

involvement in the seizing of Nikola Tesla's research papers and other documents and scientific instruments after his death on January 7, 1943.

1856  
They both explained that Tesla was a scientific genius and experimenter who was born in Yugoslavia of Serbian parents on 7/10/56, went to school later in Gratz, Austria, Prague, Czechoslovakia and Paris, France. He immigrated to the U.S. in the early 1880's, worked for Thomas Edison's laboratory for a couple of years, then started his own lab after being paid \$1 million dollars for rights to his patents on his polyphase systems of alternating current dynamos, which led to the harnessing of Niagra Falls for producing electricity and then the power system of the whole country. He was naturalized in 1889. He predicted wireless communication (radio). His later experiments in Colorado and elsewhere led to his producing artificial lightning in the millions of volts. He also had patents on the concept of neon and fluorescent lights, but he later made little money on his later inventions, although he continued to do experiments leading to devices of great potential worth, which he never patented. He became more reclusive in his later years, living in various hotels in New York City. In the 1930's he claimed he had developed the concept and method of building a "death ray", which could destroy planes at many miles distant, for defending America. Also, there are reports of resonance machines or devices whereby he could shake one or many large city buildings from some distance away.

Both [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] said that Tesla donated "some" of his papers (or copies thereof) to the Tesla Institute in Belgrade, Yugoslavia; set up in the 1930's in his honor by their government. Biographies on Tesla claim that either the custodian of Alien Property and/or the FBI seized his papers and other personal effects, including a safe or safes, and other property immediately after his death in 1943. This is elaborated on in the enclosed copies of certain pages of Margaret Cheney's book, "Tesla: Man Out of Time".

[REDACTED] said that after World War II Tesla's papers were shipped to the Tesla Institute in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, by his nephew, Sava Kosanovic, who had become Tito's Ambassador to the U.S. There were reports that some microfilming of Tesla's papers by government agents while they were still in storage in New York under Kosanovic's custody.

CI [REDACTED]

(S)

(b)(1)

~~SECRET~~

Also, the Soviet Union has allegedly had access to some of Tesla's papers, possibly in Belgrade and/or else where, which influenced their early research into directed energy weapons, and Butler feels access to much of Tesla's papers on lightning, beam weapons and/or "death rays" would give him more insight into the Soviet beam weapons program. This is Butler's area of expertise and responsibility. He has been unable to locate any Tesla papers or copies of same in the classified or unclassified libraries at WPAFB. However, there are reports that some portions of them were shipped by the Custodian of Alien Property Office in Washington, D.C. to a technical research lab at WPAFB, possibly the "Equipment Lab", now closed for some years or reorganized into another organization.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are both desirous of learning the locations of such papers of Tesla as how exist in the U.S. for both intelligence and research purposes. Therefore, [REDACTED] would like to examine FBI files relating to Nikola Tesla and possibly any on Sava Kosanovic, his nephew who received the bulk of his papers after Tesla's death, and may possibly have been the subject of FBI investigation.

[REDACTED] travels to the Washington, D.C. area on FTD business periodically and can review FBI files at FBIHQ relating to Tesla and Kosanovic.

#### REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

The Bureau is requested to conduct full indices checks on both Nikola Tesla and Sava Kosanovic.

Should there be such files at FBIHQ, as well as at New York, it is requested that Bureau consider granting the above [REDACTED] of FTD, official access to same, in the interest of national security.

#### LEADS

##### NEW YORK

##### AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will conduct same indices check as requested of Bureau and advise the Bureau and Cincinnati of results and confirm such files and references still exist there.

CI [REDACTED] (S) (b)(1)

~~SECRET~~

CINCINNATI

AT DAYTON, OHIO

Will maintain contact with [REDACTED]

and [REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

~~SECRET~~

**"A VISIONARY GENIUS AS FERTILE AS ANY IN THE MODERN HISTORY OF SCIENCE..."**

Flamboyant, eccentric, almost supernaturally gifted, had he been born today he would still be ahead of his time. Called a madman by some, a genius by others, and an enigma by nearly everyone, Nikola Tesla was perhaps the greatest inventor the world has ever known. He was a trailblazer who created astonishing, world-transforming devices, often without theoretical precedent. It was Tesla who harnessed the alternating electrical current we use today... Tesla who actually invented radio... Tesla who invented fluorescent lighting and the incredible bladeless turbine. He introduced us to the fundamentals of roboty and computer and missile science, which continue to create and transform the future.

This fascinating new biography, acclaimed by American Scientist as "excellent... a significant contribution to the recent history of science," is a riveting journey into the mind of the nineteenth-century wizard who was Edison's enemy, Mark Twain's friend, J. P. Morgan's client, and mentor to many of the twentieth-century's most famous scientists.

MARGARET CHENEY is a science writer and author of two other nonfiction books. She lives in California.

*The Sunday Times* of London

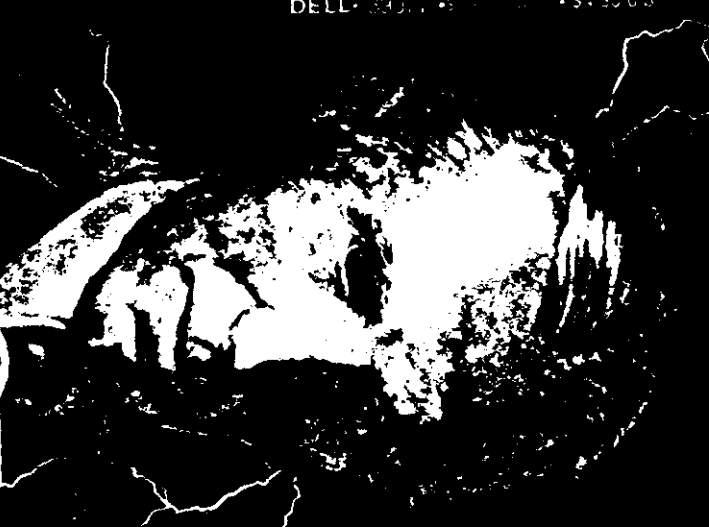


MARGARET CHENEY



ISBN 0-440-39077-X

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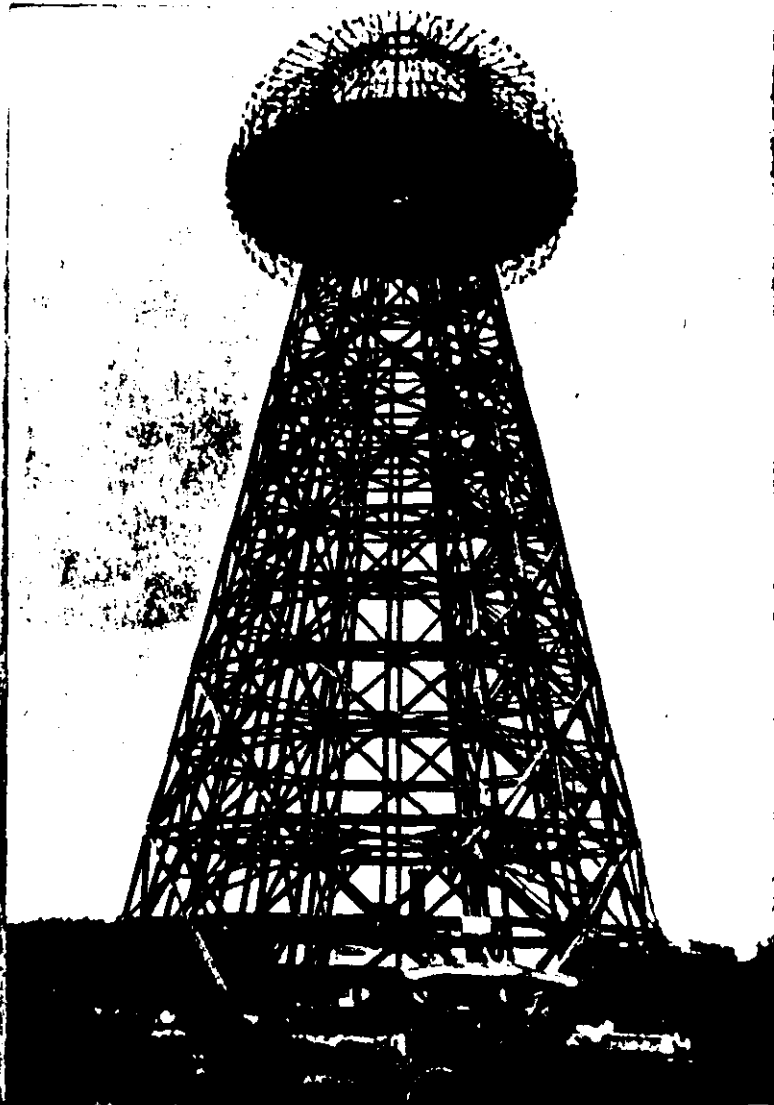
A visionary genius, his discoveries radically changed—and continue to change—the world we live in. "A dramatic and poignant portrait." —Discover

**TESLA:**

**MAN OUT OF TIME**

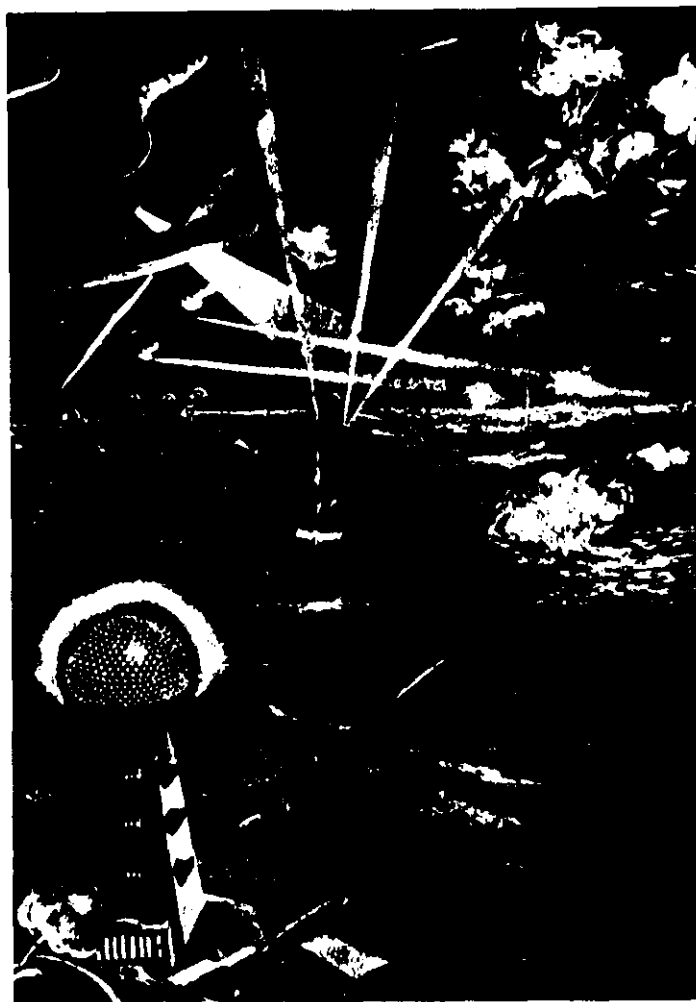
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The ill-fated Wardenclyffe tower built in 1901-03. It was intended for radio broadcasting and wireless transmission of power across the Atlantic. (Courtesy L. Anderson, after photo by Lillian McClesney)

An artist's rendering of Tesla's concept of the war of the future. The towerlike structures (based on the intended final form of the Wardenclyffe tower) are directing remote-controlled defenses against robot attackers. As Hugo Gernsback wrote in *Science and Invention*, where this illustration appeared, "Machines only will meet in mortal combat. It will be a veritable war of Science." (Gernsback Publications, Inc.)





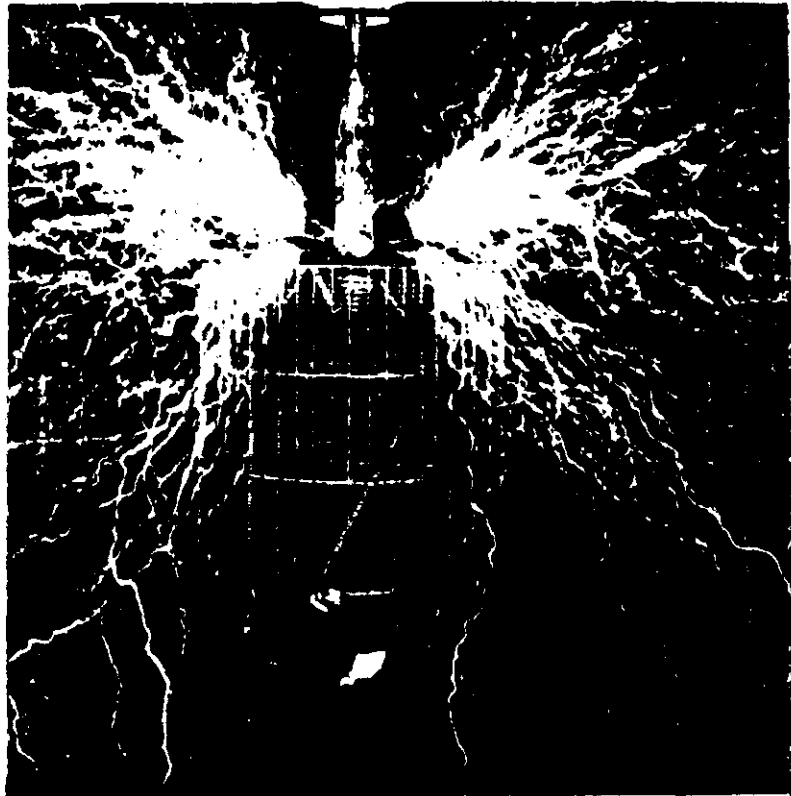
A trio of scientific greats: Albert Einstein, Nikola Tesla, and Charles Steinmetz, as they appeared in 1921 in a visit to the RCA transoceanic station at New Brunswick, N.J. At the time, Tesla was deeply involved in his patent dispute with Marconi. Only after his death would the U.S. Supreme Court uphold Tesla's claim to be the true father of radio. (RCA)



Tesla in his laboratory, 1898. The device shown is an unconnected coil illustrating the action of two resonating circuits of different frequencies—today one of the basic circuits used in computers. The pressure at the end of the coil facing the viewer (illuminated by streamers) is approximately one half million volts. (Courtesy L. Anderson)



The letterhead of Tesla business stationery recalls some of his more important inventions. In the center is the Wardenclyffe tower as it was intended to look when finished. (Courtesy L. Anderson)



Discharge of several million volts cascading around Tesla in his Colorado Springs laboratory. The roar that accompanied such discharges could be heard ten miles away. (Burndy Library)

of low frequency, and would yield sinusoidal and continuous oscillations like those of an alternator.

"Taken in the narrowest significance of the term, however," Tesla wrote, "it is a resonant transformer which, besides possessing these qualities, is accurately proportioned to fit the globe and its electrical constants and properties, by virtue of which design it becomes highly efficient and effective in the wireless transmission of energy. Distance is then absolutely eliminated, there being no diminution in the intensity of the transmitted impulses. It is even possible to make the actions increase with the distance from the plant according to an exact mathematical law."<sup>5</sup>

Once this powerful equipment was built and the inventor began testing he was able to emulate the electrical fireworks of even the wildest mountain storms. When the transmitter was operating, lightning arresters in a twelve-mile radius from his station were bridged with continuous fiery arcs, stronger and more persistent than those produced by natural lightning.

For the first time he kept a careful daily diary in which he recorded every aspect of his research. And because visual effects were useful as well as thrilling, he devoted many hours to photographic experiments.

The equipment Tesla was perfecting would, he hoped, one day be adaptable for commercial use. But first, thousands of observations and delicate adjustments had to be made. He no longer trusted his legendary memory to store such a volume of information. His daily notes referred constantly to experiments that had failed to turn out as expected, and he would ask himself why. This process was at sharp variance with the one he claimed to have used throughout his earlier life. Now middle-aged, he may have felt his memory waning slightly. Certainly he felt driven by the pressures of his self-imposed deadline.

In his Colorado journal his lifelong fascination with visual phenomena is underscored. The flashing lights that he had always experienced on the screen of his mind were dramatically externalized, and his descriptions, among the mass of mathematical formulas, are detailed, loving, almost erotic in their lingering portrayal of the colors and grandeur of his Colorado electrical storms.<sup>6</sup>

Nights when experiments were being made with the magnifying transmitter the prairie sky exploded with sound and color. Even the earth seemed alive and the crash of thunder from the spark gap could be heard for miles. Butterflies were sucked into the vortex of the

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## Death and Transfiguration

The new government of King Peter, with broad popular support, confronted the Germans and refused to ratify the compromise agreement that had been made with Hitler by Prince Paul. Almost at once reprisals began.

On Palm Sunday, 1941, three hundred Luftwaffe bombers swept over the Yugoslav capital of Belgrade. Methodically they crisscrossed the city street by street, strafing everything that breathed. By noon 25,000 civilians were dead, and the wounded lay everywhere. Most public buildings were left in ruins, including the modern laboratory known as the Tesla Institute.

The combined armed forces of Germany, Italy, Hungary, and Bulgaria invaded the doomed country. Within only days the Yugoslav Army was crushed, and King Peter was sent to England for safety. His government-in-exile would operate from London for the remainder of World War II.

This, however, was only the beginning of the war for Yugoslavs. Accustomed to successive invasions for a thousand years, the people were resilient. The remnants of the Army and Communist factions withdrew into the mountains, from which they launched guerrilla attacks on the invaders. These armed fighters, men and women, were supplied with food grown by the old people and children remaining in undefended villages.

Against them the Nazis and Fascists carried out murderous reprisals. In the fishing villages and along the stony slopes of the Adriatic, half the people in every hamlet were systematically shot.

Soon, however, it became apparent to military strategists in the United States and England that, not only were Axis forces killing Yugoslavs, but rival guerrilla factions of monarchists and Communists had begun to vie for Allied support and were shooting each other as well as the invaders.

Col. Drazha Mihailović, a Serbian army officer, led a faction called Chetniks (the "Yugoslav Army in the Fatherland"), composed mainly of Serbian and Bosnian monarchists. With close ties to King

Peter, they became the first major resistance movement in Europe.<sup>1</sup> The initial British aid to Yugoslavia went to the Chetniks, but it was short-lived. The National Liberation Army or Partisans, led by Josip Broz Tito of the Communist Party, was swiftly rising to prominence.

Allied strategists knew little of Tito. It was said he had been left wounded on a battlefield in 1917 and captured by the Russians. There he was trained as a Communist leader and sent to France during the Spanish Civil War to aid the Loyalists or Republicans.

A Croat, Tito had little reason to love the monarchy, for he was imprisoned after returning to Yugoslavia. On release, he became active in organizing a metal workers' union and helped to build the Yugoslav labor movement. His emergence as head of the Partisans in World War II was that of a natural leader who inspired his fighters and maintained rigorous discipline. He was looking ahead to a time when the Slavs could rebuild a free and united country without oppression either by foreigners or kings.

Tito's goal was to set up committees of popular liberation after the Russian style, while Mihailović and the Chetniks favored local administrative authorities under the monarchy. Both factions kept on killing Germans and Italians but, unfortunately, they also continued murdering each other.<sup>2</sup>

Prof. Bogdan Raditsa<sup>3</sup>, then director of the information service of the Yugoslav Embassy in Washington, D.C., recalls, "The situation became rather complicated when Yugoslavia collapsed in 1941 and when, at the end of that year, a Royal Yugoslav Mission came to this country." It was composed of members of King Peter's government and the Ban (Governor) of Croatia, Dr. Ivan Subašić. Spas Kosanović, Tesla's nephew, then a member of the Democratic Party, also arrived as a minister of the exiled government.

"As soon as Kosanović came to the States," says Professor Raditsa, "he tried to reorient Tesla from the exclusive Serbian policy, and he succeeded. Tesla, even before, never felt himself a Great Serbian chauvinist. He used to say, 'I am a Serb but my fatherland is Croatia.'"<sup>3</sup>

The conflict between Serbs and Croats in exile intensified as the war went on, paralyzing normal Slav diplomatic activities in London, Washington, and New York.

"Kosanović, though a Serb," recalls Raditsa, "was leading the struggle for a brotherhood between the Serbs and Croats against Fotić and many other Serb members of various Yugoslav missions.

<sup>3</sup>Raditsa belonged to a family in southern Croatia that had always favored a union of Croats and Serbs.

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Thus he began using Tesla for the policy directed against the Great Serbians.

"Tesla himself ... was not aware of the deep conflict between the Serbs and Croats, and as basically a scientist and in old age, he was very candid in politics."

Radtka said he seemed happy that he finally had a man of his own blood near him in New York and noted that Tesla began to rely upon Kozanovic's opinion on everything. During this period the inventor was receiving about \$500 per month from the royal government as an honorarium.

Various political messages elicited from Tesla for home consumption, says Radtka, were actually written by Kozanovic.

Toward the end of 1942 the Yugoslav Information Center was opened in New York in the Royal Mission headquarters on Fifth Avenue. Radtka and Kozanovic worked together at this office, issuing bulletins and other publications. But a crisis broke out when news reached them of the fighting between Mihailovic and Tito.

"Kozanovic," he said, "joined Tito and began to popularize the National Liberation Movement for a new Yugoslavia. He had a terrible time to convince Tesla that monarchy was losing in Yugoslavia and that a new Yugoslavia was beginning to come out from the fratricidal civil war. As the largest majority of Serbs in Croatia were joining Tito, Kozanovic convinced Tesla that he too should join the movement that was largely shared by the masses of the people, Serbs and Croats. So Tesla's message to the Serbs and Croats was written by Kozanovic."

On the walls of the Tesla Museum in Belgrade one may read a vastly enlarged photocopy of the words allegedly sent by Tesla to his embittered countrymen only months before his own death. American Vice-President Henry A. Wallace also had a hand in its drafting. Typewritten, it has many cross-outs and insertings in Tesla's own handwriting yet the style is that of an ideologue, which the inventor was not.

Out of this war ... a new world must be born, a world that would justify the sacrifices offered by humanity. This ... must be a world in which there shall be no exploitation of the weak by the strong, of the good by the evil, where there will be no humiliation of the poor by the violence of the rich; where the products of the intellect, science, and art will serve society for the betterment and beautification of life, and not the individuals for achieving wealth. This new world shall not be a

world of the downtrodden and humiliated, but of free men and free nations, equal in dignity and respect for man.

The inventor's name also appeared on another message—sent to the Soviet Academy of Sciences on October 12, 1941, urging joint struggle against the Axis powers by Russia, Great Britain, and America, in aid of the revolutionary struggle of the Yugoslav people. This message is not to be seen in the Museum, however, presumably because nostalgic Russian-style has ceased to be politic.

Kozanovic became chairman of the Yugoslav Economic Mission advocating a New Yugoslav federation versus the centralistic premier royalist Yugoslavia. This new organization also began working for a new Central East European Federation. Radtka too became a member of the Tito movement.

King Peter was desperately seeking for Mihailovic the support of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill, as well as that of his own Uncle Berie, who was King George VI of England. The British, at first sympathetic to the Chetnik cause, began to change as they received reports of the aggressive actions of Tito's Partisans.

In 1942 King Peter visited Washington to intercede with FDR. Yugoslav pilots were being trained in Tennessee. FDR told him that America would send airplanes to the Chetniks as soon as they could be spared from the war in the Middle East. The monarch visited New York City, attending a large reception for the American Friends of Yugoslavia at the Colony Club. The Colony, the first female socialist club in America, had been founded at the inspiration of energetic Anne Morgan. She attended the function, as did the King's mother, Queen Marie, and Mrs. Roosevelt. It was the sort of affair Tesla himself would have delighted in had he not been weak and ill. So King Peter went to him.

In his diaries (*A King's Heritage*), under date July 8, 1942, the young Peter II writes: "I visited Dr. Nicole Tesla, the world-famous Yugoslav-American scientist, in his apartment in the Hotel New Yorker. After I had greeted him the aged scientist said: 'It is my greatest honor I am glad you are in your youth, and I am content that you will be a great ruler. I believe I will live until you come back to a free Yugoslavia. From your father you have received his last words: 'Guard Yugoslavia. I am proud to be a Serbian and a Yugoslav. Our people cannot perish. Preserve the unity of all Yugoslavs—the Serbs, the Croats, and Slovenes.'"

The King added that he was deeply touched and that both he and Dr. Tesla had wept. He then visited Columbia University, to be warmly welcomed by President Nicholas Murray Butler and to find another link with his own country in the Pupin Physics Laboratory.

Returning to Washington, he was assured by FDR that food, clothing, arms, and ammunition would be dropped over Yugoslavia. But he was shocked when, in 1943, the British Mission in Yugoslavia made official contact with Tito. Peter asked to be parachuted into his country, but Churchill demurred. Tito openly accused Mihailović of being a traitor.<sup>6</sup>

At the Teheran Conference in November there occurred, largely at Churchill's instance, what the King described as a "fatal change" of Allied policy. It was decided that "the basic force fighting the Germans in Yugoslavia recognized by the Allies was the National Liberation Army, under the command of Tito, and the Partisan force received full recognition as an Allied Army. Mihailović was thus denied and abandoned."<sup>7</sup>

Winston Churchill overnight became a hero of modern Yugoslavia. And when the young monarch frantically wrote to FDR for support, the ailing President replied urging him to accept Churchill's advice "as if it was my own." Within months Roosevelt died.

Tesla's nephew, Kosanović, along with certain other diplomatic representatives of King Peter, had been dismissed by the monarch at the height of the 1942 crisis. He often told Bogdan Raditsa in those days that he felt Tesla had been terribly shocked by his nephew's exclusion from the royal government. In fact, Kosanović believed that the inventor's death was actually precipitated by his own "setback."

"He thought," Kosanović repeatedly told Raditsa, "that I was punished, and that eventually I would be arrested or something of the kind, but I succeeded to convince him that it was inevitable in politics."<sup>8</sup>

During this period Kosanović was frank in saying that he tried to keep Tesla from seeing members of the royal government. Ambassador Fotić had become "the enemy" since he still favored a Great Serbian policy as opposed to the changes ahead. Tesla's relationship with this old friend became "lukewarm."

"There is no doubt," says Professor Raditsa, "that the whole internecine tragedy of Yugoslavia from 1941 to 1943 must have had a rather depressing impact upon Tesla. Very often he would ask me, could I explain to him what was going on among us, and why we cannot agree...."

After the war, Mihailović would be executed by a "People's Court" for alleged collaboration with the enemy, and the Republic of Yugoslavia declared to exist, with Tito as President for life and the Communists firmly in charge.

A count of Yugoslavian casualties at the end of World War II disclosed that 2 million persons had died; tragically, many thousands had been killed by fellow Yugoslavs.

"After the war," recalls Professor Raditsa, "Kosanović became a minister in the Tito-Subašić Government, and I was his assistant in the Ministry of Information from 1944 to 1945, when I left the country, for I couldn't become a Communist. Later on in 1946, Sava Kosanović became Tito's ambassador in Washington but I never saw him again after I left Belgrade in October of 1945. Kosanović had accepted totally the Communist system in Yugoslavia and remained loyal until his death."

There had not been a time in ten centuries when the Yugoslavs had not been ruled and ransacked by invaders—by Venetians, Romans, Turks, Bulgars, Austrians, Hungarians, Germans, Italians, when they were not living under threat of torture, prison, or violent death. Now a marvelous truth began to dawn upon them: that they were free, in a manner of speaking.

Tesla would not live to see this. Whether he could ever have accepted the new government, with its Soviet-type Constitution and a Soviet alliance, whether he could ever have accepted the permanent exile of his beloved monarch, are unanswerable questions.

Unfortunately, however, all this was to have a bearing on how he would be remembered in the West. The fading of his scientific reputation, the forgetfulness of Americans in the postwar period, resulted in large degree from the disappearance of most of his scientific papers behind that new Cold War phenomenon, the Iron Curtain.

In 1948 Yugoslavia ceased to be an Iron Curtain country, declaring its independence from the Soviet doctrine of "limited sovereignty." America and her allies then were generous in sending economic and military aid to the Slavs; but the damage had been done. America had not raced to Tito's wartime support with the alacrity that Churchill had shown. In the future it would not be made easy for American scholars to draw on Yugoslav sources to document the achievements of Nikola Tesla.

The inventor became very feeble in the winter of 1942. His fear of germs was so obsessive that even his closest friends were

required to stand at a distance, like the subjects of a neurotic Tudor (Pigeon germs did not seem to worry him.) He had heart trouble and suffered occasionally from fainting spells. No longer able to feed his beloved birds, he often relied upon a young man named Charles Hausler, who owned racing pigeons, to take care of them for him.

Hausler had worked for Tesla in this capacity from around 1928 onward, his job being to go to the New York Public Library at noon each day with grain and then to walk around the four sides of the building looking for young or injured birds on window sills or behind large statues. He would take them to Tesla's hotel for rest and recuperation. Then, he has recalled, "I would release them at the library for him." He remembered that the cages in Tesla's rooms had been built by a fine carpenter—"as Mr. Tesla was in all his doings it had to be done right." The pigeons also enjoyed a curtained shower bath.

Hausler and Tesla spent many hours together, talking mostly of pigeons. Once Tesla confided to him that "Thomas Edison could not be trusted." The boy remembered his employer as "a very kind and considerate human person," and there was one incident that stood out in his mind long afterward. "He had a large box or container in his room near the pigeon cages and he told me to be very careful not to disturb the box," said Hausler, "as it contained something that could destroy an airplane in the sky and he had hopes of presenting it to the world." He believed it probably was stored in the cellar of the hotel later.

On a bitter day in early January 1943, Tesla called his other messenger boy, Kerrigan, and gave him a sealed envelope addressed to Mr. Samuel Clemens, 35 South Fifth Avenue, New York City. The boy set forth into the whipping wind and searched fruitlessly for the number. As it turned out, this had been the address of Tesla's first laboratory; but now South Fifth Avenue was West Broadway, and no one by the name of Samuel Clemens lived in the area.

