

as he had access to that which OSS was getting on Latin America; had access to cables which OSS was getting in from its agent abroad; had access to world-wide information of various sorts and reported to her that OSS had an arrangement with the State Department whereby he could see State Department cables on vital issues.

In a signed statement furnished to the Federal Bureau of Investigation Agents on November 30, 1945, Miss BENTLEY stated her last meeting with HALPERIN occurred in 1944. He was still employed by OSS. In early 1945 "JACK", her Russian contact at that time, told Miss BENTLEY that HALPERIN had been accused by General WILLIAM J. DONOVAN of being a Soviet Agent. After this accusation, according to "JACK", HALPERIN failed to appear two or three times to meet his contact.

Background information inserted into the House Committee on Un-American Activities record during Miss BENTLEY's testimony indicated HALPERIN was employed in OSS between September 1941 and October 1945 and in the Department of State between October 1945 and June 1946.

On the morning of January 24, 1946, during the course of a physical surveillance of HALPERIN by FBI Agents JOSEPH C. WALSH, JR., FRANCIS GALLANT, and FRANCIS D. O'BRIEN, he was observed leaving his New York hotel and proceeding to 2 Wall Street, the address of the law firm of Donovan, Leisure, Newton and Lombard. He remained in the building approximately a half hour. This law firm is that with which General DONOVAN is connected.

With reference to J. JULIUS JOSEPH, Miss BENTLEY testified she had collected Communist Party dues from him. Based upon his employment, he was in a position to furnish her information regarding both Japan and Russia. JOSEPH's wife was also employed by OSS for approximately six months in the Publicity Division. She, too, was a Communist.

No testimony directly relating JOSEPH with DONOVAN was given by Miss BENTLEY.

Miss BENTLEY informed the House Committee on Un-American Activities that HELEN B. TENNEY was a Communist who was first employed at the OSS, Spanish Division, and later handled the Balkans when the Spanish Division "sort of dried up". No testimony directly relating HELEN TENNEY with DONOVAN was given by Miss BENTLEY.

No testimony directly linking DONALD NIVEN WHEELER with General DONOVAN was related by Miss BENTLEY.

DAVID WHITTAKER CHAMBERS testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on August 3, 1948. He said he joined the

Communist Party in 1924 and for a number of years prior to his break with the Party in 1937, served in the Communist Party underground, principally in Washington, D. C. The original purpose of the underground, according to CHAMBERS, was infiltration of the American government. Espionage was one of its eventual objectives. The head of the underground at the time CHAMBERS knew it was NATHAN WITT, an Attorney for the National Labor Relations Board. Later JOHN ABT became the leader.

NATHAN WITT testified under oath before the Committee on August 20, 1948. He stated he graduated from Harvard Law School in June 1932 and immediately entered the private practice of law. He so remained until joining the Agricultural Adjustment Administration in 1933. WITT stated he joined the legal staff of the old National Labor Relations Board in February 1934. He terminated his federal employment in December 1940, at which time he was Secretary of the National Labor Relations Board. WITT declined to state whether he knew CHAMBERS.

In testifying before the Committee on September 1, 1950, WITT stated that during the 1932-1933 period when he was following the private practice of law, he was employed in the office of WILLIAM J. DONOVAN.

WILSON P. SCHMIDT, Secretary, Committee on Socialism and Communism, United States Chamber of Commerce, testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on March 26, 1947. He entered a report of the United States Chamber of Commerce entitled "Communists Within the Government" into the record. In this report under the heading "Espionage and Sedition" the following appears:

"As late as March 1945 (Major General WILLIAM J.) DONOVAN had defended the employment in OSS of such well-known Communists as IRVING GORP, IRVING HAJANS, MILTON WOLFF, and VINCENT LOESOWSKI. A number of pro-Communists in the OSS were subsequently blanketed into strategic intelligence posts in the State Department. Granting the General's thesis that 'no foreign policy can be stronger than the information upon which it is based', it can be seen how considerations of war-time expediency have endangered our safety."

"Washington Evening Star March 13, 1945 and Washington Post July 19, 1945.

The following Associated Press release appears on page seven of the July 19, 1945 issue of the "Washington Post".

"ARMY DEFENDS 16 OFFICERS LISTED AS BEING TINGED WITH  
COMMUNISM"

"Sixteen commissioned and non-commissioned Army officers were listed by the Counsel of a House subcommittee yesterday as having backgrounds which 'reflect Communism'. The War Department immediately replied that the men have proved their loyalty to America."

"The names were given a House Military Subcommittee by Chief Counsel H. RALPH BURTON in private testimony. The subcommittee released them yesterday without comment of its own."

Among those listed were:

"Lieutenant IRVING PAJANS, Office of Strategic Services, Washington, 'on honor roll of Young Communist League members fighting the Spanish Civil War."

