersey state literature director of the Party and is listed as a teacher in the Workers School at 35 E. 12th Street, New York City. It would, therefore, appear that the William Reich who is named on your Key Figure list is identical with the subject of the Newark Office's investigation. Accordingly, any information developed by your office should be furnished to the Newark Office which is the office of origin at the present

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED 6  
★ NOV 3 - 1943 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
NOV 4 1943

*Handwritten signatures and initials*