Kerrigan made his way back to the Hotel New Yorker and reported to the sick man. In a weak voice, Tesla explained that Clemens was the famous Mark Twain and that everyone knew of him. He sent Kerrigan forth once more, and this time asked him also to take care of the pigeons. The perturbed messenger fed the birds and then consulted his supervisor, who told him that Mark Twain had been dead for twenty-five years. Once again Kerrigan trudged through the cold afternoon to Tesla's rooms, where he explained and tried to return the envelope.

The inventor was indignant and refused to hear that the humorist was dead. "He was in my room last night," he said. "He sat in that chair and talked to me for an hour. He is having financial difficulties and needs my help. So—don't come back until you have delivered that envelope." Once again the messenger went to his supervisor and together they opened the envelope. It contained a blank sheet of paper wrapped around twenty five-dollar bills—enough to help an old friend through a little fainting spell.

On the fourth of January, the inventor, although very weak, went to his office to make an experiment that George Scherff was interested in. Scherff dropped in to help him prepare for it. The work was interrupted, however, when Tesla felt a recurrence of some sharp pains in his chest.

Refusing medical aid, he returned to his hotel. Next day a maid came in and cleaned. As she left, he asked her to put the *Do Not Disturb* sign on his door to keep visitors away, and not to bother cleaning. The sign remained there the following day and the one after that.

Early on the morning of January 8, Alice Monaghan, a maid, ignored the sign and entered the apartment to find the inventor dead in bed, his sunken, emaciated face composed.<sup>19</sup> Assistant Medical Examiner H. W. Wembly examined the body, placed the time of death as 10:30 P.M. on January 7, 1943, and gave his opinion that the cause of death had been coronary thrombosis. Tesla had died in his sleep, and the examiner noted that he had found "No suspicious circumstances." The inventor was eighty-six years of age.

Kenneth Swezey was notified at once; and at ten o'clock that morning he telephoned to Dr. Rado at New York University. King Peter's headquarters, then at 745 Fifth Avenue, was advised by the professor. Tesla's nephew, Kusanović, then wartime president of the Eastern and Central European Planning Board for the Balkan countries, also was notified.

Then the FBI was called. Swezey and Kusanović summoned a locksmith and Tesla's safe was opened and the contents examined.

The body was removed to the Frank E. Campbell Funeral Home at Madison Avenue and 81st Street and a sculptor was engaged by Hugo Gernsback to prepare a death mask of the inventor.

Just before Tesla's death, Eleanor Roosevelt had tried to intercede in his behalf with President Roosevelt—perhaps with the idea of conferring some honor upon him. In the Tesla Museum at Belgrade these brief notes on White House stationery may be read. On

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January 1, at the request of author Louis Adamić, Mrs. Roosevelt had promised to ask the President to write to Tesla and said that she herself would call on him on her next trip to New York. The second note is headed, "Memo for Mrs. Roosevelt" and is signed FDR: "I was having this looked into but the papers yesterday carried the story that Dr. Tesla had died. Therefore I am returning the enclosures herewith." A third note of January 11 from Eleanor Roosevelt to Adamić forwards the President's message and adds her sorrow at learning of the inventor's death.

Adamić wrote a moving eulogy to Tesla that was read by New York Mayor Fiorello H. LaGuardia over station WNYC on January 10.<sup>145</sup> Meanwhile the extreme tensions between Serb and Croat factions in the United States were making the planning of funeral services difficult. The body lay in state but, according to an unpublished letter of O'Neill's, "only twelve people, some of whom were newspaper reporters," came to view it.

When state services were held at four o'clock on January 12, in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, however, more than two thousand people crowded in. Serbs and Croats were seated on opposing sides of the cathedral, Bishop William T. Manning having exacted from both factions a promise of no political speeches. The service was begun in English by Bishop Manning and concluded in Serbian by the Very Rev. Dusan Sukletović.

Among Balkan diplomats present were Ambassador Fotić, the Governor of Croatia, a former Prime Minister of Yugoslavia, and the Minister of Food and Reconstruction. In the front row with Kosanović, chief mourner and head of the important new trade mission, sat Swezey. Dr. Rado had been too ill to attend as an honorary pallbearer.

Figures important in American science and industry who did attend as honorary pallbearers included Professor Edwin H. Armstrong, Dr. E. F. W. Alexanderson of General Electric, Dr. Harvey Rentschler of Westinghouse, engineer Gano Dunn, and W. H. Barton, curator of the Hayden Planetarium of the American Museum of Natural History. Newbold Morris, president of the New York City Council, headed this group.

When word of Tesla's death spread abroad to war-stricken Europe, telegrams of tribute and sorrow began pouring in from scientists and governmental leaders alike. In the United States three Nobel prizewinners in physics, Millikan, Compton, and James Franck, joined in a eulogy to the inventor as "one of the outstanding intellects

of the world who paved the way for many of the important technological developments of modern times."

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt expressed their gratitude for Tesla's contributions "to science and industry and to this country." Vice-President Wallace, in the spirit of the new Yugoslavia, declared that, "In Nikola Tesla's death the common man loses one of his best friends."

Although Louis Adamić wrongly eulogized Tesla as one who had cared nothing for money, he could not have been more accurate when he said that Tesla was not really dead: "The real, important part of Tesla lives in his achievement, which is great, almost beyond calculation, and an integral part of our civilization, our daily lives, our current war effort. . . . His life is a triumph. . . ."

Among the honors that had come to Tesla in his life were many academic degrees from American and foreign universities; the John Scott Medal, the Edison Medal, and various awards from European governments. In September 1943 the Liberty ship *Nikola Tesla* was launched, an honor that would have pleased the scientist. But not until 1975 was he inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

Eight months after Tesla's death, the U.S. Supreme Court handed down the decision that he had been confident would come eventually—ruling that he was the inventor of radio.

His body was taken to Ferncliff Cemetery at Ardsley-on-the-Hudson in the deep cold of the winter afternoon. In the car that followed the hearse rode Swezey and Kosanović. The inventor's remains were cremated and his ashes later returned to the land of his birth.<sup>146</sup>

In almost every nation in the world, the fighting and dying continued.

<sup>145</sup>Charlotte Muzar, formerly secretary to Sava N. Kosanović, carried Tesla's ashes to the Tesla Museum in Belgrade in 1957. Throughout the years Kosanović had spoken of leaving the ashes in America and had hoped an appropriate memorial to the inventor would be raised in the United States as their meeting place.

<sup>146</sup>—Archives, Tesla Memorial Society.



## The Missing Papers

In addition to his acknowledged achievements, Tesla left a legacy of riddles. To pose only three of the most major: Was his unrealized concept for the wireless transmission of energy through the Earth scientifically valid? What actually was he doing in his experimentation with death/dismembrator beam weapons? And what became of his unpublished research papers and other sensitive documents in the days immediately following his death?

In the category of subquestions, what turn of affairs retarded the intense interest of the U.S. intelligence establishment in Tesla's work (as something surely did) in the late 1940's?

Like Einstein he had been an outsider and, like Edison, a wide-ranging generalist. As he himself had said, he had the "boonness of ignorance." Where others stopped short, aware of what could not be done, he continued. The survival of such mutants and polymaths as Tesla tends to be discouraged by modern scientific guilds. Whether either he or Edison could have flourished in today's milieu is conjectural.

The example set by Tesla has always been particularly inspiring to the lone runner. At the same time, however, his legacy to establishment science is profound for his research, although sometimes esoteric, was almost always sweeping in its potential to transform society. His contribution was major rather than incremental. His turbine failed in part because it would have required fundamental changes by whole industries. Alternating current triumphed only after it had overcome the resistance of an entire industry.

But there was an unfortunate corollary to Tesla's lone battles with the scientific-industrial establishment. Since he was part of no group or institution, he had no colleagues with whom to discuss work in progress, no formal, accessible repository for his research notes and papers. He worked not just in private, but—in the love of Banburyer announcements to the press notwithstanding—in secret. Thus any inventors which he did not patent or give freely to the world were more or less shrouded in mystery. And, because of the handling of the

papers he left behind after his death, the range of his achievement continues to remain a partial mystery.

If this has been frustrating to the scientists who have succeeded Tesla, it has at least been stimulating. After a period of obscurity, the one hundredth anniversary of his birth in July 1956 brought an international reawakening to the importance of the inventor's life and genius. Interest in his work, fired by a growing awareness of the riddles surrounding it, has been escalating ever since, almost as if he had been reborn in his true psychological age.

He was honored by centennial celebrations in America and Europe. The American Institute of Electrical Engineers dedicated its fall meeting in Chicago to a review of his life and inventions. Commemorative programs were arranged by the Institute of Radio Engineers, the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry, the Franklin Institute, and various universities, the Tesla Society playing an active role in such recognition. Permanent memorials in the form of scholarships and medals were proposed and exhibits presented by science museums. Special ceremonies were conducted at Niagara Falls, and a statue was later erected in his honor on Goat Island, a gift from the people of Yugoslavia. Chicago, reminded by attorney/author Erner Gertz that it should be eternally grateful to him for having made the Columbian Exposition of 1893 the "wonder of the globe," dedicated a new public school to Tesla's memory.

The inventor's old colleagues of the AIEE journeyed to Europe to attend more celebrations, statue unveilings, and dedications in his honor. The International Electrotechnical Commission in Munich took formal action, making his name an international scientific unit, the said joining such historic electrical symbols as farad, volt, ampere, and ohm.<sup>1</sup>

As the exploration of space accelerated, so did interest in Tesla, especially from the standpoint of beam weaponry and microwave work. In America, Russia, Canada, and various other countries, projects in his name or derived from his pioneering, from weather-control to nuclear fusion, began to attract scientific attention. Some were just the shoe-string efforts of loners, their laboratories old Quonset huts. Some were top secret and financed by enormous budgets.

Tesla's year of secret experiments at Colorado Springs in 1899 provided the basic impetus for much of this new exploration. His Colorado Springs Notes,<sup>2</sup> when they appeared in English in 1978

<sup>1</sup>The book may be ordered from Nekt, Temise, 27, Belgarda, Yugoslavia (about \$40).

under the imprint of the Tesla Museum at Belgrade, were eagerly awaited by many scientists. But even this work left important questions unanswered.

The bulk of his papers having vanished from America, reliable information was harder to come by than the recurring rumors of conspiracy, espionage, and patent theft. Scientists thought it strange that some aspects of his Colorado Springs research found in scattered sources did not appear in the Yugoslav-published Notes. Only by piecing together fragmentary information could the magnitude of his experiments be comprehended.

Around 1928 O'Neill, by merest chance, had happened to see a legal advertisement in a New York newspaper announcing that six boxes placed in storage by Nikola Tesla would be sold by the storage warehouse for unpaid bills. Feeling that such material should be preserved, he went to the inventor and asked permission to try to obtain funds to reclaim the material.

"Tesla hit the ceiling," he recalled. "He assured me he was well able to take care of his own affairs.... He forbade me to buy them or do anything in any way about them."

Shortly after the inventor died, O'Neill got in touch with Sava Kosanović, told him about the boxes, and urged him to protect them. He was never able to get a positive statement from Kosanović that he had obtained the boxes and examined the contents. "He gave evasive assurances that there was no reason for me to worry...."

Others too were interested in the papers. A young American engineer engaged in war work consulted Tesla on a ballistics engineering problem because he could not get time on an overworked computer, and Tesla's mind was known to offer the nearest thing to it. Soon he became fascinated with Tesla's scientific papers and was allowed to take batches of them home to his hotel room where he and another American engineer pored over them each night. They were returned the next day, a procedure which continued for about two weeks prior to the inventor's death.

Tesla had received offers to work for Germany and Russia. After the inventor died, both engineers became concerned that critical scientific information might fall into foreign hands and alerted United States security agencies and high government officials.

The relevant records that I have obtained from federal agencies under the Freedom of Information Act reveal strange twistings and inconsistencies in the handling of the inventor's estate. Tesla left tons of papers, barrels and boxes full of them. But he left no will. He was

survived by five nieces and nephews, of whom two lived in America at the time of his death.

Curiously, the FBI released his estate to the Office of Alien Property, which promptly sealed the contents. Since Tesla was an American citizen, the OAP's concern in the matter was hard to justify. After a court hearing, however, the estate was released to Ambassador Kosanović, one of the heirs.

Sweeney, who also had hoped to write a biography of Tesla (his death intervened), received the following account in 1963 from a former aide of Ambassador Kosanović:

"Back in 1943... when Tesla died, it was a matter of very short time when Mr. K was issued a certificate from or by the Office of Custodian of Alien Property conveying to Mr. K full rights to the Tesla papers.... he had them all packed up and sent off to the Manhattan Storage Company where they remained until ready for packing and shipping off to Yugoslavia in 1952. Mr. K paid for storage charges.... All this time the certificate from the Alien Property Office was in my possession (in case of need)...."

"You will perhaps remember that a number of times Mr. K mentioned the fact that the custodian at the storage warehouse told him that some government guys were in to microfilm some of the papers.... when we opened the safe in the present museum building (in Belgrade, Yugoslavia) the bunch of keys, which was the last thing Mr. K flung into the safe at the New Yorker Hotel before the combination was re-set to a new combination, were not found in the safe, but in an entirely different box. Also the gold medal (the Edison Medal) was missing from the safe.... Anyway, for years and years Mr. K was bothered by the fact that Tesla papers had been gone thru and just before his departure from Washington in 1949-50(?) he decided to follow my suggestion to call Edgar J. Hoover (sic) and ask him. Mr. Hoover denied categorically that the FBI had gone into the papers...."

The aide said Tesla had told his nephew that "he wished to leave his works, property, etc., to his native country." (Not only is this uncorroborated but the papers were in English.)

Immediately after Tesla's death an exchange of telegrams flew between FBI Agent Foxworth of the field division of the New York Bureau and the director of the New York Bureau of the FBI. The day following discovery of the body, Agent Foxworth reported:

"Experiments and research of Nikola Tesla, deceased. Espionage—M. Nikola Tesla, one of the world's outstanding scientists in the electrical field, died January seventh, nineteen forty three at the

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Hotel New Yorker, New York City During his lifetime, he conducted many experiments in connection with the wireless transmission of electrical power and ... what is commonly called the death ray According to information furnished by X (name deleted), New York City, the notes and records of Tesla's experiments and formulas together with designs of machinery ... are among Tesla's personal effects, and no steps have been taken to preserve them or to keep them from falling into hands of people ... unfriendly to the war effort of the United Nations. ... (The FBI was, however, advised by the office of Vice-President Henry A. Wallace that the government was "vitaly interested" in preserving Tesla's papers.)

Blayne D. Fitzgerald, "an electrical engineer who had been quite close to Tesla during his lifetime," continued Foxworth, "checked the New York office that on January seventh, nineteen forty three, Sam Kosenovik, George Clark, who is in charge of the museum and laboratory for RCA, and Kenneth Sweeney ... went to Tesla's rooms in the New Yorker (author's note: the correct date would have been January 31, and with the assistance of a locksmith broke into a safe which Tesla had in his rooms in which he kept some of his valuable papers. ... Within the last month, Tesla told Fitzgerald that the experiments in connection with the wireless transmission of electrical power had been completed and perfected.

"Fitzgerald also knows that Tesla had conceived and designed a revolutionary type of torpedo which is not presently in use by any of the nations. It is Fitzgerald's belief that this design has not been made available to any nation up to the present time. From statements made to Fitzgerald by Tesla, he knows that the complete plans, specifications and explanation of the basic theories of these things are some place in the personal effects of Tesla. He also knows there is a working model of Tesla's, which cost more than ten thousand dollars to build, in a safety deposit box belonging to Tesla at the Governor Clinton Hotel, and Fitzgerald believes the model has to do with the so-called death ray or the wireless transmission of electrical current.

"Tesla has also told Fitzgerald in past conversations that he has some eighty journals in different places containing transcripts and plans having to do with experiments conducted by him. Bureau is requested to advise immediately what, if any, action should be taken concerning this matter by the New York Field Division."

Kosenovik later reported to Walker Gornuch of the Office of Alien Property in New York that he first went to Tesla's rooms with the

other men to search for a will. After the safe was opened, Sweeney took from it a book containing the testimonials sent to Tesla on his seventy-fifth birthday, while Kosenovik took from the room three pictures of Tesla. According to the manager of the New Yorker Hotel and Kosenovik, nothing else was removed. The safe was closed under a new combination, which combination was in Kosenovik's exclusive possession.

On January 9, Gornuch of OAP and Fitzgerald went to the New Yorker Hotel and seized all of Tesla's property, consisting of about two trunks of material, sealed it and transferred it to the Manhattan Storage and Warehouse Company. It was added to about thirty barrels and bundles that had been there since about 1934, and these too were sealed under orders of the OAP.

In addition to the question of the legitimacy of Alien Property's involvement in the case is the question of why Kosenovik was allowed to have access to the safe's combination, from which he later claimed the Edison Medal had vanished. Tesla's American naturalization papers, which he so prized that he always kept them in his safe, may now be seen at the Tesla Museum in Belgrade, but it is not known what other papers or objects were in the safe.

The Washington Bureau of the FBI went so far as to advise the New York Bureau "to discreetly take the matter up with the State's Attorney in New York City with the view to possibly taking Kosenovich into custody on a burglary charge and obtaining the various papers which Kosenovich is reported to have taken from Tesla's safe." New York was also told to contact the Surrogate Court so steps could be placed against all of Tesla's effects, so that no one could enter them without an FBI agent being present, and New York was to keep Washington advised of all developments.

The idea of arresting the Yugoslav ambassador was quickly dropped. And very soon the Washington headquarters made a curious decision. Edward A. Tamm of the FBI in Washington advised D. M. Ladd of the Bureau that the whole matter was being turned over to the Custodian of Alien Property, and Tamm noted, "There appears to be no need for us to mess around in it."

Soon the well-known electrical engineer Dr. John G. Tamm, who was serving as a technical aide to the National Defense Research Committee of the Office of Scientific Research and Development, was asked to participate in an examination of Tesla's scientific papers. Present at the Manhattan Warehouse & Storage Company in addition

to Dr. Trump were Willis George, Office of Naval Intelligence, Third Naval District, Edward Palmer, chief yeoman, USNR, and John J. Corbett, chief yeoman, USNR.

Dr. Trump reported afterward that no examination was made of the vast amount of Tesla's property that had been in the basement of the New Yorker Hotel for ten years prior to his death, or of any of his papers except those in his immediate possession at the time of death. It should be remembered that Tesla's scientific reputation had been in eclipse for a number of years and that there had been many efforts to discredit his claims in radio, robotics, and alternating current. Dr. Trump was a busy man, just as the staff of the FBI was stretched thin by its preoccupation with investigating wartime sabotage.

"As a result of this examination," wrote Dr. Trump, "it is my considered opinion that there exist among Dr. Tesla's papers and possessions no scientific notes, descriptions of hitherto unrevealed methods or devices, or actual apparatus which could be of significant value to this country or which would constitute a hazard in unfriendly hands. I can therefore see no technical or military reason why further custody of the property should be retained."

He added: "For your records, there has been removed to your office a file of various written material by Dr. Tesla which covers typically and fairly completely the ideas with which he was concerned during his later years. These documents are enumerated and briefly abstracted in the attachment to this letter."

In closing Dr. Trump said: "It should be no discredit to this distinguished engineer and scientist, whose solid contributions to the electrical art were made at the beginning of the present century, to report that his thoughts and efforts during at least the past fifteen years were primarily of a speculative, philosophical, and somewhat promotional character—often concerned with the production and wireless transmission of power—but did not include new sound, workable principles or methods for realizing such results."

The file (of which Dr. Trump's notes were only an abstract) consisted apparently of either photostats or microfilm made by the naval officers present, and the original papers apparently remained in storage, later to be transmitted to Yugoslavia. The examination had failed to disclose any alien-owned property subject to the vesting power of the Alien Property Custodian under the Trading with the Enemy Act. Tesla's papers and personal effects were released in

February of 1943 for disposition by Kozanović, the administrator of his estate.

Dr. Trump's abstract included the following:

*"Art of Telegeodynamics, or Art of Producing Terrestrial Motions at Distance"*—This document, in the form of a letter dated June 12, 1940, to the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co., proposes a method for the transmission of large amounts of power over vast distances by means of mechanical vibrations of the earth's crust. The source of power is a mechanical or electromechanical device bolted to some rocky protuberance and imparting power at a resonance frequency of the earth's crust. The proposed scheme appears to be completely visionary and unworkable. Westinghouse's reply indicates their polite rejection....

*"New Art of Projecting Concentrated Non-Dispersive Energy through Natural Media"*—This undated document by Tesla describes an electrostatic method of producing very high voltages and capable of very great power. This generator is used to accelerate charged particles, presumably electrons. Such a beam of high-energy electrons passing through air is the 'concentrated nondispersive' means by which energy is transmitted through natural media. As a component of this apparatus there is described an open-ended vacuum tube within which the electrons are first accelerated.

"The proposed scheme bears some relation to present means for producing high-energy cathode rays by the cooperative use of a high-voltage electrostatic generator and an evacuated electron acceleration tube. It is well known, however, that such devices, while of scientific and medical interest, are incapable of the transmission of large amounts of power in nondispersed beams over long distances. Tesla's disclosures in this memorandum would not enable the construction of workable combinations of generator and tube even of limited power, though the general elements of such a combination are succinctly described.

*"A Method of Producing Powerful Radiations"*—an undated memorandum in Tesla's handwriting describing 'a new process of generating powerful rays or radiations.' This memorandum reviews the works of Lenard and Crookes, describes Tesla's work on the production of high voltages, and finally in the last paragraph gives the only description of the invention contained in the memorandum.... 'Briefly stated, my new simplified process of generating powerful rays consists

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in creating through the medium of a high-speed jet of suitable fluid a vacuum space around a terminal of a circuit and supplying the same with currents of the required tension and volume."

Long afterward in a letter to a colleague, Dr. Trump told what happened when he visited the Hotel Governor Clinton to examine the "device" stored in its vault, presumably the same box remembered by the messenger boy in Tesla's room.

"Tesla had warned the management that this 'device' was a secret weapon," said Dr. Trump, "and it would detonate if opened by an unauthorized person. Upon opening the vault and indicating the package containing the secret weapon, the hotel manager and employees promptly left the scene." The federal agents who had come along also pulled back, the better to gape than the sole distraction of opening the parcel.

It was wrapped in brown paper and tied with a string. He remembered hesitating, thinking how beautiful the weather was outside, and pondering on why he was not outside too.

He lifted the parcel onto a table and, mustering his courage, snipped the string with his pocket knife. He removed the wrapping inside was a handsome polished wooden chest bound with brass. It required a final effort of courage to raise the hinged lid.

Inside stood a multidecade resistance box of the type used for Wheatstone bridge resistance measurements—a common standard item to be found in every electrical laboratory before the turn of the century!

Why had Tesla seen fit to terrify the staff and management of the hotel with this harmless object for so many years? Perhaps he had become so accustomed to having his hotel bills paid behind his back (believing that the hotels, honored to have him living there, had routinely dismissed the billings), that he was troubled when the Governor Clinton brazenly demanded its \$400.

Although the FBI closed its Tesla file in 1943, it didn't seem to want to stay closed. It was reopened in 1957 when an informant complained that a New York couple were issuing newsletters containing "information pertaining to flying saucers and interplanetary matters" and exploiting the inventor's name and fame. They allegedly claimed that Tesla's engineers, after his death, had completed a "Tesla Set," a radio device for interplanetary communication, that the device had been placed in operation in 1950 and since then Tesla engineers had been in close touch with alien spacecrafts. Once again the FBI decided no action was warranted and the file was closed.

Sweeney had never put much credence in the "secret weapon" rumors and had written to an inquirer: "Because Tesla was a recluse, and himself liked to talk in mystifying terms during his later years, I think many legends have been built up about the dozens of ideas he had cooked but which were not permitted by others to see the light of day."

He said he had known the inventor well for two decades before his death: "Tesla's greatest genius flamed up during a dozen or so years just before and slightly after the turn of the century. What he did after that may have carried the germs of some of the developments we see unraveling today, but he had not carried any of them—at least on paper or in any other tangible form—to the point of practicality. . . ."

Perhaps, but between 1945 and 1947 an interesting exchange of letters and cables occurred among the Air Technical Service Command at Wright Field, Ohio, in whose Equipment Laboratory much top-secret research was being performed. Military intelligence in Washington, and the Office of Alien Property—subject, files of the late Nikola Tesla.

On August 21, 1945, the Air Technical Service Command requested permission from the commanding general of the U.S. Army Air Force in Washington, D.C., for Private Boyce D. Fitzgerald to go to Washington for a period of seven days "for the purpose of securing property clearance on enemy impounded property."

On September 5, 1945, Colonel Holliday of the Equipment Laboratory, Population and Accessories Subdivision, wrote to Lloyd L. Shauls of the OAP in Washington, confirming a conversation with Fitzgerald and asking for photostatic copies of the exhibits annotated by Trump from the estate of Tesla. It was stated that the material would be used "in connection with projects for National Defense by this department," and that all of it would be returned in a reasonable length of time.

That was the last time that the Office of Alien Property or any other federal agency in the United States admitted to having possession of Tesla's papers on beam weaponry. Shauls wrote to Colonel Holliday on September 11, 1945, saying, "The materials requested have been forwarded to Air Technical Service Command in care of Lt. Robert E. Houle. These data are made available to the Army Air Force by this office for use in experiments; please return them." They were never returned.

These were the full photostatic copies, not merely the abstracts. OAP has no record of how many copies were made by those who

examined the files with Dr. Trump. The Navy has no record of Tesla's papers; no federal archives have a record of them.

Curiously, four months after the photostats had been sent to Wright Field, Col. Ralph Doty, the chief of Military Intelligence in Washington wrote James Markham of Alien Property indicating that they had never been received: "This office is in receipt of a communication from Headquarters, Air Technical Service Command, Wright Field, requesting that we ascertain the whereabouts of the files of the late scientist, Dr. Nichola [sic] Tesla, which may contain data of great value to the above Headquarters. It has been indicated that your office might have these files in custody. If this is true, we would like to request your consent for a representative of the Air Technical Service Command to review them. In view of the extreme importance of these files to the above command, we would like to request that we be advised of any attempt by any other agency to obtain them. (Italics supplied.)"

"Because of the urgency of this matter, this communication will be delivered to you by a Liaison Officer of this office in the hope of expediting the solicited information."

The "other" agency that had the files, or should have had them, was the Air Technical Service Command itself! Colonel Doty's letter, which was classified under the Espionage Act, was declassified on May 8, 1980.

This embarrassing contretemps goes unexplained in the records. Perhaps it was handled orally with the Liaison Officer.

However, on October 24, 1947, David L. Bazelton, assistant attorney general and director of the Office of Alien Property, wrote to the commanding officer of the Air Technical Service Command, Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, regarding the Tesla photostats that had been sent by registered mail on or about September 11, 1945, to Colonel Holliday, at the latter's request.

"Our records do not reveal that this material has been returned," said Bazelton. He sent a description and asked that it be returned.

Obviously at least one set of Tesla's papers had reached Wright Field because on November 25, 1947, there was a response to the Office of Alien Property from Colonel Duffy, chief of the Electronic Plans Section, Electronic Subdivision, Engineering Division, Air Materiel Command, Wright Field. He replied: "These reports are now in the possession of the Electronic Subdivision and are being evaluated. ..." He believed that the evaluation should be completed by January 1,

1948, and "At that time your office will be contacted with respect to final disposition of these papers."

There is no written record that OAP ever sought further to have the documents returned, and they were not returned.

For many years there have been rumors that these unpatented inventions or concepts of Tesla's found their way not only to the U.S. Army Air Force but to Russia and to private American defense industries, and ultimately into certain university research laboratories engaged in beam weaponry.

The Office of Alien Property experienced a very difficult problem over the years in explaining its role in connection with Tesla's papers. Between 1948 and 1978 it issued the following variations on a theme to many inquirers:

"While this Office participated in an examination of certain material owned by the late Dr. Tesla, our records do not disclose that any such material has been vested or is presently under the jurisdiction of this Office. ..."

"This Office has never had custody ... of any property of Nikola Tesla. ..."

"While the Tesla papers were in our custody. ..."

"Photostatic copies of certain documents, made while the papers were under our seal. ..."

"In 1943 this Office placed a seal on the property. ..."

"While the Tesla papers were in our custody. ..." etc., etc., etc.

As for what is now Headquarters Aeronautical Systems Division, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, they state: "The organization (Equipment Laboratory) that performed the evaluation of Tesla's papers was deactivated several years ago. After conducting an extensive search of lists of records retired by that organization, in which we found no mention of Tesla's papers, we concluded the documents were destroyed at the time the laboratory was deactivated." (Italics supplied. Response, under the Freedom of Information Act, dated July 30, 1980.)

Tesla's original papers, and the remaining models of his inventions—his magnifying transmitter, robot boats, early tube lighting, induction motors, turbine, exhibits shown at the Chicago World's Fair of 1893, such as the "Egg of Columbus," and others—left America in 1952 for Yugoslavia. His ashes were sent later. The artifacts may now be seen at the Tesla Museum in Belgrade, a dignified-looking building with a broad, well-proportioned facade at No. 51 Proleterskih

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Brigade, an avenue renamed after the war, but formerly known under the monarchy as Crown Street. The museum bears a plaque on a low wall, printed in the old Cyrillic alphabet.

Here Tesla's English writings have been translated into Serbo-Croatian—except, as the archival scholars, for the "unimportant" material, which remains, just as he wrote it, in the language of his adopted country.



## The Legacy

The fact that Tesla's research notes and papers have not been easily available for western scientists has not, of course, meant that Tesla's research is dead. On the contrary, the very mystery surrounding some of his unproved claims has served to goad numerous scientists into trying to duplicate his experiments. And since his aspirators were virtually limitless, there has always been a chance that the rewards of success would not be inconsiderable. But the single greatest stimulus to try to follow in Tesla's footsteps doubtless remains the example of the man himself—his stunning record of achievement and the enduring fascination of his mind. As one admiring German writer put it, "Tesla went beyond the borders of the exact science to forecast what lies in the future ... a modern Prometheus who dared reach for the stars..."

Although a comprehensive summary of the state of Tesla-inspired research today would be beyond either the scope of this book or the intent of its author, no account of the inventor's life would be complete without at least some indication of what has become of a few of his major preoccupations. The record, as one might expect, is both mixed and incomplete, but it is no less impressive for that.

