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61-280
Section 2
Armand Hammer
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.  DATE WHEN MADE 11/16/50; 12/6/51

TITLE ARMAND HAMMER

PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE

REPORT MADE BY

CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

No additional information concerning subject in Passport Files. Description and photographs obtained.

- RUG -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

Special Employee [redacted] ascertained that the records of the Passport Division, Department of State, contained no additional information concerning the subject.

The following is a description of the subject as contained in his 1925 and 1929 passports:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Height</th>
<th>5'6&quot;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hair</td>
<td>Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eyes</td>
<td>Gray</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forehead</td>
<td>Straight</td>
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<td>Mouth</td>
<td>Medium</td>
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<td>Chin</td>
<td>Round</td>
</tr>
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<td>Face</td>
<td>Oval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complexion</td>
<td>Dark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation</td>
<td>Director</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

DECLASSIFIED BY [redacted] ON 11/13/81

PROPERTY OF FBI - This confidential report and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI and are not to be distributed outside of agency to which loaned.

64 JAN 1952
TO NEW YORK:

Six photographs of subject taken in June, 1927, and August, 1929.

-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-
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________________________________________________________________________

☐ For your information:

________________________________________________________________________

☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

61-280-52
December 20, 1951

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

To: The Honorable
   The Secretary of Defense
   The Pentagon
   Washington, D.C.

From: John E. Hoover, Director
       Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: ARMAND HAMZER, M.D.
       INTERNAL SECURITY - C

You may wish to contact the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Alcohol Tax Unit, United States Treasury Department, for further information regarding the mentioned individual and his business interests.

This is for your confidential information and should not be disseminated outside of your department.

Attachments

RVS: gnu

SPL: gnu

9 8 Dec 56

65 Jan 18 1952

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL
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☐ For your information:

☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

61-280-60
December 20, 1951

To: Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2
Department of the Army
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Chief, Security Division

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: ARMAND HAMMER, WASHINGTON, D.C.
INTERNAL SECURITY - B

Reference is made to the memorandum on the captioned individual which was made available to you on August 23, 1951. For your additional information, there are attached two copies of a memorandum regarding Armand Hammer and his business interests.

You may wish to contact the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Alcohol Tax Unit, United States Treasury Department, for further information regarding the captioned individual and his business interests.

This is for your confidential information and should not be disseminated outside of your department.

Attachments

REC: 28, 11, 3765
RECORRED: 96, 29, 1951

R.W.S: gmu

COMM - FBI
DEC 21 1951
SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

63 JAN 18 1952
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61-280-62
RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the attached letter, with the various comments and suggestions noted, be forwarded to M. T. R. O. in reply to this letter of November 20, 1952. 

[Signature]

[Date]

[Handwritten note] OK

[Handwritten note] 12-9-52
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (100-73426)
FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (105-874)

SUBJECT: ARMAND HAMMER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Rep of SA [redacted] dated 1/22/52, at Chicago, which is transmitted herewith.

WRP: asj
cc: New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/22/52 BY SPIGELEUS

RECORDED 157, 61-280-63
JAN 25, 1952

63 FEB 7 1952
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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information:

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

61-280-63 (3 page memo)
December 20, 1951

To:

Security Officer
National Security Resources Board
Room 18, Executive Office Building
17th and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

From:

John Edgar Hoover - Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject:

ARVAND HAMINE, M.D.
INTERNAL SECURITY - B

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS CONFIDENTIAL EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

You may wish to contact the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Alcohol Tax Unit, United States Treasury Department, for further information regarding the captioned individual and his business interests.

This is for your confidential information and should not be disseminated outside of your department.

RECEIVED 11/12/51

Attachments:

RE: 1 EX: 159

By SPL: ASSK

DEC 20, 1951

DEC 20, 1951

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL
December 20, 1951

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

To:    Administrator
        Reconstruction Finance Corporation
        511 Vermont Avenue, N. W.
        Washington, D. C.

From:  John Edgar Hoover - Director
        Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: ARMAND HAMMER, Inc.
        INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Reference is made to our communication of
December 26, 1949, which enclosed investigative reports
concerning the cautioned individual. For your additional
information, there are attached two copies of a memorandum
regarding Armand Hammer and his business interests.

