

4-22 (6-15-55)
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Section

, 1955

☐ Name Check Unit - Room 6523
☐ Attention _____
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☐ Forward to File Review
☐ Return to _____ Ext. _____

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

☒ All References
☐ Subversive References
☐ Main References Only
☐ Restrict to Locality of _____
☐ Breakdown ☐ Buildup ☐ Variations
☐ Exact Name Only
☐ Exact Spelling
☐ Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

SUBJECT
Address

Localities
Birthdate & Place

R# _____ Date 6/17/57
FILE NUMBER SEARCHER Initial 13X
SERIAL

77-58716
77-58716-50
77-58716-50
77-58716-50
77-58716-50
26-16205 MF
17-3210 MF
26-50262 MF
97-2753
94-4-4672
73-3760 MF
26-38902 MF
122-699
75-198 MF
47-36810
61-8435
26-24684 MF
73-2963 MF

MAILED
NOV 7 1957
NAME CHECK

November 6, 1957

WILLIAM J. DONOVAN
Born: January 1, 1883
Buffalo, New York

In June and July, 1953, an applicant-type investigation was conducted by this Bureau concerning the captioned individual. Results of this investigation were furnished to the White House on July 15, 1953. At the request of the White House, you are referred to the office of the Honorable Sherman Adams should you desire the detailed results of this investigation. (77-58706)

The foregoing information is furnished to you as a result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is loaned for your use and is not to be disseminated outside of your agency.

Orig and one to ONI

Rec rec'd: 10/22/57

E. V. Gronquist/ckb

(4)

Note: ONI name check request in connection with global strategy meeting to be held by Navy in 1958. Donovan was former head of Office of Strategic Services. Two informants failed to recommend him in view of his "soft" treatment of communists in organizations under his control. He allegedly headed a committee to ask the President to oust Senator McCarthy. Elizabeth Bentley before HCUA identified 5 individuals as her contacts in OSS at time subj headed the organization. Donovan's name appears as sponsor of September, 1933, Issue of "Equal Justice," a monthly publication of International Labor Defense, cited by California Committee. Chambers testified before HCUA that Nathan Witt was head of CP underground at end of 1930's. Witt formerly employed in Donovan's law firm 1932-33. USIA referred to White House for copy of investigation on July 10, 1956.

Tolson _____
Nichols _____
Boardman _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Parsons _____
Rosen _____
Tamm _____
Trotter _____
Nease _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐

RECORDED - 28

INDEXED - 28

77-58706-52

8 NOV 7 1957

74
1/5 1957

4-226-(11-23-55) INFORMATION CONTAINED.

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-9-85 BY SP6 Bp/ga

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: William J. Douglas

R# _____ Date 10-24 Searcher Number 186

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

I	140-10402-1 p ⁴ 27
L	140-6436-15 p ⁴ 3
	William Joseph (Rw)
I	77-58706-51
	Sum. 7-10-56
I	77-58706-4
	Sum. 6-12-53
	97-0-117
	65-62578-11 14
	65-58068-1042
	W J
I	140-1602-5
	William
	122-649
K	61-8435
	62-0-51122 Sum. 1-23-52
A/I	2-0-332
3	61-1292-1012 1528 p ⁴ 2527

417

4-22b (11-23-55)

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: William J. Donovan

R# _____ Date 10-24 Searcher Number 886

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

	61-1292-996	1416 p [#] 3, 14, 15
	1369	p [#] 24
	62-104011-1	p [#] 2
	62-100769-172	
	62-56597-1282	p [#] 5
	62-77465-9	7
	62-64427-1211	
	62-79107-9-24	p [#] 113
	64-32915-9	p [#] 2
	65-62578-17	32
	65-14303-153	
	65-62562-59	
	65-16160-105	p [#] 4
	65-58798-536	
	65-63548-5	
	100-342058-815	
I	100-353709-635	
I	100-363633-105	

415

4-22b (11-23-55)

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: William J. Donovan

R# _____ Date 10-24 Searcher Number 186

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

	100-162370-317	
T	100-392148-5	#10
	101-4053-1406	#287,289
T	105-31981-7	
L	121-6977-96	112 !
T	139-172-36	
T	140-6289-2	
	25-102972	
	75-116	
III	215-231355	
	62-96032-9	
	44-C-1607	
	bill	
	61-1392	1714 #1
	992, p #18	
T	105-25454-2X	
	62-36424-A	6-15-56