To begin, then, with Tesla's experiments with ball lightning: He had no idea what ball lightning might be useful for when he first encountered it in his Colorado Springs research; to him it was a nuisance, but it demanded an explanation. And so he set about determining the mode of formation of the strange beads and learned to produce them artificially.

The technical explanation runs like this: In the highly resonant transformer secondary comprising his magnifying transmitter, the entire energy accumulated in the excited circuit, instead of requiring a quarter period for transformation from static to kinetic, could spend half in less time, at hundreds of thousands of horsepower. Thus, for example, Tesla produced artificial fireballs by suddenly causing the impressed oscillations to be more rapid than free ones of the second-

any. This skirted the point of maximum electrical pressure below the elevated terminal capacity, and a ball of fire would leap great distances. Yet strangely enough, modern plasma physicists with the best-equipped laboratories, have failed to produce phenomena with anything near the stability of the true ball-lightning spheres that he created.

Why the fascination with this problem? First, of course, because it is there, an unknown. But second because among other uses, it may hold a vital key in the international race to achieve controlled nuclear fusion—potentially the greatest power source in history. Among those long interested in ball-lightning research are Peter Kapiza, the great Russian physicist; Lambert Dolphin and his colleagues in the radio physics laboratory at SRI International; Dr. Robert W. Bass of Brigham Young University; and Robert Golka, with whom Bass has collaborated on research.

Golka, a Massachusetts physicist, Tesla disciple, and lightning experimenter, has pursued the ephemeral fireball with the fervor of a hunter of snarks. Like Tesla in Colorado, he has done his research alone in a remote western laboratory in the Utah salt flat, and like Tesla, he has struggled to win the kind of federal support that usually goes only to enormous institutions or corporations.

In the largest hangar at the far end of the ghost base at Wendover, Utah, which was built by the U.S. Army Air Force during World War II, big spotlights are often burning as Golka conducts lightning tests. Here, under tightest security in the 1940's, the B-29 Enola Gay was housed and outfitted for delivering the first atomic bombs to Hiroshima.

Golka made two trips to the Tesla Museum to pore over the inventor's then unpublished notes and concentrated on replicating as exactly as he could in the old air base hangar the magnifying transmitter that Tesla had built in 1899 when investigating the lightning storms of Pike's Peak.

"The [Tesla] was 'way ahead of anything we have today in the equipment he built," Golka says. "Such as the high-powered switches and spark gap switches. The knowledge has been lost; we don't know how he did it. Some of it was in the diaries, but he kept much of the stuff in his head."

Golka built a magnifying transmitter at his "Project Tesla" that would discharge 22 million volts, creating almost twice as powerful a chain-lightning storm as the maestro himself had produced at Colorado Springs.

The relevance of ball lightning to fusion research has to do with the problem of confining plasma. The heart of the most common type of experimental fusion reaction involves taking isotopic hydrogen gas and both accelerating and superheating it until the hydrogen nuclei fuse to make helium nuclei, releasing, in the process, staggering amounts of energy. Along this way, while the hydrogen is being charged with vast amounts of kinetic and thermal energy, it enters an imperceptibly understood material state known as plasma. In the penultimate stages of the process, before fusion begins, the heating problem is to maintain the plasma's coherence, to confine it within some kind of invisible electromagnetic "bottle."

Since the strongest geometric shape is a sphere, Golka believes that ball lightning offers the best potential for containment of the unstable mass. He describes the odd lightning as "a glowing sphere of variable mass. He describes the odd lightning as "a glowing sphere of a variety of colors, a half-inch in diameter or as big as a grapefruit," and resembling an onion in its "layers and layers of alternating charged particles, positive and negative." It may bounce along through buildings, fall into water and set it boiling, and sometimes, as at the Hill Air Force Base in Utah, it may knock out the most sophisticated electronic equipment. In the summer of 1978, with the use of CO<sub>2</sub> laser beams, he finally managed to produce "bead" lightning, which he believes to be a form of ball lightning, and to photograph it in sequential frames.

He then sought support from the U.S. Department of Energy for a major program of research for which he proposed to use a device called a pycnosphere, employing the laser beams to create thermonuclear fusion. In a "Fireball Fusion Reactor" only nonradioactive helium is created and, according to Golka, mathematical models indicate it can reach and hold temperatures above a billion degrees.

He also proposed to the Air Force another Teslaian concept, a charged particle beam, but again one designed to employ laser technology. Such beam guns, he believes, would have a range of uses. "That recent years plasma had no major industrial importance but was merely a laboratory curiosity. Richard L. Berns, executive vice president of International Plasma Corp., believes that the first practical application of plasmas came in the 19th century when 'the glowing plasma produced by a Tesla coil was used to locate leaks in gas vacuum tubes.'"

Tesla ideas are also involved in other aspects of fusion research. Superconducting magnetic coils, cooled to a few degrees above absolute zero, are used to magnetic confinement devices, and, in a newly developed rapid process, hydrogen fuel pellets are being bombarded by high-energy particle beams.

6,000 miles and could melt and destroy KCBM-type missiles in the air. With a Tesla coil three times the size of his combined coils, Goda believed he could generate 200 million volts of electricity.

But he inherited the usual Teslaian problems of a loner, and as he said, "The walls fell in on me when I work for corporations." His work reached a point where it could no longer progress with improved equipment, but called for enormous investments. His competitors were large corporations and leading universities engaged in the nuclear-fusion race; and even some of the latter were being cut off from their federal grants. They too were deeply into laser technology, although Goda claims his system is different and unique. By no means the only scientist to have attempted to carry forward Tesla's work with ball lightning, he undoubtedly has been one of the most distinguished.

Russia's Kapitza, who shared the 1978 Nobel Prize in physics with Arno Penzias and Robert W. Wilson of America for his work in magnetron and the behavior of matter at extremely low temperatures, acknowledges his debt to Tesla. "The efficient generation of super-high-frequency oscillations and their conversion back to direct-current electrical energy," he writes, "discusses possible solutions to the problem of transmitting electrical energy ... in free space. The transmission strap will, of course, be similar to that already considered but, instead of a wave guide, a highly directional beam must be used which, as is well-known, only at short wavelengths will diverge little. Such a setup for the transmission of electrical energy, first thought by N. Tesla many years ago, has already been discussed. ... Although ... possible in principle, it is tied up with the solution of a series of complicated engineering problems and therefore it can be implemented in practice only in such special situations in which other methods of energy transmission are inapplicable (for example, when energy must be supplied to a satellite)."

In this field of wireless energy transmission, so directly concerned with the space race, there is progress nearer home. Richard Dickinson, who heads the Microwave Power Transmission project in Cal Tech's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in the desert near Barstow, California, traces his inspiration to the early work of Tesla. The concept of bringing electricity to Earth from an orbiting solar-power system is "Lambert Doolittle says of Goda's replica of the Colorado Springs Tesla coil. It is particular indeed, to either scientists or laymen. I hope it ends up in a museum not as the Sarcophagus, where it can be appreciated." He too is a proponent of laser research in ball lightning.

microwaves is daring, costly, romantic, and thoroughly in the style of the microwave.

"We beamed power from our transmitter at Goldstone a distance of one mile," Dickinson said of the NASA project initiated in the mid-seventies. "All of the microwave energy that fell within our target (of which we could only collect a portion with our existing apparatus), we converted 82.5 percent to useful direct current. Thirty-four thousand watts of direct current output carried a distance of one mile. We are well pleased. The next step is to look further into the technology and needs of the satellite power system of the future."

William C. Bevon of the Raytheon Company, who developed the sectorua used in the microwave-power research, also attributes the idea of sending electricity by radio waves to Tesla's pioneering in the fundamentals of radio broadcasting and wireless power transmission.

Theoretically, a city the size of New York could be supplied with five billion watts on a winter day by enormous satellite structures in the sky that would orbit synchronously with Earth at a height of 22,300 miles. But admittedly, the cost of such floating power stations would be many billions of dollars, and they would be highly vulnerable to enemy laser satellites, in the event of war.

Brookhaven National Laboratory, located just to the northeast of Tesla's old Wardenclyffe site at Shoreham, also feels a close link with the inventor through the advanced high-energy work being conducted at the laboratory. In 1976 it paid homage to him in a ceremony, and the Yugoslav government sent a plaque to be placed at the self-standing Wardenclyffe laboratory.

Canada, too, has long been a bastion of Tesla Energy System advocates, and because of the country's rich hydroelectric sources, through-the-Earth transmission—if it worked—could be a boon to areas of power shortage.

But—will it work? Several projects have been planned, and some partially implemented, in Canada, central Minnesota, and most recently in Southern California—to "pump" hydroelectric power westward through the Earth to an area of need, employing the Tesla system as it is understood. The U.S. Department of Energy has often been asked to fund projects based on Tesla's system.

Unfortunately, there is no evidence that the system ever worked for Tesla, and none that it could work for anyone else. One of the inventor's problems was that he improperly extended into the electromagnetic domain field and fluid-mechanical analogies. Tesla's patent No. 787,412 provides for the Earth to be excited by a carefully

valued wavelength to establish a standing wave condition. Teala believed the propagation path fell along a diameter. But according to much knowledge developed since 1899, the propagation path would not be along a diameter but, rather, along an elliptical arc somewhere between the diameter and the spherical surface.

A fundamental aspect of wave propagation of power is that no power is transmitted if the wave is standing; power is transmitted solely with a traveling component. Boundary layer propagation, i.e., the mode of lossless propagation of waves at the boundary of two differing media (such as earth and sky) is a viable concept. However, the boundary plane must be smooth and the waves must be properly launched. At the frequencies Teala was using, such launching apparatus would be an enormous structure. In examining the photographs of his experimental station at Colorado Springs, it is apparent to experts that he did not employ apparatus essential to the launching of such waves.

Teala probably was mistaken at Colorado Springs in his interpretation of the lightning storms which he observed traveling away from him (eastwardly) across the plain, producing maxima and minima effects upon his instruments. This he interpreted as standing waves being set up in the Earth by the traveling storm, with the crests of the waves passing through his location as the storm advanced. It is believed he was seeing an interference effect caused by the radiating surface of the frontal range of mountains to the west of his station. The results would have been the same on his instruments.

Dr. Weilt, formerly senior scientist at the Environmental Research Laboratories, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in Colorado, describes himself as a "firm skeptic" of the Teala theory. "The concept that electromagnetic energy penetrates through the earth," he says, "is valid only if the frequency is sufficiently low and if the distances are small. It's all tied up with skin-effect phenomena; that means that the field is confined to the surface of a good conductor as in metallic wave guide."

Dr. Weilt even goes so far as to suggest that Teala never really accepted the fact that electromagnetic waves could transport energy through the air. "Instead he thought of the earth itself as a conveyor and also thought of the possibility of a return conductor at heights of 15 miles above sea level." This parallel of this idea to the earth-ionosphere wave guide at extremely low frequencies is striking (see IEEE Journals of Oceanic Engineering, Vol. OE-2, No. 2, April 1977). Also his proposed resonance of the system might be interpreted as the first disclosure of the earth-ionosphere cavity oscillations that have

been associated from the early 1960s with W. O. Schumann, N. Ostashev, and J. Galejs, among others."

With respect to wireless communication, the U.S. Navy's Project Seagull/Seafarer of recent years has evolved from Teala's Colorado experiments. In a thermodynamic wave, conventional radio communication probably would be disrupted at certain heights and wavelengths. America's atomic submarine fleet might then be without a means of receiving messages. The U.S. Navy, seeing the danger, turned back to Teala's nineteenth-century suggestion of employing 10 Hz signals (ELF or extra low frequency) to circle the globe and penetrate the deepest waters.

One of the heaviest speculations concerning Tealan science is a suggestion that Russia has been employing his theories on weather modification to interfere with the jet stream, causing droughts and extremes of hot and cold weather. However unlikely the change, it is true that Teala did do a good deal of theorizing (but very little experimentation) on weather control.

He wrote, for example, on the possible use of radio-controlled missiles and explosives to break up tornadoes and the use of "lightning of a certain kind" to trigger rainfall. Of the former he said, "It would not be difficult to provide special automata for this purpose, carrying explosive charges, liquid air or other gas, which could be put into action, automatically or otherwise, and which would create a sudden pressure or suction, breaking up the whirl. The missiles themselves might be made of material capable of spontaneous ignition." His proposal included a lengthy mathematical formula.<sup>6</sup>

As with much modern scientific exploration inspired by the maestro, the returns are still not in on weather changing. Scientist Frederic Juerneman, "Innovative Notebook" columnist for *Industrial Research* magazine, calls attention to the fact that Dr. Robert Heilmann and John Kaszafra of Stanford University's Radio Science Laboratory, demonstrated that very low frequency radio waves can cause oscillations in the magnetosphere. With a 20-ton antenna and a 5 MHz transmitter in the Antarctic, they found that the earth's magnetosphere could be modulated to cause high energy particles to cascade into our atmosphere, and by turning the signal on or off they could start or stop the energy flow.

"The theoretical implication suggested by their work," says Juerneman, "is that global weather control can be attained by the injection of relatively small 'signals' into the Van Allen belts—something like a super-transistor effect."

But Juerneman's speculations go further and are entirely

worthy of Tesla: "If Tesla's resonance effects, as shown by the Stanford team, can control enormous energies by minuscule triggering signals, then by an extension of this principle we should be able to affect the field environment of the very stars in the sky... With godlike arrogance, we someday may yet direct the stars in their courses."<sup>11</sup>

No biography of Tesla would be complete without mention of his bright following of amateur physicists who build Tesla coils for their personal research, endeavoring to replicate his electrical magic; and the young inventors who pore over his basic patents and still find inspiration from them.

Durlin C. Cox, a Wisconsin physicist who has pondered Tesla's published writings, has built two Tesla coils, the second of 10 million volts. The reasons: "My own personal interest in high voltage engineering, especially in the field of high frequency rf transformers; to further my studies on the laboratory production of ball lightning; and because the University of Wisconsin at Madison asked me to submit a Tesla coil in their bi-annual Engineering Exposition in the spring of 1981." He and friends built one Tesla coil for a Hollywood studio for lightning effects, which has been a common use of them.

Electrical engineer Leland Anderson has summarized the major points in design that a coil builder might gain from reading Tesla's *Colorado Springs Notes*:

1. The Q's of the primary and secondary must be as high as practicable.
  2. The Q's of the primary and secondary should be equal.
  3. The length of the secondary winding should be one-quarter of the effective operating wavelength.
  4. The technique of using an "extra coil" tank circuit (or a variation of it) in the secondary to magnify the voltage should be used.
- "With these criteria in mind," he says, "the builder will find that hundreds of turns are not necessary for the secondary winding to achieve high voltages."

Last but not least, what about Tesla's death/disintegrator rays? Were his concepts sound? If they were found useful by the U.S. Army Air Force research team, whose top-secret project was rumored to have had the code name "Project Nick," it may be safely assumed that instead of being "destroyed," as reported, his papers are still highly classified.

Dr. Trump's evaluation and Swezey's assessment of Tesla's "secret weapons" have, however, received updated concurrence by

Lambert Dolphin, assistant director of the Radio Physics Laboratory at SRI International, who has studied the inventor's work and his ball-lightning research for two decades. He points out that the fields of knowledge of both physics and electrical engineering have grown exponentially since about 1930.

"Whole libraries are now required just to keep track of all the theory and experience that have unfolded since Tesla's time," he says. "Our mathematical and practical understanding of electricity, magnetism, electromagnetic theory, and radio communications has continued to grow explosively ever since 1950, or should I say 1970!"

Tesla, Dolphin believes, "may have had intuitive insight into lasers and high-energy particle beams as well as ultra-high voltage phenomena, but now that we understand all the physics much more, we can easily evaluate many of his extravagant later-life claims."<sup>12</sup>

In fact, there is no good evidence to suggest that Tesla anticipated lasers. His "teleforce rays" seem to have been concerned exclusively with high-energy particle beams. We still do not know precisely how he intended them to work, although, says Dolphin, the available evidence suggests that Tesla may not have paid sufficient attention to how greatly such beams may be absorbed or dispersed by molecules and atoms in the air. In any case, even if we did understand Tesla's intentions more clearly, we should be hard put to compare them to the current state of the art, much of which is hidden under high security classifications.

Nevertheless, Tesla's work with high voltages to accelerate charged particles does seem to have been decidedly in what is now the mainstream of physical research. "In this field," says Dolphin, "he anticipated modern linear and circular nuclear accelerators. Such machines today have energy levels of tens of billions of electron volts or at least 1,000 times greater energy levels than Tesla ever attained.

"I am sure his magnifying transmitters were spectacular... He probably generated some interesting arcs and sparks that were what we now study as plasmas. The containment of plasmas is a huge area of modern physics. For example... to see if small amounts of matter can be turned into immense amounts of electrical power in carefully contained plasmas." But Tesla's early discoveries and inventions, he concludes, were indeed ingenious and ahead of their time.<sup>13</sup>

As this book goes to press, the Pentagon is studying the creation of a new branch of the armed services, to be known as the U.S. Space Command, whose primary arsenal will consist of laser and particle-beam weapons fired from "space battleships." In prose not

unlike Tesla's own, a Department of Defense fact sheet compares particle beams to "directed lightning bolts"—although without explicitly admitting that such a weapon has in fact been developed.

It is difficult to assess the current state of the beam-weapon program because virtually everything about it is heavily classified. Apparently the technology involved has proved to be complex and difficult, raising questions about the project's feasibility, but many experts nevertheless seem to be hard at work on the problem. At the same time, the activities of the other nations in this area have been monitored carefully by agencies of the federal government. Indeed the possibility of creating a family of particle-beam weapons has been a subject of serious discussion in this country for at least the past twenty-five years, and it is, in my opinion, of no little significance that as long ago as 1947 the Military Intelligence Service identified the writings about a particle-beam among Tesla's scientific papers as being "of extreme importance."

Since he had no laboratory in the later years of his life, Tesla was unable to develop his ideas. But it is undeniable that he described in general terms half a century ago what may prove to be one of the main weapons of the Space Age. And to the end of his days, Tesla the pacifist hoped that such knowledge would be used, not for war among Earthlings, but for interplanetary communication with our neighbors in space, of whose existence he felt certain.



## Bibliographical Essay

Some of Tesla's own writing—lectures, articles, patents, papers, and letters—is now available in the United States. His most important lectures and his brief autobiography in bound volumes, see listed in the prologue to the reference notes.

Creation of biographies of Tesla by O'Neill, Hunt, and Dreger, and others may be found in the reference notes. The O'Neill manuscript and the Sweeney Collection are to be found at the Smithsonian Institution, Doherty Library.

Serious Tesla scholars will wish to consult the annotated Dr. Nikola Tesla Bibliography by J. T. Ratzliff, and L. I. Anderson (San Carlos, California, Ragusan Press, 1979), for it contains some 3,000 sources of writings by and about Tesla. "Priority in the invention of Radio, Tesla v. Marconi," by Leland Anderson may be obtained through the Antique Wireless Association, Monograph New Series No. 4.

A new means of analyzing Tesla's inventions is provided in Dr. Nikola Tesla: *Selected Patent Wrappers from The National Archives*, by J. T. Ratzliff (Millbrae, Ca., Tesla Book Co., 1980). These "the wrappers" provide explanations and correspondence between the patentee and the Patent Office, to overcome objections raised by the examiner.

Tesla's Colorado Springs Notes, 1899-1900, published in 1978 by the Tesla Museum, is available through North, Teraszle, 27, Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

The Library of Congress Manuscripts Division contains microfilm correspondence between Tesla and George Scherff, Robert Underwood Johnson, Mark Twain, members of the Morgan family, George Westinghouse, and the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company.

In addition original correspondence and photographs may be found at the Butler Library, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Columbia University, including letters between Tesla and Johnson, Scherff, and



REFERENCE PAGES

96 pages

February 12, 1937

Mr. Edgar Hoover, Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I do not know whether or not the recent series of air crashes on the west coast has attracted the attention of your department, or whether, if investigation were indicated, the jurisdiction would be your own. An idea as to the cause of these crashes has occurred to me, however, and I thought it might bear a bit of checking up.

If you will check newspaper files as far back as 1934, I believe you will find that the earliest of the unexplained (and apparently unexplainable crashes) occurred about that time.

As I remember the events, it was during that year that three small planes exploded in the air over Texas and southwestern Kansas and Oklahoma. These crashes were not accounted for, either by subsequent investigation where the plane occupants were killed or by the experience of surviving plane occupants in one case.

Following these tragedies there came a lapse of about a year, after which there occurred (likewise without apparent reason) the series of crashes which cost the lives of a senator, of Knute Rockne, and a number of others. All crashes again occurred in the South and Southwest.

Again there was a lapse of time, this one not quite a year, and there started the worst series of air disasters the country has yet seen. One plane lost in the Southwest and not yet accounted for. One plane crashes into a mountainside within sight of its airport. And now the most recent incident, the falling of a United liner into San Francisco Bay while circling its airport, preparatory to landing.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Now in this most recent incident, the experience of the radio operator at the airport seems to me to be highly illuminating. This operator reported a soft buzz interrupting his communication with the liner ... a loud roar such as produced by the worst imaginable static ... then silence. The plane had dropped into the bay like a plummet.

law

62-47649-1

FEB 24 1937

[Redacted]

(b)(1)(c)

159

Crank pilots do not suddenly become rank hams and bungle in handling a ship. Nor do the three motors (or even two) on the large airliners, stop simultaneously without extremely sufficient reason. These things might happen once or even twice in a lifetime. They do not happen six and eight times a year. It is not logical that they should.

To digress for a moment, I recall reading an article in a magazine a year or two ago, written by Nikola Tesla, the inventor. The article dealt with a new invention of Mr. Tesla's ... a giant induction coil which would project power (high voltage) through the atmosphere without the use of transmission wires. Mr. Tesla devoted some space to the possible social benefits that would result to the public should his invention be perfected and become practical.

I have not heard of Mr. Tesla now in two or three years. Perhaps he has left the country. Perhaps he is still here. He might still be working on the invention described in the above-mentioned article. It might have been stolen from him.

In any case, his views on the ideas presented by these two unconnected subjects, would be well worth while having. And if I had the money and the time, I should certainly make an effort to smoke him out myself.

The thing is simply this: if one man can make an instrument that will project power through the air for even so short a distance as 500 yards (the then-practical limitations of Mr. Nikola's device) it is entirely possible for another to project power for several hundreds of miles. And the effect of such uncontrolled power on metallic objects in its path is entirely unpredictable.

Please do not think me a "crank" letter writer. I have never before written a letter of this type to anyone. But the idea seems to me so within the bounds of possibility that I most sincerely feel it will bear some practical study.

Yours very respectfully,

[Redacted signature]

(b)(7)(c)

Letter Ack. + Ref.  
Gen. Air Commerce  
cc - [Redacted]  
2-27-37 [Redacted]

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

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

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Section 552

Section 552a

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J. EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR



JBL:ed

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
**Washington, D. C.**

January 11, 1943

13818

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E.A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
EXPERIMENTS AND RESEARCH  
OF NIKOLA TESLA (Deceased)  
ESPIONAGE - R

*Called*  
[Redacted]

(b)  
7  
C

In a teletype from the New York Office dated January 9, 1943, the Bureau's advice is requested as to what action should be taken in connection with this matter. It is to be noted that Tesla died January 7, 1943, and resided at the Hotel New Yorker. He was one of the world's outstanding scientists in the electrical field and has been conducting many experiments in connection with wireless transmission of electrical power and what is commonly referred to as the "Death Ray".

Sava Kosanovich, a distant relative intensely disliked by Tesla, is taking steps to get possession of these important documents and plans. Kosanovich on January 7, 1943, with George Clark, in charge of the Museum and Laboratory for RCA, and Kenneth Swezey of Brooklyn, New York, entered Tesla's rooms in the Hotel New Yorker and, with the aid of a locksmith, broke into a safe containing some of Tesla's valuable papers, including important electrical formulae, designs, et cetera.

Tesla is reported to have completed and perfected his experiments in the radio transmission of electrical power and to have conceived and designed a revolutionary type of torpedo not presently in use by any nation. It is reported that Kosanovich may possibly make this material available to the enemy.

**ACTION:**

I called Mr. [Redacted] of the New York Office at 12:30 P.M. and pointed out the apparent burglary violation on the part of Kosanovich. I told him this matter should be discreetly discussed with the State's Attorney in New York City with a view to locating Kosanovich and apprehending him on a burglary charge in order to determine the nature of the material he took from Tesla's safe. I pointed out the necessity for the State's Attorney keeping any action most secret in view of the highly confidential nature of the plans involved. I also suggested that the New York Office contact the Surrogate Court in order that Tesla's effects as well as the contents of his safety deposit boxes might not be entered without the presence of a Bureau Agent in order that we may endeavor to preserve the secrecy of any plans or items essential to the conduct of the war and national security.



*to ny 1-21-43*  
[Redacted]

RECORDED  
INDEXED  
1943  
Respectfully,  
[Redacted]  
JAN 15 1943  
[Redacted]

65-47953-1

13516

January 21, 1943

SAC, New York

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; SAVA KOSANOVICH;  
EXPERIMENTS AND RESEARCH OF NIKOLA TESLA (Deceased)  
ESPIONAGE (R)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to a teletype dated January 9, 1943, from the New York Field Office and to a phone conversation between Mr. J. B. Little of the Bureau and Assistant Special Agent in Charge Donagan on January 11, 1943.

It was pointed out to Mr. Donagan that Sava Kosanovich, George Clark and Kenneth Sweeney may have committed a burglary violation by entering Tesla's rooms after his death and particularly by using a lockpick to get into a safe containing some of Tesla's valuable papers. Mr. Donagan was advised this matter should be discreetly discussed with the State's Attorney, New York City, with a view to locating Kosanovich and apprehending him on a burglary charge, in order to ascertain the nature of the material taken from the safe of Nikola Tesla. It was also suggested that the New York Office contact the Surrogate Court, in order that Tesla's effects, as well as the contents of his safety deposit boxes, might not be entered without the presence of an Agent, in order that the secrecy of any plans or items essential to the conduct of the war or national security might be preserved. It was stated that Kosanovich might possibly make certain material available to the enemy.

A review of the Bureau files reveals considerable information concerning Nikola Tesla and his inventions and it should be noted that one Nicola Tesla, who might have been identical with Nikola Tesla, made a speech at the Grange Hall, Springfield, Massachusetts, on June 4, 1922, under the auspices of the Friends of Soviet Russia.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Kraus

- McGuire
- Harbo
- Quinn Tamm
- Rose
- Handy

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148 OCT 26 1964

FEB 10 1943

Handwritten signature and redacted areas.

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(7)  
(C)

SAC, New York

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(6)  
(2)  
(C)

No record of Kenneth Sweeney could be located in the Bureau files from the information available.

The foregoing information is being furnished for possible future reference in connection with this case and it is desired that the Bureau be kept promptly and currently informed of all developments in this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
New York, New York

EBC:PM  
65-12290

March 19, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; SAVA KOSANOVICH;  
EXPERIMENTS AND RESEARCH OF NIKOLA TESLA  
(Deceased);  
ESPIONAGE, MISCELLANEOUS

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the Bureau letter in the above-captioned matter dated January 21, 1943, in which it is stated that it is desired that the Bureau be kept promptly and currently informed of all developments in this case.

In view of a telephone call from Mr. Little of the Bureau to Mr. T. J. Donegan, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the New York Office, dated January 14, 1943, in which Mr. Little stated that the above-captioned matter was now being handled as an Alien Enemy Custodial Detention matter and therefore no further action should be taken in the matter by the New York Field Division, this case is being considered closed in this Office, unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau at some future time.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy

E. E. CONROY  
Special Agent in Charge

*Alien En  
Custodian*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-18-89 BY SP1A/60  
# 291860

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65-47953-3  
FBI  
20 MAR 22 1943  
[Redacted]

*ta*

OFF BUREAU



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.**

FILE NO. **100-8189**

REPORT MADE AT <b>BALTIMORE, MARYLAND</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-29-43</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>3-6-43</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> (b)(7)(c)
TITLE <b>SAVA M. KOSANOVICH, with alias Sava M. Kosonovitch</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY G. CUSTODIAL DETENTION</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

**SAVA M. KOSANOVICH,** [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)  
[REDACTED] Reported to have turned over patents and effects to Alien Property Custodian, NYC, for NICK TESLA. [REDACTED]

- R U C - ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-28-85 BY SA [REDACTED]  
# 291866

**REFERENCE:**

Letter from New York Field Division dated 2-22-43.

**DETAILS:**

AT DOVER, DELAWARE

(b)(7)(c)  
Mr. ABE SPANEL, President of the International Latex Corporation, advised that [REDACTED] He stated that he had been a very good friend of NICK TESLA who has died recently and that he believes that the subject is a third or fourth cousin of TESLA and that when TESLA died, the subject was his only close relative in this country and TESLA's effects came into his possession.

SPANEL related that the subject had recently turned over to the government the majority of the patents of NICK TESLA. SPANEL described TESLA as being one of the greatest inventors that has ever lived. He stated he had more than

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	SF
COPIES DESTROYED		<b>65-47953-4</b>	RECORDS
148 OCT 26 1964	THIS REPORT	APR 22 1943	
5 - Bureau		17	(b)(7)(c)
4 - NYC (2 G-2)			
2 - Baltimore			
<b>53 APR 22 1943</b>			

900 inventions and patents. SPANEL stated that at one time TESLA had an invention in which he was able to direct electrical current without the means of a conductor. He felt that this type of an invention would be of invaluable assistance to any country at war and for this reason felt that TESLA's inventions and patents should be put into the hands of proper Government officials, where they might be put to the best advantage for the United States. He does not believe the subject is engaged in any un-American activities and stated that he was more than willing to turn these patents and inventions over to the proper Government agency. He asserted that before TESLA died, he had spoken to the subject regarding his becoming a United States citizen and SPANEL believes that he is now taking the proper steps to achieve that end.

SPANEL also stated that the subject had handed all of the effects of the deceased TESLA to the Alien Property Custodian in New York City.

SPANEL advised that the day before TESLA died he had tried to get in touch with War Department officials in Washington in order that he might make available to them patents and inventions that he had developed. However, he was not able to get in touch with the proper authorities and he died the following day.

SPANEL advised that the Yugoslavian Government had been sending TESLA approximately \$600.00 per month for sometime prior to his death and this was described as being a sort of pension.