"Lieutenant IRVING GOFF, Office of Strategic Services, Washington, 'speaker, Communist School, New York City' and a member of 'the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in Spain'."

BURTON testified that "evidence shows that this organization was Communist dominated....."

"Lieutenant VINCENT LOSSOWSKI, Office of Strategic Services, Washington, 'fought with Abraham Lincoln Brigade in Spanish Civil War'."

"Lieutenant MILTON WOLFF, Office of Strategic Services, Washington, 'National Commander of the Communist-controlled Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade'."

"Major General WILLIAM J. DONOVAN, Director of the Office of Strategic Services, also issued a statement in which he praised the 'outstanding service' of four of the officers in organizing resistance groups in enemy-occupied northern Italy. These officers served with an OSS unit of the Fifteenth Army Group. They were GOFF, WOLFF, LOSSOWSKI and FRANK."

A close reading of the March 13, 1945 edition of the Washington Star to which the above report makes reference failed to locate the news item mentioned. There appears on page 36 of this edition an Associated Press dispatch headlined:

"GENERAL BISSELL DEFENDS OFFICERS ACCUSED OF BEING COMMUNISTS"

"The Chief of Army Intelligence declared today that 10 Army officers accused in newspaper articles of Communist affiliations are now 'actually engaged in upholding the United States by force'.

"Eight of the 10 are in combat overseas, Major General HAYDON HESSELL told an investigating House Military Subcommittee."

Among the names listed were: First Lieutenants IRVING GORF and VINCENT LOSSOWSKI; Second Lieutenants IRVING FAJANS and MILTON WOLFF.

During a hearing by the House Committee on Un-American Activities on "Communist infiltration of Hollywood Motion Picture Industry" on April 10, 1951, STERLING HAYDEN, a self-admitted Communist Party member testified he left the Paramount Motion Picture Company in Hollywood on September 5, 1941. Shortly after he contacted the then Colonel DONOVAN, Co-ordinator of Information (later OSS). He was informed we were training United States troops and volunteers in Guerrilla Warfare. As a result of this, HAYDEN went to Scotland where he trained as a paratrooper. HAYDEN said he got in touch with DONOVAN because sometime previously he had sailed around the world with DONOVAN's son.

House Committee on Un-American Activities files contained a copy of the September 1939 issue of the magazine, "Equal Justice", volume XIII, number 7, a monthly publication by the International Labor Defense, 112 East 19th Street, Room 504, New York City. Page four of the issue lists Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN of New York as one of the head members of the National Committee of Sponsors. Numerous other nationally prominent persons were listed as members of the committee.

In its 1948 report, page 224, the California Committee on Un-American Activities classifies "Equal Justice" among the publications which the Committee found "to be Communist initiated and controlled, or so strongly influenced as to be in the Stalin solar system".

EDGAR ANSEL MOWBR was interviewed by the reporting agent on July 1, 1953. MOWBR stated he writes a column on foreign affairs which is nationally syndicated three times a week. MOWBR stated he has long been associated with the Chicago Daily News and was closely acquainted with FRANK KNOX, now deceased, Publisher of the Chicago Daily News and Secretary of the Navy in 1940.

MOWBR recalls he was in Europe in 1940 when he received instructions from KNOX to meet Colonel WILLIAM J. DONOVAN in London.

It was MOWRER's understanding that DONOVAN was in England to survey the defense preparations and attitudes of the British people for Secretary of the Navy, KNOX. In England MOWRER furnished much information to DONOVAN particularly that pertaining to politics. DONOVAN made his contacts among military personnel. As an outgrowth of this association, MOWRER wrote a pamphlet regarding Nazi Fifth Column Activities in England. This pamphlet was printed listing both MOWRER and DONOVAN as its authors.

MOWRER states he has had some contact with DONOVAN from time to time since 1940. From reading recent newspaper articles he understands DONOVAN is under consideration for appointment as Ambassador to Thailand. MOWRER states he is of the opinion this is an excellent choice because of the sensitive situation existing in that part of the world. He states DONOVAN's military background and political "know how" will serve in the best interests of the United States in that part of the world. He commented that anything he might report concerning DONOVAN personally would be of a favorable nature.

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

100-35044  
The information pertaining to THOMAS J. DONEGAN on page three of this report was taken from the New York report of SA JOSEPH M. KELLY dated November 29, 1948 in the matter "GREGORY", Espionage-R. DONEGAN was reporting in connection with the activities of the Grand Jury meeting at that time. (WFO file 100-17493-5898)

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[T-1, referred to on page three of this report, is identified as Central Intelligence Agency Security files] [REDACTED]

(TS)

The information regarding the physical surveillance referred to on page four of this report appears in Washington Field Office letter to the Director dated December 11, 1945 entitled "NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, wa, et al, Espionage-R". In connection with the statement appearing on page four of this report that no testimony directly linking WHEELER with General DONOVAN was related by Miss BENTLEY, the Bureau may desire to note that in September 1942 OSS advised over the signature of DONOVAN that no additional action was being taken as a result of reports under the Hatch Act which had been made available. This is reflected on page 135 of the Washington Field Office report of SA FLOYD L. JONES dated January 11, 1946 in the matter captioned "NATHAN GREGORY SILVERMASTER, wa, et al, Espionage-R.

