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"Diff Files" for NARA 2025 Documents Release JFK Assassination Records

Generated using diff-pdf and OpenCV. Thanks to the Mary Ferrell Foundation and The Black Vault for their archiving work.

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This file highlights differences between the 2025 release, and previous releases.

Red: Newly revealed in 2025.

Blue: Present in earlier releases, but not in 2025.

Blads Unchanged between versions.

For Original Documents visit: archives.gov/research/ifk/release-2025

Notes:

Black text on a blue background inidcates content that was previously redacted using black ink.

I did my best to be accurate in revealing what is new, but please confirm with the original sources where accuracy is essential.

Created by: x.com/hlywdufo

JFKdiffs.com

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9 January 1975 (date)

Review of 201 File on U.S. Citizen

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4 October 1974

XAA2-35686

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Former Records of Ray Murphy

1. The attached documents are part of a large collection of records held by Ray Murphy during his tenure as an official of the Department of State. He transferred all of his records to CIA upon his retirement in the mid-1960's. The documents of that collection which did not meet the retention criteria of the DDO or the Office of Security were destroyed. While those which were of utility have been retained and accessioned as appropriate to the DDO records system.

2. The attached records concern
Harold ISAACS
who is the subject of 201-0018446 and should
be classified to that file.

M. Gail Hartman

M. Paul Hartma

Attachment

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HEW WARSES, How York City, BOUPCE: october 22, 1936 - Page 12

EUROPE'S CHISTS; JAPAN PREPARES

By Hensu Chan

There ere numerous American journalists of different political color and shades of opinion who are "cooperating" in this way with Japanese imperialism, but whoever has followed the writings of herold Isaaca, Alexander Buchmen, Frank Class and Wilbur Burton in The Chine Press, The China Weekly Review, wels, Pacific Affeirs, Now International, etc., realizes that these smerican Protekyiet journalists are the most victous and most dangarous of the whole lot of reactionary journalists.

diding behind a barrage of Marxist phraseology (which noue of them has yet learned to manipulate with facility), these people are energetically conducting a campaign of lies against the Communist International, the Chinese Communist Forty, the Soviet Union, the Chinese Soviets and the Chiques Hed Army, a campaign which sine to undermine the confidence of the outside world in the Chinese Soviet movement and the Red Army.

Hazeld Janaes

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SUR COMMIST ACTIVITIES FILES Date Oct. 23.1957

SOURCE: DAILY WORKER

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TROTZKYITE BOOK MOURNS OVER CHINESE REVOLUTION

THE TRACEDY OF THE CHIL of devious Trotskyfte polemics, NESE REVOLUTION. By Isaacs book, has been reissued. Harold D. Issaes, Stanford Uni-partly to cash in on the hate-China versity Press. 382 pp. \$5.

anti-Chinese books these days at Isaacs now says he no longer a pace which bids to match the loves Trotsky, whose introduction anti-Soviet torant. All the 'old China hands' who served Western stead, he is an open defender of imperialism as banker, soldier, spy, imperialist intervention against the content are now manually of the Far Fast. or whatever in the Orient are now people of the Far East, busy at the typewriter, engaged in profitable vilification of 450, 000,000 people because they decided to take their fate in their lown hands and build for them-classified the service of t

Revolution.

Published first in 1938 as an avoivedly Trotskyite tract (complete with introduction by Trotsky) is ironic in view of the fact that workers in 1927 a betraval by Stalin and the Chinese Communists, the same book emerges now, refurbished, to mourn the victory of the very same Chinese workers will go about their business building socialism, unconcerned by scaes tears for the tragedy of the lact that the very same Chinese workers will go about their business building socialism, unconcerned by scaes tears for the tragedy of 1927 or 1951.

by ROBERT FRIEDMAN

The presses are spewing forth master. Chines days at a pace which hide to make a lisuace now says he as being the masses.

One book which deserves, even under the cynical and opportunist reign of capitalism, some special prize for adaptability is Harold D. Isaacs. Tragedy, of the Chinese Tragedy. This noncesses with the control of the Chinese revolution, and see and because they allegedly cringed the workers in 1927.

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Enclosure No. 1 To Der toh No. 3317

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Feiping, China. Oct. 5, 1934.

Mr. T. A. Bisson 136 Claremont Avenue Mount Vernon, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Bisson:

I have seen the correspondence exchanged between Mr. Class and yourself regarding the contributions you collected for the China Forum. A draft for the sum in full will be sent to you this week.

I do not know in the name of whom or what Miss Smedley speaks of the China Forum. Since she was not in China at the time the Forum Suspended, nor has she corresponded with me on the subject, I consider it necessary to place before you and the other contributors an account of the circumstances in which the Forum ceased publication. Since you apparently gathered the contributors together in a meeting to hear what Miss Smedley had to say, I would appreciate it deeply if you would gather them once more to hear my account. The enclosed is a copy of a letter sent by me last May to the Chinese Communist Party. It has been published in China in a Chinese translation and copies have been sent abroad but has not been published in English as far as I know. I do not know the names of the people who were good enough to contribute to the Forum but their interest in the matter warrants placing before them the story of what happened to the magazine. I trust, out of simple fairness to me, you will be good enough to give them this opportunity.

I greatly regret any inconvenience or embarrassment to which you have been put in this matter. I do hope, however, that my letter will enlighten you and your friends and enable you to appreciate the difficulties which have arisen. I know of no project to revive the China Forum at the present time. Should such occur, the resultant publication would be of a considerably different character from the one I edited, as will be obvious from the facts given in my letter to the C. P. I think people who are interested in supporting the revolutionary movement here should know these facts.

Once again, I appreciate all the trouble you have gone to in this matter.

Did you ever, incidentally, receive the article "Fascism in China" and the newsletter which I mailed to July 13 last?

Yours sincerely,

enol.

(Harold R. Isaacs)

(Copied by RD)

11/1 ATT 13 TO XAA2-35636

261-184-16

Letter of H. R. Islacs to the C.C.P. concern-

To the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party:

The two-year period of my extra-organizational collaboration with the Chinese Communist Party has come to an end and the China Forum which I founded and edited during that time has been forced to suspend publication. In the interest of our whole movement as well as in my personal interest; I consider it necessary to record here and publish the history of the China Forum and the circumstances of its suspension. You refused me the opportunity to lay the matter before the membership of the party even when I offered to do so in your own organs and not through the columns of the Forum. When, wrongly, I permitted the Forum to go down in silence, you turned around and in your organs and near organs in China and abroad you proceeded with the usual slanders of "betrayer" and "counter-revolutionary". In so doing you didn't have the courage or the simple honesty to state that you pre-sented the China Forum with an ultimatum and forced its suspension because in raply its editor raised questions which are being placed before the whole movement today by the International Left Opposition. Nor did you state that you deliterately smashed the Forum for this reason despite my repeated and extended offers to continue publication as before on a straight anti-Kuomintang, antiimperialist basis, leaving these various problems to be thrashed out first privately among ourselves. In other words, you deliberately forced suspension of the China Forum despite the fact, on your own admission, that its loss was a serious plow to the revolutionary movement in China, that it meant the disappearance of an organ which for two years you had considered an extremely valuable instrument in the hands of the movement. Here, as in the broader issues which led to our differences, your blind adherence to false policies was once more demonstrative of your readiness to place your factional interests above the interests of the Chinese Revolution.

In going back over the history of the Forum, I think the victous character of your action becomes even more evident when I start with the fact that from beginning to end I functioned not as a member of the party but as a willing sympathiser who was prepared to throw all his energies into a job he saw he could do - edit and publish an organ in China which could help mobilize the forces of this country for struggle against the Kuomintang and the imperialists by exposing the regime of terror and privation which they have in common imposed upon the masses of the Chinese people. Permit me to recall at this point that I never accepted any personal remuneration for time or labor. You gave the Forum financial aid but I never received a dollar from you that was not put into the paper. I refused your offers of compensation and earned my living elsewhere. Your only claim on me was my full-hearted loyalty to the Communist ideal and

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our common dedication to the struggle mannet a regime of hate and misery and oppression. In the end you forfeited this claim by ceasing any longer to be in my eyes honest or effective leaders of this struggle.

Although you helped the forum financially, the part you played in building it up from the day it started in January, 1932, to the day of its last appearance in January 1934, was insignificant. My repeated requests for cooperation in matters of circulation and material for publication went largely unsatisfied throughout that time. You never supplied me with the reports I so frequently and urgently sought, particularly on trade unions, strike struggles, the Red Armies, the Red districts, etc. Svery thing the Forum did and became was the fruit of the work of a tiny group of devoted collaborators (the most important of whom had no connection with you whatever) and myself who had to depend almost entirely on our own resources for everything we did and published. At every crisis in the Forum's existence, when it was banned by the French authorities in Shanghai at the very outset; when it was bounded and persecuted by the American and Chinese authorities in the summer of 1933, when through British police pressure it was thrown out of every available printing ship in the city; when the pseudo-Fascist Blue Shirts again and again threatened the printing plant which I built up partially through personally contracted loans -- it was invariably through my own initiative, with the help of the little Forum staff, that we pulled ourselves up by the bootstraps every time and carried on to a point in January this year where the Forum was flourishing and growing daily in circulation, prestige, and influence despite the many formidable obstacles in its way. The formation of the China Forum Readers Association, which in the brief space of three months spread to eleven cities in five provinces, developing into a mighty potential weapon for the revolutionary movement, was the product of spontaneous action on the part of the Forum's readers, later sponsored and led by the paper itself. All these were the Forum's own achievements, not yours. By your arbitrary and criminal action you shattered them in the full stride of their growth. Because to my bitter disappointment I had not nor could I secure the resources to carry on myself - owing largely to the difficult condi-tions of work and the impossibility of getting revenue from the paper itself - all that had been achieved and was to be achieved was ground into the dust.

II.

From almost the very beginning of my active work - which I date from the time I began reporting events in China in a Communist way - a number of questions presented themselves to me in increasingly forcible form. These arose originally from my discovery of the gross distortions and exaggerations which I found to be characteristic of Communist propaganda in China and abroad. I define propaganda as the skilful, clear, accurate and wholly truthful reporting of the facts linked to an incisive,

purposive interpretation and a plan of action for dealing with the facts in a revolutionary way. I learned this first the tile and work of Lenin and his Bolshevik comrades who taught us that the truth comes from the masses themselves and that only disaster can result from telling them lies. I have never learned to the contrary that it was my revolutionary duty to work in any other way although I soon found that the present day Communist Party press makes a practice of distinguishing between propaganda and truth.

Examples of exaggeration and distortion most striking to me were naturally those which applied to China, because here I could check allegations with known facts. I first wrote these down to the ignorance or incapacity of individuals. I felt that Communist editors abroad would publish accurate facts about China if they could get them. Accordingly with a friend I tried to set up an independent mail news service and sent weekly bulleting to papers all over the world giving brief, sharp, factual accounts of what was going on. This was in the fall of 1931 after my return from the area of the great Central China floods of that summer. I scarcely understood then why this service failed to secure any response from the Communist press abroad. After about three months I had to suspend it for lack of support. It simply didn't get published except in a few organs which were not official Communist Party papers, including the New York Militant.

It wasn't long before I began to perceive, deeper study of international events and the history of the Chinese Revolution, that a consistent thread ran through the distortions and exaggerations which I found not only in brief casual reports of current events but in the solemn pronunciamentoes made by delegates before plenums of the E.C.C.I. I discovered that these departures from the truth were made necessary by the official premise that ever since the catastrophe of 1927 a mighty, upsurging revolutionary movement has been marching forward in China to the very brink of seizure of power under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party. I discovered that these exaggerations were necessary because the premise was false and along with it all the basic tenets of the policies being pursued by the Communist International and the Communist Party in China. I cannot begin here to give a summary of some of these distortions (which I verbally cited to you by the dozen) ranging from particular incidents (the wilfully false picture given of the cotton mill strike in Shanghai in January, 1933, even to the point of transposing it to February to heighten the impression given of the workers' role in the Shanghai war) to high flown generalizations like the statement recently made before the Plenum of the S.C.C.I. that the C.C.P. has won over the majority of the Chinese working class and the peasantry.

In denying the factual truth of this premise, whence flows the whole policy of the Communist Party in China, I deprecate not a whit the magnificent militancy and courage of Chinese workers, striking again and again and fighting

against terrific odds in defense of their very lives; nor the neroic struggles waged by peasants all over the country; nor the fight of the Red Armies against the Kuomintang, I merely respect the cold, indisputable fact; that these struggles are defensive, not offensive, that they are isolated, desperate and unorganized. With very few exceptions - a few small strikes here and there and the larger exception of the Red Army - they are without organized revolutionary leadership. Moreover the development of this leadership, the task of the C.P., is proceeding at a tragically retarded pace owing to the false policies and inept tactics of the party.

In denying the presence of a mighty revolutionary upsurge (i.e., a vast, organised march toward the seizure of power) I respect facts made still clearer perhaps when compared to the facts and figures of the monster mass movements of the 1925-27 period. The tragic errors of the Communist leadership in 1927 were primarily responsible for the decapitation of that great movement and because no lessons have been drawn from those events to this very day, these errors, monstrously accumulated, are still reeponsible for the tragedies of today. But for the purpose of our comparison here, let us for example take the single fact that in 1936 in Greater Shanghai there were 257 In 1933 there were 82. Let us remember that strikes. on the eve of the workers' seisure of power in Shanghai in March, 1927, there were more than 800,000 porkers handicrafteren and petty traders out on the streets fighting with arms in hands for demands of a far-reaching political character. A close check for the entire country in the latter half of 1933 showed me that Icas than onethirtieth of that number were engaged in strikes and other disputes during any given month and that almost invariably the demands were defensive demands against wage cuts and lockouts. Moreover, the lack of cohesive leadership - often in departments of the same factory or in one or more of a group of factories - or even sometimes lack of even the most elementary organization - has in almost every case led to deadening failure and relatively easy betrayal by the yellow "labor leaders" and "mediators" of the Ruomintang. In 1935 the shooting of thirteen students by British police in Shanghai was the touch-off for a general strike which paralyzed the city and which was seconded by vast sympathy strikes which broke like a In Januseries of tidal waves over the entire country. ary, 1932, when the Japanese imperialists used the Shanghai International Settlement as a base for operations which cost the lives of tens of thousands of Chinese, not a single strike interrupted the normal course of the public or other services in that settlement. In the factories there were no strikes but a large scale lockout to which the overwhelming majority of Shanghai's workers submitted without protest.

The dogged, persistent struggle carried on by small sections of the rank and file workers in isolated instances in recent years is tribute to the magnificent fibre of

It is not evidence that a revolutionary Chinese workers. seizure of power is on the order of the day. It is evidence, along with the heroic sacrifices of thousands who have lost lives and liberty in Chinese revolutionary struggle during the last seven years of Kuomintang re-action, that it is possible to fight the monstrous white terror which Chinese Communists frequently cite as a reason for the insufficiency of their work. Yet 1t 18 largely because this terror has not been fought effectively that the Kuomintang regime, despite the fact that it is rotting and crumbling, can still keep the lid down on the boiling, simmering hatred of the people it rules. Unless the martyrdom of thousands of China's finest workers, peasants and revolutionary intellectuals is to be in vain. we must turn resolutely away from the folly of calling to insurrection when what is needed is painstaking education, organization and the sponsorship of day-to-day struggles of the masses for democratic demands, the slow building up of a party and mass organizations and a movement which will be able to command the forces capable of carrying out an insurrection.

In the case of the widespread but isolated and individual cases of peasant uprisings, and this includes the Red Armies in Kiangsi, these struggles await the leadership of a strong working class movement before they can have a successful issue. The Red Armies in their restricted and surrounded areas and with their meagre resources have fought heroically against the Kuomintang attacks upon them. But until the Kuomintang is shaken from its bulwarks in the imperialist controlled working class centres, their prospect of revolutionary triumph remains necessarily dim. No revolutionary purpose is served by taking refuge in the fiction that these armies have proletarian leadership because individual workers, .undoubtedly leaders of superior quality and courage, have been torn from their factories and their fellow-workers and sent down to occupy key positions in the Red Army districts and in the Red Armies themselves. Indeed, common practice of extracting the most conscious and progressive working class elements from their working class environment and sending them down to the Red districts 18 a good index to the oriminal transposition of emphasis which has helped paralyze the working class movement in the cities. If the White Terror doesn't carry off the workers' leaders as they arise, the C.P. does and has done so in hundreds of cases. This helps in no small part to explain why it has also been impossible to mobilize a genuine mass anti-Japanese movement in the fact of military aggression and why the White Terror of the Kuomintang has succeeded, by filling mass graves and innumerable prisons with the martyred dead and living, in downing the anti-imperialist movement or efforts toward the organization of such a movement and paving the way for the eyer increasing encroachments of the imperialists. The party has not yet gripped and directed the deep and bitter and often inarticulate hatred of the masses of the people for their oppressors and this includes large sections of the lower netty bourgeoisie who could be won by successful mass pressure from below. This is because the

Party has failed to translate the realities of everyday events into its program and tactics.

