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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, SR Division
Attention : [redacted], SR/3
Room 1509, "J" Building
FROM : Deputy Director of Security (Investigations and Support)

DATE: 20 MAR 1958

SUBJECT: COVERT SITE
Apartment 14-B
875 West End Avenue
New York, New York
#127425

1. Reference is made to previous correspondence in which you concurred in the resurvey of the Subject premises. In the referenced correspondence you advised that a tenant named, TALKINGTON, has exhibited undue interest in the activities at the site.

2. This confirms previous telephonic advice that the resurvey of the Subject premises has been completed. The counter audio surveillance of the Subject premises was completed with favorable results. There was no evidence of an audio penetration of the site. This also confirms previous advice that in addition to information contained in the attached report, there is material on file in this office which shows that Arthur Lester TALKINGTON and Melinda TALKINGTON, occupants of Apartment 15-B, are identical with persons of the same name who are known to have been active in the Communist Party from the 1930's through the late 1940's and who may still be active Communists.

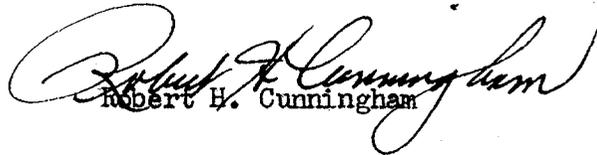
3. In view of the above information, you should take the necessary steps to terminate the Subject covert site as soon as feasible.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3020
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

SECRET

4. Attached is a copy of the report of the resurvey of the Subject covert site. This report reflects changes which have occurred since the previous survey. Upon the termination of the site, the attached material should be returned to this office by sealed envelope marked, "To Be Opened By Addressee Only". Copies of this memorandum are being forwarded to Chief, Safehouse Branch, Office of Logistics and Chief, Central Cover Branch/NC.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF SECURITY:


Robert H. Cunningham

Attachment:

Report dated 14 February 1958

cc: Chief, Safehouse Branch
Chief, Central Cover Branch/NC

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WHEN WITH REPORTS

#127425



OFFICE OF SECURITY

Support Division

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION

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CONSISTING OF
1 REPORTS

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SECRET

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	SYNOPSIS	
2.	DESCRIPTION OF AREA	P. 1
3.	DESCRIPTION OF SITE	P. 1
4.	COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS	P. 1
5.	FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION	P. 1
6.	POSSIBLE SECURITY HAZARDS	P. 1
7.	OUTLINE OF EXHIBITS	P. 2
8.	BIOGRAPHICAL DATA	P. 2
9.	PHYSICAL INSPECTION SURVEY	P. 4

SECRET

SECRET

FILE NO. 127425

DATE 11 February 1958

SYNOPSIS

No material changes were noted in Description of Area, Description of Site, Communication Systems and Fire and Police Protection. Two possible security hazards were found. The new tenants in Apartment 15B are ~~ARTHUR LESTER TALKINGTON, Jr.~~ also known as LESTER TALKINGTON and his wife ~~MELINDA~~. Both of these persons have a record of registering American Labor Party from at least 1947 to 1952. Mr. TALKINGTON may be identical with persons of like name having subversive records. The other hazard exists in that the wiring in Subject apartment does not appear to be sufficient to provide the electric power required by Subject site. Outline of Exhibit A is a diagram of the layout of Subject apartment. Biographical data concerning the new tenants in Apartments 12B and 15B is set forth. Subject premises were searched both electronically and physically and no evidence of penetration was noted.

REPORT NO. _____

SECRET

Case No. 127425

DESCRIPTION OF AREA:

No material changes were noted.

DESCRIPTION OF SITE:

No material changes were noted.

COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS:

No material changes were noted.

FIRE AND POLICE PROTECTION:

No material changes were noted.

POSSIBLE SECURITY HAZARDS:

Two possible security hazards were uncovered.

ARTHUR LESTER TALKINGTON, Jr. also known as LESTER TALKINGTON and his MELINDA both have records of registering American Labor Party from at least 1947 to 1952. Mr. TALKINGTON also may be identical with a person or persons of like name having subversive records (See biographical data).

Examination of Subject premises shows that there are only one or two outlets in each room with the exception of Room 8 (See Exhibit A), which has four outlets. It is noted that a recording machine on Subject premises had four wires attached to one outlet. In other instances electricity in the outlet of

Case No. 127425

one room was carried by long loose wire to an appliance in another room. Examination of the building wires indicate that they are old, and insulated covering on these wires appear to be cracking.

OUTLINE OF EXHIBITS:

Exhibit A is a diagram of Subject apartment which is attached to and made part of this report.

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA:

Apartment 12B

Utility records indicate that HARVEY H. SEGAL moved into the apartment on 28 September 1956. He formerly had resided at 225 West 106th Street. Credit report dated 27 September 1952 on HARVEY H. SEGAL (ELOISE) described him as being in his 30's, married and living at Beech Spring Drive, Summit, New Jersey since 1950 paying a rental estimated at \$75 a month. He was employed at RUTGERS UNIVERSITY, Newark, New Jersey. He formerly had resided at 125 East 93rd Street, New York City. By notation dated August 1954 his address was changed to 225 West 106th Street, New York City. A notation dated November 1957 indicated no changes in employment but gave his new address as 875 West End Avenue. The files of the Bureau of Special Services and Investigation, New York City Police Department, showed no record on either HARVEY or ELOISE SEGAL.

