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Notes on People

Kay Boyle Discovers 'Secret' Affair With Ezra Pound

When Kay Boyle finally got hold of her security files recently, under the Freedom of Information Act, she read in the nearly 2,000 pages that she "had a clandestine affair with Ezra Pound before World War I," she said yesterday.

"I would have been no more than 10," the 76-year-old novelist said gleefully, adding that she had never met the late expatriate poet until well into the 1920's "and I didn't like him then."

Miss Boyle, who was a foreign correspondent for *The New Yorker* from 1946 to 1953, talked in a telephone interview from her home in San Francisco about her six children and 17 grandchildren. She said that, although she looked for-

ward to becoming a great-grandmother in July, "I feel about 30."

In 1955, she told a Congressional hearing she had never joined the Communist Party, testifying on behalf of her third husband, the late Joseph M. Franckenstein, a State Department official. When her security files were released to her recently, she said, there was a note that said ominously that one Army document could not be included because it was classified. Miss Boyle thinks she remembers it.

"It had a 1941 date," she reported, "and it said, 'Kay Boyle is authorized to buy a Women's Army Corps uniform in order to go to the European theater as a war correspondent.'"