

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 17

24

10-22P

DIRECTOR

....U R G E N T....

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, AKA, SI. ATTENTION -- INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SI SECTION. RE WFO TEL TO NY JUNE TWENTY TWO, FIFTY THREE. LETTERS BEING FURNISHED BUREAU CONTAINING INFO CONCERNING APPOINTEE. DUE TO NATURE OF MATERIAL NOT BEING INCLUDED IN DETAILS OF REPORT. WILLIAM D. MITCHELL ADVISED APPOINTEE HAS DETESTED HIM SINCE HERBERT HOOVER APPOINTED MITCHELL AG IN NINETEEN TWENTY EIGHT. APPOINTEE BELIEVED THAT HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN AG BUT MITCHELL QUOTE UNDERCUT UNQUOTE HIM TO GET JOB. MITCHELL STATES THIS WAS UNTRUE AS HE DID NOT DESIRE POSITION. HOWEVER, MITCHELL CONSIDERS APPOINTEE VERY CAPABLE AND BRILLIANT AND KNOWS OF NO REASON WHY HE SHOULD NOT HAVE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT POSITION, WHICH HE BELIEVES TO BE AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND. STATES, HOWEVER, THAT FRANK G. REICHLE, NOW A PRACTICING ATTORNEY IN BUFFALO AND APPOINTEE-S FIRST LAW PARTNER, WAS INDICTED-BY FGJ IN WASHINGTON DURING LATE NINETEEN TWENTIES AS A RESULT OF A WORTHLESS BOND DEAL. APPOINTEE ASKED MITCHELL TO INTERVENE AND HAVE INDICTMENT QUASHED. MITCHELL WROTE A LETTER TO FGJ POINTING OUT SPOTLESS CHARACTER AND REPUTATION OF REICHLE. AS A RESULT NO COURT ACTION

END PAGE ONE

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77-58706-25

16 JUL 22 1953

74

PAGE TWO

TAKEN AGAINST REICHLE. HOWEVER, IN NINETEEN THIRTY ONE OR THIRTY TWO, RIECHLE RE-INDICTED AND ONCE AGAIN THE APPOINTEE ASKED MITCHELL TO INTERVENE. DONOVAN AT THIS TIME WAS CAMPAIGNING FOR GOVERNOR OF NY. MITCHELL REFUSED, TELLING APPOINTEE TO LET COURT ACTION TAKE ITS COURSE. REICHLE TRIED AND ACQUITTED. MITCHELL STATES CRIMINAL DIVISION, D OF J, WOULD HAVE RECORDS OF THIS COURT ACTION IF NECESSARY FOR REVIEW. JUDGE LAWRENCE, U.S. CUSTOMS COURT, NYC, RECOMMENDS APPOINTEE HIGHLY AS MAN OF HIGH CHARACTER, REPUTATION AND LOYALTY. HIS ASSOCIATION, HOWEVER, WAS NOT A CLOSE ONE. ATTEMPTING TO INTERVIEW FORMER PRESIDENT HERBERT HOOVER THIS DATE. REPORT WILL FOLLOW.

BOARDMAN

HOLD

75

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIR-TEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

BUREAU

FBI BUFFALO

6-24-53

5-10 PM EDST

DIRECTOR

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. BUDED JUNE TWENTYTWO LAST. RE BU RADIOGRAM
THIS DATE. REPORT SA LEO J. KENNEDY SUBMITTED JUNE TWENTY LAST.

BOSWELL

END

RTC:MKC

62-1041

AIR MAIL

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77-58706-26

Approved: H.C.B. Tu

Special Agent in Charge

Sent

M

Per

25 JUL 22 1953

76

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK 15

24

10-19

P

DIRECTOR

.....U R G E N T.....

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, AKA, SI. ATTENTION -- INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION,
SI SECTION. REURTEL JUNE TWENTY THREE, FIFTY THREE. REPORT OF
SA THOMAS J. LARDNER SUBMITTED JUNE NINETEEN LAST. CASE REOPENED
AS RESULT OF JUNE TWENTY TWO WFO TEL. TELETYPE SUMMARY BEING
SUBMITTED REFERENCE THIS TEL. REPORT WILL FOLLOW.

HOLD

RECORDED-92

BOARDMAN

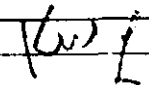
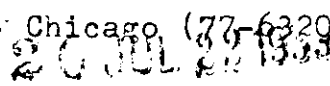
77-58706-27

77

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE WHEN MADE 6/24/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/23/53	REPORT MADE BY JESSE W. SYME MAF
TITLE WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN			CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>O. HUGH BRAESE comments favorably concerning DONOVAN and recommends him as of good character and loyal to the United States.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p>REFERENCE: Washington Field Teletype dated June 22, 1953.</p> <p>DETAILS: <u>ACQUAINTANCE</u></p> <p>MR. O. HUGH BRAESE, President, American Train Dispatchers Association, 10 East Huron Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, advised that in 1935 he served for three months on a National Mediation Board with DONOVAN. During this time he sat daily at hearings with DONOVAN, but had no contact with him outside of working hours. MR. BRAESE stated that DONOVAN impressed him as a man of excellent character, fair minded, honest and an extremely loyal and patriotic American citizen. MR. BRAESE recommended DONOVAN for employment in a position of trust.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT (2 - Bureau (AM)) 1 - Chicago (77-6320) 		77-58706-28 JUN 25 1953 25	100-41-92

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIRTEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

✓ FBI, CHICAGO

DIRECTOR, FBI

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBUADIO JUNE TWENTYFOUR NINETEEN
THIRTY. REBUADIO REPORT SA JESSE W. SMITH, CC, JUNE TWENTYFOUR.
FILE EXTENDED.