SPANEL stated further that he has previously turned over information regarding the subject to Special Agent [REDACTED] of the New York Field Division. He also advised that WALDEMAR KEMPFERT, Science Editor, New York Times and BILL LAURENZ, Science Feature Writer, New York Times and the Science Editor of the Herald Tribune would be able to elaborate on some of the accomplishments of NICK TESLA and that the June 1900 issue of the Century Magazine also contained an article relating to the inventions of TESLA. (b)(7)(C)

SPANEL also stated that he believed BLOYCE FITZGERALD, Pierpont Hotel, Brooklyn, New York, Secretary to TESLA, has been contacted by Special Agent [REDACTED] and that if the New York Office wishes to contact SPANEL he may be reached at his home [REDACTED]

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

July 17, 1943

(b)(7)(C)  
[Redacted]  
2:45 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: SAVA KOSANOVICH  
INTERNAL SECURITY (S)  
CUSTODIAL DETENTION

At this time SA [Redacted] of the New York office telephoned, stating on the previous afternoon [Redacted] telephoned that office [Redacted] stated that she would like to be interviewed concerning certain information she possessed [Redacted]

(b)  
[Handwritten mark]

Agent [Redacted] stated [Redacted] two teletypes which the New York office forwarded to the Bureau under dates of January 9 and 10, 1943, in the case entitled UNKNOWN SUBJECTS, FUGITIVE, EXHIBITS AND RESEARCH OF NICOLA TESLA, INVENTOR, BROOKLYN (Bureau file 100-2237). Briefly, the information contained in these teletypes is that shortly after Nicola Tesla, one of the world's outstanding scientists in the electrical field, died in his hotel room at New York City on January 8, 1943, Sava Kosanovich, a distant relative, and other individuals entered his room and opened a safe, examining certain materials which he possessed. On January 8, Mr. L. M. C. Smith of the Department advised Mr. Tamm that he was concerned about the possibility of enemy agents confiscating some of the trunks of Tesla and that apparently, the Alien Property Custodian was taking some action in this matter. Inasmuch as the matter was being handled by the Alien Property Custodian's office, the Bureau did not conduct any inquiries into this situation.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-18-89 BY SP10/SGM  
# 291860

57 AUG 27 1943

Mr. Ladd

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ACTION:

[REDACTED]

There is attached for your approval a letter directed to the San Antonio Field Office requesting that this interview be conducted and also instructing that she be interrogated concerning the other matter referred to above, inasmuch as the Pittsburgh office has not as yet covered this interview.

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

(6)  
(7)  
(10)



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
 United States Department of Justice  
 New York 7, New York



IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO  
 FILE NO. 65-12290  
 HFR:mhm

252616  
 262119  
 5-12-86

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

9148 JTE/AG/32 October 17, 1945  
 7-13-45 4-18-49

Director, FBI

Re: ~~SPY AGG~~ # 291860  
 UNKNOWN SUBJECTS;  
 SAVA KOSANOVICH;  
 Experiments and research of NIKOLA TESLA (deceased)  
 ESPIONAGE - M

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the Bureau letter dated January 21, 1943, which bore a caption similar to that mentioned above.

The referenced letter dealt with the death, on January 7, 1943, of the famous inventor, NIKOLA TESLA, who as well as being the inventor of Alternating Current, perfected many electrical devices. He is also credited with having developed the so called "death ray" which would safeguard any country from attack by air.

On June 9, 1945, [redacted] of New York City furnished information of a nonspecific nature indicating that it was his belief that persons sympathetic to Russia were making an effort to secure the effects of NIKOLA TESLA in order to salvage therefrom any models or designs of possible military value. [redacted] claimed that he heard that ABRAHAM N. SPANGLER, President of the NATIONAL LANTERN CORPORATION, of Dover, Delaware was the motivating influence behind this attempt to obtain TESLA'S papers which are presently held in storage at the MANHATTAN STORAGE WAREHOUSE in New York City. [redacted] promised to return to the New York Field Division shortly after his initial visit and furnish further and more specific information to support his claims.

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ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

He was not heard from again, however, until September 27, 1945, at which time he furnished the following additional information:

He said that a boyhood chum of his from Wichita, Kansas, BLOOM FITZGERALD, had been TESLA'S protege and one of the inventor's few confidants. According to [redacted], FITZGERALD who is now an Army Private stationed at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, is a brilliant 29 year old scientist who spent endless hours with TESLA prior to the latter's death, during which time TESLA explained to him most secret experiments. [redacted] stated that FITZGERALD met TESLA in November 1942, but he had been corresponding with the latter since 1935. According to the informant, FITZGERALD had developed some sort of anti-tank gun, the details of which he presented to TESLA who made certain corrections in design and specifications to further perfect the weapon.

[redacted] related that sometime in December 1942, when FITZGERALD was attending a meeting of the AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, he made the acquaintance of ABRAHAM SPANGLER who became interested in FITZGERALD'S

000001 RETURN TO  
 INDEXING DESK

(b)  
 (7)  
 (c)

October 17, 1945

gun. SPANEL offered financial aid to FITZGERALD and the two were in the closest contact with each other for a considerable period of time. [REDACTED] said that FITZGERALD had lined up a deal for the purchase of the gun by the REMINGTON ARMS COMPANY, but for some reason SPANEL blocked this deal by reaching top men in the REMINGTON COMPANY. SPANEL is then reported as having obtained a job for FITZGERALD with the HIGGENS SHIP BUILDING COMPANY in New Orleans and negotiated a contract with FITZGERALD for the purchase and manufacture of the gun in a manner which would return 80% of the profits derived to SPANEL,

[REDACTED] stated that in November of 1943, for some unknown reason but which he believes to be attributable to SPANEL, FITZGERALD was fired by the HIGGENS COMPANY. In September of 1944, FITZGERALD was inducted into the Army and for a considerable period of time was located at an ordnance experimental station at Elgin Field, Florida. [REDACTED] stated that at the present time FITZGERALD is engaged in a highly secret experimental project at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio. In spite of his rank of Private, FITZGERALD actually is the director of this research and is working with many top young scientists who were inducted into Army from leading industrial posts.

According to [REDACTED], FITZGERALD is presently working on the perfection of TESLA'S "death ray" which in FITZGERALD'S opinion is the only possible defense against offensive use by another nation of the Atomic Bomb. In this connection, it is noted that the New York Times of September 22, 1940 in an article entitled "SCIENCE IN THE NEWS" by WILLIAM A. LAURENCE, Science Editor states that TESLA divulged to LAURENCE the fact that he had developed a "death ray" or "tele-force" which TESLA claimed would melt airplane motors at a distance of 250 miles, so that actually an invisible Chinese Wall would be built around a country against attack by an enemy air force. (b) (7) (C)

According to the article in the TIMES, this electrical device would operate by the generation of power from a plant, a number of which might be located strategically along our coast lines and the beam from which would melt any engine within a radius of 250 miles.

[REDACTED] stated that during FITZGERALD'S acquaintance with SPANEL, FITZGERALD had told SPANEL of his associations with TESLA and had apparently described to SPANEL some of TESLA'S most secret work. [REDACTED] believes that SPANEL, who he claims is definitely pro-Russian in attitude, is now attempting through legal procedure to secure custody of TESLA'S effects which are now held by TESLA'S only heir, one SAVA KOSANOVICH, who is presently in Yugoslavia occupying some governmental post.

It will be recalled that in an article published on March 15, 1945, by the KING FEATURE SYNDICATE INCORPORATED, WESTBROOK ENGLER charged SPANEL with spreading pro-communist and pro-Russian propoganda through his full page advertisement in the newspapers, which SPANEL characterized as being published for the INTERNATIONAL LATEX CORPORATION, as a public service feature. It is also interesting to observe that in the New York Times of October 2, 1945, an article appears which states that SPANEL is suing the KING FEATURE SYNDICATE INCORPORATED for six million dollars alleging the column by ENGLER to have been libelous.

[redacted] stated that through FITZGERALD he too had met SPANEL and from this personal acquaintance he formed the opinion that SPANEL was definitely a communist and is probably one of the financial supporters of the Communist Party in this country. [redacted] stated that SPANEL was born in Russia, but is now an American citizen. He also charged that SPANEL exerted tremendous political influence in Washington, D. C., and said that one of SPANEL'S closest political friends was HENRY WALLACE.

[redacted] advised that two agents from Army Intelligence contacted and stated that in an investigation to determine the qualifications of FITZGERALD for a commission, they had developed information indicating that SPANEL was definitely endeavoring to secure possession of TESLA'S effects.

[redacted] indicated that Army Intelligence was pursuing an investigation along these lines in an attempt to ascertain the complete story in this regard.

*psychological*



(b)  
(7)  
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[redacted] stated that FITZGERALD had interested a group of young Army scientists now working with him at Wright Field in this foundation, and their ultimate goal is to secure the support of a wealthy backer in order that a foundation might be established and that a sort of "idea factory" might result. He said that they intended to contact HENRY FORD, SR., to solicit his aid in this regard.

[redacted] related that probably the greatest idea of TESLA'S was that involving the wireless transmission of electrical power. He claimed that TESLA had performed a successful experiment many years ago at Pikes Peak, at which time he harnessed local current from the sun's rays which he built up into a huge potential of electrical energy. [redacted] said that according to FITZGERALD, if this idea could be furthered, all electrical energy to operate the world's machinery might be gotten absolutely free rather than by the costly method with which electrical power is presently generated. He said that his idea was to conduct further experiments along this line in China where the need for electrical power is very great.

Inquiry was made at the MANHATTAN STORAGE WAREHOUSE in New York City, and it was determined that the effects of NIKOLA TESLA are contained in some

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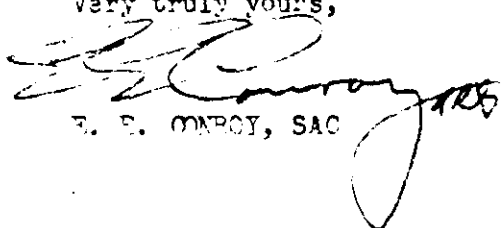
75 packing cases and trunks and are presently under seal by the New York State Department of Taxation. It was learned that the rental for this storage, which approximates \$15 per month, is being paid by one CHARLOTTE MUZAR, 134 East 63rd Street, New York, New York, who is listed as the agent for SAVA KOSANOVICH.

Inquiry was also made at the office of the Alien Property Custodian in New York City, concerning an investigation conducted by this office at the time of TESLA'S death, and at which time the latter's property was placed under seal by the United States Government. Mr. WALTER GORSUCH, Chief Investigator for the Alien Property Custodian, provided a cover letter and a summary of materials owned by TESLA at the time of his death which was examined by JOHN G. TRUMP, of the office of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT. Mr. GORSUCH also stated that his file in this matter reflected that on the night TESLA died his safe was forced open by a representative of the SHORE & WALKER SAFE COMPANY. It was Mr. GORSUCH'S belief that a Mr. SWEEZEY who is believed to be one of the editors of the POPULAR SCIENCE MAGAZINE was present in TESLA'S room shortly after the safe was opened. These individuals were WILLIS GEORGE, EDWARD PALMER, and JOHN J. CORBETT.

There are enclosed herewith two typewritten copies of the report by Mr. TRUMP of the ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN reflecting the findings of Mr. TRUMP, following his examination of TESLA'S effects. There is also enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of a list of persons associated with NIKOLA TESLA. This latter item was furnished by [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

The above information is furnished for the Bureau's information, and no investigation is being conducted by this office.

Very truly yours,

  
E. E. CONROY, SAC

3 Enclosures

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Address writer at:

Mass. Inst. of Tech.,  
Cambridge, Mass.  
January 29, 1943.

Mr. Walter Gorsuch,  
Alien Property Custodian,  
120 Broadway,  
New York, New York.

Dear Sir:

At your request and that of Mr. Joseph T. King of the Washington office of the Alien Property Custodian, I have examined the private papers, writings, and other property of the late Dr. Nikola Tesla with the view to determining both their possible usefulness to this country in its war effort and the possible hazard attendant on their falling into unfriendly hands.

This examination was made at the Manhattan Warehouse, 52nd Street, New York City, on January 26-27, and included all of the notes and material in Dr. Tesla's immediate possession at the time of his death and now in the custody of your office. For reasons indicated below, no investigation was made of material in trunks which had remained untouched in the basement of the New Yorker Hotel for ten years prior to Dr. Tesla's death.

As a result of this examination, it is my considered opinion that there exist among Dr. Tesla's papers and possessions no scientific notes, descriptions of hitherto unrevealed methods or devices, or actual apparatus which could be of significant value to this country or which would constitute a hazard in unfriendly hands. I can therefore see no technical or military reason why further custody of the property should be retained.

For your records, there has been removed to your office a file of various written material by Dr. Tesla which covers typically and fairly completely the ideas with which he was concerned during his later years. These documents are enumerated and briefly abstracted in the attachment to this letter.

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January 30, 1943.

It should be no discredit to this distinguished engineer and scientist whose solid contributions to the electrical art were made at the beginning of the present century to report that his thoughts and efforts during at least the past fifteen years were primarily of a speculative, philosophical, and somewhat promotional character—often concerned with the production and wireless transmission of power—but did not include new sound, workable principles or methods for realizing such results.

Very truly yours,

JOHN G. TRUMP,  
Technical Aide,  
Division 14, NIRC.

Enclosure.

JGT/g

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ABSTRACTS OF DR. NIKOLA TESLA'S WRITINGS  
RETAINED AS EXHIBITS  
FOR THE ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN

1.

On January 26 and 27, 1943, an examination was made of the technical papers of Dr. Nikola Tesla which, after his decease, had been stored in the Manhattan Warehouse in New York City. This examination was made for the purpose of determining if any ideas of significant value in the present United States war effort could be found among his possessions. Participating in this examination were Mr. John C. Newington, New York Office of the Alien Property Custodian; Mr. Charles J. Hedetniemi, Washington Office of the Alien Property Custodian; Dr. John G. Trump, Office of Scientific Research and Development, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Willis George, Office of Naval Intelligence, Third Naval District; Edward Palmer, Chief Yeoman, USNR; John J. Corbett, Chief Yeoman, USNR.

2.

The following papers, which are regarded as typical of Nikola Tesla's writings and thoughts in the period of 1925 to 1942, were removed for the purpose of record and are listed below in the random order in which they were found, together with a brief individual abstract.

Exhibit A

\*"Possibilities of Electrostatic Generators" - an undated article probably written about 1934 discussing the possibilities, as a source of high-voltage D-C power, of the Van de Graaff type of electrostatic belt generator. The article states correctly the electrostatic principles employed in this device and points out that such generators are not suitable for commercial high-power applications, though of undoubted scientific value. Tesla's wireless tower, erected in 1902 on Long Island, is stated in this memorandum to have been charged to 30 million volts.

Exhibit B

\*"Reactive Forces of Glycerine and Dynamite" - an undated memorandum involving some calculations of the explosive power of certain compounds and then deviating to a discussion of the possibility of transmitting power by mechanical vibrations along the earth's crust.

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Exhibit C

\*"Process of De-Gassifying, Refining, and Purifying Metals" - a 41-page memorandum probably written about 1930 dealing with the above subject and proposing new theories of capillarity and surface tension. This correspondence indicated that this had been submitted to various industrial companies.

Exhibit D

\*"Reply to Amtorg re 'the generation of high-voltage and the acceleration of charged particles'" - This document, dated November 8, 1935, answers questions raised by Soviet engineers and scientists regarding Tesla's proposal of May 16, 1935. From this answer, it is deduced that the proposal concerned the generation of high voltages by electrostatic means. These means consisted of a high-voltage terminal presumably supported on an insulating column and charged by a gaseous charge conveying medium passing between ground and terminal. The ideas contained in this memorandum are fairly similar to the belt-conveyor electrostatic generator methods proposed by Van de Graaff and do not appear to offer any unusual features.

Exhibit E

\*"Art of Telegeodynamics, or Art of Producing Terrestrial Motions at Distance" - This document, in the form of a letter dated June 12, 1940, to the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, proposes a method for the transmission of large amounts of power over vast distances by means of mechanical vibrations of the earth's crust. The source of power is a mechanical or electromechanical device bolted to some rocky protuberance and imparting power at a resonance frequency of the earth's crust. The proposed scheme appears to be completely visionary and unworkable. Westinghouse's reply indicates their polite rejection of this idea.

Exhibit F

\*"New Art of Projecting Concentrated Non-Dispersive Energy through Natural Media" - This undated document by Tesla describes an electrostatic method of producing very high voltages and capable of very great power. This generator is used to accelerate charged particles, presumably electrons. Such a beam of high-energy electrons passing through air is the "concentrated non-dispersive" means by which energy is transmitted through natural media. As a component of this apparatus there is described an open-ended vacuum tube within which the electrons are first accelerated.

Exhibit F (cont.)

The proposed scheme bears some relation to present means for producing high-energy cathode rays by the cooperative use of a high-voltage electrostatic generator and an evacuated electron acceleration tube. It is well known, however, that such devices, while of scientific and medical interest, are incapable of the transmission of large amounts of power in non-dispersed beams over long distances. Tesla's disclosures in this memorandum would not enable the construction of workable combinations of generator and tube even of limited power, though the general elements of such a combination are succinctly described.

Exhibit G

A circular by Carol Bird, dated September 10, 1938, entitled "Tremendous New Power Soon to Be Unleashed". This describes in popular style some biographical information concerning Nikola Tesla and some ideas for the transmission of power on which he is stated to be working. It appears that the method of transmission is by the mechanical resonance method outlined in Exhibit F, above.

Exhibit H

This exhibit consists of a series of letters to representatives of the British Government dated August 28, 1936; October 26, 1937; December 15, 1937; and April 5, 1938. It includes a reply dated January 7, 1938, from the British Government. These letters offer to the British Government, for a fee, the disclosure of a means for accelerating to high energies minute particles. Such beams would constitute a death ray capable of the protection of Great Britain from air attack.

The method proposed is essentially that described in Exhibit F above. Following the initial letter dated August 28, 1936, the subsequent letters attempt to clear up the "misunderstandings" of the British representatives and to expedite their acceptance of the Tesla proposal. The British reply dated January 7 is a polite expression of disinterest in the proposal.

Exhibit I

An undated memorandum written after Tesla's 79th birthday describing several discoveries which he believed he had made. The first related to a dynamic theory of gravity which is described as not yet completed. The second stated as a physical truth the belief that "there is no energy in matter other than that received from the environment". This second statement, which is discussed at length in this and other writings of Tesla, indicates his disbelief in the existence of atomic or nuclear energy.

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Exhibit J

"Method of Producing Powerful Radiations" - an undated memorandum in Tesla's handwriting describing "a new process of generating powerful rays or radiations". The memorandum reviews the works of Lanard and Crookes, describes Tesla's work on the production of high voltages, and finally in the last paragraph gives the only description of the invention contained in the memorandum. This description is as follows: "Briefly stated, my new simplified process of generating powerful rays consists in creating through the medium of a high-speed jet of suitable fluid a vacuous space around a terminal of a circuit and supplying the same with currents of the required tension and volume".

Exhibit K

A letter to prospective licensees on telegeodynamics dated December 27, 1941. This is a single-page letter with the type-written signature of Dr. Nikola Tesla, in which he addresses himself to the prospective licensees of telegeodynamics, states that over a half million dollars was spent on this development with funds contributed by the Morgans, Crawford, J. J. Astor, and Fish, as well as commercial organizations, and states this to be a new art with which "unbelievable wonders can be achieved".

Exhibit L

Tesla's "New System of Fluid Propulsion". This is an undated memorandum of about 20 typewritten pages describing a system of fluid propulsion in which the conversion from hydraulic to rotary mechanical power is achieved by passing the fluid between flat circular disks, shaft-mounted and enclosed in a casing.

This memorandum written about 1925 describes in general terms a kind of hydraulic turbine which seems practical. There is copious evidence among the other of Tesla's papers that this idea was generally disclosed to appropriate individuals and that it received favorable comment and possibly some use. Some of these comments are contained on the last page of the exhibit.

Exhibit M

"The Power of the Future" - a memorandum apparently written by Tesla and probably in response to a request from some popular science group for an opinion as to the source of future power. This memorandum reviews the gradual evolution of power sources. It discusses in some detail the possibility of atomic power and states as his opinion that atomic power is not feasible. The discussion of atomic energy is apparently confused to some extent

Exhibit M (cont.)

with planetary energy. The article further discusses the subject of wind, tides, lightning, and water power as a source of commercial energy. The last sentence of this memorandum states: "With my wireless system, it is practicable to transmit electrical energy at a distance of twelve thousand miles with a loss not exceeding 5 per cent. I can conceive of no advances which would be more desirable at this time and more beneficial to the further progress of mankind." This memorandum constitutes an interesting generalized discussion of the various sources of power. It is qualitatively correct for the most part except probably in that portion which deals with atomic power.

Exhibit N

"The Transmission of Electric Energy Without Wires" - an article by N. Tesla in the Electric World, March 5, 1904, pages 429-431. A general, somewhat biographical article on Tesla's early work with some speculation on the possibility of long-distance wireless transmission of large amounts of energy.

Exhibit C

"World System of Wireless Transmission of Energy" - an article by N. Tesla in Telegraph and Telephone Age, October 16, 1927, pages 457 and 460. An article which traces the early work on the production and transmission of electromagnetic radiations, describes Tesla's efforts to increase the amount of power which can be transmitted without wires and concludes with a proposed "World System" for the wireless transmission of both power and communications. No workable disclosure of a means for accomplishing this is included, and such generalities as suggest the approach which Tesla had in mind do not seem capable of accomplishing the desired result.

Exhibit P

"Interview with Dr. Nikola Tesla" by Alden P. Armagnac for Popular Science Monthly, May 24, 1928. An 11-page memorandum written in popular conversational style describing an interview with Dr. Tesla and reporting his present work. This report includes statements on a new airplane, on rocket ships, on the wireless transmission of power, on a world system plan for the transmission of speech and television, on the impracticability of harnessing atomic energy, on radio activity, and on the acceleration of charged particles, such as cathode rays, by high voltages.

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Exhibit G

An agreement dated April 20, 1935, between Nikola Tesla and the Amtorg Trading Corporation, in which Tesla agreed to supply plans, specifications, and complete information on a method and apparatus for producing high voltages up to fifty million volts, for producing very small particles in a tube open to air, for increasing the charge of the particles to the full voltage of the high potential terminal, and for projecting the particles to distances of a hundred miles or more. The maximum speed of the particles was specified as not less than 350 miles per second. The receipt of \$25,000 fee for this disclosure was acknowledged in this agreement, which was signed by Nikola Tesla and by A. Bartanian of the Amtorg Trading Corporation. The method referred to in this agreement is apparently that described in Exhibit F, above. It is probable that Exhibit D, above, is an effort by Tesla to clear up the questions raised by Soviet engineers after the subject disclosure had been made. There is no evidence that the inventions and information referred to in this agreement are other than those described in a number of Tesla's papers and published articles. It should therefore be expected, and it is substantiated by Exhibit D, that this disclosure subsequently proved unworkable.

3.

An examination of several items of scientific apparatus among the Tesla efforts at the Manhattan Warehouse and in a deposit box at the Governor Clinton Hotel showed those to be standard electrical measuring instruments in common use several decades ago.

JOHN G. TRUMP,  
Technical Aide,  
Division 14, NIRC.

Mass. Inst. of Tech.,  
Cambridge, Mass.,  
January 30, 1943.

JGT/G

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LIST OF PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH NIKOLA TESLA

Kerrigan, William - 89 Logan St., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Employed as building supt. Washington Market, Brooklyn.  
Mr. Kerrigan was the messenger boy for Postal  
Telegraph some years prior to Jan. 1943. At Mr. Tesla's  
request, he continued his services as special  
messenger when convenient. He had called upon Tesla  
the week prior to his death and has much valuable data  
and information concerning Tesla's contacts. I first  
met Mr. Kerrigan at the Frank Campbell funeral church.

Baumgarten, Charles - Room 1203, Municipal Bldg., Budget Bureau, N.Y.C.  
Mr. Baumgarten was met at the funeral and  
Mr. William Lawrence of the New York Times and myself  
had lunch with him. Mr. Baumgarten knew Tesla and  
his connections with the Queensboro Bridge and many of  
his developments of Civic interest.

Skerritt, Miss Dorothy F. - Office, Biddle Purchasing Company, 107 Chambers  
Street, N.Y.C. - No. 2-5500.  
Residence: Hasbrook Heights, New Jersey  
Miss Skerritt was secretary to Doctor Tesla from 1912  
until 1922. She is familiar with the Marconi patent  
suit, many of Tesla's scientific theories; knows the  
names of some of his friends; has witnessed  
demonstrations in his laboratory, then at 8 W. 40th St.  
N.Y.C. Miss Skerritt also knows that between 1916  
and 1918, Doctor Tesla was at the Blackstone Hotel,  
Chicago and may have material there. She can give  
account of many of his deals with various firms.

Merrington, Marguerite - 46 W. 97th Street, N.Y.C. - Riverside 9-0186  
Miss Merrington has known Doctor Tesla since 1893  
and has been a guest of his on several occasions at  
the old Waldorf Hotel and at his laboratory in 1894  
on Houston Street. Miss Merrington recalls the  
lighting effects without filaments and his radio  
controlled boat demonstrations. She also recalls  
statements regarding communication without wires by  
means of a small instrument. She has witnessed many  
laboratory experiments including power transmission  
without wires over short distances in the laboratory  
and also metallic plate suspension. He had also  
talked about communication with mars to her.

Holden, Mrs. Agnes, J - 327 E. 52 St. N.Y.C. - Plaza 3-2341  
Mrs. Holden is the daughter of Robert U. Johnson  
(deceased) (1936) who was a close friend of Tesla  
for many years. Mrs. Holden first met Mr. Tesla  
at her father's home when she was about 12 years old.  
The Johnsons were connected with the Century Magazine  
which published many articles regarding Tesla.  
Mr. Johnson wrote several poems about Tesla, one of  
which appeared in the April, 1895 issue of the

Century Magazine and the others appeared in "Poems of 50 years, 1880-1930" by Robert Underwood Johnson. Mrs. Holden has been in close contact with Doctor Tesla and has witnessed many of his demonstrations including that of the oscillator of 1899. She recalls the near destruction of the laboratory. Since "World II", she has talked with Doctor Tesla with regard to instruments of war and he told her in response to her inquiry regarding tanks recently that he could stop them or the war. She recalls his discussions with her and her father regarding transmissions of power and Mars, etc. She says that she knows that Tesla has things for our Government only. Mrs. Holden witnessed many of the experiments and was present at the radio-controlled boat demonstration many years ago.

Lowenstein, Fritz (Deceased) Brother, Emil Lowenstein - 182 Bennett Ave. N.Y.C. - Wa-7-4519. Business (Artist) 420 Lexington Ave. N.Y.C. - Mu-5-8065.

Mr. Fritz Lowenstein was the assistant to Dr. Tesla during his historic laboratory experiments in Colorado Springs in 1899. He was also to have appeared as a defense witness for Tesla in his Marconi patent suits during 1915, but for some reason failed to testify. The brother, Emil, address above, knows of the relatives of Mr. Fritz Lowenstein who have documents pertaining to the 1899 experiments. (Mr. G.H. Clark provided information re documents and Lowenstein) (Mr. Czito mentioned Lowenstein). Mr. Emil Lowenstein is not on friendly terms with the entire Lowenstein family and a Mr. Massey, 52 Vanderbilt Ave. can furnish additional information re Lowenstein.

Shirk, A.J. - Inventor's Model Shop, 70 West 100th St. N.Y.C. Ac-2-9466. Mr. Shirk has met Tesla on 3 occasions and appears to know quite a bit about his model work and laboratory developments, particularly within recent years. His exact status can only be determined by another call or exact-status interview. He is attempting to determine the address of a Laboratory that existed at about 57th and 3rd Ave. and with whom a certain Dr. Walker was connected.

Arbus, Muriel, Miss - Res: 600 W. 13th St. Tel: Vanderbilt 4-9816, Bus: WPB, Chanin Building, N.Y.C. Miss Arbus has several photographs of Tesla and was a secretary to him before Miss Dorothy Skerritt, i.e. before 1912. She has not been interviewed except by phone.

Berg, Seigurd (or Sigmund) - Copenhagen, Denmark. Business: Paris, France. He has not been interviewed. See Mr. E. Fiensen of the International Latex Corp., Dover, Del. for information. Mrs Berg was a close friend of Tesla in Europe and mentioned other members of his family; Mr. Ernest and Mr. Esko Berg are found in correspondence from Mrs. B.A. Wrend to Mr. Kenneth Sweezy in 1935 and 1934.

Behrend, Bernard, A. Mrs. - Rond Point, Aiken, S.C. Phone 136. Mr. Behrend and Mrs. Heaviside were very close friends of Dr. Tesla. Mrs. Behrend has many notes and technical data concerning Tesla's work either stored near Boston, Mass or at Aiken, S.C. Mr. Behrend was Chief Engineer for Westinghouse and supervised the construction of a great number of Tesla's motors and generators. He is author of "The Induction Motor" pub. 1921 in which a considerable portion is devoted to Tesla's work.

Boskan, Slavko, Mr. Engineer and author, Belgrade, Yugoslavia. Mr. Boskan published a book in Dresden, Germany entitled "Nikola und His Werk" in 1932 (Approx) Mr. Boskan was a close friend of Mr. Tesla and has considerable engineering data in his possession according to Mr. Sweezy.

Denton, Clifford, Mr. - Science Reporter.. New York Daily News, 220 E. 42nd St. N.Y.C. Mu-2-1234 Ext. 557 Mr. Denton has been present at many of Dr. Tesla's press releases and has many notes regarding the conferences. He said that he gave most of his data to Mr. Wm. Lawrence of the New York Times.

Brown Brothers (Mr. Arthur Brown) 220 W. 42 St. Bryant 9-4742. N.Y.C. Brown Brothers are photographers and have a large number of photos of Tesla and his laboratory equipment from which may be deduced mechanical construction details.

Curtis, Thomas Stanley - Address: unknown. Author "Experiments with High Frequencies currents" It is important to locate Mr. Curtis because he discussed many of Tesla's problems and appears to have technical data regarding his work.

