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JOHN HOWARD LAWSON

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Form No. 3

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. 100-21198

|   |                                   |   |  |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| REPORT MADE AT:<br><b>LOS ANGELES</b>                       | DATE WHEN MADE:<br><b>4/25/47</b> | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE:<br><b>3/3,5-7,11-14/47</b> | REPORT MADE BY:<br><b>ROBERT W. HOLLMAN - mhb</b>  |
| TITLE:<br><b>JOHN HOWARD LAWSON, with alias, Jacob Levy</b> |                                   |   | CHARACTER OF CASE:<br><b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b> |

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN  
OTHERWISE

SUMMARY REPORT  
BACKGROUND

Classified by **9145 JPL/ajf**  
Declassify on: **OADR**  
**4/16-86**

The subject, whose father changed the family name from LEVY to LAWSON, was born on September 25, 1895 in New York City. LAWSON attended Cutler School in New York and was graduated from Williams College in 1914. For a time he was employed as an editor in the New York Office of Reuters Limited and in 1917 went abroad where he served in the volunteer ambulance service with the French Army and was later transferred to the Italian front. After the war LAWSON lived in Paris and later was foreign correspondent in Rome for about two years following which he returned to the United States and his first play was produced by the Actors' Theater in 1923.

G.I.R.-9

LAWSON has been married twice, first to KATHRYN DRAIN in 1919, and he is presently married to SUSAN EDMOND LAWSON and has a son and a daughter.

DECLASSIFIED BY **5668-520/ude**  
ON **6-22-95** (JFK)

In the 1930's LAWSON became interested in screen writing and made a number of trips to Hollywood and moved to Los Angeles in September of 1941. LAWSON has written "Blockade", "Algiers", "Sahara", "Action in North Atlantic", "Counter-Attack", and has recently finished a screen play entitled "Smash-up" for WALTER WANGER. It has been alleged that LAWSON was first brought to Hollywood by V. J. JEROME to supplement the leadership of the Communist Movement in the Motion Picture Industry, which was then exercised by the film director, HERBERT BIBERMAN. LAWSON and BIBERMAN have always been closely associated but from all indications it appears now that JOHN HOWARD LAWSON is the leader of the Communist Movement in the Motion Picture Industry.

*John Howard Lawson*  
Declassify on: OADR

100-370750-105

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
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~~C O N F I D E N T I A L~~

Source A -- CNDI LA 2900

B -- CNDI LA #3

C -- BEN KADISH, former member of the Communist Party who is being developed by Special Agent FRED G. DUPUIS and who it is believed will furnish additional information regarding LAWSON's activity in the party in the near future.

D -- [CNDI LA 1380] (S) (u)

E -- WALTER WANGER (See Los Angeles file 62-2484-110 for the report of WANGER's identification of LAWSON, etc.)

F -- CNDI LA 3058

G -- [CNDI LA 2954] (S) (u)

H -- CIG76

I -- CNDI LA 1136

J -- Mrs. GLADYS CARLSON who is the second maid in the BRANSTON home at 454 N. Bristol, Brentwood, California.

K -- [CNDI LA 1357] (S) (u)

The above sources are so carried for reasons of office security.

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SUMMARY REPORT

BACKGROUND

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*4-16-86*

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DECLASSIFIED BY *5408 SLD/mde*  
*6-22-95*

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