



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS

PART 1 OF 1

BUFILE NUMBER: 65-59589

FILE DESCRIPTION

BUREAU FILE

SUBJECT JOHN WHITESIDE (JACK) PARSONS

FILE NO. 65-59589

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

FILE NO. **65-5131**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 11/2/50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/25-29; 10/2-5, 9/50	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS, aka Jack Parsons			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - IS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject, on September 15, 1950 removed certain documents pertaining to jet propulsion motors and rocket propellants without authority from Hughes Aircraft Company, Culver City, California, his place of employment. On September 16, 1950, he left same at the residence of [REDACTED] Palos Verdes, California, who was to make typewritten copies of them. Above documents procured from [REDACTED] on September 25, 1950 by [REDACTED] security officer, Hughes Aircraft Company and writer, and placed in custody MAJOR E. J. KRENZ, U. S. Air Force, Hughes Aircraft Company, pending determination security classification. Subject voluntarily came to the Los Angeles office September 27, 1950 and in signed statement admitted removing documents without authority stating he desired to extract certain information from them as aid in computing cost proposal on jet propulsion motors. He planned to submit this with employment application through American Technion Society for employment in the country of Israel. Subject

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

INDEXED

*10-2-50
12-3-50
12-21-51
10-2-50
state
12-21-51
10-2-50*

b7c

b7c

*100-50-2
1-27-50
9-2-50*

REASON FOR REFUSAL TO CLASSIFY

2530
2530
2530
2530

COPIES OF THIS REPORT Bureau Cincinnati FBI, Dist. 18, Maywood Los Angeles	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 10px 0;">65-159589</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">NOV 8 1950</div>
COPY IN FILE	EX-53

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

JAN 11 1951

(OVER)

on September 28, 1950 identified photographic copies of seventeen documents and same retained in this office as evidence. Records North American Aviation Corp., Inglewood, California, reflected subject denied clearance on classified contracts 1948, but cleared by Industrial Employment Review Board 1949. Records clearance investigation at Dayton, Ohio. Background information set out.

X

-P-

DETAILS:

On September 25, 1950, MR. JOHN T. BERDNER, Air Provost Marshal, Los Angeles Air Force Field Procurement Office, 155 West Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles, contacted this office and advised that he had received information that one JACK PARSONS, an employee of Hughes Aircraft Company, Culver City, California, had removed certain classified information from the Hughes Aircraft Company and planned to use this material in the preparation of an application for employment which he was attempting to obtain in the country of Israel. BERDNER stated that as of that date the classified information, together with the application for employment, were in the possession of [redacted] Palos Verdes, California. He stated PARSONS reportedly had left this material at the [redacted] residence with the request that [redacted] prepare for him a type-written brochure of the material.

bc

Immediately upon receipt of the above information, SA [redacted] and the writer proceeded to the vicinity of the [redacted] residence where they contacted [redacted] of the Hughes Aircraft Company.

b7c

[redacted] advised that [redacted] an employee of Northrop Aircraft Company, Hawthorne, California, had on that date contacted [redacted] of the Hughes Aircraft Company and apprised him of the fact that [redacted] documents were left by PARSONS at the [redacted] residence. [redacted] upon [redacted] of this, he accompanied by [redacted] Guided [redacted] Hughes Aircraft Company, [redacted] residence where they examined the documents and found them to contain certain formulas of a classified nature. [redacted] stated that both [redacted] were of U.S.

b7c

CONFIDENTIAL

X

~~CONF~~

b7c opinion that the material in their possession was of a confidential nature; that they had displayed it to [redacted] when he visited their home on September 24, 1950 and requested [redacted] to ascertain the authorized owner of the material and arrange for its return.

Shortly thereafter, [redacted] and the writer proceeded to the [redacted] residence where they were given the documents and papers in the possession of [redacted] which had been given to her by PARSONS and which, until this time, she had retained at her residence. Certain of the more significant documents were initialed by her at that time for future identification purposes. [redacted]

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted]

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

~~CONF~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

[REDACTED] at the
Prop Aircraft Company, stated he is remotely acquainted with subject PARSONS
his wife, having met them once several years ago. He can furnish nothing
derogatory nature concerning the PARSONS with the exception that he con-
sidered them to be "characters and screwballs." He could furnish nothing specific
to substantiate this allegation.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On the afternoon of the same date, September 25, 1950, SA [redacted] the writer proceeded to the Hughes Aircraft Company where the above documents and papers were examined and photographic copies made of them by the Hughes Aircraft Company. At the same time an inventory was made of the material by [redacted] and the writer and the documents were found to consist of the following:

1. One handwritten draft and four typewritten drafts of tentative points for a two year minimum contract of employment.
2. One handwritten outline of personal qualifications and list of activities in which subject believes himself proficient.
3. One handwritten outline of the manufacturing process of non-nitroglycerine blasting explosives, including a list of ingredients and equipment required for their manufacture.
4. One handwritten discussion on the manufacture of rocket propellants, including a detailed discussion of the application of said propellants in specific weapons and situations.
5. Four typewritten copies of items 2, 3, and 4 above combined and partially completed.
6. Item #4 above completed in typewritten form (1 copy).
7. Typewritten instructions for the manufacture of [redacted] ROCKET PROPELLANTS (1 copy).
8. Typewritten program for and materials to be used in a laboratory for the development and improvement of explosives, rocket propellants, and allied substances (1 copy).
9. One handwritten and one typewritten copy of the plant manufacturing process of explosives.
10. One handwritten and one typewritten copy of a personal letter from John W. Parsons to [redacted] apparently intended as cover letter in transmittal of items one to nine above.
11. One list of essential equipment at THIOKOL for loading T-42 motors.
12. One complete typewritten copy of the THIOKOL [redacted] and Loading Procedure for T-42 Motors and four incomplete typewritten copies of same.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 13. One typewritten copy of proposed propellant Loading Plant for T-12 Motors and cost estimates therefor, tables I, II, III, IV and V; and three typewritten copies of table I of the same only.

The handwritten material was in the handwriting of the subject.

On the same date this material was brought to the Los Angeles office where photographic copies were made of it.

b7E

On September 26, 1950, SA [redacted] and the writer displayed the documents and papers to JOHN T. BERDNER, Air Provost Marshal, U. S. Army, who advised that it would be necessary for him to forward copies of them to the Chief of the Security and Policy Division, Intelligence Department, Headquarters, Air Materiel Command, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, where the documents would be examined for the purpose of determining whether or not they contain classified or non-classified information.

Pursuant to instructions from BERDNER, the documents and papers on September 26, 1950, were placed in the custody of MAJOR E. J. KRENZ, Air Force Officer in Charge, Hughes Aircraft Company for transmittal to Wright Field.

b7D

On September 26, 1950, [redacted] Hughes Aircraft Company, advised the writer that elements of at least seventeen of the above papers and documents pertaining to specifications for rocket propellants and jet propulsion motors fall within the provisions of Contract W 33038-1427 and should bear the classification "Confidential." He stated that as per AMC report CD 356, dated July 1, 1950, propulsion details, such as that of which the above is concerned, are to be classified "confidential."

On September 26, 1950, JOHN W. PARSONS telephonically contacted this office and stated that he desired to come to the Los Angeles office for the purpose of speaking with an agent concerning the documents and papers which he had left at the [redacted] residence.

b7E

On September 27, 1950, PARSONS was interviewed at the Los Angeles office by SAs [redacted] At this time he volunteered to furnish the following signed statement:

b7C

Los Angeles, Calif.
Sept. 27, 1950

"I, John Whiteside Parsons, make the following voluntary statement to [redacted] and [redacted] known to me to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I have been advised of my right to counsel. No threats or promises

b7E

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

have been made to induce me to make this statement. I have been advised that this statement may be used in court.

"I presently reside at 1200 Esplanade, Redondo Beach, California. I was born on October 2, 1914 in Los Angeles County, California.

"I was employed by Hughes Aircraft Company on May 8, 1949 and my present capacity is that of group leader in charge of propellants, propulsion and launching group of the Research and Development Laboratories.

b7c

"In approximately October of 1948 I negotiated with a [redacted] North Hollywood, California, for a possible position in Israel. Shortly after this I submitted to [redacted] suggested plans for the construction of an explosive plant. These negotiations continued for some time and in approximately June of 1950 I was requested to submit a breakdown of detailed cost of the equipment in explosive processes which I had proposed. In July and August 1950 I prepared a revised proposal. In September 1950 I worked for Hughes Aircraft on a proposed rocket propellant loading plant which was to be built by Hughes Aircraft. My work concerned gathering data on processes to be used and cost of equipment. The proposed rocket propellant loading plant plans included detailed cost breakdowns of the type which I required in my proposal I was to submit to [redacted].

b7c

"On September 15, 1950 I took a portion of the Hughes Aircraft proposal for the rocket propellant loading plant from the Hughes Aircraft Plant where I was employed. I carried this material out of the plant in a brief case or envelope and I showed a package and property pass to the guard at Gate 19. I took this material home and on the following day, Sept. 16, 1950, I took this material to the residence of [redacted] Palos Verdes, California, and requested that she type up a rough draft of the material which I had collected in order that I could organize the material in the form of a cost proposal. I explained to [redacted] that this was for the purpose of preparing a proposal for [redacted].