Released as excused by letter  
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## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Ladd

DATE: July 7, 1953

FROM : Mr. Rosen

SUBJECT: EISENHOWER INVESTIGATIONS

This is to advise as to the reason why the investigation on the individual listed below has taken more than 3 weeks to complete.

WILLIAM J. DONOVAN  
Investigation ordered 6-15-53  
Status - In dictation

While the investigation has generally been highly favorable to General Donovan there is considerable information regarding his "soft policy" toward pro-Communists in the Office of Strategic Services at the time he headed that Agency. There is also information as to pro-Communist employees in his law firm. Running out and documenting this information has resulted in the delay in completing this case.

The summary has been dictated and is being typed and every effort is being made to transmit it by July 9, 1953.

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77-58706-44

July 15, 1953

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

BY MESSENGER

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

In accordance with the request contained in your letter dated June 12, 1953, there is attached a summary reflecting the results of the inquiries made by this Bureau concerning General William J. Donovan.

This investigation covers inquiries as to the character, loyalty, general standing, and ability of General Donovan but no inquiry has been made as to the source of his income.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

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The Attorney General

July 15, 1953

Director, FBI

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

WILLIAM J. DONOVAN  
SPECIAL INQUIRY

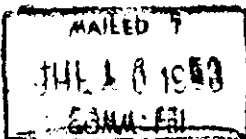
By letter dated June 12, 1953, Honorable John Foster Dulles requested an investigation of General William J. Donovan. There is attached a summary reflecting results of inquiries made by this Bureau concerning General Donovan. Copies of this summary have been forwarded to Mr. Dulles and Honorable Sherman Adams.

This investigation covers inquiries as to the character, loyalty, general standing, and ability of General Donovan but no inquiry has been made as to the source of his income.

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*photo to Strickland, Chester B.  
for Paula, White House  
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July 15, 1953

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

WILLIAM JOSEPH DONOVAN

I. BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Birth

No record for the birth of William Joseph Donovan could be located in the records of the Bureau of Vital Statistics for the State of New York; however, the 1952-53 edition of "Who's Who in America" indicates that he was born at Buffalo, New York, on January 1, 1883, the son of Timothy P. and Anna (Lannon) Donovan. It was also noted in connection with various employment checks that Mr. Donovan lists his birth date as January 1, 1883, at Buffalo, New York. His parents have been dead since the early 1920's.

Education

The appointee entered Columbia College, 116th Street and Broadway, New York, New York, in September, 1903, and received an A.B. degree in June, 1905. He subsequently enrolled in the Columbia University Law School on September 25, 1905, and received an LL.B. degree on May 27, 1908. There was nothing of a derogatory nature noted in the appointee's scholastic record and none of his former professors were available for interview during the course of this investigation.

It was noted that Mr. Donovan has been a member of the Columbia College Alumni since 1922 and the Columbia University Law School Alumni since 1928. Mr. Theodore S. Ruggles, Assistant Director, Council on the Committee of Development and Research of Columbia University, said Mr. Donovan is presently the chairman of the above-named council. Mr. Ruggles said the appointee had been a special advisor to President Eisenhower when he was President of Columbia University. He said Mr. Donovan had been

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appointed to the position by President Eisenhower and further that the appointee has been very active in the above council and has been largely responsible for its success and effectiveness. He said he has worked closely with the appointee in the functioning of this organization and has found him to be an outstanding administrator, possessing an excellent character and reputation. He recommended him most highly and said he is a loyal American citizen whom he would recommend for a position of trust.

The appointee received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from Notre Dame University, South Bend, Indiana, on June 2, 1929. The citation read as follows: "A lawyer and soldier, who has served his country well in high civil position and rare international distinction in the World War as leader of the famous 69th Regiment - Colonel William J. Donovan of Buffalo, New York."

Mr. Donovan was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York, in 1930.

#### Employment

Mr. Donovan entered the practice of law at Buffalo, New York, in 1907 and was member of the following firms:


|             |                               |
|-------------|-------------------------------|
| 1917 - 1919 | O'Brian, Donovan and Goodyear |
| 1920        | Donovan and Goodyear          |
| 1924 - 1925 | Donovan, Raichle and Depow    |
| 1926 - 1931 | Donovan and Raichle           |
| 1933        | Donovan, Raichle and Randell  |
| 1934 - 1940 | Donovan and Raichle           |

He was appointed United States Attorney for the Western District of New York at Buffalo on February 7, 1922. Persons contacted in the Buffalo area described Donovan as a man of great integrity whose word is his bond. As an example, they said while serving as United States Attorney, he had caused a raid to be made upon the lockers of fellow members of the Saturn Club. As a result, he was bitterly criticized by a number of prominent citizens and their animosity has continued to the present time. They said that this is an indication of the fact that his character is unimpeachable and that at no time has there ever been any suspicion that he was not the true patriot he is reported to be.

