

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
Commission No. 505

Title: SYLVIA LUDLOW HYDE HOKE, nee Hyde  
Aka, Mrs. Sylvia Hoke, Mrs. John L. Hoke  
Personnel Research Technician  
Placement and Employee Relations Division  
Director of Civilian Personnel  
Headquarters, Department of the Air Force  
Washington, D. C.  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Report of: Special Agent GLENN L. McAVOY

Date and Place: September 24, 1956, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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September 24, 1956  
Cincinnati, Ohio

BASIS FOR INVESTIGATION:

On December 17, 1952.

\_\_\_\_\_ advised that on December 10, 1952, it had been reported \_\_\_\_\_ that Mrs. WILLIAM A. HYDE of 1986 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio, had admitted to many neighbors during the past years that she was a "Communist". \_\_\_\_\_ also advised at that time that in March, 1950, WILLIAM A. HYDE was employed by the insurance department of Farm Bureau Co-Operative, Columbus, Ohio.

As reflected \_\_\_\_\_, the employee is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM A. HYDE, who formerly resided at 1986 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio.

The Communist Party - USA, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION:

Education:

Miss MERIAM L. DICKINSON, Registrar, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, advised on September 11, 1956, that the employee, whose date of birth is listed as October 2, 1929, at New York City, entered Antioch College as a freshman on September 2, 1946. The employee received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology on June 24, 1950. Miss DICKINSON advised that there is no record of any disciplinary action taken against

the employee. Miss DICKINSON further stated that from her contact with the employee she would state that the employee appeared to be a person of satisfactory character, reputation, associates, and loyalty to the United States.

Mr. J. DUBLEY DAWSON, Vice-President, Antioch College, and a reference of the employee, advised on September 12, 1956, that he was well acquainted with the employee while she was a student at Antioch College. He stated that on some visits he has made to Washington, D. C., he has had some limited personal contact with the employee and her husband. Mr. DAWSON stated that the employee is a person of excellent character and reputation and is from a very responsible family background. He further advised that the employee's associates at Antioch College were reputable persons. Mr. DAWSON stated that the employee gives every indication of being loyal to the United States. Mr. DAWSON further stated that he is acquainted with the employee's husband, her brother CARL HYDE, and her sister, RUTH HYDE, and that he considers them very responsible people of fine character, reputation, associates, and loyalty.

Professor OTTO P. MATHEIASM, Department of Education, Antioch College, and a reference of the employee, advised on September 11, 1956, that he knew the employee on a student-teacher relationship while she attended this college. He advised that she appeared to be a reliable, responsible person of good character, reputation, associates, and loyalty. He further stated that he is acquainted with the employee's husband and her brother, CARL HYDE, who also attended Antioch College, and that they also impressed him as persons of good character, reputation, and loyalty to the United States.

Professor CLARENCE J. LEUBA, Department of Psychology, Antioch College, advised on September 11, 1956, that the employee had been a student in several of his classes while she attended Antioch College. He stated that he considered the employee to be a person of good character, reputation, associates, and loyalty. Professor LEUBA said he based his opinion of the employee on his contacts with her on a teacher-student relationship.

Professor LEUBA also advised that he is acquainted with the employee's husband, who also had been a student at Antioch College, and the employee's brother, CARL HYDE, who is a physician

in Yellow Springs. He advised that the employee, her husband, and her brother impressed him as being very open minded with interests in new and different ideas in education and social welfare. Professor LEUBA further advised that the employee's husband and brother are persons of good character and associates, that they enjoy satisfactory reputations, and give every indication of being loyal to the United States.

Employment:

Miss MIRIAM L. DISKINSON, Registrar, Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio, advised on September 17, 1956, that the Antioch Tea Room is run by Antioch College and is located on the college campus. She stated that records of the Tea Room employees are maintained for a short period of time and that they would have no records to reflect the employee's employment in 1946. She further stated that the Tea Room is staffed with college students and due to the length of time which has elapsed there would be no students available on the campus who worked with the employee.

Miss JERI LEWIS, Personnel Department, F. and R. Lazarus Company, High and Town Streets, Columbus, Ohio, advised on September 12, 1956, that she was unable to locate any record indicating that the employee worked for this company for two months during 1947-1948. Miss LEWIS reported that it is possible that the employee worked for the F. and R. Lazarus Company during the Christmas rush period, and in that event, the record of such employment would have been destroyed since records of temporary employees are maintained for only a period of five years.

