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SUBJECTS : VALENTINA ONICK

VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI

WALTER BELOBRODSKI

FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK

WILLIAM F. ONICK

MRS. FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK

DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER, TEXTUAL DOCUMENT
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

SEATTLE

SECRET

REPORT MADE AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON	DATE WHEN MADE MAR 21 1956	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/30/55 1/4,9, 23,24; 3/16/56	REPORT MADE BY REESE H. CHIPMAN :dls
TITLE VALENTINA ONICK, nee BELOBRODSKI, aka Mrs. FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On July 14, 1955, Confidential Informant SE T-1, a confidential source abroad, advised VALENTINA ONICK, maiden name BELOBRODSKI, was married to FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK in Vancouver, B. C., Canada on April 28, 1955 and they had established residence in Seattle, Washington. T-1 advised Mrs. ONICK was listed on Board of Directors of National Council for Canadian Soviet Friendship Society in 1945, which organization became Communist controlled in 1947. In interview March 31, 1950 by T-1, Mrs. ONICK admitted her former membership in above organization and also said she had been a member of the Federation of Russian-Canadians (Communist) but held no office in that organization. T-1 advised that according to usually reliable sources, Mrs. ONICK's brother WALTER BELOBRODSKI is a member of the Labor-Progressive Party (Communist) and her parents are members of the Federation of Russian-Canadians. In same interview Mrs. ONICK advised she was employed under SERGEI G. LUKIANOV in the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, Vancouver, B.C., Canada office from May 1946 to September 1946 and continued employment in this office until February 1947. She could furnish no detailed information as to the activities of LUKIANOV, or other personnel in the above office. Confidential Informant, Seattle T-2, of unknown reliability, advised in August 1943 that one LUKIANOV, believed to be identical with SERGEI G. LUKIANOV was a member of an espionage network in the United States. T-1 said Mrs. ONICK had not attracted attention in Communist circles in Canada during the past three or four years and T-1 had no previous record of her husband. Data from U.S.I.N.S. set forth. On January 24, 1956, reporting agent

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ON 1/2/56

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DOD DIR 3200.10 DOES NOT APPLY

5-746
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☐ RELEASE IN FULL
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SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

- 6 - Bureau (5-100-347837)(AM)(REG.)
(1-WILLIAM FREDERICK ONICK)
4 - San Francisco (REG)(1-105-3689)
(1-105-3945)(Info)(1-105-3907)(Info)
1 - G-2, 6th Army, San Francisco
1 - DIO, 13th ND, Seattle (REG)
1 - USINS, Seattle (REG)
3 - Seattle (65-3458)

This is an FBI investigative
report and makes no recommendation
for clearance or disapproval.

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ascertained by pretext telephone call that FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK still employed as Assistant Field Director, American Red Cross in the 13th Naval District, Seattle and he and wife still residing at 3717 - 26th Place, Seattle. Confidential Security Informants familiar with certain activities and some of the membership of both the Communist Party, ~~the~~ Socialist Workers Party and related groups in Seattle were contacted. These informants were shown photographs of VALENTINA ONICK and her husband FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK and they advised they were not acquainted with the ONICKS and could furnish no information concerning them. In interview by U. S. Army, December 12, 1955 at Seattle, FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK advised his father was associated with the Russian-American Society, San Francisco during World War II for purpose of giving aid and assistance consisting of old clothing for the Russian people. He stated his father withdrew his support of RAS about 1945 as he felt the RAS had served its purpose as Russian aid group. ONICK said he also attended social functions of RAS. ONICK stated he knew nothing of his wife's connection with organizations in Canada. ONICK said he did not feel communism is a threat to the American way of life. Descriptive data set forth.

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DETAILS:

AT SEATTLE, WASHINGTON:

Investigation in this case is predicated upon information received from Confidential Informant, Seattle T-1, a confidential source abroad, in a communication dated July 14, 1955 which contained the following information:

VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI was born February 12, 1923 at Szereszewo Pruzana, Poland. She was married on April 28, 1955 in Vancouver, B. C., Canada to one FREDERICK W. ONICK who previous to his marriage had resided in the United States. The couple were reported to be residing at 3717 - 26th Place, Seattle, Washington, telephone number - Alder 9244 and it was believed by T-1, this would be their permanent residence.

T-1 stated further that according to available information, VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI was listed as being on the Board of Directors of the National Council for Canadian Soviet Friendship Society in January 1945.

The National Council for Canadian Soviet Friendship Society according to T-1, was the forerunner of the present Canadian Soviet Friendship Society (Communist Front) and was not considered under open Communist control until 1947.