"I understood that [redacted] represented the Technion group in Israel which consisted of a number of coordinated Government agencies and private industries for the purpose of technical development in Israel. The Government Agencies referred to above mean to be Israel Government Agencies. Through reading various [redacted] articles I discovered that a field for new technical developments

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

existed in Israel and after further investigation I contacted [redacted] with an inquiry as to possible work that I could do there.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

"I knew that the above mentioned material was of a classified nature but it was my intention to select only the cost of equipment and process from the Hughes Aircraft material to include in my proposal to be submitted to [redacted]

b7c

"I now realize that I was wrong in taking this material from the Hughes Aircraft Plant and presenting it to [redacted]. It was not my intent to harm the United States or to allow this material to fall into the hands of an unauthorized person. I knew that [redacted] was loyal and had been cleared after a security investigation. [redacted] was not aware that the material was classified.

b7c

"I received no remuneration or promise of remuneration for removing this material nor was I ordered or requested to do so by any person.

"I have read this statement consisting of six pages initialed by me and it is the truth to the best of my knowledge.

"/s/ John W. Parsons
September 27, 1950

"Witnessed by:

b7c

[redacted] - Special Agent, FBI, September 27, 1950.
[redacted] - Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
September 27, 1950."

PARSONS, at this time, furnished the following background information concerning himself: In the year 1929 he accompanied his parents to Europe where he visited for a short period of time. He has not traveled outside the United States since that time. He graduated from University High School, Pasadena, California in 1933 and since that time has taken several correspondence and extension courses from the University of California and University of Southern California. Since graduating from high school he has been employed as follows:

- 1932 to 1934 - Hercules Powder Company, Los Angeles, California;
- 1934 to 1936 - Califak Explosives Company, Sacramento, California;
- 1936 to 1944 - California Institute of Technology, Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, California;

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 1941 to 1945 - Aerojet Engineering Corporation, Azusa, California;
- 1946 to 1947 - Vulcan Powder Company, Pasadena, California;
- 1946 to 1948 - North American Aviation Corporation, Inglewood, California;
- 1948 to 1950 - Hughes Aircraft Company, Culver City, California and University of Southern California, Department of Pharmacology, Los Angeles.

He advised that in 1948, while employed with the North American Aviation Corporation, Inglewood, California, he was suspended from his employment in that he was alleged to have associated with Communists but that in 1949 he was cleared and rehired.

He stated that during approximately 1948, while employed at the Hughes Aircraft Company, he read certain articles in some technical magazines, the exact names of which he could not recall, which pertained to technical development and scientific research in the country of Israel. He stated he became interested in this work which was going on in Israel and that after making a number of inquiries, one [redacted] North Hollywood, California, was recommended to him as being able to furnish information regarding the obtaining of employment of this nature in Israel. He stated that in September or October 1949 he contacted [redacted] who requested him to prepare a proposal regarding the building of an explosives plant in Israel and data concerning rockets and other armaments which PARSONS would be able to conduct research work on in Israel. PARSONS stated he submitted such a proposal to [redacted] but heard nothing from him until in August 1950, at which time he again recontacted [redacted] and [redacted] requested him to submit a new proposal pertaining to the cost of a jet propulsion development program on which PARSONS could do research work in Israel.

In the above signed statement volunteered by PARSONS to agents of this office on September 27, 1950, he stated the [redacted] with whom he was in contact concerning his attempts to obtain employment in the country of Israel, resided at [redacted] North Hollywood, California. Investigation conducted by SA [redacted] has determined the above [redacted] to be identical with [redacted] Southern California chapter of the American

[redacted]

[redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

article it was stated that [REDACTED] of the American Technion Society, would be the principal speaker at a general membership rally of the Los Angeles Zionist organization to be held on Wednesday, October 26, 1949.

b7c The article further stated that the American Technion Society has officially been designated by the Israel Government and industry as the "American body providing 'no-how' to enlarge modern techniques achieved by the United States so that it may benefit Israel. This source is composed of business men, technologists and scientists." It was stated that [REDACTED] would speak on the topic "Can Israel be Self-Sufficient?"

PARSONS advised that in 1941, while residing at 1003 South Orange Grove, Pasadena, California, he was a member of a religious cult which was alleged to have been involved in immoral activities. He said that he is no longer connected with this group and has severed all relations with it. He described himself as being an "individualist."

On September 28, 1950, PARSONS was re-interviewed by the writer at his place of residence, 1200 Esplanade, Redondo Beach, California. The writer exhibited to him seventeen photographic copies of the documents mentioned above and he identified them as being identical to the originals which he stated he had removed from the Hughes Aircraft Company on September 15, 1950. He placed his initials on the back of each page and in his own handwriting furnished the following signed certification:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

3:15 p.m.
9/28/50
1200 Esplanade
Redondo Beach, Calif.

X

"I, John W. Parsons, do hereby certify that the photographic copies, seventeen pages, are identical to the original documents composed by me and fellow employees while I was employed at the Hughes Aircraft Company; the original copies having been removed from the plant by me.

b7c

"The above photographic copies were shown to me this date by Special Agent [redacted] who has identified himself to me and whom I know to be a special agent with the F.B.I.

"No threats, duress, or promises have been used against me to have me make this certification.

"I have been advised that I do not have to make this certification, of my right to council, and that this certification may be used in a court of law against me.

"/s/ John W. Parsons

b7c

"Witnessed this date 9/28/50
[redacted]

PARSONS advised the writer that he was terminated from his place of employment, the Hughes Aircraft Company, Culver City, on September 26, 1950.

b7D

On September 29, 1950, [redacted] North American Aviation Corporation, Inglewood, California, advised that PARSONS was employed with the company as a laboratory worker from 1946 to 1948. He stated that by letter dated September 21, 1948, his company was notified by the Provost Marshal, U. S. Air Force, Inspector General's Office, that an investigation conducted by that office had determined PARSONS to be undesirable for employment on classified contracts for the departments of the Air Force, Army, and Navy. [redacted] the company terminated the subject from his employment shortly afterwards; however, he stated that by letter dated March 19, 1949, the North American Aviation Corporation was notified by the Provost Marshal, U. S. Air Force, Inspector General's Office, that [redacted] had been [redacted] by the Industrial Employment Review Board and granted access to secret and top secret information. He advised the subject was thereafter [redacted] by the company. [redacted] the files [redacted] contain no information as to the reasons why the subject was temporarily termed undesirable for work on classified contracts.

CONFIDENTIAL X

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On October 4, 1950, MR. JOHN T. BERDNER, Air Provost Marshal, Los Angeles Air Force Procurement Office, 155 West Washington Boulevard, advised that the records of his office contain no information relative to the subject's denial of clearance while he was employed at the North American Aviation Corporation in 1948. He stated the records concerning the matter are presently in the custody of MAJOR SAM BRUNO, Chief, Security Section, Provost Marshal, Inspector General, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio.



b7C
b7D

The records of the Hughes Aircraft Company, Hawthorne, California, reflected PARSONS furnished the company with the following additional background information concerning himself in 1948.

Consulting

Connections: Los Angeles District Attorneys Office, Los Angeles Police Department (certified Los Angeles Superior Court); Northrop Aircraft Company; General Chemical Company; National Defense Research Council; Office of Scientific Research and Development.

Organizations of Which a

Member: American Chemical Society; Institute of Aeronautical Sciences; American Institute for the Advancement of Science; Society of Sigma Xi.

In addition to the above, the subject listed a number of scientific papers of which he claimed to be the author and which pertained to jet propulsion and rocket propellants. He listed seven patents and inventions of a scientific nature which he stated he had developed.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b7c

A description of JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS as procured from a biographical outline furnished by him to the Hughes Aircraft Company and as furnished to SA [redacted] is as follows:

Name:	JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS
Alias:	JACK PARSONS
Sex:	Male
Age:	36
Born:	10-2-14; Los Angeles, California
Color:	White
Present Residence:	1200 Esplanade, Redondo Beach, California
Former Residences:	168 Terrace Drive, Pasadena, California; 1003 South Orange Grove, Pasadena, California; 3416 Manhattan Avenue, Manhattan Beach, California; 3212 Highland Avenue, Manhattan Beach, California
Height:	6'1"
Weight:	185 pounds
Build:	Medium
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Brown
Complexion:	Fair
Marital Status:	Married
Immediate Relatives:	Wife, MARJORIE ELIZABETH PARSONS; Mother, RUTH VIRGINIA PARSONS; Father, CAPTAIN MARVEL H. PARSONS, U. S. Army (deceased).

- PENDING -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

65-5131 LA

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

There is no record of arrest for the subject at the Los Angeles Police Department or the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office.