WATLORFOLD.

LAL:unt
77-6300

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77-58706-29

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

72

FBI WASH FIELD

6/25/53

DIRECTOR

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, ST. WFO INVESTIGATION TO DATE HAS FAILED TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH DONOVAN SINCE NINETEEN FORTY OTHER THAN ALLEN DULLES, PRESENT CIA DIRECTOR. DULLES IN OSS DURING SAME PERIOD AS DONOVAN. BUREAU MAY DESIRE TO INTERVIEW DULLES THROUGH LIAISON CHANNELS. IDENTITY OF THOSE WHO WERE CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH DONOVAN AS OBTAINED FROM DULLES, SHOULD BE FURNISHED INTERESTED OFFICES SO THAT THEY MAY BE INTERVIEWED.

HOOD

WEF:el

77-44319

RECORDED-92

77-58706-30

26 JUL 22 1953

RECEIVED

JUL 25 1954

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WASH 14
DIRECTOR

FROM NEW YORK
URGENT

25 11-02 PM

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, AKA, SI. ATTN- INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SI
SECTION. HERBERT HOOVER RECOMMENDS MOST HIGHLY. KNOWS NONE OF
CIRCUMSTANCES CONCERNING INDICTMENTS RETURNED AGAINST REICHIE OR
APPOINTEE-S INTERVENTION IN AFFAIR. REPORT BEING EXPEDITED.

BOARDMAN

HLD

77-58706-31

26 JUL 22 1954

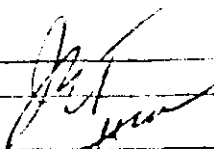
RECORDED-92

81

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

REPORT MADE AT ST. LOUIS	DATE WHEN MADE 6-25-53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6-22-53	REPORT MADE BY JAMES E. REILLY deb
TITLE WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN			CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p>Records FRC, GSA, SLMO indicate WILLIAM J. DONOVAN employed by Dept. of Justice, Office of the Atty. Gen. from 8-14-24 to 3-2-29 as Asst. Atty. Gen. and Asst. to the Atty. Gen. Terminated by reason of his resignation. No record located of employment with Office of Coordinator of Information. Born - none indicated.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p> <p>REFERENCE: WFO teletype dated 6-15-53</p> <p>DETAILS: <u>AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI:</u></p> <p>A review of the personnel records, Federal Records Center, General Services Administration, for WILLIAM J. DONOVAN indicates that he was employed on August 14, 1924 with the Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General as an Assistant Attorney General at Washington, D.C. This employment was terminated on March 23, 1925 as an Assistant Attorney General by reason of appointment as Assistant to the Attorney General. He was employed as Assistant to the Attorney General March 23, 1925 at Washington, D.C. This employment was terminated March 2, 1929 as Assistant to the Attorney General by reason of his resignation.</p> <p>(No record of civilian employment for WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN with the Office of Coordinator of Information could be located).</p> <p>The date and place of birth were shown as - no date or place indicated.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- RUC -</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 2 - Bureau (AMSD) 1 - St. Louis (77-12216) 26 JUN 22 1953		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">77-58706-32</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold;">37 JUN 26 1953</div> <div style="font-size: 0.8em;">RECORDED-02</div>	

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☆ U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-50255-2

8

Office Memorandum • UNITED

GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. W. BELMONT

DATE: June 26, 1953

FROM : V. P. Keay

SUBJECT: WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN
SPECIAL INQUIRYTolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Gearty
Mohr
Tele. Room
Holloman
Gandy

Reference is made to Washington Field Office teletype dated June 25, 1953, wherein it was suggested that Allen Dulles of the CIA be interviewed concerning the captioned individual. This interview was conducted by Liaison Agent Papich on June 26, 1953.

Dulles advised that he was not in possession of any derogatory information concerning the morals and character of Donovan. He stated that he was closely associated with Donovan during World War II and he found him to be a very aggressive, industrious, and capable individual. Dulles admitted that from time to time he has had differences of opinion with Donovan but as far as he was concerned, these differences certainly would not have any bearing in connection with any position the Government might have in mind for him. He emphasized that Donovan was intensely patriotic and there was no doubt in his mind concerning Donovan's absolute loyalty to the U. S. Government.

Dulles stated that it was his understanding that Donovan was being considered for the position of U. S. Ambassador to Thailand. Dulles personally feels that Donovan has the necessary background, intelligence, and ability to handle the job in a very capable manner.

With regard to individuals who have known Donovan over the years, Dulles suggested the following persons, pointing out that he was suggesting these names because he felt they would give very objective accounts concerning Donovan.

Charles Steele Cheston

Residence: Lothiam Farm, Whitmarsh, Pennsylvania

Business Address: National Bank Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

Robert Jackson

Supreme Court Justice, Washington, D. C.

General John McGruder, retired

Residence: Thomas Jefferson Street (number unknown)
Washington, D. C.

ACTION: The above information is being referred to the Special Inquiry Section of the Investigative Division.

