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101-1408



FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY
WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION

1734 NEW YORK AVENUE NW.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

HOWARD O. HUNTER
COMMISSIONER OF WORK PROJECTS

August 2, 1941

Reference:
5-NY-3751

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

There is enclosed a copy of the report of an investigation made by this Division of a complaint which alleged that Samuel Brody, WPA photographer, New York City, made a false statement in submitting an affidavit, WPA Form 608, to this Administration stating that he was not a Communist.

The report of this investigation is referred to your Bureau for your information and files.

Inasmuch as it appears that the charge is substantiated, a copy of this report has been referred to the Criminal Division of the United States Department of Justice for appropriate attention.

Very truly yours,

Roger J. Bounds, Director
Division of Investigation

ENCL'D

Enclosure

RECORDED

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 AUG 12 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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EX-18

FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY
 WORK PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION
 DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

CASE No. 5-NY-3751

Intermittently

Place: New York, N.Y.	Dates of inv.: May 16 - July 14/41	Date of report: JUL 22 1941	Agent: JEFFERSON B. COHEN
Subjects: SAMUEL BRODY, Id. #84431, WPA Photographer, 1564 Crotona Park East, Bronx, New York City.			Approved: <i>Clayton D. Hollinger</i> pc
			Status of investigation: COMPLETE

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION

Complaint alleging that **SAMUEL BRODY**, WPA Photographer, New York City, is a Communist, and has therefore submitted an affidavit (WPA Form 608) containing a false statement.

SYNOPSIS OF REPORT.

Four former members of the Communist Party variously state that Subject was a member thereof from 1927 to 1937. They declare that during this period he contributed to the "New Masses" and the "Daily Worker", was a member of the Film and Photo League fraction, the United American Artists Union fraction and the Workers Alliance fraction of the Communist Party.

An employee on the Art Project states that Subject has carried the "Daily Worker" frequently during the past four months and has stated that it is the only paper which contains the truth. Another co-worker advises that Subject is the most rabid radical on the project. Four present or former co-workers assert that they believe that Subject is a Communist, basing this belief on his conversations, his ridicule of the Communist investigations, his associations with Communists, his justification of Russia's invasion of Finland, his criticism of the capitalist system and his continual praise of Russia. A project employee states that in May, 1941, Subject participated in a protest against the suspension of 11 supervisors on the Art Project.

Another former co-worker advised that in the Spring of 1937 Subject lauded the Communist Party, praised the Communist form of government and advocated its introduction into this country. He further states that Subject was a member of the Workers Alliance from May, 1938 to January, 1939, when witness withdrew; that he continually spoke at meetings during this period and followed the Party line in his speeches. Two of these witnesses variously state that Subject picketed as a member of the Workers Alliance in 1937 and distributed handbills of this Union in 1939 and 1940.

"New Masses" in September, 1930 contains the name of SAMUEL BRODY as one of the contributing editors, as well as motion picture and book reviews written

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SUMMARY - Cont'd

5-NY-3751

by him. In the "New Masses" of November, 1930 there is a book review by Samuel Brody. The name of Samuel Brody appears as one of the contributing editors of the "New Theatre" magazine in February, 1934, and in that issue there appears an article by him on "The Revolutionary Film Problem of Form". A protest against the "red scare" in the New York Times of May 19, 1930 contains the name Samuel Brody.

Neighborhood check revealed one witness who advised that Subject possessed books on the History of Communism in his apartment in 1938; that he was a constant reader of the "Daily Worker" and very radical. Two other former neighbors declare that they believe that Subject was a Communist but have no basis for this belief.

Subject denied that he was a Communist or had ever been a member of the Communist Party or had ever engaged in any Communist Party activities. He denied that he contributed to the "Daily Worker", "New Theatre" or "New Masses" or had ever been affiliated therewith, or that he had ever been a member of the Workers Alliance or attended any meetings of that organization.

R E P O R T

5-NY-3751

This report is predicated upon a letter dated May 12, 1941, addressed to this office by Roger J. Bounds, Director, WPA Division of Investigation, enclosing a memorandum dated April 28, 1941 from Malcolm J. Miller, WPA Assistant Commissioner, in which he requests an investigation of the alleged violation of Section 15(f) of the ERA Act of 1941 on the part of Subject SAMUEL BRODY, Id. #84431, WPA Photographer.