I cannot here go into the many-faceted problems and issues which flow from these facts with regard to the policies and tactics of the Chinese revolutionary movement Nor extending to the international scene need I go into the terrific effects of the German catastrophe nor the storm of questions which has been directed at the C.I. leadership whose responsibility in the disaster has become nakedly clear to unnumbered Communists and Communist sympathizers the world over. Nor into the whole set of implications which arise from the policies of the C.I. with particular reference to the late developments in Soviet foreign policy, the Litvinov-Roosevelt agreement, the forthcoming mooted entrance of the U.S.S.R. into the League of Nations and in a smaller but equally characteristic way, the forthcoming association of the U.S.S.R. with the Institute of Pacific Relations which hopes to hold its next talkfest in Mosocw. These problems, with their many specific links to the Chinese questions, were the basic questions over which I soon began to take issue with the official views of the Party and the International.

III.

But precisely because at all costs I desired to carry on the Forum's open struggle against the common enemy - against the Kuomintang and the imperialists - I sedulously avoided bringing these issues into the columns of the paper, increasingly against my better judgment. I leaned over far backward in this respect. This expressed itself in many of the current issues with which we had to deal.

I ask you to recall the whole unhill fight which the Forum waged on behalf of Paul and Gertrud Ruegg in the spring and summer of 1932 during which time I repeatedly warned against the emphasis which was being placed on the "legal" aspects of the case and the "negotiations" with the Kuomintang to the detriment of mass pressure and the capitalization of the case for political purposes. You paid lip service to the need for mass pressure - particularly here in China - but in fact the "legalities" and futile negotiations remained the major pillars of the defense. Until in the very end I finally rebelled, I wasn't even permitted to give Ruegg his honourable and rightful title - secretary of the Pan Pacific Trade Union Secretariat. Yet, although I felt the struggle for the Rueggs was being seriously handicapped by the tactics being pursued, I carried on the fight with all the energy at my command and you will recall that it was I who created the local defense committee and was chiefly responsible for the widespread press propaganda and the considerable sympathy which we aroused. Yet the strictly non-political attitude which Ruegg was forced to assume at the trial (in contrast to the highly political attitude of his prosecutors) was in my opinion one of the major reasons

for the fate to which he and his wife were condemned.

I ask you to recall the whole period of the organisation and activities of the China-League for Civil Rights, from December, 1932, to June, 1933, in which I took an active part. I gave full play to this hybrid League and its work without once publishing the basic criticisms which I often voiced to you and which in the end were wholly confirmed by what happened after the Kuomintang murdered Yang Chien in June that year.

I ask you to recall the views I set forth in August and Sentember, 1933, on the subject of the "anti-War Congress" which at your specific request I did not publish. Instead, to my regret, I published the foul rot of Marley & Co., without freely giving play to the true facts about that farcical junket which had convinced me that the policies which give it birth do not one single whit advance the international struggle against imperialist war.

On one occasion - and this at least I can take comfort in - I passively resisted when you requested me to
write and publish a slanderous attack on Chen-Tu-heiu
when he was condemned to 13 years imprisonment by the
Kuomintang. Your request was specific. I was not to
deal with the issues which had brought Chen Tu-heiu from
being the leader of the C.P. in 1937 to being leader of
the Chinese Opposition in 1933. I was only to string together a wile series of labels in an effort to explain
why the Kuomintang even imprisoned the leader of the
Left Opposition. As you know, that attack was never
written or published.

Again in December, 1933, upon my return from Fukien you specifically demanded that I set aside the results of my own personal investigations in Foochow in order to write on your behalf (but over my signature!) an utterly baseless and slanderous attack on the Left Opposition. You will recall that you charged at that time that the "Trotskyists" were prominently identified with the new government set up in Tukien by Chen Ming-shu and Teal Ting-kai. You lumped the Left Opposition with the Third Party and the so-called Social Democrats among the petty bourgeois satellites of the Fukien militarists. It was as much to satisfy myself on this very point as to perform a mission for you that I went down to Foochow and spent two weeks there and learned through direct contact with dozens of people prominently concerned that the Left Opmosition were stoutly and clearly opposed to the Foochaw regime. I haven't place here to discuss the relations of the C.P. to the short-lived Fukien Government or the character of the "negotiations" which were going on down there. The important thing here is that on my return you demanded that I write slanders which flew in the face of everything I myself had learned. It is interesting, as a sidelight on your methods in factional strife as you conceive it, that your representative in Foodhow sent back a report, through me, ironically enough, that one of the most prominent of the youthful pseudo-radicals in Foochow, Wu

Chi-yuen to be exact, was a leading "Trotskyist". It so happened that I had not and had several lengthy interviews with Wu and by the time I left Foothow I understood his position and his personality exceedingly well. He was as much a Trotskyist as Wei Lan-fang is! Yet you actually demanded that I ignore my own knowledge of the man and in my article on Fukien set him down as a "Trotskyist". I was faced on the one hand by your demands that I write falsehoods to suit your policies and on the other by my deep desire to set forth the actual facts about the Opposition's attitude towards the Fukien regime. But once more, to preserve the shreds of our relationship, I drove a middle course and did neither, leaving the whole question out of my article.

Despite the facts that these issues weighed more and more heavily upon me, despite the fact that events in China and abroad were pressing themselves zore and more imperatively on the concerns of every sincare revolutionary, I still tried to keep the Forum balanced on its ribbon-like path, concentrating on the anti-Kuomintang, anti-imperialist struggle, and in so doing fulfilling at least a partial function as a revolutionary organ. I deeply felt, however, that I was betraying my readers by avoiding these issues. How could I write of Germany and avoid all the implications of that disaster? How could I write of America's recognition of the U.S.S.R. and still fail to say that the Communist International had virtually been murdered at Washington? How could I warn against the dangers of imperialist intervention in the U.S.S.R. and still not point out that Soviet foreign policy was in fact daily heightening the danger of such intervention? Yet I somehow did so and sought in whatever way possible to retain some basis for our continued collaboration.

IV.

Nevertheless, abruptly in January of this year you forced an ultimatum upon me and subsequently forced the break in our relationship because I could not and would not, at your demand, devote the China Forum to policies which I could not and do not believe compatible with the interests of the Chinese Revolution and the international proletarian revolution. I could not, at your demand, set aside the convictions to which I had literally been driven by the stinging lash of catastrophic events in China, Germany and the world over. Particularly my deep interest in Chinese events during the last three years made it impossible for me, finally, to give active support to policies and tactics whose disastrous effects were being a thousandfold confirmed for me by the tragic events of every swiftly-passing day. I could not ignore questions which strike at the roots of our work and the whole structure of our hopes for a revolutionary future.

Despite the fact that these questions are rocking the entire International today, you denied my right to

raise them in print. You demanded more. You demanded that I attack anybody who did so - primarily the people you call "counter-revolutionary Trotskyists" - the only people who are facing these problems today in a fearless, revolutionary way. You demanded that the China Forum become a stereotype for the policies and vulgar factional slanders which I could neither then nor now be party In reply to my questions on China you simply quoted back to me the lies and half-lies I've been so used to reading in Inprecorr. You even declared: "For propaganda purposes a certain amount of exaggeration is necessary ... and went on amazingly to say: true facts and we base our policies on them, not on these exaggerations! A new slant on modern-day C.I. tactics! Facts, you said, are curious things. They have to be turned around and around and around and examined closely until their true nature becomes apparent. The trouble is you turn them so far and so quickly that they turn into something like a dizzily turning top of fancy - or at best wish - fulfilling misrepresentations.

To my questions on Germany you quoted Heckert, Piatniteky, and the E.C.C.I.'s famour resolution declar-ing that the collapse of the German party and the slaughter of the German workers were based on the past, present and future correct policies of the C.P.G.! You declared I had no right to offer critical comment on the dangerously opportunistic foreign and domestic policies of the U.S.S.R., most notably on the entry of the U.S.S.R. on a straight nationalist basis into the disgusting corridors of imperialist intrigue. To the contrary, I was to lovingly fawningly fondle and hail the policies which have meant disaster in China, Germany and elsewhere and are rapidly leading the U.S.S.R. into the vacuum of nationalist isolation from the world wide proletarian movement. This I was to do, to begin with, by publishing Stalin's face on the front page and columns of the customary panegyrics to his infallibility. Above all and before all, I was to to his infallibility. take up oudgels sgainst "counter-revolutionary Trotskyism". That was to be the main point of my reformation - to raise no questions myself and slander anybody else who did so.

In reply to your demand that I submit to an editorial board in order that these editorial policies should be effectively put into practice, I offered (1) to continue publication strictly as before, meanwhile arguing out my differences with you in discussions on the side; (2) to throw the columns of the Forum open to a general discussion of all basic revolutionary question, with free play to unorthodox as well as orthodox views. If your views were correct, I argued, it would be a distinct advantage to you to have such an opportunity to display their brilliance alongside the puny efforts of your critics; (3) to publish orthodox news and views but to reserve for myself the right to comment and criticise.

These repeated offers you repeatedly refused. You offered to discuss these questions with me verbally if in

the seanwhile I throw the Forum open to your editorial board. Wy other proposals were unthinkable! Give the Forum's readers a chance to hear tounter-revolutionary" viewpoints? Never that! I could only display my revolutionary purity by acceding to your demands. We would talk things over until Spring, then if all went well (i.e., if I showed a satisfactory adaptability to your viewpoint) I could pack up for an educational trip to the Soviet Union where I would certainly become convinced of the error of my ways. In other words you wanted my signature on a promissory note with the amount left blank for you to fill in. You put this in the form of an ultimatum and you told me that if I did anything but accept I would forthwith enter the camp of the "counter-revolution".

I had to refuse these terms. I had to refuse to lend myself to a slanderous and baseless struggle against the International Left Opposition. I had to refuse to lend space to the nauseatingly fawning praise of Stalin and uncritical reception of Stalinist policies which characterize the Communist Party press the world over. I had to refuse to take shelter in the cold and draughty empty spaces which stretch behind the impressive facade and early tradition of the Communist International. I would like to go to the Soviet Union for a vist someday but I had to refuse your offer on your terms. I had to refuse, in short, to become a hack prostitute in the name of the Revolution.

In the end, too, I had to refuse to turn over to you the printing plant I had built up with so much pain and struggle because I considered it not your property but the property of the working class movement. Because I could not carry on the Forum myself, for lick of financial resources and because of heavy debts contracted, I disposed of the plant and turned every farthing of the proceeds over to where I now consider the true interests of our movement lie. It was with a deep and abiding bitterness that I had considered comrades, when for two years it had fought off all its many enemies on the outside.

Tet with it came the realization that we have to build anew over the ruins you have wrought. The revolution and the building of our future moves forward and when we trample down the defenses of our enemies we shall crush underfoot everything and everybody that stands in our way. No sycophantic, blind allegiance to a name, an empty facade, a torn and shredded prestige can lead us forward. Only unswerving fidelity to our goal and active struggle towards this end with the weapons of a correct and tested political line will lift us from defeat to ultimate victory. To this struggle I shall continue to dedicate all my energies.

Harold R. Isaacs.

Peiving, China May 30, 1934.

EUR COORDIST ACTIVITIES FILES

SOURCE: DAILY HORKER

9100 File No.

POST WRITER ADMITS ALL KOREA' OPPOSES INVASION

The Korean people are united honest headline: "S. Kareans Don't behind the Liberation Armies from Know Why Help Has Come." hebind the Liberation Armies from the North and are hostile to the American troops sent there by Truman's interventionist order, the Norv York Povi's Far East expert- Truman's interventionist order, the Norv York Povi's Far East expert- Truman's interventionist order, the Norv York Povi's Far East expert- Truman's interventionist order, the Povi's Far East expert- Truman's interventionist order, the Povi's Far East expert- Truman's interventionist order, the Povi's Far East expert- Truman's fine of the Povi's F

on nersic support." He admitted that "South Korean civilians have been infinitely harder hit by the American action so far than by their tellow-Koreans from the north.

The South Korean government was an "unpopular one in the elec-tion held only four weeks ago," Issues said, "the regime of President Syngman Blice was decisively repudated."

leases declared that the guerilla Texacs declared that the guernia movements in South Korea "could" have operated only with a con-siderable measure of popular sup-port," and he acknowledged the intense desire of all Koreans for remification of their dismembered

To top this story, bristling with exposure of the imperalist nature of the Truman attack on Korea, and with evidence of the Korean people's awareness of their real enemy, the Post concerted the dis-

RECOLD GORY

HIN ATT OF TO 35016

7100 - Issuer, Horold

December 2, 1932.

No. 1480.

и высная рочя.

sith reference to R.A. memorandum No. 1305 of December 4, 1931; regarding Harold ISAACS and his connection with Bilaire NCULUNG, it has just been learned that one Viola RCBINICN arrived in Shanghai on August 28, 1932, by the C.T.R. s.s. and FRESS OF ASIA. On August 29, Biss HCBINICN, together with Harold ISAACS of the CHINA FORUM, gave notice to the United States Consulate General of their intended marriage, which actually took place on the 14th September. In his marriage application, ISAACS particularly requested that no publicity be given to the forthcoming ceremony. It appears that Miss RCBINICN is a folioter of the Suffregette, Lucy STONE, who, wome fifteen or twenty years ago, advocated among American women the retention of the maiden name after marriage:

According to officials of the United States Consulate General, Viola CCBINICN, therefore, will not be known as Vrs. ISAACS.

In connection with Viola POSINCON's activities in China, in a letter, dated Szechuen, July 24, 1931, Harold ISAACS wrote to Viola POBINSON as follows:

"You are in the swim, Viola. I'm coming back to dive in and swim alongside. That do you think? It is all extremely fortuitous from our standpoint that I should have seen the light at last. Your sork with 5000 and the future in it is far more important than anything you could do out here or anywhere else for that matter. I'll get back - no matter a possible delay - no matter how - there will be a job to be done and by our gods I'm going to get into it..."

attention is called to the name TURN mentioned in the above extract.



RECUID COPY

H/W ATT CE TO 35656

No. 5019

9 m. Transe, therely

Confidential.

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE.

American Consulate Caneral, Shanghai, China, December 16, 1931.

Subject: Harold H. Isaacs.

THE HONORASLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

Siri

I have the honor to report that an American citizen named Harold R. Isaacs has been reported to this office by the police of the International Settlement as a communist suspect. The facts regarding Mr. Isaacs are briefly as follows:

Er. Harold R. Isaass called at this office in December, 1930, and stated that he would be for a few months in Shanghai; at that time he exhibited passport No. 177026, issued by the Department of State on March 17, 1950. He stated that he expected to leave Shanghai in June, 1931; that his home was in New York City and that his local address was in care of the American Express Company.

Assording to Police reports Issaes arrived in Shanghai from Manila as a first-class passenger on the S. S. PRESIDENT JEFFERSCH on Descenber 17, 1930. He was employed by the SHANGRAI EVERGES POST AND MERCURY and later by the CHICA PRUSS but apparently lost both

prolitions.

H/W ATT. 07 To XAA 2-35656

positions. He has resided with a British subject named C. Frank Cluss at 129 Weihairel Road and made a trip with Class to Smechuen during June, 1931. The police file contains a copy of a letter written by him to a Miss Viola Robinson, ours of the American Consulate. Presden. Germany, dated July 24, 1931, at Chongtu, Szechuen. This letter, it is stated, was returned unoponed to Shanghai from Dresden, addressed to Harold N. Isaacs in eare of the American Empress Company, Sherwhai, and was opened by the Post Office Consor at the request of the Commissioner of Posts. The letter is very long and shows that Isasos, although previously holding communistic views, only decided definitely to turn "Red" during July of this year. He stated that he was influenced in this decision by certain conversations with O. Frank Class, above referred to, during their trip to Szoohuen.

In connection therewith it may be of interest to state that according to a police report dated ectober 17, 1931, information regarding this letter was given by the Shanghai Municipal Police to an officer of the local British Consulate General, who apparently sabled information regarding it to London. The police report states that a reply was subsequently receive the gist of which is as follows:

"Viola Robinson arrived in the United States about the middle of Centember. The whole family are communists in touch with Teamon' family."

The police state that Harold E. Isacos in Hovember, 1931, established a news agency under the news of the

Far Eastern Freed Correspondence," cubic address
Fenprecop, P. G. Box 1926. On Cotober 8th Isnaes and
C. Frank Glass moved from 120 Weithnisel Road to House
Fo. 6, Passage No. 177, Avenue Dubail. The police state
that this address was formerly known as humber 85 Avenue
Dubail and is the boarding house at which Agnes Smedley
resided from Eay, 1929, to May 1930. The police report
that Agnes Smedley frequently visits Isnaes and Class
at this address.

In my monthly political report for November, on page 15 it was stated that the bodies of numerous members of the family of a certain Kou had been murdered, allegedly by commists in retaliation for Kou's turning traitor to the communist cause. In connection with this ratter Isaacs addressed an open letter to the verious newspapers of Shanghai, under date of November 24, 1931, in which he secred them for branding these alleged murders as: "harrible" and "dastardly," while of the some time they did not raise their editorial voices against the wholesale murders committed by Chiang Kai-shek, the Carrison Commander of Shanghal and other Chinese militarists. Hone of the papers saw fit to publish this letter but I have received a copy thereof, and copies are enclosed. I have also received a photostatic copy of the last page containing the signature of Mr. Issaes.

Respectfully yours.

E'vin S. Cunningham, American Consul General.

Diclosure:

Enclosure:

1/- Copy of open letter from Enrold

A true copy of pilotter from Enrold

A true copy of pilotter from Enrold

Pilotter signed orig.