SJP:lw

1 - Mr. Innes

77-58706-93

F.B.I. RADIOGRAM

4-42

DECODED COPY
law

FROM ALBANY

6-26-53

NR 251600

12:59 PM

DIRECTOR

DEFERRED

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. RE BUREAU RADIOGRAM JUNE 23
LAST. REPORT SUBMITTED JUNE 19 LAST BY SA JAMES P.
HENDRICK.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Gearty _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Sizoo _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECEIVED:

6-26-53

1:11 PM

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77-58706-34
DR

26 JUL 22 1953

If the intelligence contained in the above message is to be disseminated
outside the Bureau, it is suggested that it be suitably paraphrased in
order to protect the Bureau's cryptographic systems.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 6/26/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/16-25/53	REPORT MADE BY WILLIAM E. FENIMORE cas/mfb
TITLE WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN			CHARACTER OF CASE SPECIAL INQUIRY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

DONOVAN appointed United States Attorney, Western District of New York, on 2/7/22. Appointed Assistant to the Attorney General, Washington, D.C. on 8/14/24. Charged with enforcement of Antitrust Laws. Held in high esteem by former associates who comment regarding his exceptional administrative ability, well directed energies and sound judgment. Reportedly participated in conferences concerning customs regulations between Canada and the United States in 1923. Served as United States Commissioner and Chairman, Rio Grande River Compact Commission, 1928-1929; also as United States Representative and Chairman, Colorado River Commission, 1929-30. Was "neutral" member of Arbitration Board which mediated dispute between American Train Dispatchers Association and Boston & Maine Railroad in 1935. Served as observer for Secretary of Navy KNOX in 1940-41. Was "Coordinator of Information" and Director, OSS, during 1941-1945. Military history and passport data set forth. Held rank of Major General. Awarded Congressional Medal of Honor and others. No credit or arrest record. No record at Investigations Division, CSC. No unfavorable information in security files of the Central Intelligence Agency. No additional pertinent information at Security Division, Department of State.

- P -

REFERENCE: Bureau teletypes dated June 15, and June 23, 1953.
New York teletype dated June 17, 1953
St. Louis teletype dated June 19, and June 22, 1953.

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WFO (77-44319)

WEF:mf

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

EMPLOYMENT:

United States Attorney, Western District of New York

The Thirtieth Edition of the "Register of the Department of Justice and the Courts of the United States", an official publication compiled under the direction of the Attorney General and released April 25, 1924, reflects WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was appointed United States Attorney, Western District of New York, Buffalo, on February 7, 1922.

Assistant to the Attorney General, Washington, D. C.

The Thirty-first edition of the above publication, released September 1, 1926, reflects WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was appointed Assistant to the Attorney General, Washington, D. C., on August 14, 1924. The Senate confirmed the appointment on March 18, 1925. WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was charged with the enforcement of the Anti-Trust laws. The Thirty-fourth edition of the "Register" (1929) lists JOHN LORD O'BRIEN as the Assistant to the Attorney General charged with the enforcement of Anti-Trust laws. His appointment was confirmed on June 3, 1929.

WILLIAM D. MITCHELL, whose current address is 20 Exchange Place, New York City, and CHARLES D. LAWRENCE, now Judge of the United States Customs Court, New York City, served as Solicitor General and Assistant Attorney General respectively during this period.

Miss ANNA C. DENNEAN, Department of Justice, was unable to locate any personnel files reflecting the above and was of the opinion same would have been forwarded to the Federal Records Center, St. Louis.

Judge ALEXANDER HOLTZOFF, United States District Court, District of Columbia, informed SA JAMES D. HUPPERT that he served in the Department of Justice between 1924

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and 1945. Judge HOLTZOFF recalled he was a Special Assistant to the Attorney General in 1924 when Attorney General HARLAN F. STONE brought DONOVAN into the Department. DONOVAN had been a student under STONE at Columbia University. DONOVAN was made Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Anti-Trust Division not too long after coming to the Department.

In commenting that DONOVAN was and still is a very dynamic person possessed of an abundance of well-controlled and well directed energy, Judge HOLTZOFF noted DONOVAN has a fine mind and is known as a very capable organizer. Judge HOLTZOFF related he has followed DONOVAN'S career and is of the opinion that DONOVAN is a very outstanding American citizen. There is not the slightest doubt as to DONOVAN'S loyalty or patriotism. Judge HOLTZOFF summed up his comments by stating he would highly recommend DONOVAN for any position for which the United States Government might consider him.

Mr. UGO CARUSI, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the United States, maintains his offices at No. 1025 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Suite 802. CARUSI advised SA JAMES D. HUPPERT he was with the Justice Department between 1925 and 1945. He recalled DONOVAN was with the Department between 1924 and 1929. Originally he was assigned to the Criminal Division but later was appointed Assistant Attorney General to head the Anti-Trust Division. This was under Attorney General SARGENT. CARUSI, at this time, was Attorney General SARGENT'S personal secretary, and, for this reason, he states he was in a good position to observe what type of person DONOVAN was.

CARUSI states DONOVAN impressed everyone in those days as being a "live wire". He was unusually energetic and showed remarkably good judgment in administering the affairs of his Division. He was never, to MR. CARUSI'S knowledge, swayed by the elements of personal friendships and would, in fact, "bend over backwards" to place performance of duty before any other consideration. He gained the reputation of being an extremely capable

WFO (77-44319)

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individual and was greatly admired by all those who knew him. Based upon his contact and knowledge of DONOVAN, Mr. CARUSI stated he recommended him wholeheartedly as a 100% American and completely suited for any position of trust in which the government might desire to use him.

Mr. CARUSI recalled that in 1929 President HERBERT HOOVER knew DONOVAN well and held him in high esteem. Mr. CARUSI believes President HOOVER strongly considered appointing DONOVAN as Attorney General in 1929.