Examination by Special Field Agent Jefferson B. Cohen of Subject BRODY'S employment record on file in the WPA Employment Division, 70 Columbus Avenue, New York City, on June 30, 1941, reflects that he was initially assigned to the Federal Theatre Project as a Dramatic Coach on 8/1/35; that he was transferred to the Writers Project as a Photographer on 3/18/36 and that he was transferred to the Art Project on February 11, 1937 as a Photographer, and that he is still active thereon in that capacity.

Attached hereto and marked EXHIBIT 1 is a photostated copy of WPA Form 608, executed by Subject Brody, under date of June 27, 1940, and sworn to before MAX STAVISKY, Id. #204561, WPA Timekeeper.

MAX STAVISKY, Id. #204561, WPA Timekeeper, residing at 2954 12th Street, Brooklyn, New York, on April 16, 1941 advised Special Field Agent Robert H. Deiss that he had been assigned to the Art Project to administer the oaths to several hundred workers thereon. He further asserted that he recalled nothing unusual at the time that any of these employees subscribed to the affidavits or swore to the contents thereof, except in the case of two persons, AUGUST HENCKLE and JOHN JOHNSON, and that their refusal to take the oath was noted on the affidavits, WPA Form 608, which bore their names. He advised that this assignment was his first trip to the Art Project.

SYLVAN POLLACK, Id. #730090, WPA Writer, residing at 642 West 172nd Street, New York City, on June 17, 1941 stated that he was a charter member of the Communist Party from September 1, 1919 to November 15, 1940, on which latter date his expulsion notice

appeared in the "Daily Worker". During his entire membership in the Communist Party, Pollack relates, he was always affiliated with District No. 2, which covered the Metropolitan area from New York City. He was assigned to the Writers Project in 1937 and 1938 while Subject was assigned thereto and frequently saw him on the project. Pollack asserts that he knew that Subject was a member of the Communist Party from 1927 to 1930 because he met him during this period at the headquarters of the Communist Party in New York City in the office of the "Daily Worker" and frequently at the Communist Party Workers' School at 30 Union Square, New York City.

POLLACK advises that during the period from 1927 to 1930 Subject contributed motion picture reviews to the "New Masses". He recalled an incident which occurred sometime between those dates on an occasion when he, Pollack, contributed a motion picture review to the "Daily Worker". After its publication Brody approached him and criticized his article because it was not in line with the Communist Party program. According to Pollack the Subject later criticized the article in a review in the "New Masses", setting forth the same reason.

MRS. HELEN DeSOLA, private citizen, residing at 5 Middagh Street, Brooklyn, New York, on May 24, 1941 advised Agent Cohen that she had been assigned to the Writers Project from November or December, 1935 to the end of 1936 and had been a member of the Writers Project unit of the Communist Party from 1932 to the end of 1936. She advised that she came in contact with him while she was employed on the Writers Project. She asserted that she had been the editor of "Red Pen", a Communist Party sheet published on the Writers Project in the latter part of 1935, and that she had been employed on the staff of the "Daily Worker" for one and one half years from the Spring of 1933 to August, 1935 as editor of the feature page. She further asserted that Samuel Brody had written a column for the "Daily Worker", signing it "Lens", consisting of personal comments on motion picture stars, for a period of about one year while she was associated with this publication, and that he had contributed articles for publication prior to her association with the "Worker". She further declared that Subject had been a member of the Film and Photo League, a Communist "front" organization, during the period that she was a member of the Party.

RALPH DeSOLA, Id. #365177, WPA Junior Superintendent, residing at 5 Middagh Street, Brooklyn, New York, on May 16, 1941, advised Agent Deiss that he had been a member of the Communist Party

from the fall of 1934 to December, 1936. He declared that he had been assigned to the Writers Project from 1935 to July 1940, and that he worked under Subject during the period that Subject was assigned to this project. He further advised that he knew that Subject was a member of the Communist Party during this period and that he had attended meetings of Unit 368, Section 24, of the Communist Party. Witness asserted that Subject was active in the Film and Photo League fraction of the Communist Party and was a member of the fractions of the Workers Alliance and of the United American Artists Union during the period that witness was a member of the Party.