Cramps, Shipbuilding Co. Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. Crosby, former Sec. of Commerce, and Mr. Cramps became interested in the radio controlled boat of Dr. Tesla about 35 years ago. Negotiations were carried on between Dr. Tesla and the above executives. This information was furnished by Mr. Kerr.

It may be well to contact Mr. Crosby's relatives or Mr. Cramps.

Czito, Julius - 4629 193rd St. Flushing, Long Island. Tel: Flushing 7-4711. Mr. Czito was mentioned to me first by Mr. Kosenovich and later Mr. Spanel had received his name from Mr. Wm. Lawrence. Mr. Czito is a machinest by trade and worked for Dr. Tesla as such from 1915 to 1929. He was particularly concerned with the construction of a turbin, and a fountain developed for a Mr. Hatmaker. Among other things, he worked on an extractor for sulphur from sea water and mechanical device for measuring the resistance of a ball bearing. He has little data left of Dr. Tesla's work but has a very good memory. He mentioned the Boston gear works, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Miller, the Zumbach Machinery Co. and Mr. Barney Levi. Mr. Czito's father also worked for Dr. Tesla in 1894 and was with him at his Houston St. laboratory. Mr. Czito, Sr. accompanied Dr. Tesla to Colorado Springs in 1899. Mr. Czito has a very good memory and can furnish additional information. He has discovered a photograph showing all of the employees of the old Tesla laboratory. He worked for Dr. Tesla on the development of a speedometer for the Waltham Watch Co. (This information from interview).

Clark, Mr. Geo. H. - Res: 349 E. 49th St. Tel: El-5-1603. Bus: RCA Mfg. Co. (Library) 25 Beaver St. N.Y.C. Room 314 A, Tel: Hanover 2-1829. Ext 123. Mr. G.H. Clark was contacted by virtue of a call placed in December to Mr. Oran Dunlap of the RCA Corp. Mr. Clark has a very large collection of personal data pertaining to radio pioneers, particularly Marconi. His business has been to collect such data in order to assist the prosecution of a suit of infringement against the Marconi patents. He has never met Dr. Tesla but he knows of his work and is interested in collecting historical data for preservation. Mr. Clark is a friend of Mr. Sweezy.

Crosby, Former Sec. of Commerce, Washington, D. C. (address unknown)  
See Cramps and Kerr

Wetzel, Tailors - 2 E. 44th St. Murry Hill 2-6757. N.Y.C.  
This firm was tailor for Dr. Tesla throughout most of his life and may have information with regard to his friends, not otherwise listed.

French, Shriner, and Urner- Shoe Shops. 250 Madison Ave. Murry Hill 2-0319. N.Y.C.

Dr. Tesla purchased most all of his shoes from this firm for the past 50 years and data may be gathered from their records such as mailing addresses, etc.

Cornels, Fredrick C. F.B.I. Office Federal Court House Bldg. 12th Floor ? Regent 2-2315

Mr. Cornels was informed of the possible value of Dr. Tesla's data immediately following his death. So far as known, no action was taken.

Commercial Photostat Company, 11th Floor, Woolworth Bldg. N.Y.C.

Firm which made photostats of Tesla patents for Kerr.

Cramm, Ernest R. to contact call Mr. Clark of RCA.

Mr. Cramm knows a great deal about Dr. Tesla's relations with the RCA Company. Mr. Cramm was a former employee of RCA.

Gilder, Rodman - 108 E. 82nd St. N.Y.C. Butterfield 8-7397.

Son of Richard Watson Gilder, former Pub. of Century Magazine. Mr. Gilder knows of some old Tesla manuscripts and what has happened to his files of the Century Magazine at its dissolution. This name was received from Merrington.

Denmark, Lt. 1270 6th Ave. Room 811, Circle 6-1484 (restricted number) N.Y.C. U.S. Army Int. G2.

Lt. Denmark and his superiors were notified by Mr. Spanel and Washington with regard to Tesla devices. Lt. Denmark was interviewed personally with a group of 4 other officers including Mr. Pitchen.

Kirsch, Leon - a former draftsman for Tesla - name from Miss Dorothy Skerritt.

This party should be located because he had a lot of confidential data of Tesla's and made many drawings according to Miss Skerritt.

Drews, Lillian Married to an Austrian by name of DePree about 1914.

Miss Drews was secretary to Dr. Tesla prior to 1912. Her present address is unknown and she was not in good favor with Dr. Tesla, according to Miss Skerritt, the informant.

DosPassos, John - Attorney, and very good friend of Dr. Tesla. Address unknown.

Wanted Tesla to stop the Spanish American War. Formerly lived in New York. The Gentleman was expensively dressed and wore frocked coat similar to Tesla with bright checkered vest.

Had office in vicinity of 200 Broadway, as late as 1920. Mr. DosPassos is believed to have engineering data of Tesla's according to Thomas Byrne.

DeForrest, Dr. Lee- 8190 Hollywood Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif.

Dr. DeForrest is still alive and was a friend of Dr. Tesla in the late 90 and early 1900's. There is a possibility that he may be able to assist in interpreting Tesla's works.

Dubilier, William - President of Cornell Dubilier Co., Manufacturers of CCondensers. Mr. G.H. Clark informs that Mr. Dubilier has in his possession some of the original notes of the 1899 experiments in Colorado Springs.

Fradenburg, A.E. A reporter for the Brooklyn Eagle during 1930 who had numerous contacts with Tesla with regard to Power Transmission. His present address is unknown but he formerly resided in Brooklyn until 1934.

Fitzgerald, Francis, A. - Niagara Power Commission, Buffalo, N. Y.

Mr. Fitzgerald, according to a personal interview with Dr. Tesla, was a friend of his on the A.C. power proposition for the development of Niagara. He also told me that Mr. Fitzgerald attempted to influence the Canadian Power Commission in 1927 for a project to transmit power without wires. There is a possibility that he may have some data.

Gernsback, Hugo \* Publisher, Res; 230 West End Ave. Sohler 4-2130

Bus: 25 W. Broadway, Tel: Rector 2-9690.

A Friend of Tesla for about 35 years.

Published many articles about Tesla during 1919 in the "Electrical Experimenter and later in Science and Invention." Has many of Tesla's original manuscripts and photos.

Believes in all of Tesla's theories and has a working knowledge of them. This party was contacted several weeks prior to Dr. Tesla's death. Mr. Gernsback attempted to assist Dr. Tesla personally and appealed to Westinghouse for funds in 1933.

Hammond, John Hayes, Jr. Glochester, Mass. Tel. 2080

Mr. Hammond, Sr., financed some of Dr. Tesla's boat experiments and only 10 years ago John Hayes Hammond, Jr. operated one of Tesla's original models. The family has one of the boats in their

possession now. Much technical data can be gathered from this source.

Hassell, Eugene Floyd - Res: Belport, Long Island  
Machinest, Sperry Gyroscope Company,  
Garden City, L.I. Employee Number 5470,  
Phone Vigilant 4-5400 (Restricted number)  
Ext. 211. Use any New York Phone. Name  
from Czito. This party knows of Tesla's  
laboratory on Long Island through the  
laundry driver named Tommy Wallen.

Hobbs, Octavious - Springfield Gardens, Long Island.  
(Has not been contacted)

Hatmaker, (no initials) party who financed fountain built by Czito.  
Has not been contacted, but he lived in the  
St. Regis Hotel in 1920.

Kosonovich, Sava - Navarro Hotel, apt. 17B. 112 Central park south, N.Y.C.  
Tel: Circle 7-7900, Office- Regent 7-4662.  
President of the Central European Powers  
Association and former Minister of Yugoslavia  
to the U.S. Mr. K. is one of the two living  
nephews of Dr. Nikola Tesla (see Nikola Trbjevich)  
Mr. K. was present in the Hotel New Yorker  
on the morning following Dr. Tesla's death.  
Others present were K.M. Sweezy, G.H. Clark.  
Mr. K. knows of many blue prints that were  
in the rooms and a black notebook with  
several hundred pages containing the last  
notes of Dr. Tesla. Mr. K. says that some  
of the papers were marked "Government" and  
that Dr. Tesla had told him he had valuable  
information. Mr. K. is of the opinion that  
it may have been for the Yugoslav Gov't.  
He says that no will was found. His attorney  
is Mr. Wittenberg. He was appointed heir  
by the Surrogates Court of New York County.  
He said that the other nephew waived any  
interest. Mr. K. is not in accord with  
Mr. Fotich, present Ambassador of Yugloslavia  
to U.S., now in Washington. There is a bit  
of political unrest in the Yugoslav organization.

**KOSANOVICH, SAVA**

Kerr, John - Attorney, 233 Broadway, N.Y.C. Cooper Kerr Dunham (att. at Law)  
Courtland 7-9334 - also associated by Byrnes.  
This firm was the patent attorney for 112 of  
the Tesla patents. They also instituted the  
proceedings of the infringement suits for the  
Westinghouse Company. Mr. Kerr knew Tesla  
very well and can give considerable data.  
Mr. Cooper, now deceased, was however, the  
main instigator of the patents for Tesla.  
Mr. Cooper left this firm some time ago and  
Tesla apparently took some of his business

to the new Cooper associates. Many of the old patents of Tesla in his own handwriting are available at this office. Mr. Byrne has additional information. I am of the opinion that this firm still has a connection with Westinghouse.

Byrne, Thomas, J works for Cooper Kerr and Dunham (see John Kerr above). Mr. Byrne knew Tesla very well and also knows of the connections with the Union Sulphur Company and the turbine for which see Czito. There is a wealth of information in the office of this company regarding the system of Power Transmission and any patents on file which were never issued. Mr. Kerr and Mr. Byrne were contacted before Mr. Tesla's death.

Kostich (first name unknown) New York, Official photographer for the Yugoslav group. Office believed to be 235 E. 72nd St. and Residence in Long Island City. He may be reached through Regent 7-4662. He is a friend of Mr. Kosonovich.

Kulishich, Prof. Kosta Res: Belgrad, Yugoslavia at the Tesla Institute. He was a school mate of Tesla in Grotz. See the N.Y. Sun of August 27, 1931.

Gage, E. G. 111 Nassau St. N. Y. C. Engineer, works for Leon Ottinger, Courtland 7-5500. He was a friend of Mr. J.S. Leach (deceased) formerly of Redbank, N. Y. who made electrical parts for Tesla's laboratory. He says that he can get information regarding Leach's relatives and perhaps drawings.

Levi, Bernard - Machinest, Zumbach Machinery Co. 134 W. 54 St. N.Y.C. Circle 7-1444  
Received this name from Czito who said that Levi knew of other work by machinests on Tesla's equipment.

Lucan, John - address unknown - presumed to be in Manhattan. A former Western Union Messenger boy during June of 1937 who has other data regarding recent contacts by Tesla during his services as a messenger. He has not been located.

Lynch, Arthur. Lived in England. Believed to be near London, now deceased. Family had considerable correspondence with Tesla regarding transmission of power without wires.

Lawrence, William. Science Writer, New York Times. 229 W. 43 St. N.Y.C. Lackawanna 4-1000. Res: 541 E. 72nd St. Rhineland 4-5528.



A friend of Tesla's for about 25 years. Has much old data regarding Tesla and has talked to him on many occasions regarding power transmission and the war effort. Has Assisted greatly in providing information for gathering material, etc. This party was contacted before Dr. Tesla's death.

Massie, M.C. 52 Vanderbilt Ave. N.Y.C.

Maier, Ruth N. The Yugo Slow Society, 565 5th Ave. Room 807. Pl-8-0256  
This is the information center and serves as the publicity agent for the group.  
Miss E. Oppa also works there and has many names of Tesla's friends.

Martin, Octavo. Employee of Hotel New Yorker and friend of Tesla.

Mathews, Grenville (deceased) wife was Gana Walker, Met. Star sponsored by McCormick. The family lived in England until his death and his wife now resides in New York. Mr. Mathews was referred to in Tesla's articles for the Telephone and Telegraph Age for Oct. 1927. Mr. Mathews had correspondence with Tesla on the so-called "Death-Ray".  
Gana Walker has all of her husband's data.

Mott, C. Jordan, Jr. 520 E. 90th St. N.Y.C. Bus: 6 E. 45th St.  
Tel: Vanderbilt 6-0345.  
The Mott family financed Tesla in various ventures. They may have some of this data.

Gossett, W. O. Ford Museum, Detroit, Mich.  
Mr. Gossett is associated with a Mr. Black while he is on leave of absence to the Army. Mr. Black may be reached regarding some models of Tesla's which are understood to be on display at the Ford Museum.

Nathan, Thoma, A. 25 E. 83rd St. N.Y.C.  
We do not know what connection this party had with Tesla but his name was secured.

O'Neill, John, J. Res: 209 N. Long Beach Ave. Freeport, Long Island.  
Tel: Freeport 2-493.  
Science editor of the New York Herald Tribune, 230 W. 41 St. N.Y.C. Pennsylvania 6-4000.  
Mr. O'Neill has known Dr. Tesla for 40 years. He has had many discussions with him regarding his equipment and scientific ventures. He interested Dr. Tesla in 1934 and 1935 to present the matter of national protection devices to the U.S. Govt. Mr. O'Neill made

a few contacts and the matter was dropped. Mr. O'Neill has notes of 1938 and 1939 wherein Dr. Tesla declared he had been approached by the British Govt. through Stanley Baldwin and Neville Chamberlain to negotiate for one of his devices. Mr. O'Neill thought that the sum offered was for 30 millions of dollars. In the interview, Dr. Tesla stated that his device would operate over a range of 200-250 miles. Mr. O'Neill is of the opinion that Tesla had unusual powers. Mr. Lawrence is of the opinion that he does not know what he is talking about. O'Neill can furnish much additional information.

Pickard, Dr. Greenlief Whittier..59 Dalton St. Newton Center, Mass.  
Dr. Pickard was a very good friend of Dr. Tesla. Dr. Pickard developed the vertical antenna system and has correspondence with Tesla concerning "wave propagation". This information should be valuable.

Sarony, Inc. Photographers, 362 5th Ave. N.Y.C. Wis 74713  
They have photos of the old Tesla Laboratory and pictures of Tesla to 1914.

Page, Parker W. Attorney, Present address unknown, however he resided in Manhattan for about 40 years and was formerly associated with Cooper Kerr and Durham. He was last known to be associated with an attorney by the name of Bean in Manhattan. He worked out many of Tesla's details concerning Power Transmission and Tesla gave him many notes according to Mr. Kerr.

Radosavljevich, Paul, R. New York University, Professor, Education Dept.  
Tel: Spring 7- 2000.  
A friend of Tesla for 35 years and knows much of his work with regard to the retina and bile chemistry.

Ritchen, (first name unknown) Anti-Trust Division, Custodian of Alien Property, 18th Floor, 120 Broadway, N.Y.C.  
Regent 2-3582 (restricted number). Mr. Ritchen supervised the various agents who were responsible for the sealing of the property in the Manhattan warehouse and various hotels. On Saturday eve., January 10, 1943. This office worked with Lt. Denmark.

Astor, Mrs. John Jacob (Lady Ribblesdale) now living in the U.S.  
420 Park Ave., Plaza 9-6646  
Lady Ribblesdale is the Mother of Vincent Astor who financed many of Tesla's developments about 1910 and their family may have data of importance.

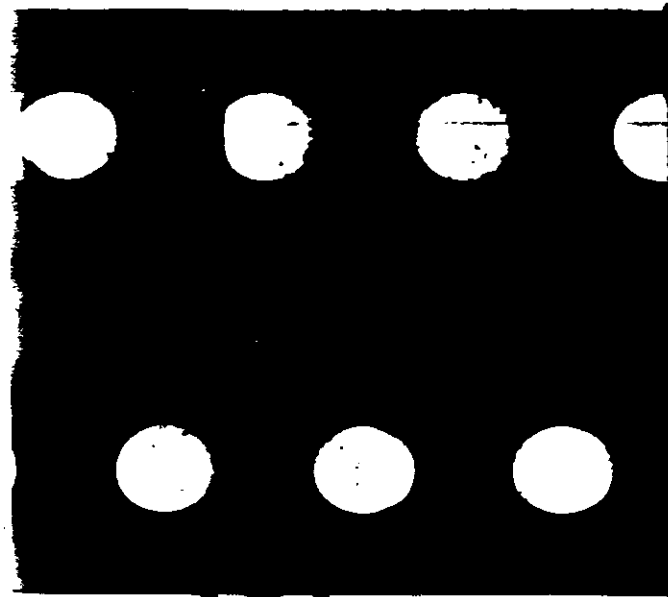
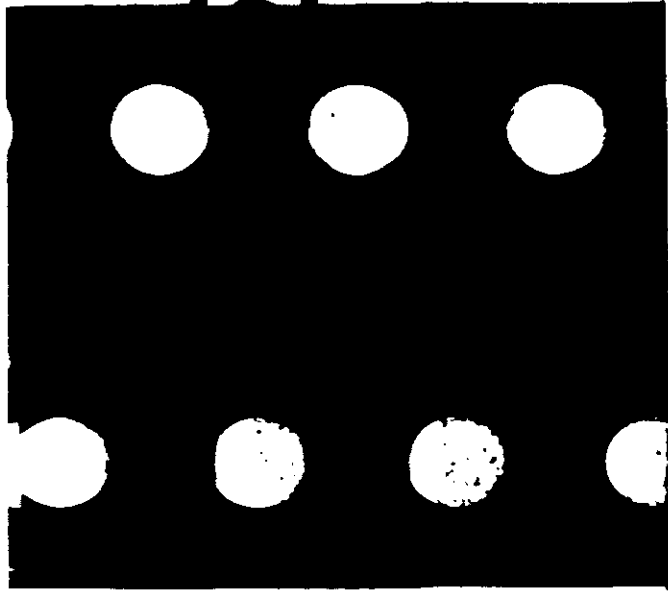
Secor, Harry. Island Road, Ramsey, N. J. Res. Business: Model Craftsman Publication. Ramsey, New Jersey, Tel: Ramsey 519. This party knew Dr. Tesla very well and I talked to him several weeks prior to Tesla's death. He has some plans of Tesla equipment.

Sweezy, Kenneth, M. 163 Milton St. Brooklyn, N. Y. Evergreen 9-5809  
Mr. Sweezy has known Dr. Tesla for approximately 15 years. He became a close confidant of his on many things and did a very notable work in 1935 when he arranged for a collection of 100 letters from various scientific authorities commemorating Tesla's 75th birthday. Mr. Sweezy wrote many articles about Dr. Tesla and has some old clippings and miscellaneous data including several books detailing Tesla's work. Mr. Sweezy corresponded with Mr. Boskan and Mrs. Behrand. He is a friend of Mr. Clark. Mr. Sweezy would like to write a book of Tesla's life and had spoken to with Dr. Tesla regarding it. I contacted Mr. Sweezy several weeks before Dr. Tesla's death. (Much information can be obtained here).

Scott, Prof. Charles F. Instructor of Electrical Engineering, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.  
Prof. Scott was a friend of Tesla for about 43 years. He worked as an electrician with Tesla in the early days and knows a great deal about his work. Prof. Scott and Tesla did not enjoy close friendship during recent years because Prof. Scott could not understand in full, all of Tesla's work. More information can be obtained here.

Scherff, George, Mrs. 219 Grant Terrace, Maroneck, N. Y.  
Mrs. Scherff was the auditor for Tesla for many years and has much information to give. She has information concerning Tesla's personal things and technical data and can provide much of value, including old documents.

Skerrrett, John. Author- believed to be from Philadelphia, Pa. who witnessed many of Tesla's demonstrations. Miss Dorothy Skerrrett can furnish additional information regarding him.



Tom -

It is my understanding that every case which is completed through disclosure is "preprocessed".

IPU's Reading Room maintains only those "preprocessed" cases which have been deemed to have sufficient public interest to warrant inclusion in the Reading Room.

The question, therefore, is: Does the Tesla material fit the criteria for inclusion in the FIA Reading Room?

I think not.

The

(b)  
(7)  
(C)



Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

June 8, 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR [REDACTED] (b)(7)(c)

RE: SAVA N. KOSANOVIC  
 YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO THE US  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - R  
 (Bureau file 65-47953)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 4-18-89 BY SP1N/CM  
 #291860

PURPOSE

This memorandum is submitted to incorporate all the pertinent references in the Bureau files concerning the entitled individual who is the Yugoslav Ambassador to the United States.

A case was opened on this individual when information was received that Kosanovic had taken possession of the scientific papers of his uncle, Nikola Tesla, the internationally known inventor. Subsequent investigation determined that Kosanovic had turned over the possession of these scientific papers to the Alien Enemy Custodian in New York City. (65-47953-X1 & Serial 3 & 4)

(b)(7)(D) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(36)

cc - Mr. Ladd  
 cc - [REDACTED]  
 cc - [REDACTED]  
 cc - [REDACTED]

CJM:jpa

THIS MEMORANDUM IS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES  
 TO BE DESTROYED AFTER ACTION IS TAKEN AND NOT SENT TO FILES

INDEXED 143  
 65-47953-21X  
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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

FROM : D. W. Ladd *DL*

SUBJECT: SAVA N. KOSANOVIC  
INTERNAL SECURITY - YU  
Bureau File 65-47953

DATE: April 3, 1950

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4-18-89 BY SP1ASG/COM  
291860

Reference is made to my memorandum dated March 29, 1950, relating to the telephone inquiry by the Yugoslav Ambassador Sava N. Kosanovic as to the possibility of obtaining a copy of a micro-film copy of the technical papers of the late Nikola Tesla, world-famous scientist who died in New York in 1943.

Kosanovic claims to have been a nephew of Tesla and is known to have tried to obtain these papers at the time of Tesla's death. However, they were taken over at that time by the Alien Property Custodian. If any copies were made of these papers, they were made by the Office of the Alien Property Custodian which took possession of Tesla's papers in 1943 or the Department of the Army which was interested in copying Tesla's notes in 1945. The Army's interest apparently was developed by a young scientist named [redacted] who had been a protege of Tesla and one of his few confidants. [redacted], who knew that Tesla had been endeavoring to perfect the wireless transmission of electrical current, one of the basic concepts involved in the production of a "Death Ray" had subsequently entered the Army, and in October, 1945, appeared at our New York Office, together with three other members of the United States Army, to request our assistance in obtaining access to Tesla's papers which were stored in a warehouse of the Manhattan Storage Company. [redacted] and his associates were referred, at that time, to the Alien Property Custodian which was reported to have made an investigation of Tesla's belongings following the latter's death.

7  
(b)  
(7)  
(c)

Although the Office of Alien Property or the Department of the Army might be able to furnish a copy of Tesla's papers to Kosanovic, it is not believed that the FBI should facilitate his search for this material, which although possibly of no present value from a National Defense standpoint, could still conceivably be of assistance to the Yugoslav Government.

COPIES DESTROYED

148 OCT 26 1960

Attachments

(b)(7)(C)

REC-100-95

65 47953-25

(b)(7)(C)

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the attached letter explaining that we have never had such a copy as he requests, be sent to Mr. Kos novic.

2. That the attached memo to the New York Office, instructing them to make further inquiry at the Manhattan Storage Company and advising that firm that we have no copy of Tesla's papers as they allegedly claim, be forwarded.

✓

*[Handwritten signature]*

Oh.

1-

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, New York  
 SUBJECT: SAVA N. KOSANOVIC  
 INTERNAL SECURITY-YU  
 (Bufile 65-47953)

DATE: April 17, 1950

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 7-3-80 BY SP4 Jem/pte

Rebulet dated April 3 last.

On April 7, 1950 agents of this office interviewed Mr. J.V. POTTS, Vice President of the Manhattan Warehouse and Storage Company, 52nd Street & 7th Avenue, New York City, and at that time MR. POTTS advised that the rules of his firm required that all persons gaining access to goods stored by Manhattan first had to fill out an appropriate form setting forth their names, date of visit, and reason for requesting access to the goods.

In a review of the file pertaining to the storage of the effects of NIKOLA TESLA, MR. POTTS revealed that only one such visit had been made by persons outside of the management of Manhattan Storage itself. This one occasion took place on January 26 and 27, 1943, at which time representatives of the Alien Property Custodian made a thorough review of the entire effects of the TESLA estate.

The TESLA effects are stored in rooms 5J and 5L of Manhattan Storage's warehouse at 52nd Street & 7th Avenue, New York City. MR. MICHAEL KING, who stated he had been Floor Supervisor for approximately 10 years on the floor in question, stated that he could recall only one occasion in early 1943 when an examination was made of the TESLA effects. He stated that at that time numerous photographs were taken by the examiners. His description of the equipment used would tend to show that a microfilm reproduction was made of some of the papers of the deceased scientist. MR. KING added that several of the group making the examination wore U.S. Navy uniforms, and during the two days required to complete the examination the civilian assistants in the group were identified to him only as "FEDERAL AUTHORITIES". According to MR. KING, no other instance of microfilming of the records of the TESLA estate has taken place since that time.

It should be noted that the Bureau was informed of the examination mentioned above by New York letter (with attachments) dated October 17, 1945, entitled UNKNOWN SUBJECT; SAVA KOSANOVICH; Experiments & Research of NIKOLA TESLA (Deceased), Espionage-M.

cc: 65-12290

RECORDED - 38  
 INDEXED - 38

APR 18 1950

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(b)(7)(C)

EPH SJC  
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65-47953

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-2727



Letter to Director, FBI  
NY 105-1391

MR. POTTS stated that no inquiry had been received by Manhattan from SAVA N. KOSANOVICH, nor had Manhattan informed him, in any way, that an examination of the TESLA effects had been made by anyone. In fact, added MR. POTTS, the only correspondence relating to the TESLA estate has been in the form of bills for storage.

MR. POTTS stated that any personal inquiries regarding the estate would of necessity be directed to him, and to date no such inquiries have been made.

Interviewing agents explained to MR. POTTS that the examination made, as mentioned above, was not instigated by the Bureau, nor had the Bureau taken part in that examination.

Unless advised to the contrary, this investigation is being placed in a closed status, and no further investigative action is contemplated by this office. CLOSED.

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Section 552

Section 552a

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI [REDACTED] (S)

FROM : *BP* SAC, BUFFALO [REDACTED] (S) (RUC) (b)

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] (S) (D) CONFIDENTIAL  
 (OO: NEW YORK)

DATE: 8/20/76

Re Buffalo airtel to Bureau, dated 7/13/76.

Enclosed for the Bureau are six (6) copies of an LHM, captioned "NIKOLA TESLA MONUMENT, NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK," which is self-explanatory. One copy is being designated for Legat, Ottawa for information. Two copies are being furnished to New York, one to Newark for information since they had previous interest in this matter, and one copy to WFO for information because of U. S. and Yugoslav dignitaries who attended the unveiling of the monument.

Nothing adverse came to the attention of this office concerning the dedication of the Nikola Tesla Monument which was a bicentennial gift from the Yugoslav Government to the United States. Diplomatic representatives from the United States, Yugoslavia and Canada reportedly attended the affair. No further inquiries being made at Buffalo and it is closing its case administratively.

EX-113  
 CLASSIFIED BY 6166  
 EXEMPT FROM GDS, CATEGORY 3  
 DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

- ENCLOSURE
- ③ - Bureau (Encs. 6) (RM)
  - (1 - Legat, Ottawa) (S)
  - 1 - Newark [REDACTED] (Info) (Enc. 1) (RM)
  - 2 - New York [REDACTED] (Encs. 2) (RM)
  - 1 - WFO [REDACTED] (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
  - 1 - Buffalo [REDACTED] (S)

7 AUG 25 1976

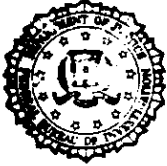
CONFIDENTIAL

Copy to Legat, Ottawa, 1 dest. by routing slip for  
 info  action  
 date 8-22-76  
 by [REDACTED]

Classified by [REDACTED]  
 Declassify on: OADR  
 #291860



SEP 10 1976 Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Buffalo, New York  
August 20, 1976

In Reply, Please Refer to  
File No.

NIKOLA TESLA  
MONUMENT /  
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

An article appeared in the "Buffalo Evening News," a daily newspaper published in Buffalo, New York, on July 24, 1976, which in part contained the following information:

The article was captioned "Dignitaries Unveil Statue of 'Genius' Tesla."

The article contained information that NIKOLA TESLA was the inventor of the alternating current and the first man to successfully transmit electric power. The background of TESLA set out in the article revealed that he arrived in New York City in 1884 with four cents in his pocket and plans for an airplane and a book of poetry. In 1888, he invented a system to make the transmission of alternating current practical, at 37 was a millionaire but died at the age of 88 in New York City alone and penniless.

The statue, approximately nine feet high, was erected on Goat Island, a site which is located on the property of the New York State Park and Recreation Department.

The article revealed that more than a thousand people listened to FRANK G. ZARB, Federal Energy Administration, representing President FORD, and Dr. IVO MARGAN, President of the Socialist Union of Croatia, representing Yugoslavian President TITO, as both pulled the cord unveiling the nine foot high statue of TESLA.

2-22-89  
Classified by SP1 P. B. GUM  
Declassify on: OADR  
#241960

[Redacted] ENCLOSURE

NIKOLA TESLA  
MONUMENT  
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

The sculpture was created by Yugoslavian FRANO KRSINIC and was the bicentennial gift of the Yugoslavian people to the United States. Both of the above men read official greetings from their presidents and exchanged pledges to continue good will and friendship between the two countries.

The article stated that following the unveiling, a reception-luncheon was held for several hundred persons at the Parkway-Ramada Inn, Niagara Falls, New York. Mr. ZARB toasted the Yugoslavian delegation which was answered by that country's Ambassador to the United States, DIMCE BELOVSKI.

According to the article, there was a bit of diplomatic byplay between Mr. ZARB and Ambassador BELOVSKI during the ceremonies. In his remarks at the statue unveiling, Mr. ZARB included an appeal to Yugoslavia to stop all harassment of Americans visiting that country.

In responding to Mr. ZARB's toast at the luncheon, the Ambassador gave assurance that his country wants American visitors and will welcome them.

According to the article, some observers thought that the Yugoslav release of an American held for the past seven months was timed to coincide with the unveiling of the statue.

The tribute to TESLA was sponsored by several Yugoslavian groups in cooperation with the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Westinghouse, and the New York State Park and Recreation Commission.