Pasadena, California
in the year 1946. Informant stated PARSONS' home, as of that time, served as a sort of headquarters for a religious cult in Pasadena. ~~X~~

 C

 X





 X

 C X





~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b1
b7C
b7D

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.



Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1), (b)(7)(C), (D) with no segregable material available for release to you.



Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.



Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.



Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):



For your information: _____



The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

65-59589-1 pages 15, 17

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
DELETED PAGE(S)
NO DUPLICATION FEE
FOR THIS PAGE
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

65-5131 LA

LEADS

CINCINNATI OFFICE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

*control
Serial 2
2/8*

At Dayton, Ohio: Will contact MAJOR SAM BRUNO, Chief, Security Section, Post Marshal, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base. Will ascertain the facts concerning the investigation conducted by that office in 1948 which resulted in the subject's being temporarily denied clearance at the North American Aviation Corporation, where he was employed in 1948.

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

*control
Serial 5*

At Los Angeles, California: Will, in the event pertinent documents are determined by the Security and Policy Division, Air Materiel Command, to be of a classified nature, request the Bureau to submit facts to the department for consideration as to possible prosecutive action.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 65-1753

REPORT MADE AT CINCINNATI, OHIO	DATE WHEN MADE 11/22/50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/17/50	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] 67C NJB
SUBJECT JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS, aka Jack Parsons			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - IS

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Records, Command Air Provost Marshal, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, reflect subject denied access to classified information on 9-29-48 because of membership in a religious cult in Pasadena, California. Also reportedly associated with [REDACTED] an alleged CP member. Suspension removed 3-7-49 by Industrial Employment Review Board.

DETAILS:

AT DAYTON, OHIO

Major SAM BRUNO, Chief, Security Division, Command Provost Marshal's Office, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, advised that his records reflect an investigation under the date of May 17, 1948, regarding subject, by 115th Detachment, CIC, Headquarters, Sixth Army, San Francisco, California, which contains the following information:

A religious cult, believed to advocate sexual perversion, was organized at subject's home at 1003 South Orange Grove Avenue, Pasadena, California, which had been reported subversive, and that subject had been questioned regarding this organization on two occasions but nothing of a subversive nature was learned. The report further reflects that subject reportedly associated with one [REDACTED] an alleged Communist Party member.

Major BRUNO further advised that on September 29, 1948, the Army, Navy, Air Force Personnel Security Board, which handles clearance of Government contractor personnel, denied subject clearance for access to classified information.

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE DET. [REDACTED] 1950 COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Los Angeles 2 - Cincinnati DEC 1 1950	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 65-159589-2 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11-29-79 BY [REDACTED]
--	--

PROPERTY OF FBI - THIS CONFIDENTIAL REPORT AND ITS CONTENTS ARE LOANED TO YOUR AGENCY AND ARE NOT TO BE DISTRIBUTED OUTSIDE OF AGENCY TO WHICH LOANED.

Cia. 65-1753

On March 7, 1949, the Industrial Employment Review Board reversed the above decision concerning subject and he was given access to classified material. This Board stated that the suspension was effected without sufficient cause.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

65-1753

b7c

REFERENCE:

Report SA [REDACTED] 11-2-50, Los Angeles

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 65-5131

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 12/7/50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/11, 22, 24, 28-30; 12/1, 2, 4/50	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
CHARACTER OF CASE JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS, aka Jack Parsons			APPROPRIATE AGENCIES AND FIELD OFFICES ADVISED BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF [REDACTED] (65-5131)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Nine of thirteen documents removed by subject from Hughes Aircraft classified "Confidential". Three of the classified documents are carbon copies of actual Hughes Aircraft material, of which Hughes has originals. Subject's association with American Civil Liberties Union set forth. Information concerning Church of Thelema and subject's activities in [REDACTED] group set forth.

30-11-21 Dek. acc

DETAILS:

On November 14, 1950 Mr. JOHN T. BERDNER, Air Provost Marshal, Los Angeles Air Force Field Procurement Office, 155 West Washington Boulevard, Los Angeles, advised that photostatic copies of the documents recovered at the [REDACTED] residence, which had been left there by subject, had been reviewed and classified by Mr. JACK LEET, MCREOA-1, and Major FRANK J. AUSTIN, JR., Ordnance Liaison Officer, Redstone Arsenal. The following security classification determinations were made:

100-2-12/18
10:12m

CLASSIFICATION OF DOCUMENTS

Item 1	Unclassified
Item 2	Confidential
Item 3	Confidential
Item 4	Confidential
Item 5	Confidential
Item 6	Confidential

CLASS. REASON DATE OF [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

COPIES DESTROYED NOV 23 1960 1 OSI, District 18, Maywood 1 Los Angeles COPY IN FILE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-bottom: 10px;">65759589</div> DEC 12 1950 RECORDED 81 INDEXED 81 EX-10 <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">CONFIDENTIAL</div>
---	---

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Item 7	Confidential
Item 8	Unclassified
Item 9	Unclassified
Item 10	Unclassified
Item 11	Confidential
Item 12	Confidential
Item 13	Confidential

A description of the material in the above-listed items has been previously reported.

b7D

[redacted] Hughes Aircraft Company, advised November 24, 1950 that all material developed at Hughes Aircraft pertaining to Project MX904 and relating to details of propulsion is classified "Confidential" by order of Air Force Directive CD356 dated 1st July, 1950, page 4. The material in the above-listed classified material comes within the purview of this Air Force Directive, according to [redacted]

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION PERTAINING TO DOCUMENTS

b7C

On November 24, 1950 [redacted] Hughes Aircraft; Major E. J. KRENZ, Air Force Officer in Charge at Hughes Aircraft; and the writer examined the original documents recovered at the [redacted] residence, which documents are being retained at Hughes Aircraft in a sealed envelope.

Of the classified material, it was noted that Items 11, 12, and 13 are carbon copies of actual Hughes Aircraft documents. These carbon copies were typed on green sheets of paper. Partial copies had been made of Items 12 and 13 by [redacted]

b7C

b7D

b7D

[redacted] advised that Items 11, 12, and 13 are part of a report written jointly by PARSONS and [redacted] of Hughes Aircraft.

[redacted] Hughes Aircraft, on November 24, 1950 was interviewed and advised that he presently resides at [redacted]. He stated that the Items 11, 12, and 13 make up a rough draft report completed at Hughes Aircraft in September, 1950 by PARSONS and himself. The material for this rough draft report came from personal notes made by [redacted] while at the Thiokol Corporation Branch at Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama. According to [redacted] this was a confidential report based on material taken from notes made at a confidential project, and no other reports or documents were used in the compilation of this report. [redacted] advised that actually PARSONS had had very little to

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

to with the compilation of this material, but that it was nevertheless, a
bint project.

[redacted] of the Missile Project Section, Hughes
Aircraft, was interviewed on November 24, 1950, and advised that he presently
resides at [redacted] stated
that he can produce the originals of the documents of which PARSONS had
carbon copies - Items 11, 12, and 13. The originals are now stamped
"Confidential", but [redacted] explained that the classification stamp was not
placed on these documents until after PARSONS was found to have the material
from Hughes out of the plant.

b7D

[redacted] advised that all the documents except Item 13 had
been recovered at the [redacted] residence by himself and Special Agent [redacted]
[redacted] of this office on September 25. Item 13 had been returned to Hughes
by [redacted] on September 25, 1950 and given to Colonel JOHN K.
BROWN, Director of Security and Protection, Hughes Aircraft, who, in turn,
gave it to [redacted]

b7D

b7C

[redacted]

b7D,

[redacted]

[redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

X-11AL

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED] Hughes Aircraft Company, advised on November 30, 1950 that he recalls [REDACTED] bringing the document (Item 13) to him on September 25, which document he turned over to [REDACTED]

b7C

In a statement previously furnished by PARSONS on September 27, he stated he personally took the material to the [REDACTED] residence.

b7D

[REDACTED]

b7D

[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL

44-5-5131 b7D

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

On December 2, 1950 subject [REDACTED] interviewed by Special Agent [REDACTED] and the writer, at which time they furnished the following signed statements:

Redondo Beach, Calif.
Dec. 2, 1950

b7C

I, John Whiteside Parsons, make the following statement to [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who have identified themselves to me as special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Dept. of Justice. This statement is made freely and voluntarily and I have been advised of my right to counsel. No threats or promises have been made to induce me to make this statement and I have been advised that this statement may be used in court.

I wish to correct my statement of Sept. 27, 1950 inasmuch as I now recall that I did not take the Hughes material myself to the [REDACTED] residence. I did discuss and make the arrangements with [REDACTED] for her to type copies of this material for me. [REDACTED] actually took the material to the [REDACTED] residence on or about the 23rd of September.

b7C

I have read the above statement and it is true and correct in its entirety.