MRS. FRANKIE DUTY, private citizen, residing at 239 West 115th Street, New York City, on June 12, 1941, advised Agent Cohen that she had been a member of the Communist Party from March 10, 1936 to October, 1938 in the Harlem Section, Frederick Douglas Unit thereof. She further asserted that she had been President of the Harlem and Washington Heights section of the Workers Alliance, having been elected at the convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in June, 1937, and had remained in that capacity to October, 1938.

MRS. DUTY declared that in 1937 she had received a telephone call from the headquarters of the Workers Alliance, then located at 306 Lenox Avenue, New York City, in connection with some publicity which the Communist Party desired relative to the Lula Coker family, tenant farmers from South Carolina. The person with whom she spoke told her that they were sending "Comrade" Brody to take some pictures of the family. She asserts that she interviewed the family for an article which was to appear in the "Daily Worker" and that Subject took pictures.

MRS. DUTY advised that she knew that Subject was a Communist at that time because of the nature of their conversation regarding the type of publicity to follow and the fact that he addressed her as "Comrade".

CLIFFORD SUTCLIFFE, former WPA Supervisor on the Writers Project, residing at 41 Morton Street, New York City, on June 17, 1941 advised Agent Sherry that he had known Subject Brody for three months in the Spring of 1937 when both were assigned to the Writers Project. Witness advised that Subject continuously lauded the Communist Party and condemned all those who were opposed to Communism, characterizing them as "Social Fascists". Sutcliffe asserted that he saw Subject reading the "Daily Worker" on the project site at 235 East 42nd Street, New York City, every day during the Spring of 1937. In conversation with him at or about this time, Brody praised the Russian form of government and continuously criticized the government

of the United States, advocating the introduction of the Communist form of government into this country.

Subject told him, Sutcliffe asserts, that he had joined the Communist Party in France, but did not state when he did so. Subject's language consisted largely of Party terminology, such as the "class struggle", the "proletariat", the "working classes". Witness further related that in 1937 Subject Brody was in the picket lines on several occasions in front of the project site in demonstrations sponsored by the Workers Alliance. In the Spring of 1937, Sutcliffe states, Subject asked him to join the Workers Alliance and the Photographers Union, in both of which Subject was active.

SUTCLIFFE further stated that Subject's close associates were DAVE ROSENBERG, SOL BECKER, ABE NEWMAN; and a man named KIRSTEIN, employees of the WPA Writers Project, all of whom were, in his opinion, Communists.

LISTON OAK, Id. #700861, former WPA Writer, residing at 63 Washington Square, South, New York City, on July 1, 1941, advised Agent Cohen that he had been a member of the Communist Party from the end of 1927 to the end of 1935, and that he had been assigned to the Writers Project from May, 1938 to January, 1939. He declared that he had known Subject Brody during the period that witness was assigned to the Writers Project, as both worked in the same building, and that he came in contact with him daily during that time. He stated that he knew that Brody was a Communist from the fact that Brody's closest associates on the project were ABE MOSCOWITCH and various other employees of the Writers Project whom witness believed to be Communists.

OAK asserted that Brody was a member of the Workers Alliance during the period from May 1938 to January 1939, as was witness, and that he frequently spoke at meetings, following the Communist Party line in his speeches. Oak advised that he had published articles in the "New Statesman", the "Nation" and one or two other periodicals in May, 1938 after he returned from Spain, and that the subject of these articles was the fact that Soviet Russia was as imperialistic as any other country. In May, 1938, witness asserts Brody denounced him in a speech at the Workers Alliance as a Fascist on the basis of these articles.

LILLIAN D. FERRICK, Id. #50261, WPA Senior Typist, residing at 104 West 19th Street, New York City, on June 3, 1941 advised Agent Cohen that she had been employed as Secretary to Girolamo Piccoli, former WPA Assistant Project Supervisor, and head of the Sculpture Division of the Art Project (Subject in Case 5-NY-3709),

from January to October, 1940. She asserted that Subject Brody had visited Piccoli's office on two or three occasions per week during this period. Miss Ferrick declares that she knows Subject to be a Communist and she basis this on a conversation which Subject held in or about the time that a mural painted for the Floyd Bennett Airport was destroyed due to the appearance therein of Communistic symbols (this occurred in June, 1940). She further predicates this belief on the opposition expressed by Brody to the investigation of Communism being conducted by Special Field Agent John Brann, then WPA Administrative Assistant, and the ridicule which he heaped on it.