BCCB

In (undruplicate

No Copy to Logation.

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. Worldwin S. Cunningham, American Consul Concrai at Sharehari, China, date: December 16, 1931, on the subject: "Marchi h. Isaacs."

COLL

AN ORDER DEPTER TO THE FOREIGN METSTERNING OF CHEROMAL

Your publication of the "chastly" (Shenshai Times), "horrible" (China Press), "desturily" ("Young Post and North China Daily Nows) markers allegedly committed by Chinese Communists in the French Concession brings forcibly to mind certain other assects of the Chinese seems whose chastliness and berbarity find their way into your columns only at rare intervals - and them only in brief cool paragraphs.

There can be no attempt to "justify" these alleged murders, if the tale be true. We all hate the cuts of a traitor. But we cannot all condens a system of vendetta which exacts as the price of betrayal the innocent lives of a traitor's family. That, however, involves the question of differing social quators to which no abstract moral a solute can possely be applied.

Betrayal has its price under any social norm, whether we turn the dirty more of vangeance over to the ineffable mercies of the Lord or employ the less aesthetic but more effective instruments of the gallows, electric chair, lethal chamber, the guillotine of the Lore refined peapons of pocial estracian; whether we consider the truiter himself responsible for his actions - or exact retribution from his blood relations as well. (Jehovah, too, visits the mins of the father upon his children, yea, even unto the third and fourth constraints)

But you reporters, whose typesriters quivered with the horror of these alleged deeds of murder in Frenchtown can still without a qualm condone and even express sutisfaction at mass murders a thousand times more revolting, a thousand times more barbarous - but less so in your journalistically judicious eyes only because ofricially perpetrated.

You city sitors - at the moment sending your men out to run down the last threaded folds to this particular story - why don't you send them out to Lunchus some fine sunny morning? Thy don't you give them an opportunity to witness the terture and murder of young men and women whose only crime is a realistic appreciation of the social and economic factors at work in the world and a domand for their readjustment?

You e iters, who wield your editorial powers so self-right-eously, why don't you consistently endmine and logically expose a poverheart that maintains itself largely by desperately sloughtering the flower of its profesting youth and the backbone of its peasont masses who attempt profest against its vensity and corruption?

Conly when it is convenient for your foreign interests; however, do you find it politic to trut out some of your favorite bleats against the Nanking regime, attacks which are almost always immaliately offset by the namedating calogies and blotant lies that follow.

Considered from your own point of view, Mesors.

Editors, the marderers of these Fronchtown people should be brought to justice and nade to pay for their crimes.

Int similarly from your own point of view, to what her of justice should Chiang Eai Shek be brought, before what tribunate can we arraign the garrison commenders of Shanghai, Nonking, Hankow, the warlords of Shantung, Szochuen, Ewangtung and Menchuria for the lives they have taken in the perpetual wars they have waged on the people of Chinas On any principles of abstract justice, is the mass marder of thousands by the machine gun, the beaber, the rifls, the sword, the axe any three just than the furtive strangulation of nine hopeless relatives of a celf-branded yellow cur? This perpetual warfare has been waged on the protext of suppressing "banditry." If this he so, we are confronted with the startling fact, vouched for and advertised by the government beasting the recognition of all foreign powers, that wast pertions of the Chinase population are criminal: On this promise, Chiang Hai Shek & Co. backed by the cehorts of the Soong Bonage swoop down on whole provinces, massacre theusands, take heavy tolls from the meager life earnings of peacents and workers.

And with all their guns and planes and hundreds of thousands of soldiers, they still fail to credicate the shandits."

Who are the bandits, the rebbers, the murderers? Answer this question, Memors. Editors - and enswer it honostly if you dere:

Japan, in violation of no-called principles of just/se, but in full accord with the lessons of history, is helping herself to a good elice of Continental Asia, allegedly port of the banking Government's domain. Lacking the courage, the ability, the inclination to turn its gums on the invador, the Euchintang eits in solemn conclave at lianking and discusses further measures which, it hopes, will permit the extermination of new portions of China's vast "criminal" population to progress more effectively.

Let us take some of the facts sporadically reported by your own and the Chinese press during May-December, 1980. You reported 4,740 executions. From other, more meticulous a cross are derived statistics which show that no less than 96010 were executed during the last four menths of 1930 alone! This fiture sounds clobular, doesn't it? Yet for every digit there is somewhere in China a rotting corpse.

During the period following the close of the so-called "military" period of the Auctintang in 1928

to the opening of the Third Plenary Josefen of the Party in 1989 approximately 450,000 workers, peasants, and students not deuth at the hands of China's "rovolutiomry" armies. One Shanghai daily (Chinase) late the next year editorialized as follows:

"All China's problems could be satisfactorily sattled if the good work of the past few months can be continued. From August to Cetober (1930) alone 140,000 Communists were killed and 450,000 people starved to death in the famine regions."

And if the dimensions of these figures are not ghastly enough to move you, shall we engage in a bit of felicitous description of the tertures a plied by these righteous saviers of China? Shall we speak of the burnings in oil, the burying alive (as were five young men and wemen at Lunghus on Feb. 7 last) the strangulations, the unspeakable mutilation of human bodies before death? These aren't wild nightmares. You have all seen and shuddered at the photographs which can still be bought here and there in Changhai depicting these processes in all their grisliness.

And at these, Mesers. Reitors, do you raised your editorial hands in saintly horrer? Do you splash your columns with the adjectives "dastardly, horrible, chastly?" Hardly. That would offend your Nanking friends. If you do not maintain allense that bespeaks contentment, you brazenly applaud. For this we can quote you chapter and verse from your own editorials.

There are no organs, no publications here that dare look these facts boldly in the face. Your mastheads all carry boasts of your importiality. Here is at least one opportunity to invest them with some quality of verisi ilitude.

Sincerely.

(Signed) Harold R. Issaes 177 Avenue Dubeil, House 6.

Kovember 24, 1931.

Copied by IBB Compared with I'll Hy

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990%-Introde, Harbld R.

FILE NO.

SOURCE:

D.W.

DATE:

8-4-32

EDITOR OF CHINA PAPER IN DANGER

Threat to Turn Isaacs Over to Nanking

BRANGHAI, Aug. 2.—The Wall Street government, supporting its Nanking batcher agents, has threatened to turn over Harold R. Isaacs, American editor of the "China Forum" 2: the Manking hangmen.

American editor of the "China Forum," to the Manking hangmen.
As editor of the 'China Forleases has committed the crime
against imperialism of supporting
the Chinese Revolution and ruthlessly expesing the mass murder of revolutionary Chinese workers and peasants by the Nanking regime and the
United States and other imperialist,
brigands. He has exposed the shameful self-out of the Chinese masses,
by the Nanking traitors to the Japances, American and other imperiali-

The United States government has warned Isaacs that it will withdraw the protection of extra-territorial changes its editorial and news pol-Under the extra-territoriality treatles imposed upon China by the imperialists. American and other citisens of the imperilalst powers may not be tried in the Chinese courts. Because Issues is an American citizen the Nanking government has not been able to wreack its vengrance on him for his exposure of their bloody terror and betrayal of the Chinese masses. The Wall Street Covernment, which protects its business agents in looting China now proposes to throw Isaacs to its Nanking lackeys for trial in the Chinese courts on charges excrying life imprison-

Isaacs has categorically refused to concode to the demands of the United States government that he change the policies of the "China Forum." He is closely associated in the anti-imperialist, anti-Kuodintang fisht wit!s Madame Sun Yat-sen, who is chiarmon of the committee leading the fight to save Paul and Gertrude Rueggs from a death sentence in the Chinese courts.

American workers and intellectuals and their organizations should at once zend vigorous protest to the State Department at Washington agents its attempt to worker to death in the Nanking Courts.

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direct to Paris for three or four days before proceeding to London. His visit to Paris is, therefore, strictly unofficial.

FRANCE

A correspondent asked if the French Government had asked the State Department for an agreement for a new Ambassador in Washington, M. Germaine-Martin. Mr. Rogers replied in the negative.

CHINA

A correspondent asked if Representative La Guardia of
New York had asked the State Department to intervene in the
case of an American named Harold Isaacs who is now editing a
newspaper in China, which, according to press despatches,
is a Communist organ. The correspondent continued by saying
that according to stories the American diplomatic officers
in China warned Mr. Isaacs that he would be likely to lose
his extraterritorial status because of hisactivities. Furthermore, his father, who is in New York, wants the Department of State to get Mr. Harold Isaacs back and have him deported. In reply, Mr. Rogers said that he knew nothing of
any communication from Mr. La Guardia on the subject. In regard to the story, it is not true that this Government has
threatened to deprive Mr. Isaacs of his extraterritorial rights
in Shanghai.

BOLIVIA-PARAGUAY

A correspondent asked if the State Department had received any reports to the effect that the Bolivians had captured two Paraguayan forts. In reply, Mr. Rogers said that he understood that Assistant Secretary White talked with the correspondents last night concerning the situation and that Mr. White might possibly be able to see the correspondents again today.

H/N ATT 09 To XAA2 - 35016

REC. 12 COT 201- 15446

FBI REPORT

DATE: 10 AUGUST 1953 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT: HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS INTERNAL SECURITY - R

FBI FILE #: 100-286243 - BUREAU 105-1247 - NEW YORK

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25 Jan 19

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FBI REPORT

DATE: 6 AUG 1952

CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS
INTERNAL SECURITY - R
FBI FILE #: 100-286243 (BUREAU)
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- 1. On 12 July 1967, WUSPARROW/I renewed his old friendship with Subject at the MIT Faculty Club. Subject is now a senior research associate at MIT's Center for International Studies and has recently been named a Professor.
- 2. For the past few years Subject has been working on an international study series involving minority racial groups. His reports have been published in the New Yorker magazine and an books, The New World of Negro Americans and India's Untouchables. Subject plans to publish in August 1967 a book on the American Jews in Icrael and is working on another on the Philippines.
- 3. WUSPARROW/1 first mot Subject in 1946 after he had just completed a long and friendly interview with Ho Chi Minh as Far Kast correspondent for Newsweek. At that time, Subject felt that the United States was making a mistake in not accepting Ho as the leader of a united Vietnez, reeling that Ho was independent enough of China to make him at worst a sort of Tito.
- 4. Subject presently is despairing of United States foreign relations in that our people from Washington, or elsewhere, seldom seem to establish a deep rapport with Asian or African nationals. Subject feels that such relations as do exist never reach more than an ineffective superficial level.
- 5. Subject first went to the Far East about 1930 when he was a crew member of the Matson Line's Malolo and disembarked at Honolulu to work for the Honolulu Advertiser. (MUSFARROW/1 went to work for the same paper two years later.) Subject went mext to the Fhilippines where he worked on a Manila daily. While in Manila he was offered the editorship of the Bangkok Royal Mail, to fill in for St. Clair McELMAY, now of the New Yorker.

CONTINUED . . .

Distribution: 2 - C/DO

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CONTINUATION OF DISPATCH

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- 6. Subject's mind was set on China and in late 1931 he went to Shanghai and joined The China Press, working alongaide Tiliman DURDIN, now of the New York Times. Subject lost his job with The China Press after a flare-up with Hollington TONG, part-owner of the paper. Subject then joined the Newsweek foreign staff. Subject was in and out of Bangkok after World War II and WUSPARROW/1 became friendly with him. According to WUSPARROM/1, samy people regard Subject's Tragedy of the Chinese Revolution as a significant work and a recent writer on China, Dennis BLOODWORTH, holds a good view of Subject's Scratches on the Mind.
- 7. Subject now-seems permanently settled with MIT, having bought a home at 96 Farlow Road, Newton. Subject hosts there at pool-side "seminars" on Saturday afternoons, with MIT faculty friends and journalist friends such as Bob SHAPLEN coming by. Subject invited MUSPARRON/1 to participate as well.
- 8. However, as WUSPARROW/l ascertained, Subject has little contact with foreign students save for an occasional adult foreign graduate student. We hope, considering Subject's background, that he will prove with WUSPARROW/l's guidance to be a profitable unwitting spotter and assessor of foreign graduate students.

LOUIS K. ROLLOFIER

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u.s.	6/20/10
DAT	E AND PLACE OF BIRTH

OTHER IDENTIFYING DATA

REFERENCES

NAI to CSCI 316/04352-65

dated 260CT. 65

subject: IS ARCS, Howald Rathert

per Trace by Diann WEMMY

on 10 Nav. 65

26:NOW. FGN 201-18-446

Special RECENTO: Tainor 10/14/65 FILE #151-1423 PC BUDED: 11/11a le CSC #5. 22.66.2153 ISAACS, RAROLD ROBERT Sopt. 19, 1910, NYE, NY ud Yiola Robinson, dob June 20, 1910, NYC, NY married Shanghai, Sept. 14, 1932 married Viola Ent SANCS ADDRESSES: Aug., 1965 to present, 96 Farlow Rd., Newton, Mass July, 1953 to Aug., 1965 Mass. Sept., 1941 to Feb., 1944, 4938 Newport Ave., Fr 1940 to Sept., 1941, 72 Pk. Torrace Rest, NYC, NY 1937 to 1940, 40 Monroe St., NYC, NY EDUCATION George Washington H. S., MYC, 1923 to 1926 SSN: 082-03-4029 EMPLOYMENT: 1953 war corres. assoc. editor 1943, Lookheed Aircraft Corp., WDC, radio writer, 1934 to 1935, self employed, Peking, China, writer 1932 to 1934, Havas Nows Agency, Shanghai, China, news editor 1931 to 1932, China Press, Shanghai, China, city editor 1930 to 1931, Shai Evening Post, Shanghai, China, reporter 1930, Honolulu Advertiser, Eccolulu, reporter POREIGN TRAVEL:

China, 1930 to 1935, Travel, work, writing China, Burma, India, 1944, to 1945, war corres. Newsweek PI, India, Indonesia, 1949 to 1949, Newsweek assignment Phillippines, 1950 to 1950, cover Baguo conference Europe Eninly UK, 1957 to 1957, travel, visit university Czech., Israel, India, 1960 to 1960, academics research projection, p

RELATIVES:

Father, I. Robert Issacs, decreased Mother, Sophie Dorlin, deceased Wife, Viola Bobinson Islacs, dob 1910, same

FILE IN 201 REPERENCE: Sirgons Shriver, Peace Corps., FMC, known 17 yrs.

NAT to information forwarded in posible sout dicor steering 1965 escusio for togets 0501-316/04352-65, dated 26 October 1965 subject: 15AACS, Hained Robert. 10 NOV 1955 - 1 NOV 1965

Pob., 1944 to July, 1953, 333 Central Pk. Wost, NYC, NY

Newport Ave., Friendship Hts., Md.

Mass. Inst. of Tochnology, Camb, Mass., academic, research

1943 to 1950, Newsweek, MDC, CBI, Pacific, SE Asia, NYC, reporter,

1940 to 1943, Columbia Broadcasting Co., NYC, WDC, writer

SECRET CONFET TIAL UNCLASSIFIED ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET 9 14 SUBJECT: (Ophonol) CSCI 316/04352-65 UNITED STATES RYD/CE US 25 October 1965 CHRICER'S INSTIALS SECTION DOWNSOLD Ch 26 OCT 1965 CI STAFF 2C 35 RID/CE GA-10 26 OCT 1965 Attn: Sarah Marmaduke RID/AN GA 50 RI/TY. TO: PSB/FBI 8. 10. FILE TITLE 13. FILE NUMBER 14. DOCUMENT DATE (1965 RID/FI LB 4003 USE ONLY UNCLASSIFIED FORM 610 use retirous SECRET CONFIDENTIAL

SELRET -

26 OCT 1965

TO:

Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation ATTN: Special Agent in Charge of Washington Field Office

FROM:

Deputy Director for Plans

-SUBJECT:

ISAACS, Harold Robert

Reference is made to the request dated 14 October 1965 concerning Subject. Attached for your retention is a copy of our CSCI-316/04169-65, dated 13 October 1965, subject: ISAACS, Harold Robert. It is noted that a portion of the information appearing in said CSCI was previously forwarded to you in our SODB 20568, dated 2 December 1949, subject: Harold Robert ISAACS.

CSCI-316/04352-65

Encl. I name check
l attachment as stated above

RID/CE: JMA/CPL/ell

Based on: CSCI-316/04169-65

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Special

RETURN TO: Tainor 10/14/63 caw FILE #151-1423

BUDKD: 11/11a

ISAAUS, HAROLD ROBERT NAME:

Sept. 12, 1910, NYC, NY EORN:

MS: married Viola Robinson, dob June 20, 1910, NYC, MY married Shanghai, Sopt. 14, 1932

ADDRESSES:

Aug., 1965 to present, 96 Farlow Ed., Newton, Mass.