/s/ John W. Parsons

b7C

Witnessed this date: 12/2/50
/s/ [REDACTED] Special Agent F.B.I. 12/2/50
/s/ [REDACTED] Sp. Agt. FBI

Redondo Beach,
California
Dec. 2, 1950

I, [REDACTED] California
make the following statement freely and voluntarily to [REDACTED]
and [REDACTED] who have identified themselves as [REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

"as special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Dept. of Justice. I have been advised of my right to counsel and no threats or promises have been made to induce me to make this statement. I have been advised that this statement may be used in court.

b7c

"During the month of September, 1950 I was aware that [redacted] was preparing a proposal to be used as an application for a position in Israel. I did not know the source of this material but did proof-read the proposal for grammar and spelling. Arrangements were made [redacted] for [redacted] to type this material. On or about Sept. 18, 1950 I took the material for the proposal to [redacted] and left same to be typed. This material I carried in a small box at this time.

b7c

"I have read the above statement and it is true and correct in its entirety.

"/s/ [redacted]

b7c

"Witnessed 12/2/50

/s/ [redacted] Special Agent FBI 12/2/50
/s/ [redacted] Sp. Agt., F.B.I., Los Angeles 12/2/50"

b7c

PARSONS advised that he had gone to [redacted] on the advice of Professor THEODORE VON KARMAN of the California Institute of Technology. VON KARMAN is an acquaintance of long standing. PARSONS stated, and he had recommended [redacted] as an old friend. PARSONS advised that [redacted] at no time requested any particular article or proposal be prepared but only requested a paper or write-up on what PARSONS was qualified to do in the way of employment. The particular data prepared, PARSONS stated, was of his own idea entirely.

Regarding THEODORE VON KARMAN mentioned above, the Los Angeles Times of September 27, 1948 contained an article indicating VON KARMAN, Director of the Guggenheim Laboratory of Aeronautics at California Institute of Technology, had been named to receive the 1948 Gold Medal Award of the Franklin Institute for his research on supersonic aircraft. This article indicated VON KARMAN has been a professor of aeronautics at California Institute of Technology since 1940 and during the war was Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Group.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 65-5131

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

BACKGROUND

[REDACTED]

PARSONS admitted having been associated with [REDACTED] but stated he dropped out of this group in late 1939 or 1940 when it became too communistic. [REDACTED] has been previously identified in this case. PARSONS admitted he subscribed to the Daily People's World, a West Coast Communist Party organ, in 1938 and later joined the American Civil Liberties Union. A check of the Personnel Security Questionnaire completed April 11, 1949 for Hughes Aircraft revealed PARSONS indicated one of the organizations he had belonged to in 1946 was the American Civil Liberties Union.

b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

It has been previously reported that records of the Provost Marshal's Office, Air Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, revealed an investigation under date of May 17, 1948 regarding subject. This investigation developed information indicating a religious cult, believed to advocate sexual perversion, was organized at subject's home, 1003 South Orange Grove Avenue, Pasadena, and that this organization was reported subversive. Investigation also developed indicated subject to be associated with one [redacted] previously mentioned.

[redacted]

On November 4, 1942 PARSONS advised Special Agent [redacted] and [redacted] that about three years previously he had attended meetings at the home of [redacted] at which writings of KARL MARX and JOHN STRACHEY were studied. At this time PARSONS furnished information concerning the group of which [redacted] was a member.

b7c
b7D

Regarding the religious cult mentioned above with which PARSONS was associated, [redacted] has advised that this group was known as the Church of Thelema.

Regarding PARSONS' association with the Church of Thelema, it is noted that during the interview of September 27, 1950 by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] previously reported, PARSONS advised he was a member of a religious cult in 1941 while residing at 1003 South Orange Grove, Pasadena. He indicated at this time that he was no longer connected with the group and has severed all relations with it.

[redacted]

Several complaints with regard to the activities in a home at 1003 South Orange Grove Avenue, Pasadena, which, at the time, was leased in the name of PARSONS. [redacted] some literature which indicated that at these premises were being held meetings of a cult which went under the name of the Church of Thelema. Descriptive literature indicates this cult broadly hinted at free love. [redacted] had received several complaints of "strange goings on at this home", and that he recalled at the time that it was a gathering place of perverts.

[redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

b2D

[redacted] the Church of Thelema, which organization was dedicated to spiritual advancement and improvement of self. He said a great many of the teachings and ideals of the Church of Thelema were based on the teachings of ALBISTER CROWLEY of London, England, an internationally known poet, and that the organization was sometimes referred to as Crowleyism or Crowleyites.

Also in 1943 subject was interviewed by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] at which time PARSONS stated the Church of Thelema was a lodge and fraternity as well as a church, and that they studied philosophy as well as religion and attempted to inform themselves concerning all types and kinds of religion. He further stated that the Church of Thelema was "dedicated to the freedom and liberty of the individual." PARSONS advised at this time that they were anti-communistic and anti-fascist.

b7D/C

With the consent of [redacted] the residence at 1003 South Orange Grove Avenue was searched by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] in 1943, at which time nothing of a subversive nature was found.

- PENDING -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(7)(c) with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-59589-3 page 10

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
DELETED PAGE(S)
NO DUPLICATION FEE
FOR THIS PAGE
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

LA 65-5131

LEADS

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

At Los Angeles, California: Will, if Bureau permission is granted, present this matter to the United States Attorney for prosecutive opinion.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LA 65-5131

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~INFORMANT PAGE~~



b7c
b7d

Reference: Report of SA [redacted] dated 11/2/50 at Los Angeles.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: December 8, 1950

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Los Angeles

SUBJECT: JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS,
aka Jack Parsons
ESPIONAGE - IS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-79 BY [signature]

b7c

Rerep of SA [redacted] dated 12/7/50 at Los Angeles captioned matter.

It is requested that this matter be presented to the Department of Justice for prosecutive opinion.

RIR:CEA
65-5131

Handwritten notes:
12/10/50
12/15/50

RECORDED - 65-59589-4
DEC. 12 1950
EX-13

Handwritten initials: [signature]

SAC, Los Angeles

December 20, 1950

Director, FBI

JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS
ESPIONAGE - IS
(Your file: 65-5131)

Reurlet December 8 last.

This matter has been presented to the Department for
a prosecutive opinion.

65-59589

EX-37

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-27-79 BY 2333

DEC 20 3 14 PM '50
FBI
RECEIVED
ASST. DIR. OF INVEST.

8:dmd

30

Assistant Attorney General James M. McInerney

December 20, 1950

Director, FBI

JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS, WA.
ESPIONAGE - IS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED BY 2333
9-15-78
[Signature]

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP (S) OF 2333
DATE 11/30/82

There are being forwarded herewith copies of the following reports:

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 2, 1950, at Los Angeles, California.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated November 22, 1950, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated December 7, 1950, at Los Angeles, California.

On December 15, 1950, a representative of Hughes Aircraft advised that when Parsons' employment was terminated on September 26, 1950, Parsons requested the return of seven California Institute of Technology reports dated 1941 through 1944 which he had kept in his file drawer at Hughes Aircraft. These reports were all marked "confidential," and related to Air Corps jet propulsion research. Parsons was listed as coauthor of two reports.

On December 15, 1950, [redacted]

[redacted] advised that of these seven reports, two are confidential, two are restricted, two are classified, and the classification of the seventh is not known. [redacted] advised that a review of the seven reports might downgrade the present classifications. He said that during the period Parsons was employed at the Jet Laboratory security regulations were lax and it was a common practice for employees to remove reports for their own purposes. There was no charge out system of any consequence.

[redacted] has been requested to review these seven reports, and has advised that a final decision on the present classifications may take at least one month.

RECORDED - 72 65-59589-5

EX-64

DEC 22 1950

DEC 20 3 15 PM '50
RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE
PLANNING

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

63
65
67D

CLASS BY SP/GSK JC
DATE OF REVIEW 11-29-82

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Miss Gandy

[Large redacted block]

Attachment
499
EEB:dmd
65-59589

DEC 21 1950

COMM-FBI

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

You are also advised that [REDACTED] in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated July 26, 1949, at Los Angeles in the case entitled [REDACTED] is John Whiteside Parsons. This report was furnished you by letter dated August 4, 1950.

You will note in the enclosed reports that Parsons stated that he intended to turn data over to [REDACTED]

(S)

You will note on page 10 of the enclosed report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated November 2, 1950, at Los Angeles in this matter that Parsons advised that while residing at 1003 South Orange Grove, Pasadena, California, he was a member of a religious cult which was alleged to have been involved in immoral activities.

b1
b7C
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

the Summer of 1940, he was approached by [REDACTED] to attend a week-end party to be held at 1003 South Orange Grove, Pasadena, California. [REDACTED] that after his arrival at that address he learned that what he thought was to be a week-end party was actually a meeting of a cult, known as "The Church of Thelma." During the course of the week-end [REDACTED] initiated into this order, and stated that he does not recall anything of the initiation proceedings, except that all of the participants removed their clothes and were given robes. [REDACTED] was apparently drugged and that he spent two days and nights at 1003 South Orange Grove, and that there were forty or fifty members of the cult. [REDACTED] one W. T. Smith was the head of the organization [REDACTED] in 1944, and that Smith is assisted by [REDACTED] [REDACTED] said that a girl named [REDACTED] is apparently the concubine for the organization.