MISS FERRICK relates the fact that during the entire time that she spent as Piccoli's secretary, Subject, as one of a group, freely discussed the defects in the capitalist system and the "class struggle" and used other Party terminology. She declares that he was continually in contact with Piccoli and Hirsch Stein, WPA Unit Supervisor (suspended) and Subject in 5-NY-3716, whether there was any necessity for it as far as the work of the Art Project was concerned or not, and she felt that they were engaged in some common activity on the outside.

JACOB NEWMAN, Id. #60145, WPA Senior Timekeeper, residing at 459 East 92nd Street, Brooklyn, New York, on May 22, 1941, advised Agent Cohen that he knew Subject during the entire time that he was assigned to the Federal Theatre Project and from August, 1939 to the present while both were assigned to the Art Project. Newman asserts that Subject is definitely a Communist and he basis this on his conversations and on his associates. Witness further declares that Subject is the most rabid radical on the project. He states that Subject is active in the Workers Alliance and has been a spokesman for this organization and on various committees thereof from 1936 to the present date. He believes that he saw Brody in a picket line in May, 1941, protesting the suspension of the 11 supervisors of the Art Project suspended due to alleged violation of Section 15(f) of the ERA Act of 1941. He has also distributed circulars of the Workers Alliance in front of the project building at 110 King Street, Newman relates, on several occasions in the latter part of 1939 and in 1940. His closest associates on the project were Paula Bass and Jules Michel, WPA employees, whom Newman terms the outstanding radicals on the project.

JEROME FAY, Id. #632226, WPA Photographer, residing at 155 DeKalb Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, on May 20, 1941 advised Agent Cohen that he has been assigned to the Photography Unit of the Art Project since January, 1941. He asserts that he believes that Subject is a Communist from his conversations. Some time in April 1941, witness relates, Subject said that he admired the Soviet government as far as

the treatment of the working class was concerned. He further advised that on any occasion when Communism was discussed, Subject attempted to quiet the person discussing it and that in January, 1941, Subject told one of the project workers to conceal the "Daily Worker" as this Division was making an investigation.

ABE HOHAUSER, Id. #36502, WPA Senior Timekeeper, residing at 1049 Brook Avenue, Bronx, New York City, on May 22, 1941, advised Agent Bradigan that he has known Subject Brody on the Art Project for the past seven or eight months. He felt, witness declared, that Subject was a Communist but he has nothing on which to base this conclusion.

JOSEPH HOFFMAN, Id. #701893, WPA Photographer, residing at 200 Ross Street, Brooklyn, New York, on May 20, 1941 advised Agent Cohen that in a conversation approximately six months ago, Subject had said that this country should not enter the war as it did not concern us and he also said that England was on the wrong side.

ALBERT NEY, Id. #97391, WPA Photographer, residing at 651 Rutland Road, Brooklyn, New York, on July 1, 1941 advised Agent Cohen that he had been assigned to the Photography Division of the Art Project since March 7, 1941, and that he has known Subject since that date. Ney states that Brody is a Communist. He asserts that he has seen Subject with the "Daily Worker" on many occasions during this period. In conversations with witness, Subject has declared that it was the only paper that told the truth and that a person could not believe any paper but the "Daily Worker". Subject has told him that people are better off in Russia and has continually praised that country. Brody denounced Finland, witness states, in connection with the Russian invasion of that country. He further declares that Brody associates only with the radical group in the Photography Division.

Twenty-five of the WPA Photographers assigned to the Photography Unit of the Art Project, as well as the office staff thereof, the Supervisors of the Art Project, except for those suspended and various WPA employees of the Art Project, interviewed during the course of the investigation of this case, in addition to those witnesses mentioned above, including Max Mougel, Id. #179719, WPA Artist, advised either that they did not know Subject or that they had no knowledge that he was engaged in Communistic activities.

Three WPA employees advise that they do not believe that Subject is a member of the Communist Party, SONIA VOLOCHOVA, Id. #730163, WPA Writer, reputed to be a former secretary to Leon Trotsky, residing

at 936 West End Avenue, New York City, on June 17, 1941 advised Agent Sherry that she had heard Subject say in 1939 and 1940 that all radical parties are wrong and that social change should be brought about by evolution and not revolution. HARRY BECKERMAN, Id. #421746, WPA Photographer, residing at 194 West 10th Street, New York City, on May 20, 1941 advised that he did not feel that Subject was a Communist as he did not believe that Subject could be responsible to any group. JOSEPH R. MASON, Id. #701944, WPA Photographer, residing at 457 West 50th Street, New York City, on May 20, 1941 advised that he does not believe Subject to be a Communist inasmuch as he always pokes fun at the Communist Party.