Mr. C. W. SEBENGLER, Manager, Stores Division, Isely's Dairy Company, Columbus, Ohio, reported on September 19, 1956, that no record is available for former employees of this company prior to 1950.

It is noted that the employee indicated employment with the above company from June 7, 1945, to August 25, 1945, according to files located at Time, Inc., New York City.

Neighborhood:

Miss DEULAH ALLEN, 1936 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio, advised on September 12, 1956, that WILLIAM A. HYDE and his wife, CAROL HYDE, had resided at 1936 Summit Street, this city, for many years, but had recently moved to an address on Glennawr Street, Columbus, Ohio. She stated that the HYDES had three children to the best of her knowledge; namely, RUTH, SYLVIA, and CARL HYDE.

Miss ALLEN volunteered that she did not associate with the HYDES in view of the fact that they entertained individuals whom she would not have in her own home. She explained this statement by saying that the HYDE family would periodically entertain people of different races in their home. She also advised that she had heard a rumor in this neighborhood a number of years ago, from a source that she cannot presently recall, to the effect that Mrs. CAROL HYDE was a Communist. Miss ALLEN said she could not elaborate on this statement and that she has no personal knowledge as to the basis of this rumor.

Miss ALLEN continued that she has never had personal contact with the employee and therefore could not comment on her character, reputation, associates, or loyalty.

Regarding the employee's parents, Miss ALLEN said she knows nothing that would tend to reflect unfavorably on their character or loyalty to the United States, other than the rumor mentioned above concerning Mrs. CAROL HYDE. Miss ALLEN declined to furnish a signed statement and advised that she did not wish to appear before a Security Hearing Board relative to the information furnished by her.

Mr. HAROLD ECKHARDT, an official of the Highway Department, State of Ohio, and a resident of 32 Orchard Lane, Columbus, Ohio, reported on September 12, 1956, that he formerly resided at 1936 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio, and was a next-door neighbor of the HYDE family. He related he first became acquainted with Mr. WILLIAM HYDE sometime in 1950 when Mr. HYDE approached him to sign a petition regarding a political campaign. Mr. ECKHARDT said he believes Mr. HYDE was running as a candidate for a Committeeman's position for the Socialist or Progressive Party in the 16th Ward, Columbus, Ohio.

Mr. ECKHARDT stated that he considered Mr. and Mrs. HYDE as "socialistic in their approach" and he explained this by stating they often entertained individuals of different races in their home and expressed what he considered "socialistic views" in discussing issues of national importance. Mr. ECKHARDT was unable to define what he meant by "socialistic views" and could not recall any examples of statements by Mr. and Mrs. HYDE on issues of national importance which he considered "socialistic". He was also unable to amplify his reference to "socialistic in their approach" beyond his explanation that they entertained individuals of different races.

Regarding the employee, Mr. ECKHARDT reported that he was not personally acquainted with her but does recall that she was married to Mr. HONE at her family's home, 1986 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio, five or more years ago.

In conclusion, Mr. ECKHARDT said he has never heard any rumor or comment from anyone which would indicate the HYDE family was in any way associated or affiliated with the Communist Party. He stated that while he was a neighbor of Mr. and Mrs. HYDE, Mr. HYDE was an auditor with the Nationwide Insurance Company, which company was formerly known as the Farm Bureau Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio.

In connection with information furnished by Mr. ECKHARDT, above, it is noted that the March 5, 1950 edition of the "Columbus Evening Dispatch", a daily newspaper published in Columbus, Ohio, contains an article written by RONNIE JAUCHIUS, captioned: "ADA Ties Up With Democratic Insurgent Group". This article reads in part as follows:

"The rebellion within county Democratic ranks suffered a serious blow this week through political blundering of one of its many elements. That element, which has always been on party fringes, is identified with such politicians as HENRY E. WORLEY, son of the late Mayor and H. GORDON HAYES, a professor of economics at Ohio State University. It is also identified with the Columbus Chapter, Americans For Democratic Action, of which HAYES is chairman.... Given special attention were the 16th and 19th Ward committee contests in which anti-NEER forces are represented by WILLIAM A. HYDE and JOHN S. BOWERS, respectively. Mr. BOWERS, a member of the Progressive Party in 1948, was defeated in his bid for a City Council seat last year.... Mr. HYDE is employed in the insurance department of the local Farm Bureau Co-Operative. Both he and Mr. BOWERS are ADA members and Mr. HYDE entered the 16th Ward race at Mr. WORLEY'S urging...."