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Frank G. Raichle, Jr., Genesee Building, Buffalo, New York, said he became acquainted with the appointee shortly after World War I and several years later they formed a partnership which continued until 1940 at which time Mr. Donovan entered upon employment with the Federal Government. He said, however, that from 1929 until the termination of the partnership, the appointee took practically no part in firm affairs, his only interest being in fees on pending matters of minor character.

Mr. Raichle said that while associated with the appointee, Mr. Donovan became United States Attorney for the Western District of New York. He recommended the appointee in the most laudatory terms. He said it is difficult to find words to adequately describe the excellent character of Mr. Donovan. In his opinion, the appointee is a man of impeccable honesty in his professional and personal relations. He said his habits are exemplary and he is a true patriot in fact as well as by reputation. With regard to specific traits of character, Mr. Raichle described Donovan as "indomitable, aggressive, and independent"; He said his personality is "charming and magnetic" and he is an exceedingly capable attorney. In the latter regard, Mr. Raichle pointed out that while serving as United States Attorney for the Western District of New York, the appointee successfully tried a number of highly publicized cases and has been outstanding in appellate work. He concluded by stating that Mr. Donovan is versatile in all phases of legal practice.

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Mr. Donovan 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

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General. He was employed as Assistant to the Attorney General from March 23, 1925, at Washington, D. C., until March 2, 1929, at which time he resigned.

William D. Mitchell, Attorney, 20 Exchange Place, New York, New York, said he has known Donovan for approximately thirty years in a professional relationship. He said both served in the Department of Justice during the Calvin Coolidge administration from 1924 to 1928 and were very friendly and got along well together. He said this feeling became strained when in his official capacity, he had had occasion to alter some of the legal briefs drawn up by the appointee. He said Mr. Donovan resented these alterations and so advised him.

Following the election of Herbert Hoover as President in 1928, Mr. Mitchell said he was called to the home of Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Harlan Stone, who along with President-elect Hoover, who was also there, requested him to take the post of Attorney General in the Hoover administration. Mr. Mitchell said he acquiesced and from that time on the appointee detested him, feeling that he had undercut him to get the Attorney Generalship. As a result of this appointment, Mr. Donovan, early in 1929, resigned from the Department of Justice and went to New York City to found his law firm.

Mr. Mitchell also stated that in the late 1920's or early 1930's one of the appointee's law partners, Frank Raichle, was indicted by a Federal Grand Jury in Washington, D. C., as a result of a worthless bond deal. According to Mr. Mitchell Raichle protested his innocence stating that although the other individuals who were indicted resided at the same address as he, he had no connection with them. At this time, the appointee called upon Mr. Raichle in his partner's behalf and asked him to have the indictment quashed. According to Mr. Mitchell, he told Donovan that he could not do this but he wrote a letter to the Federal Grand Jury, pointing out the spotless character and reputation of Raichle and also pointing out his high standing in the community. As a result of this letter, no action was taken against Raichle.

However, in 1931 and 1932, Raichle was reindicted on the same charge and according to Mr. Mitchell, the appointee once again asked him to intervene. Mr. Mitchell said at this time the appoint was campaigning for the Governorship of New York and he had refused this request telling the appointee to let the court action take its course. It was his recollection that Raichle was acquitted.

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Mr. Mitchell said he considers the appointee to be a very capable and brilliant person and knows of no reason why he should not be given a responsible Government position. He considers his loyalty to be unquestioned.

Mr. Donovan served as Chief Counsel for the New York State Fuel Administration from September 27, 1922, until December 31, 1922, and received a flat fee of \$5,000 for his services.

The 1953 edition of "Who's Who in America" indicates that the appointee was a member of the United States Delegation to the Customs Regulation Conference between the United States and Canada in 1923. Efforts to locate any specific record of this conference were unsuccessful.

On December 5, 1928, William J. Donovan was appointed by President Calvin Coolidge to act as a commissioner representing the United States in a conference to conclude a compact which would remove all causes of controversy among the States of Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas. He journeyed to Santa Fe, New Mexico, on December 19, 1928, and 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.

He 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. He presided at a formal conference at Santa Fe, New Mexico, from February 14 to March 5, 1929, and at subsequent conferences. This commission failed to reach an agreement.