It is to be noted that ALBERT NEY, WPA Photographer, in an interview with Agent Cohen on July 1, 1941 advised that HARRY BECKERMAN was very friendly with Brody and was as "red" as Brody. This witness further asserted that in conversations, Beckerman had told him that Communism was the best form of government and that he had carried Communist magazines onto the project. He further alleged that Joseph R. Mason was closely associated with the "red" group in the Photography Division and with Subject Brody.

Examination of the files of the Special Committee to investigate Un-American Activities, commonly known as the Dies Committee, revealed the following references to Subject Samuel Brody, 1564 Crotona Park East, Bronx, New York City:

Vol. I - Page 540; 558, Hearings, Dies Committee
 "New Masses", Contributor, "New Masses", issue of Sept. 1930 P. 19
 " " " " " " " " 1930 P. 14
 " " Contributing Editor, "New Masses", issue of Sept. 1930, P. 3.
 " " Contributor, "New Masses", issue of Nov. 1930, P. 19
 League of Workers Theatres, Workers Dance League, and National Film and Photo League, Contributor, New Theatre, (New Theatre, February 1934, P. 22.)
 League of Workers Theatres, Workers Dance League, and National Film and Photo League, Contributing Editor, New Theatre, (New Theatre, February 1934, P. 3).
 League of Workers Theatres, Workers Dance League, and National Film and Photo League, Film Editor, New Theatre, (New Theatre, February 1934, P. 2).

On Page 538 of Volume 1 of the report of the Hearings before a Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 75th Congress, the New Theatre magazine is referred to as the organ of the League of Workers Theatres of the United States of America, which this report lists as a Communist "front" organization. On Page 540 of the report, Sam Brody is listed as one of the contributing editors of

this publication.

On Page 558 of the report of these Hearings, there appears a reference to a statement in the New York Times of May 19, 1930 in protest against what the signers term the "red scare" and one of the signers of the statement is Samuel Brody.

In the issue of the "New Masses" dated September, 1930, (Page 3) Samuel Brody is listed as one of the contributing editors of this publication. In the same issue under a mast head entitled "Movies" by Samuel Brody (Page 14) there appears a review of three motion pictures: (1) "Holiday", a Pathe Production, shown at the Cameo Theatre, New York City; (2) "The Law of the Siberian Taiga", a Kinobibir Production, U.S.S.R., shown at the Cameo Theatre, New York City; (3) "Raffles," a United Artists Production shown at the Rialto Theatre, New York City. In his review of the first picture, Brody states:

"Today the Pudovkins, Turins, Vertoffs and Elsensteins can look upon films like Holiday and justifiedly scoff at the incompetence and backwardness of American filmdom".

In the review of the Soviet motion picture mentioned above, Brody writes:

"There is something which defies words of description in these Soviet films dealing with the formerly oppressed national minorities and the new relationships created by the Revolution. They are the epics of the rise of unknown peoples. They are immortal documents of Communism's struggle to restore backward and downtrodden sections of many kind".

The third motion picture reviewed by Samuel Brody is condemned by him.

In the same issue of the "New Masses" (Page 19), therein published is a book review by Samuel Brody of a work entitled "Nouvelle Age Litteraire" by Harry Poulaille (Libraire Valois, Paris). An excerpt from this book review follows:

"No more appropriate conclusion that Lenin's oft-quoted remark could be cited here to characterize this hopeless mass of petty bourgeois intellectual gallimaufry: "People bend every effort to conceive something extraordinary, and in their zeal to intellectualize, they become ridiculous".

In the "New Masses", dated November, 1930 (Page 19), there is another book review by Samuel Brody of a work entitled "ABC of Television"

by R. F. Yates, (Norman W. Henley Publishing Co. -\$3.00) and the following excerpt appears therein:

"Even the most 'objective' of bourgeois scientific brains quiver in delight at the thought of being able to annihilate whole enemy armies sighted miles away from the actual scene thru the magic eyes of television."