[redacted] advised on September 12, 1956, that on December 10, 1952, ALTA GUSTIN, 1990 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio, reported that Mrs. W. A. HYDE, wife of WILLIAM A. HYDE, had admitted to many neighbors that she was a Communist. [redacted] further advised that the files contain no further information regarding Mrs. WILLIAM A. HYDE and no information of a derogatory nature concerning Mr. HYDE or any other member of the employee's family.

Mrs. ALTA GUSTIN, 1990 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio, reported on September 12, 1956, that she knew the HYDE family while they resided at 1986 Summit Street for approximately six years. She went on to say she never associated with them since the HYDES were not well regarded in the neighborhood because of their choice of associates. Mrs. GUSTIN characterized these associates as "foreigners".

Mrs. GUSTIN stated she recalls that a few years ago there was a rumor circulating in the neighborhood to the effect that Mrs. HYDE had admitted she was a Communist. Mrs. GUSTIN said she does not know how this rumor started and cannot recall who furnished her the information. She advised she does not know the employee and has heard nothing concerning her.

Mrs. GUSTIN concluded by saying that she is in possession of no information other than the rumor which would reflect unfavorably on the character, reputation, associates, or loyalty to the United States of Mr. and Mrs. HYDE. Mrs. GUSTIN declined to furnish a signed statement and advised that she does not desire to appear before a Security Hearing Board with regard to the information furnished by her.

Mr. CHESTER SMITH, 1340 Harton Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, reported on September 12, 1956, that he formerly resided at 1990 Summit Street and is the brother of Mrs. ALTA GUSTIN. He went on to say he was acquainted with the HYDE family when they resided at 1986 Summit Street, but did not know them well enough to comment on their character, reputation, associates, or loyalty to the United States.

He volunteered that the only unfavorable information in his possession regarding the HYDES was the fact they did entertain individuals of different races in their home in this neighborhood of "one race. Mr. SMITH said he opposed this behavior from a personal standpoint.

Mr. SMITH said he was not acquainted with the employee and was of the opinion she spent little time with her parents at 1936 Summit Street.

Dr. MARGARET SHUTTLEWORTH, Psychologist, Veterans Administration, Columbus, Ohio, and a resident in an apartment at 1990 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio, reported on September 12, 1956, that she has been closely associated with Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM A. HYDE for the past two years and has, on occasion, associated with CARL and RUTH HYDE, children of Mr. and Mrs. HYDE. She said the HYDES moved from her neighborhood about a year ago to 4400 Glenmawr Street, Columbus, Ohio, but she still maintains contact with them.

Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH reported that the HYDES had informed her that they were Quakers and pacifists until World War II, but have since changed from this belief. She went on to say that their son, CARL, now a Doctor at Yellow Springs, Ohio, is presently a pacifist and member of the Quaker faith.

Regarding the employee, Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH said she has never met SILVIA HOME but is aware that she is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. HYDE.

Dr. SHUTTLEWORTH concluded by saying she considers the entire HYDE family to be of excellent character, reputation, associates, and loyalty to the United States and that nothing has ever come to her attention to cause her to think otherwise.

By letter dated July 18, 1950, Mrs. CLADYS M. GREENER, 216-19th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, advised the Cincinnati Office, Federal Bureau of Investigation, that Mrs. CAROL HYDE, 1936 Summit



Street, was, during part of World War II, employed by the Consumers Co-op, which had an office at the corner of North High and Woodruff Streets, Columbus, Ohio. In this letter, Mrs. GREINER advised that according to an article in the "Columbus Citizen", dated July 14, (year not shown) "The Consumers Co-op was supposed to have been a fence for Communistic activities."

Mrs. GREINER also stated in this letter that "BILL" HYDE, husband of CAROL HYDE, was employed with the Farm Bureau, Columbus, Ohio, and that according to the Columbus papers of July 14, (year not shown), the Farm Bureau "was supposed to be a clearing house for Communistic activities".