July, 1953 to Aug., 1965 Kass. Fob., 1944 to July, 1953, 339 Contral Pk. West, NYC, NY

Sept., 1941 to Feb., 1944, 4938 Newport Ave., Priondship Rts., Md. 1940 to Sopt., 1941, 72 Pk. Terraco West, NYC, NY

1937 to 1940, 40 Honros St., NYC, NY

EDUCATION

George Washington H. S., NYC, 1923 to 1926

SSN: 082-03-4029

EMPLOYNEMT:

, Mass. Inst. of Tochnology, Camb, Mass., academic, research 1953

1943 to 1950, Newswork, WDC, CBI, Pacific, SS Asia, NYC, reporter,

war corres. assoc. editor

1943, Lookhoed Aircraft Corp., WDC, radio writer,

1940 to 1943, Columbia Broadcasting Co., NYC, WDC, writer

1934 to 1935, self employed, Peking, China, writer
1932 to 1934, Havas News Agency, Shanghai, China, news editor
1931 to 1932, China Press, Shanghai, China, city editor
1930 to 1931, Shai Resnits (China, China, reporter
1930, Honolulu Advortiges 2 00 1851 (1931)

FOREIGN TRAVEL:

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China, 1930 to 1935, Krivol, Week, writing China, Burma, India, 1536, to 1945, ver corres. Nowsweek PI, India, Indonesia, 1959 to 1949, Hossweek assignment Phillippines, 1950 to 1950, cover Baguo conference Europe Mainly UK, 1955, to 1957, travel, visit university Czech., Israel, India 1957, to 1960, pendemica research project Malaya, PI., etc., 1952 to 1964,

RELATIVES:

Father, I. Bobert Issaes, deceased Mother, Sorbie Dorlin, deceased

Wife, Viola Robinson Isaacs, dob 1910, same

FILE IN 201 CS COPY REFERENCE:

Sirgont Shriver, Peace Corps., WDC, known 17 yrs.

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ISAACS, MANOLD ROBERT MALLE:

Sopt. 13, 1010, NYC, NY DORN:

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Sept., 1941 to Meb., 1944, 4933 Nowgort Avo., Friendship Hts., Md. 1940 to Sept., 1941, 72 Pk. Cornace West, MyC, MY 1937 to 1940, 40 Monroo St., MYC, MY

EDUCATION

George Washington H. S., NTC, 1923 to 1926

SSN: 082-03-4020

EMPLOYMENT: 1970-1973 Self-employed - WRITER MYC 1953 , Mass. Inst. of Technology, Camb, Mass., academic, research 1943 to 1950, Mowaweek, WEC, CEY, Pacific, SE Asia, MYC, reporter,

war corres. assoc. editor

1943, Lookhood Aircraft Corp., MRC, radio writer, 1940 to 1943, Columbia Broadcasting Co., NVC, MRC, writer

1930 to 1935, columbia Broadcasting Co., NYC, WEC, Writer
1934 to 1935, solf employed, Poking, China, writer
1932 to 1934, Mayas Nows Agency, Shanghai, China, news editor
1931 to 1932, China Press, Shanghai, China, city editor (CHINA YORUM)
1930 to 1931, Shai Evening Post, Shanghai, China, reporter
1938 1930 New York Times + Reporter

FOREIGN TRAVEL:

China, 1930 to 1935, Travel, work, writing China, Burma, India, 1944, to 1945, war corres. Newsweek Pi, India, Indonesia, 1949 to 1949, Kouswook assignment Phillippines, 1959 to 1956, cover Bague Conference Europe Kainly UK, 1957 to 1957, travel, visit university Czech., Israel, India, 1960 to 1960, academics research project Malaya, PI., etc., 1963 to 1964,

RELATIVES:

Father, I. Polart Issaes, deceased Nother, Sorbie Borlin, deceased Wife, Viola Robinson Isaaco, dob 1910, same

Sirgent Shrivor, Poace Corps., VDC, known 17 yrs.

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22 OCT 1955

NAI to information forwarded in CSCI-316/01352-65, dated 26 October 1965, subject: ISAACS, Harold Robert.

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13 OCT 1965

TO:

United States Civil Service Commission Attention: Mr. Joseph G. Campbell

FROM:

Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT: SAACS, Harold Robert

1. Reference is made to your request dated 14 September 1965. The files of this office contain considerable information concerning Subject, the solient elements of which are summarized below.

2. According to undated information from a reliable source, Subject born 13 September 1910 in New York City, arrived in Shanghai, China, from Manila, Philippine Islands, in December 1930. First employed in Shanghai by the English language daily, Evening Post and Mercury, Subject became associated a few weeks later with the China Press, with which he remained until May 1931. In June 1931 Subject traveled up the Yangtze River with the British Communist, Cecil Frank GLASS, a suspected agent for the Third International in China. Also in 1931, Subject became the Shanghai secretary of the Comite Liternationale Pour la Defense de Paul et Gertrude RUEGG (NOULENS), a committee, with Headquarters in Berlin, formed to aid the defense of the NOULENS against charges of espionage perferred by the Chinese Government. Subject was in correspondence with Willi MUENZENBERG, President of the Committee and an active agent in Germany for the Third International. Subject was also known to be in contact with Agnos SMEDLEY in Shanghai during the same period. On 14 September 1932 in Shanghai, Subject married Viola ROBINSON, an American citizen born 10 June 1910 in New York City. Miss ROBINSON was believed to have been connected with Communist activities in the United States and in Chian. Correspondence between her and Subject prior to their marriage indicated that they were both sympathetic to activities being conducted by the Communists in China.

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201-18446

- 3. According to predecessor organization information, Subject was also employed as a staff writer for the Havas News Agency in Shanghai during the period 1930-1935 and was a member of the Society of Friends of the USSR and of the China Lengue for Civil Rights.
- 4. An undated report from an unknown source indicated that Subject had turned against the Stalinist Government of the USSR, and had become a Trotskyite (probably during the mid-1930's). Friends of Subject stated that even during the height of his Trotskyist career he never accepted money from any group, that he was open and above board, and that he never engaged in any conspiracies to overthrow established government. They also indicated that Subject was attracted to communism by sheer idealism. Immediately after Pearl Harbor, Subject broke with the Trotskyite group as he had broken with the Communishand began writing prepagands for the United States Government.
- 5. According to Source of paragraph 2, Subject was a war correspondent in China during World War II for Newsweek. In July 1945 he was refused entry into China by Chinese Nationalist authorities, presumably as a result of anti-Nationalist articles he wrote for Newsweek. In 1949 Subject was Special Features Editor for that magazine, at 152 West 42nd Street, New York City. He was the author of several books, including No Peace in Asia and The Tragedy of the Chinese Revolution.
 - 6. Subject's present political beliefs are unknown to this office.

CSCI-316/04169-65

Encl. I name check

RID/CE: JMA/DS/lpm

Based on: SODB-20568 CSCI-3/778,850

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14.				201-18446 ABSTRACT
15. RID/FI 1B 4003				DOCUMENT DATE 27 NOV 1963 INDEX

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27 NOV 1963

OT

Assistant Chief of Staff, Intolligence

Department of the Army

Attention: Chiof, Counterintelligence Branch Security Division

PROM:

Deputy Director, Plans

SUBJECT: ISAACS, Harold Robert

Reference is made to the request received on 14 October 1963 from Lt. Whipple concerning Subject. With respect to the specific questions posed in the request, Eubject is the author of a number of books, including No Peace in Asia, Five Years of Kuomintang Reaction, and The Tragedy of the Chinese Kevelution. The files contain no information concerning Subject's teaching at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; however they do contain the following summary of unevaluated information based on several predecessor organization reports. Additional information concerning Subject is contained in our SODB 20588, dated 2 December 1949, subject: Harold Robert ISACCS, a copy of which is attached for your retention.

a. Subject was employed as a staff writer for the Havas News Agency in Shanghai from 1930-1935. He was also editor and publisher of the China Forum, a communist periodical, from January 1932 to an unspecified date. In July 1932 ISAACS wrote and published the above-cited Five Years of Ruomintang Reaction, a 136-page illustrated book of Communist While in Shanghai he was a member of The nature. Society of Friends of the USSR (Shanghai Branch) and The China League for Civil Rights.

b. In 1933 Shanghai authorities listed Eubject's wife, Viola ROBINSON, as a suspect Soviet agent residing in Shanghai. Prior to their marriage on 14 Soptember 1932, ISAACS stated in a letter to Miss ROBINSON that he had definitely turned "Red." All the members of the ROBINSON family were described as Communists.

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c. In July 1933 the Nanking Government ordered the Municipality of Greator Shanghai to take drastic measures to stop the propaganda appearing in a number of publications including the China Porum published by Subject. Subject's magazine allegedly published Communist propaganda; in this connection a protest was to be lodged against him with the American Consulate.

- d. Subject was described as a "self-confessed Communist" in 1933. The following year he wrote an article entitled "I Break With The Chinese Stalinists" which appeared in the September-October 1934 edition of The New International, a Communist propaganda organ published in New York.
- 2. An undated report from an unknown source indicated that Subject had turned against the Stalinist Covernment of the USSE, becoming a Trotskyite(probably during the mid-1930's). Friends of Subject stated that even during the height of his Trotskyist career he never accepted money from any group, that he was open and above board, and that he never engaged in any conspiracios to overthrow established government. They also stated that Subject was attracted to Communism by "sheer idealism." Immediately after Poarl Harbor, ISAACS broke with the Trotskyite group as he had broken with the Communists and began writing propaganda for the United States Government.
- According to a report dated 25 June 1951 from a fairly reliable source, Subject served at that time as a Ford Foundation advisor on Par Eastern Projects.
- 4. For additional information concerning Subject you are referred to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and to the Department of the Navy (no documentation available).

CSCI-3/778,880

Encl: 1 attachment as stated above.

RID/CE: JMA/MI/dcl

Based on: FE/1, 201-18446*
CHINA CIA OP 1, SMPD 2713, 10-11-32
CHINA CIA OP 1, SMPD 4606, 16-5-33

CHINA CIA OP 1, SMPD 4718

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- crei - 3/778,850 A 404 A 404 FF. 78 12 1 5 3002 TELEFRONE HOUSE NOR HAVE CHRISE FOR THE OF BY MAIS CHEEK CONTROL DEVICE. ACSI - Lt. Whipple via Jane Roman Moran ALIAS AND EVELLEND VARIANTERS born 1910 DATE AND PLACE OF STREET MEMURANDIN COORDINATION UTIER IDENTIFYING DATA REPERMICES DIV. Author of many books on China - S. E. Asia Harold R. Isaacs authority on China K. EDITOR fo 17PS Harold R. Isaacs teaches at MIT are all the names the same person? Summaryof

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FORM NO. 137 REPLACES FORM SE-SE

SECRET CLASSIPPORATION

Chief, NEA

DATE 5. May 1956.

FROM

Chief of Station, Karachilus

Operational/INTEL GENERAL SPECIFIC

Far Eastern Association 8th Annual Meeting, Request for Background and Operational Information

- The program of the 8th Annual Recting of the Far Eastern Association, held in Philatelphia 3 5 April 1956, has just arrived here. It indicates that the association has already taken decided steps towards its announced expansion into the South Asian field. The station assumes that Headquarters covered the meeting and can get access now or later to copies of monographs, notes on proceedings, and so on.
- The following items, keyed to the program, would seem to be of interest to this station if Headquarters can get them:
 - A. On 3 April, Zakye Eglar: "The World View of the Punjabi Villagor". (Note: This is quite likely the East Punjabi, but it should have some validity for Lahore as well as for Delhi.)
 - On the same day, a Pakistan Studies Organization Meeting was held at 1700. It would be useful to know who is interested in Pakistan studies (both individuals and organizations) and what lines they are thinking of working on.
 - On 5 April, all the items of a "South Asian Miscellany" should be of considerable interest, particularly Stanley Maron's "The Future of East-Bengal". Hydecker has some early drafts of the Harold Msancs study, but they are too early to provide any useful material; this project (at CENIS, MIT) is one that Headquarters should monitor closely, however.

Ve. 1 K. H. Kelev NEIL R. HYDECKER

2 May 1956 NRH/wrg

Distribution: 5 - NEA 2 - Karachi - NEA

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Dre 5, 1955

TO:

Director Federal Europu of Investigation Attention: Fr. S. J. Papich

FROID

Deputy Director, Plans

Million: Formande Escurilly, also known as Fernando taguar . ACHES

- 1. Reference is made to a communication from this Agency dated 30 August 1955, captioned as above, our reference US CI-2542.
- 2. Attached for your information is a copy of a lotter writton by subject and eddressed to the post office lox contioned in the referenced management. The letter was signed by subject as FLLY, his feminine psuedonys. It should also be explained that English is not subject's native language; therefore, the grammer and spelling used by subject in his letters are to be expected.
 - 3. This office interprets subject's latter as follows:
- a. Aint Josephine is Jose LENDANA, with whom subject has been in contact the past several conths and the has been indestri-nating subject with leftist ideology. Lillen has not adulted to subject that he is a Communist, although in his conversations with subject he sticks very close to the current line of the Fullippine Communist Farty (PKP).
- b. Marold ISAACS (FBI Pile No. 100-286243) is well known to the bureau.
- c. Unclo MANUEL is probably the late Philippine President Requel CUREON, who sponsored Jose LANGING's entry into the United States in 1937 when LANSANG studied at Columbia University. William Chitrit, Jr. has not yot been identified by this office.
- d. PEHLILIC, fou is probably for Filedolfa PANLILIO, former Associate Professor of Machanics at the University of the Philippines. PERLILIO received his Bard from the University of the Fhilippines and his M.S. and Ph.S. at the University of Michigan.

line langher the Sign.

LUZIL CONY OF LIZELY CONTES

21-18446

Recording to a usually reliable course of this agency, PARLILIC was novor chie to completely routjust to Philippine life efter heving lived in the United States. He is known for his strong pro-knowlean views and according to cource probably his greatest desire is to reside permanently in the United Status. Although it is known that PARLILIO was on friendly torms with Jose LANGARE there is no recent that be chared LAISANG's political views.

- o. Fr. BELECHT to probably Father DELANEY, Jecuit Complain at the University of the Philipphnon.
- f. Cypros or Cyprus University may possibly to Syracuss University.
- g. Life little in probably hierardo LADES, Phillippina nowspaparaan who was allegodly apportated with Herry ExIDEES in the International longehoroton's and Eurohousemen's Union (ILEC) in Monolulu. Miss was born on 5 April 1915 in Manile, however, most of his life has been spont in hamail. In was naturalized a U.S. citizin in 1948 and returned to the Phillippines in 1949, where he lost his U.S. citizenship in 1952. There is no information in the files of this office which indicates that LIBEZ has returned to Hammit. For additional information concerning tollish, reference in made to a mammaratum to the Bureau, dated 23 Feverber 1949, subjects "Ricardo LIDES (aka Ricardo LAVES)", our reference 50 ES-10307.
- h. Unclo NEA is Mari COYCO.M, Unclo DESTING is Bultesar CUTUAM with whom the Bureau la familiar as a result of provious correspondence concerning his doughter, carmon Jane CUTUALI (FBI File No. 105-52501). From the wording of subject's Letter this office desired that Beltscar CUYVOKI is every that the Folloral Duranu of Investigation is investigating for CUTGOM. It also eppoars that Haltener CUYUGAN gave subject a lotter to deliver porconally to his Erother for CUMMAN, possibly to avoid a sail intercept by the Riveri. It should be noted that subject stated that he mailed the letter instead.
- 4. In view of the constitueness of the source of the above information, it is requested that no further dissemination to made of the information without prior clearance with this /goney.

CS C5-2768

Attachment - A copy of a lotter () Addressed [coly)

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Ad/y clules the b

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201-181116

FBI DOCUMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

DATE: 26 MAY 1955 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT: HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS FBT FILE #: 100-286243 (BUREAU)

DATE: 19 MAR 1954 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT: HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS FBI FILE #: 100-286243 (BUREAU

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DATE: 27 JAN 54
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
SUBJECT: LIU TSUN-CH'I (M) AKA
T.C. LIU, LAU CHIN-KI
FBI FILE #: 100-365280 (BUREAU)

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bbeen sents to jaol due to	his communist acti	vies.	
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FBI DOCUMENTS AS FOLLOWS:

DATE: 26 MAY 1953 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT: HAROLD ROBERT ISAAC FBI FILE #: 100-286243 9 (BUREAU)

DATE: 18 FEB 53
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
SUBJECT: HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS
FBI FILE #: 100-286243 (BUREAU)

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(7-46)

FBI REPORT
DATE: 6 OCTOBER 1952
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL
SUBJECT: JOHN KING FAIRBANK
FBI FILE #: 77-24341 (BUREAU)

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FORM 867 USE FELVIOUS COLUMNS

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(7-46)

FBI REPORT

DATE: 26 MAY 1952 CLASS: CONFIDENTIAL SUBJ: GEORGE HERRING, WAS: RING, PAUL RUEGG FBI FILE #: 100-344906 (BUREAU)

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addressed to Harold R. Isaacs while Isaacs	was avsent from the city. One of
the return addresses on this mail and Cuts	
the return addresses on this mail was Smit	n and isaacs, 344 East 149th Streed
Bonnx , New York. Harold R. Isaacs, menti	on above, was identified by T 17
an American Januaritat as a	and I am I a
an American Journalist of Communist sympatic	ies who resised in Shahghai in the Early
thirties.	
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PERTINENT INFORMATION

14.

Subject of the document is mentioned as having visited the residence of Harold R.

INDEX. IMARKEY I Baacs and C. ?R Fryank Glass, two notorious local Community sympathisers.

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9- 57 867 was rations corress.