Mr. Donovan served as counsel to the Legislative Commission to revise the laws of New York State Public Service Commission in 1929. Honorable John Knight, United States District Court Judge, Western District of New York, Buffalo, New York, said he had appointed Mr. Donovan to the above position and for several months thereafter had worked in close collaboration with him on affairs of the commission. Judge Knight said he has a high regard for Mr. Donovan as an Attorney and as a man. He described him as an outstanding patriot of high principles, dependable and of excellent associates and reputation.

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Ralston P. Irvine, Senior Partner, Donovan, Leisure, Lumbard, Newton, and Irvine, 2 Wall Street, New York, New York, said he has been associated with Mr. Donovan since 1926 when both were in the Department of Justice. He said Mr. Donovan founded the firm which bears his name, in approximately 1929. He described him as one of the greatest living Americans from the point of service that he has rendered to the United States. Mr. Irvine says he knows nothing derogatory concerning the appointee and recommends him most highly for a position of trust.

The "Second Annual report of the National Mediation Board for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 1936" lists arbitration hearings on August 12, 1935, in the dispute between the American Train Dispatchers' Association and the Boston and Maine Railroad over the question "Shall train dispatchers handle centralized traffic control systems from AR tower or shall such system be handled by train dispatchers?" Colonel William J. Donovan was the "neutral member" of the board which was also made up of S. E. Miller, Assistant General Manager of the Boston and Maine Railroad and O. H. Braese, Vice President, American Train Dispatchers' Association. Both of these individuals were contacted during the course of the current investigation and Braese said Donovan impressed him as a man of excellent character, fair-minded, honest, and an extremely loyal and patriotic American citizen. Mr. Braese recommended the appointee for a position of trust with the Government. Mr. Miller was unable to sufficiently recall the appointee to comment concerning him.

The 1952-53 edition of "Who's Who in America" indicates that Donovan was an unofficial observer for the Secretary of the Navy in Great Britain during July and August of 1940 and in Southeast Europe from December, 1940, to March, 1941. Efforts to locate any official record concerning the above employment was unsuccessful. The files of the Department of State do contain a telegram dated July 11, 1940, directed by the Department of State to the Ambassador at London informing him that the 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. According to this source, Donovan was to leave the United States on July 14, 1940, and was to report to the Ambassador upon his arrival in London.

Department of State files also contain a telegram dated November 30, 1940, directed to the American Legation at Lisbon, Portugal, informing the Legation that Secretary of the Navy Knox had arranged for Colonel Donovan to make an observation

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trip through the Mediterranean area and North Africa.

Mr. Donovan was appointed coordinator of information by President Roosevelt on July 7, 1941. On April 2, 1943, while Director of the 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 the Office of Strategic Services and at that time held the rank of Major General. Nothing of an unfavorable nature concerning the appointee appears in the file covering the above period of employment.

#### Legal Background

William J. Donovan applied to take the New York State Bar examination on March 23, 1907. He took the examination on October 22, 1907, passed and was certified to the Fourth Judicial Department, Rochester, New York, on November 7, 1907. He was admitted to the Supreme Court, Fourth Judicial Department, Rochester, New York, during the November term, 1907, and filed an oath to practice as an attorney in New York State on December 24, 1907. He has been a member of the New York State Bar Association since 1914 and has continued his membership to the present time and is in good standing. No derogatory information concerning Mr. Donovan is contained in the files of the New York State Board of Law Examiners, or the New York State Bar Association.

Mr. Donovan was admitted to practice in the United States District Court for the Western District of New York, Buffalo, New York, on April 22, 1913. He has been continually a member in good standing of the Erie County Bar Association, Buffalo, since September, 1909. No grievances have ever been filed against Mr. Donovan with this Bar Association. Mrs. Irene Tatu, Assistant Secretary of the Erie County Bar Association, says she has known the appointee by reputation as a highly capable attorney of excellent character and associates. She also said that his former partners were likewise highly regarded lawyers of excellent character and reputation.

The appointee was elected to membership in the New York City Bar Association on February 2, 1922, and has held the following offices: 1931 - 1934, on the executive committee; 1934, on the nominating committee, and since 1922 has been a sustaining member of the association. He has been a member of the New York County Lawyers' Association since 1929 and is presently a sustaining member in good standing. The Committee on Discipline, New York City, has no record of any action against the appointee and the Committee on Grievances of the Association of the Bar, the City of New York likewise contains no record of any action having been taken against Mr. Donovan.

### Political Background

Mr. Donovan was the Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor of the State of New York in the collection of 1922, but was defeated by George Lunn. He was the Republican candidate for Governor of the State of New York in 1932 and was defeated by Herbert H. Lehman.

