Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

June 9. 1945

Tom C. Clark, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division

TCC:SCE:lr

RITA LQUISA ZUCCA; TRUASON. 146-20-MW

The following item appeared in the June 7, 1945, issue of The Washington Daily News:

AXIS SALLY UNIXED

Rome, June 7-- Allied Headquarters announced today the arrest in Turin of "Axis Sally," whose honeyed voice dripped propaganda poison into the ears of radio listeners during the war in the Mediterranean. She is Rita Louisa Zucca, 33, born in New York City. Her father operates a restaurant on 49th-st, officials said.

Please furnish the Criminal Division with any information you may have in your files relative to this subject.

It is presumed that your representative in Rome has initiated an investigation relative to the activities of this person and to ascertain whether she may have expatriated herself. It is desired also that you ascertain whether the military authorities contemplate any action against this subject, in view of the statement in the above news item that she had been placed under arrest.

The Washington Daily News -June 7, 1945

146-28-1833 PREIMENT OF JUSTICE

JUN 0 145

OKO YANSUU

cc: Records Miss Healy Mr. Ely Mr. Elliff

'Axis Sally' Seized

ROME, June 7—Allied Headquarters announced today the arrest in Turin of "Axis Sally," whose honeyed voice dripped propaganda poison into the ears of radio listeners during the war in the Mediterranean. She is Rita Louisa Zucca, 33, born in New York City. Her father operates a restaurant on 49th-st, officials said.

TLC:DBA:lr

146-28-1833

October 2, 1946

HOLLIE

Colonel Damon M. Gunn War Crimes Branch Civil Affairs Division War Department Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Colonel Gunns

Res Rita Louise Zucca

As you will recall, on September 30, 1946, you telephonically requested Mr. Donald Anderson of this Department to inform you whether or not Rita Zucca was wanted by the Department of Justice in connection with a charge of treason. You stated that she was being released by the Italian Government at that time.

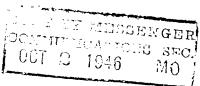
Mr. Anderson advised you that we did not desire her to be held for us and we are writing you, in compliance with your request, to confirm the fact that we do not desire her held in connection with a possible treason violation. While Rita Zucca was fermerly a citizen of the United States, she renounced her American citizenship on June 9, 1941, and acquired Italian citizenship on June 27, 1941. Her activities thereafter in Italy would not constitute treason against the United States.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

THERON L. CAUDLE, Assistant Attorney General

CC: Records Chromo. Mr. Anderson



Da

Office Memorandum • United States Government

N. T. Elliff

DATE: March 22, 1946

Donald Anderson

TLC:DA:AK 146-7-51-1708

SUBJECT:

Mildred Elizabeth Gillars

Treason

As you know, the above named subject has been captured in Berlin according to news reports. For your further information, a brief summary of the facts obtainable from a review of the file is hereinafter set out.

Subject was born at Portland, Maine, on November 29, 1909 (September 21, 1909, appears as her birthdate in another place in the file). Her father was born in the United States and her mother in Canada. Subject was a figure model in New York City for several years. In 1929 she went to France to study. In 1933-4 she lived in Algeria. From 1934 to date she has resided in Germany where she was employed at one time as a secretary to Brigette Horney, a German film actress. She has also been employed at the Berlitz School of Languages in Berlin.

She was a close associate of principal character in an espionage trial in England sometime before the war. She is alleged to have made pro-Nazi propaganda broadcasts from Berlin during the war. However, the file fails to disclose any competent witness to prove her activities. The Department attorneys now in Europe no doubt have secured additional information relative to her.

The last validation of subject's American passport was in May, 1940. The file does not disclose any fact indicating expatriation.

Attached is a clipping from the Washington Evening Star of March 21, 1946, pertaining to this case.

Treason Trial in U. S.

BERLIN, Mar. 21.-Justice Department representatives informed ree will," she said. a woman accused as Berlin's "Axis" to the United States and charged citizen, but that he died not give his name. with treason.

native, identified by American military government officials as Mildred said Gillars, has been under arrest in

whose jeering voice onc was beamed nightly from Berlin. to homesick GIs in North Africa and later in Europe, is spending her time playing casino with her guards and writing a personal account of her adventures.

