



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

October 18, 1977

Mrs. Lillian S. Weisberg
Route 12 - Old Receiver Road
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear Mrs. Weisberg:

Reference is made to your letter of August 23, 1977 and my letter to your husband, Harold Weisberg, dated August 11, 1976.

At the outset, let me assure you that the Office of Security has no information relating to Mr. Weisberg other than that included in the 35 documents mentioned in above-referenced letter of August 11, 1976.

Among the documents previously released to your husband, Document No. 14 relates to you in part and Document No. 23 in its entirety. The latter record was based on information from the FBI and has been referred to that agency for further review. You will be advised concerning it at a later date.

The relevant portion of Document No. 14 will be released to you in the near future. The information deleted from it could identify confidential sources and has been withheld under 5 USC 552a(k)5.

Any questions you may have regarding the above should be forwarded to the Director, Foreign Affairs Document and Reference Center.

I wish to advise you that under the Department's regulations, you may appeal this determination to the Department's Privacy Policy and Appeals Board. The Privacy Staff will include a copy of the Department's Appeals Procedures with their letters to you.

Sincerely,

Victor H. Dikeos

Victor H. Dikeos
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Security

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when dressed for business, while she described Mrs. Weisberg as a rather eccentric person who wears heavy-rimmed glasses, has long black hair which she wears combed straight back and who never really looks neat or well-dressed. She recalled that when she was employed by the RFC she had noticed the rather unusual appearance of Mrs. Weisberg, and she recalled that on one occasion, about 1939, when Mrs. Weisberg had on cotton stockings she had remarked that she was participating in the boycott of Japanese goods. She also reported that she understood Mrs. Weisberg had made a remark to one of the girls that she knew she was on the FBI blacklist.

August 3, 1942.

Subject's wife, Lillian Stone Weisberg, is employed in the Office of the Comptroller, Special Fiscal Section, RFC. Personnel records, RFC, indicate that she was employed as Lillian M. Stone on June 1, 1938 as a Stenographer, \$1860 per annum; that she is now a Clerk, Grade 8; her efficiency ratings are "Very Good" and "Excellent". Correspondence in the file dated September 6, 1941 from the Department of Justice indicated that the name of Lillian M. Stone, said to be employed by the RFC, appeared on the active indices of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action. As the result of this information, subject's chief, M. J. McGrath, Examining Division, RFC, interviewed Miss Stone on September 11, 1941. His memorandum to the Chairman, RFC, reads in part: "Miss Stone denies membership in the organization and states she knows nothing about its activities or its character. She volunteers the information, however, that she does receive from time to time a bulletin issued by that organization and she throws the bulletins away without reading them. She does not understand how she got on their mailing list and knows no one connected with the organization."

In connection with subject's employment with the RFC, the files of another Government Agency contain a character and loyalty investigation under the name of Lillian M. Stone which was made in May 1943. A summary of this investigation reads in part: "All testimony received in this case with the exception of the subversive record checks, was favorable to the applicant. From the testimony received, she is a person who does not mingle with other people in her places of residence and has very few, if any, social contacts with her fellow employees. Witnesses stated that she is a quiet person, intelligent but rather difficult to gain friendship with. None of the witnesses were able to give the names of any of her associates as they themselves were not acquainted with them or well-enough acquainted with her to learn their identity*****".

As of May 26, 1943 a Special Hearing was conducted with Mrs. Lillian Stone Weisberg. During this Hearing subject stated that she was married in Frederick, Maryland,

Maryland, August 3, 1942. In reply to a question concerning membership in the Washington Committee for Democratic Action she stated: "I am not a member of that organization and I cannot give you any information as to why my name appears there. Other people have asked me about it and I don't know". To a question relative to how she might have gotten on the mailing list, she replied: "At one time I was on the mailing list for the Agriculture Department for their Consumer's Guide and various pamphlets, at my own request." In reply to a question concerning other organizations, Mrs. Weisberg stated: "I have never been a member of the American League Against War and Fascism. I belong to the Washington Book Shop. I belong to it for one reason and one reason only, I get a discount on books and records."