You may wish to contact the Bureau of Internal
Revenue and the Alcohol Tax Unit, United States Treasury
Department, for further information regarding the cautioned
individual and his business interests.

This is for your confidential information and
should not be disseminated outside of your department.

Attachments:

FILE

RNS: gnu RECORDED-545 BOOK

RECORDED-114

EX-16A

9 DEC 26

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON  
MR. LADD  
MR. BULLIS

On January 21, 1952, Senator Styles Bridges called to see me and left with me the attached statement prepared by Dr. Armand Hammer. Senator Bridges stated that this had been handed to him by Dr. Hammer whom he had known for some years. He stated that Dr. Hammer told him that he had recently been on some contract for the Armed Services and had been denied the bid because of information in the files of the FBI concerning him. Senator Bridges stated that Dr. Hammer wanted to have the attached document filed with the Bureau as it contained answers and explanations to what might have raised some questions in the minds of the authorities concerning his loyalty. According to Senator Bridges, Dr. Hammer is a thoroughly loyal man in so far as he, Senator Bridges, knows.

I think it would be well to carefully analyze this document and also carefully review our files on Hammer so that we can be certain that whatever information we have is accurate and correct. It may then be desirable to advise such agencies as were furnished the information on Hammer copies of the brief which Dr. Hammer has forwarded to us from Senator Bridges. After this matter has been completely analyzed, I would like to know what the facts are as I will want to have someone see Senator Bridges and brief him completely upon same.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Attachment (with original)
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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

______________________________

[ ] For your information: ____________________________

[ ] The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

61-280-Serials 67 thru 70 with 2 unrecorded serials between serials 678 68.
Dir. Armand Hammer
19 - R

Enclosed are original and four copies of the report of

SAcaptioned matter.

concerning subject's association with Senator STYLES BRIDGES of New Hampshire, as set forth in NY letter to Bureau dated 11/28/51, will not be placed in report form by his office UABC.

Encls. (5)

cc: Boston (Encls. 2)
Chicago (105-874) (Encl. 2)
Louisville (Encls. 2)
Newark (100-28145) (Encls. 2)
Omaha (Info.) (Encl. 1)
It is believed that in view of subject's previously reported contacts with persons of considerable political prominence, extreme discretion should be exercised in the
Letter to Director, FBI
NY 100-60586

selection of persons to be interviewed in order that the
subject is not apprised of instant investigation. In the
event an interview with should appear desirable
in the future, Bureau authority will be requested.

678
DETAILS: The title of this report is being changed to reflect the name Dr. ARMAND HAMMER which name of unknown reliability, has advised that the subject is known by in view of his license to practice medicine in New York State.

CITIZENSHIP

The records of the New York City Bureau of Vital Statistics reviewed by SE on November 15, 1951, disclosed that ARMAND HAMMER was born May 21, 1898 in New York City. His parents were JULIUS HAMMER, age 25, a druggist, born in Russia, and ROSIE LIEBSCHITZ, age 22, born in Russia. The certificate indicated they had two children and were residing at 406 Cherry Street, New York City.

BUSINESS AND EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

(Copies Continued)

2 - Newark (100-28445)
1 - Omaha (Info.)
Poor's Register of Directors and Executives for 1951 disclosed that ARMAND HAMMER, born in 1898, New York City, and a graduate of Columbia University, is President and Director of the companies previously mentioned by him, and, in addition, is Director of the First Bank and Trust Company of Perth Amboy, New Jersey.

The Register also indicates the subject's residence as Alexander Drive, River Plaza, Red Bank, New Jersey.

The subject and his two brothers, VICTOR and HARRY HAMMER also have alcohol plants in Gethsemane, Kentucky and Geona, Louisiana. They also operate a registered distillery in Baltimore, Maryland, and hold an industrial alcohol permit and a Class B alcohol distilling permit for the premises at the foot of Federal Street in Yonkers, New York. In addition, the HAMMER brothers and RAYMOND C. DICKIESON own the Dant Distillery in Dant, Kentucky.
HAMMER left Germany for the United States to operate the A. Hammer Cooperage Corporation then located at 680 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

The subject had at one time been affiliated with A. Hammer Inc., which was formed as an investment house to deal in stocks.