"Everything I did was of my own

The woman said she came to Ger-Sally" today that she is to be taken many in 1934 to marry a German;

"Had that not happened, I would The 37-year-old Portland, Me. have been a German citizen and ex-

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • United States Government

TO

The File

DATE: June 17, 1946

FROM:

Donald Anderson

DA:DTJ

SUBJECT: Mildred Elizabeth Gillars

146-7-51-1708

Treason



Attached to Mr. Clyde Gooch's letters of April 19, and May 2, 1946, which are fastened together in file number 146-28-237-1, are several statements furnished by various individuals living in Europe. It is noted that these statements contain information pertaining to the above-named subject which is found to commence on the page set out immediately after the prospective witness' name. A list of the prospective witnesses is as follows:

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June 19, 1946

The Hils

Conald Anderson

Herbert John Burgman; onald Satteries Day; "Ildred Elizabeth Billars;

Trederick Milhelm Maltenbach: Trasson

JA:DTJ

146-23-1915 146-28-1328

r. Clyde Gooch's letter to the Attorney General dated Day 25, 1946, waich is in file number 146-28-237-1, contains information cortaining to the above-named individuals muich is set out as follows:

previously mentioned, recall office in Berlin when Berbert John having been in and Frederick Caltenhurgman, Mildred Gillars, bach would come into the office to see for the purpose of obtaining a studio and technician for their recordings. recall having made recordings in Berlin for Burgman, Billars, Kaltenbach, and They cannot recall other persons present with the exception that was present on occasions when Cillars and Burgman were making recordings.

a former technician of the Berlin short wave radio sho is now employed at was interviewed and; recalls having been present with the following persons when Burgman made a recording:

You will recall that each of these persons has stated that she also being present. also recalls having acted as technician for Mildred Millars when the above-named technicians and also ware present. Such of them has stated that she remembers having been present with when Mildred Millars made recordings.

was employed by the German Hundfunk throughout the antire period of the war as

It was part of duties to arrange for the making of recordings by the various commentators who were employed by the: and to keep a record of the amount of work that they nad done so they would be properly compensated. 1/4/200

States Zone of the radio in approximately Ceptember of 1944 at the instigation of the German foreign Office. Se helped to recruit as a commentator and/ had direct personal contact with

cc: Records - ___ Chron.

the commentators who were working in Barlin and Koenigswisternausan. He was responsible for the political substance of their commentaries and it was a part of his duty to examine them and suggest appropriate modifications before they were broadcast.

Inst Chandler about the end of 1744, at which time Chandler made a trip to Barlin to consult with radio officials, and is able to testify as a witness to overt acts by way, Maltenbach, Burgman, Chandler, Gillars, and Lonty. He received transcriptions of Best's broadcasts and to a certain extent edited them before their use.

is intelligent, makes a good appearance, speaks perfect American ambien, expresses himself well, is cooperative in his attitude, and would make a very good witness.

and worked in close cooperation with the heads of the United States Zone and the American commentators. He enjoyed the special confidence of the heads of the German foreign broadcasting service and was frequently in attendance at conferences on matters affecting the radio in the office of Dr. Roebbels and other high-ranking propagands officials. He is able to describe in detail the organization of the German radio and its connection with the Propaganda Ministry and the Foreign Office. He can also testify as to the activities of individual commentators connected with the United States Zone. He speaks perfect English, is intelligent, expresses himself well, has a good memory, and as a witness would make a favorable impression.

United States Zone of the German short wave radio. He was responsible for the translation into inglish of news items and the preparation of a master of commentaries which he wrote himself. He was in frequent contact with the various commentators who worked in the United States Zone. In 1943 he helped to set up a special transmitter in Italy which broadcast to American troops in Africa, and in 1944, after leaving the Rundfunk and becoming a soldier in a propaganda company of the schrmacht, he was active in various battle transmitters (kampfsender). He is able to testify as to the organization and operation of these kampfsenders and as to the use by the kampfsender of programs prepared by the United States Zone of the short wave

Ed 6

radio.

was employed in the office of the need of the United States Referst she is able to testify as to occasional visits of American commentators to the Poreign Office to discuss with the head of the United States Referst or to obtain material of special interest to them. The is also able to testify as to the selection and compiling of Material my the Poreign Office for the use of the commentators in the Enited tates done of the short wave radio.

I number of other persons have been interviewed who are able to give information along these same lines concerning the activities of particular prospective defendants. Each of the prospective witnesses mentioned in this letter has expressed his willingness to no to the United States and testify in these cases, if necessary, each would make a good witness with the possible exception of who is recalcitrant and whose appearance is rather unattractive. He was in the Mehrmacht and was a member of the Hazi Party, and his mother is about to be tried by the Germans in their denasification program.