In reply to a question as to whether [her husband] belonged to any of these organizations, [Mrs. Weisberg] stated:

"My husband was a member of the Book Shop at one time."

In answer to further questioning concerning [her husband] Mrs. Weisberg stated that [her husband] was employed by the LaFollette Committee and that he had subsequently been a free-lance writer but when questioned as to his journalistic connections, [Mrs. Weisberg] reported that [her husband] wrote for Click magazine and Picture Scoop but stated: "I don't recall the names of the other things. He was a free-lance writer."

Mrs. Weisberg was asked whether she had worked for the LaFollette Committee and she stated that she had worked for the LaFollette Committee for about ten days prior to accepting the position with RFC.

The interviewer's observation concerning said interview indicates that subject was rather put out over the questioning about the Washington Committee for Democratic Action, to which she had previously disclaimed knowledge; that she indicated a strong displeasure over signing the reported interview statement and desired to take the report with her before signing it. She finally signed the statement, as requested, and also requested a copy of the report.

In order to determine Mrs. Weisberg's general reputation at the RFC, several of [redacted]

All of these

informants

informants stated that they found subject capable, industrious and competent in her work. They described her as a serious-minded, quiet person who presents a rather odd appearance and did not mingle with her fellow workers.

reported that there was some question in their minds concerning Mrs. Weisberg's Americanism and loyalty to the United States; that they had heard numerous rumors connecting subject and her husband with Communism.

stated that from her conversations with Mrs. Weisberg at various times she believes subject to be pro-labor and a union sympathizer but she states that there is no union activity at the RFC and she does not believe Mrs. Weisberg is a union member. Neither of these informants had any concrete or factual information concerning the basis for the above-mentioned rumors, which they indicated were of a rather general nature. suggested that the writer contact whom she stated in her opinion was a very sincere and reliable person. She stated that knew

Our informant stated that Mrs. Weisberg presents a rather odd appearance, and described her in the same manner as previous informants. She also recalled that subject had participated in a boycott against Japan by wearing cotton stockings, which she stated was typical of subject's sincerity and determination to follow through on anything she believed in regardless of what others might think. mentioned that she was aware of the rumors which had circulated connecting Mrs. Weisberg with Communism. She attributes these rumors to Mrs. Weisberg's dress and appearance, to her outspoken and determined approach to problems in which she is interested, as

evidenced

evidenced by her wearing cotton stockings to boycott the Japanese silk stockings and to her former rather critical and intolerant manner towards errors or inefficiency of fellow employees; also, to her introvert personality. [redacted] states that subject is very loyal and devoted to her small circle of close friends; that she would do anything in the world for anyone she likes even though she suffered some deprivation. She states that subject has confided in her on all types of personal matters and problems when she

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states that subject is unquestionably pro-Labor and liberal in her viewpoints but she felt quite certain that subject was not a Communist. She stated that subject loves America and that in her opinion she would not do anything to hurt this country. She states that she has never known subject to belong to any political or consumer group or organization and that she has noticed that during the past few years subject has grown more tolerant of others. She states that since moving to her home in Virginia, subject has taken an active interest in her home and garden and talks a good deal about those problems. When [redacted] was questioned as to her opinion concerning subject's moral character, she hesitated for a moment and then said, "Oh, I think she is a girl of good character". However, in this connection she recalled that several years ago she had condoned and seemed to take delight in talking about a young couple who were close friends of hers who thought unmarried, had been living together. [redacted] states that she has seen [subject's husband] Harold Weisberg, only a few times and that she does not like him personally; that because of this fact she knows really nothing about him and was not in a position to express any opinion concerning him.

State Department personnel file indicates that subject was appointed to OSS on January 15, 1945 as Consultant, Presentation Division, \$10.55 W.A.E.; that on April 5, 1945 subject was made Research Analyst, P-5, \$4600 per annum, W.A.E. and was then assigned to Research and Analysis Branch, Latin American Unit; that on August 9, 1945 subject was given a War Service Indefinite appointment as Research Analyst, P-5. Subject was transferred to the State Department on September 30, 1945 under Executive Order 9621, and is currently assigned to DRA as Research Analyst, P-5, \$5164 per annum.

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