He was also at one time affiliated with the Allied Drug and Chemical Company of New York State.

The subject is a registered physician in New York State. During World War II he was classified 4F by Local Draft Board 83 in New York City. He maintains a bank account with the National Safety Bank and Trust Company, New York City.

RESIDENCE OF SUBJECT

Poor's Register, previously mentioned, describes the subject's residence as Alexander Drive, River Plaza, Red Bank, New Jersey.
advised that the subject's residence as of November 15, 1951, was listed as 183 West 4th Street, New York City.
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- The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

  61-280-71 pgs. 9 thru 28
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☐ For your information: __________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

61-280-71 pgs. 31 thru 34
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<th>Sex:</th>
<th>Male</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Race:</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Height:</td>
<td>5'7&quot; - 5'9&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight:</td>
<td>150 lbs. - 180 lbs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hair:</td>
<td>Dark brown or black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eyes:</td>
<td>Grey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupation:</td>
<td>Executive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital Status:</td>
<td>Married</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate Relatives:</td>
<td>JULIUS HAMMER, father, deceased.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ROSE HAMMER, mother.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>VICTOR J. HAMMER, brother.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HARRY J. HAMMER, brother.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

61-280-71 pag. 38 thru 41
MISCELLANEOUS

Copies of this report are being furnished to the Omaha and Chicago Offices for their information in view of leads outstanding in those divisions.

LEADS

BOSTON

At Boston, Massachusetts

Will report results of the investigation requested in New York letter to Bureau dated November 28, 1951, a copy of which was furnished to the Boston Office.
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61-280-71 pgs. 42 & 43
OFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: THE DIRECTOR

FROM: MR. D. M. LADD

SUBJECT: ARMAND HAMMER

INTERNAL SECURITY

DATE: FEBRUARY 6, 1953

PURPOSE:

To bring to your attention the attached memorandum which makes an analysis of the statement prepared by Armand Hammer in light of information previously developed by the Bureau's investigation. You will recall that this statement was made available to you by Senator Styles Bridges on January 21, 1952. It does not appear in the best interest of the Bureau to disseminate this statement to interested agencies. However, it is recommended that Hammer be interviewed at this time in accordance with the attached communication to the New York Office and the results disseminated to the appropriate agencies in report form. It does not appear desirable to brief Senator Bridges at this time, as he was furnished with the more important allegations regarding Hammer on June 20, 1949. It would appear more desirable to brief Senator Bridges in this matter after the results of the interview of Hammer are known.

REVIEW OF STATEMENT BY ARMAND HAMMER:

Hammer, in his statement, denies Communist Party membership, but admits doing business with Ludwig Martens through the Allied Drug and Chemical Corporation prior to Martens' departure from the United States, in lieu of deportation in 1921. Hammer admits enlisting the aid of Charles Recht, whom he identified as Martens' attorney in the United States, in obtaining a visa to enter the Soviet Union in 1921. Hammer also admits taking a motion picture film and a letter to Martens in the Soviet Union on behalf of Charles Recht. It is noted that this letter in part included a request for pictures to be used for propaganda in the United States. Hammer stated that he operated business ventures in the Soviet Union from approximately 1922 to 1931, and early in his stay in the Soviet Union was in contact with Lenin. He stated that Lenin was sympathetic with his attempts to foster trade between the Soviet Union and the United States.

Hammer stated that it was unfair to hold the reputation of his father, Dr. Julius Hammer, against the sons Armand, Harry and Victor, even assuming that he was a radical and pro-Soviet. Hammer also advised that unjust allegations of Communist sympathy had been made concerning Mrs. Victor Hammer (best known as Irene Wicker, a radio and television singer).
Page 8 and exhibits 11 and 12 are missing from Hammer's statement. In the statement Hammer termed allegations against him "gossip" and stated that they were "maliciously furnished" to government investigative agencies. Hammer's statement also advocates an investigation to resolve the allegations against him in view of the "facts" set forth in his statement. He attacked United States Army representatives for denying him a lease of property on financial and technical grounds. Hammer also identified Special Agent John D. Sullivan, a Resident Agent at Clarksdale, Mississippi, as the husband of Mrs. Harry Hammer's sister.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Hammer's statement not be disseminated to interested agencies in its present form; however, it is recommended that Hammer's explanations be resolved by an immediate interview and the results disseminated to pertinent agencies in investigative report form.

