

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: BUD ABBOTT**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

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## NOTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS  
RELEASE

SUBJECT: Bud Abbott

FILE: 100-HQ-190833 & 145-HQ-1375

VOL: 2

PAGES REVIEWED: 7

PAGES RELEASED: 7

NOTES: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NO DUPLICATION FEE FOR THIS PAGE  
190-110-117203-57  
R1110841C 190-38543

FBI

Date: 3/5/58

Mr. Tolson	/
Mr. Boardman	/
Mr. Nichols	/
Mr. Belmont	/
Mr. Mohr	/
Mr. DeLoach	/
Mr. Casper	/
Mr. Callahan	/
Mr. Conrad	/
Mr. Felt	/
Mr. Gale	/
Mr. Rosen	/
Mr. Sullivan	/
Mr. Tavel	/
Mr. Trotter	/
Mr. Tele. Room	/
Miss Holmes	/
Miss Gandy	/

Transmit the following in \_\_\_\_\_ (Type in plain text or code)

Via AIR TEL AIR MAIL (Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (145-new)  
 SUBJECT: BUD ABBOTT  
 ITOM INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF OBSCENE MATTER  
 OC: Los Angeles

On 3/3/58 Officer [redacted], Administrative Vice Detail, Los Angeles PD, advised that a police informant furnished information to the effect that BUD ABBOTT, the well known motion picture and TV star, is a collector of pornography and allegedly has 1,500 reels of obscene motion pictures which he shows in his home where he has a projector of his own. The police informant was approached by ABBOTT to furnish some girls for a private party he is having at an early date.

On 3/4/58 Officer [redacted] advised he had received no further specific date as to when the party is to be held but stated that Ad Vice intends raiding the party when and if it is held and will confiscate all films they are able to find in their search incidental to their arrests.

Although ABBOTT is an alleged collector and there is not an allegation of interstate transportation of this matter, a case is being opened in this office as a control file to follow and report to the Bureau information coming to the attention of this office through police liaison with Ad Vice, LAPD. Officer [redacted] is well aware of the Bureau's interest in this category and any films obtained will be submitted to the FBI Lab for examination and comparison purposes.

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Los Angeles

HEY:hy (3)

MCT - 49

MAR 6 1958

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

cc [redacted]

b7C

b7C [redacted]

NR [redacted]

b7C [redacted]

b7C [redacted]

b7C [redacted]

b7C [redacted]



7  
52  
LOU  
COSTELLO

March 8  
19 46

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Gandy	

Mr. J. E. Hoover  
The Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thank you so much for your letter  
and for the interest you take in our program.

We are to be in production for  
the next two months and, if you are in California  
during that time, it would give me great pleasure  
if you would visit our studio and be our guest for  
lunch.

Very sincerely yours,

*Lou Costello*  
Lou Costello

LC:ap

*506 BSA/pt 4-1-94, 380773*  
*and answer*  
*acknowledged ✓*  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-4-94 BY 9803 RDP-JAR  
FOIPA # 379191  
50 APR 5 1946

100-170-35  
FBI  
30 MAR 26 1946

February 28, 1946

Messrs. Abbott and Costello  
c/o Edward Sherman Agency  
9441 Wilshire Boulevard  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Abbott and Costello:

Last Thursday night I had the  
pleasure of listening to your radio pro-  
gram and got a terrific kick out of your  
play on words on the meaning of FBI.

I thought your explanation was excellent.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

SE 15

SP6 BSA/cab 4-1-94 380,723  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-4-94 BY 9803 RDD-JAL  
FOIPA # 379191

RECORDED

170733-2  
MAR 5 1946

FEB 28 4 35 PM '46

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR  
FEB 28 3 43 PM '46

EX-47

MAR 1 1946

LBN:hbm

- Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_
- Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_
- Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

59 MAR 15 1946

RAM:VGO

March 4, 1943

380,773  
SP6 BSA/ab 4-1-94  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-4-94 BY 9803 RDD-SAM  
FOIPA# 379191

RECORDED 100-190833-1

SAC, Springfield

RE: BUD ABBOTT and LOU COSTELLO  
Radio Programs on February 4  
and 18, 1943 -- ESPIONAGE

EX-13

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of February 23, 1943, wherein it is noted that [redacted] Illinois, has furnished certain information to your office concerning the above captioned radio programs, requesting that a transcript be made for the purpose of decoding same. It is also noted that [redacted] is very nervous and upset over the long illness and loss of her husband, indicating that her information may not be reliable. On the other hand, it is stated that through a discreet inquiry she is reported as a leader in [redacted] and very highly regarded by those who know her. The Bureau can draw no conclusion from the information furnished concerning [redacted] reliability. It is also to be noted that the full name of [redacted] was not set out which would enable the Bureau to properly check the indices for the purpose of ascertaining whether she had previously furnished information of a similar nature.