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DATE: 31 JAN. 52
CLASS: CONFIDENTIAL
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FORM 967

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(7-45)

CONFIDENTIAL! RESTRICTED FACE ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET INSTRUCTIONS.—Officer designations should be used in the "TO" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "TO" column. Each officer should initial (check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Record and Routing Sheet should be returned to Registry. 4585 10-ROOM NO. INITIALS of CELAID 11 1603 70-150 7 Chine CONSOLIDATION EFFECTED
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10-00412-2

Office Memorandum winted states Government

DATE: 7 February 1982

Abbn: All Came Histor Odief, Contact Division, O)

suggests of Information -- Pro-Cornalist Sentiment of IS Victionals in China

1. Declosed is a copy of an orticle present for publication in the Contation Science Josidon by a former editor of the Shan hai Anglished and probably will not be published because of the length.

Bighosums (A) as listed above.

.: Cupy

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- 1. A happy enting has been written in the case of ferris Larpy chang former Communist who is now secretary of the Communist who is now secretary of the Communist the limited in partial implication for "disclosing his Communist past", and his board of directors has voted confluence in his and continued him in his job.
- 2. No doubt all this is fitting and proper but it doesn't answer the question of why nobody in Donyer soons to have known anything about Appelrants Red-tinged part, or why there was anything acceptational about his revelation of it in Washington. This the police rinks is rightly anothems to American citizens, it seems remarkable that official records should not be in existence and reasonably acceptable to people with reason to check up on such a point as past Communist service.
- J. The point about Appelmin is not that he did anything particularly reprehensible, but that what he did was quite in the open. According to the Eashington tentimony he served the Conveniet party, apparently without special concealment, in Runnia, Germany and other points in Lureje, going around the world between 1924 and 1938. He sought to relieve has and Grace transit in the editorship of a Shanghai haglish-language Communist magazine, "The Voice of China", in 1937, he testified, but didn't not off his ship in Shanghai because of the hostilities there at the time.
- 4. This should comething of a light on the supposedly fearless and ruthless Communist operations throughout the world. I was in Changhai whom fighting broke out there between Jajan and China on Aug. 13, 1937, and can testify that we had three months of diag-dong warfare before the compaign soved inland. During that period a good many people left for obvious reasons, but some came in, and it alight be presumed that an accredited agent of international Communism would at least have paused in nearby Robe or Horrkong till things calmed down a little. Fossibly the Communists are as subject to qualms about personal safety as anyone else—or more so.
- 5. About "The Voice of Chinn" there could hardly be any illusion in the mind of anyone who had cared to pay the slightest attention to it. Each issue bore a virtual advertisement of its Communist allegiance on its front cover, to those familiar with methods of converting Chinese into English. The name "Voice of China" appeared in both kwilish and Chinese, and in the Chinese a peculiar Soviet-originated system of Remainization was used so that what is ordinarily, by conventional made system, written "Chung ham" for China was spelled "Chung hum"—an extraordinary effect frankly explaining the publication's emerging
- 6. Dut what was more, Harold Isaacs, the editor who preceded the Graniches, had done considerably more than was conveyed by press dispatches from the Washington hearings of the House Un-American Activities Committee. These said he was "believed to have deviated from Communist policy" whereas in fact he challenged with the Chinese Communists and their Moscow patrons

completely with an article headed "I Break With Stalinism." This gave a capild electrication of the Communist financial backing of the "Voice of Chi:..." and if anyone either in Gr out of Official life had previously suffered any illusions as to its nature, Isaacs article—published close where than in the "Voice", of course—certainly should have dispelled them.

- 7. The Granichs seem to have lived quietly in Shanthal and were little known, which under the circumstances was hardly surprising since they were running an obviously Communist organ. Chiang Kai-elek's forces could not moddle with them ejectly for at that time Ghan had was an international city operated under extrateritoriality. But the Nationalist secret police did create sere trouble for the "Voice" and them consul-Commond Charence E. Gauss was allegally reprisanted by the State Department in 1937 for not doing more to help them as Americans. Inchnically they were entitled to full American protection but Lauss, now with the Import—xport hank in Washington, D. G., was a sort of Old Curaudjeen of the Shanjhai American community and it seems that he thought it his meral chication to let them fry in any trouble they might got into as Communiat agents. Gauss can't have suffered greatly for this in the eyes of his superiors, for he was later promoted to a bassador both to China and to Australia.
- 8. This background has some present importance since an Arerican magazine is being operated today in Communist Shanhai, which tolorates no criticism or opposition. Originally pro-Mationalist under the late.

 J. B. Powell, it has been friendly toward the Comminists under his son, John William untell, and it stayed on after most other American enterprises—including that daily Chambhai Evening Toot and Persury, edited by myself—had shut down and American officials had loft Red China.
- 9. Refere they departed, these efficials had reason to compile an extensive file on what is now the China tenthly Review. One incident which is known to have irred then was the Review's treatment of the case of Fillias Olive, American consular official, in the summer of 1949 seen after the Communists had taken ever. Clive blundered into a traffic conflict with the Communist police, was taken to first one and them a second police station, and in the course of several days' imprisonment he was severely beaten with fists and gunbutts, kicked and otherwise maltreated. Formil's Review blandly professed to have little information on the matter but gave an account unfavorable to Clive. Then consular officials asked Fowell to come to the consulate and look Olive ever and get the full story, he failed to show up. This and other matters were recorded in some detail but in view of the background of American intelligence operation, one may question whether these details will ever be hauled out of the files.
- 10. Nore recently, copies of the Review have been slanted strongly against the Americans and the United Nations cause in Euroa and one issue editorially spoke of the United States as "the energy." It should not be difficult to preserve continuity in following such a case of American pro-Communist activity abroad, though nothing could be done to Powell unless

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CO. STEPHEN CONTROLL

or until he decided to return to his een country—and even ther, the country nature of American loss on this control subject make it hard to tell must could be done acide from perhaps denyin; another passport to go alread again.

11. The important thing, as shown by a long list of eases gravely investigated by congrussional conditions, is to have the poster Central Intalligence Agency or some congarable group such as the folgral Dureau of investigation keep track of the wealth of information available. Too much waste effort goes into the many duplications of inquiry.

CONTRACT TO TAKE

Elime germani

COMPIDENTIAL

SECURITY INFORMATION

7. Pebruary 1952

Cates, St ff C, CON - Fibra Miss June Ringlow College Contact Division, CO

CS Differentl membro-Communist Sentiment of US Nationals in China

l. Prolosed is a copy of an article presered for publication in the Ciristian Science Monitor by a former editor of the Shanghai Englished and probably will not be published because of its length.

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E-CLOTERS (A) as listed above.

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Originators, John	L. Witzleben		¥.,

LLOYD GEORTE Chief, FE COORDINATING OFFICER

CLASSIFICATION

John Chrislan
FE/B/SO

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FORM NO. 61-29

203 1811, Shanghai Funcipal Piles, filed 15-4-2- 37

ISAACS, Harold Robort

... 13 Sept 1910, MYC Born Hat!l American

DESCRIPTION.

Holgin . 4090

Build modium

Hair black, wavy, brushed back

To hard to have a

Eyes brown

DOCUMENTATION

In 30s was traveling on passport & 177026

Arrived in China from Manila on 10 Dec 1930 Oppn hof arrival joined the editorial staff of the Shanghai Evening Post and Mercury

Was a secretary of the MOULENS Defense Committee and a member of the Soulety of Presods of the USSR

to Szechsen are to FEL On 12 June 1931, ISAACS and his friend WLASS took a trip up the Yangteses During this trip ISAACS wrote his fignese, Viola KOBINSON, that he had decided to team " Reds" as a result of conversations with MASS.

The two returned to Shanghai in Aug 1931 and took up residence at # 128 Weihaiwei A STATE OF S

ISAA93 later started and become the editor and published of the " China Porum" witch at first was job-printed but from Oct 1932 on was printed by the Level Publishing Co. IEC. # 33; Lane 478 Tiendong Road, Shanghai ISAACS openedly stated he was manager of the printing co and sweet 40% of its shared.

On 7 Aug 1933; ISAACS and his wife Viola RCBINSON whom he had married in Sept. 1932 left Changhai for Japan on the SS Magasaki Maru: On 16 Aug, they proceeded to Japan, neturning to Shanghai on Aug 26th.

Inaddition to his other activities, ISAACS was also employed with the HavaiMens Agency: He severed connection with this Agency around Dec 1933.

In Des 1939; ISAACS was in Poochow to gather let hand info re the newly formed "Peolple's Revolutionary Government of the Republic of China:

In the spring of 1936, ISAACS and his wife left for Takatoin on route to Peking at which city he resided at \$2 Tiung Fu Chia Tao, East City. Foking mailing address. was \$ Mr. UNIMARN, Grand Hotel:

On 3 January 1934, ISAACS visited Hr and Mrs. NOULING while they were on a langer strike in prison

On 14 January 1936, the parents of ISAACS, Mr and Mrs I.H. ISAACS arrived in Shanghai from Los Angeles: During their stay in Shanghai they resided at the Matro-pullbatel Annex. On 20 February they left Shanghai for Port Said on route to Marseilles on the 33 Rewalpind;

On & April 1936, ISAACS under the pen name of Lo Sen had an article published in the New Militant, the organ of the MT District Worker's Farty. The article was an attack on Stalin and was entitled a Stalintern ready to embrace Chian Kai Shek. To officer Chinese Red Army in return for resurrection of disasterous 1927 blood. At this same time, ISAACS was also lecturing on Japan, China, and the USSR and the War Crisis in the War East.

The state of the s

1 Shanghai Mani Polic e Piles, filed, 16-4-2-37, p 2

In Shanghal GLASS made the acquaintance of one Demarco C.B333, American from Lansas City, born 1893. This was some time after April 1932.

Hame C.F. GLASS r Cocil Frank GLASS

Born 25 Harch 1901, Birmbaghen, England

Passport British passport, # 96153, issued 5 Jan 1931 in Pretoria, South Africa Pol Affiliation Number of the CP Overt Profession Journalist Sec. 34 - 1

Believed to have left England in the early 1920s for South Africa where he resided

at Johannesburg for many years.

Arrived in Shangaai from Durham May 1931

On 12 June 1931 made a trip tenengh up the Yangstone Yangtone with Harvid IS and American Communist and waiter for the editor of the China Forum: A letter written by ISA CS to his fiances, Miss Viola BOBINSON, during this trip contained information bhat ISAACS had decided to turn " Red" as a result of his convergation with GLASS."

In Sept 1931, GLASS became a member of the "MMILENS Defense Committee" and two months later was appointed Shanghai Representative of the Anglo-Asiatic T elegraph Agency(Angasta) a news agency with HQ in Harbin, which position he held until 1933; In Augl933, he was living in Room 510,5 1276, North Seechuen Road, Changhai

SCS 1811; Shanghai Muniopal Files, file: 16-4-2-37

MINISON, WOOLS FERS. H.R. ISASCS

Boom 10 July 1910, NYC Nat'l American

Description Foight 9192 Suild slim Complx fair

In 1932 holder of US passport # 382046 issued HTC 14 May 1931-

In 1931 known to have visited Germany

Known Communist and follower of Lucy STORE

Arrived in Shanghai on 23 Aug 1932

and the second of the second of the second

14 Sept 1932 married Harold Robert ISLACS. She had been engaged to ISLACS for some years before her arrival in China, and it has been stated that the letters between the two indicated that Communist sympathies on the part of both and of ISLACS' intention of joining the CF

Shanghai as a beacher.

She lived in the Babankment Building Bldg, North Scochos Road

On 7 August 1933, the ISAICS left Shanghai for Japan and on 16 Aug 1933 proceeded to Dairen, returning to Shanghai by rail of 26 August 1933.

In Nov 1933; info was received to the effect that Hiss R JINSCH was a teacher at the Comparative Law School, Shenghat

AUG 14 1951

INTERPRETARIA (AUG.)

STORY | AUG.)

Harold Robert ISAACS with aliases
LO SEM (penname used in China)

Harold Robert ISAACS was born in New York City on 13 September 1910 of American parents. Has father has been reported as a decidedly of the commercial type. T. AACS has been described as intelligent, critical, pervous- and nervously organized.

Little is known concerning the activities of ISACS prior to his arrival in the from Manila on 10 December 1930; however, who visited ISACS In Tonybou the base date in Shanghei, is reported to have embarrassed his son in the presence of friends by "kiddings the latter about trying to make money on real estate while in Los Angeles before going to China.

The actual date when Cecil Frank GLASS and Harold ISAACS is not known, but it must have been shortly after the arrival of GLASS in Shanghai in May 1931, for in June 1931, ISAACS and GLASS made a trip up the Yangteze together.

It has been stated that ISIMCS became interested in Communism with specific relation to China, but lotters written by ISIMCS to his fiances, Viola ROBINSON, and cheted to of his trip with GLASS, are cheted to decided.

IT has reemisated that ISAACS became interested in Communication and appointing relation to China; it has also been stated that letters between ISAACS and his fiance, Viola ROSINSON, which were written during the Yangtsze trip indicated Communist sympathies on the part of both, and one of the letters contained the information that ISAACS had decided to turn a Roda as a result of his convergations with GLASS. As you are aware, ISAACS and GLASS returned to Shanghai in August 1931 and took up residence at 128 Weihaiwei Read. In September 1931; both men are reported to have become members of the ROLLESS Defense Committee, ISAACS being the Secretary.

I had both a word to be to a

Upon his arrival in China, ISAACS poined the editorial staff of the Shanghai Evening Post and the Mercury. ISAACS was also employed with the Havas News Agency, which connection he is reported to have severed around December 1933;

ISAMUS also started and later became editor and publishes of the a China Forum. It is believed to have been

Incompany

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It has been stated that those who knew ISIACS in Shanghai found no reason to think he was a "pay off" man for A erican Conveniets, and that during the first cart of his stay in Chine, he was not a follower of Trotaky. However, he is reported to have finally become convinced that the tatics of the Chinese Conveniets were wrong and that Trotaky was beight in criticising them, and the Soviet Covernment under Stalin. He therefore wrote an article antitled; I Break with Stalin to Stalinists, in which among other things; he is reported to have stated that the expense of publishing the magnathe had been b mod by the Chinese Communists. He is then beported to have discontinued the magnatine and to have sold the printing equipment; the sum being realized from the stale not being turned back to the Chinese Communists but to have been given to the Tretaky cause:

ISAACS had been engaged for several years to Viola ROBINSON who arrived in Shanghal on 28 August 1932. On 14 September 1932, she and ISAACS were parried and took Apt 204, the Apt 204, the Proceedings of Road. Prior to the Tall of up residence in the Embankment Bailding on North Souther Road. Prior to the Tall of 1933, Irene HITMATER or Tall TER of the a subject in the SOINE Case is reported to have lived in the Embankment Building with one Reneo NELECL. Bold AUDOJARD and his wife who have been reported as Sowiet sympthists and were who were known to have

been in close contact with E E KICH when the latter was in China also lived in this building in the early 1930s An Apartment 509.

After her arrival in China, Viola RUBINCON ISLACS was employed at the Dah C'ung Middle School, and by Hovember 1933 was reported as a teacher at the Comparative Law School in Shanghai.

On 7 August 1983, the ISAACS loft Shangiel for Japan, and on 16 August 1933
December
proceeded to Dairen, roturning to shanghal by rail on 26 August 1933. In Househow
1933 ISAACS left Shanghal for Procedure to gather first hand information on the newly
formed a People's Royclutionary Government of the Republic of China.

In Ja wery 1921, ISAACS is reported to have visited Mr. and Mrs. NCULENS while they wore on a hunger strike in prisons in the spring of 1934; ISAACS and his wife left for Teintain as route to Poking at which city, they resided at 2 Times Pu Cais Tao, East City. His mailing address was 3 of one Mr. UNENAMN; Grand Hotel, Peking.

It has been stated by friends of ISAAS even during the height of his Trotstrict carear, he never accepted money from any group; that he was open and above
board; and that he never engaged in any conspiracies to overthrow established government. They are also reported to have stated that IIACS was attracted to Communican
by Shahear idealism.

It has been further reported that im-ediately after Pearl Harbor, ISLACS broke with the Protectite group as he had broken with the Communists; and began writing propagands for the United States Governments

Senetime in the late 1930s, ISAAS returned to the United States. By the Sold. Until the fall of France, he was employed by the Havas News Agency. in October 1943, of 1963, he was working for Newsweek Magazine in Washington, D.C. His address at that time was Priordship Heights, Newport Ave., 4938.

Housewells lawing this period, he had a great deal of trouble about censorahip, and reportedly was deined permission to visit Communist areas. It has been stated that actually he was marely unfortunate in that he applied just after the government had restored its han on journalistic travel in that direction. At the time he had was decied permission, Traday MUTE of Time had just been allowed to go, and ISAACS falt that he was being discreminated againstalt has been stated that MITE, upon his return gave much a cool account of administration in the Red areas that this added to other similar experiences, solidified the government's determination no to let any more aborican newspaperson B go up and become Communist converts. In March 1945, ISAACS was reported as about to leave Character, permanently.

The following descriptions of Marold and Viola ISAACS are set out for your

Farold ISWCS Viola R. LTACS Born 10 July 1910, NIC 13 Sept., 1910, NYC Hat'l. American Amorican 5100 . 5150 Height Build medium Hair black, wavy, brushod back prosp Eyes . Comple .