As Senator Bridges was furnished with the more important allegations regarding Hammer on June 20, 1949, it does not appear that any purpose would be served in further briefing him in this matter until Hammer has been interviewed in connection with the specific allegations concerning him. A letter is attached instructing the New York Office to interview Hammer in connection with these allegations. It is noted that Hammer's statement terms the allegations against him "gossip" and stated that they were "maliciously furnished" to government investigative agencies. Hammer's statement also advocates an investigation to resolve the allegations against him in view of the "facts" set forth in his statement. A copy of Hammer's statement is also enclosed for the information and assistance of the New York Office.
Office Memorandum

TO: THE DIRECTOR
FROM: MR. D. M. LADD
SUBJECT: ARMAND HAMMER
INTERNAL SECURITY - B

PURPOSE:

To bring to your attention, in accordance with your memorandum of February 1, 1952, a brief analysis of the statement prepared by Armand Hammer in light of information previously developed by the Bureau's investigation. You will recall that Senator Styles Bridges delivered this statement to you on January 21, 1952, and advised that Hammer wanted this statement filed with the Bureau as it included explanations to questions of Hammer's loyalty. A review of Hammer's statement reveals that it would not be in the best interest of the Bureau to disseminate this statement in its present form; however, it is recommended that Hammer's explanations be resolved by an immediate interview and the results disseminated to pertinent agencies in investigative report form.

On June 20, 1949, Senator Bridges was furnished with the more important allegations regarding Hammer and it does not appear that any purpose would be served in further briefing him in this matter until Hammer has been interviewed in connection with the specific allegations concerning him. A letter is attached instructing the New York Office to interview Hammer in connection with these allegations.

Indications of Communist or Soviet Connections Developed by the Bureau's Investigation:

Attachments
RVS: gmw
61-260
Investigation further determined that in 1921, Armand Hammer went to Russia to set up a completely equipped field hospital. After arriving in Russia, Armand Hammer abandoned his field hospital project in favor of business dealings with Russia. Hammer's activities came to the attention of Lenin who was in sympathy with Hammer's attempts to promote trade between the Soviet Union and the United States. While in Russia in 1921 and 1922, Hammer secured a monopoly to develop asbestos mines there. In connection with Hammer's examination of the asbestos properties in Russia in 1921, he was accompanied by Martens, who was then a member of the Russian Central Executive Committee. Upon his return to the United States on June 13, 1922, Hammer allegedly advised the press that he had told Soviet Government officials that he was a capitalist and was in Russia to make money.

In January, 1922, the Allied American Corporation was formed by the Hammer brothers and became the parent corporation for subsequent operations of the Hammers in the Soviet Union. The Hammers represented approximately 35 United States' concerns in the Soviet Union, including the Ford Motor Company. In 1927, Armand Hammer was granted the monopoly for the manufacture of pencils in Russia. In 1931, Armand Hammer departed from the Soviet Union taking with him a valuable collection of gold plate, jewelry, ceramics and art treasures valued from 2 to 5 million dollars. After a brief stay in France, Armand Hammer returned to the United
States in 1932 and engaged in selling items from this valuable collection. Armand Hammer founded the A. Hammer Cooperage Corporation in 1933 in New York, and obtained a contract with Amtorg for barrel staves. In September, 1934, the concern, Hammer Galleries, was organized in New York in connection with disposing of this collection, and Armand Hammer continues to hold an interest in this establishment.
In the statement supplied by Armand Hammer, he denied membership in the Communist Party. He admitted doing business with Ludwig Martens through the Allied Drug and Chemical Corporation, a concern operated by the Hammer family. Hammer stated that his concern sold drugs and oil machinery to the Russians in the amount of $100,000. Of this amount, $75,000 represented the bill for oil machinery which was uncollected at the time Martens departed from the United States for the Soviet Union. Hammer indicated that he went to the Soviet Union in 1921, to do field hospital relief work and to engage in business with the Soviet Union. Hammer claimed that an employee, Boris Mishell, was left to organize the Allied Drug and Chemical Corporation office in Russia, and to collect the money due that corporation ($75,000) for the oil machinery which had been previously supplied to the Soviet Union. He stated that Mishell was successful in this regard. It is noted in this connection that on August 9, 1949, the Bureau received from Senator Bridges information in his possession concerning Hammer. This information was based upon a discussion which Senator Bridges had with Armand Hammer. Dr. Armand Hammer allegedly told Senator Bridges that when Martens left the United States, there was a substantial unpaid balance due Hammer "for some machinery and equipment" which Martens had purchased and which has never been paid for to this date.

