

ALFRED KRAMERONDAS SARANT, was:  
Alfredo Sarant, Emma Dayton

In connection with efforts to identify members of the Soviet espionage group headed by Julius Rosenberg, an intensive investigation of subject has been conducted. He is known to have been acquainted personally with Rosenberg and other individuals suspected strongly of espionage activities. As you are aware, Rosenberg and his wife, Ethel, Morton Sobell, and David Greenglass were convicted on espionage charges in the Southern District of New York on March 29, 1951, the Rosenbergs being given death sentences, Sobell a thirty-year sentence, and Greenglass a fifteen-year sentence.

During the course of this investigation, Sarant has been interviewed on several occasions commencing on July 19, 1950, on which date a search of his residence was conducted after he voluntarily consented thereto in writing. During the initial interview with Sarant, he admitted membership in the Communist Party in 1943 and 1946 in New York. He also admitted acquaintanceship with Julius and Ethel Rosenberg and declared that he believed he had met the former sometime between January, 1942, and January, 1945, possibly through introduction by Louis Berr. For your information, Berr, a former classmate of Rosenberg at the College of the City of New York, was likewise suspected of being implicated in the Rosenberg espionage network and left the United States in January, 1948. Berr's last known residence was in Paris, France, from which residence he disappeared around the middle of June, 1950, his whereabouts presently being unknown.

Sarant admitted having seen Rosenberg on eight or ten occasions since their initial meeting and declared that his second meeting with Rosenberg took place in his apartment at 65 Morton Street in New York City. During the course of Sarant's initial interview he denied he had ever engaged in espionage activities with Rosenberg or anyone else. He did admit, however, that on one occasion Rosenberg "propositioned" him to sound him out politically, but Sarant claimed, "he didn't bite." Intensive questioning of Sarant concerning this conversation with Rosenberg resulted in his insisting that he could recall no details as to what exact proposition Rosenberg made to him. He maintained that Rosenberg did not on that occasion or any other time, ask him for any information for transmittal to the Russians.

APPROVED FOR RELEASE  
Dec 10 NOV 8 1950

note based on FBI file

# 1132

With reference to his statement that he believed he met Julius Rosenberg through Joel Barr, Sarant explained that he first met Barr shortly after September, 1941, when both were employed at the United States Army Signal Corps Laboratories, Fort Monmouth, New Jersey. He said that he and Barr became quite friendly and often visited each other's residences. He recalled Barr had been dismissed from his employment at the Signal Corps Laboratories because he was a Communist. Sarant declared that he and Barr spent considerable time together from 1943 through 1945 and said that Barr was a frequent visitor to his (Sarant's) apartment at 65 Morton Street, and had a key to this apartment. He admitted he believed Barr was a member of the Communist Party but denied that they ever attended any Communist Party meetings together. Sarant claimed that the last time he saw Barr was in late 1946 or early 1947 when Barr came to Ithaca, New York, to visit him. He said that the latest information he had concerning Barr was that the latter was in Finland studying music.

According to David Greenglass, Rosenberg on one occasion advised that he had an apartment in the Greenwich Village Section of New York City that was not tenanted and which was used for photographic work in connection with his espionage operations. It is believed significant in this respect that Sarant was the lessee of an apartment at 65 Morton Street in the Greenwich Village Section of New York City from October, 1943, to January, 1950, and that Sarant himself moved to Ithaca, New York, in the Fall of 1946, but retained his lease on the apartment. It was determined through the investigation of this matter that Barr, and later William Perl, who is suspected of being another member of the Rosenberg espionage parallel, and is presently under indictment in the Southern District of New York on charges of perjury, occupied the apartment for the duration of Sarant's lease and paid rent to Sarant. Sarant has admitted considerable interest and proficiency in photography and the possession of film-developing equipment and flood lamps in the Morton Street apartment, but has denied ever doing any document photographing. He admitted that Joel Barr had a Leica camera when Barr was residing with him at 65 Morton Street although he denied that Barr to his knowledge ever engaged in document photography.

Sarant was born on September 26, 1918, in New York City and was graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from Cooper Union College in June, 1941. He was discharged from the position of Junior Radio Engineer with the United States Army Signal Laboratory at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, on September 3, 1942, and was characterized by his superiors there as a labor agitator. He was thereafter employed as an engineer for 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 is also known to have taken graduate work at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. Sarant 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. He was accompanied by Carol Dorothy Dayton, wife of Weldon Bruce Dayton, next-door neighbor of Sarant in Ithaca. After arrival in Tucson, Arizona, on August 7, 1950, they were driven by Dayton's relatives to Hermosillo, Mexico, two days later; they told the relatives that Sarant was leaving the United States to avoid further questioning by the FBI, that a friend of Sarant was in trouble, and that Sarant did not want to be forced to testify against him. Sarant's entry into Mexico was accomplished through the use of a tourist card fraudulently secured by Carol Dayton in her husband's name. The last definite information concerning the whereabouts of Sarant and Carol Dayton was on August 13, 1950, when they are known to have left Guadalajara, Mexico, for Mexico City, traveling as Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Dayton. However, a confidential informant of unknown reliability has advised that Rosenberg made a statement to him to the effect that Sarant had gone to Europe by way of Mexico.

From investigation conducted to date it appears probable that Carol Dayton's association with Sarant was in the nature of a personal escapade as there was no indication that she herself was ever connected in any way as a member of the Rosenberg network.

There is no process of arrest outstanding for either Sarant or Carol Dayton.