Apartment 15B

Telephone Company records indicated that LESTER TALKINGTON and MALINDA TALKINGTON have occupied Apartment 15B for more than one year. Their telephone number is Monument 3-0406. The same number is listed for both of them in the New York Telephone Directory. Credit report dated 17 November 1950 on LESTER TALKINGTON (MELINDA) described him as 35 and married. At the time he was a copywriter employed with REMINGTON RAND, 315 4th Avenue and had been with them since January 1950 at \$4,000 per annum. They had been

SECRET

Case No. 127425

Examination of Selective Service files show that ARTHUR LESTER TALKINGTON, Jr. registered on 16 October 1940 from 208 East 28th Street, Manhattan. According to the card record he was born on 15 December 1912 in Oklahoma City. He was classified 3A because he had dependents. His address was later changed to 39-21 48th Street, Sunnyside, Queens, Then it was changed to 451 Atlantic Avenue, Freeport, Long Island and then to 72 Barrow Street, New York City. The change of addresses were not dated. Examination of registration records for the years 1940 to 1945, the addresses 423 East 17th Street, 208 East 28th Street and 72 Barrow Street showed no record of TALKINGTON'S registration.

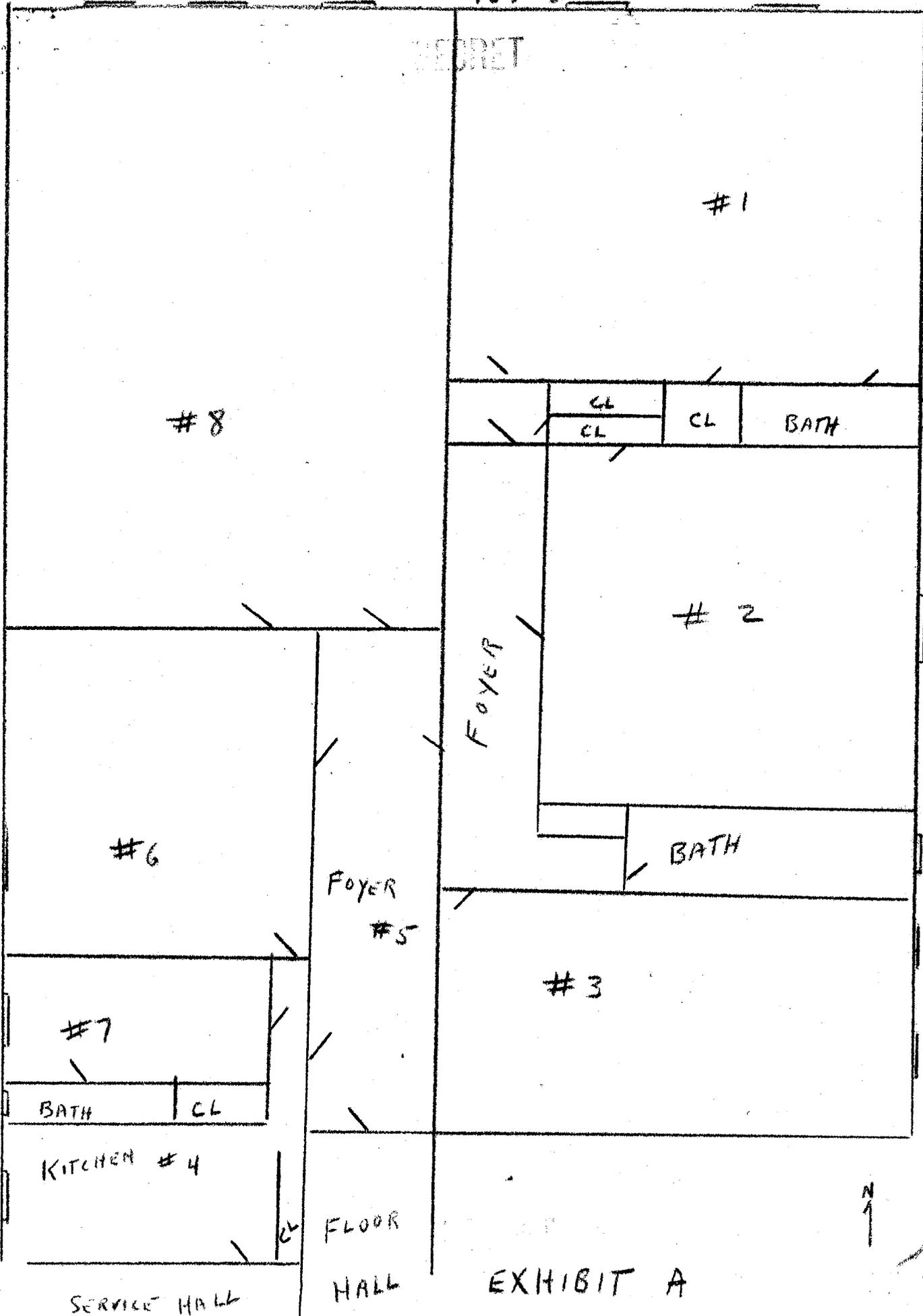
New York World Telegram and Sun article dated 10 January 1947 merely mentioned in an article dealing with advertising agencies that LESTER TALKINGTON, BEDO copywriter, switched to BUCHANAN.

PHYSICAL INSPECTION SURVEY:

Subject premises were searched both electronically and physically and no evidence of penetration was noted.

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WEST END AVE



EXHIBIT A