In instant statement Armand Hammer indicated that due to the difficulty in obtaining a visa to enter the Soviet Union, he enlisted the aid of Charles Recht, whom he described as the American attorney for Ludwig Martens. Hammer stated that in order to enhance his chances of obtaining a visa to enter the Soviet
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Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies)

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☑ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

61-280 Serials 79 thru 85
Union, he carried to Russia the movie film concerning the departure of Ludwig Martens from the United States with the accompanying letter. After arriving in the Soviet Union and witnessing the famine there, Hammer stated that he promoted an exchange of wheat from the United States for Russian furs. This transaction came to the attention of Premier Lenin which resulted in conversations and correspondence with Lenin, who was sympathetic to Hammer's attempts to promote trade between the Soviet Union and the United States. Hammer stated that while in the Soviet Union, he joined a group headed by Martens to examine asbestos mines. Hammer subsequently was granted the right to develop these properties by the Soviet Government. Hammer pointed out that he was subsequently in contact with Henry Ford and represented his interest as well as numerous other large industrial concerns in the United States in connection with their business dealings with the Soviet Union. Hammer also was granted the concession to manufacture pencils in the Soviet Union. In 1929, Armand Hammer claims to have set up his brother, Victor, in the antique business and purchased many art objects in the Soviet Union for sale in the United States. Hammer stated that he sold out his holdings in the Soviet Union as Stalin had reversed Lenin's policy of encouraging the investment of foreign capital in the Soviet Union. He stated that in August, 1931, the final settlement was made with the Soviet Union and he received payment in cash, notes and foreign currency. After selling out the Russian holdings of the Hammers, Armand Hammer remained in Paris for approximately one year where he traded in Russian notes. He subsequently returned to New York and concentrated on developing the art gallery business with his brothers. In 1933, the Hammers built a cooperage factory in Brooklyn, New York, and manufactured barrels for beer and whiskey trade. He stated that at first they used Russian white oak purchased from Amalgam as American white oak was not available.

In connection with his father, Dr. Julius Hammer, Hammer stated that he was pardoned by Governor Alfred E. Smith in connection with the conviction of 1919, of performing an illegal operation on a woman patient who subsequently died. He further stated that regardless of the reputation of his father "even assuming that he was a radical and pro-Soviet," it is unfair to hold his reputation against his sons "who have been loyal Americans all their lives and who have no sympathy with Communism or the Russian regime." Hammer also stated that unjust allegations of Communist sympathy had been made concerning Mrs. Victor Hammer (best known as Irene Wicker, a radio and television singer).
As Senator Bridges was furnished with the more important allegations regarding Hammer on June 20, 1949, it does not appear that any purpose would be served in further briefing him in this matter until Hammer has been interviewed in connection with the specific allegations concerning him. A letter is attached instructing the New York Office to interview Hammer in connection with these allegations. It is noted that Hammer's statement terms the allegations against him "gossip" and stated that they were "maliciously furnished" to government investigative agencies. Hammer's statement also advocates an investigation to resolve the allegations against him in view of the "facts" set forth in his statement. A copy of Hammer's statement is also enclosed for the information and assistance of the New York Office.
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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DIRECTOR AND SAC
URGENT

ARMAND HAMMER, WA., IS DASH R. BUFILE SIXTY ONE DASH TWO EIGHT ZERO.
REBULET FEB EIGHT LAST. APPOINTMENT MADE FOR AN AGENT THIS OFFICE
TO INTERVIEW SUBJ AT HIS OFFICES, EMPIRE STATE BUILDING, NYC, ON MARCH
THREE NEXT. BUREAU REQUESTED TO SUBMIT RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION
REQUESTED IN NYLET TO BUREAU DATED NOV FIFTEEN, NINETEEN FIFTY ONE.
ALL OFFICES WILL SUBMIT RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION ON OUTSTANDING LEADS
THEIR DIVISIONS TO REACH NEW YORK NOT LATER THAN FEB TWENTY SEVEN NEXT.