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4-22b (11-23-55)

SEARCH SLIP

Subj: William L. Donovan

R# _____ Date 10-24 Number 186

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

P. 10

62-100769-214

26 28 144

62-36434-A 9-14-55

Journal Americ. p⁴ 31

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : MR. BASSETT

~~SECRET~~

DATE: October 22, 1974

FROM : R. D. COTTER

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Classified by B63P
Exempt from GDS, Category 3
Date of Declassification Indefinite

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR ACCESS TO FBI RECORDS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This memorandum recommends that on a carefully controlled basis we allow a review of certain historical FBI records by [REDACTED] who is conducting a detailed study of events during period (1940 - 1947) which led to establishment of CIA.

During December, 1973, we offered no objection to the release to [REDACTED] of various 1940 - 1942 documents regarding these matters which had been prepared by Director J. Edgar Hoover and other FBI officials and which [REDACTED] had located in the Archives. In the Spring of 1974, the results of [REDACTED] research to date was published by CIA as a special supplement to its series "Studies in Intelligence," which was classified "Secret" (copy attached).

[REDACTED] personally contacted me, as the Bureau's Document Classification Officer, on 10/3/74 and expressed the hope that he could be granted access to additional FBI records during the 1940 - 1947 period to assist him in his continuing studies. At my suggestion, he has incorporated his request in the attached letter which was forwarded by letter of 10/10/74 from [REDACTED]

In his note [REDACTED] has cited the following areas of particular interest: Stephenson's activities in the United States; the latter's relationship with President Roosevelt [REDACTED]

Enclosures

1 - Messrs. Adams, Bassett, Wannall (Att: Schwartz), Mintz (Att: Farrington)

5 PDC:bhg (6) 975

~~SECRET~~

CONTINUED - OVER

Assoc. Dir. _____
Dep. Dir. _____
Dep. Dir. _____
Asst. Dir. _____
Admin. _____
Comp. Syst. _____
Ext. Affairs _____
Files & Com. _____
Gen. Inv. _____
Ident. _____
Inspection _____
Intell. _____
Laboratory _____
Plan. & Eval. _____
Spec. Inv. _____
Training _____
Telephone Rm. _____
Director Sec'y _____

Memorandum to Mr. Bassett
Re: Request for Access to FBI Records
[REDACTED] CIA

~~SECRET~~

a separate memorandum will be submitted detailing any material which [REDACTED] would be interested in using.

ACTION

If you approve, arrangements will be made with [REDACTED] to proceed under the above-outlined conditions.

ADDENDUM BY INTELLIGENCE DIV.: WRW:lm1 10/23/74

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Accordingly, it is recommended that after the Bureau's Document Classification Officer has compiled material which he feels may be of such nature that it can be offered to [REDACTED] for his review, such material be reviewed both by the Intelligence Division and the Division of Legal Counsel prior to its being exhibited to Mr. Troy.

I want to see any matter which is critical of Bureau, G-2 or other agencies -

~~SECRET~~

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Memorandum to Mr. Bassett
Re: Request for Access to FBI Records

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED] CIA

(S)
[REDACTED] the FBI's collaboration with G-2 and ONI in the formation of the "Special Intelligence Service" (SIS) and FBI - G-2 disagreement as to the scope of SIS operations; the role of Commodore Vincent Astor as a special intelligence advisor to Mr. Roosevelt beginning in 1941; the FBI's attitude towards Major General Donovan [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] main areas of interest are in the events which led to the organization and in defining the jurisdiction of the Coordinator of Information and OSS. (X)

[REDACTED] letter points out that access to Bureau records in these areas is for official and classified use and that no publication of our material would be made without the FBI's prior concurrence. In my discussion with [REDACTED] he also gave his assurance that, if he is allowed access to any of our records, he will not publish anything, either as a CIA document or otherwise, without our specific approval.

b-1
b-6
b7C
OBSERVATIONS

This request appears to be a valid one aimed at a legitimate historical purpose. In view of the lapse of time involved, it is most unlikely that disclosure of any of the material involved would jeopardize any current Bureau sources or operations or would otherwise warrant classification under terms of the existing guidelines as set forth in Executive Order 11652. Our main concern would be to not release any material which would represent an invasion of the privacy of the various individuals involved. It is unlikely that much material of this type would be involved, however, since the files would consist almost entirely of copies of official correspondence (memoranda or letters between the Bureau and other agencies).