### Marital Status

The appointee married Ruth Rumsey and they had two children, David Rumsey Donovan, age approximately thirty-five, who presently operates an experimental farm at Berryville, Virginia, and Patricia Donovan who was killed in an automobile accident about eleven years ago while attending college. Persons contacted advised that the appointee's wife was a member of a wealthy and socially prominent family and her brother, Dexter Rumsey, is President of the Erie County Savings Bank, Buffalo, New York. Persons who were acquainted with Mrs. Donovan described her as a loyal citizen of excellent character, reputation, and associates.

### Service Record

The appointee served as an enlisted man in the New York State National Guard from October, 1911, until October 16, 1912, attaining the rank of Sergeant. On October 17, 1912, he was commissioned a Captain in the New York State National Guard and was subsequently mustered into Federal service at Governors Island, New York, on July 19, 1916, for duty on the Mexican border. He commanded the 3rd Squadron, McAllen, Texas, until October 15, 1916, when he became Judge Advocate. He commanded Troup I until mustered out of Federal service at Buffalo, New York, on March 15, 1917.

He 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 State National Guard. In August, 1917, he was assigned to the 69th New York Infantry and at Camp Miller was placed in command of the 1st Battalion as the unit prepared for foreign service.

Donovan entered the front lines in February, 1918, serving in numerous campaigns until severely wounded on October 15, 1918.

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

He was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in France on October 14-15, 1918. He was also awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism in action from July 28-31, 1918. The Distinguished Service Medal was awarded to Mr. Donovan for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service. The brief contained in his file which was drawn up in 1926 indicated he was the only member of the Army awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Medal and Distinguished Service Cross for service performed during World War I.

He accepted appointment as a Colonel, Infantry, Officers Reserve Corps, on May 14, 1921, and was transferred to the Cavalry, Officers Reserve Corps, on February 4, 1922. He became a Brigadier General on March 24, 1943, as Director of the Office of Strategic Services. On December 7, 1944, he was promoted to Major General, the rank he held upon his release from active duty. He is now carried on the Army rolls as a Major General, Honorary Reserve

#### Results of Investigation

##### Interviews

In addition to the interviews which have been set forth above, the following individuals who were contacted during the course of this investigation highly recommended the appointee as to his character, loyalty, reputation, associates, and ability. Typical of these interviews are the following:

Lucius D. Clay, Chairman of the Board, Continental Can Company, 100 East 42nd Street, New York, New York, said he had worked closely with the appointee in Washington, D. C., during World War II and had visited with him both in Germany and New York on numerous occasions. He said he has the highest regard for his character, reputation, associates, and considers him to be an outstanding citizen of the United States whose loyalty is beyond question. He said his many successful associations with the United States qualified him for any top Government position.

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J. Edward Lombard, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York and a law partner of the appointee, said the appointee is the greatest patriot in the United States and the most decorated American civilian. He said the appointee has been entrusted with responsible and confidential positions by every President since Woodrow Wilson. He said in his opinion, the appointee would be the best representative the United States could send abroad as he has better contacts in foreign countries than any person in the United States with the possible exception of the President himself. Mr. Lombard said the appointee has great qualities of imagination and resourcefulness. He also said he has an enormous amount of energy for a man seventy years old. He recommended him unqualifiedly for a position of trust with the Government.

Alexander Holtzoff, Judge, United States District Court, District of Columbia, said he was employed in the Department of Justice with the appointee. He said Donovan was and is a very dynamic person possessed of an abundance of well controlled and well directed energy. He said the appointee has a fine mind and is known as a very capable organizer. Judge Holtzoff summed up his comments by stating he would highly recommend Donovan for any position which the United States Government might consider him.

The Honorable Herbert Hoover, former President of the United States, Waldorf Towers, New York City, said he has known Mr. Donovan since 1925 and since that time has maintained his association with him and constantly keeps in touch with him. Mr. Hoover recommended the appointee most highly for a position with the Government and said he knew nothing derogatory concerning him.

Allen Dulles, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, Washington, D. C., said he was closely associated with Mr. Donovan during World War II and found him to be a very aggressive, industrious, and capable individual. Mr. Dulles admitted from time to time he has had differences of opinion with Donovan but as far as he was concerned, it would not have any bearing in connection with any position the Government might have in mind for him. He emphasized that Donovan was an intense, and patriotic American and there was no doubt in his mind concerning his absolute loyalty to the United States Government. Mr. Dulles concluded by saying it was his understanding that Mr. Donovan was being considered for the position of United States

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James W. Ackell, Donovan, Leisure, Lombard, Newton, and Irvine, 2 Wall Street, New York, New York.

Dr. James C. Bronbright, Professor of Economics, Columbia University, New York, New York.

Ugo Carusi, Representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in the United States, Washington, D. C.

Russell Hardy, Attorney, 1820 Jefferson Place, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

Norman J. Morrison, Attorney, 1632 K Street, Northwest, Washington, D. C.

Charles D. Lawrence, Judge, United States Customs Court, New York, New York.