Passports in early 1930a ... US Pasaport # 177026

Use passport # 382046, assued NIC 14 May

The addition to Agrics SHEDLEY and Frank SLA 3, 19 ACS is known to have been in contact with the following while in China i; AND STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE P

Filless DURDIN. For a time during his stay in China, Islics is reported to have Lived with DURDIN, then correspondent of the HT Times and meses at one time, managing 5 editor of 9 China Pressis

MARIE DE DE COMPANION DE COMPANION DE LA COMPA John K. MURAY, Shanghai representative of the Pacific Hews Agency in Van-Sources, all Mar is also known to have been in contact with E.E. MISCH, Agnes SUDIET, Irone UNINGVER or MIDENETER and one To BOVER curing his stay in China.

> AUG 14 1997 INTERINATURA

Brote on article entitled " I Break with the Stalinists" which allegedly among other things, that the expenses of sublishing a magazine which he was putting out had been borned by the Chinese Communister

as a commercial joy(sic) from the Moroury Press and later printed from a small printing sutfile purchased by ISAACS. It has been stated that after publishing the article of Break with the Stalinists, ISAACS discontinued the magazine and sold its printing the article of the stalinists, ISAACS discontinued the magazine and sold its printing oquipments. It has been stated that the small sum realized from the sale was not turned back to the Chinese Commiste but was turned over to the Trotaky Cause.

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the state of the s	condence concerning the captioned subject
P. Durdin stated he knew nothing definite communist connection of Frans Joseph WEISB ASSLER BUCHMAN and George Alexander Kennedarly activities only.	din be interviewed regarding his knowledge ies of the individuals named below. Durdin, in the Far East, was finally located in Djakarta ed, in accordance eith your request, and the regarding the present activities and alleded LATT, Harold ISAACS, Frans GLASS, ALEXANDER dy, and that he could furnish info on their
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n Baguido in the Philippines, which was he AACS was formerly with NEWSKEK but that he writer. He gave his opinion that Isaaxs communist.	well and that he last saw him at the conference eld in November 1947. He stated that INNERS he now believes he is a gree lance lecturer althought left wing, is not necessarily
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FBI REPORT

FBI REPORT
DATE: 5 DEC. 51
CLASS: CONFIDENTIAL
SUBJ: PAUL RUEGG, WAS: HILAIRE NOULENS,
AND OTHERS
FBI FILE #: 100-344906 (BUREAU)

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

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રાતું સહાજી શહે હતા. કેઈ વર્ષો કરિકારિકાર પાર્ટી મુખ્યત્વે કરો કરો છે. કાર્યો અને કાર્યોની કરો ત્રાંત સહાજી શહે હતા.

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MEGSET

7 November 1951

Assistant Director for Policy Coordination Attention: Security Officer Chief, Special Security Division

Harold R. Isaacs

- 1. Reference is made to a memorandum from your office dated 3 July 1951 in which you requested that a Special Imquiry be conducted to resolve information concerning an allegation that Subject is sympathetic to and/or connected with Communist activities.
- 2. On 31 August 1951, Mr. Kenneth Patrum of the Security Office was advised that partial results have been received as a result of inquiries at several national agencies. The partial information reflected that Subject had been connected with at least two factions of the Communist Party while living in the Far East. It was suggested that extreme caution be used in contacting or associating with the Subject.
- 3. This office has completed the investigation of the Subject, which includes a check of records of the appropriate Federal agencies. As a result of this investigation, the files of this office contain a great deal of information concerning Subject's association with questionable organizations and individuals. Although Subject has denied any current activities with the Communist Party, his associations and activities are highly questionable and his political sympathy has not been unqualifiedly resolved at the present time.
- 4. In view of the information as set forth above, it is recommended that extreme caution be exercised in dealing with the Subject. Under no circumstances should Subject be contacted with regard to possible use by this agency prior to receiving a final security determination by this office.

FOR THE SECURITY OFFICER, CIA

ROBERT H. CUNNINGHAM

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OFFICIAL DISPATCH

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- In the secretion with a current investigation, Manual has requested that Illies having he intervised alon, the lines just out below, It is requested that if furnity is not now in hear and or is not supported to be there for some time you ablies insequenters on that a only of this dispatch can be sent to the proper station. It is not double for you as any members of your others to be introducted in its interview potentially. It is suggested, therefore that a procise of this disputation puts of all tale with the interview of the process of this disputation of this disputation of the process of the disputation of the disputati
- B. A reliable CALIA II informate the statut that in 1933 Derdin end in Practical, acting as after editor of the "Caling Press." As tent time he was solid to have shared an apartment of the Press Insort an according to the information of time that in the time a share reporter according to the information in 1831AIT was at that time a close appoint of Involutional Truck, who are said to have been owing to therefore in 1933 as existent of the "Virtual Involution in 1834", described as a Grandist publication. A LARRAID course of unbound reliability has attend that in 1933 Involutions a "natural recical appendication" and massessed.
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agents for the Third International in Stangard.

- 6. In addition to the above individuals, Durdin is also reported to have been an acquaintance in Shanchai about 1932-35 of Ocorps Alexander French, who is presently employed at Yale University. EXHIUN was an acquaintance of ISAACS and was also reported to have been associated with "Laft-wing groups" and compared that time.
- 6. In view of the above Labshard desires that Durdin be interviewed as soon as possible relative to the expendential acquaintence and association with MISHLATT, IRAACS, OLASS, BUCKER, MISHLATT, Durdin is requested to comment particularly concerning may soft these individuals on behalf of the OP or the Inited International, the same may may been engaged in course activities on behalf of the Seviet Union, either during the sarry 1970's in China, or at any subsequent period.

GEORGE W. MALLORY



Inlied States Department of Swelled Lederal Surray of Investigation Sachington 21, A. C.

CCHTICKETTAL BY SPECIAL HASSERGER

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De to :

September 11, 1951

Tor

Mirector Control Intelligence Agency 2430 8 Street, N. W. Eachington, D. C.

Attention: Major Omeral W. G. Byenn Office of Special Operations

Propr

John Edgar Hoover - Director Foderal Bureau of Investigation

Subjects

TII WAN DUNDIN INTERNAL SECURITY - R

In connection with an afficial investigation being corducted by this Bureau, we are desirons of citatining emetata information from ir. Hillman Durdin, who is presently located c/o Heng Kong, Tiggy Standard, 108 Findsor House, Fictoria, Bong Lang. It would be appreciated if you would have one of your representatives interview ir. Purdin in Hong Kong along the lims as to out toler.

For your information, Dardin is a fureign correspondent for the law York Times respapar. He is an American dition born March 30, 1907, at Elibert, Temas, and has been employed as a foreign correspondent for the New York Times for many years, possibly since at least the early 1930 c.

A reliable informant has salvised that in 1939 Durdin was in Shanghai, China, acting as City Editor of the newspaper China Press. I At that time Durdin was said to be sharing an apartment with Prens Joseph Beisblatt, described as an American citizen than in China as a newspaper reporter.

According to our informant, Enishlatt was at that time a close associate of one Rarold leases. Issaes, an American eltison presently living in law York City, was said by our informant to have been exployed

in Chemical in 1933 as Editor of the "China Forum," described as a Communist publication. A source of unknown reliability has stated that in 1933 fanace was a "notorious redical sympathiser" and was subposted of being an arent of the Third International. Issues was easi to have argumized the Changing Committee for the Defence of the Russes, Foul and Certific Russes, were convicted in Chica in 1932 for Russian explanate activities.

In March, 1969 this Eureau interviewed one Exerise Ladie Applement, an American citizen presently living in Denver, Coloredo, and Applement educated having been a member of the Communist Party from 1921 to 1937. Applement stated that in 1933 and 1938 he knew Durdin in Sharchai, and that during that period, he, Applement Earold Isaaca, Frank Place and Altrander Suchmar, frequently held meetings at the home of Pillman Dardie in Shanchai.

Prank Class is a miffish citizen presently Living in Les Angeles, california. Buthean is an American citizen also presently living in Los living in Dos Angeles. Morris applican described Issaes and Glass as Incommist Yest. League in the United States. An informant of unknown, reliability has also reported that during that period Class and Issaes were suspected of being agents for the Third International in Shanghai.

In addition to the above individuals, Durdin is also reported to have been an acquaintance in Shanghai in about 1932-33 of George Alexander Kennedy, an Assertean citizen presently employed at Tale University. Kernedy was an acquaintance of Earold Isaacs at that time, and was also reported to have been associated with "left-wing Gramps" in Changhai at that time.

In view of the information indicating that Mr. Durdin was acquainted with these individuals during the early 1930's, it is desired that he be inter-leved relative to the extent of his acquaintance and association with the following: Frank Joseph Sciablatt, Earold Isaace, Prank Jiasa, Alexander Suchman, and George Alexander Kennedy.

any information he may possess concerning any activities of these individuals on tenult of the Formulat Party or the Third International. During any information indicating any of these individuals on tenult of the Formulat Party or the Third International. During another indicating any information indicating any of these individuals may have entured in espiciance activities on behalf of the Soviet Chion, either during the early 1970's in China or at any supprepared period. It is desired that full details be obtained from

Mr. Durdin relative to any information be may furnish concerning possible schwereive activities on the part of any of these individuals.

It would be appreciated if you would endeavor to have it. Turlin interviewed at the earliest possible date.

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Report No. : ZFII-89

No. of pages 1

Snolosures: None

Report Fade by Walter J. Ingold

Approved by James N. Lanter

Distributions None

Reference: HANO 2/42 and WASH 01125

Source Cryptonym: Tunic-2

Remarkes

1. In our last message to Tunic-2 on 30 July we used the discrepancy concerning Leo-Pigueres' visit to NVN as an example in a gentle lecture on the virtues of accurate reporting. By 1 August Tunic-2 answered back. The man obviously takes pride in his work.

2. An ope comment relating to this report will be sent in another pouch or via cable.

à z nour

III GORY

Subject: Loo Figueres

Report No. : 2FH-89

Date of Infor as indicated

Place Acquired: Viet Nam, Hamei

Date Acquired: 1 August 51

Evaluation: B-3

Date of Reports 2 August 51

Sources

1. According to Hoang Lui, who works in the Viet Kinh Kinistry of Foreign Affairs, Leo Figueres was in Saigon in early 1900. The French did not allow him to remain in Saigon and he was forced to return to France. Figueres later went to Hong Kong in late August 1950, and then proceeded to the Viet Bac via the Hoa Ham (F.C.: South China 1) road to attend the Third Congress of the FCI held in early October 1950.

2. There had been several previous cases of individuals who were unable to reach Viet Linh territory from Saigoi because of French interference. In July 1949 Fr. A. Roth, Editor of the Sunday Tribune, arrived in Saigon and obtained all necessary papers; the French did not allow him to proceed because of his pro-Communist articles. Others were Walter briggs of the Christian Science Monitor, Harold Tonace from Menewook, and S. J. Percipan (because he criticized Rao Dai in Mestward, Hel).

SECRET

FBI REPORT DATE: JULY 51
CLASS: CONFIDENTIAL
SUBJ: UNKNOWN
FBI FILE #: 100-68282 (NEW YORK)

KEMORANDUK FORT

- . Harold R. Isaacs, Request for an information name check on.
- It is requested that a name check for information be conducted on Subject for the purpose of determining the valide ity of charges that Subject is sympathetic to and/or connected with Communist activities.
- 2. He have been informed unofficially that Subject 1s currently employed by the Ford Foundation as an advisor on Far East projects. When one of our covert agents was recently called upon by the Ford Foundation to present some suggestions for a Far Bast program, the agent found that Subject was interested in and was to be closely connected with this program. It is planned that the Ford Foundation remains unsware of the CIA connection with this covert agent.
- 3. When the report is completed, the information should be routed to J. Bruce Amstuts, FB-1/QPC.

DOUGLAS D. PIRHIE Deputy Chief, FE-1

FC-1/JBA/ph

Dist: Crig & 1 - Addressee

2 - Rogistry

1 - FE-1 files.

NAME: Marold R. Isanos

ADDRESS (last known - '48): 883 Central Park West, H.Y.C.

DATE OF BIRTH: 1910

NATIONALITY: American

BUSINESS CARINE: (a) Staff writer for Havas News Agency (1930-1935)

- (b) Editor of China Forum
- (a) City Editor for China Press, Shanghai,
- (d) Far Eastern War Correspondent for Lowestok -
- (e) Special Projects Editor for Lowswesk (1947 ?)
- (f) Advisor to Ford Foundation

PUBLICATIONS:

- 1. Contributed to Harper's Marazine and Toronto Star Weekly.
- 2. Books: (see attached)

- 1. Two-Thirds of the Borld: Problems of a new approach to the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin-America. 1955
- 2. New Cycle in Asia, Solocted documents on Major International developments in Far Sast. 1943 and 1947 notes and introduction 1947.
- 3. No Fence for Asia 1947.
- 4. Trade y of Chinese Revolution 1988 -
- 5. Five Years of Kuo Min Tang Reaction 1932
- 6. Mither Profice 1936 Leas Trotaky wrote the book and Issaes translated it.

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page 69

The July 30, 1932 issue of the New York Times", under a Shahghai Dateline of Jule 29, 1932, states that Harold R. Isaacs, an American citizen, was warned by the U. S. consul in Shahghai that the U. S. may with draw tak tak its extra territirial rights and allow him to be tried in a Chinese Court. Isaacs, then editor of the "China Forum", had violently attacked Chiang Kai-Shek, calling him among other things, a butcher. The article further stated that issaes was as associate of Agnes Smedley, a correspondedt for American newspapers. The arch 7, 1946 issue of the New York imes reflects an article page 73. captioned "Broup of Americans, including writers and journalists announced that they had sent aletter to Chaing Kai Shek concerning the death of Yang Chao, OWI employee, who was arrested by the Nationalists and ided in prison. The sighers were critical of the treatment recieved by CHAO. THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUAL signed the letter: Maxwell S. stewart. Elizabeth Ames, Maroline Slade, Alfred Kazin , Eric Severeid, Richard Wasts, jr. H. R. Isaacs, Agnes Smedley and Theordore White.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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REAGENTOUS FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Attentioni " Fr. Pose H. ingereall

Subjecti o mareld hobert India.

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1. This to in reply to br. Jack b. Rool's request for information concerning narold Robert ISAACS, ands by telephone on 29 Hovenber 1949.

201-18-45 2. According to information dutained from a source considered rollinge, harold pobert ISAACS ass born in Son lork City on 13 September 1919. A he arrived in han that from sanila in Seconder 1930 and one in possession of American passport 177026. 120-05 was first employed in changent by the chammat evening out a versury, an ingitian language delly published in hanghal. After a few weeks, he became associated with the China Spage. another fuglish-language daily published in hanghat, and mae with this paper until day 1931. In cure of the some year ladded made a trip up the langue elver with Cacil Frank GLACO, /a critish subject and member of the ritish Communist Party, suspected of being an agent for the Riled International in China.

3. On 15 June 1931, Fileire NOULENS, with allases, ass arrested by the Changhai Municipal Colice on charges of espionage in benelf of the Third international. ISAACS became the changest secretary of the coulte interconstitued four la Sefense de faul et Gertrude Ruege (RELINE), a committee formed to aid the NEVLENSS in their defense egainst charges of ceptonage preferred by the Chinese government. Our files reflect that ISAATS was an correspondence with fill BURLEREER, the Freedment of the Cornittee with hosedquarters in Perlin. W. A. MERG was an active agent in dersony for the Third International. ISANCS is also known to here been a contact with agree SMECHEY in Shanghal at this time. --- (MRS) HAROLO R TRANS

CIT-115A OCC - COMMUNIST AGENT? WIFE OF MAROLD ROPPHT ISAACS (201-18406)
4. CD 29 Agust 1932, ISAND gave notice to the Aperican funculate
General in Changhai of his intended parriage to (2188) Violation Ag merican citizen torn 10 June 1910 in her lots 110 Parlies China arrived in hanghai on 25 August 1932 from lancouver, lanada, abourd the "zepress of Asia", and was in jo session of American passport 382046 issued in Hen York on 14 May 1931. The modding was held on 14 september 1932 at the emerican Consulate General, also Scholated man believed to

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have been connected with the major activities in the United States and Union. Serrospondence between Londe and Siss School a prior to their marriage, squicates that they were both appointantly to activities being conducted by the termunions in thins. On 20 Personner 1932, the Major States of Major according to the Major according to the Major according to the Major according to Major accord

2. On 4 April 1936, ISA CC, under the pseudoupa of LO 988, builleded an article in the <u>For Attituant</u>, organ of the original orders' larty in Hew York, entitled "italiatora Heady to habrace thing Falenck and Cifer Red army in beturn for Resurrection of the Massirous 1927 Bloom it is bolieved that ILAACO later joined the Fourth International, organized by Trotaky subsequent to the later's exile from Aussia.

b. Ouring forld for il Icanic cas a mar correspondent for benewick in China. In July 1945 he was refused entry into think by Chinaco mitionalist outhorities, presumably as a result of anti-Mathemalist articles written by Tokaca for Epparator.

7. Barold Mobert I.A.C. is currently opecial Features Iditor for Margaret. 152 heat 42nd street, New York, New York. He is the author of experal books, including No Feace in Asia and The Transfer of the Chicago Sevolution. ISANCO current political beliefs are unknown to this agency.

6. Should Reserve this country, this igney sould appreciate being advised of his intended doutleation, date of departure and any other pertinent details.