Attorney RUSSELL HARDY, 1820 Jefferson Place, N.W., advised SA JAMES D. HUPPERT he was in the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice between 1914 and 1938. He recalled DONOVAN was first assigned to the Criminal Division when coming into the Department of Justice at Washington, D.C. in 1924, but later became Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Anti-Trust Division. HARDY noted he was DONOVAN'S immediate assistant during the last three years of DONOVAN'S stay in the Anti-Trust Division. He has had only slight business contact with DONOVAN since DONOVAN left the Department.

Mr. HARDY advised he has the highest possible opinion of DONOVAN. Describing him as a man of extraordinary ability, HARDY emphasizes that DONOVAN was the best administrator in the Anti-Trust Division during the time HARDY was employed there. DONOVAN'S executive ability was almost beyond compare and his other qualifications were on a very high level. HARDY said that DONOVAN was totally devoid of "bureaucratic jealousy" and never stood in the way of those employed under him. Neither did he try to gain credit which belonged to others. He thus developed strong loyalties and personal affection for himself among those in his Division, all of which was completely deserved.

MR. HARDY was positive there is no one more loyal to this country than DONOVAN and he said DONOVAN will distinguish himself in any position to which he might be appointed.

Attorney NORMAN J. MORRISON, 1632 K Street, N.W., advised SA JAMES D. HUPPERT he was in the Department of Justice,

WFO (77-44319)

WEF:mfb

Tax Prohibition Division, between 1926 and 1934. He stated he was acquainted with DONOVAN while DONOVAN was head of the Anti-Trust Division but has had no intimate professional contact with him. MORRISSON recalled DONOVAN had been United States Attorney in Buffalo, New York, before joining the Department in Washington, D. C. and was one of the best in the country. MORRISSON stated he has never heard anything unfavorable with regard to DONOVAN'S government service and his reputation was of the highest caliber. MORRISSON stated that from his knowledge of DONOVAN'S subsequent activity, after leaving the Department, he feels DONOVAN is a very good American and is well qualified to fill a position of trust with the federal government.

United States Delegation to Customs Regulations Conference
Between United States and Canada, 1923.

The 1952-53 edition of "Who's Who" indicates DONOVAN was a member of the United States Delegation to the Customs Regulations Conference Between United States and Canada in 1923.

AUDREY EDMUNDS, Personnel Office, Bureau of Customs, was unable to locate any specific official record of these conferences. She noted there is no index to their files for the 1902-38 period and any information concerning the conferences would be filed in the general activity files. Miss EDMUNDS made appropriate inquiry among others in the Bureau without locating anyone who recalled the conferences.

JOSEPH O'DONNELL, a File Searcher in the Bureau of Customs, Section of National Archives, was also unable to locate any records.

The "Annual Report of the Secretary of Treasury" for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1924, has one section devoted to "Customs Relations with Canada", under the caption "Customs Service". A pertinent reference reads "Conferences held between officers of the Department and Canadian customs authorities during the year resulted in mutual benefit and the general facilitation of the customs business between the two countries".

WFO (77-44319)
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United States Commissioner and Chairman, Rio Grande River
Compact Commission.

In the late 1920's, according to the official records now maintained at National Archives, the States of Colorado, New Mexico and Texas resolved to conclude a compact which would remove all causes of controversy among these states and between citizens of one and citizens of another over the use of Rio Grande waters above Fort Quitman, Texas. To this end the respective governors named commissioners; DELPH E. CARPENTER (Colorado), FRANCIS C. WILSON (New Mexico), and T. H. MCGREGOR (Texas). On December 5, 1928, WILLIAM J. DONOVAN was appointed by President CALVIN COOLIDGE to act as Commissioner representing the United States in the matter. He journeyed to Santa Fe, New Mexico, and on December 19, 1928, at the original three day meeting, was elected Chairman of the Commission. The Commission reconvened on January 22, 1929, and subsequently reached an agreement which was signed as a compact on February 12, 1929.

United States Representative and Chairman, Colorado River
Commission

Again, according to official records maintained at National Archives, DONOVAN was appointed United States Representative by President COOLIDGE on February 7, 1929, and was to participate in negotiations contemplated between the States of Arizona, California, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming under an Act of Congress known as the "Boulder Canyon Project Act" approved December 21, 1928.

Footnotes appearing in House Document #717, a publication of the 80th Congress, 2nd Session, entitled "The Hoover Dam Documents" by RAY LYMAN WILBUR and NORTHCUTT ELY, 1948, disclose a formal conference was held at Santa Fe, New Mexico, February 14 - March 5, 1929, between the representatives of the "lower-basin" states.

Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, as representative of the Federal Government, presided. Representatives of the "upper-basin" states were attached as observers. During the period, April-July 1929, informal conferences between

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California and Arizona were held at Los Angeles. Representatives of Arizona, California, Nevada, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming met on August 28, 1929, at Salt Lake City with primary reference to power matters.

On January 21, 1930, the "lower basin" commissioners resumed formal conferences at Reno, Nevada, under the Chairmanship of DONOVAN. At the suggestion of the Secretary of the Interior, advisors were added by each State; Senator CARL HAYDEN for Arizona, Senator PITTMAN and THOMAS COLE for Nevada, and W. J. CARR for California. Having recessed at Reno, the Commission met at Phoenix, February 6-9, 1930, but failed to reach an agreement.

Reference to a report of WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, Federal Representative in tri-State negotiations, to Secretary of the Interior WILBUR dated February 14, 1930, is made in one footnote but appropriate searches by Bureau of Reclamation Chief File Room Clerk, HUGO DUNN, Department of Interior Chief File Room Clerk, MERLE OWENS, National Archive searchers, CHARLES E. DEWING and JULIA CARROLL, and Department of State file searchers, CHARLES PATTERSON and ALICE COLLINS, failed to locate this report.