The "New Theatre" magazine dated February, 1934, examined by Agent Cohen on July 10, 1941, contained no reference to Samuel Brody on Page 2 thereof. On Page 3, the following appears: "New Theatre Organ of the League of Workers Theatres of the U.S.A. (Section of the International Union of the Revolutionary Theatre), Workers Dance League and National Film and Photo League", and among the list of contributing editors is listed the name of Samuel Brody.

In the report of the Hearings before a Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 75th Congress, on Pages 334 and 335, the National Film and Photo League, the Workers Dance League and the League of Workers Theatres are referred to as Communist "front" organizations. On Page 351 of these Hearings, the New Theatre magazine is referred to as a Communist or pro-Communist line publication.

In the issue of the "New Theatre" magazine of February, 1934 (Page 21, 22) there appears an article by Samuel Brody on "The Revolutionary Film Problem of Form". Several excerpts are quoted:

"The bourgeois film has vulgarized and perverted the greatest faculty of the movie, never having raised it above the level of the newsreel". The writer of this article advocates the filmed document as the proper sphere for motion pictures, and continues: "We are forging the film into a working class weapon. And workers' films will be most art when they are most weapon.... We must train working class camera-men whose function in the workers' film movement will correspond to that of worker-correspondents in the field of revolutionary journalism. We have as yet accomplished little in the sphere of the documentary film in which it is essential for us to intervene; to organize the raw material into a unified revolutionary interpretation.... Our best teachers in this respect are the Soviet directors of the documentary school who have tremendously enriched the arsenal of revolutionary film culture.... We must build up a 16 mm film library which will comprise a complete course in political education for workers. A joint task for the Film and Photo League and the faculty of the Workers School.....

"Three distinct branches of the documentary method, therefore, comprise the scope of our production. Film reporting, or the

recording of highlights in the class struggle which are of political value as events overflowing the frame which merely acts as the carrier, Ambridge, Scottsboro, Detroit Massacre, Tom Mooney Run, etc. The synthetic documentary, the effect and intent of which is one hundred per cent dependent on the intervention of the "editor", The Land of the Free, Imperial Valley, etc. The frankly educational film for purposes of direct political-economic instruction.

"The Film and Photo League is beginning to assume a status more commensurate with its great cultural-political importance in the struggles of the working class".

The WPA Employment records reveal that Subject SAMUEL BRODY resided at 394 Montgomery Street, Brooklyn, New York, from September 27, 1937 to May 10, 1938.

This is a large brick apartment house containing about 50 apartments in a strictly residential section of Brooklyn.

IRENE CROISIETIERE, Superintendent of the apartment house at 394 Montgomery Street, Brooklyn, interviewed by Special Field Agent Parkinson on June 12, 1941, related that she had resided at this address for the past 5½ years and that she remembered the Subject as the occupant of apartment 4-D for a short period of time. She said that in her opinion Subject was a Communist but said that she had nothing to base her opinion on. She further said that in that particular wing of the apartment house there were only three tenants who had been living there a sufficient time to have remembered the Subject and gave the names of Mrs. Schmidt, Mrs. Brummer, and Mrs. Morox.

MRS. RUTH SCHMIDT, Apartment 4-A, 394 Montgomery Street, Brooklyn, N.Y., interviewed by Special Field Agent Parkinson on June 12, 1941, stated that she had lived at this address for the past 8 years and that Subject had occupied an apartment on the same floor with hers, but that she had never been on friendly relations with him and that Subject, to her recollection, had not lived there very long. Mrs. Schmidt added that Subject looked like a radical "as she had seen them portrayed in the movies", but that she had no other reason for the opinion. She admitted that many Communist pamphlets were passed around the apartment house during the night, but that this is true at this time and she couldn't connect Subject with any of this.

MRS. SAM BRUMMER, Apartment 3-B, and MRS. THELMA MOROX, Apartment 1-B, interviewed by Special Field Agent Parkinson on June 21, 1941, said that they had lived at this address for the past 8 and 8½ years

respectively and that they remembered a person named Samuel Brody resided at this address during the year 1938 but that neither of them could recall anything about Subject.