EDE THE DIRECTOR OF CHETRAL DITECTIONNESS.

BOSEAT A. SOHOT Assistant Pirotor

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Harold "obert Isaacs was born in New Y'rk City on 3 Sept. 1910 and held USA passport 177026. He was the editor and Publisher of the China Forum. a Shanghai Communist periodical first published in 1932: the secretary of the Muolens Defense Committee; a member of the Shahghai branch of society of Friends of the USSR and of China League for Civil Rights. He arrived in Shanghai from Manila in Dec. 1930 and worked for Shanghai Evening Post and Mercury, swithing after a few weeks to the China Press ehere he was employed until ,931 (May). In June 1931 Isaacs took a trip up the Yangtze with . Erank Glass, a Brigish Communist and suspected Third International agent. A lastitum R letter wiritten by Isaacs to his fiance, Viola Robinson stated that he was turning "Red" as a result of conversations with GLASS. Ather statements indicated athat Miss Robinson an American then in Germany, was an active member of the communits Party. Isaacs used the pseddonym of Lo Sen and published in the Mew Militantm organ of the New York Dist. Workers Party, an attack on Stalin entitled Stalintern Ready to Embrace Chiang Kai shek. In 1949 Isaacs was in the employ of the ?American magazine NEWSWESK, New York City, as special projects editor.

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X.1 BRANCH REPORT

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HEADINALYERS, DETACLYENT ACA-A STRATUTE SERVICE UNIT BATALIA, JAYA

SN: ZM2477

REPORT NO: ZB-10

REPORT DATE: 8 Dec 45

: CAPT. BLUNGHELL, ATTN: LT BARNETTE INFO DATE : 7 Dec 45

FRCK

GRABILL NO. PAGES

SUBJECT ! INTERVIEW SETWEN MR. MAROLD ISAACS, MR. CHARLES TAMBU, AND ER. DIAM.

SOURCES: Mr. Carold Isanos, correspondent for Howswook magazine. Mr. Carles Tabbu, Malaya born Tamil, formarly employed on Singapore newspapers, newscaster for Singapore radio, English-speaking amounter on Satavic Radio during occupation, and presently editor of newspaper Independent.

Br. Diah, editor of Mardeka, nationalist nowspaper, Batavia.

E/ALUATION: 8-3, except as noted.

The subject interview was held at the request of Fr. Isaacs in line with his Jesire to talk with leading figures of Indonesian nationalist movement who held no official government position.

CIRCULATION OF MINDYIA

Asked about present circulation of MEROEKA, Mr. Diah replied with the following: MENDERA is the largest Indenesian newspaper on the island of Java. At present it is printed only in Batavia, with a daily total circulation of about 13,000 copies. Of this number, approximately 5.000 copies are sent out of the city by train to Bandoeng, Soerakarta, and Djoklakarta, leaving a Batavia circulation of between 10,000 and 14,000 copies. Source expressed the opinion that while the Indonesian population of Batavia is in the neighborhood of 500,000 persons, the literacy rate is perhaps only twenty percent of this figure. Thus, he admitted, MEIDERA is probably reaching less than four percent of the total Indonesian population of Batavia, despite the fact that Batavia is probably the most literate area on the island of Java because of corcentration here of all the governmontal functions, prever and present.

When questioned as to why his circulation was so inconsistent with the potential reading population, source replied that he was handicapped by lack of paper. We expressed the opinion that a circulation of 50,000 would be assured, and a directation of as high as 100,000 possible, were sufficient paper available. At the present rate of or sumption, he estimates that sufficient paper is an income from prewar stacks to ordinus publication of MERDEKA for one year 102 (2)

COUNTERVITAL

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THE INDEPENDENT

On December 7, 1945, the MENDERA press commonced sublication of a daily English language newspaper entitled INDEPENDENT. The masthoad of this paper states also that it incorporates the INDONESIAN NEWS BULLETIN. A former English language newspaper published by ANTARA news agency.

The INDEFENDENT is at present being edited by Mr. Tambu, with some assistance from Mr. Diah, and using the paper and facilities of METDERA.

The first issue of INDEPENDENT was remarkable only for its avoidance of any discussion of local affairs, only two articles having anything waterever to do with Java. Questioned about this, Tambu additted that, while his ultimate ambition was to reach foreign and troop (British) readers, he was besitant about entering headling into discussion of local affairs and the Mationalist cause, because, (C-3), the British are unfavorably disposed towards MERCHEMA already, and would use his venture as an excuse to confiscate the entire printing plant, were he too openly partisan in his early issues. Within a week or two he bopos to be secure enough in his position to start laying more stress on local news and calterials.

The first issue of INDEPENDENT was printed in 400 copies, most of which wore given away, although the stated price is 1 Japanese guilder the copy.

To: Lieutenant Colonel ROCER A. PFAPP

From: John I. Coddington

Subject: HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS

Mr. GEORGE N. KATES of OS3, Fizz, has just returned to the United States from Chungking. He reached Washington yesterday. He claims to have known HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS quite well in Chungking, and has the following observations to make concerning Mr. ISAACS:

HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS is about 35 years of age. He attended Columbia University, and received the degree of A.B. there in 1930. He is the son of an orthodox Jewish merchant, who is very wealthy, and who has always supported HAROLD, even though he did not approve of the radical views that HAROLD expressed in the 1930's.

HAROLD went to China immediately after graduation from Columbia, partly, atleast, out of a desire to see strange parts of the world and to experience "adventure." He went out by way of Hawaii, and stowed away for part of the voyage — either between San Prancisco and Honolulu, or between Honolulu and Shanghai — Mr. KATES does not remember which. Anyway, this was part of the "adventure."

In China, HAROLD met a South African named FRANK GLASS, who was an "intellectual" and a very interesting person. GLASS was a Leftist, but not at all a Communist. HAROLD took a trip up the Yangtse with GLASS in 1930 or 1931. At about this time, HAROLD became a convert to Trotskyism, partly, at least, under GLASS's influence. He felt that "suffering humanity" required a "revolution" to set things straight. Communism was too organized, and HAROLD was a complete individualist, and reacted strongly against the organizational set-up of Communism, and so espoused Trotskyism. He returned to Shanghai from the western part of China, and went to work for

THE HAVAS News Agency. Shortly after this, in Shanghai, he married VICLA ROBINSON, who was, like HARCLD, a wide-eyed intellectual. This marriage probably took place in 1932. VIOLA was a great friend of AGNES SHEDLEY, the author of the Battle Hymn of China and of other books dealing with the Chinese Revolution.

An organization called the China League for Civil Rights was formed about 1932. YANG CH'IEN was the head of this for Central China, and Dr. MU SHIH (later Chinese Ambassador to Washington) was the head of it for North China. YANG was at that time Secretary-General of the Academia Sinica. YANG was soon assassinated by the Blue Shirts (at that time CHING KAI-SHEK's bodyguard). HAROLD ISAACS had been an enthusiastic number of the China League for Civil Rights, and in the atmosphere of turmoil, after the killing of YANG, when all Leftists were under attack by the Kuomintang, HAPOLD became the editor and publisher of the China Forum, a magazine that published a number of controversial articles. The magazine was protected by the fact that the editor was an American, and therefore had extraterritorial rights. Yet the magazine was regarded as a "thorn in the flesh" by Mr. CUNNINCHAM, who was at that time American Consul-General in Shanghai. There were various controversies — the printing shop was broken up by Kuomintang strong-arm men; the mails were refused to the magazine; but he continued publication for some time, and smuggled the copies out to the subscribers.

In 1933 or 1934, ISAACS had a fight with AGNES SUEDLEY. It was an ideological fight, and therefore especially bitter. ISAACS and his wife left Shanghai after this, and moved to Peking. There he acquired a Chinese translator named LIU, and there he settled down to write his book, The Tragedy of the Chinese Revolution.

This book "nails the Stalinists to the mast" and shows that they were messing around with a situation in China which they did not understand. Very many people who have read the book consider it excellent.

HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS, continued

The book was completed, and ISAACS and his wife returned to the United States about April or May 1935. Immediately after this, ISAACS made a rapid trip to Oslo, Norway, to see his hero, LEON TROTSKY, who was living there at that time. It was on this occasion that he must have undertaken to translate TROTSKY's book, Whither France? ISAACS then returned to New York, and went to work for the HAVAS News Agency once more.

At some time in the late 1930's, he became interested in New York politics, and he worked hard for NORMAN THOMAS.

By 1940, however, he became disgusted with New York politics, and became interested in the war, and in bourgeois life." He and his wife had a baby at about this time (their first), and ISAACS found he could write radio scripts and get good money for them. Up to 1940, he had been living chiefly off his father, but from 1940 on, he began to make money. In 1942, he did a "Report to the Nation" for CBS.

Soon after this, he joined the Staff of News-Week, and in 1944 was sent to Chungking by that magazine. There must have been a certain amount of trouble in convincing the Chinese Central Government that ISAACS had really changed since the old days in Shanghai; but this convication was evidently accomplished, or ISAACS would not have received permission from the Chinese Covernment to go to China.

ISAACS is a very smart ran indeed. He knows a lot about China, and he knows a lot about people in general. Loreover, he is a great deal "smoother" and more diplomatic now than he was ten years ago.

fo:

Lieutenant Colonel ROGER A. PFAFF

from:

John I. Coddington 9.16.

Subject: HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS

HARRID ROBERT ISAACS is now the correspondent of Newsweek magazine in China. His headquarters are in Chungking, but he evidently travels to Kunming, Kweiyang, and other places in the course of his duties. He seems to have arrived in China in his present capacity during the summer of 1944, probably in July.

Subject was born in 1910, and is a member of a wealthy family. He became a firmly convinced Trotskyist in his youth, and remained one till the time of PearlHarbor. He is now regarded as a renegade by his former Trotskyist colleagues, because he has disavowed the principles of world revolution, turned away from Trotsky's teachings, and since 1939 has been writing patriotic propaganda for the United States Government.

He went to China about 1930, and wrote two books dealing with Chinese politics, Fire Years of Kuomintang Reaction (1932), and The Tragedy of the Chinese Revolution (1938). Both of these volumes expressed the author's Trotakyist point of view. The first was published in Shanghai, and the second in London. Neither was ever published in the United States, and ISAACS said that the Stalinist Communists were so powerful in this country that they were able to prevent the publication of the Tragedy of the Chinese Revolution here. This book received high praise from many serious students of Far Eastern affairs, including G.F. Hudson, Fellow of All Souls College at Oxford, and author of The Far East in World Politics, who said that ISAACS' book was the test one ever written on the Chinese Revolution. Hudson is now an official of the British Winistry of Information.

ISAACS' non-Communist and non-Trotskyist friends say that even during the

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HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS, continued.

height of his Trotskyist career, ISAACS never accepted money from the group. He was always open and above-board, and never engaged in any conspiracies to overthrow established government. He was attracted to the movement, they say, by sheer idealism.

For a time in China, ISAACS lived with Tillman DURDIN, the China correspondent of the New York Times, who was then the managing editor of the China Press. ISAACS returned to the United States in the late 1930's, and was for a time employed by the havas News Agency, until the fall of France in 1940. In 1943, he was employed by Newsweek magazine in Washington, D.C., and resided at 4938 Newport Avenue, Freindship Heights.

Publications

(a) Books

Pive Years of Kuomintang Reaction (Shanghai, China Forum Publishing Co., 1932), 136 pp. Library of Congress Call No.: DS 777.47.C45

The Tragedy of the Chinese Revolution (London, Secker & Warburg, 1938)
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(b) Translations

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HAROLD ROBERT ISAACS, continued

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- "Ting Hao: Shouts of Welcome met First Convoy to Kunming," Newsweek, pp. 35-36, 12 Peb. 1945

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
630 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 20, N.Y.

10 March 1945

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To

Major General William J Donovan

From

John C Hughes

Subject

Harold R Isaacs

Pursuant to our telephone conversation, I asked Mr Devechi of this office to check with Alan Grover, Vice President of "Time and Life". One of the men with whom Grover works very closely knows Isaacs intimately. In this man's opinion, Isaacs is a very solid and substantial citizen, knowledgable, hard working and an able correspondent of good character. He states that he has recently had occasion to communicate with Isaacs and that his address is:

Harold R Isaacs War Correspondent U.S.F. CT APO 627 c/o Postmaster, New York

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
630 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 20, N.Y.

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March 9, 1945

MEMORANDUM

TO:

MR. SPENCER PHENIX

FRO!!:

ROBINET DEVECCHI Q OV

Alan Grover, Vice-President of TIME, LIFE, at my request checked with one of the men in his organization who knows Harold R. Isancs personally.

He told Mr. Grover that Mr. Issaes, in his opinion, is a very solid and substantial citizen, knowledgable, hard working, good character, and an able correspondent.

Mr. Isuacs can be reached at the following address:

HAROLD R. ISAACS War Correspondent U.S.F. CT APO 627 c/o Postmaster New York, N.Y.

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I Break with the Chinese Stalinists

To the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party:
The two-year period of my extra-organizational collaboration
with the Chinese Communist party has come to an end and
the Chine Forum which I founded and edited during that time
has been forced to suspend publication. In the interest
of our whole movement as well as in my personal interest,
I consider it necessary to record here and publish the
history of the China Forum and the circumstances of its
suspension....

Prom almost the vory beginning of my active work - which I date from the time I began reporting events in China in a communist way - a number of questions presented themselves to me in increasingly forcible form. These wrose originally from my discovery of the gross distortions and exagnerations which I found to be characteristic of communist propagands in China and abroad. I define pro-

and exagrerations which I found to be characteristic of communiate propaganda in China and abroad. I define propaganda as the skillful, clear, accurate and wholly truthful reporting of the facts linked to an incisive, purposive interpretation and a plan of action for dealing with the facts in a revolutionary way. I learned this from the life and work of Lenin and his Bolonevik communes who taught us that the truth comes from the masses themselves and that only disaster can result from telling them lies. I have never learned to the contrary that it was my revolutionary duty to work in any other way, although I soon found that

duty to work in any other way, although I soon found that the present-day Communiot party press makes a practise of distinguishing between propuganda and truth. Examples of exaggeration and distortion most s riking

Bramples of exaggeration and distortion most a riking to me were nuturally those which applied to China, because here I could check allegations with known facts. I first wrote these down to the ignorance or incapacity of individuals. I felt that communist editors abraed rould publish accurate facts about China if they could get them. Accordingly with a friend I tried to set up an independent mail news service and sent weekly building to papers allower the world giving brief, charp, factual accounts of what was going on. This was in the fall of 1931 after my return from the area of the great Central China floods of that summer. I scarcely understood then why this service failed to secure any response from the communist press abroad. After about three months I had to suspend it for lack of support. It simply didn't get published except in a few organs which were not official Communist party papers, including the Naw York Militant.

It wasn't long before I began to perceive, with a

It wasn't long before I began to perceive, with a deeper study of international events and the history of the Chinese revolution, that a consistent thread ran through the distortions and exaggerations which I found not only in brief casual reports of current events but in the solem pronunciamentoes made by delegates before plenums of the E.C.C.I. I discovered that these departures from the truth were made necessary by the official premise that over since the catastrophe of 1927 a mighty, upsurging revolutionary movement has been marching forward in China to the very brink of saizure of power under the leadership of the Chinese Communist party. I discovered that these exaggerations were necessary because the premise was false and along with it all the besic tenets of the

politics being pursued by the Communist International and the Communist party in China. I cannot begin here to give a summery of some of these distortions (which I reivally cited to you by the dozen), ranging from particular incidents (the wilfully false picture given of the cotton mill strike in Shanghai in January 1932, down to the point of transcoing it to February to heighten the impression given of the workers' role in the Shanghai war) to high-flown generalizations like the statement recently made before the plenum of the B.C.C.I. that the C.C.P. has "won over the majority of the Chinese working class and the peasantry"....

In denying the presence of a might revolutionary upsurge (i.e., a wast organized march toward the sei zure of power); I respect facts made still clearer perhaps when compared to the facts and figures of the monster mass movements of the 1925-27 period. The tragic errors of the communist leadership in 1927 were primarily responsible for the decapitation of that great movement and because no lessons have been drawn from these events to this very day, these errors, monstrously accumulated, are still responsible for the tragedies of today. But for the purposes of our comparison here, let us take for example the single fact that in 1926 in Greater Shanghai, there sere 257 strikes. In 1932 there were 82. Let us remember that on the eve of the workers' scieure of power in Shanghai in March, 1937, there were more than 800,000 workers, handicraftsmen and petty traders out on the streets fighting with arms in hands for demands of a far-reaching political character. A close check for the entire country in the latter half of 1933 showed me that less than one-thirtieth of that number were engaged in strikes and other disputes during any given menth and that almost invariably the demands were defensive demands against wage outs and lockouts. Moreovur, the lack of cohee sive leadership - often in departments of the same factory or in one or more of a group of factories - or even semetimes lack of even the most elementary organization - has in almost every case led to deadening failure and relatively easy betrayal by the yellow "labor leaders" and "mediators" of the Kuo Min Tang. 1925 the chooting of thirteen students by British police in Shanghai was the touch-off for a general strike shich paralyzed the city and which was seconded by wast sympathy strikes which broke lize a series of tidal waves over the entire country. In January 1932, when the Japanese importalists used the Shanghai International Sattlement as a base for operations which coet the lives of tene of thousands of Chinese, not a single strike interrupted the normal course of the public or other services in that settlement. In the factories there were no atrikes but a large scale lookout to which the overwhelming majority of Shanghai. workers submitted without protest.

