

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA _____
(Specify Air or Sea Route)

DISPATCH NO. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
CLASSIFICATION

FEB 2 1951

TO _____
FROM _____

DATE _____

SUBJECT { GENERAL Espionage
SPECIFIC Alfred ^OSmirnovas SARANT, was.,
Alfred SARANT, Bruce DAYTON

1. On 22 January 1951, the FBI furnished the following information to this organization:

"In connection with efforts to identify members of the Soviet espionage group headed by Julius Rosenberg, this Bureau has been conducting an intensive investigation of Sarant, who is known to be acquainted personally with Rosenberg and other individuals suspected strongly of espionage activities. As you are probably aware, Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, Morton Sobell, David Greenglass and Anatoli Antonovich Yakovlev were indicted on espionage conspiracy charges by a Grand Jury in the Southern District of New York on October 10, 1950, and all of them, with the exception of Yakovlev, a former Soviet Consular official in New York City who returned to Russia on December 27, 1946, are now incarcerated in the Federal House of Detention in New York awaiting trial on that indictment.

"Sarant was interviewed by agents of this Bureau on several occasions, beginning on July 19, 1950. He admitted Communist Party membership in New York in 1943 and 1944, but denied knowledge of or participation in espionage activities on the part of himself or any of his acquaintances. He did admit, however, that on one occasion Julius Rosenberg 'propositioned' him to sound him out politically, but Sarant claimed to agents 'I didn't bite.'

"Sarant was born on September 26, 1918, in New York City and was graduated in Electrical Engineering from Cooper Union in June, 1941. He was discharged from the position of Junior Radio Engineer

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
Date 10 Nov. 81

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(Authenticating officer)
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with the U. S. Army Signal Corps Laboratories at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, on September 3, 1942, and was characterized by his superiors there as a labor agitator. He was then employed as an engineer by the Western Electric Company and the Bell Telephone Company in New York City, resigning from the latter concern on September 11, 1946. Since October, 1946, Sarant has resided in Ithaca, New York, where he has been self-employed as a building and painting contractor. He married Louise Jacqueline Rubel Ross on July 6, 1945, and they have two children.

"On August 4, 1950, Sarant left New York City via his automobile with Carol Dayton, wife of Weldon Bruce Dayton, next door neighbor of Sarant's in Ithaca. After arrival in Tucson, Arizona, they were driven by Dayton's relatives to Nogales, Mexico; they told the relatives that Sarant was leaving the United States to avoid further questioning by the FBI, that a friend of Sarant's was in trouble, and that Sarant did not want to be forced to testify against him. Sarant's entry into Mexico was accomplished through use of a tourist card fraudulently secured by Carol Dayton in her husband's name. This card, issued in the name of Bruce Dayton, bore Numero de Orden 5472, Serie Numero 317492, showed Bruce Dayton's address as 1116 Swanston Drive, San Francisco, California, his occupation as student, that he was making the trip as a tourist, and his destination was indicated as Mexico City. The most recent information concerning the whereabouts of Sarant and Carol Dayton is as of August 13, 1950, when they left Guadalajara, Mexico, for Mexico City, travelling as Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Dayton. From investigation conducted to date, it appears probable that Carol Dayton's association with subject is in the nature of a personal escapade, as there is no indication that she was ever connected in any way with any other known or suspected member of the Rosenberg network.

"An informant of unknown reliability, who is presently an inmate of the Federal House of Detention in New York, has advised that Rosenberg told him recently that San Juan, Puerto Rico, Caracas, Venezuela, and Havana, Cuba are 'revolutionary strongholds,' and that he, if he could, would go to Caracas. The informant also stated that Rosenberg claimed to have worked out an 'escape route' from New York to Mexico, although Rosenberg has not said that the alleged route was ever used."

2. The FBI memoranda contained the following description of Sarant:

Date of birth:	September 26, 1918
Place of birth:	New York City
Age:	32
Race:	White
Height:	5 feet 7 inches
Weight:	130 pounds
Hair:	Black, curly, very heavy
Complexion:	Dark
Eyes:	Brown
Scars and Marks:	None
Hose:	Hooked, large
Build:	Slight
Social Security Number:	053-18-0108
Wife:	Louise Jacqueline Rubel Ross Sarant
Profession:	Electrical Engineer; Contractor
Residence:	Cayuga Heights Road, Ithaca, New York

3. The FBI requested that a discreet investigation be conducted to determine if Sarant has fled [redacted] and if information as to his whereabouts is secured, details of his current activities and the identities of his contacts are desired.

4. For your assistance, there are enclosed two prints of a photograph of Sarant during July 1950, which were furnished by the FBI.

NO ATTACHMENTS FOR FILES

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]