187
~~SECRET~~
-2-

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067 DEC/62

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T-1 further advised that according to usually reliable sources, VALENTINA ONICK's brother WALTER BELOBRODSKI as of July 1955 was a member of the Labor-Progressive Party (Communist) and her parents were members of the Federation of Russian-Canadians.

T-1 advised that as of January 1950, WALTER BELOBRODSKI was then Secretary of the Polish Democratic Association and said her father JOHN and mother PAULINE were reportedly active in that "same Communist controlled association".

T-1 advised that periodic inquiries had been made concerning Mrs. ONICK but that she did not attract attention in Communist circles during the past three or four years, (prior to July 1955).

T-1 advised there was no previous record of FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK in T-1's files but he was reported to be approximately 32 years of age and of Russian racial origin.

As of January 1950, subject VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI was employed as a secretary in the Sales Branch of the American Can Company, Vancouver, B. C. and was residing with her parents Mr. and Mrs. JOHN BELOBRODSKI at 1524 Gravelly Street in that city.

By communication dated November 8, 1946, T-1 advised that VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI had approached the United States Embassy at Vancouver, B. C., Canada for the purpose of ascertaining requirements necessary for taking up permanent residence in the United States; however, she later withdrew her application to enter this country. At that time she indicated that she intended to visit an aunt Mrs. ALEXANDER KALINIEKO, 1601 - 11th Avenue South, Seattle and her aunt's mother Mrs. KATHERINE SHUMANSKI, living at the same address. It was said that she had returned to Canada from a visit to the United States on September 30, 1946 but no particulars were available to T-1 concerning this trip.

INTERVIEW WITH VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI BY T-1
ON MARCH 31, 1950

T-1 advised that on March 31, 1950, Miss VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI was interviewed by personnel connected with SE T-1 and advised that she proved to be quite co-operative. T-1 commented, however, that it appeared she was unable or unwilling to provide any information of value concerning Soviet Personnel in Canada. During this interview, Miss BELOBRODSKI furnished the following information to officials of T-1:

On May 31, 1946 she began her employment with the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission, also known as the Office of the Commercial Counselor, at Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada and this employment continued until the office was closed in February 1947. As early as September 1946 she had been advised of this closure.

067 DEC/62

188

-3-

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She furnished the following information as to the circumstances connected with her employment with the Soviet Purchasing Commission in Vancouver:

Shortly prior to accepting the above employment with the Purchasing Commission, that office had employed a Mrs. HAMILTON who had left for personal reasons and the Commission had advertised locally for a replacement. At the same time ALEXANDER E. NAZAROV, a member of the Commission, was residing temporarily with one HUCALUK or HOCALUK at 812 Keefer Street, who was proprietor of the Windsor Shoe Repairing Store. She said that Mr. HOCALUK was a personal friend of hers and that he suggested that she apply for the position with the Purchasing Commission as she had a good knowledge of the Russian language.

Miss BELOBRODSKI said the only members of the Purchasing Commission in Vancouver during her employment there were:

ALEXANDER E. NAZAROV;
PETER P. GAVRILOV; and
SERGEI G. LUKIANOV.

She maintained that no other stenographic help was employed at that time and said her work was extremely light and consisted principally of translating English documents into Russian and that these documents mainly pertained to business between the Purchasing Commission and the Empire Shipping Company at Vancouver, B. C.

Miss BELOBRODSKI further maintained that the three members of the staff usually attended to their own correspondence to which she was not given access. As far as she was concerned, her business was confined solely to bona fide transactions dealing with the shipping of material from Canada to the Soviet Union. According to T-1, Miss BELOBRODSKI was unable to give any information concerning movements of the members of the Purchasing Commission, apart from some social function which she attended and which from her point of view had no significance whatever.

SERGEI GRIGORIEVICH LUKIANOV

In August 1943, Confidential Informant SE T-2, of unknown reliability, advised that one LUKIANOV, member of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission in the United States, was one of a number of Soviet Government officials who were then engaged in espionage in the United States. It is believed that this individual is identical with SERGEI GRIGORIEVICH LUKIANOV, who was a member of the Soviet Government Purchasing Commission in the United States from about 1943 to 1945 at which time he was transferred and became Chief of the Soviet Purchasing Commission in Vancouver, B. C., Canada.

189

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067DEC/62

-4-

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LUKIANOV is believed to have departed from Canada on September 23, 1946 in route to Moscow via New York. He departed from New York on October 23, 1946. According to records of the United States State Department, he returned to the United States in January 1949 as Secretary to the Soviet Delegation to the International Conference on Wheat and remained in this country until March 25, 1949. Investigation during this latter period did not disclose he was engaged in intelligence activities.