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LOUISVILLE MEMPHIS AND OMAHA ADVISED

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RECORD-37 41-280 - 76

ARMAND HAMMER, WA, INTERNAL SECURITY BASH R. REBULET OF
DECEMBER SEVEN, NINTEEN FIFTY ONE, REQUESTING INQUIRY REGARDING
THIS MATTER. SUBJECT TO BE INTERVIEWED MARCH THREE, NEXT.

MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HAVE RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION AVAILABLE
TO BUREAU BY MARCH ONE, NEXT.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

INFORMATION CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

DATE 1/17/52 BY SPIGSKULS

EWS: gnu

61-280

cc - Foreign Service Desk

HANDLED BY STOP DESK

PHONE CONVERSATION

EB 5/21 10:50 A.M.

FEB. 26, 1952 2:15 PM

Received at 7:47 P.M.
Office Memorandum

TO: THE DIRECTOR

FROM: MR. D. V. LADD

DATE: January 21, 1952

SUBJECT: ARTHUR HAMMER

INTERNAL SECURITY - DEPARTMENT OFcommerce, & Ext.

PURPOSE:

To bring to your attention the attached memorandum which sets forth all pertinent information in Bureau files regarding Arthur Hammer in accordance with your request of January 21, 1952.

BACKGROUND:

61-260

ATTACHMENT

61-280-77

RECORDED 4

FEB. 24, 1952

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.

[Handwritten notes and signatures]
RECOMMENDATION:

The foregoing is for your information; however, investigation in this matter is continuing and pertinent developments will be brought to your attention.
Office Memorandum

TO: The Director
FROM: Mr. D. M. Ladd
SUBJECT: ARMAND HAMMER
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

DATE: January 21, 1952

PURPOSE:

To summarize all pertinent information in Bureau files regarding Armand Hammer for your information in accordance with your request of January 21, 1952.

BACKGROUND:

Armand Hammer was born on May 21, 1898, in New York City. During World War I, Hammer served in the military service of the United States, having been assigned to the S.A.T.C. (Student Army Training Corps) of Columbia University in New York, with the rank of Private. Hammer received a M.D. degree from Columbia University in 1921, and was licensed to practice medicine in New York. In 1920, Hammer married Olga, daughter of a wealthy Russian General, Baron Vadin Nicholaebitch Root. Prior to her marriage she had appeared on the stage in Europe as Olga Badina. In the early 1940's, they were divorced, and Hammer married Mrs. Angela C. Zuevel, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James W. Carey of Pittsburgh, in December of 1943.

While attending medical school and subsequent thereto, Armand Hammer, his half brother, Harry, and his brother, Victor, operated the Allied Drug and Chemical Corporation. This was a pharmaceutical chemical business which was owned by their father, Dr. Julius Hammer, who was then serving a sentence in Sing Sing Prison for criminal abortion.

In 1921, Armand Hammer went to Russia reportedly to set up a completely equipped field hospital which he had purchased from the United States Government. After his arrival in Russia, Hammer negotiated an exchange of wheat from the United States for a quantity of Russian furs. This transaction was allegedly brought to the attention of Premier Lenin, who allegedly summoned Hammer to Moscow. According to the June 14, 1922, issue of the "New York Times," Hammer had in his possession a letter from

[Additional text not legible]
Lenin dated May 10, (1922), in which Lenin apologized for his "imperfect English" and wished for the success of Hammer's first trade concession. In this communication, Lenin indicated that it was of the utmost importance for future trade relations between the Soviet Union and the United States. While in the Soviet Union in 1921 and 1922, Hammer secured for the Allied Drug and Chemical Corporation a monopoly to develop the asbestos mines in the vicinity of Ekaterinberg, Russia. Upon his return to the United States on June 15, 1922, Hammer allegedly advised the press that he had conferred with officials of the Soviet Government and advised them that he was a capitalist and was there to make money.