.. 189320-2

It is requested that you furnish your opinion as to whether or not the facts contained in the enclosed reports constitute a violation of any Federal statute, and whether or not prosecution is warranted.

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

96-0-1160 incl. Per 12/6

Parsana, John Whiteside
Pasadena, Calif

Employee of: Calif. Inst. of Tech.

CNO does not object to employment 11-R-90

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

John Sp Lante

12 5-50

CLASS. & EXT BY 2333
REASON - 11. 1-2. 4.2
DATE OF REVIEW 4-2-89

4-11-

~~SECRET~~

62-60327-24 This is
ND — ~~SECRET~~
Memo to Clegg 10-24-40

Ref. made to following memoranda
for supervisor M.C. Spear from
Capt. W.B. Phillips, ONI, Wash. D.C.
dated Oct 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 14, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 1940.
It will be noted that these memos
transmitted lists of names with the
request that they be searched against
the indices of the Bureau and
any info. of a dev. nature be
furnished, ONI. Among lists
appeared name:

Mr. John Whitcomb Parsons
163 Terrace Drive
Pasadena, Calif
Date of birth: not given

no dev. info was found
on Parsons.

SECRET

San. Area. Ltr. 5/24/60

[REDACTED]
S. file # [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Attached herewith are two 100-foot rolls of micro-film containing the records of approx. 3,000 individuals, furnished by the captioned informant.

b1
b7C

[REDACTED]

Rea Hancock No. 4770

[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~

next pg.

Rec'd. - U.S. Consulate - 3-4-54 ~~SECRET~~ *Langdon*

affidavit from

[REDACTED] c]

Relative

[REDACTED] c

b1

Friend

Mr. J. W. Parsons, P.O. Box
1037, San Jose, Calif.

~~SECRET~~

34

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

13 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deleted under exemption(s) (b)(1), (b)(7)(C), (D), (b)(3) with no segregable material available for release to you.

Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: (b)(3) cited in conjunction with Rule (b)(c) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure relating to Grand Jury proceedings

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-59589-5 enclosures pages 5 through 8a, 14a, 15, 22, 23, 24, 25
22, 23

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Los Angeles Rept. 4-11-50; Made by [REDACTED]
LA File #: [REDACTED]

Captioned: [REDACTED]

b7c

~~SECRET~~

Ref. is made to signed statement (See Ser. 85) which was executed by John W. Parsons. As has been reported previously in this case, informants have cast some doubt as to the general reputation of this individual.

At the time Parsons provided the Reporting Agent with the aforementioned statement he stated, "It is probably already known to you, but I got myself mixed up with an occult group. If this info. should come into the possession of a defense attorney it might be possible for him to discredit me."

[REDACTED] a reliable informant, was reinterviewed with regard to his knowledge of the general reputation of Parsons at which time he advised the following:

Parsons was one of the original founders of the Aerojet Engineering Corporation in Pasadena. In connection with the organization an Eastern executive was brought in to handle some of the affairs of the firm inasmuch as the incorporators were for the most part scientists and had no practical business knowledge.

[REDACTED] Parsons was not removed, however, inasmuch as he was a stockholder and one of the original incorporators, but that he was gradually "eased out."

In addition, this source stated that he had heard repeated rumors to the effect that in 1943 Parsons had become involved with some sort of "mythic love cult." Source stated that he knew nothing of the exact details as to what transpired, but he understood that women of loose morals were involved and that the story of Parsons' activities had become fairly common knowledge among scientists in the area.

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] with regard to the activities in a home at 1003 South Orange Grove Avenue, Pasadena, which in 1923 was leased in the name of Parsons. [REDACTED] reflect ~~xx~~ some literature which indicated that at these premises were being held ~~xx~~ meetings of a cult which went under the name of the Church of Thelena. Descriptive literature in the file indicated that ~~ix~~ this cult broadly hinted at free love.

[REDACTED] several complaints of "strange goings-on at this home" and that he recalled at the time that it was a ~~gx~~ gathering place of perverts.

[REDACTED]

This source offered no info. with regard to any questionable financial dealings with Parsons, but stated that he was fully conversant with his involvement in the "love cult". Likewise, he stated that he was certain that information in this regard was fairly common knowledge among scientists in the Pasadena area.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SECRET

Low Taylor rpt 4/27/50

Made by

RA file

Captions

On March 13, 1950 John W. Parsons was interviewed by reporting Agent and SA [redacted]. At the time of this interview, Parsons related the extent of his knowledge concerning [redacted] and stated that he would make up a signed statement which which would include all his knowledge regard to [redacted].

On March 27, 1950 Parsons delivered to SA [redacted] and the writer a signed statement dated 3-13-50 which is set forth hereafter:

"3-13-50

I John W. Parsons, make the following statement to [redacted] who have identified themselves to me as Special Agents of the FBI. No threats promise of reward, or duress have been used to induce me to make this statement, and I have been told that it may be used in a court of law.

"In 1937 I joined with a small group of friends, students, and faculty members at the Cal. Inst. of Tech. to engage in unsponsored rocket research. It became our custom to meet at one another's houses to discuss our work and plans; these meetings also had a social and philosophical tone. The discussions were general, and several different viewpoints were presented. Some were slightly socialistic but none were communistic, and there was no special slant to the discussion. In the beginning, no one present seemed particularly acquainted with communistic literature or detailed communistic ideas.

"In 1938, [redacted] was introduced to [redacted] group as a mathematician on the staff of [redacted] institute. [redacted] expressed an intense interest in communism.

and progressed from exposition on socialism in a few meetings to extreme communist views. He brought books and pamphlets to the meetings which offered to loan or sell. These included Lenin's State and Revolution, Marx's Capital, The Communist Manifesto, books by Palm-Sutt, Messages by Stalin, and the Peoples World. I believe I got some pamphlets and papers at the time, but do not recall what became of them.

"I was first curious as to [redacted] views, but after I understood them began to express opposition and some hostility, both to [redacted] and to various members of the group.

[redacted] He showed great interest in the formation of a reading and discussion forum from our group, and indicated to me it would be to my advantage to join. [redacted] He told me that prominent faculty members and hollywood personalities were members, that the names of these people were not revealed, and that I would run no risk in joining.

[redacted] indicated that there was another "open" organization group, but that there was no necessary contact between the two, and that prominent or vulnerable people were well protected.

"On further questioning, he hedged and told me I would no more after I joined. He showed me a card, and told me that if I would sign one like it I would be eligible for meetings. He seemed to take considerable personal interest, and reemphasized the social value of the group, and the advantages of joining. I do not recall that he even referred to this directly as a communist group or to himself as a member of the CP.

"At this time I expressed considerable opposition to [redacted] views, and to the direction in which he was attempting to steer our group. Shortly thereafter, our relations cooled considerably, and I did not have such further contact with him. I recall making some strong statements to my friends, and acquaintances in this period, but did not feel myself in a position to make definite charges.

"I probably do not recall all of the details of [redacted] references ten or twelve yrs. in the past. The foregoing represents my best remembrance of the facts, and is to the best of my knowledge and belief.

[Handwritten signature]
[redacted]

[redacted] 1968
interview advised that he had known John W. Parsons for several yrs. and that to his knowledge he knew of no derogatory info. concerning him other than his connection with the religious cult in Pasadena. He stated he personally believed Parsons was a loyal American citizen & that he had no info. concerning his being radically inclined. He stated that he believed that Parsons had at one time attended the Calif. Inst. of Tech. and that to the best of his knowledge Parsons had received some sort of a degree in Chemistry. He stated that Parsons was at present engaged in research work in connection with explosives and rocket propelled missiles. He stated that he did not know the name of Parsons present employer.

Los Angeles Rept. 4-5-49: Made by [redacted]
Los Angeles File #: [redacted]

Captioned: [redacted]

~~SECRET~~

b7c
b7d

[redacted]

In connection with collateral investigations being conducted on friends of the subj., Parsons has been interviewed on several occasions. At the most recent time, he somewhat negated his previous reports to the effect that [redacted] and other individuals were members of a CP group in Pasadena during the years 1938 and 1939. A review of the file indicated that his original allegations left no question as to the fact that these were CP meetings which he (Parsons) had attended, but at the time of the last interview he rather minimized these gatherings saying that they were in fact study groups and dealt with many "isms" other than Communism, etc.

Since the inception of the investigation in this case information has come to this office from the following two sources which bears on the veracity of this informant:

[redacted] were consulted as to their knowledge of Parsons, and each stated that he was "a character". They amplified this statement by saying that he is regarded as being very eccentric by his fellow workers & that information received from him should be treated with extreme reserve. It is pertinent to note that Parsons, after he gave the original information re. the Communist membership of [redacted] was closely associated in business with individuals whom he had named as being part of the Professional Section of the CP in Pasadena in 1938 and 1939.