An article appearing in the "Niagara Falls Gazette," a daily newspaper published in Niagara Falls, New York, captioned "Zarb Calls for Energy Independence for U. S." the article dealt with the unveiling of the Nikola Tesla Monument and stated that accompanying the Yugoslavian Ambassador to the ceremonies on July 23, 1976, were Dr. PAVLE SAVIC, President of the Academy of Science of Serbia,

NIKOLA TESLA  
MONUMENT  
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

and VASA VESKOVIC, Yugoslavian Consulate General in New York City.

An article appeared in the "Niagara Gazette" on July 24, 1976, captioned "Aide Almost Missed Event." The article in part indicated that friendship and cooperation between the United States and Yugoslavia was the theme of the day as that nation dedicated a statue of NIKOLA TESLA on July 23, 1976.

The friendship was personalized when a Yugoslavian tried to cross the border from Canada to the United States to attend the dedication without a visa.

The individual was GOJKO SEKULOVSKI, who was in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, as the Chairman of the Olympic Commission of Yugoslavia. He also happens to be the Assistant Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in that country.

He did not have an American visa and almost missed the unveiling of the statue.

Fast thinking on the part of representatives of the Niagara Frontier State Park and Recreation Commission sent an official car to take the dignitary across the border, which saved the day.

In the "Niagara Falls Gazette" on July 24, 1976, there appeared an article concerning the unveiling of the statue which indicated that Dr. BOGDAN MAGLICH was Chairman of the Yugoslavian-American Bicentennial Committee and was a speaker at the affair. Dr. MAGLICH also serves as President of the Fusion Energy Corporation, Princeton, New Jersey. Dr. MAGLICH eulogized the inventor TESLA and stated "only America could have taken a giant of Tesla's stature, embraced him and provided him the means he needed to bring his talent to its best use of humanity."

NIKOLA TESLA  
MONUMENT  
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

[REDACTED] were in a position to observe the commemoration of the Tesla Monument, stated that no adverse information came to their attention concerning the dedication of the statue on July 23, 1976.

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July 7, 1975

Dear [redacted]:

This will acknowledge your letter of June 9th.

In response to your inquiry, the papers of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice.

U.S.A.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

*JK*

Clarence M. Kelley  
Director

~~The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure~~  
~~Attention: Susan M. Hauser~~

REC 22 77-32591-20

NOTE: Bufile 100-2237 indicates that Dr. Tesla was a world famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death his personal papers and effects were impounded by Office of Alien Property for national security reasons. Since Tesla's death in 1943 the Bureau has received numerous inquiries about the disposition of his technical papers. The above reply is forwarded in answer to these inquiries. Bufiles contain no information identifiable with requesters.

JUL 8 1975

- Assoc. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Dep. AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- Asst. Dir. \_\_\_\_\_
- Adm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Comp. Syst. \_\_\_\_\_
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- Files & Com. \_\_\_\_\_
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- Ident. \_\_\_\_\_
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- Laboratory \_\_\_\_\_
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- Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_
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The H. W. Wilson Co., New York

94-3-4-116-17

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CURRENT BIOGRAPHY

Published monthly by The H. W. Wilson Company  
950 University Avenue New York

Editor: Maxine Block Managing Editor: E. Mary Trow

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Vol. 4 February 1943 No. 2

Explanations

Authorities for forms of names are the Library of Congress and the Wilson Company bibliographical indexes. Exception is made to the authorized form when the shortened form of a name is better known; e.g., Monty Woolley instead of Edgar Montillon Woolley. If the full name is not given in the heading it will be found in the sketch itself.

After the name, pronunciation is given if the name is difficult, and then the date of birth as fully as possible. The date of death is given for those who have died. The occupation of the subject follows. Next comes the sketch itself, followed by a list of references for further study. These include magazine and newspaper references (in one alphabet) and books. If the person is not living, references are made to obituaries in newspapers and magazines. Only books of an autobiographical or biographical nature are listed, including such well known reference works as *Who's Who, Who's Who in America*, etc.

The magazine articles listed under *References* are in abbreviated form (see list "Periodical and Newspaper Abbreviations" for complete title). The form of entry is as follows: *Sat Eve Post* 56:78-9 S '39 *por.* This means that an article supplementing our sketch will be found in *Saturday Evening Post*, volume 56, pages 78-9, in the September 1939 number. The abbreviation *por* means that the article is accompanied by a portrait. In the case of newspapers, the name of the paper is followed by paging and date.

When a name in a sketch is followed by "a" a biography of that person may be found in the 1940 *Current Biography Yearbook* published in December 1940; for a name followed by "1" see the 1941 *Current Biography Yearbook*; for a "2" name see index in the December 1942 *Current Biography Yearbook*.

Photographs not credited to various studios and not obtained from the individuals themselves are obtained from Press Association, Inc., Rockefeller Plaza, New York City.

Published monthly by The H. W. Wilson Company  
Subscription price \$5.00 per year. Entered in  
the post office at New York, N.Y., under the  
number 1175.

RECEIVED  
FEB 19 1943  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

## SMITH, IDA B. WISE—Continued

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 por  
 Lit Digest 121:33 Je 13 '36 por  
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 Newsweek 16:40 Ag 19 '40 por  
 Time 29:55 Mr 1 '37 por; 39:51 Mr 2  
 '42 por; 39:12 Je 15 '42  
 Who's Who in America 1942-43

- ★ STAUSS, EMIL GEORG VON (shouts fon) Oct. 6, 1877—Dec. (?) 1942 German state councillor and a Vice-President of the Reichstag; former director of the Deutsche Bank in charge of its oil interests.

## Obituary

N Y Times p17 D 12 '42

- ★ SYKES, CHARLES H(ENRY) Nov. 12, 1882—Dec. 19, 1942 Nationally known as the newspaper cartoonist, "Bill" Sykes; drew famous war cartoons for the First and Second World Wars; editorial cartoonist of the *Evening Public Ledger* of Philadelphia from its founding in 1914 until its suspension in January 1942.

## Obituary

N Y Times p44 D 20 '42

- ★ TESLA, NIKOLA (tes'la) July 9, 1856—Jan. 7, 1943 One of the world's greatest electrical inventors and designers; American citizen of Greek origin; worked with Edison; credited with many "epic making" inventions since he came to the United States in 1884; in his old age claimed to have invented a "death beam" powerful enough to destroy 10,000 airplanes at a distance of 250 miles and to annihilate an army of 1,000,000 soldiers instantaneously.

## Obituary

N Y Times p19 Ja 8 '43 por

- ★ TINNEY, CAL(VIN L.) Feb. 2, 1908—Radio commentator

Address: b. c/o Mutual Broadcasting System, 1440 Broadway, New York City

Since August 1941 Cal Tinney's slow Texas drawl and homespun humor, with intimate, folksy interpolations, have been heard over the Mutual network in *Sizing up the News* each Monday and Wednesday evening from 8:00 to 8:15 p. m. Tinney's colloquialisms, which the folks "back home" chuckle over—his "just-between-you-and-me, ain't it the truth?" "it shore is" method—has captured many a listener bored with the formal, polished, or cut and dried comments of other newscasters.

But there has been more to Tinney than his mannerisms. Speaking usually as a representative of what the "common man" thinks about affairs at home and abroad, he has taken more than one direct and shrewd pot shot, left of center, at stuffed shirt policy, the doings

of Big Business, politicians who coddle Fascism at the expense of democracy under high-sounding terms of Americanism, etc. It is not surprising that the sandy-haired young man from the West has occasionally found himself in hot water. Objections have at times been made to the FCC on the "character of the broadcaster's utterances." But Tinney has apparently survived the allegations against him, since he currently continues his bi-weekly talks.

The outspoken homespun philosopher, who has become a kind of Will Rogers columnist of the air, was born February 2, 1908 on a ranch in Pontotoc County, Oklahoma. His family, however, originally came from Texas, where his grandfather, a rugged individualist, had strange politics for those parts. "My grandfather was a Texas Republican," Tinney says sadly, "and they shot him. Seems he exploited his sentiments one Saturday night in a bar room. Ever since then my Pop has been a Democrat." So has the son and, judging by his broadcasts, a fervent New Deal-supporting one.

After attending the Oklahoma public schools Tinney enrolled at the Murray State School of Agriculture in Tishomingo, Oklahoma. There, however, his education lasted only two weeks. "I never did stay there long enough to find out whether it was a high school or college," he says. Young Tinney apparently decided he could get a better schooling by traveling and seeing the world at first hand. For some years he tramped around, often as an ordinary seaman aboard freighters off for foreign ports. He was a newspaperman of sorts, also, and found jobs in Shanghai and Paris. His work in the pre-War French capital was rewriting material found in English-printed newspapers. "It was easy," Tinney explains. "All you had to do was change words like lift to elevator, and caretaker to janitor."

After getting his education by travel, Cal Tinney settled down in Oklahoma to edit a country paper, and began to advertise it over Station KVOO at Tulsa. That was in 1932. His humorous, drawing voice soon became more popular than his gazette. So he gave up his job as an editor, but since 1934 he has written a weekly feature, "Man of the Week," for the McNaught Syndicate. He is the author, also, of a book called *Is It True What They Say about London? a Non-Partisan Portrait* (1936). When Tinney turned to radio for a living, his voice was heard, successively, on the *March of Time* (1932), the *Voice of America* (1933), and the *Marwell House Show Boat* program (1934). From 1937 to 1939 he was on the *Vanity Fair* feature, and from 1939 to 1940 on *Youth vs. Age*. That year he originated, but did not appear on, *Stop Me If You Heard This One*.

Tinney is married to Mary Maxine Noble. The couple have two sons, David N. and Scott.

It was in 1940 that Tinney hit on the idea of a folksy newscast and tried it out in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Farm listeners chuckled, appreciated a commentator who spoke their own

Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI  
FROM: SAC, New York  
SUBJECT: "PLAIN TALK"  
DISSEMINATION CONCERNING  
Bureau File #94-36511

22925

Transmitted herewith for the information of the Bureau is the March 1948 issue of "Plain Talk"

Enc. (1) filed in Publicity  
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and "belong to file entitled  
"Plain Talk"

## \*RED AMBASSADORS Sava Kosanovich of Yugoslavia

By BOGDAN RADITSIA

*This is the first in a series of profiles of the Red Ambassadors who represent the several Soviet satellite governments in Washington. Others will follow shortly.*

FAMILIAR as they are with the blasts of Vishinsky and Molotov, most Americans are not aware that some of the most fervid tirades against "U.S. imperialism" delivered in this country come from an officially accredited ambassador. Sava Kosanovich, a wiry, reddish-haired man in his early fifties, represents Tito in Washington and in the United Nations. He travels all over this country making speeches in praise of the "new progressive democracy" in the Balkans, denouncing "Anglo-American reaction" and helping to form front groups for Tito. Incidentally, the American ambassador in Yugoslavia cannot even move around Belgrade without special permits and a guard of secret police agents.

From Kosanovich's speeches at Lake Success and elsewhere, it would appear that everything in Yugoslavia before Tito came to power was reactionary or Fascist. Yet, when he was touring America during the war, he used to introduce himself as a "member of the democratic government of His Majesty King Peter the Second."

Kosanovich is a restless man—his face and hands seem to be always agitated and moving. He is a cultured man with a long background in liberal, democratic movements. But he is a man of strong ambitions, who was willing to betray his own past and his closest friends for those ambitions.

In an Embassy which is more of a propaganda bureau than a diplomatic office, Kosanovich is only the front man for the Cominform's schemes in America. The real power in the Embassy is held by members of the Communist Party and the secret police, OZNA, just as its real policy is directed from Moscow through Belgrade. Though Kosanovich repeats the Moscow line, he is not yet one of the inner circle.

I first met Kosanovich in the fall of 1941 in the United States, where he had come with some members of the exiled Royal Yugoslav Government, representing Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia. The tragicomic adventures of that royal mission in America centered around the battle between those who wanted Yugoslavia, after its liberation from the Nazis, to become a democratic federal union, and those who demanded a Yugoslavia which would be a Greater Serbia administered on the old prewar pattern. The grim outcome was that Tito succeeded in charming American public opinion with his sweeping promises of democracy and federation, while the exiles were quarreling among themselves—mostly for personal, rather than ideological, reasons.

KOSANOVICH dreamed for a good many years of becoming Yugoslav ambassador to Washington. His uncle, Nikola Tesla, was an important scientist

SAVA KOSANOVICH

7

in America. He himself is descended from a long line of Serbian Orthodox ministers. His friends in politics used to tease him about his shyness toward women, his hatred of smoking and drinking. A strong and dynamic political leader, they said, should be a lady-killer, a hard drinker and a chain smoker.

In prewar Yugoslavia, Kosanovich always attached himself to some popular political leader. (It seemed to give him the feeling that he was running things himself.) In the beginning of his career he followed the tide of Svetozar Pribichevich, the leader of the Democratic Party, who sought a highly centralized Yugoslav state and drove the Communists underground through his secret police. That policy helped to reinforce communism for the present job.

Next, Kosanovich was attracted by the leaders of the Croatian peasants, Stevan Radich and Dr. Vladimir Machek, now in exile in Washington. He considered that he was Machek's "brain." Machek, however, did not always welcome the attentions of his satellite: several times he told me that he was tired of Kosanovich's "old maidish suggestions and tearful interventions." For when he is arguing any involved issue, Kosanovich's voice takes on a querulous tone which makes him sound like an adolescent.

During the war, Kosanovich defended Mihailovich and a united Yugoslavia. He took an active part in Allied meetings and the affairs of American Yugoslavs. His name often appeared in the "Letters to the Editor" column of *The New York Times*. He was a chairman of the Southeastern European Planning Board—a movement not popular with Stalin, as it threatened to block his plans for regional agreements and the artificial building up of buffer states. And he

was active, with his friends Louis Adamic and the violinist, Zlatko Balokovic, in the formation and promotion of the United Committee of South-Slavic Americans, subsequently metamorphosed into an important part of the Kremlin's Pan-Slavic front.

In his speeches Kosanovich has been one of the principal promoters of an idea first advanced by Adamic—that America is a nation of nations. As such, she is not only Anglo-Saxon, but German, Italian, Negro or Slav. The Slavs of America should unite in the name of brotherhood to carry on their glorious traditions, to show other Americans the heritage they have brought to this country, and to keep in touch with their motherlands. On the surface this idea seems harmless enough, but it is the banner of Stalin's movement to divide the United States. Russia and her satellites carry the idea farther in their controlled press by openly maintaining that America cannot be progressive until it is transformed into a series of "people's republics" on the Soviet pattern, giving their national sovereignty to all the racial groups that compose the population. Behind that scheme is the desire to Balkanize the United States—to divide it into conflicting clans so that a revolution may be centralized through the only uniting force, the Communist Party.

FIORELLO LA GUARDIA was Kosanovich's greatest acquisition. He led the New York Mayor through the same political zig-zag he himself followed—first to Mihailovich, then to Tito. The speech of greeting to King Peter that La Guardia read in Serbo-Croatian on July 8, 1942, was written by Kosanovich. The Mayor read:

"Drazha Mihailovich and Vladimir Machek are the expression of the Yugo-

slav spirit of resistance—from Triglav to Vardar. They will go down in history. . . ."

In his own speeches Kosanovich often compared Mihailovich with MacArthur, Chiang Kai-shek and Timoshenko. For example, at a meeting of the anti-Nazi League in New York, June 8, 1942, he spoke of "the epic struggle which my people are making under the man whose name already symbolizes to mankind indomitable spiritual and physical resistance—Drazha Mihailovich."

Mihailovich was killed by a government of which Kosanovich was a member. Machek fled the country to escape the fate of Petkov, Maniu and other peasant leaders. Immediately after he became Tito's ambassador, Kosanovich quoted Count Ciano to prove that Machek had been willing to sell out Croatia for a relatively small amount of money. The former follower of Machek admitted intimately to a friend that he did not believe the accusation, but that Tito had asked him to make it.

On July 6, 1942, at a reception held in the Yugoslav delegation's mansion on New York's Fifth Avenue, Kosanovich introduced Mifko Markovich, editor of the Serbian Communist newspaper, *Slobodna Ruc*, and now professor at Belgrade University. Markovich offered King Peter a check of one thousand dollars for "the Chetniks and regular army of General Mihailovich."

A week later orders arrived from Moscow that Mihailovich should be considered a traitor and Tito accepted as leader of the war for liberation. Markovich and his Serbian equivalent of the *Daily Worker* suddenly switched to attacking Mihailovich. Kosanovich did not—but his defense of the Chetniks' leader grew weaker. Shortly before he went to London in March, 1944, Kosanovich in a *New York Post* interview

was quoted as follows: "Mihailovich is in the position of a General Lee. Tito is some kind of a Lincoln out to save the Union. Mihailovich was an army officer. I think he is sincere but he is surrounded by a very bad political entourage. The entourage was catastrophic. The Government, diplomats abroad, working in his name, are even more catastrophic."

Curiously, Kosanovich himself was a member of that same "catastrophic" government. When he joined the Yugoslav government-in-exile in London in the spring of 1944, it had already dismissed Mihailovich and sought an agreement with Tito's National Liberation Movement.

**KING PETER** was in London. Heading his government-in-exile was Dr. Ivan Subasich, the viceroy of Croatia. The group was more or less agreed that Yugoslavia should be restored on the basis of a federal union.

Kosanovich asked for a government representing all political parties, which would be strong enough to fight the Communists. He was a frequent visitor to King Peter and his mother. And when an agreement was drawn up between Subasich and Tito, Kosanovich was terribly dissatisfied with its terms. (I suspect that was because he had not taken an active part in it; he was inclined to think that everything in Yugoslav politics needed his guiding hand.)

Tito was in Belgrade. The Red Army was crossing the Danube in its push toward Vienna. On January 18, 1945, Tito's emissary, General Velebit, visited Kosanovich in Kingston House, London. Kosanovich left the interview pale and nervous. For the first time he realized that dealing with the Communists demanded fortitude.

A few days later, on January 23, King

Peter dismissed Subasich's cabinet and reappointed its members only after all of them—including Kosanovich—had agreed in writing that, on their return to Yugoslavia, they would defend certain obligations the king had made concerning the Tito-Subasich agreement. The chief obligation was that the new united Yugoslav Government to be formed under Tito should guarantee all fundamental political and civil rights and freedoms to the Yugoslav people. Kosanovich took a prominent part in drafting this public statement announcing the reappointment of the previous cabinet and the obligations its members assumed. As the king's most intimate adviser, he drafted Peter's act of consent to the Regency. Before Kosanovich left London, the young king kissed him, and received his formal promises that he would defend the interests of the monarchy.

In the spring of 1945, Yugoslavia was "liberated" and the members of its London government-in-exile came back to join Tito's government with the blessing of Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin. It was at that time that the Communists characterized Kosanovich as a "useful innocent" (*korisna budala*). In a meeting held in a swanky Belgrade apartment house—still the headquarters of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia—the ex-schoolteacher, Edward Gardelj, the Montenegrin, Milovan Gijilas, and other top Communist leaders were talking over the political characteristics of their new partners.

Gijilas said, according to a witness who reported the meeting to me: "The Anglo-Americans dream that they may influence us through someone who is not a Communist. Therefore Ivan Subasich is best fitted for the job of foreign minister. Though he sometimes wavers, he defended the agreement with

Tito stubbornly in London and Washington. Milan Grol (the vice-premier and leader of the Serbian democrats) will serve as a Trojan Horse for the West. He is a reactionary politician who backed Mihailovich. If Grol declares that the Serbian people have to abandon Mihailovich, they will accept the idea. As for Kosanovich—he is not an important personality nor a politician. But he is a useful innocent, who may be of help in the United States where he is considered to be a Western-type democrat."

The only member of that London government who still survives politically is the "useful innocent." Subasich, after having been Tito's prime minister and foreign minister, is now a prisoner in Zagreb. Frantjo Spoj, after participating in the Communist government of Slovenia, was recently sentenced to seven years of slave labor for "espionage in favor of the Western democracies." The liberal Dr. B. Markovich of Serbia died in New York. I arrived there in time to see him before his death. After I had told him the grim story of what Yugoslavia looked like under the Communists, he said very sadly:

"How is it possible that Savitna (the diminutive of Kosanovich's first name) could stay in such an outrageous government?"

**TITO** soon began to ignore all the obligations assumed in his agreement with Subasich. Even before the elections he declared that the king was never to come back. Milan Grol and others immediately left Tito's government. Everybody in Yugoslavia expected Kosanovich to do the same. But he began to yield to the Communists.

Subasich had just come back from a trip around Yugoslavia. He had seen that the people did not want commu-

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nism; they wanted quick action by the democrats. And he had the courage to tell this to Tito. Although he was foreign minister, he was arrested.

I was with Kosanovich in his room in Belgrade's Hotel Majestic when Mrs. Subasich telephoned and asked for immediate help. Her husband was arrested and ill. Kosanovich tried to reassure her. He telephoned Lt. General Rankovich, OZNA's chief trigger-man. The Communist hangman answered coldly that nothing would happen to the foreign minister. Precautions were merely being taken to defend him from any attempt of the "Western reactionaries" upon his life.

We had just been reading Dante there in the hotel room—the part where Count Ugolino hungrily devours the brain of Archbishop Ruggieri, describing the merciless end of all traitors. The blood and turmoil of ancient fratricidal war rose before us: it seemed very near to our own Yugoslav tragedy.

Only a little later Kosanovich entered the new People's Front against the will of the Independent Democratic Party, of which he was Secretary-General. His party issued a clandestine communiqué describing his defection. Soon after that the chairman of the party, Dr. D. Boshkovich, was terribly beaten for three hours by a Communist youth mob. He was lying in a hospital the same night that Kosanovich was flying to the Lon-

don conference of the Big Four, accompanying the Communist Kardelj as a "liberal and democrat." Before he left, Kosanovich had published an article in the Communist official organ, *Borba*, in which he attacked Subasich and the leadership of the party with whom he had worked closely for twenty years. The Communists wanted a proof of "betrayal." And the price was paid. From London, Kosanovich went to the Paris Peace Conference, and from there to Washington—to attack American democracy, which he had formerly praised.

I CANNOT BELIEVE Kosanovich is a happy man, though he has attained his ambition. Those who once opposed fascism and are now serving communism have lost all faith in themselves and in mankind. There are no more miserable people than the intelligentsia who know better—but who have been afraid to resist in the last battle for man's liberty.

Kosanovich once asked for a synthesis between political and economic democracy for the good of the people, and he is now defending the complete subjugation—economic, political and moral—of Yugoslavia to the Communists. Kosanovich once wanted Yugoslavia to be free of the influence of any big power, and he is now ambassador of a puppet state in Stalin's empire.

### THE SOLUTION FOR PALESTINE

A comprehensive and authoritative discussion of the Hoover Plan (pages 32-33) and of the Lowdermilk Plan (*Palestine—Land of Promise*), offering an engineering rather than a political solution for the crisis in the Near East, will be presented in the next issue of PLAIN TALK.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Case Originated At: PITTSBURGH

File No. 61-135

Report Made At PITTSBURGH	Date Made 2/20/46	Period 11/15, 19, 20, 21, 22/45.	Report Made By [Redacted]
Title SLOBODNA HEC (FREE EXPRESSION)			Character INTERNAL SECURITY - C REGISTRATION ACT

**SYNOPSIS:** SLOBODNA HEC (Free Expression), Serbian communist-line tri-weekly newspaper printed at 1916 East 7th, Pittsburgh, Pa., steadfastly adheres to the generally recognized communist line and operates, among Serbs in the U. S., as the organ for the dissemination of information on Serbian affairs in Yugoslavia. As the leading Slav communist organ it contained, during the period from 12/6/44 to 8/2/45, favorable publicity for such communist front organizations as the SWC, American Slav Congress, Vidovdan Committee and the United Committee of South Slavic Americans. It supported the TITO and STALIN governments unequivocally and denounced opposition believed to exist against these governments. Due to the leaving of the former Editor-In-Chief, MIRKO MARKOVICH, to confer with TITO and his representatives in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, the editorship has been undertaken by Reverend NIKOLA DRENOVAC. The Managing Editor is CHARLES VUICH and Business Manager is MAREK KUSEJAR.

NO  
JUN 1946  
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PARIS  
NOT RECORDED  
(2 copies)

J. D. Fletcher

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Translations of SLOBODNA REC as contained in this report were made at the Pittsburgh Field Office by [REDACTED] Serbo-Croatian translator, and [REDACTED] Slavonic translator.

(b)(7)  
(b)(7)

II

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

A - OFFICERS

In the "Statement Of The Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc., Required By The Acts Of Congress Of August 24, 1912, and March 3, 1933," regarding newspapers utilizing the mails as a means of transmission, furnished the Pittsburgh Office by [REDACTED] Pittsburgh Post Office, the following are given as officers of SLOBODNA REC:

(b)(7)

Publisher	J. KRSTOVICH
Editor	CHARLES VUICK
Managing Editor	None
Business Manager	MANE SHUSHNAR
Owner	JOHN KRSTOVICH

This statement was filed at the Pittsburgh Post Office by MANE SHUSHNAR on October 2, 1945.

"2. It is true that this year's calendars were printed too late, but we have inspite of this sold a sufficient number of calendars and some of the sellers have not sent in their money. In addition to the excellent success in advertisements for the calendar and besides the fact that the calendar was excellent, the work of the sale of the calendars is not satisfactory. Our activists should have paid more attention to this then than before selling the calendars.

"3. Soon we shall have received several hundred copies of the new book 'Guns For Tito.' We ought to do our best to sell these books as soon as possible. The book was compiled by an American Major who organized a shipment of weapons to TITO's Army and met TITO personally several times. The price of the book is \$2.75.

"4. We must finish the sale of the book of ~~NIKOLA TESLA~~. We should particularly interest the American engineers and unionists in it.

"5. Soon a book of MIRKO MARKOVICH will be off the press: 'That We May Understand Each Other.' Therefore it will be necessary to organize the sale of the same. The book contains 350 pages and the price of the same is \$2.50.

"The working committee decided that by the end of the month of March or in April, MIRKO MARKOVICH should start for the Pacific Coast, to California, to work in the strengthening of our movement and newspaper and in building up of clubs and the apparatus. This will be discussed in detail at the meeting of the Supreme Board in Cleveland."

August 14, 1945      "Reorganization Of Leadership Of Serbian Progressive Movement In City Of Akron Carried Out." This article, which is quoted below, indicates the then policy of SLOBODNA REC in its leadership in the Serbian Progressive Movement in the United States.

"Akron, August 10 - Last week, on Thursday evening, there was here held a special meeting of the Serbian political progressive club, which was attended by the editor-in-chief of SLOBODNA REC, MIRKO MARKOVICH, and the manager of the paper, MANE SHUSHNAR.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED

GOVERNMENT

*922*

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 7, 1947

FROM : SAC, Pittsburgh

SUBJECT: SLOBODNA REC  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
REGISTRATION ACT

113

*b*  
*1-*

The following article which appeared in the November 1, 1947, issue of the above captioned Communist line newspaper published at 1916 East Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., is furnished for your information:

Address of Ambassador ROSANOVICH at Banquet of 2nd Serbian Congress, October 26 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-22-89 BY SP1A66mm

Brothers and Sisters:

# 29860

I come among you to extend you the greetings of the peoples and the government of the Federated People's Republic of Yugoslavia, headed by Marshal Tito and to thank you for the considerable aid which you have given your brothers in the old homeland.

By coincidence, I found myself in the period of 1941-44 in this great country where I did my best to defend the truth and contribute to the best of my ability to the thwarting of spreading untruths on the part of the official representatives of the then Yugoslav government in exile and of all those who wanted to convince public opinion of America and its official circles of the impossibility of restoring Yugoslavia. I recall your valuable help of that time. I remember a dear friend in the person of the late Rev. KRAJNOVICH and his constant struggle, as well as of so many others of that period.

You Americans of Serbian descent were hit the hardest. You were exposed to the greatest trials and the heaviest attacks. You had to exercise the greatest self-denial and perspective correctly to see the course of events because every effort was made to confuse you. The idea was that when Serbian Americans follow the wrong path, when chauvinism and national hatred get possession of them, when hatred toward the Croats and Slovenes and toward Yugoslav unity is aroused in them, then it will be easy for the same attitudes to work among Croatians and Slovenes as regards Yugoslav unity, giving chauvinism full sway and thus contributing to the weakening of the war effort in American and rendering impossible the struggle for the salvation and restoration of Yugoslavia and the Balkans.

In a letter of thanks for an honor which was shown me in February, 1944, by a great number of you who are now assembled at this Serbian

*922*  
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To: Director, FBI  
Re: SLOBODNA REC  
IS - C; REGISTRATION ACT

November 7, 1947

Congress when I was elected an honorary president of the Vidovdan Congress I said:

"In an extraordinary difficult period of mankind you have with sacrifice and self-denial done your duty also toward your people from whom you sprang and toward America of which you are good citizens, and toward mankind. Since my arrival in America in 1941, in an official capacity, I found among you the best understanding and best cooperation for an ever greater unification of national forces in the struggle against all manifestations of fascism. Together we tried to be as serbs - bearers of Serbo-Croato-Sloveno-Macedonian harmony and unity at a time when the enemy banked his entire hope on disharmony and hatred. Working thus we have contributed to the correct understanding of the national-liberation struggle beset with so many obstacles and bedevilled with so much gossip. Time and events have borne out the truth thereof."

And when taking leave of Serbs in America in a letter of July 24, 1944, among other things I wrote:

"We have here been those who have defended the purity of the Serbian name at a time when it was being most degraded by the ignorant. History will show that we were right and that by our defending the unity of Serbs, Croats, Slovenes, and Macedonians we have best represented the true national Serbian interests and thus represented the interests not only of Yugoslavia but also of America and all United Nations. We have by common sacrifices of a liberation war achieved great successes in the country, but there still are great trials. Enemies will particularly seek to confuse the Serbs and destroy them with false defense of Serbian interests. I ask all my good friends to make every effort to promote harmony and unity. I ask all those who were being deceived in returning to Serbian tradition and enter the great circle of national harmony . . . I ask friends who have had the opportunity and bravery of seeing the right path from the very outset, that they forgive those who haven't seen it because they were deceived by those who thought they must be believed. The true national champion is known by his setting the errant ones on the right path. Responsible culprits who misused their positions and misused the credulity of the ignorant will answer to the people for their misdeeds. The more you will promote harmony, the better it will be for Serbdom, for Yugoslavia, and for America - toward which you have the greatest obligation."