It is noted the Colorado River Compact became an actuality in November 1922 and the "Boulder Canyon Project Act" was an outgrowth of it.

GUY W. NUMBERS, head of the Personnel Section, Department of Interior, was unable to locate any record of DONOVAN having been a Department employee.

T. W. MERMEL, Assistant to Commissioner - Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation, made available House Document #717 referred to above. He could add no further pertinent information.

National Mediation Board

The "Second Annual Report of the National Mediation Board for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1936" reflects arbitration hearings began August 12, 1935, in the dispute between the American Train Dispatchers' Association and the Boston and Maine Railroad over the question "Shall train directors handle centralized traffic control system from AR tower or shall such system be handled by train dispatchers?".

WFO (77-14319;
REF:mfb

Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, New York attorney, was the "central member" of the Board which was also made up of S. E. MILLER, Assistant General Manager, Boston and Maine Railroad, and O. H. DRAESE, Vice-President, American Train Dispatchers' Association. The arbitration board decided the centralized traffic control system from the AR tower would be handled by the train dispatchers. The award was made on November 19, 1935, and was filed in the Office of the Clerk United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts.

EUGENE C. THOMPSON, Secretary, National Mediation Board, was unable to furnish further pertinent information.

Unofficial Observer for Secretary of the Navy, Great Britain, July - August 1940; South East Europe, December 1940 - March 1941.

The 1952-53 edition of "Who's Who" indicates DONOVAN was an unofficial observer for the Secretary of the Navy in Great Britain during July and August 1940, and in south east Europe, December 1940 - March 1941.

Mr. J. S. DAVITT, Administrative Officer, Administrative Office of the Navy Department, advised SA DESMOND J. BRIDGES he was unable to locate any record of this among Naval files. Mr. DAVITT also made appropriate inquiry among officials of the Department of Navy without locating anyone who specifically recalled or was closely associated with DONOVAN during this period.

Files of the Department of State contain a telegram dated July 11, 1940, directed by the Department of State to the Ambassador at London informing him that Colonel KNOX (then Secretary of the Navy) desired to send Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN to England for a brief survey and report on certain aspects of the British defense situation. DONOVAN intended to depart New York via clipper on July 14, and was to report to the Ambassador upon arrival in London.

Department of State files also contain a telegram dated November 30, 1940, directed by the Department to the American Legation at Lisbon, Portugal, informing the Legation

STATE

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go to
State letter
5-22-51

at Secretary of the Navy KNOX had arranged for Colonel DONOVAN to make an observation trip through the Mediterranean and North Africa. DONOVAN was to fly to Lisbon at an early date and was to be met there by a British officer, Commodore SLESSER. Thereafter, he was to be flown to Gibraltar and Malta and as far east as Alexandria and Cairo. Upon his return journey Colonel DONOVAN was to travel by commercial or such other transportation available as a representative of the "Chicago Daily News" and was to visit North and West African ports as far south as Dakar.

Files of the Special Investigations Squad Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D. C., contain a notation that the "Washington Daily News" carried a series of articles in August 1940 on "Nazi Germany Fifth Column Activities in England". The authors of this series were Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN and EDGAR ANSEL MOWRER, veteran foreign correspondent. The articles reported Colonel DONOVAN had gone to London at the request of Secretary of the Navy, FRANK KNOX, for the purpose of developing information regarding fifth column activities.

In a foreward to this series, Secretary KNOX wrote: "These two men, on the behalf of the United States, made the most thoroughgoing survey of German fifth column methods used in weakening resistance of possible enemies and undermining the morale of countries they proposed to attack. The results ... are designed to make Americans fully conscious of methods used by totalitarian powers, so that if or when such methods are used here they will instantly be recognized for what they are and their effect nullified."

No other pertinent information was located in these Special Investigations Squad files by SA DESMOND J. BRIDGES.

Coordinator of Information

According to the "United States Government Organizational Manual, 1952-53", referred to previously, the Coordinator of Information was established by Presidential order dated July 11, 1941, to collect, analyze and correlate

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WEP:mfb

information and data bearing on national security. This data was to be made available to the President and such other officials as determined by him. Related supplementary activities were also to be performed. Exclusive of foreign information activities, the unit was transferred by military order of June 13, 1942, to the jurisdiction of the Joint United States Chiefs of Staff and designated the Office of Strategic Services.

Office of Strategic Services

Subsequent to its redesignation, the functions of Office of Strategic Services were modified by Executive Order 9312, March 9, 1943, so that the agency was responsible for the collection and analysis of such strategic information as required by the Joint Chiefs of Staff for military operations and planning. The agency was also responsible for conducting special operations not assigned other government agencies. Executive Order 9621 of September 20, 1945, provided for the termination of the Office of Strategic Services effective October 1, 1945, and for the distribution of its functions to the Department of State and the War Department.

Contact officer [redacted] Central Intelligence Agency, advised SA ROBERT J. MCKERNAN that Central Intelligence Agency personnel records reflect DONOVAN was appointed Coordinator of Information by President ROOSEVELT on July 7, 1941. On April 2, 1943, while Director of Office of Strategic Services, he was officially recalled to active duty in the Army as a Colonel. On October 1, 1945, he was relieved as Director of Office of Strategic Services. At that time he held the rank of Major General. [redacted] stated nothing of an unfavorable nature was contained in the file. b-3

[redacted] further stated he was unable to advise the identity of anyone who might have been closely associated with DONOVAN during this period other than ALLEN DULLES, present Central Intelligence Agency Director.