[redacted]

Los Angeles rept dated 4-27-49; Made by
Los Angeles File #

~~SECRET~~

Captioned:

Rooms 923 and 924, 154 Nassau St., NYC, are occupied by the American Society for the Advancement of the Hebrew Institute of Technology in Haifa, Palestine, Inc. This organization publishes the Technion Yearbook and the society is also known as the "American Technion Society."

Indices of this office reflect no info. of a pertinent nature concerning the society

2

~~SECRET~~

96-0-55 Memo from A. M. Thurston to Mr. Clagg 10-23-40
Ref. is made to ltr. from Brigadier Gen. Sherman Miles, U.
S. Army, Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, Washington,
D. C., of 10-10-40, in which he requested that the attach-
ed lists of names be searched against the indices of the
Bureau.

JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS
168 Terrace Drive
Pasadena, California

10-9-40

Occupation: Research Fellow in Aeronautics, California In-
stitute of Tech. Since 1939.

NO RECORD WAS LOCATED.

~~SECRET~~

100-42328-846

Ltr. from Harold A. Davenport, Col., CMP, Chairman, ~~SECRET~~
Industrial Employment Review Board
To: North American Aviation, Inc., Municipal Airport,
Los Angeles, Calif
Re: John W. Parsons
Captioned: Undesirable Employee for National Defense Work

Ref. is made to personnel security questionair submitted by your company in the case of the citizen whose name appears above & to the suspension of his employment in connection with classified Army, Navy, and Air Force contracts on 9-21-48.

An appeal was made from that suspension & the case was certified to the Industrial Employment Review Board.

The Board has considered the entire record, including all info. developed since the suspension, & now finds that:

- A. The suspension was effected without sufficient cause
- B. The appellant accordingly is entitled to be paid the amount of the actual monetary loss sustained by him because of any unemployment or change of employment resulting from such suspension
- C. The consent of the Secretaries of the Army, Navy, & Air Force for the appellant's access to restricted, confidential, secret & top secret info. will be granted.

There is enclosed a grant of consent for the Secretaries of the Army, Navy, and Air Forces for the employment of Mr. Parsons on secret & top secret contracts. There is also inclosed a communication from the Judge Advocate General outlining the procedure to be followed by Mr. Parsons to obtain any actual monetary loss of wages. Any further correspondence relating to such payment should be addressed to the Judge Advocate General, Attention: Claims & Litigation Division, Dept. of the Army.

~~SECRET~~

100-190625-1641 -Ltr. from War Dept (John Landsdale, Jr.)
to the Director dated 5-5-45

Inclosed for your info. is an extract of copy #3 of
the Manhattan Engineer District Monthly Intelligence
Summary for May 1945.

ESPIONAGE

Activity re X-Metal

ADASTRA RESEARCH - NYBO - Ref. April Summary, pg.5
Reported by the Pasadena Branch Office that the subj. Com-
pany is apparently owned by John W. Parsons and that there
is an undetermined association in the business with Par-
sons of E. S. Forman. Both the forementioned gentlemen are
employed on DSM work at the Institute of Technology. For-
man is employed on DSM work at the Institution in a sub-
ordinate position on the mechanical aspect of detonator
firing control, and info. would indicate that he has little
knowledge of the Project. Parsons is doing explosive work
at CIT not related to DSM work, and he reportedly has been
doing research in that field for a number of years. It
appears that Parsons obtained the pound of x-nitrate for
experimental purposes. Case RUC 24 May to NYBO where case
is pending.

19
SECRET

65-58451-1

Ltr. from Dir. to AG 5-11-49

~~SECRET~~

based on search slip
Ser 35 LA rept; made by [redacted] dated 5-8-50

Parsons, 1200 Esplanade St. Redondo Beach, Calif, Physicist
Dept. of Electronics & Guided Missiles, Hughes Aircraft Co.,
Culver City, Calif. was interviewed & stated that in 1938
he, [redacted] on 1-11-50 John S.

~~SECRET~~

[redacted] were all engaged in the original rocket research conducted on the Caltech Campus. As a result of this scientific association he said, they also mixed socially. It was at one of these social gatherings in 1938 Parsons said that [redacted] introduced [redacted] to the group at his home.

Parsons stated that at this time, 1938, [redacted] strongly advocated the principles of Communism and passed out CP literature at these meetings. Parsons stated that he took an opposite view to that expressed by [redacted] and as such a breach developed and he did not actually become affiliated with any Communist group.

Parsons stated, however, that he is positive that the subj. definitely knew of the existence of a Communist group on the Caltech campus and likewise that [redacted] definitely expressed pro-Communist beliefs.

[redacted]

~~SECRET~~

7-12-41

believed Parsons was something of a "crack-pot" who was active in a religious cult in Pasadena, whose headquarters were at his home at 1005 South Orange Grove Avenue. However, he stated that he had since been convinced that Parsons was harmless and that he was just somewhat of a religious fanatic.

b7c

b7c

7/16/47
JOHN W. PARSONS
1003 South Orange Grove Avenue
Pasadena, Calif

[redacted] advised that Parsons upon interview admitted that he was a member of the Church of Thelma, which was in fact a small society, but because of the small size of the local organization could not become an official branch of the Temples. Parsons related that the Church of Thelma was a lodge or fraternity, as well as a church, and that they study philosophy as well as religion and attempt to inform themselves concerning all types and kinds of religion and further, that the Church of Thelma was dedicated to the freedom and liberty of the individual. [redacted]

[redacted] further advised that Parsons stated that they were anti-Communist and anti-Fascist and that they were one hundred percent in accord with the war effort. He stated he had first become affiliated with the organization approximately 3 years ago; that it was entirely tolerant and was concerned with the brotherhood of all mankind and that the organization had no violent aims whatsoever but was teaching by example. He advised that he himself belonged to this organization because "it fulfills my religious needs" and that the organization was opposed to regimentation.

At this time Parsons indicated that he had registered on 10-16-40 with Local Board 84, Pasadena, Calif., and was presently classified 3-A

[redacted] furnished the following description of Parsons: 6'1", 185 Pounds, brown eyes and hair, ruddy complexion, occupation - aeronautics, rocket propulsion of planes.

[redacted] reflected substantially the same information concerning Parsons as that furnished by [redacted]

[redacted] has an acquaintance of John W. Parsons and could possibly furnish additional info. concerning him.

100-189320-1 Los Angeles Rept; Made by [redacted]
LA File #: 100-17453-
Captioned: Church of Thelma
Internal Security - G

b7c

~~SECRET~~

Church of Thelma was incorporated in Calif. April 14, 1934, as a religious organization, by Wilford Talbot Smith, who styles himself as the high priest of the society. Total active membership is approximately twenty, & headquarters of the organization is 1005 South Orange Grove, Pasadena, Calif. The fundamental principles of the Society are "Do what thou wilt shall be the whole of the law", and its purpose appears to be preservation of individual liberty and freedom. Leaders of the organization state they are anti-Communistic, and are in accord with the war effort, and are fully American. There is no indication of any subversive activity, and the organization appears to be religious and perhaps a cult.

John Parsons, at 1005 South Orange Grove Drive was interviewed. He advised that the Church of Thelma was in fact a small organization, modeled very much on the "order of Oriental temples, an English society", ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ but that because of the small size of the local organization, could not become an official branch of the temples. Stated that the C. of T. was a lodge or fraternity, as well as a church; that they studied philosophy, as well as religion, and attempted to inform themselves concerning all types & kinds of religion, & further that the C. of T. was "dedicated to the freedom & liberty of the individual".

Parsons advised that they were anti-Communistic & anti Fascist, & that they were 100% in accord with the war effort. He advised that he had first become affiliated with the organization approximately 3 yrs. ago; that it was entirely tolerant, and was concerned with the brotherhood of all mankind; that the organization had no violent aims whatsoever, but was teaching by example. He advised that he himself belonged to the organization because it fulfilled his religious needs; that the organization was opposed to regimentation, but realizing the smallness of the organi-

29

~~SECRET~~

...and realizing the need for unity and concerted effort in time of war, would make no effort whatsoever to bring their views and ideals into general practice until the conclusion of the present war; and finally, that the organization, the C. of T., was an appeal to free thinkers to come forward and act as leaders, & that through a ritualistic form of religious and philosophical training, attempted to develop its members.

b7C [REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~

100-189320-2 Oklahoma City ltr. to Bureau 3-31-41

Re: CHURCH OF THELMA, also known as
ORIANA TEMPLUS ORIENTUS, O.T.O. (phonetic)
SECURITY MATTER - C

~~Special Agent in Charge of Oklahoma City~~

[redacted] gave the following info-
re. to the Church of Thelma which he states is also known
as O.T.O. and Oriana Templus Orientus (phonetic).

[redacted] stated that in June or July of 1940 he was
approached by [redacted] Long Beach, Calif, by [redacted]
and invited to a party to be held
over the weekend.- to be held at 1003 South Orange Grove,
Pasadena, Calif.