ALBERT CROISETIERE, son of the superintendent, and residing with his mother in apartment 1-H at 394 Montgomery Street, Brooklyn, interviewed by Special Field Agent Parkinson on June 12, 1941, said that he remembered the Subject very well and the thing that he most clearly recalled was having seen several books on the History of Communism in Subject's apartment during the time that he resided at this address. Witness further advised that Subject was a constant reader of the "Daily Worker" but that he wasn't sure about any other Communist publications. He declared that Subject was very radical and did not mingle with any of the tenants.

WPA records show that Subject SAMUEL BRODY resided at 897 Crotona Park North, Bronx, New York City, from May 10, 1938 to August 11, 1938. This address is a five story apartment house which has recently changed hands and is now in the process of being converted into a rooming house. Only four tenants, who have lived at this address for six months or more, now remain in the building. There are only two stores, a grocery store and a butcher shop in the vicinity.

MRS. F. LIEBEZEIT, superintendent of the apartment house at 897 Crotona Park North, Bronx, for the past 1½ years, interviewed by Agent Ewing on June 12, 1941, stated that Subject Samuel Brody is unknown to her; that no one by the name of Brody has resided in this building since she has been there, and that the building has changed hands within the last six months and she has no knowledge of the whereabouts of her predecessor as superintendent.

The following persons were interviewed by Agent Ewing on June 12, 1941, and stated that Subject SAMUEL BRODY was unknown to them:

MRS. H. ROSENSTEIN, housewife, residing at 897 Crotona Park North, Bronx, for the past 8 years;

MRS. P. CALFOGLOU, housewife, residing at 897 Crotona Park North, Bronx, for the past year;

MR. ALBERT MILLER, residing at 897 Crotona Park North, Bronx, for the past six months;

MR. JOHN J. RYAN, Democratic election captain, residing at 897 Crotona Park North for the past 30 years. Mr. Ryan stated that he was certain no person named Brody had ever occupied any of the apartments in this building as a tenant and that if Subject Samuel Brody had ever lived at this address he apparently rented a room from one of the regular tenants.

MR. JOSEPH SCHECTER, proprietor of a grocery store at 877 Waterloo Place, Bronx, New York City, for the past 20 years.

MR. WILLIAM RELKIN, proprietor of a butcher shop at 877 Waterloo Place, Bronx, New York City, for the past 6 years.

WPA employment records show that Subject SAMUEL BRODY resided at 1887 Marmion Avenue, Bronx, New York City, from August 11, 1938 to July 30, 1940.

MRS. R. GOLDMAN, housewife, residing at 1887 Marmion Avenue, Bronx, New York City, for the past 7 years, interviewed by Agent Ewing on June 12, 1941, stated that she knew Subject Samuel Brody when he resided at this address but that she had never had any political or other discussions with him or observed any action of his which would indicate that he was sympathetic with Communism. Mrs. Goldman added, however, that Subject Brody's wife had told her that she had been in Russia recently, visiting relatives there.

CHARLES STEIMAN, superintendent, 1887 Marmion Avenue, Bronx, New York City, interviewed by Agent Ewing on June 12, 1941, stated that he had been superintendent of these premises for the past three months. He advised that Subject Samuel Brody was unknown to him and that he had no knowledge of the present whereabouts of his predecessor as superintendent.

The following persons, interviewed by Agent Ewing on June 12, 1941, stated that Subject SAMUEL BRODY was unknown to them:

DAVID WEINGRAD, proprietor of a confectionery store and newstand at 1879 Marmion Avenue, Bronx, New York City, for the past 9 years.

JOSEPH SHERMAN, grocery store clerk at 1881 Marmion Avenue, Bronx, New York City, for the past 9 years.

JOSEPH MILLER, proprietor of the drug store at 176th Street and Marmion Avenue, Bronx, New York City, for the past 8 years.

LOUIS GINSBERG, clerk in the drug store at 176th Street and Marmion Avenue, Bronx, New York City, for the past 10 years.

WPA employment records reveal that Subject SAMUEL BRODY has resided at 1564 Crotona Park East, Bronx, New York City, since July 30, 1940. The building at this address is a five-story apartment house situated opposite Crotona Park in a neighborhood of large apartment house buildings. There are no stores in the vicinity.

MRS. JOHN LEITHEAD, superintendent of the apartment house at 1564 Crotona Park East, Bronx, New York City, for the past 10 years,

interviewed by Agent Ewing on June 12, 1941, stated that she knows Subject Samuel Brody who has lived here with his family for a little less than one year; that the Brodys are quiet people and satisfactory tenants; that she had never heard Subject Brody make any statement which would indicate Communistic sympathies; and that she herself removes the trash from Subject's apartment and that she has never noticed any copies of the "Daily Worker" or other Communistic papers, books or pamphlets in or around Subject's apartment or in the trash which she has removed from there.