b7C

It is further noted that [redacted] claims to be a writer of radio script by profession and due to her knowledge of radio she claims to understand the use of key words in a radio program. Although she has furnished eighty-five key words, she has furnished definitions of only twelve of these words. From the information furnished the Bureau does not understand how [redacted] chose the words contained in the list, labeling them key words, and was only able to give definitions of a small fraction of these.

b7C

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E.A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Piper
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

Inasmuch as [redacted] complaint as set forth in the above reference letter from your office should be similarly applied to practically any radio program, no further action is being taken by the Bureau in this matter. The above is being called to your attention in order that in the future when complaints of this nature are received by your office, the complainants will be thoroughly interrogated as to the reasons for their suspicions and requested to supply all facts to substantiate their complaints in order that same may be properly evaluated.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
MAR 5 1943 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

*[Handwritten signature]*



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

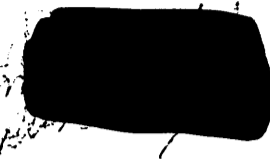
Springfield, Illinois  
February 23, 1943

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	✓
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	✓
Mr. Glavin	✓
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Mumford	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

Director, FBI

Attention: Technical Laboratory

Re: BUD ABBOTT and LOU COSTELLO  
Radio Programs on February 4  
and February 18, 1943.  
ESPIONAGE.



Dear Sir:

This is to advise that an agent of this office was recently contacted by [redacted] Illinois, who advises that she is by profession a writer of radio script and an author, and due to the knowledge she has of radio, she would like to request that a transcript of the above mentioned programs be decoded. She states that she understands key words in a radio program due to her experience as a radio script writer and wishes to submit a list of key words taken from these programs with a few of her interpretations of the meaning of the words, which are set out in parentheses following the words.

The following words were taken from the program on February 4, 1943:

- Fog (artificial)
- Cold or hot (any kind of weather?)
- Kick in the France (instead of pants)
- Boats (Brooklyn)
- Fire (LaGuardia)
- Which ocean (?)
- Only one
- South
- Turn north quickly
- Rocky coastline
- Two weeks
- High-powered boats
- Dive bombers hit a rock (bomb) RECORDED
- Hole in boat
- Both sides (submarine?) INDEXED
- Two weeks
- Eleven camps
- Army and Navy
- Camel Caravan

to be visited next (2?) weeks

546 BSA/lat 4-1-94, 380,773  
2-4-94 9803 RDD JAN  
FOIPA# 379191

100-19-255

COPIES DESTROYED 12/5/59 #36

b7c  
[Handwritten notes and stamps on the left margin]

The following words were taken from the February 18th program:

10,000 cattle  
New York  
Hollywood  
Telegram  
Important  
Egg shortage  
California  
Gum  
Clark Gable  
Platoon  
Parachute  
Jim Wallington  
American boy  
Cartographer  
Rand McNally  
T-Zone - Test  
Brooklyn Dodger  
Scrap drive  
Meat ration  
Hollywood tonight  
Anthony - Cleopatra  
Fog horn  
Nile  
overflowing  
Some places  
Seven trails  
Dead of night  
Twenty miles of desert  
Twenty miles  
One trip  
Wheaties  
Song - "Time Goes By"  
Sahara Desert  
Egypt  
Rommel  
Camp (Cleopatra)  
Sugar stamp  
Julius Caesar - Mark Anthony (Alexandria?)  
Sahara  
Woman  
Very drowsy  
Sphinx  
Radio drama  
Depe

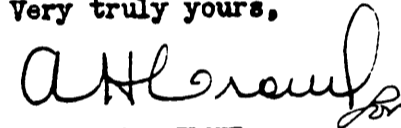
February 23, 1943

Side burns  
Battle  
Moonlight  
River (Canoe)  
More  
Now  
Heard  
Dancing girl  
Salome  
Guard  
Man came into  
Program (Yiddish)  
Pail of lard  
Kill me  
Fan dancing  
Wind mills  
Green snake  
Red Snake  
Horses  
Te Betty Davis' frolic  
3½ years old  
Eleven Camps (in one week)

b7c  
A discreet inquiry reflected that [REDACTED] is very nervous and upset over the long illness and loss of her husband, although she is considered a leader in [REDACTED] and very highly regarded by those who know her. [REDACTED] claims she is acquainted with several Government officials in Washington, that she is distantly related to Mrs. ROOSEVELT and assisted in preparing material for the President's recent campaign.

In view of the possibility that [REDACTED] may write to the Bureau, the above is being submitted for your information and no further investigation is being conducted by this office.

Very truly yours,



ARTHUR H. CROWL  
Special Agent in Charge

PVC/jj  
65-0