Military Service

In reviewing that portion of DONOVAN'S military file which is located at the Pentagon, SE JOHN J. LANDERS noted a "Statement of Service" certified by the Adjutant.

Army
OK to release

cont

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General on July 15, 1943, which reflects DONOVAN served as an enlisted man in the New York National Guard between October 1911 and October 16, 1912. He attained the rank of Sergeant. On October 17, 1912, he was commissioned a Captain in the New York National Guard and subsequently mustered into Federal Service at Governors Island, New York, on July 19, 1916, for duty on the Mexican border.

A brief resume of DONOVAN'S career, drawn up in November 1926, in connection with his position as Assistant Attorney General, reflects he was a Captain in Troop I, First Cavalry, New York National Guard, when mustered into Federal service. After the mustering he commanded the Third Squadron at McAllen, Texas, until October 15, 1916, when he became Judge Advocate. He commanded Troop I until mustered out of Federal Service at Buffalo, New York, on March 15, 1917.

DONOVAN again reported for duty on July 15, 1917. He held the rank of Major and was Adjutant of the 21st Infantry Brigade, 6th Division, New York National Guard. In August 1917, he was assigned to the 69th New York Infantry. This unit later became the 165th Infantry, 42nd Division. At Camp Miller DONOVAN was placed in command of the 1st Battalion as the unit prepared for foreign service and departure from the United States.

Commanding his 1st Battalion, DONOVAN entered the front lines in February 1918, serving in defense of the Lunéville sector (Lorraine); Baccarat sector (Lorraine); Esperance Sovain sector (Champagne); Champagne Marne Defensive; Aisne-Marne Offensive; St. Mihiel Offensive; Essey - Pannes sector (Lorraine); and Meuse Argonne sector until severely wounded on October 15, 1918, and vacated to a hospital. DONOVAN had also been wounded on July 29, 1918, but was not treated in a hospital until late August 1918.

DONOVAN was subsequently promoted to Colonel, Infantry, on March 9, 1919, and placed in command of a regiment stationed with the American Expeditionary Forces, Germany. He served as Inspector and instructor in the Provost Marshal General's Department, Paris; returned to the United States on April 21, 1919, and was demobilized at Hoboken, New Jersey on May 14, 1919.

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ARMY

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DONOVAN was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty near Landres and St. George, France, October 14-15, 1918.

For extraordinary heroism in action, July 28-31, 1918, DONOVAN was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. "He led his Battalion across the River Ourcq and captured important enemy strongholds near Villers-sur Fere, France, on July 28-31, 1918. In advance of his Division for four days under shell and machine gun fire from the enemy who were on three sides of him, he repeatedly and persistently counter-attacked and was wounded twice. His coolness, courage and efficient leadership rendered possible the maintenance of the position."

The Distinguished Service Medal was awarded DONOVAN for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service. As Battalion Commander, 165th Infantry during operations in the Baccarat sector, July 28-31, 1918, he demonstrated high professional attainments and marked ability. He displayed conspicuous energy and efficient leadership in advance of his Battalion across the OURCQ River. In October 1918, as a Lieutenant Colonel he commanded the same regiment with marked success in the Meuse - Argonne Offensive. From January 1, 1919, to March 3, 1919, as Inspector - Instructor, Provost Marshal General's Department, he rendered service of great value to the A.E.F.

The brief prepared notes DONOVAN is the only member of the Army awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Medal and Distinguished Service Cross - the Nation's three highest awards - for service performed during World War I.

DONOVAN accepted appointment as a Colonel, Infantry, Officers Reserve Corps on May 14, 1921, according to official records and was transferred to Cavalry, ORC, on February 4, 1922.

Official records further reflect DONOVAN, Army Serial Number O-102 383, became a Brigadier General on March 24, 1943, and was recalled to active duty on April 24, 1943, as Director, Office of Strategic Services. On December 7, 1944, he was promoted to Major General, the rank he held upon his

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release

ARMY

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release from active duty.

DONOVAN is now carried on the Army rolls as a Major General, Honorary Reserve.

DONOVAN, according to the military records, has been awarded:

Medal of Honor
Distinguished Service Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster
Distinguished Service Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster
Order of Crown - Italy
Italian War Cross
Knight Commander, Order of J.K.B.E. - Britain
Legion of Honor, Degree of Commander - France
Grand Officer, Order of Leopold with Palm - Belgium
Croix de Guerre, 1940 with Palm
French Croix de Guerre with Star (W.W.I)
French Croix de Guerre with Palm (W.W.I)
Purple Heart with one Oak Leaf Cluster
Grand Cross - Crown of Italy
Commander Cross with Star, J. J. Royal Order of
Saint Olav - Norway
Special Collar Order Yun Hui - China
Czechoslovak War Cross

No further pertinent information was noted by SE JOHN J. LANDERS.

Passport Data

In reviewing appropriate records at the Passport Office, Department of State, SA JAMES D. HUPPERT noted numerous passports have been issued DONOVAN. Pertinent data regarding them is set forth below.

