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Assistant Attorney General
Warren Olney III

April 28, 1954

Director, FBI

~~SECRET~~

DR. J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

In my memorandum to the Attorney General dated April 27, 1954, it was related that Oppenheimer in testimony before the Atomic Energy Commission Personnel Security Board had stated he had known John Pittman, who Oppenheimer stated wrote for the "People's World." Oppenheimer stated he thought Pittman and his wife were probably Communists.

John Pittman is possibly identical with John Pittman who has been the subject of investigation by this Bureau. Copies of reports reflecting results of our investigation of Pittman have previously been furnished to the Records Administration Branch under the caption "John Pittman, Internal Security - C." For your information, one copy each of the following reports concerning our investigation of Pittman has been furnished to the Atomic Energy Commission:

Summary report of Special Agent Wilbert H. Kehe dated December 13, 1946, at San Francisco, California.

Report of Special Agent Cecil James Fleming dated November 17, 1947, at San Francisco, California.

Report of Special Agent Joseph V. Waters dated February 9, 1948, at New York, New York.

Report of Special Agent Albert F. Chestone dated November 25, 1950, at New York, New York.

Report of Special Agent Wilbert H. Kehe dated December 16, 1953, at San Francisco, California.

Report of Special Agent Thornton M. Wood dated October 16, 1953, at New York, New York.

- Tolson _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Belmont _____
- Clegg _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Mohr _____
- Trotter _____
- Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Miss Gandy _____

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cc - 100-30067

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It is observed that as of October, 1953, Pittman was employed as Foreign Editor for the "Daily Worker" and "The Worker," having been so employed since April 24, 1951. He was previously Associate Editor of the "Daily Worker" and "The Worker." [He reportedly attended a meeting in [S] Europe in 1946 with William Z. Foster and French Communist leaders. An alleged Comintern representative also reportedly attended this meeting.] Pittman attended the 1950 convention of the Communist Party held in December, 1950, at New York City and he was elected to the convention's Press Committee. In September, 1951, Pittman covered the San Francisco Japanese Peace Treaty Conference for the "Daily Worker" and the "Daily People's World." He has been an instructor for the Jefferson School of Social Science since 1949 and has written for the publications "People's Voice," "Jewish Life," and "Masses and Mainstream." He has been a speaker at Communist Party meetings.

In view of Pittman's close Communist affiliations over a period of years and his present employment with the "Daily Worker," there appears to be no reason to believe he would be cooperative. An interview with him at this time is not contemplated.

The information in the preceding two paragraphs has also been furnished to the Atomic Energy Commission.

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