To: Director, FBI  
Re: SLOBDNA REC  
IS - C; REGISTRATION ACT

November 7, 1947

That was the path to which you were called until his last days by our great countryman NIKOLA TESLA.

And you, by your moderation, have contributed to the interest of the democratic struggle of the world. You have contributed to the unification of all national forces in America in the organization of the war effort. And at the same time, as Americans of Serbian descent together with other Yugoslav Americans, you have shown your American fellow-citizens that your brothers in the old homeland are with united efforts resisting fascism and struggling for freedom and the restoration of their independent state, Yugoslavia.

In this you were able to be the best spokesmen. You and your predecessors have come to this country in search of freedom and better economic conditions.

Most of you and those before you have fled from Hapsburg serfdom because you were being oppressed both nationally and economically. You and your predecessors made valuable contributions to the development of the New World. You with your brother Slovenes and Croats have sweated, shed blood, worn your bones, expended brains, and what-not for the progress of this country. Long is the chain of miners, farmers, scientists, and soldiers who gave their best for the general progress and prosperity of the American Union. You have conscientiously been doing your duty and you have become good citizens of this great land. Who of us is not proud of the work, life and nobleness of NIKOLA TESLA without whose work and mind electricity would not be what it now is in the world; whose motor has harnessed the Niagara and the Dnieper, turning the wheels of industry wherever there is electricity? In every spark of electricity, shines his name. America is the greatest beneficiary of TESLA's genius. He asked for no riches.

And so, brothers and sisters, when during the war you have raised your voice for your brethren in the Balkans struggling not only for their life but also for a better and more secure existence of mankind, your voice thus had significance and importance. You were able to be the authorized spokesmen of the struggle which was going on over there.

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Section 552

Section 552a

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: 5/8/45

FROM : SAC, Pittsburgh

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] INTERNAL SECURITY - R

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)(D)

[REDACTED] would-be radio repair man, advised this office that on April 29, 1945 he installed at the home of captioned subject, [REDACTED], a "Hammerlund H.C. Receiver #120X". [REDACTED] stated that since this type receiving set is of a kind which is generally used by amateur radio experts or professionals and since the radio set itself was in such condition as to indicate that it had been purchased under a very high priority, he inquired of the subject how he happened to be in possession of such a radio set. [REDACTED] according to [REDACTED], was vague as to where he got it, saying that it had belonged at one time to NIKOLA TESLA'S son and was purchased before the war in New York City. [REDACTED] did not make any notation of the serial number of this radio but advised that under pretext he can review the operation of this set in the apartment of the subject and at that time get the serial number.

(b)(7)(D)

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[REDACTED]

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JUN 1 1945

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 DATE 4-14-89 BY SP1A/gum  
 # 291960

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

WASHINGTON, D. C.

FILE NO. 100-11980

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 30 AUG 1946	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/8;8/2/46	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] (b)(7)
TITLE [REDACTED] (b)(1) (c)		CHARACTER OF CASE [REDACTED] (b)(1) (c)	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

*Confidential*

The new Yugoslav Ambassador, SAVA N. KOSANOVIC, has stated to the newspaper that they do not contemplate hostilities over the Trieste question.

[REDACTED] (b)(1) (c)

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 DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated July 22, 1946, at Washington, D. C.

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Classified by SP1AGGUM  
 Declassify on: OADR # 291860  
 DEFERRED RECORDING (1)

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

The "Washington Post" for July 23, 1946, carries a headline relative to an interview had with the new Yugoslav Ambassador SAVA N. KOSANOVIC entitled "War Over Trieste Not Anticipated by Yugoslav Envoy". The article stated he had declared on the previous day that his country would not be provoked into any action in Trieste which would compromise the peace. He also stated they would not accept any solution of the problem which did not accord with their essential interests. He said his Government opposed Italian proposals for a plebiscite in the disputed area because the Yugoslav population had been diminished by twenty-six years of Italian rule and the additional loss of 56,000 men in the fight against the Nazis.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Guy H. Hall</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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37 SEP 18 1946  
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**CONFIDENTIAL**

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]

(b)(1)

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The article in the "Evening Star" which was referred to above appeared July 23, 1946, and was entitled "New Envoy Disclaims Any Yugoslav Plans for Coup at Trieste." This article was written by NEWBOLD NOYES, JR. The article quotes the Ambassador as saying that Yugoslavia would not be "provoked into compromising the peace." The article stated that the Ambassador had indicated his country would boycott Trieste if they did not get it. The article stated that KOSANOVIC is a nephew of NICOLA TESLA, the Yugoslav-American inventor.

[REDACTED]

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

Form No. 1

This Case Originated At **INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA**

File No. 100-4006

Report Made At Indianapolis, Indiana	Date 11/18/42	Period 10/29,30/42	Report Made By <b>(b)(7)(E)</b>
Title <b>AMERICAN SLAV CONGRESS (ALL-SLAV CONGRESS)</b>			Character of Case <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**Synopsis:**

Information contained in bulletin entitled "News Flashes from Czechoslovakia under Nazi Domination" issued by Czechoslovak National Council of America, with reference to American Slav Congress, set forth herein. Includes information concerning the permanent committee set-up and a partial list of delegates to the American Slav Congress.

*cc BJR  
2/09/47*

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DATE 1-17-83 BY SP5RTS/PNC


**References:**

*copy A to [redacted] (b)(7)(D)*

Report of Special Agent [redacted] dated May 12, 1942, at Detroit, Michigan. **(b)(7)(D)**

Detail: At Hammond, Indiana

obtained **(b)(7)(D)**

Approved and Forwarded: <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent in Charge	Do Not Write in These Spaces	
3 Bureau 1 New York (Inf.) 1 Pittsburgh (Inf.) 1 Newark (Inf.) 1 Milwaukee (Inf.) 1 Washington Field (Inf.) 1 Chicago (Inf.) 1 Philadelphia (Inf.) 1 Cleveland (Inf.) 3 Detroit 3 Indianapolis <i>260</i>		100-56674-42	RECORDED & INDEXED
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a copy of a bulletin entitled "News Flashes from Czechoslovakia under Nazi Domination", published by the Czechoslovak National Council of America, 4049 West Twenty-sixth Street, Chicago, Illinois, release no. 132, dated May 11, 1942:

This bulletin contains news concerning the American Slav Congress held at Detroit, Michigan, April 25 and 26, 1942. The article contains the permanent committee set-up of the Congress and a list of men of eminence among the delegates to the Congress.

This article is being quoted below:

"AMERICAN SLAV CONGRESS FOR GREATER WAR EFFORT"

The coordination activities of all groups of Slavic extraction in America for an intensified war effort moved a long step closer to reality as a result of the American Slav Congress held in Detroit April 25 and 26 and attended by more than 2300 delegates representing church, fraternal, labor, social and cultural groups from all parts of the country. Every substantial American Slav organization in the country was represented.

Permanent Committee Set Up

A permanent committee was elected with LEO KRZYCKI, Vice-president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers for President; Prof. J. J. ZMRHAL, of the Czechoslovak National Council, Vice-president; STEPHEN ZEMAN, JR., of the Slovak Evangelical Union, Secretary; VINKO SUK, of the Croatin Fraternal Union, Treasurer; and BLAIR F. GUNTHER, member of the Educational Committee of the Polish National Alliance, Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Participating Slavic nationality groups elected vice-presidents to the Board of Directors. Vice-presidents for the respective nationality groups elected were: EDMUND POINC, Polish; W. J. MUZIK, Czech; V. S. PLATEK, Slovak; VASIL DICOFF, Bulgarian; SAMUEL MERLINICH, Serbian; JOHN BUTKOVICH, Croatian; VINCENT CAINKAR, Slovene; PETER RATICA, Carpatho-Russian; GEORGE FIRINSKY, Macedonian; HARRY LUBESHKOFF, Russian; MICHAEL YKATCH, Ukrainian.

The various nationality groups also elected members to the nationality committees of the Board of Directors. The National Committee of the congress held its first plenary session in Pittsburgh, May 10, to plan steps to translate the decisions of the congress into action.

#### Anti-Hitler Measures Adopted

Main decisions embodied in the resolutions of the congress were:

1. To make a direct appeal to American Slavs comprising more than half the workers in the war essential industries of the nation to intensify their production efforts to outproduce Hitler and the Axis.
2. To intensify vigilance against fifth-columnists operating within the various Slavic groups in this country aiming to sow division and disunity in the war effort.
3. To chart a plan to recruit 50,000 American Slav volunteers for a house-to-house campaign among American Slav families for raising the amount of war bond subscriptions to 10 per cent of income.
4. To take all measures to strengthen the bonds of solidarity among American Slav groups and between them and the Slav peoples of Europe for a concerted effort against HITLER.
5. To increase support of all war relief agencies, particularly the Russian, Yugoslavian, Polish, Czechoslovakian, British, Greek and Chinese.
6. To take steps to counteract the appeasers.
7. To set up a permanent organization to coordinate and assist in carrying out the decisions adopted by the Congress.

#### Response Exceeds Anticipations

The response to the first American Slav Congress ever held in America exceeded all anticipations. It revealed the depth of anti-Axis feeling that has seized hold of the Americans of Slav descent who came expressing desires to do their utmost to the end that the power of Hitlerism, arch-foe of the Slav peoples as of freedom-loving peoples everywhere shall be decisively smashed.

The delegates were mostly brawny men from coal mines, steel mills, machine shops—the men on whom the nation is counting for much of its war essential goods production and wholesome-looking women whose faces showed hardening lines of determination beneath war smiles.

#### Men of Eminence Among Delegates

Among the delegates were men and women of distinction in many fields of activity—scholars, writers and clergymen, among them Rev. VINCENT BORKOVICZ, who represented the <sup>most</sup> ~~Vary~~ Rev. Bishop STEFAN S. WOZNICKI at the Congress and delivered the opening invocation; Metropolitan Bishop Benjamin, of the Russian Orthodox Church; Most Rev. JOHN RAJNOVICH of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and Rev. PAWLOWSKI, of Buffalo, New York.

Among others present were JOSEPH WATTRAS, director of the Polish National Alliance of Pittsburgh; CHESTER A. KOZDROJ, President of the Polish Central Citizens' Committee of Detroit; Judge W. GRONKOWSKI of Hamtramch; Captain W. SEETMAN, Polish War Veterans, Chicago; Dr. W. T. OSOWSKI; chairman Michigan All Slav Committee, Detroit; Mrs. M. NESTEROWICZ, dear of Polish journalists, Buffalo, New York; ZLATKO BALOKOWICH, famed Croatian violinist; FRANK BRIGORSKI, assistant district attorney of Milwaukee and president of the Pulaski Council there; VINCENT KLEIN, Secretary Chrysler Local No. 17 of UAW-CIO; Michigan State Senator, STANLEY NOWAK; Prof. J. J. ZERHAL, President of the Czechoslovak National Council; JOSEPH MARTINEK, Executive Secretary of the Czechoslovak National Council, Chicago; KAREL BRCHAL, President of the American Sokol Union; ADOLF CER, President of the Czech American National Alliance; VINCENT VRDSKY, Secretary of the Czech American National Alliance; Rev. JAN S. BRADAC, Honorary President of the Slovak National Alliance; Rev. ARNOST SIZKA of the Federation of American Czechoslovaks in Texas; NICOLA NESLA, Serbian American inventor; ETBIN KRISTAN, prominent Slovenian writer; Dr. D. K. NATICH, first vice-president Michigan All-Slav Committee; SAMUEL BERLINICH, President of the Serbian National Federation, Pittsburgh; Judge ANTHONY LUCAS, Pittsburgh; Ohio State Senator BOYD-BOICH; Judge GEORGE S. TENESY, Cleveland;



RAYMOND TRAVNIK, Slovenska Narodna Podporna Jednota;  
Rev. M. F. BENKO, Cleveland; W. TUZIK, President of  
the Czechoslovak Society of America; and Mrs. MARIE  
KRAL of the Nat'l Alliance of Czech Catholics.

From the serious and restrained mood of the delegates it was visible they had come for the one purpose of agreeing on a common line of action to be taken to guarantee a speedy end of HITLER and the Axis. There was a notable absence of the usual convention hilarity and abandon.

#### An International Event

It was a wartime meeting dominated by a wartime grimness. That the deliberations of the congress would have international repercussions was evidenced in the more than thousand telegrams from all parts of the world that reached the congress during the sessions.

One of the wires greeting it was from a Czech group in Teheran, Persia; there were many from Slavic groups in Chile, Argentina, Canada, and throughout America. Soviet writers and scientists and members of the Yugoslav government in Kufbyshov wired the congress messages of greetings and good wishes.

The Congress was not only an event significant in the history of America's 15 million Slav-descended citizens but fraught with meaning for the destiny of the more than 200 millions of Slav peoples across the seas engaged in a life-and-death struggle against Nazi enslavers.

For the first time the peoples of the diverse Slavic groups in America were reaching a common understanding on a world-wide issue--a matter that gave delegates a feeling of considerable satisfaction.

Far beyond the brilliantly delivered keynote speeches and the iron note of resolve sounded in the resolutions--all of which raised the assembly to wild cheers of enthusiasm--was the vibrant sense of unity which, given expression by the congress carried to the Slav peoples

throughout the world its message of redoubled efforts to crush HITLER and guarantee a democratic victory for the world.

#### Keynote--Production for Victory

Production and sacrifice were the keynote motifs of the main address of the congress delivered by LEO KRZYCKI. Reminding listeners that American Slavs occupy a key position in America's war industrial pattern, he called for greater efforts this year to turn the scales of victory in favor of the democracies.

How to safeguard American war production and American morale took up the following sessions which were addressed by Prof. J. J. ZMRHAL, President of the Czechoslovak National Council of America, on fifth-column activities and measures to be taken against them; FRANK N. LISBEY, chairman of the Michigan Defense Savings Program on national morale; ELI OLIVER, of the Labor Division of the War Production Board and GEORGE ADDES, Secretary-Treasurer of the Auto Workers Union on problems facing labor in the war industries. These subjects were treated in further detail in special panel discussions later.

#### 10,000 Hear Hon. Paul V. McNutt

Two thousand plates were served at the banquet tendered the delegates and guests by the Michigan Committee of the American Slav Congress in the Masonic Temple on April 25.

But the climax of the congress was a victory rally in the Michigan State Fair Coliseum where 10,000 persons assembled to hear the Hon. PAUL V. McNUTT, Federal Security Administrator and U. S. Government representative to the Congress who greeted the delegates and drew thunderclaps of applause by his appeal for "more tanks for TIMOSHENKO". "In this first Slav Congress you have shown the world the miracle of American unity," he declared.

A message from President ROOSEVELT was received wishing the Congress success in its work."

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

NY FILE NO. 100-56674-1096

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>8-23-48</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7/27/47</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b>
TITLE <b>AMERICAN SLAV CONGRESS</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C REGISTRATION ACT</b>	
<b>41797</b>			

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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

In radio broadcast 7/27/47 ASC official asserted that first ASC Congress held 4/25, 26/42, Detroit, Michigan, grew out of Tri-State All Slav Congress meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa., 12/3/38; stressed role of ASC in uniting Slavic groups for "peace, economic security and progress".

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REASON FOR DOWNGRADING 2-13-90

News disseminated through quarterly magazine "The Slavic American"

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ENCLOSURE BEHIND FILE

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The first two issues of "The Slavic American", furnished by [REDACTED] contain the following articles:

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Vol. 1, Fall 1947, No. 1

Articles

Henry Wallace, Champion of Peace.....	3	..... by Leo Krzycki
Poland's Western Boundaries.....	5	.....by Congressman G. Sadowski
Statement on the Truman Doctrine At Senate Foreign Relations Committee Hearings.....	6	.....By George Firinsky
As a Veteran Sees It, First in a Series of Articles.....	9	.....by Captain George Muchinich by Warren R. Austin, U. S. Repre- sentative and Andrei A. Gromyko, U.S.S.R. Representative
Spotlight on the Balkans, Statements on Balkan-Greek Question at U.N. Security Council Hearings.....	20	
The Real Bulgaria An Answer to Life Magazine.....	50	.....by Dr. Nissim Mavorah

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Features

Story of the American Slav Congress	10	...The Record of an Organization
<u>Leo Krzycki,</u>		
Fifty Years a Servant of the People	18	.....by Tabitha <del>Petran</del>
One World Flight,		
Stop-Over in Moscow.....	34	.....by Norman <del>Corwin</del>
Czechoslovak Sokol in America.....	40	.....The Symbol of a People
We Felt the Heartbeat of New Yugo-		
slavia; The Rebuilding of a Country	43	.....by Zlatko Balokovic
Bright Passage,		
A Review of the new book on		
Czechoslovakia, by Maurice <del>Hindus</del>	47	.....by Visko
Savo Radulovich.....	48	.....Yugoslav artist
Highlights of Slavic American News..	52	Notes on Rallies and Conferences
Slavic American Youth Get Together..	54	.....Youth councils in action

Stories

My American Pilgrimage,		
Excerpts from the new novel.....	38	.....by Stoyan <del>Christowc</del>
The Importance of Being Kobotchnick		
A story of a Man and His Dog.....	42	.....by Louis <del>Adamic</del>

Vol. 1, Winter 1947, No. 2

Articles

Conspiracy Against Peace.....	5	.....by Louis Adamic
Deportation Laws Hit Slavic Ameri-		
cans.....	13	.....by Abner <del>Green</del>
Analysis of the Marshall Plan....	22	.....by <u>George Pirinsky</u>
Program and Activities of the		
American Slav Congress.....	29	.....by George Pirinsky

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Features

Nikola <del>X</del> Tesla.....	3	.....by Pauline Klopska
Tribute to a Fighting Senator...	9	.....ASC Testimonial Dinner
The World Youth Festival.....	10	.....by Ilona Vlahov
U.S.S.R. Thirty Years After Feudal- ism.....	14	.....by S. <del>X</del> Garbuzov
Summary of a Journey.....	24	.....by Ella Winter
The Story of Gec <del>X</del> Milov.....	31	.....by Maria <del>X</del> Vladimirova
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Slav Saga in Pennsylvania.....	33	.....by Lyla Y. <del>X</del> Slocum Eugene <del>X</del> Konecky
American Clergymen See the New Yugoslavia.....	38	.....Digest of their Report
Pages from an Artist's Notebook,	42	.....by Alven <del>X</del> Becker
Five Women.....	44	.....by Marie <del>X</del> Seton

Fiction

Wedding Day.....	7	.....by Thomas <del>X</del> Bell
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Two copies of quarterly magazine "The Slavic American",  
Winter 1947 issue.

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# SLAVIC AMERICAN

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Louis Adamic

Thomas Bell

S. Garbuzov

Abner Green

E. Konecky

Alvena Seckar

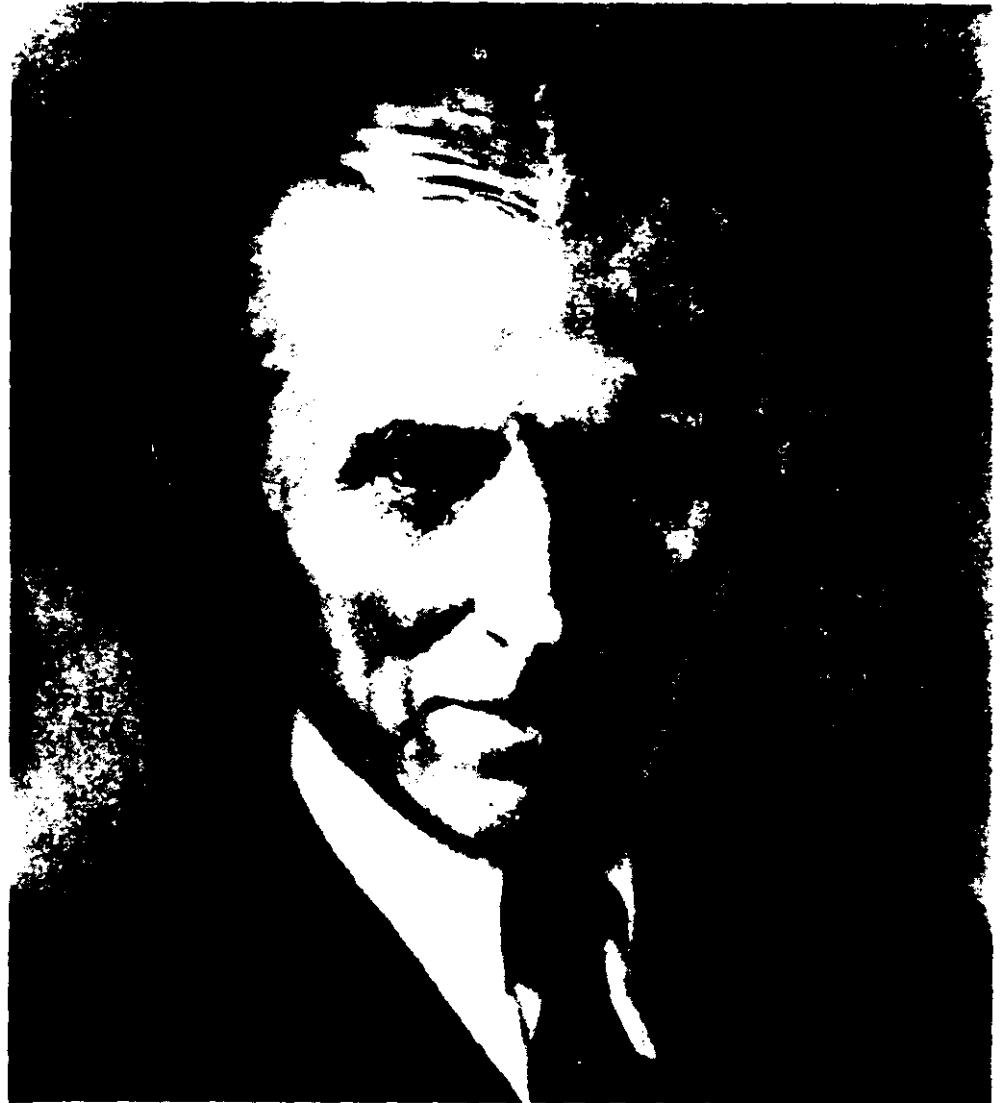
Marie Seton

Lyla Y. Slocum

M. Vladimirova

Ilene Vlahov

Ella Winter



NIKOLA TESLA - *Poet in Electricity*

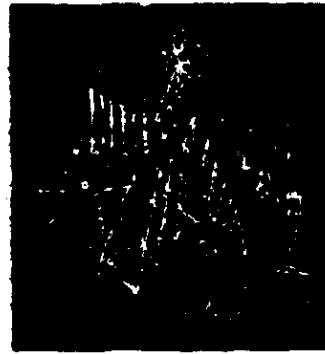
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WINTER 1947

# Nikola TESLA



*Whose daring imagination and concrete accomplishments are among the wonders of our age.*

By PAULINE KLOPACKA

**W**HEN Nikola Tesla died in January of 1943 in comparative seclusion in a New York hotel, he owned no more than the few personal possessions that had become dear to him during the 86 years of his life. Yet his estate was so fabulous that its value can never be truly assessed. And his heirs were the men and women of all the world.

What price can be put on the work of a man who brought into being the electric power era? The industrial giant that the U. S. is today rests on the series of brilliant discoveries and inventions in the harnessing and transmission of electricity conceived

by Nikola Tesla, who came to this country from the land of the South Slavs when he was 28 years of age.

It was at midnight between July 9 and 10 in 1856 that a son, Nikola, was born to the Rev. Milutin Tesla and Djouka, his wife, in the little Serbian village of Smiljan, in the province of Lika. Now a part of Yugoslavia, it was at that time under Austro-Hungarian rule.

Tesla's father, a Serb, was a priest of the Greek Church, and his mother of a distinguished Serbian family, came from a long line of inventors. Both father and mother gave to the child a valuable heritage and culture

developed and passed on by ancestral families that had been community leaders for many generations.

It was at first planned that the son prepare for the priesthood but Nikola would have none of this. Physics and mathematics fascinated him. He would be a teacher of these favorite subjects. But then he switched to electrical engineering and at the age of 25 a graduate of Prague University—earlier training had been obtained at the Graz Polytechnic in Austria—he was set for his first job.

At that time the American Telephone System was brought to Europe and an installation set up in Budapest, where Tesla was a successful applicant for a position.

**T**HREE years later, in 1884, he was U. S. bound. There were 4 cents in the young immigrant's pocket when he arrived in New York, but that did not disturb him. He had the names of friends. He would soon get to work.

His confidence was well founded, since within a few years he was counted among the ranking scientists of the country, his discoveries bringing in handsome royalties.

It is interesting to note the description of Tesla at this time by his biographer, J. J. O'Neill in the book, "Prodigal Genius": "Tesla was a



*Drawings by Alvina Seckar*

spectacular figure in New York in 1891. A tall, dark, handsomely well-built individual with a flare for wearing clothes that gave him an air of magnificence, who spoke perfect English but carried an atmosphere of European culture. He was an outstanding personality to all who beheld him." One of his colleagues described him as "immaculately groomed, and of delightful courtesy and charm."

A review of Tesla's work is nothing short of amazing. To quote from J. J. O'Neill's book:

"It was Tesla's invention of the polyphase alternating current system that was directly responsible for harnessing Niagara Falls and opening the modern electric super-power era in which electricity is transported for hundreds of miles to operate the tens of thousands of mass production factories of our industrial system.

"Every one of the tall, Martian transmission lines that stalk across the earth and whose wires carry electricity to distant cities is a monument to Tesla, every dynamo and every motor that drives every machine in the country is a monument to him.

"He discovered the secret of transmitting electric power to the utmost ends of the earth without wires and demonstrated his system by which power could be drawn from the earth anywhere by making a connection to the ground; he set the entire earth in electrical vibration with a generator which sprouted lightning that rivaled the fiery artillery of the heavens. It was a minor portion of this discovery that he created the modern radio system. He planned our broadcasting methods of today 40 years ago when others saw in the wireless only the dot and dash message that might save ships in distress.

"Tesla was an inventor but he was much more than a producer of devices. He was a discoverer of new principles opening many new empires of knowledge which even today have been only partly explored. In a single burst of invention he created the world of power of today.

"He brought into being our electric power era, the rock bottom foundation on which the industrial system of the entire world is builded. He gave us our mass production system for without his motors and currents it could not exist.

"He gave us every essential of current radio. He invented radar 40 years before its use in World War II. He gave us our modern neon and other forms of gaseous tube lighting. He gave us fluorescent lighting. He gave us the high frequency currents which are performing their electronic wonders throughout the industrial and medical world. He gave us remote control by radio."

Always proud of his national origin, Tesla spoke as follows during his visit to Belgrade in 1892 in answer to a speech of welcome by the city's

mayor: "There is something in me which is only perhaps illusory . . . but if I were to be sufficiently fortunate to bring about at least some of my ideas it would be for the benefit of all humanity. If these hopes become one day a reality, my greatest joy would spring from the fact that this work would be the work of a Serb."

Tesla dedicated his life to peace, to lightening the burden of toil from the shoulders of his fellow man. As every scientist who so interprets his function in society, he was stricken when he saw the coming of World War II and his inventions being prepared for destructive purposes. He sought desperately to prevent the war and made available a device which he offered to the world, maintaining that it would make any country, no matter how small, safe within its boundaries. His offer was rejected.

But once the war was an accomplished fact, and when the people's armies rose in defense of their nations in what appeared to be an unequal fight, he did all he could to rally his countrymen to work to the limit in the war effort.

Shortly before his death he wrote as follows to his nephew, M. Sava Kosanovic, now Yugoslav Ambassador to the U. S.:

*"President Roosevelt and Donald Nelson, Director of our War Production have repeatedly urged the American people, workers and employers, to meet as fully as possible the goals established for the production of war materials. . . . For that reason, my dear brothers and sisters, as the oldest Serb, Yugoslav and American in the U. S., I am addressing this letter to you, asking you to answer the call of President Roosevelt.*

*"The achievements of our brothers in the old country are worthy of the spirit which permeates our folklore . . . the fate of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes is inseparable."*

Tesla was not satisfied with his achievements in releasing the earth's energies so that men could work with less backbreaking effort and live more comfortably. The man who could

draw up a design for a perfect motor was also concerned with drawing up a plan for a better world. When Tesla read the address of the then Vice-President, Henry A. Wallace, on The Future of the Common Man, he was fired with enthusiasm. The Yugoslav edition of the speech included a preface by Nikola Tesla written in October, 1942:

"Out of this war, the greatest since the beginning of history, a new world must be born, a world that would justify the sacrifices offered by humanity. This new world must be a world in which there shall be no exploitation of the weak by the strong, of the good by the evil; where there will be no humiliation of the poor by the violence of the rich; where the products of intellect, science and art will serve society for the betterment and beautification of life, and not individuals for the amassing of wealth. This new world shall not be a world of the downtrodden and humiliated, but of free men and free nations, equal in dignity and respect for man . . ."

This man, whose work was so advanced of his time that much of it still remains unexplored could have amassed millions, but he was so little interested in personal gain that to save his friend, Mr. Westinghouse, from bankruptcy he tore up a contract which would have brought him \$12 millions in royalties. Pressed for funds during the latter part of his life, many of his inventions are lost to the world.

But though he was often short of money he would walk over to Herald Square and feed the pigeons. It was almost a sacred trust, feeding the pigeons twice a day. They had been his personal responsibility through the years, and if he could not be there to do the feeding, a Western Union messenger boy would be hired to do the job in his stead. Often he would forget an important engagement so that he might keep his "date" on Herald Square. The pigeons were a way to relaxation, a note of warmth in an otherwise rigidly disciplined life. He had few friends and never married, since he felt a scientist must keep himself free of personal relationships that would be unduly demanding.

Restless and eager to unravel every possible unknown to the very end of

(Continued on page 49)

(Continued from page 4)

describes only from the standpo. of his art. . . . In his attitude toward various events in the life around him, which impress him strongly, he does not take sides. He does not praise one and hurt the other; he merely describes everything he sees, describes it with the delicate, sweet colors of poetry. . . ."

