2-1967

U.S. Civil Service Commission Transmittal of Report of Full Field Investigation

Bern Porter

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TO: Executive Secretary  
Int'l. Organizations-Employees Loyalty Board  
DATE: February 21, 1967  
FILE: INA:HMS:mgr

FROM: Kimbell Johnson, Director  
Bureau of Personnel Investigations  

NAME: PORTER, Bernard Harden  
DATE OF BIRTH: February 14, 1911  
ORGANIZATION: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Paris, France  
CSC SERIAL NO.: 4.24.67.638

Reports of investigation under E. O. 10422 have been analyzed on the above case. Results of analysis are shown below:

☐ LOYALTY MEMORANDUM ATTACHED  
☐ DRAFT OF INTERROGATORY ATTACHED  
☒ SUITABILITY MATTERS (SEE OVER)  
☒ SUMMARY REPORT ATTACHED  
☐ NO LOYALTY OR SUITABILITY QUESTION DISCLOSED

COMMENTS:

ENCLOSURES:

Reports of investigation by:

☒ CSC - 1967, 1958  
☒ FBI - 1959  
☒ Army - 1963

The FBI conducted an inquiry of the applicant in 1959 at the Commission's request based on information that one Bernard Porter was mentioned at a meeting of a chapter of the FAECT among contacts to be made with persons engaged in atomic research and other critical work in 1943. The inquiry failed to disclose that the applicant was a member of that organization but it did reveal that his name appeared as a member of the Marin Committee of 100 for Harold Sawyer (a Communist Party member) in his campaign on the Progressive Party ticket in 1948 and that he was associated with a group of artists and Bohemians reported to contain many left-wingers and communist sympathizers in Sausalito, California. On January 3, 1967 the FBI declined to conduct any further loyalty investigation of the applicant based on the above information. The Department of the Army made an investigation of the applicant in 1963 which revealed some additional association (apparently not close) by him with individuals alleged to be communists.

None of the above is sufficient to create any doubt as to the applicant's loyalty to this country. It is recommended that the flag placed on April 3, 1959 be removed.

Both of the above-mentioned inquiries and the investigations by the Civil Service Commission revealed considerable information to the effect that the applicant is, to say the least, extremely eccentric, and submission of the attached summary to the prospective employing agency is recommended.

Investigation revealed information from numerous sources to the effect that the applicant is considered to be 'eccentric,' "confused," "unstable," and 'unable to communicate with others.' It was reported that his thinking is unrealistic, that he is unable to understand and accept instruction and constructive criticism, that he is unfriendly and will not associate with co-workers and neighbors, and that he is distrustful and suspicious, feels persecuted, and has filed unwarranted complaints with postal officials, police, supervisors, etc.

Investigation also disclosed that the applicant was requested to resign from a position in 1956 for unprofessional conduct involving premature release of information; that he was discharged from an employment in 1960 because of the peculiar conduct of himself and his wife in the performance of their duties as supervisors of a residence hall; that he was discharged from an employment in 1961 due to lack of teacher respect by pupils, disregard of textbook content, and failure to control student groups." In the latter instance it was reported that he consistently introduced the subject of sex into high school classroom discussions, and an associate who is acquainted with his writings said that some of them have been pornographic. At his most recent places of employment his work has been considered marginal.

On his Identification and Personal Data Form the applicant listed his reasons for leaving the above-mentioned employments as 'extend experience.' He listed many periods of 'self-employment' under the title "Institute Advanced Thinking." Investigation indicated that this apparently is not a bona-fide organization but a name used by the applicant to account for periods when he was unemployed and allegedly engaged in travelling and writing.