Edgar Ansel Mowrer, Syndicated Columnist, Washington, D. C.

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An informant of known reliability who is well versed in Communist activities in the labor union field advised that his experience with the appointee has never been favorable. He said that Donovan has always been "soft and mushy" in his treatment of Communists and Communist infiltration of organizations under his control. This informant said Donovan would never take a firm stand against Communists in the Government, Unions, or the United Nations. He said he considers him "anti-anti-Communist". The informant said his comments were not based on specific incidents but rather on general impressions and observations. This informant would not recommend the appointee for a position of trust with the Government.

Another informant of unknown reliability,\*\* a newspaper columnist who has general knowledge of various activities throughout the United States, advised during the course of this investigation that he had made inquiry concerning Mr. Donovan for his own use. He said the appointee's law firm represents a public relations firm, Allied Syndicate. According

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Ambassador to Thailand, and he personally feels that the appointee has the necessary background, independence, and ability to handle this job in a very capable manner.

In addition to the above interviews, the following persons who were contacted furnished similar comments.

Dr. Carlos C. Alden, Dean Emeritus of the University of Buffalo School of Law, Buffalo, New York.

James W. Persons, Official Referee in Bankruptcy, Western District of New York, Buffalo, New York.

Carlton A. Fisher, Justice of the New York State Supreme Court, 8th Judicial Division, Buffalo, New York.

David W. Sowers, Campanile Apartments, Buffalo, New York.

William King, Secretary of the New York State Senate, Albany, New York.

Dr. Finla G. Crawford, Vice-Chancellor, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York.

Bethuel Webster, President of the Bar Association of the City of New York.

Breck P. McAllister, Donovan, Leisure, Lombard, Newton, and Irvine, 2 Wall Street, New York, New York.

Otto C. Dering, Jr., Donovan, Leisure, Lombard, Newton, and Irvine, 2 Wall Street, New York, New York.

Colonel Walter Bligh, Acting Secretary, Republican State Committee, 41 East 42nd Street, New York, New York.

Harry Hopkins, 1 Sutton Place, New York, New York.

Harry Smith, 1 Sutton Place, New York, New York.

Harry Robbins, 4 Sutton Place, New York, New York.

Henry DeForest Alexander, 4 Sutton Place, New York, New York.

Paul Hammond, 230 Park Avenue, New York, New York.

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Miss Bentley  
Mr. Lee  
Mr. Donovan  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tolson

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to this informant, Mr. Donovan was alleged to have headed a recent committee which was to ask President Eisenhower to oust United States Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin. He further stated that the appointee's law firm was alleged to have represented the Chinese Generals who absconded with millions of Nationalist China's funds. This informant said he considers Donovan to be a "bubblehead" who never got tough with the Communists in the Office of Strategic Services. He would not recommend the appointee for a position of trust.

Information Concerning Employment of Pro-Communists in the Office of Strategic Services

Elizabeth Terrill Bentley testified under oath before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on July 31, 1948, at which time she admitted that she was a former member of the Communist Party and operated as a courier in a Soviet espionage network between 1941 and 1945. She identified Duncan Chaplin Lee of the Office of Strategic Services as one of her contacts. She explained that there was a circle of lawyers around General Donovan at the Office of Strategic Services and Lee was one of them. According to her, Lee provided her with all types of information including highly secret information on what the Office of Strategic Services was doing. This information included such things as the fact that the Office of Strategic Services was trying to make secret negotiations with Governments in the Balkan group in case the war ended; that they were parachuting people into Hungary; that all Office of Strategic Services people were being sent to Turkey to operate in the Balkans and that General Donovan was interested in having an exchange between the Office of Strategic Services and Russia's NKVD. She further testified that Lee was a member of the Communist Party and had worked in General Donovan's law firm prior to coming into the Office of Strategic Services.

Mr. Lee testified under oath before the above committee on August 10, 1948, at which time he acknowledged acquaintanceship with Miss Bentley but categorically denied having ever been a Communist or ever having divulged classified information to any unauthorized persons. He said he was employed in General Donovan's law firm for three years and was then brought into the Office of Strategic Services by the General. He said he had been sent on two missions to China by General Donovan and on the first mission in 1943, he did not get to China but on the second mission in July, 1945, he went with General Donovan and returned the first

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week in October, 1945. No further pertinent information regarding the relationship between the appointee and Duncan Lee was noted in the above records.

The records of another Government agency which conducts personnel and security-type investigations reflect that Duncan Lee was separated from active duty as a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army on January 24, 1946, and on April 3, 1946, upon the recommendation of General Donovan was awarded the Army Commendation Medal. (u)

During another investigation by this Bureau, an informant of unknown reliability\* who has access to information concerning the activities and individuals connected with the appointee's law firm advised in the early part of 1953 that he was well acquainted with Duncan Lee when Lee was employed with that law firm. He described him as an extremely nervous and timid individual who he believed lacked the personal courage to have been a Communist or to have engaged in espionage activities. He did say that Lee had been active in the affairs of the Russia War Relief because he had been assigned by the firm to assist in the corporate organization of this group. This assignment reportedly came about because of the interest of General Donovan and others in the law firm in the establishment of Russia War Relief.