MRS. C. WASSEMAN, housewife, residing in apartment C-3 at 1564 Crotona Park East, Bronx, New York City, for the past nine years, interviewed by Agent Ewing on June 12, 1941, declared that she knows Subject Samuel Brody, who resides in apartment D-4 at this address, slightly but that she has never had any conversation with him and knows of no reason to regard him as being sympathetic with Communism.

MRS. ETHEL KAUFMAN, housewife, residing at 1564 Crotona Park East, Bronx, New York City, in apartment C-4 for the past 5 years, interviewed by Agent Ewing on June 12, 1941, stated that she knows Subject Samuel Brody and his family, who reside in the apartment immediately above hers but that she is not on "speaking terms" with them because they recently complained about the noise which Mrs. Kaufman's children were making. Mrs. Kaufman said she knew of no reason to suspect that Subject Brody was interested in or sympathetic with Communism.

The following persons interviewed by Agent Ewing on June 12, 1941, stated that Subject Samuel Brody is unknown to them:

MRS. ROSE FRIMETH, student, residing in apartment C-8, 1564 Crotona Park East, Bronx, New York City, for the past four years.

MRS. M. GOLDMAN, housewife, residing at 1564 Crotona Park East, Bronx, New York City, in apartment C-5, for the past five years.

A list of persons to whom the "Daily Worker" of March 19, 1941 and the "Sunday Worker" of March 23, 1941 were sent through the mails in New York City, was secured from a confidential source but did not contain the name of Subject.

A list of signers of Communist petitions circulated in New York City in 1939 and a few in 1940 for the purpose of nominating Communist candidates for certain elective offices, which list was compiled from such petitions by the office of John Brann, former WPA Administrative Assistant (now in the possession of Stephen Birmingham, investigator for the Dies Committee in New York City), was checked by Special Field Agent Salzman and Subject's name was not found in such list. A list of signers of Communist petitions circulated in New York

City in 1940 and 1941, which list was compiled by the New York City Criminal Alien Squad under the direction of Captain Donnelly, was checked and Subject's name was not found in said list. This list does not contain the names of all of the signers of petitions for 1940 and 1941, as the compilation has not yet been completed, only about 65% of the names of signers of such petitions have been compiled to date.

The files of the New York City Police Department, including the Criminal Alien Squad, have been examined and contain no information concerning Subject.

In the Education and Experience Record, form WPA-NYC-89, filed by Subject SAMUEL BRODY, and dated September 26, 1939, he lists as his previous employment prior to his assignment to WPA:

- 1929-1932 Library Publishers, 25 West 125th St., New York City. Publishers - Proof reader, photographer and make-up, \$45.00 per week. Out of business.
- 1932-1933 Leslie Bain Productions, Astoria, Long Island. Films. Still and movie cameraman - \$35.00 per week. Reason for leaving: termination of production.

RALPH DeSOLA, Id. #365177, WPA Junior Superintendent, residing at 5 Middagh Street, Brooklyn, New York, on May 16, 1941, advised Agent Cohen that the firm listed by Subject as Library Publishers is probably the Workers Library Publishers, Box 148, Station D, New York City. This firm, witness advises, has published every important pamphlet of the Communist Party and the Department of Justice has forced them to register as a foreign agent after indictment before a Grand Jury in Washington, D. C.

As for LESLIE BAIN, by whom Subject states that he was employed during 1932 and 1933, DeSola relates that he was a negro, who was formerly a member of the Communist Party and whose testimony appears in the Dies Committee hearings. Although he may not have joined the Party until some time after the date that Subject states that he was in his employ, DeSola declares that Bain was close to the Communist Party for some time prior to his membership therein.

CHARLES WHITE, Id. #372845, WPA Recreation Leader, residing at 24 West 118th Street, New York City, interviewed by Agent Cohen on June 12, 1941, advised that he had been a member of the Communist Party from 1929 to 1936, an organizer for the Party in New Jersey, Cincinnati, Ohio and in Harlem, a member of the National Committee of the Young Communist League, and a candidate for State Senator on the Communist