This was followed by other business activities in Russia by Hammer including dealings in furs and a monopoly for the manufacture of pencils in Russia. The Hammer brothers formed the Allied American Corporation in 1922, which acted as an agent in Russia for approximately 35 concerns in the United States, including the Ford Motor Company. Armand Hammer was Vice-President and Secretary of the Allied American Corporation. Armand Hammer was also President of the Allied American Fur Sales Agency, Inc., which was organized in 1923, as a selling agent for the Allied American Corporation. The activities of the Allied Fur Sales Agency, Inc., were taken over in 1927, by the Affiliated Allied American Corporation, which was discontinued in 1929.
Armand Hammer retailed antiques and other valuable items in his collection through the L'Ermitage Galleries, Incorporated, organized in New York in October, 1929; and the A. Hammer Company, Inc., in New York, organized in October, 1930. The name of the A. Hammer Company, Inc., was changed to Hortense Galleries, Inc., in November, 1935. Shortly thereafter this concern was sold to outside interests and is now inactive. The Hammer Galleries was organized in New York in September, 1934 and Armand Hammer still retains an interest in this concern. In connection with these enterprises, dealing with the sale of antiques and art treasures, the William Randolph Hearst Art Collection and the Romanoff Treasures from Russia were disposed of. Hammer utilized store space at Gimbel's and Lord and Taylor, both in New York City, in connection with these dealings.

It is noted that A. Hammer Cooperage Corporation was chartered in 1933, in New York. The March 28, 1935, issue of the "New York Times" reported that Armand Hammer, who anticipated a market for beer barrels, organized instant company and obtained a contract with the Amtorg Trading Corporation for barrel staves. The February 16, 1941, issue of the "Daily News" in New York reported that Hammer obtained his barrel plant through the Amtorg Trading Corporation and had obtained a 2-year monopoly of Russian wood. This concern was sold in 1941 to the Milltown Cooperage Company; however, Armand Hammer retained a financial interest in this firm. It is also noted that A. Hammer Cooperage allegedly secured a loan from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in 1939.

In 1944, Armand Hammer entered the distilling business under the name United Distillers of America, Inc., and the West Shore Wine and Liquor Company. Armand Hammer and his brothers
had interests in the Dant Distillery of Dant, Kentucky, alcohol plants in Gethsemane, Kentucky and Getna, Louisiana, and in addition, unidentified liquor interest in Cuba. Armand Hammer currently resides on his farm on Alexander Road, Middletown township, New Jersey, where he is engaged in raising registered Aberdeen Angus cattle. Hammer is a Director of the First Bank and Trust Company of Perth Amboy, New Jersey, is a member of the Board of Governors of the Monmouth Memorial Hospital of Long Branch, New Jersey; and is President of the New Jersey Aberdeen Angus Breeders Association. (Ibid 14,16,17,42,47,55)
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61-280-77 4/8
CURRENT INVESTIGATION:

The current investigation of Hammer has developed nothing of a security interest.

It is noted that Armand Hammer was investigated by this Bureau from July 29, 1921 to July 14, 1922, and again from April 19, 1944 to July 13, 1946. This case was reopened on October 26, 1951, and is in a pending status. In connection with this investigation, information has been supplied to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, National Security Resources Board, Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the Alcohol Tax Unit, G-2, and the Department. The following have previously been furnished information relative to the subject based upon their requests for the same:
RECOMMENDATION:

The foregoing is for your information; however, investigation in this matter is continuing and pertinent developments will be brought to your attention.
Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: MR. LADD
FROM: G. H. Scatterday
SUBJECT: DR. ARMAND HAMMER

DATE: January 21, 1952

At 10:30 a.m. the Director called, stating he desired for his use a memorandum of all information in the Bureau files concerning the captioned individual. The Director furnished the following background information: Hammer is from New York City, has companies in various parts of the United States, and also has an art gallery in New York City.

ACTION: [redacted] was telephonically advised of the request. He advised that Hammer is the subject of an active espionage case and, therefore, I requested to prepare the requested summary. A tickler copy of this memorandum is being directed to [redacted].

GHS: [redacted]

FEB 27 1952

RECORDED: 29 FEB 20 1952

[Redacted]