Mrs. GLADYS M. GREINER, an employee for the State of Ohio and a resident of 2636 Fendley Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, reported on September 19, 1956, that she first became acquainted with the HYDE family, who formerly lived at 1936 Summit Street, in 1942 or early 1943 while she, Mrs. GREINER, lived at 319 19th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, which is a house on a corner next to 1936 Summit Street. She went on to say the HYDE family rented at 1936 Summit Street from her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. JAMES WELLS.

She related that although she knew Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM HYDE and their three children; namely, RUTH, CARL and SYLVIA, for about eight years, she was not what could be considered personally acquainted with them since the HYDE family did not socialize with immediate neighbors.

In reference to the letter she wrote the Federal Bureau of Investigation on July 18, 1950, Mrs. GREINER said she could not recall the year the article regarding the Consumers Co-op and the Farm Bureau appeared in the "Columbus Citizen", but it was her recollection that the article appeared many years prior to 1950 and possibly during World War II. Mrs. GREINER said she did not maintain a copy of this article.

Mrs. GREINER also stated that she had waited until 1950 to report this information to the Federal Bureau of Investigation because by 1950 more emphasis was being placed on Communism in the press and she was more aware of the danger of Communism.

Mrs. GREINER declined to furnish a signed statement and advised that she did not desire to testify before a Security Hearing Board with respect to the information furnished by her.

Mrs. GREINER said she knew the employee, SYLVIA, as a brilliant student whose character, reputation, associates and loyalty to the United States were never questioned in her mind.

Regarding the employee's immediate family, Mrs. GREINER said she had no knowledge of any information, other than that reported above, which would tend to reflect unfavorably on their character, reputation, associates, or loyalty to the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. JAMES WELLS, 1904 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio, were interviewed jointly on September 19, 1956. They advised they rented half of their home at 1904 Summit Street to Mr. and Mrs. HYDE and their family approximately eight years ago. They said that during the eight or more years they know the HYDES, nothing came to their attention reflecting adversely on their character, reputation, associates, or loyalty to the United States.

Mrs. WELLS reported the following incident happened during the time Mr. HYDE resided next door which she said did not constitute disloyalty in her mind. In this regard, Mrs. WELLS said she was talking to Mr. HYDE five or more years ago and the subject of Communism came up. She could not state how the subject came up but said she recalls saying to Mr. HYDE that she did not understand Communism and would like to know what Communism was all about.

Mrs. WELLS stated that, thereupon, Mr. HYDE said that he had a book she could read which might give her an understanding of Communism. She said she read a few pages in this book loaned to her by Mr. HYDE and then gave it back to him. Mrs. WELLS said she could not state with certainty but feels the book dealt with "Marxism".

Mrs. WELLS related that during the above incident she does not recall any statement made by Mr. HYDE indicating that he was sympathetic toward Communism or in any way subscribed to the teachings of MARX, and she added further that she does not recall hearing any statement from any member of the HYDE family which would tend to reflect unfavorably on their loyalty to the United States.

Mrs. WELLS said she did not desire to incorporate the above information in a signed statement or to testify to it in the event such testimony became necessary.

DAVIS E. BRAZIL, Librarian, "Columbus Citizen" newspaper, 34 North 3rd Street, Columbus, Ohio, advised on September 21, 1956, that she was unable to locate any information concerning the Consumers Co-op and no information of a subversive or derogatory nature regarding the Farm Bureau in the library of this newspaper.

In addition, the July 14 issue of the "Columbus Citizen" newspaper was examined for each year 1941 through 1950 and no article regarding the Consumers Co-op or the Farm Bureau as referred to by Mrs. GREINER was found.

Confidential Informant [redacted], who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on December 21, 1954, that a meeting of the Columbus, Ohio, Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom was held on the evening of December 20, 1954, at 70 East Gemo Street, Columbus, Ohio. During this meeting CAROL HYDE, who was in attendance, presented a film to the group which was entitled, "The Toymaker". According to the informant the theme of the film was that although men are different they are all made by one creator and only this realization makes them conscious of the fact that when they destroy others they are also destroying themselves.