Geo was fined 20,000 leva and sentenced to one year in prison. He could not believe that the court could make such a decision. With joking reference to the dullness of "their Honors," he left the courtroom believing that the decision would never be carried out.

He was right. Unable to enforce their decision legally, the government resorted to illegal means.

Next day, May 15, 1925, Geo was kidnapped from his home and killed by underlings of Prime Minister Alexander Tzankoff.

The cultural world of Europe protested Geo's death. Henri Barbusse, of France, visited Bulgaria to investigate the case. In his book "The Murderers" he made reference to the circumstances of Geo's death. Max Reinhardt protested and "regretted the loss of a very gifted theater director." Oskar Kokoshka, in Vienna, recognized the loss of "a precious critic and learned connoisseur of modern art."

Many Bulgarian writers were silent. Fearing for their lives, they did not dare to speak a word for Geo Milev or express regret for his death. The more courageous of them stated that "talent such as Geo's is born only once in a hundred years," that "He was the most cultured Bulgarian," "The most honest and courageous."

**T**HE youth and the common people deeply mourned for Geo. They they had lost a sincere friend. Unable to use the Bulgarian printing presses, they copied by hand and learned it by heart. Bulgarian students abroad printed it in Paris, and in Belgrade. In Prague it was translated into

his life, he read a paper on the occasion of his 80th birthday on the perfection of a tube for atom smashing. As if that were not enough, he also presented a system of interplanetary communication.

Thus the fragmentary story of the life and work of a Yugoslav immigrant who, like so many tens of thousands of his fellow countrymen, left their homeland rather than live as subjects within the Austro-Hungarian empire.

He made a unique contribution to his adopted land, so ideally suited to the full scope of his genius, "the like of which in all history could probably be counted on the fingers of one hand."

It is to be hoped that just as he brought electrification to the U. S. in the short span of ten years, his adopted country might assist in the full electrification of the Balkans, reversing its present policy toward New Yugoslavia.

Czech and in Russia into Russian.

A few courageous young people in Bulgaria printed pamphlets about Geo. They were promptly tortured and imprisoned.

We, his family, searched for him for months, but we never learned exactly where and how he was killed.

There were rumors that he had been shot in the mountains, that he had been burned in the furnace of "Public Safety." These measures were used by Bulgarian Fascists long before the world knew of Hitler. Both stories, however, avowed that his spirit was not crushed.

Geo's voice was silenced forever. The murderers triumphed, but they forgot that he who speaks for the freedom of a tormented and deprived people does not die. In today's New Bulgaria, Geo Milev is honored as one of her most cherished sons. Geo's poems are celebrated especially by the youth of today, the heirs of the September Revolution of 1944, which fulfilled his prediction of a decade before that "September will be May."

**THE AMERICAN SLAV COMMITTEE**  
of Canton, Ohio

welcomes the new magazine

**THE SLAVIC AMERICAN**

and projects best wishes for its success. This organ, we know, will be a great contribution to the enlightenment of the homes of American Slavs.

Greetings to the Second Issue  
of

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and

Best Wishes for Continued Success  
in the Coming Year

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TO : Director, FBI

DATE: April 11, 1949

FROM : SAC, New York

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INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
(Bufile 100-56674)

Enclosed are two copies of the Fall, 1948 issue of "The Slavic American", a quarterly, published by the American Slav Congress.

These are being submitted for information only, not for evidence. One copy is being retained in the files of this office.

Encls. 2

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CONFIDENTIAL

# SLAVIC AMERICAN

*a  
Quarterly*



Club Metro Dancers, Chicago

Published by The American Slav Congress

FALL 1948



# The American Way of Life

by LOUIS ADAMIC

**T**HE opening lines of the Progressive Party's platform read: "Three years after the end of the Second World War the drums are beating for a third. Civil liberties are being destroyed. Millions cry out for relief from unbearably high prices. The American Way of Life is in danger."

The American Way of Life has been the issue in any American election ever since 1776. Every voter who goes to the polls, votes—intelligently or mistakenly; independently or under the spell of inveterate partisanship—for one or another concept of the American Way of Life.

Of course, various people, living in various circumstances, have various ideas of what constitutes the American Way of Life. I propose to state my ideas of it; also I shall presume to fit those ideas within the frame of the new Progressive Party which must continue to grow from its beginnings in 1943.

As I see the American Way of Life, its principles were born of the American Revolution. They were won in struggle; nothing as fundamental and deep-reaching comes easy. They are stated in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. Our job now is to perceive what policies and measures will safeguard the Way against decay and corruption, and will further its growth and evolution to meet successfully the problem of changing times and new conditions. The principles of 1776 are as valid as ever, but life is different today from what it was then. Fortunately growth and change are of the very essence of the American Way.

The first principle of the American Way of Life is the right to life itself; and this must be safeguarded against war on the one hand, and on the other against poverty, which in recent decades has taken a far heavier toll than any war in which this nation has ever so far been involved—though the "next war," if we permit it to be drummed up, will reverse the story.

## "Why Go to War to Keep Others From Having Their Way of Life," asks Adamic

The second principle of the American Way is *liberty* . . . it has always been our slogan and our pride. But we have long been cautioned that its price is eternal vigilance, and we know how to recognize those who have designs on it.

The third principle of our Way is *abundance*. When migrants from Europe first began to settle here, this was a land rich in the gifts of nature; and for all that those gifts have been abused by ignorance and irresponsibility, and particularly by exploiters and monopolists. Our resources are still great enough—if deforestation and erosion are checked in time, and if our mineral resources are properly conserved—to afford abundance, the good life, to all the inhabitants of These States.

And a fourth principle of the American Way is *opportunity*.

**T**HE Progressive Party promises to safeguard the right to life by avoiding war—always the saddest failure of morality and now the potential destroyer of human society and the globe itself.

Whether or not we can avoid World War III, I don't know; but I do know this—that if we don't try to avoid it, nothing else is worth try-

ing to do nowadays. It is futile to wonder about the kind of curtains you'll hang up in your living-room . . . futile to write or read books, to go to lectures or to school . . . silly to worry about being called a Red or a Communist, or whatever, or about being hauled up before the fantastic Un-American Activities Committee . . . futile to work at your job, whatever it may be . . . silly to worry about keeping on the good side of whoever can take that job away from you.

War or peace? I don't know; but if we want any sort of future for this country, for the rest of the world, for ourselves and the Russians, for you and me personally, then we'd better work for peace . . . stand up for peace . . . stand up with our new political vehicle, the Progressive Party.

The Progressive Party further proposes to safeguard the right to life by abolishing poverty. Cynics, prostitutes, and generally people without hope and vision say this can't be done. They say Henry Wallace is a starry-eyed visionary. We say it can be done if we will jealously maintain freedom, bear in mind the limitless capabilities of Americans, and keep the grip of monopoly from arrogating the resources that should serve all, and if we will insist upon the application of the ever more marvelous discoveries and techniques of science for the common good.

The Progressive Party proposes to safeguard *liberty*—not with more lip service, but by adhering fully to the Constitution, including the Bill of Rights and all subsequent amendments, in all their vitality and integrity, and by reviving and enhancing the programs and formulations of Roosevelt's New Deal. The Progressive Party proposes to guard liberty

(Continued on page 26)

### LOUIS ADAMIC



Slovenian American author and lecturer, a foremost authority on national groups, he is a prolific writer. Among his works are *My Native Land*, *Dinner at the White House*, *Two-Way Passage*, *Nation of Nations*, *My America*. He also edits and publishes a current affairs bulletin, *Trends and Tides*, issued from his home in Milford, New Jersey.

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The American Way

(Continued from page 5)

against that danger which most disturbed the Founding Fathers—the power of the military. And note how all these things are inter-related. Liberty is imperiled by poverty, by monopoly, by war. Every measure which the new party proposes is a measure to safeguard liberty.

By abundance, the new party means that our rich land—and our skills, brought here by immigrants from the Old World in the last 300 years—shall produce all that is needed to make the good life available to every law-abiding and industrious man and woman here, and their children, regardless of color, race or religion; and that these fruits of enterprise and labor shall not be so ill-divided that a few are glutted with a surfeit of luxuries while many who toil and sweat must for reasons beyond their control still go "ill-fed, ill-clothed and ill-housed."

The pioneers who first possessed the Atlantic seaboard and later pressed westward through the forests and the prairies, could win abundance by strength and industry, by the wide swing of the axe, the true aim of the flintlock, and the firm hand on the plow. There was opportunity galore. Almost any man could get land for the asking or for a few dollars an acre, and become

(Continued on page 29)

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## The American Way

(Continued from page 26)

an independent farmer. Any man could set up a little store in a new community and become a prosperous merchant as the town grew. Almost any man could start a paper, establish a factory or mill, or open a mine, and become an industrialist.

This is no longer true. Millions of square miles have been rendered useless for human use and habitation by irresponsible deforestation and by erosion. The number of family farms dwindles yearly; every day hundreds of independent merchants and small mining, milling and manufacturing companies are forced out of business by the power of monopoly, centered in Wall Street.

The relentless limitation of opportunity, the shrinking of abundance for millions, the violences done to liberty in defiance of the Constitution and in contempt of the tradition that began in 1776, the further threat against freedom in the ominous form of military rule, the denial of life itself to unnumbered victims of poverty, and the grave threat to all our lives in the probability of a war waged with atom bombs and bacteria—these developments, conditions and prospects now imperil the American Way of Life.

The Progressive Party proposes to restore and safeguard and extend that Way—the emphasis is on the word “extend.” Nothing in nature stands still, and no more can human economic and social and political institutions. Change is the key principle of the American Way—growth, adaptation, progress. Had it not been for that principle, the USA would not exist—we would not now be debating the decisions made in an election: we would still be colonial subjects, or we wouldn’t be here at all.

If we remembered more vividly what daring it took in 1776 to reject monarchy and form a republic, we would have less hesitation in rejecting the National Association of Manufacturers’ notions of “free enterprise,” and adopting measures more in keeping with today’s facts of life. We would not hesitate to defy the greatest power on earth—that of monopoly corporations and cartels, whose agents have lately seized control of the U.S. Government.

Under Henry Wallace’s leadership, the Progressive Party offers itself as a medium through which those who love their country and are also in favor of their own rightful individual interests can express themselves politically . . . in 1949 . . . 1950 . . . in 1952, assuming that the “next war,” now being drummed up, won’t destroy us all before then.

We know now that we have established a firm foundation for the new party under the leadership of Henry Wallace and Glen Taylor. Personally, I was not in this campaign only in reference to this year’s election or because I think, as I do think, that Henry Wallace is a great American who should be in the White House in this crucial period. In the main, I was in this campaign because, like Wallace and Taylor, like many other Americans, I became convinced that neither of the old parties is fit to deal with the profound crisis which is coming to a climax in these middle years of the 20th century. I am in this movement because I want to help build a new people’s party that will be capable of coping with the crisis now converging upon us and the rest of the world.

LIKE many Americans, I am foreign-born; and every once in a while I hear or read some remark to the effect that I have no right to be doing what I am doing—helping the growth of a new party which hopes to save the peace. Such remarks amuse me. It so happens that I have read rather extensively in American history, not as taught in most schools, but as it really happened; and I am impressed by this fact—that in all crucial or climactic periods in the career of this country, the so-called foreigners played important roles.

The Irish and German elements, for instance, were the big “foreign” groups around 1776, and it was they who became the backbone of General Washington’s revolutionary army. The Irish and German elements also furnished the mass support to Thomas Jefferson when he started a new party 150 years ago. Jefferson did not triumph immediately (as Wallace didn’t); his supporters stood it with him until he did (as I hope we will

(Continued on page 30)

## Greetings From

MARY ANTONIC  
BOZO BARANIC  
MILO BARANIC  
JOHN BEZELJ  
PAUL BIAZEVICH  
KAY BEGOVICH  
FLORENCE FERKICH  
GEORGE GELSOVICH  
STEVE HROSTI  
FRANK KURSO  
LJUBICA LOVRICH  
ANTON PESUSICH  
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NICK PETRICH  
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SHEPERO SHOE STORE  
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STEFA TAL  
JOSEPH TURZA  
FRANK ZAVARTKAJ  
JOSEPH ZILINEK



*Delegates join in singing the National Anthem.*

## **The American Way**

*(Continued from page 29)*

with Wallace). The same was true again in the period of Andrew Jackson, when American democracy took another long step forward. When Lincoln came along and started a new party, his most steadfast backing came from the numerous new-immigrant groups—Germans, Finns, Poles, Scandinavians and others.

This was quite natural. As newcomers who came here seeking liberty, abundance and opportunity, they had a more acute sense of what America professed, and they took American principles more seriously than many of the old-line Americans who had begun to be matter-of-fact, if not smug, about the country. As newcomers, they were somewhat outside the mainstream of American life. By going behind the cause of Washington, Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln, they became part of the mainstream. They promoted themselves from second-class citizens to first-class. It was Americanization at its very best. It made history, it enriched the traditions, it integrated the new Americans into the country as a whole.

And it is quite natural, and very fortunate, that many of us in the new-immigrant groups have joined with many old-line Negro Americans, with many white Americans of the earlier immigration waves, with Henry Wallace, in this movement to form a new party and make it competent to deal with the complex problems looming before us. Many of us Slavic Americans already in 1946 and early in 1947, sensed that Henry Wallace was right, and we became part of the growing impulse to form a new party.

Regardless of what some of our opponents have said, this fact is strictly and wonderfully in the American tradition. It is part of the Americanization process. It is according to the American Way. We are promoting ourselves from second-class to first-class citizenship. This is resented by some of the Americans of the older strains, the self-styled standard Americans; but don't let that worry you too much. They, too, are being Americanized or re-Americanized as you assume your full rights and duties of citizenship. Americanism has its standards, to be sure; very high standards; but it is not anything rigid or dead; it is alive, vital, open to change and enrichment.

Slavic Americans are part of the whole immense American dynamic which is as yet little understood, and is full of promises and dangers. By coming here, we of the new immigration greatly complicated the American civilization as it was, say, 90 or 100 years ago. Most Slavic immigrants became workers in the great industries, and now their energy is integral with the American scene as a whole. Most immigrants in the last 100 years or so worked hard, many of them too hard at too little pay, and helped to create a complex industrial machine which, lest it overwhelm us, now needs intelligent handling and control. It is our duty to take an active interest in finding an approach to the immense industrial, economic and social problems facing us: for, let me repeat, our coming here and our labors in the last several decades have helped to create these problems.

Most of us who came over were

ordinary people. But in the new immigration waves were also some extraordinary human beings. There was, for instance, a man of genius, Nikola Tesla. His numerous inventions now are one of the most important factors in the immense American industrial scheme which throbs with the high promises that pulsed through Tesla's brain, but which are also full of dangers. Personally, as one who happens to be proud of being of the same background as was Tesla, I feel it is my special duty to help do what is necessary to insure that Tesla's work, as well as the work of ordinary men and women, will go into the fulfillment of promises in our American Way of Life, rather than contribute to the catastrophe now threatening.

**I**N 1942, Henry Wallace made his famous speech on "The Century of the Common Man." Nikola Tesla, who was a very uncommon man, publicly endorsed that speech in glowing terms. And I think that I speak not only for myself, but also for Tesla, when I assert that the American Way of Life is not the way of incredibly greedy monopoly profits and prohibitive prices for the necessities of life. Look at this picture: Millions of men in their best years who fought and suffered, many of whom will carry greater or lesser disabilities to their graves—veterans to whom we said "Nothing is too good for you"—are unable to secure homes of minimum decency and convenience. Their families cannot be adequately fed with meat at 70¢ to \$1.20 a pound. Whatever wage increases they may secure

*(Continued on page 32)*

## comments from our readers

Dear Editor:

Our small club of eight members, from a small mining community in Pennsylvania, until recently was known as the Rural Ridge Busy Knitters Club. We are now a chapter of the Congress of American Women.

We have only fifteen dollars in our treasury and out of this we are sending you \$10, because of our desire to contribute to the work you are doing.

May it help in some way towards *The Slavic American's* fight for freedom and democracy.

*Anna Mominac, Pres.  
Anne Kondrick, Sec'y.  
Julia Pukavina, Treas.  
Rural Ridge, Pa.*

Dear Editor:

I send you post haste my renewal subscription for *The Slavic American*.

In all sincerity—keep up the good work for you are doing an excellent job in the struggle against fascism.

I never miss an issue.

*Rev. Eliot White  
New York, N. Y.*

Dear Editor:

How about more profiles on Slavic American writers and scientists like Nikola Tesla? The field for this type of material is virtually endless.

*Anton Markulic  
Los Angeles, Calif.*

(See page 13—Ed.)

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## The American Way

(Continued from page 30)

through their unions, increased living costs still stay one jump ahead of them.

We of the Progressive Party say this is not the American Way of Life. And "we" includes great numbers of ex-GIs and young workers, old-stock Americans and immigrants: Americans of all breeds and backgrounds.

If all Americans are employed at better than mere-existence wages or are engaged in business or professional activities at a reasonable compensation; if all Americans are well clothed and fed; if all Americans are secure instead of uncertain and worried, as the majority are today, there will be no war. The Hearsts, Peglers, Forrestals and Bullitts won't get to first base in trying to propagandize us into fear and hate of other countries which are emerging out of backwardness and, because of their different historic experiences, are attempting a different system for providing benefits and opportunities for their citizens.

Why go to war to keep others from having their way of life? We in the Wallace movement, in the Progressive Party, insist on peace in order to keep the American Way of Life. If our approach prevails in time, there will be no war and Russia will be no danger to America, to the American Way of Life. The chief danger to this country and to our institutions under the Constitution lies in our present high-level politicians and wire-pullers who have raised the cry of Communism and of the Russian menace as a smokescreen to neutralize any possible militancy on the part of labor, to scare us in the new-immigrant groups, to frighten the Negroes, and to confuse the people generally so they won't be able to figure out who or what is responsible for high living costs. Henry Wallace clearly means what he says; so he and his active supporters were smeared, lest too many voters vote for him and in their own interest.

The old-line politicians and wire-

pullers and their propagandists are not afraid of Communism, but of American democracy and of the American people; of the people getting wise to themselves and demanding a return to the American Way of Life—the Way defined in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

That's what *they* are afraid of . . . that's what *we* Progressives stand for . . . and that's what will prevail if you and I, all of us and all of our neighbors wherever we come from, do everything in our power to build the new party that has come into being around the personality and political philosophy of Henry Wallace. We, all of us, will have to do all we can in this post-election period to make of the Progressive Party a party capable of saving the country and helping to bring about a world in which the American Way of Life will include not warlike antagonism, but constructive interest in the ways of life in other countries.

~~SECRET~~

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Form No. 1

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**NY** FILE NO. **100-27583 MBJ**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK CITY</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11/13/43</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/6, 7, 25-28/43</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[REDACTED]</b> (b)(7)(C)
TITLE <b>[REDACTED]</b>		(b)(7)(C) 0/9	CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C.</b>

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Reason: **FOIA II, 1.4.2-2.4.3**  
Date of Review: **7/30/82**

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REFERENCE:

Bureau File #100-118061  
Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** dated **[REDACTED]**  
July 17, 1943 at Cincinnati, Ohio.

DETAILS:

At New York, N. Y.

DECLASSIFIED ON **9-11-77**  
BY **3042 pwt/EGM**  
**appx 87-0499**

This investigation is predicated upon a request in

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>G. G. [Signature]</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 4 - Cincinnati (2-USA, Dayton) (#100-4083) 2 - New York		100-118061-477	RECORDED & INDEXED 75
		30 NOV 26 1943	(b)(7)(C) (b)(7)(D)

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NY 100-27583

reference report that indices of the New York office be checked against the names of the persons  (b)(7)(C)

SAVA KOSANOVICH first came to the attention of the Bureau in January, 1943, after the death of NIKOLA TESLA, one of the world's outstanding scientists in the electrical field. During his lifetime, TESLA conducted many experiments in connection with the wireless transmission of electrical power and just prior to his death, was interested in what is commonly called the "death-ray". (S)u

The notes and records of TESLA's experiments and formulae, together with designs of machinery necessary for their operation, were reported to be among TESLA's personal effects, after his death. (S)u

It was reported that KOSANOVICH claimed to be a nephew of TESLA, and he attempted to secure possession of TESLA's personal effects, and hired a private locksmith to gain access to TESLA's possessions. The Bureau was interested because of the supposedly vital importance of TESLA's inventions and the desire to keep them out of enemy hands, as one informant maintains that KOSANOVICH was pro-Axis in his sympathies. The matter was later handled as an alien enemy, custodial detention matter and no further investigation conducted by this office. (S)u

The Bureau advised by letter of January 21, 1943, that its files revealed confidential information concerning NIKOLA TESLA and his inventions and advised that one NICOLA TESLA, who might be identical with NIKOLA TESLA, made a speech in Springfield, Massachusetts on July 4, 1922 under the auspices of the Friends of Soviet Russia. (S)u

 (S)u (b)(7)(C)

~~SECRET~~

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON  
FROM : L. B. NICHOLS  
SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

DATE: Jan. 30, 1951

(b)(7)(c)  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-22-89 BY SP1AC/om  
# 241860

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED] called yesterday and said he would be in town for the next two or three days and wanted to see me. I told him I would be glad to see him late yesterday or today at his convenience. He is coming in today at 2:30 p.m.

I asked him if there was anything special which would require my doing any checking. He stated there were two things he wanted to discuss.

1. The case of Nicola Tesla and Abraham N. Spanel, President of International Later Corporation [REDACTED]

Our files reflect that Nicola Tesla was one of the world's outstanding scientists and in fact designed the generators installed at Niagara Falls. He died in New York on January 7, 1943, and is supposed to have left details and plans for a so-called death ray. [REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

Our files also reflect that Colonel Erskine of Military Intelligence called us on January 9, 1943, advising that Tesla had died, that A. Spanel had communicated with the War Department regarding this death, that Tesla had a nephew named Sava Kosanovich who had taken possession of Tesla's papers and Spanel thought the papers might be used against our Government.

We made an immediate inquiry in New York and the first report was that Kosanovich and others entered Tesla's room with the aid of a locksmith, broke into a safe containing some of Tesla's valuable papers including formula.

Coincident with this, on January 8, 1943, L. M. C. Smith called Mr. Tamm regarding the death of Tesla and Smith stated he was talking to the Alien Property Custodian about seizing these items.

We interviewed Spanel who expressed concern over Tesla's effects and Spanel stated that Kosanovich had turned over the effects of Tesla to the Alien Property Custodian. Spanel further stated the day before Tesla died, he tried to get in touch with the War Department to make available certain patents.

5 MAR 4 1951

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RECORDED - 18

EX - 8

INDEXED - 18

1943  
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MAR 2 1951



[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

In 1945, we talked to a Private Bloyce Fitzgerald, who stated he had been associated with Tesla, and that the Army believed that Tesla's "death ray" is the only defense against atom bombs.

It was very clear we had no responsibility for Tesla's effects, that the Alien Property Custodian seized them and we learned later that Naval authorities made microfilms of all his papers.

Kosanovich communicated with the Bureau on March 29, 1950, and under date of April 3, 1950, in response to his request for the microfilms of the papers of Tesla, who was a relative of Kosanovich, we advised Kosanovich that this Bureau had never been in possession of Tesla's papers.

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)  
(b)(7)(D)

Senator [REDACTED] furnished the Bureau five communications received from a [REDACTED] which pertained primarily to Abraham Spanel. This individual mentioned the FBI at length in these communications, pointing out that Mr. Foxworth had been called in on the Tesla case but was killed shortly thereafter. He further stated that he was associated with Fitzgerald and as such came in touch with Tesla. He stated the FBI investigated this matter but their hands were tied, that there was nothing the FBI could do as they had been stopped from a higher level, that [REDACTED] the FBI Agent he dealt with, resigned and requested never to discuss the matter with him again, that he had a wife and family to consider and that the last hope was Congress. These communications were furnished to the Department on September 19, 1950. (b) (M) (C)

[REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

We did have an Agent, [REDACTED] who entered on duty [REDACTED] resigned [REDACTED]

The file does not indicate that we have ever interviewed [REDACTED] on the basis of [REDACTED] allegations.

I think we should see what specifics [REDACTED] wants. I think we can tell him on the Tesla papers that when they were reported to us, the Department stated that the Alien Property Custodian was going to seize the papers and that we learned Spanel had called the War Department about the papers falling into the wrong hands. [REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Right.  
H.

Agree.  
H.

V. M.

Am by  
Mr. Palmer

Why wasn't he interviewed?

3 -  
H.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : D. M. Ladd

DATE: August 30, 1946

FROM : E. G. Fitch

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] INTERNAL SECURITY - R

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

OM

Handwritten notes

Mr. Lyon of the State Department informed Mr. Roach that he obtained a note from Colonel Grombach, Special Intelligence, War Department concerning the above mentioned individual. Mr. Lyon was of the opinion that the information supplied by Colonel Grombach may be of interest to the Bureau.

The information as obtained from Colonel Grombach by Mr. Lyon is quoted as follows:

[REDACTED] (pronounce: [REDACTED])

and according to common saying his mistress, arrived apparently together with or shortly after [REDACTED] it is supposed [REDACTED]

see [REDACTED] (b)(7)(C)

Nicolas Tesla the well known scientist, residing in Cleveland, Oh., (probably American citizen) [REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION

It is suggested this memorandum be referred to the Internal Security Section for its information.

(b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(C)

RECORDED & INDEXED 206

SE 26

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53 JAN 23 1947

EX-16

(b)(7)(C)

5-



WFO 100-19816

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)  
(b)(7)(d)

[REDACTED]

✓

INTERVIEW OF THE SUBJECT

(b)(7)(D) [REDACTED] was interviewed at the Washington Field Office by SA [REDACTED] and the reporting Agent, on May 9, 10, and 13, 1952, and by [REDACTED] and the reporting Agent, on May 26, 1952.

(b)(7)(c)

History Prior to Entering United States

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)

(b)(7)(c)

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

WFO 100-19816

[REDACTED]

Acquaintanceship with Officials in the Yugoslav Government

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] admitted at this time he was interested in Yugoslav matters, Yugoslav progress in engineering, and their advances in equipment. He said he was also desirous of making the acquaintance of NIKOLA TESLA, who was an outstanding Yugoslav scientist and one of the founders of Westinghouse.

[REDACTED]

He said KOSANOVIC was not a great

[REDACTED]

~~SECRET~~

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WFO 100-19816

administrator, but he has considerable respect for him in many ways. He believes that KOSANOVIC emphasized to the Yugoslav government that he (KOSANOVIC), would be especially effective as Ambassador because he was a nephew of TESLA (mentioned above) and a friend of Mayor LA GUARDIA, and other influential persons in this country.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(D)  
(b)(7)(C)  
(b)(7)(A)  
(c)

~~SECRET~~

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.

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Section 552

Section 552a

(b)(1)

(b)(7)(A)

(d)(5)

(b)(2)

(b)(7)(B)

(j)(2)

(b)(3)

(b)(7)(C)

(k)(1)

\_\_\_\_\_  (b)(7)(D)

(k)(2)

\_\_\_\_\_  (b)(7)(E)

(k)(3)

\_\_\_\_\_  (b)(7)(F)

(k)(4)

(b)(4)

(b)(8)

(k)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(9)

(k)(6)

(b)(6)

(k)(7)

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office <b>WASHINGTON FIELD</b>	Office of Origin <b>BUREAU</b>	Date <b>3/28/60</b>	Investigative Period <b>2/18-3/15/60</b>
TITLE OF CASE <b>[REDACTED]</b> Applicant, Pan American Union, Washington, D. C.		Report made by <b>[REDACTED]</b>	Typed by <b>mjr</b>
		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>LOYALTY OF EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS</b>	

Summary

### REFERENCE

- Bulet dated 2/15/60;
- Bu airtels dated 2/25 and 3/10/60;
- Seattle airtel dated 2/26/60;
- Baltimore airtels dated 2/27 and 3/4/60;
- Norfolk airtel dated 3/1/60;
- San Francisco airtel dated 3/3/60;
- New York airtels dated 2/26, 3/3,4,10/60;
- Chicago airtel dated 3/5/60;
- Springfield airtel dated 3/8/60;
- New Haven airtel dated 3/9/60.

*Phair*  
 CC TO: 3-3-60  
 REQ. REC'D 3/3  
 MAR 14 1960  
 A.S. [REDACTED]  
 BY: [REDACTED]

- P -

2-21-89

SPIAGGUM

# 291860

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 6 - Bureau (138-4457) (Enc <i>[initials]</i> ) 1 - Washington Field (138-4085)		<b>138-4457</b>	<b>83</b>
		<b>MAY 24 1960</b>	<b>83</b>

*IPC [Signature]*  
 cc CSC  
 [REDACTED]

**[REDACTED]**  
**[REDACTED]**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~SECRET~~

Copy to:

Report of: [REDACTED] Office: Washington, D. C.  
Date: [REDACTED]

Field Office File No.: 138-4085

Bureau File No.: 138-4457

Title: [REDACTED]  
Applicant, Pan American Union,  
Washington, D. C.

2-21-87  
Classified by SP1A L. L. [REDACTED]  
# 291860

Character: LOYALTY OF EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER PUBLIC  
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Synopsis:

[REDACTED]

7  
(b)  
(1)  
(b)  
(7)  
(c)  
(b)  
(7)  
(D)

(c) has been interviewed on various occasions

- P -

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[REDACTED] (c)

[REDACTED] (b) (1) (c)

INTERVIEWS WITH [REDACTED]

On June 7, 1947, [REDACTED] was interviewed  
by SAs [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of the Chicago  
Office. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (b) (1) (c)

[REDACTED] (b) (1) (c)

(b)(7)(c)

NY 100-1010

[REDACTED] admitted at this time he was interested in Yugoslav matters, Yugoslav progress in engineering, and their advances in equipment. He said he was also desirous of making the acquaintance of NIKOLA TESLA, who was an outstanding Yugoslav scientist and one of the founders of Westinghouse.

[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(c)  
(b)(7)(D)

He said KOSANOVIC was not a great administrator, but he has considerable respect for him in many ways. He believes that KOSANOVIC emphasized to the Yugoslav government that he (KOSANOVIC), would be especially effective as Ambassador because he was a nephew of TESLA (mentioned above) and a friend of Mayor LA GUARDIA, and other influential persons in this country.

[REDACTED]