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1-1964

## Report on Investigation

Bern Porter

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MFKB-IS (22 Jul 63)

SUBJECT: PORTER, Bernard H., DOB: 14 Feb 1911, POB: Houlton, Maine

TO: 108th INTC

FROM: ISD

DATE: 29 Jan 64

COMMENT NO. 3

Capt Gould/ssh/3830

1. Upon review of results of current investigation of SUBJECT, it was determined that an interview under oath, a polygraph and a psychiatric examination were necessary in order to proceed to a final determination in this case.

2. SUBJECT's history reveals strong evidence of a "persecution complex". On several occasions in the past, HE has made false accusations and allegations to higher authorities, when confronted with actions which HE considered to be detrimental to HIMSELF. It is, therefore, recommended that extreme care be taken while conducting the interview to preclude any possible embarrassment to the Army.

3. Request SUBJECT be interviewed under oath and polygraphed concerning the following:

a. On 13 July 1943, at an Executive Board meeting of Chapter 25 of the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians (FAECT), a discussion was held concerning important contracts to be made among scientific personnel who were engaged in atomic research and other critical work. Among those listed was a Bernard PORTER, not further identified. FAECT originated in the Lenin School of Espionage in Moscow and was comprised of a great many highly trained scientists who were also members of the Communist Party. It was Communist dominated from top to bottom and was primarily interested in infiltrating and organizing personnel in the Radiation Laboratory, University of California. In 1943, SUBJECT was employed as a physicist on Manhattan Project, by the University of California, Berkeley, California.

(1) Determine the following:

(a) Is SUBJECT knowledgeable of FAECT?

(b) Did HE ever hold membership or positions of responsibility in FAECT?

(c) Was HE ever contacted by any member of FAECT?

(d) Was HE ever approached to conduct espionage or to furnish any type of information by any individuals while employed on Manhattan Project?

(e) Any other pertinent information concerning HIS period of employment on Manhattan Project.

b. SUBJECT, on HIS PSQ, indicated HE performed technical work in the Western Pacific 1950-1954; the Scandanavian area and Soviet Union in 1961 and the Caribbean area in 1962. In order to ascertain if this falls under the purview of criteria cited in paragraph B, Section III, AR 380-14, determine the following:

*Handwritten:* Did he perform... 3000? a p 3014?

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SEARCHED

INDEXED

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4. The interview need not be limited to the questions above and should be expanded if information of interest develops.

5. Because of several indications of mental illness revealed by investigation, request that SUBJECT be interviewed to determine whether HE is willing to undergo a psychiatric examination on a voluntary basis. Should SUBJECT signify HIS willingness to submit to such examination, request necessary arrangements be made for such examination at a Government facility. It is recommended that the investigative file be made available to the examining doctor for his use and information. The examining doctor should be informed that the purpose of the examination is to assist this Headquarters in determining the applicability of Criterion 18, Section IIIB, Appendix, AR 380-14. In preparing his report of examination, therefore, the examining doctor should state whether SUBJECT has a mental illness or condition, the nature of that illness and whether it is an illness which may cause significant defect in judgment or reliability with due regard to the transient or continuing effect of the illness and the medical findings in the case.

6. This is a SPECIAL TYPE INVESTIGATION.

FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G2:



HAL A. BURNETT  
Major, GS  
Chief, Industrial Security Division

3 Incls  
nc

29 Jan 64

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- (1) The nature and purpose of HIS work in all areas.
- (2) While in the Soviet Union:
  - (a) If technical work was performed, for whom and was SUBJECT paid for this work.
  - (b) Who did HE contact?
  - (c) Was HE approached by Soviet Intelligence? By anyone?
  - (d) Was HE detained or questioned by Soviet authorities?
  - (e) Any other pertinent information.
- (3) Is correspondence sent to, or received from, anyone in the Soviet Union? If so, obtain details.
- (4) Has SUBJECT ever traveled to Cuba? Corresponded with anyone in Cuba? Have any Cuban associates?
- (5) Where did SUBJECT travel and/or work in the Far East area? Obtain pertinent details.

c. Determine SUBJECT's past and present relationship with the following listed individuals:

- (1) Richard Bowman, listed character reference; subscriber to the "Daily Peoples World".
- (2) Mr. and Mrs. George Hoffman, personal acquaintances; associated with the California Labor School, California Emergency Defense Committee and "Daily Peoples World".
- (3) Barbara Deverill, listed character reference. ~~REDACTED~~
- (4) James Schevill, personal acquaintance; listed in correspondence file of Independent Progressive Party, Civil Rights Congress and Labor Youth League.

d. Determine circumstances surrounding a political advertisement in the "Marin Journal", on 8 October 1948, which listed one Bern PORTER, Sausalito, not further identified, as one of the Marin Committee of 100 for Harold Sawyer. Sawyer was identified as a Communist by the "Daily Peoples World". He was campaigning for State Senator on the Independent Progressive Party ticket.

e. Determine SUBJECT's past and present political beliefs.

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AGENT REPORT  
(FM 30-17)

lp

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

PORTER, Bernard Harden  
Civ, SSN: 083-10-2491  
DOB: 14 February 1911  
POB: Houlton, Maine

2. DATE SUBMITTED

3 March 1964

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NUMBER

X7 127 349

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

On 3 March 1964, Robert L. Brennan, Security Manager, Federal Electric Corporation, Industrial Park, Paramus, New Jersey, was contacted to arrange an appointment with SUBJECT. Source stated that PORTER was discharged on 28 February 1964, due to a general layoff.

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5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

CHARLES E. HEITZEL III, 108th INTC Group

6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

*Charles E. Heitzel III*

DA FORM 341  
1 APR 52

REPLACES WD AGO FORM 341, 1 JUN 47, WHICH MAY BE USED.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1962 OF-656148

AHFKB(108)-0 X7127349  
SUBJECT: PORTER, Bernard Harden

TO: AHFKB-IS FROM: 108th INTC Gp DATE: 5 March 1964 COMMENT NO. 4  
Mr. Dibble/953/jj

1. Case returned herewith.
2. Case cancelled per telecon Miss Sarna/Capt Arcari, 4 March 1964 as SUBJECT no longer with employer.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

*[Signature]*  
DOMNICK G. RILEY  
Lt Col, AIS  
Operations Officer

Incl  
1-3 nc  
Added  
4. 1 AR

*3/13/64*  
*Suspect's employment terminated*  
*28 Feb. 1964. IP&G notified by*  
*SecX.*

*CRX*  
*3/13/64*  
*[Signature]*

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in a classified enclosure.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
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30 13 455

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RECEIVED  
MAR 17 16 39 64  
FT. HOLABIRD, MD.

OFFICE  
FT. HOLABIRD

1964 MAR 18 AM 10 40

USAIPSG-AOSI  
BALTIMORE, MD.

VV EBA074GIA040  
R RUEPFH  
E RUEPGI 15 17/1612Z  
NR  
171510Z

M CGUSARONE GOVIS  
O IPSG FT HOLABIRD MD  
T

UNCLAS AHFKB-IS 1418.

REF CASE FORWARDED THIS OFFICE FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION ON  
BERNARD HARDEN PORTER. SUBJECT'S EMPLOYMENT TERMINATED 28 FEB 64.  
DD FORM 264 PLACED ON RECORD CIF WITH NOTATION THAT SUBJECT'S  
COSSIER SHOULD BE REVIEWED PRIOR ISSUANCE AND FUTURE CLEARANCE

BT