According to T-1, Miss BELOBRODSKI freely admitted former membership with the Canadian Soviet Friendship League, also known as Canadian Soviet Friendship Society and also with the Federation of Russian-Canadians. With respect to the former, she claimed she was invited into the organization by a friend and remained due to the fact she found it most interesting and instructive and she was able to contact interesting people. She said she was interested in art, drama, and travel and in that organization she met people of similar tastes.

With respect to the Federation of Russian-Canadians, Miss BELOBRODSKI informed T-1 that her mother who could speak no English and her father had joined this organization shortly after their arrival in Canada for the purpose of maintaining friendship with people of the same national origin. She said that neither of her parents was interested in politics but they found relaxation in the cultural activities of the Federation of Russian-Canadians.

She said that she was able to satisfy her musical ambition by belonging to an orchestra formed by the Russian-Canadians and through it she was able to study the mandolin. She claimed she had held no office in either the Canadian Soviet Friendship League or in the Federation of Russian-Canadians.

She said she had no knowledge of her brother WALTER's activity in the Polish Democratic Society other than he was a member.

T-1 advised that Miss BELOBRODSKI claimed no connection with the Canadian Soviet Friendship League as of March 1950, however, her name as of that time still appeared on the letterheads of this organization. T-1 stated, however, this might have little significance as it was known that this organization constantly continued to use the names of individuals who had long since severed their connections with the organization.

T-1 advised that Miss BELOBRODSKI was extremely well regarded by the American Can Company where she was then employed in March 1950.

190

067DEC/62

-5-

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According to the files of T-1, VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI entered Canada at Quebec on July 13, 1929 and became a naturalized citizen on her father's certificate ticket #26303 issued October 13, 1931. It was stated her father was of Russian origin.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The following background information was observed in the files of United States Immigration and Naturalization Service under number A 8 901 319, on January 23, 1956:

Birth data:	A copy of a birth certificate disclosed VALENTINA ONICK (maiden name BELOBRODSKI) was born at Szereszow, Poland, February 12, 1923.
Father:	JOHN P. BELOBRODSKI
Mother:	PAULINE KALINIEKO (maiden name)
Origin:	Russian
Citizenship:	Canadian
Language ability:	ONICK claimed to speak, read and write, Polish, English, Russian and French
Occupation:	Stenographer

The above file discloses that VALENTINA ONICK applied for immigrant visa to visit the United States in March 1955.

Previous residences:	1923 to 1929 - Szereszow, Poland
	1929 to 1941 - Youbou, British Columbia, Canada
	1941 to 1955 - Vancouver, B. C., Canada
Last permanent residence:	3919 Alice Street, Vancouver, B. C.

An immigration visa was issued her on August 19, 1955. She was holder of Canadian passport #4-186747 issued June 8, 1951 and expiring June 8, 1956.

She entered the United States at Blaine, Washington by automobile August 21, 1955.

FINANCIAL STATUS

The files of Immigration and Naturalization Service disclosed a letter from the Bank of Canada, Commercial Drive and Gravely, dated March 15, 1955, advised that she had a savings account containing \$4,404.27. This stated that no large deposits or withdrawals had been made since the account was opened.

191

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067DEC/62

-6-

SECRETPRESENT EMPLOYMENT AND RESIDENCE DATA

On January 24, 1956, the reporting agent, using a suitable pretext called FREDERICK ONICK'S office and someone in that office advised that FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK is still employed as Assistant Field Director of the American Red Cross in the 13th Naval District, Seattle, Building 208, Pier 91, telephone Alder 5200, and that he still resides with his wife VALENTINA, at 3717 - 26th Place, Seattle, telephone Alder 9244.

CONTACT WITH CONFIDENTIAL SECURITY INFORMANTS

Confidential security informants with knowledge of certain activities and some of the membership of the Communist Party and related groups were contacted and shown a photograph of VALENTINA ONICK and her husband FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK, and these informants could not identify ONICK and her husband and could furnish no information concerning them.

Confidential security informants familiar with certain activities and some membership of the Socialist Workers Party in Seattle were contacted and shown photographs of the ONICKS. These informants advised that they were not acquainted with the ONICKS and could furnish no information concerning them.

INTERVIEW WITH FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK
BY UNITED STATES ARMY AT SEATTLE, DECEMBER 12, 1955

By communication dated October 29, 1955, information was received from Lieutenant Colonel JACK B. CAMERON, 6th Army Headquarters, San Francisco, that FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK was a Captain in the U. S. Army Reserve, then assigned to the 6122 USAR Control Group, California Military District; his Army serial number being 0-368853.

FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK was interviewed under oath by a representative of the U. S. Army at Seattle, Washington on December 12, 1955 at which time he provided the following information:

ONICK advised that he resided at 3717 - 26th Place West, Seattle, Washington and that he was employed as Assistant Field Director, American Red Cross, 13th Naval District Headquarters, Building 208, Pier 91, Seattle, Washington. He advised that he held the rank of Captain, 0-468853, Infantry, USAR, 6122 Control Group, California Military District, Presidio of San Francisco, California. He advised that his father, WILLIAM FRED ONICK, resides at 26 Rocklyn Court, Corte Madera, California, and that his stepmother, MARY ONICK, nee SOKOLACKO, resides with him at that address. He stated that his mother, ANISIA ONICK, nee SHUSTOFF, is deceased, and that MARY SOKOLACKO married his father in 1952. ONICK stated that he married VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI on April 28, 1955, in Vancouver, B. C. and that she was residing with him in Seattle. He stated that he was formerly married to VERA ONICK, nee ORLOFF, from whom he was divorced in 1949. He stated that her present husband had adopted their child, whose name he did not know.

067DEC/62

-7-

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SE 65-3458

(The Russian American Society (RAS), mentioned hereafter, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.)

ONICK expressed the belief that he initially associated with the Russian American Society in 1945 when he attended social functions of the Russian American Society at the Russian Embassy, San Francisco. He stated that he might have attended one or two other social gatherings of the Russian American Society after 1945. He observed that he had never been a member of the Russian American Society and that he participated in the social functions "for the purpose of a social activity." ONICK advised that from approximately 1942 until 1945, his mother and father were associated with the Russian American Society for the purpose of giving aid and assistance in the manner of old clothing for the Russian people. He expressed the belief that they were not Russian American Society members although they were closely associated with the Russian American Society. He advised that his father had worked as head bartender at the Russian American Society hall on Divisadero Street in San Francisco. He stated that neither of his parents had been officials of the Russian American Society but that on ceremonial occasions his father had been selected to hold the Russian flag and he noted that his father had been selected for this purpose apparently because he had an old Russian peasant costume.

According to ONICK, his aunt, ANNA BORDEN, nee ALEXANDROFF, 1915 York, San Francisco, was associated with the Russian American Society during World War II, but terminated her activity in about 1945.

ONICK related that in approximately 1945, his father withdrew his support of the Russian American Society because he felt that the Russian American Society had served its purpose as a World War II Russian aid group and his father, therefore, ceased participation in Russian American Society social functions.

ONICK stated that he had never contributed financially to the Russian American Society but expressed the belief that he had donated old clothes to the Society. He stated that none of his relatives have had any connection with the Russian American Society since his father's withdrawal in approximately 1945, to the best of his knowledge.

ONICK observed that he initially met VALENTINA BELOBRODSKI in June or July 1951, in Vancouver, B. C., and that he became acquainted with her through his aunt, ANNA BORDEN, an earlier acquaintance of his wife. He stated he saw VALENTINA nearly every weekend from Christmas, 1954 until their marriage in April 1955. She was then employed as a Research Chemist at the American Can Company and had held that position for about ten years. He advised that his wife is now employed as Secretary at the Sylvania Radio Company, 3346 E. Marginal Way, Seattle. He stated that

193

~~SECRET~~

-8-

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067DEC/62

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SE 65-3458

his wife was born at Szereszow, Poland, on February 12, 1923 and arrived in Canada when she was six years of age. She is presently a Canadian citizen. He advised that he was not acquainted with any organizational affiliation on the part of his wife.

ONICK was asked if he would care to make a statement concerning his beliefs regarding Communism and he advised that "There may be something good about it, there may be something good about the English Government or any other government or, on the other hand, there may be something bad about it. I have never had a taste of it so I really don't know." He indicated that some people may like Communism as a form of government and "some people may not, but it is completely foreign to my own type of government." He was asked if he believed Communism would be a threat to the American way of life and he stated, "Communism is not a threat to the American way of life, there is not any reason to be scared of them, that's for sure." He was questioned regarding his sentiments concerning legislation outlawing the Communist Party and he advised that "as far as I am concerned it makes no difference to me because I am not interested in it."

DESCRIPTIVE DATA

According to the files of T-1, VALENTINA ONICK was described as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Female
Eyes:	Blue
Hair:	Light brown
Build:	Medium
Height:	5' 5"
Weight:	118 lbs.
Employment:	December 1955 - Secretary; Sylvania Radio Company 3346 East Marginal Way, Seattle.
Residence:	3717 - 26th Place West, Seattle.

Photographs of VALENTINA ONICK and FREDERICK WILLIAM ONICK are maintained in the Seattle Office file.

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194

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-9-

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06 7 DEC / 62