Under the circumstances, it is felt that we should accede to this request with the following caveats to be agreed to in advance by [REDACTED]

I will check logical Bureau files concerning the topics of interest to [REDACTED] (eliminating any material which might still be sensitive or which otherwise appears undesirable to grant access to). Thereafter, I will arrange to have [REDACTED] review this material in our space and under my personal supervision. I will further obtain [REDACTED] agreement to obtain our specific clearance to quote or copy material from any particular item as well as to submit for our prior approval any material he plans to publish based on FBI material. Following [REDACTED] review,

Mrs. Mildred Stegall

The VSS has not been the subject of an investigation by the FBI and our files reveal no derogatory information concerning it. It was the intention, in 1948, that the VSS would be organized into chapters of fifteen or more persons in any county, city, town or village throughout the country and was to be an "entirely civilian organization." No additional pertinent information has been received concerning the VSS since that time.

A copy of this communication has not been sent to the Attorney General.

Sincerely yours,

November 16, 1967

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

Reference is made to your name check request concerning the William J. Donovan Award and the Veterans of Strategic Services.

The central files of the FBI reveal no information identifiable with the William J. Donovan Award, which is probably an award established in honor of William J. Donovan, who was born on January 1, 1883, at Buffalo, New York, and who died in February, 1959. During World War II, Mr. Donovan was the head of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS).

Our files further reveal that in May, 1948, information was received that Mr. Donovan and a group of former members of the OSS incorporated a national society to be known as the Veterans of Strategic Services (VSS). The statement of objectives of the VSS noted that the objectives of this organization were of a social, historical and fraternal nature. A further purpose of this organization was to perpetuate the history of the war-time records of OSS among their fellow Americans, and at the same time to permit all former members of OSS to familiarize themselves more fully with the accomplishments of the various branches of OSS. It was specifically noted that the organization was not to become the "political instrument" of any individual or group, nor was it to become in any way a "pressure group" in either the political or economic life of our country. REC 39 77-58706-53

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach (sent direct)
1 - Mr. Gale (sent direct)
1 - Mr. Rosen (sent direct)

JCF:jar (8)

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

32 NOV 24 1967

4-22b (11-23-55)

ALL INFO SEARCH SLIP CONTAINED

Subj:

REVENUE DISBURSED

R#

DATE

Date

1-9-55

10-24

BY

Searcher

Number

10-24

10-24

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

65-32550-101 p[#]41

94-1-369-950

100-354094-26 p[#]4

I 100-364413-2036 p[#]1,2,6,7

15,17,19,21,23

100-341862-177

I 100-364413-2004

I 100-375988-828 p[#]5

100-346993-76

62-64427-1216

100-342424-7 p[#]567

100-362715-19

100-341862-200 p[#]5

100-1852-44-55 p[#]1,54

100-3-4-1594 p[#]1228

I 105-11152-33

I 105-21920-94 p[#]12A

L 109-12-249-A

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11-6-56

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4-22 (Rev. 12-17-56)

OCT 24 1957

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Records Branch

10-23, 1957

☐ Name Check Unit - Room 6523
☐ Service Unit - Room 6524
☒ Forward to File Review
☐ Attention _____
☐ Return to _____

Supervisor Room Ext.

Type of References Requested:

☐ Regular Request (Analytical Search)
☐ All References (Subversive & Nonsubversive)
☒ Subversive References Only
☐ Anti-Subversive References Only
☐ Main _____ References Only

Type of Search Requested:

☐ Restricted to Locality of _____
☐ Exact Name Only (On the Nose)
☐ Buildup ☐ Variations
☐ Check for Alphabetical Loyalty Form

Subject William J. Donovan
 Birthdate & Place _____
 Address _____

Localities NY Conn. Sum. 5-22-54

R# 21 Date 10-23 Searcher Initials 486
 FILE NUMBER SERIAL

I 77-58106
II 77-58706-11

I 97-2753
 97-444672
 97-444672-10
 Sum. 1-42

I 61-6597
 62-7798-21667p*2
 100-1852-53
 61-7582-3218p*852
 61-1292-1237p*30,43,
 44,45
 62-122138-9
 62-64427-1223
 62-101428-5A
 62-77615-A
 65-64357-10*15

Wash. Post & Times Herald

65-64357-10*15

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