After his arrival at the Orange Grove address, [redacted]
learned that what he thought was to be a weekend party was
actually a meeting of a cult known as "The Church of
Thelma." During the course of the weekend, [redacted] was initi-
ated into this Order & states that he does not recall
anything of the initiation proceedings except that all of
the participants had all their clothes removed & they wore
robes for the occasion. Prior to the proceedings [redacted]
given a glass of liquor which apparently was drugged thus
causing him not to remember much of the proceedings. On
this occasion [redacted] spent 2 days and nights in the house
used by this Order where he met approx. 40 or 50 members.

The house at 1003 South Orange Grove is said to be
occupied by one Jack Parsons who is a chemist and supposed-
ly working in a defense plant in Pasadena during the day
and doing some work in his own lab. at this address at
night. Parsons is said to be connected with the U. in
Pasadena.

W. T. Smith is said to be the head of the organization
in Calif. at the present time. He is assisted by [redacted]

There is said to be a girl named [redacted] who is apparently the con-
cubine for the organization.

There is also a man whose first name is [redacted] who
is a German Alien, & who is now said to be in NYC organiz-
ing for the Order. [redacted] was at one time supposed to
be a professor in Berlin. Orders for the activities of
this organization are received from Sir. Allister [redacted]
London, England.

SECRET

9
SECRET
The Church of Thelma recruits as a fraternal order under this name and publishes a book called "The Book of the Law" which book tears down everything democracy stands for. This book preaches that whatever one desires to do is the proper thing to do.



b7D

31

~~SECRET~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. Belmont

DATE: December 19, 1950

FROM : C. E. Hennrich

SUBJECT: JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS, WA.
ESPIONAGE - IS

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

Purpose:

To inform you that the subject has admitted taking seventeen documents pertaining to jet propulsion motors and rocket propellants from the Hughes Aircraft Company, and that the matter is being referred to the Department for a prosecutive opinion.

Details:

On September 15, 1950, Parsons took seventeen documents from Hughes Aircraft Company where he is employed. He has furnished a signed statement admitting removal of the documents without authority, and stating he planned to use the data in preparing proposals for building an explosive plant in Israel, and data concerning rockets and other armaments. Parsons hoped that by so doing to obtain employment as a research worker in Israel. All documents have been recovered. Parsons intended to turn them over

67C

Parsons has been used as a source of information in cases involving

67C

Recommendation:

This is submitted for your information. A letter to the Department requesting a prosecutive opinion is attached hereto.

65-59589
FEB:dmd

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-29 BY 2333 JAG/sgp

65-59589-6

WASH 26 FROM LOS ANGELES

15

DIRECTOR

DEFERRED

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 23 1950	
FBI - LOS ANGELES	

JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS, WA., ESPIONAGE - IS. REMPLYLET DEC. EIGHT, FIVE
 HUGHES AIRCRAFT ADVISED TODAY WHEN PARSONS EMPLOYMENT TERMINATED SEVEN
 TWENTYSIX, PARSONS REQUESTED RETURN OF SEVEN CALIF. INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
 REPORTS DATED FORTYONE THROUGH FORTYFOUR HE HAD KEPT IN HIS DRAWER AT HUGHES.
 REPORTS NOT RETURNED PARSONS. REPORTS ALL MARKED QUOTE CONFIDENTIAL UNQUOTE
 AND RELATE TO AIR CORPS JET PROPULSION RESEARCH. PARSONS LISTED AS CO AUTHOR
 OF TWO REPORTS. [REDACTED]

60

[REDACTED] TODAY ADVISED FOLLOWING PRESENT CLASSIFICATION OF REPORTS-- TWO CONFIDENTIAL, TWO RESTRICTED, TWO CLASSIFIED
 AND ONE NOT KNOWN. [REDACTED] ADVISED REVIEW OF SEVEN REPORTS MAY DOWNGRADE
 PRESENT CLASSIFICATION. [REDACTED] INDICATED THAT DURING PERIOD PARSONS
 EMPLOYED JET LAB SECURITY REGULATIONS LAX AND IT WAS COMMON PRACTICE TO
 REMOVE REPORTS FOR OWN PURPOSES. HAD NO CHECK OUT SYSTEM OF ANY CONSEQUENCES.
 REQUEST BEING MADE [REDACTED] TO REVIEW REPORTS BUT HE HAS NOT YET
 REVEALED A FINAL DECISION ON PRESENT CLASSIFICATION MAY TAKE AT LEAST
 ONE MONTH. YOUR ATTENTION CALLED TO FACT REQUEST MADE BY REFERENCED
 LETTER TO PRESENT THIS MATTER TO DEPARTMENT FOR PROSECUTIVE OPINION.

60

HOOD

PLS

BRANIN

RECORDED - 132
INDEXED - 132

165-58589-7

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 4-2-79 BY 2333

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **LOS ANGELES**

L.A. FILE NO. **65-5131**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES	DATE WHEN MADE 1/3/51	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/15, 16, 18, 19/1950	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] am 67C
JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS, aka Jack Parsons			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - IS.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

On December 15, 1950, Hughes Aircraft revealed subject in possession of seven "confidential" reports of Curpenheim Aeronautics Laboratory, California Institute of Technology at time of termination of employment from Hughes. Present existing classification of reports as follows: 2 Confidential, 2 Restricted, 2 Unclassified, and 1 classification not known. Subject executed signed statement December 19, 1950, admitting possession of reports. Indications security regulations lax at California Institute of Technology during PARSONS' employment.

Handwritten notes:
 12/15/50
 12/18/50
 12/19/50
 12/21/50
 12/22/50
 12/23/50
 12/24/50
 12/25/50
 12/26/50
 12/27/50
 12/28/50
 12/29/50
 12/30/50
 1/1/51

Handwritten notes:
 ICC TACIA
 12-14-51
 mco:dem
 (12/21/50) ICC 2/0 NI
 State
 12-21-51
 mco:dem

- P -

DETAILS:

On December 15, 1950, the writer was advised by [REDACTED] Hughes Aircraft, that at the time of PARSONS' termination of employment at Hughes Aircraft, he had in his possession seven reports of the Curpenheim Aeronautics Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, all of which reports are stamped "Confidential". An itemized list of these seven reports is as follows:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 4-2-74 BY 2333

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">65-59589</div> <div style="text-align: right; font-weight: bold;">EX-60</div>
DESTROYED 19723 1990 Bureau (65-59589) 1-051, District 18, Maywood Los Angeles 59 JAN 16 1951 COPY IN FILE	RECORDED - 52 31-39

1. Air Corps Jet Propulsion Research, GALCIT Project No. 1, Progress Report No. 13 for the AAF MATERIEL CENTER AIRCRAFT LABORATORY: IGNITION STUDIES ON RESTRICTED BURNING SOLID PROPELLANT JET MOTORS, W.E. Johnson, Copy No. 21, classified CONFIDENTIAL, California Institute of Technology, December 28, 1943.
2. Air Corps Jet Propulsion Research Project, GALCIT Project No. 1, Operating Manual No. 1: OPERATING MANUAL FOR THE SOLID PROPELLANT JET UNIT NO. 208, Copy No. 24, Classified CONFIDENTIAL, California Institute of Technology, November 1, 1942.
3. Air Corps Jet Propulsion Research, GALCIT Project No. 1, Progress Report No. 15 for the AAF MATERIEL CENTER, AIRCRAFT LABORATORY: SOME PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF VACUUM MIXED ASPHALT-BASE SOLID PROPELLANTS, E.W. Hough, J. Green, and B.H. Sage, Copy No. 25, classified CONFIDENTIAL, California Institute of Technology, March 25, 1944.
4. Air Corps Jet Propulsion Research, GALCIT Project No. 1, Report No. 15; THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ASPHALT BASE SOLID PROPELLANT, J.W. Parsons, M.M. Mills, Copy No. 33, classified CONFIDENTIAL, California Institute of Technology, October 16, 1942.
5. Air Corps Jet Propulsion Research, GALCIT Project No. 1, Progress Report No. 12 for the AAF MATERIEL CENTER, AIRCRAFT LABORATORY: PROGRESS REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF MANUFACTURING FACILITIES FOR PERCHLORATE CHEMICALS, Joseph C. Schumacher, Chief Engineer, Western Electrochemical Co., Copy No. 22, classified CONFIDENTIAL, California Institute of Technology, November 15, 1943.
6. Air Corps Jet Propulsion Research, GALCIT Project No. 1, Report No. 7: RESULTS OF FLIGHT TESTS OF THE ERCOUPÉ AIRCRAFT WITH AUXILIARY JET PROPULSION SUPPLIED BY SOLID PROPELLANT JET UNITS, F.J. Malina and J.W. Parsons, Copy No. 42, classified CONFIDENTIAL, California Institute of Technology, September 2, 1941.

- 7. Air Corps Jet Propulsion Research, GALCIT Project No. 1, Test Report No. 1: REPORT ON THE TESTS OF THE AEROJET XAS-1000 TYPE JET UNITS, M.M. Mills and W.E. Johnson, Copy No. 16, classified CONFIDENTIAL, California Institute of Technology, July 20, 1943.