This informant said that he and others had "teased" Lee because of this connection with the Russia War Relief; however, they did not attribute his connection with the organization to any particular interest in Communism or Soviet Russia. The fourth report of the Senate Fact-Finding Committee on Un-American Activities, California State Legislature, lists the Russian War Relief, Incorporated, as a Communist front organization and states on page 358 as follows: "While it is undoubtedly true that many well-intentioned loyal Americans were tricked into believing that the Russia War Relief was a bona fide American agency, the hard core of Communist influence and direction is evident".

Elizabeth Bentley also testified at the time referred to above that in addition to Duncan Lee, those of her contacts who were employed in the Office of Strategic Services were Maurice Halperin, head of the Latin American Division in the Research and Analysis Branch; J. Julius Joseph, Japanese Division; Helen

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\* Central Intelligence Agency

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Tenney. Spanish Division; and Donald Niven Wheeler. She said Halperin was a Communist from whom she collected dues and he furnished her with various types of information as he had access to that which the Office of Strategic Services was getting on Latin America; had access to world-wide information of various sorts and reported to her that the Office of Strategic Services had an arrangement with the State Department whereby he could see State Department cables on vital issues.

She said her last contact with Halperin occurred in 1944 at which time he was still employed by the Office of Strategic Services. Her Russian contact, "Jack", told her in early 1945 that Halperin had been accused by General Donovan of being a Soviet agent and, following this accusation, Halperin failed to appear two or three times to meet his contact. Background information inserted in the House Committee on Un-American Activities record during Miss Bentley's testimony indicated that Halperin was employed in the Office of Strategic Services from September, 1941, to October, 1945, and in the Department of State from October, 1945, to June, 1946.

With reference to J. Julius Joseph, Miss Bentley testified that she had collected Communist Party dues from him and based upon his employment he was in a position to furnish her information regarding both Japan and Russia. She said Joseph's wife was also employed by the Office of Strategic Services for approximately six months in the Publicity Division, and she too was a Communist. She gave no testimony directly relating Joseph with General Donovan.

Miss Bentley informed the House Committee on Un-American Activities that Helen B. Tenney was a Communist who was first employed in the Spanish Division at the Office of Strategic Services and later handled the Balkans. No testimony directly relating Helen Tenney with the appointee was given by Miss Bentley. Similarly, no testimony directly linking Donald Niven Wheeler with General Donovan was related by Miss Bentley.

Emerson P. Schmidt, Secretary, Committee of Socialism and Communism, United States Chamber of Commerce, testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities on March 26, 1947, at which time he entered into the record a report of the United States Chamber of Commerce entitled "Communists within the Government". In this report appears the following:

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"As late as March, 1945, (Major General William J.) Donovan had defended the employment in the OSS of such well-known Communists as Irving Goff, Irving Fajans, Milton Wolff, and Vincent Lossowski. A number of pro-Communists in the OSS were subsequently blanketed into Strategic intelligence posts in the State Department. Granting the General's thesis that 'no foreign policy can be stronger than the information upon which it is based', it can be seen how consideration of war-time expediency have endangered our safety."

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The "Washington Post" for July 19, 1945, on page 7, carries an article captioned, "Army Defends 16 Officers Listed As Being Tinged With Communism". The article went on to quote the War Department as saying that the men had proved their loyalty to America. The names were given to a House Military Subcommittee in private testimony which was subsequently released and included the following: "Lieutenant Irving Fajans, Office of Strategic Services, Washington, on the honor roll of the Young Communist League members fighting the Spanish Civil War."

"Lieutenant Irving Goff, Office of Strategic Services, Washington, speaker, Communist School, New York City, and a member of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in Spain."

"Lieutenant Vincent Lossowski, Office of Strategic Services, Washington, fought with the Abraham Lincoln Brigade in the Spanish Civil War."

"Lieutenant Milton Wolff, Office of Strategic Services, Washington, National Commander of the Communist-controlled Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade."

"Major General William J. Donovan, Director of the Office of Strategic Services, also issued a statement in which he praised the 'outstanding service' of four of the officers in organizing resistance groups in enemy-occupied Northern Italy. These officers served with an OSS unit of the 15th Army Group. They were Goff, Wolff, Lossowski, and Frans."

It is to be noted that the Young Communist League and the Abraham Lincoln Brigade have been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

During a hearing by the House Committee on Un-American Activities on "Communist infiltration of Hollywood Motion Picture Industries", on April 10, 1951, Sterling Hayden, a self-admitted

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