In the case of the widespread but isolated and individual cases of peasant uprisings, and this includes the Red armies in Kiangsi, these struggles await the leadership of a strong working class movement before they can have a successful issue. The Red armies in their restricted and surrounded areas and with their meagre resources have fought heroically against the Kuomintang attacks upon them. But until the Kuo Min Tang is shaken from its bulwarks in the imperialist-controlled working class centers, their prospect of revolutionary triumph remains necessarily dim. No revolutionary purpose is served by taking refuge in the fiction that these armies have proletarian leadership because individual workers, undoubtedly

leaders of superior quality and courage, have been torn from their factories and from their fellow workers and sent cown to occupy key positions in the Red army districts and in the Red armies themselves. Indeed, this common practise of extracting the most conscious and progressive working class elements from their working class environment and sending them down to the Red districts is a good irdex to the criminal transposition of emphasis which has helped paralyze the working class movement in the cities. If the Thite Terror doesn't carry off the workers' londers as they arise, the C.P. does and has done so in hundreds of cases. This helps in no small part to explain why it has also been impossible to mobilize a genuire mass anti-Japanese movement in the face of military aggression and thy the Thite Terror of the Kuo Min Tang has succeeded, by filling mass graves and in-numerable prisons with the martyred dead and living, in downing the anti-imperial set movement or efforts toward the organization of such a movement and paving the way for the ever-increasing enormachments of the imperialists, The party has not yet sripped and directed the deep and bitter and often inarticulate hatred of the masses of the people for their oppressors and this includes large sections of the lower potty bourgeoisie who could be won by successful mass pressure from below. This is because they party has fulled to translate the realities of everyday events into its program and tactics

But precisely because ut all costs I desired to carry on the Forum's open struggle against the common enemy - against the kuo Min Tang and the imperialists - I sedulously avoided bringing these issues into the columns of the paper, increasingly against my better judgment. I leamed over far backward in this respect. This expressed itself in many of the current issues with which we had to deal.

I ask you to recall the whole uphill fight which the Forum waged on behalf of Paul and Gerturd Ruegg in the spring and summer of 1932 during which time I repeatedly warned against the emphasis which was being placed on the "legal" aspects of the case and the "negotiations" with the Kuo Min Tang to the detriment of mase pressure and the capitalization of the case for political purposes.
You paid lip service to the need for mass pressure particularly here in China - but in fact the "lugalities and futile negotiations remained the major pillars of the defense. Until in the very end I finally rebelled. I wasn't even permitted to give Ruegg his honorable and rightful title - secretary of the Pan-Pacific Trade Union Secretariat: Yet although I felt the struggle for the Rueggs was being seri usly handicapped by the tactics being pursued. I carried on the fight with all the energy at my command and you will recall that it was I who created the local defense committee and was chiefly responsible for the widespread press propaganda campaign and the considerable sympathy which we aroused. Yet the etrictly non-political attitude which Ruegs was forced to assume at the trial (in contrast to the highly political attitude of his prosecutors!) was in my opinion one of the major reasons for the fate to which he and his wife were condemned.

I ask you to recall the whole period of the organization and activities of the China League for Civil Rights, from December 1932 to June 1935, in which I took an active part. I gave full play to this hybrid League and its sork without once publishing the basic criticisms which I often voiced to you and which in the end were wholly confirmed by what happened after the Kuo Min Tang murdered Yang Chien in June that year. I ask you to recall the views I set forth in August and September 1925, on the

subject of the "Anti-War Congress" which at your specific request I did not sublish. Instead, to my regret, I published the foul rot of Marley & Co. without freely giving play to the true facts about that farcical junket which had convinced me that the policies which gave it birth do not one single whit advance the international struggle against imperialist

On one occasion - and this at least I can take comfort in - I passively resisted when you requested me to write and publish a slanderous attack on Chen Du Heiu when he was condemned to 13 years imprisonment by the Kuo Min Tang. Your request was specific. I was not to deal with the issues which had brought Chen Du Hoiu from being the leader of the C.P. in 1927 to being leader of the Chinese Opposition in 1933. I was only to string together a wile series of labels in an effort to explain may the Kuo Min Tang even imprisoned the leader of the left Opposition. As you know, that attack was never written or published.

Again in December 1933, upon my return from Fukien, you specifically demanded that I set aside the results of my own personal investigations in Foochow in order to write on your behalf (but over my signature!) an utterly baselessand slandcrous attack on the Left Coposition. You will recall that you charged at that time that the "Trutskyiste" were prominently identified with the new government set up in Fukien by Chen Ming-shu and Teai Ting-kai. You lumped the Left Opposition with the Third Party and the social Democrats among the petty bourgecis satellites of the Fukien militarists. It was as much to satisfy myself on this very point as to perform a mission for you, that I went cown to Foochow and spent two weeks there and learned through direct contact with dozens of recole prominently concerned that the Left Opposition was stoutly and clearly opposed to the Foodhow regime. I haven't place here to discuss the relations of the C.P., to the short-lived Pukien government or the character of the "negotia-tions" which were going on down there. The important, thing here is that on my return you demanded that I write slanders which flew in the face of everything I myself had learned. It is interesting, as a side-light on your methods in factional strife as you conceive it, that your representative in Foochow sent back a report, through me, ironically enough, that one of the most prominent of the youthful pseudo-medicals in Foochow. The Chicagon to the avent radicals in Foochow, du Cui-yuen to be exact, was a leading "Trotskyist". It so happened that I had met and had several lengthy interviews with Mu and by the time I left Foochow I understood his position and his personality exceedingly well. He was as much a Trotskyist as Mei Lan-fang is: Yet you actually demanded that I ignore my own knowledge of the man and in my article on Fukien set him down as a "Trotskyist". I was faced on the one hand by your demands that I write falsehoods to suit your policies and on the other by my deep desire to set forth. the and on the other by my deep desire to set forth the actual facts about the Orposition's attitude toward the Fukien regime. But once more, to preserve the shreds of our relationship, I drove a middle course and did neither, leaving the mole question out of my article.

Neverthelees, abruntly in January of this year you forced an ultimatum upon me and subsequently forced the break in our relationship because I could not and would not, at your demand, devote the China Forum to policies which I could not and do not believe computible with the interests of the Chinese revolution and the international proletarian revolution. I could not, at your denand, set aside the convictions to which I had literally been driven by the stinging lash of catastrophic events in China, Germany and the world over. Particularly my deep interest in Chinese events during the last three years. made it im ossible for me; finally, to ive active support to policies and tactics whose disastrous effects were being a thousandfold confirmed for me by the tragic events of every swiftly-passing day. I could not ignore questions which strike at the roots of our work and the

whole structure of our hopes for a revolutionary future.

Despite the fact that these questions are rocking the entire International today, you denied my right to raise them in print. You demanded more. You demanded that I attack anybody who cid so - primarily the people you call "counter-revolutionary Trotckyists" - the only people who are facing these problems today in a fearless revolutionary way: You demanded that the China Forum revolutionary way . You demanded that the China Forum become a stereotype for the policies and vulgar factional slanders which I could neither then nor now be party to. In reply to my questions on China you simply quoted back a certain amount of exaggeration is nocessary. went on amazingly to day: "but we know the ture facts and we base our policies on them, not on those exacterayou say are durious things. They have to be turned around and around and around and around and examined closely until their true nature becomes apparent. The trouble is you turn them so far and so quickly that they turn into some thing like a dizzily turning top of fancy - or at best with-fulfilling misrepresentations.

To my questione on Germany you quoted Heckert. Piatritsky and the B.C.C.I.'s famous resolution declaring that the collapse of the German party and the alsughter of the German workers were based on the past, present and future correct policies of the C.P.G.: You declared I had no right to offer critical comment on the danger usly opportunistic foreign and domestic policies of the U.S.S.R. most notably on the entry of the U.S.S.R. on a straight nationalist basis into the diagusting corridors of imperialist intrigue. To the contrigy, I was livingly, fawningly to found and hail the policies which have meant diagrams the U.S.S.R. into the vacuum of nationalist loading the U.S.S.R. into the vacuum of nati nalist isolation from the world-wide proletarian movement. This I was to do! to begin with, by publishing Stalin's face on the front page and columns of the customary penegyrics to his infallibility. Above all and before all, I was to take up cudgels against counter-revolutionary Trotsky ism". That was to be the main point of my re-formation - to raise no questions myself and slander anybody else who did so.

In reply to your demand that I submit to an editorial board in order that these editurial policies should be effectively put into practise. I offered (1) to continue publication strictly as oefore, meanwhile arguing out my differences with you in discussions on the side: (2) to throw the columns of the Forum open to a general discussion

of all basic revolutionary questions, with free play to unorthodox as well as orthodox views. If your views were correct, I argued, it would be a distinct advantage to you to have such an opportunity to display their brilliance alongside the puny efforts of your critics; (3) to publish orthodox news and views but to reserve for myself the right to comment and criticise.

These repeated offers you repeatedly refused. You offered to discuss these questions with me veroally if in the meanwhile I threw the Forur open to your editorial board. My other proporals were until kneed: Give the Forum's readers a chance to hear "counter-revolutionary" viewpoints? Never that: I could only display my revolutionary purity by acceding to your demands. For would talk things over until spring, when if all went well (i.e. if I showed a satisfactory adaptation to your viewpoint) I could pack up for an educational trip to the Soviet Union where I would certainly occume convinced of the error of my ways. In other words, you wanted my signature on a promissory note with the amount left blank for you to fill in. You put this in the form of an ultimatum and you told me that if I did anything but accopt I would forthwith enter the camp of the "counter-revolution".

I had to refuse these terms. I had to refuse to lend myself to a slanderous and baseless struggle against the International Left Opposition. I had to refuse to land space to the nauseatingly fawning praise of Stalin and uncritical reception of Stalinist policies which characterize the Communist party press the world over. I had to refuse to take shelter in the cold and draughty empty spaces which stretch benind the impressive facade and early traditions of the Communist International. I would like to go to the Soviet Union for a visit one day but I had to refuse your offer on your terms. I had to refuse, in short, to become a hack prostitute in the name of the revolution.

In the end, too, I had to refuse to turn over to you the printing plant I had built up with so much pain and struggle because I considered it not your present; but the property of the working class movement. Because I could not carry on the Porum myself, for lack of financial resources and because of heavy debts contracted. I disposed of the plant and turned every furthing of the proceeds over to where I now consider the tare interests of our movement lie. It was with a deep and abiding bitterness that I had to see the Forum go down under the blows of those whom I had considered comrades, when for two years it had fought off all its many enomies on the outside.

Yet with it came the realization that we have to build anew over the ruins you have wrought. The revolution and the building of our future moves forward and when we trample down the defenses of our enemies we shall crush underfoot everything and everybody that stande in our way. No sycophantic, blind allegiance to a name, an empty facade, a torm and shredded preatige can lead us forward. Only unswerving fidelity to our goal and active struggle toward this end with the weapons of a correct and tested political line will lift is from defeat to ultimate victory. To this struggle I shall continue to dedicate all my energies.

Peiping, China, May 20, 1934.

Rarold R. ISAACS.

COUNTRIES

1901-1933

China (DrB 7861)

1954 Horald Robert Isaacs working Mit Contra for Intranti Studio. (dource)

"Five Years of Ruomintoin Reaction", a 13 page parallet published in 1932 at Shanghai, lists ISAACS as Editor. The pamphlet consists of reprints of articles which appeared in the "China Forum" by "anonymous authors and collaborators". The pamphlet denounces the Kuomintang and DHIANG Kai-shek for alleged massacre of its political opponents, chiefly Communists, in order "that the bourgeoisio might continue to rule and the imperialists to draw their tribute from the capitalization of human misery". Chinese Communists are seen as the hope of the future. ISAACS continues to reside at 333 Central Perk West, NYC, and is employed as free lance journal last, as of 12 May 53. DFB-27426.

IS.ACS

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201-1844b

Skanghai Luncipal Folice Files, 203 138, Photo # 177. File 16-4-2-y5

DFB 1461,11 May 1950. ignes Smodley file, 201-414

DFB 7864, 28 Feb 1951. Enclosing info re Richard SONGE gathered from FBI interview with ISAACS in April 1950.

DFB-15017, 15 Jan. 52; 201-6556-1 Presently living in NYC-

DFB-1//23, 20 Dec 1051, ICh-00/6-1, Subj member of an Aid Cormittee to the Secretariat (NOVLENS) in Shanghai/elong with Armes SUDDAY, Irene HTTP-TYPE, J. POWELL, Edgar Subs, Frenk GLASS.

Shanghai Municipal Folice Files, ZCS-1811, 16-4-2-37, 5 Feb 49.

prb_209/3, 14 Ayrupt 1990, 201-9//6-2

DFB-12747, 8 Jan 1952, 20140750-1 re AFPMAN, Morris Louis DFB- 27426- 12 June 53, 201-19446-4



ISAACS, H Probably Harold RODELT

9 JACOB. FBI think that there is a possibility that the JACOB, an unidentified young Amer journalist in Shanghai in 1931, 32 who was a member of the SORGE network in China might possibly be identical with ISAACS. ISAACS inself has adviced that he doe not believe that he could have been the indiv to whom SORGE gave the covern JACOB (DFB 786%)

addresses: Year 1953 - 333 Central Pout West, NYC.

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Isaacs

The July 30 1632 issue of the MY Times under a Shanghal deteline of 29 July 1932, states that harold R ISAACS, an American citizen was varned by the US Consul General in Shanghai that the US may withdraw its extra-Terreborial rights and allow him to be tried in a Chinese court. ISAACS then the editor of the "China Forum," had violently attacked Chinas Enai Shek, calling him, among other things, " a butcher." The article further stated that ISAACS was an associate of Agnes MLDISM, a correspondent for American newspapers (DFB 1461)

Preceded the GRANICHES, as editor of The Voice of China". Wrote an article "I Bresk With Stalinism".—which gave a candid elucidation of the Comm. financial backing of the "Voice of China". DCE-4385, 7 Feb. 52

One Harold Robert ISAACS was born 13 Sept 1910; 5:9" tall, med build, br eyes, & blach wavy hair brushed back. Born in NYC, And citizen. Editor & publisher of the China Forum. Was seey of NOULEIS Defense Corrittee & mamber of Society of Freinds of USSI Arrived in China from Marilla on 10 Dec 30 & joined editorial staff of Shanghai Evening Post and Mercury. On 12 June 31, took trip on Yangtsze with C.F.GLASS, susp Sov agent, & returned in Aug & took up residence at #128 Meihaivei Road. Started printing Forum later. Manager of Level Printing C., Inc in NY State & owned 40% of its shares. Employed with ment Bldg., Shanghai. In 3 Jan 34 Subj visited NOULEIS who were on hunger strike in prison. Subj's parents arrived in Shanghai 14 Jan 34 & left 20 Feb for Marseilles. Subj. ISAACS was also lecturing on Japan, China, and USSR & Mar Crisis in Far East. (ZCS-1811, 16-4-2-37, 5 Feb 59: Shanghai Municipal Fo: Files.)

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in hope of driving a medge between Rusala and Chinese Communists. DrB 25069, 12 March 1953, ulthdramal of US surport from French colonial forces in Indochine and recognition of Red China World Policys appears in the August 7, 1950 issue of the "New Republics. The article advocates atthdress of its arriver from French Confes in Indoching and recommitten of Red China collection of the official texts of various treaties and seregments among South Asian and Wester of these taxts which is apparently non-political in mature. His article "kkores and American World Policys amears in the American 1950 tame of the Wester Republics. The article advocates The book "Mew Cycle in Asia" by ISAACS, pub in 1947 by the Institute of Pacific, "clations as collection of the official texts of warrants among south and meat-APPENDAN met Subj tiru Alexander Bicinans Subj wa the first editor of the CCP paper of which Apr 1. A. I fer was to become editor. has "nottuleved subtraction of "The Transcopy of the Chinese isvaluation" and an interest of the Chinese is a factor of the Chine

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ISAACS, HAROLD

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FE-1 Amstuts

26 June 1951 - Memo dated 25 June to PT/CS requesting informational namecheck on subj.

for the purpose of determining the validity of charges that Subj. is sympathetic to and/or connected with Communist activities. See file for rest of memo.

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According to APPELMAN, Subj is suther of "The Gregody of the Chinese Fevelution" and APPELMAN met Subj thru Alexander BUCHMAN; Subj wa the first editor of the CCP paper of which Ab. "L'AN lter was to become editor. DEE-14747

The book "New Cycle In Asia" by ISAACS, pub in 1947 by the Institute of Pacific "clations as a collection of the official texts of various treatics and agreements among South Asian and "estern powers during the perild of EM II and later. ISAACS supplies a brief editorial introduction to them taxts which is apparently non-political in nature. His article "kKorea and American World Policy" appears in the August 7, 1950 issue of the "New Republic". The article advocates withdrawal of US support from French colonial forces in Indochina and recognition of Red China in hope of driving a wedge between Russia and Chinese Communists. DEB 25069, 12 March 1953, 201-18446-3.

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Thesis of book is that revolution in Chine, 193-2017, could have received in ID ang SI
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