WFO (77-14319)

WFF:nfb

PASSPORT NUMBER	DATE ISSUED	PURPOSE	COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED
Special 3060	May 9, 1928	Official business, Department of Justice	France, Holland, and Germany
204011	April 19, 1930	(Not specified)	Europe
204011 (renewed)	June 28, 1932	Travel	Europe
128942	June 28, 1934	Business	England, France, Germany, Austria, and Switzerland
128942 (renewed)	April 20, 1937	(Not specified)	(Not specified)
543075	May 31, 1938	Business	England, France, Germany, Italy. (Also valid for Spain)
Special 8190 (Lost or stolen in Sofia Bulgaria, January 22, 1941)	July 11, 1940	Official business (United States) Navy	Portugal, Spain, France and England. Later validated for additional countries.
Substitute for above issued at American Consulate, Belgrade. - Special No. 227	January 24, 1941	Official business (United States) Navy	Portugal, Spain, France and England. Later validated for additional countries.
Special 16357	June 8, 1942	Official business, Office of the Coordinator of Information. (Director, Office of Strategic Services)	British Isles
Above renewed. Renewal Series No. 1684	December 8, 1942	-----	-----

PASSPORT

WFO (77-44319)
WFF:mfb

PASSPORT NUMBER	DATE ISSUED	PURPOSE	COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED
Above renewed, Renewal Series No. 1018	June 15, 1943	-----	-----
Above renewed	March 30, 1944	-----	-----
Diplomatic No. 526	June 22, 1945	As Associate Chief of Counsel for Prosecution of War Crimes and as Di- rector, Office of Strategic Services	Various European and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
New York Series No. 5132	October 16, 1946	Legal Business	England and France
(The above passport was accompanied by a military permit #17636, issued by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It granted DONOVAN permission to enter the United States Zone of Germany and Austria for the purpose of visiting General CLAY. Issued June 10, 1947, it expired August 10, 1947.)			
New York Series No. 5132 - renewal Series No. 393	September 3, 1946	Legal Business	Europe
Above passport ex- tended to expire October 15, 1950	May 18, 1950	(Not specified)	(Not specified)
322968	July 10, 1950	Business and pleasure	England, France, Germany, Belgium and Italy.
Above renewed - re- newal Series No. 21166. Expires July 9, 1954	May 14, 1953 MAY 14, 1952	Business	France and England.

PASSPORT

PASSPORT advised
dated 6-14-50
should be
5-14-52
5-14-53

WFO 77-44319
JEF:CAS

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

SE JAMES A. ROBERTS determined there is no record of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN in the files of the Washington, D.C. Credit Bureau.

No arrest record of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN was located in the files of the Metropolitan Police Department, Washington, D.C., by SE EDWARD J. EIDEN.

SE WALTER JAMES TOLSON determined there is no record of DONOVAN in the files of the United States Park Police, Washington, D.C.

MISCELLANEOUS

At the Investigations Division, Civil Service Commission, SA FRANK P. HOLMAN was advised there is no record of WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN in their indices.

Contact Officer [REDACTED] advised SA ROBERT J. McKENNAN there is no derogatory information concerning WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN in the Security Files, Central Intelligence Agency. b-3

SE HILBERT ARPS determined there is no additional pertinent information in the files of the Security Division, Department of State.

The 1952-1953 edition of "Who's Who in America" reflects DONOVAN was married to RUTH RIMSEY on July 14, 1914. Two children, DAVID RIMSEY DONOVAN and PATRICIA DONOVAN (now deceased) were born to this union.

WFO 77-44319
JEF:CAS

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

LEADS

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

AT WASHINGTON, D.C.:

Will report results of the House Committee on
Un-American Activities agency check.

Will report results of ONI check.

Will report result of file reviews, principally
HCUA, based upon New York teletype dated June 18,
1953.

Will contact EDGAR ANSEL MORRER, 3301 Garfield
Street, N. W., if he is in this country at this
time for the purpose of determining nature of
DONOVAN's mission for Secretary of the Navy
KNOX, now deceased, in 1940-41, and any comment
he may have regarding DONOVAN.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AIRTEL

77
Transmit the following Teletype message to:

FBI, ST. LOUIS

6-30-53

HMA:mbs

DIRECTOR, FBI

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. REBU RADIOGRAM DATED JUNE TWENTYTHREE, LAST.

RUC REPORT OF SA JAMES E. REILLY SUBMITTED JUNE TWENTYFIVE, LAST.

RUC.

THORNTON

END

77-12216

AIR-TEL

RECORDED 92

77-58706-36

20 JUL 22 1953

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 30 1953

TELETYPE

WASHINGTON FROM NEW YORK XX 15

30

11-16P

DIRECTOR

....U R G E N T....

ATTENTION - INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, SPECIAL INQUIRY SECTION.

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, AKA, SI. THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO DESIRE
THEIR IDENTITIES KEPT CONFIDENTIAL FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING
INFORMATION. [REDACTED] b7d

ADVISED HIS EXPERIENCES WITH APPOINTEE HAVE NEVER BEEN FAVORABLE.
APPOINTEE HAS ALWAYS BEEN QUOTE SOFT AND MUSHY UNQUOTE IN HIS
TREATMENT OF COMMUNISTS AND COMMUNIST INFILTRATION OF ORGANIZATIONS
UNDER HIS CONTROL. [REDACTED] STATED THAT APPOINTEE WOULD NEVER TAKE A
FIRM STAND AGAINST COMMUNISTS IN GOVERNMENT, UNIONS, OR THE UN.
HE CONSIDERS APPOINTEE AN QUOTE ANTI ANTI COMMUNIST UNQUOTE.