[REDACTED] Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, advised on December 15, 1950, that of the above listed reports, the present existing classification is as follows:

Item 1	Unclassified
Item 2	Classification unknown.
Item 3	Unclassified
Item 4	Restricted
Item 5	Confidential
Item 6	Confidential
Item 7	Restricted.

67D [REDACTED] further advised that a review of these reports may downgrade the present classification and accordingly a request has been submitted [REDACTED] to review these reports to ascertain if the present existing classification is correct.

67D Regarding PARSONS' possession of these reports, [REDACTED] advised that security regulations during the early stages of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory were lax and that it was common practice to remove reports from the Laboratory for private purposes. In some cases, personal copies were issued to the employees for private purposes and no charge out system of any consequence was in effect at this time. [REDACTED] stated that he will, if possible, ascertain to whom the above listed copies of these reports were signed out.

67D, C On December 1, 1950, [REDACTED] turned over the above described seven reports to the writer and Special Agent [REDACTED] which reports will be retained as evidence. [REDACTED] advised that these reports had been turned over to him by [REDACTED] of the Propulsion Section, Hughes Aircraft Company on December 12, 1950 at which time [REDACTED] signed a receipt for [REDACTED]

67D [REDACTED] Propulsion Section, Hughes Aircraft, advised December 18, 1950, that he had obtained the seven reports described above from PARSONS at the time of PARSONS' termination of employment

at Hughes Aircraft on September 26, 1950. According to [redacted] it is the policy of the Propulsion Section to "check-out" an employee on termination of employment and at the time of PARSONS' termination, the seven reports were in the possession of PARSONS. [redacted] pointed out to PARSONS that he could not let him take these documents from Hughes since they were indicated to be classified "Confidential". PARSONS then requested [redacted] to clarify the present classifications of the reports and return them to him if at all possible. [redacted] advised that on December 12, 1950, he turned over these seven reports to [redacted]. [redacted] executed a receipt dated December 12, 1950. [redacted] advised that he has retained this receipt, executed by [redacted].

b7c

On December 19, 1950, PARSONS came to the Los Angeles Office and furnished the following signed statement:

"Los Angeles, Calif.
Dec. 19, 1950

"I, John Whiteside Parsons, make the following statement to [redacted] and [redacted] who have identified themselves to me as special agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Dept. of Justice. This statement is made freely and voluntarily, and I have been advised of my rights to counsel. No threats or promises have been made to induce me to make this statement and I have been advised that this statement may be used in court.

b7c

"I have had exhibited to me this date, 7 reports of the Guggenheim Aeronautics Laboratory, California Institute of Technology identified as follows: (1) Galcit Project #1, Progress Report #12, Copy #21, dated 12/23/43 (2) Galcit Project #1, Operating Manual #1, copy #24, dated 11/1/42 (3) Galcit Project #1, Progress Report #15, copy #25, dated 3/25/44 (4) Galcit Project #1, Report #15, copy #33, dated 10/16/42, (5) Galcit Project #1, Progress Report #12, copy #22, dated 11-15-43 (6) Galcit Project #1, Report #9, copy #42, dated 9/2/41 (7) Galcit Project #1, Test Report #1, copy #16, dated 7/20/43. I recognize these 7 documents as the ones I turned over to [redacted] of Hughes Aircraft at the time of my termination of employment there.

b7c

62-9121

"These 7 documents came into my possession at the time of my employment with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory or the Aerojet Engineering Corporation. I cannot more specifically recall the time these documents came into my possession, nor can I recall the manner they came into my possession. I considered the reports to be my own personal copies and as such retained them. I used material from these reports during my work while at Aerojet and Hughes Aircraft. I do not recall ever having permitted anyone to see these reports except during the time I was at Hughes Aircraft when it is possible other Hughes employees may have seen them.

b7C

"At no time did it occur to me that I illegally had these reports in my possession until the incident arose at Hughes Aircraft involving me with the removal of some Hughes documents. At the time of this incident, it occurred to me these 7 reports may also be in question and accordingly, I turned them over to [REDACTED] for clarification of the classification of the reports. I was aware that the material was originally classified as confidential but it was my impression that the reports had been down graded or reclassified.

"I have read this statement consisting of three pages and it is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I have initialed all corrections and each page.

/s/ John W. Parsons

b7C

Witness:

[REDACTED] Special Agent F.B.I. 12/19/50
SA, S I, Los Angeles 12/19/50."

b7C

At the time of furnishing the signed statement, PARSONS identified the seven reports that were turned over to the writer as being identical with the reports he had in his possession at Hughes Aircraft. Accordingly PARSONS signed the back of these reports as "JOHN W. PARSONS", with the date December 19, 1950. At this time the writer and SA [REDACTED] also initialed the back of each report. PARSONS identified the printed notation "J.W. Parsons personal copy" appearing on the front of items 1, 5 and 6 as being in his own handwriting.

P E N D I N G

L.A. 65-5133

LEAD PAGE

THE LOS ANGELES OFFICE,
At Los Angeles, California:

b7C Will report results of review of seven Guggenheim Aeronautics Laboratory reports obtained from subject by Hughes Aircraft being made by [REDACTED] Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, to ascertain if the present existing classification of these reports is correct.

Will take such further prosecutive action as is directed by the Bureau.

b7C REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated 12/7/50 at Los Angeles, California.

Los Angeles teletype to the Bureau dated December 15, 1950.

CONFIDENTIAL

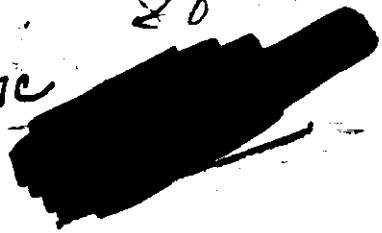
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

16 November 1950

28-

27-229

b7c



MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. E. S. SANDERS, Liaison Agent
RE: JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS
ESPIONAGE

G.I.R.-8

1. Upon receipt of advice from FBI that PARSONS had at one time been denied clearance to Air Force Top Secret information, a check was made to determine the circumstances.
2. The records of the Army-Navy-Air Force Personnel Security Board indicate that subject's case was considered on 18 August 1948, and the Board directed that subject be denied access to Top Secret information.
3. On 7 March 1949, the Industrial Employment Review Board reversed the decision of the Personnel Security Board thereby authorizing subject's access to military information through Top Secret.

Donald A. Detwiler

NOV 17 1950

DONALD A. DETWILER
Major, USAF
Room 5E 177
Extension 71776

Rec'd 11-16-50

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP7 mac/jk*
ON *2/19/87*
Per Air Force letter dated 4-13-87

RECORDED - 81
EX-8
RECEIVED

65-59569-9
JAN 12 1951

51 JAN 23 1951

CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON

THE INSPECTOR GENERAL USAF
18th DISTRICT OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
AF SPECIALIZED DEPOT, BOX 310, MAYWOOD, CALIF.

180 1-100

29 September 1950

SPOT INTELLIGENCE REPORT

SUBJECT: JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS

DECLASSIFIED BY *SP7 mcp/te*
ON *2/19/87*

See Air Force letter dated 1-13-87

TO: Director of Special Investigations
Headquarters United States Air Force
Washington 25, D. C.

1. SYNOPSIS: A letter received from the Los Angeles Office of the FBI, dated 22 September 1950, states the FBI was advised by the Los Angeles Procurement Field Office, Air Material Command, that JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS was believed to be a security risk, having been issued a Letter of Denial by the Munitions Board. Inquiry by the FBI revealed Subject was employed by Hughes Aircraft, Culver City, California. Hughes Aircraft had been informed by the Air Material Command that PARSONS had been cleared for access to Secret and Top Secret contracts. The FBI letter also states that [redacted]

*(b)(3) Rule (6)(e)
of Federal
Rules of
Criminal
Procedure,
(b)(7)(c)*

[redacted] On 26 September 1950, 18th OSI District was informed by the Plant Protection Office, Hughes Aircraft, that PARSONS had been discharged that date for removing classified material from Hughes Aircraft without authority, and that the FBI and Security Inspector in Charge, Los Angeles Plants Unit, Air Material Command, had been notified. Additional information from the FBI indicates PARSONS was interviewed and willingly admitted taking classified material. No charge was placed against Subject at this time.

2. DETAILS:

a. 18th District OSI was informed in a letter from the Los Angeles Office of the FBI, dated 22 September 1950, that the FBI had been contacted by [redacted] Los Angeles Procurement Field Office, Air Material Command, regarding JOHN WHITESIDE PARSONS. [redacted] advised the FBI that PARSONS was believed to be employed by the North American Aviation Corporation, and was a security risk, having been issued a Letter of Denial by the Munitions Board. Inquiry by the FBI revealed that PARSONS was presently employed as a Research Physicist at Hughes Aircraft, Culver City, California, and that Hughes Aircraft had been advised in a letter from the Air Material Command, dated 15

(b)(7)(D)

S

263

00 JAN 25 1951

65-59589-9

*with 5227
104 1 1 102
104 1 2 102*