Confidential Informant [redacted], who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on March 5, 1952, that a group of women interested in forming a local chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom met at the residence of RUTH HAMLIN, a member of the Communist Party at Columbus, Ohio. Mrs. HAMLIN, acting chairwoman of the group, read the aims and purposes of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom from literature published by the national organization. According to [redacted], Communist Party members in Columbus, Ohio, decided that RUTH HAMLIN could organize this local chapter and gradually build it into a Communist Party front group.

Confidential Informant [redacted], who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 18, 1955, that at a meeting of the Columbus, Ohio, Chapter of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom at Columbus, Ohio, on

May 17, 1955, it was suggested that they work for disarmament of the United States, even if Soviet Russia failed to concur, emphasis being placed on a pacifist stand.

Confidential Informant \_\_\_\_\_ was recontacted on September 18, 1956, at which time she advised that she could furnish no additional information regarding CAROL HYDE.

\_\_\_\_\_ stated that the employee and Mrs. CAROL HYDE are not known to her personally, and further, that she is not willing to furnish a signed statement or to appear before a Security Hearing Board.

Confidential Informant \_\_\_\_\_, a self-admitted member of the Columbus Branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, contact with whom has been insufficient to establish reliability, reported on September 13, 1956, that she was not in attendance at the meeting of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom held December 20, 1954. She further advised she did not know CAROL HYDE and does not recall seeing or meeting her at any Women's International League for Peace and Freedom meeting attended by \_\_\_\_\_.

Credit:

Mrs. GLADYS MORRIS, Credit Bureau of Xenia, Inc., Xenia, Ohio, which serves the Yellow Springs, Ohio, area, advised on September 11, 1956, that her office has no credit information regarding the employee or her husband. She advised, however, that she has a credit file on the employee's brother, CARL D. HYDE, M.D., Yellow Springs, Ohio. CARL D. HYDE, according to Mrs. MORRIS, has been known to her credit bureau since August, 1954, and enjoys a satisfactory credit rating.

Mrs. HELEN APPLEMAN, Clerk, Credit Bureau of Columbus, Inc., 34 East Long Street, Columbus, Ohio, reported on September 12, 1956, that the only information in the files of her agency regarding the employee is a notation that she was married to JOHN L. HOKE on June 25, 1950, at Columbus, Ohio, and that Mr. HOKE was employed as a Public Relations official.

Regarding Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM A. HYDE, Mrs. APPLEMAN reported her files indicate that they formerly resided at 1936 Summit Street, Columbus, Ohio, and are now residing at 4400 Glenmar Street in Columbus. Mrs. APPLEMAN advised Mr. HYDE'S name has appeared in the files of the credit bureau since 1937 and nothing of a derogatory nature is noted therein.

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Regarding CARL HYDE, Mrs. APPLEMAN reported her files indicate that he was born December 30, 1927, and is presently residing at 125 East Davis Street, Yellow Springs, Ohio. His name has appeared in the files of the Credit Bureau of Columbus, Inc., since August, 1954, and no information of a derogatory nature regarding him is contained therein.

Criminal:

DONALD L. STEPHENS, Deputy Sheriff, Greene County, Xenia, Ohio, in which county Yellow Springs, Ohio, is located, advised on September 11, 1956, that his files contain no information concerning the employee and members of her family who have resided at Yellow Springs, Ohio.

RUSSELL DRADLEY, Chief of Police, Yellow Springs, Ohio, advised on September 11, 1956, that he is not acquainted with the employee or her husband and that he has no arrest record for them. He stated that he is acquainted with the employee's brother, Dr. CARL D. HYDE, and that Dr. HYDE enjoys a good reputation in this community.

Mrs. BETTY GALLICOAT, Clerk, Records Division, Columbus, Ohio Police Department, reported on September 12, 1956, that there is no arrest record in the files maintained in her office identifiable with the employee, her husband, or members of her immediate family.

Informants:

Confidential Informants, who have furnished reliable information in the past, and who are familiar with some phases of Communist activities in the Dayton, Ohio and surrounding areas, advised on September 11, 1956, that they do not know the employee or members of her family and that they possess no information concerning them.

Confidential Informants  
and other confidential informants who have furnished reliable information in the past, and who are familiar with some phases of Communist activity in the Columbus, Ohio area, advised on September 13, 1956, that they do not know the employee, her husband, or any other member of her family and that they possess no information concerning them.