[REDACTED] STATED THAT HIS COMMENTS WERE NOT BASED ON SPECIFIC INCIDENTS
BUT ON GENERAL IMPRESSION AND OBSERVATION. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] STATED THAT HE MADE INQUIRY RE APPOINTEE FOR OWN USE.
APPOINTEE-S LAW FIRM REPRESENTS A PUBLIC RELATIONS FIRM, ALLIED
SYNDICATE, WHOSE CLIENTS ARE FRANK COSTELLO, JOHN L. LEWIS, AND
LAUCHLIN CURRIE. THE APPOINTEE WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE HEADED A RECENT
END PAGE ONE

77-58706-37

JUL 22 1953

RECORDED-92

102

PAGE TWO

COMMITTEE WHICH WAS TO ASK PRESIDENT EISENHOWER TO OUST SENATOR
MC CARTHY. THE APPOINTEE-S LAW FIRM ALSO WAS ALLEGED TO REPRESENT
THE CHINESE GENERALS WHO ABSCOUNDED WITH MILLIONS OF NATIONALIST
CHINA-S FUNDS. [REDACTED] b7D
CONSIDERS APPOINTEE A QUOTE BUBBLEHEAD
UNQUOTE, WHO NEVER GOT TOUGH WITH COMMUNISTS- IN OSS. BOTH INDIVIDUALS
WOULD NOT RECOMMEND. REPORT WILL FOLLOW.

BOARDMAN

HOLD

104

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUN 30 1953

TELETYPE

NEW YORK 10 FROM WASH DC 30 7-00 PM

SAC URGENT

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN, SI. ADVISE DATE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT
SUBMITTED AND IDENTITY OF REPORTING AGENT.

HOOVER

WFO ADVISED

END

WA R 10 NY TM

TU DISC

This reference is a letter dated 5/13/40, Dallas, Texas, signed, "A Disgruntled Stockholder". This letter stated that the innocent stockholder could do nothing about it when the federal government knew what was going on and did not take adequate steps to correct the condition. This letter continued that the amount of money paid William J. Donovan and Irving Trust Company totaled more than one million dollars. Enclosed with this letter was a document pertaining to the amount of fees paid to the receiver and trustee, together with other interested parties in the Radio - Keith - Orpheum Corporation Bankrupt Case.

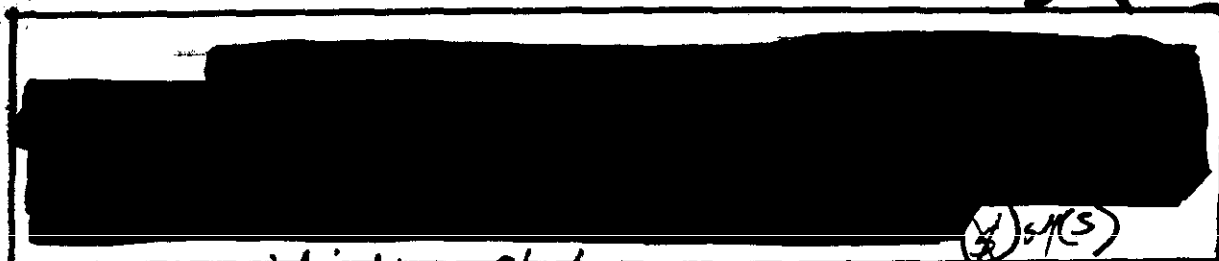
62-108-3075
(76)

On 6/13/40 [REDACTED] b7C

[REDACTED] NYC, allowed a Bureau Agent to examine the credit file of Topkin and Farley entitled, "Transfers from German Estates to American Beneficiaries." On 3/25/33 of the above credit file under the heading "Donovan, Leisure, Newton and Lombard", it was stated that both Mr. Topken and Mr. Farley were introduced to the German consulate by Col. Donovan. Col. Donovan was identified as Col. William J. Donovan, former Assistant Attorney General under former Attorney General John Sargent, with law offices at 2 Wall St., NYC.

NY Rpt., 6/18/40
Re: German Funds;
Miscellaneous, Information concerning
65-7267-155 pg. 16
(94)
SI 65-7267-166
(94)

~~TOP SECRET~~



*Classified
per CIA ltr 7/15/83.
SP4 elw/ahr
10-28-83*

Memo from Mr. Hoover
dated 8/6/40
No caption given
64-5004-X2
(112)✓

This reference is a letter dated 8/8/40 from William J. Donovan, 2 Wall St., NYC, enclosing a letter which he had received from Dr. Gerhardt Alois Westrick, Waldorf - Astoria Hotel, NYC, concerning pro-German allegations which had been made against Dr. Westrick. Letter of acknowledgment sent to Col. Donovan 8/22/40.

65-10325-76X
(96)✓

On 8/13/40 the Publication Section Mailing List contained a change of address for Col. William J. Donovan from 41 Broad St., NYC, to 2 Wall St., NYC.

Memo for Mr. Renneberger
8/13/40
No caption given
94-6-5953
(94)✓

~~TOP SECRET~~

On 8/19/40 Mr. James Allen of the Department of Justice called regarding a series of five articles prepared by Col. William J. Donovan at the request of Secretary of War Knox which were to appear in the Washington "News" concerning Fifth Column activities. Mr. Allen felt that a sixth article should be written to explain the part the Department of Justice took in combating Fifth Column activities.

Memo to Director from
Mr. Tamm, 8/19/40
No caption given
94-8-64-31
(96)

The Washington "Daily News" for 8/20/40 carried an article entitled "Fifth Column Dangers Traitor's Vital Factor in Many Nazi Victories" which was the second of four articles made public by Navy Secretary Knox as part of the National Defense program. Col. William J. Donovan having just returned from a mission abroad, on behalf of Secretary Knox, wrote these articles in collaboration with Edgar Mowrer, foreign correspondent.

61-7560-A
(87)