46

It is our view that the activities of the principal broadcasters, with the exception of ______ can be established by the persons who have now been interviewed. It appears desirable, however, to locate, if possible, and interrogate a few important officials of the short wave radio, including

It is believed that these individuals are somewhere in southern Germany, and Mr. aberheids is making an effort to find them. Heantime, after a few matters are disposed of in frankfurt, Mr. Ely and I will proceed to faris for the purpose of developing facts against

The documentary evidence secured from the Berlin radio station was not found to be of particular value, although a number of recordings by Eurgman and a few by Chandler were turned over to us and will be forwarded to the Department in the near future. As have had no opportunity to ascertain the content of these recordings. Very few original manuscripts were found and it is probable that we shall have to rely upon the Federal Communications Commission transcripts for the most part to prove the contents of the broadcasts.

when two or more witnesses were present, one with another, it is so stated in this letter. Often it was not possible for them to discuss the situation due to distance and time. Their memories will improve when they are placed together.

Ed 6 10

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • United States Government

: The File

DATE: July 12, 1946

: Samuel C. Ely DCK

SCE:DTJ

SUBJECT: Mildred Elizabeth Gillars Treason

Treason

According to a memorandum dated April 8, 1946, by (our file number 146-28-1891) furnished the following information concerning the above-named subject:

> GILLARS, Wildred Elizabeth - sex female, place of birth assumed USA, age approx. 35, hair black, eyes dark, build slim, weight approx. 60 kilos. height approx. 1.60m, speaks good German, and looks older than she is. She worked as "Midge" reading prisoner of war greetings to American prisoners in German camps and writing up musical programs. She sympathized to a certain extent with National Socialism.

> > a de

August 14, 1946

The Director, Federal Dureau of Investigation

Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division
Mildred Elizabeth Gillars, with aliases;
Enarles Vieth Sittler;
Frederick Wilhelm Kaltenbach;
Treason

TLC:DA:JTJ 146-7-51-1708



E46 7c Reference is made to your memorandum dated August 5, 1946, regarding the disposition to be made of Millars, Sittler who, according to your memorandum, are in the custody of the Army. Your memorandum also requests advice as to what disposition should be made of Frederick Wilhelm Maltenbach should the Russians turn him over to the Americans.

On June 6, 1946, the Department of Justice advised Colonel R. D. Stevens, Counter Intelligence Branch of the Army, that we desired Mildred Elizabeth Gillars, Frederick Milhelm Maltenbach and a few others held for us in connection with treason cases. According to a news release dated July 20, 1946, at Berlin, Germany, and appearing in local papers, the Mussians informed U. S. Army Headquarters that Maltenbach died last October in a Soviet detention camp. Should you have information to the contrary we would appreciate being advised as we desire Maltenbach held for us should he be living.

We also advised Colonel Stevens on June 6, 1946, that Charles Vieth Sittler and several other individuals need not be held in custody for us, but we requested that they be required to report to the Counter Intelligence Corps at intervals in order that their whereabouts at all times would be known.

n19

cc: Records - Chron.
Mr. Anderson

tern te de des GWISHOR ()

lugust 20, 1946

The File

Conald Anderson

Hobert Henry Best; Herbert John Burgman; Douglas Chandler; Donald Bay; Hildred Elizabeth Cillars; ...:JTJ

146-28-243 146-28-1915 146-28-232 146-28-1328 146-7-51-1708

146-7-51-1708 - ___

146-48-2033

Treason

In August 15, 1946, Miss Cleanor Sontedou, Sar Separtment telephone extension 71201, contacted the writer and stated that the military officials in surope had contacted her office to ascertain the approximate time the above-named individuals would be returned to the United States. The also stated that the reason the military officials desired this information was that they wanted to decide whether or not to transfer some of the above-named individuals to other places of detention, or if they were to be kept but a miort time longer, they may keep them where they are at the present time.

The writer advised Miss Bontacou that some of these individuals would probably be returned to the United States about the middle of September but that he could not assure her all of them would be returned at that time. Hiss Bontacou stated she thought that would be sufficient information for the present.

HOLEE

decords - ---

cc: Chron.

Mr. Anderson

Hr. Ancerson

12

70 05, Harry R. Sheppard Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We, the veterans employed by the Pioneer Title Insurance and Trust Company, are writing you on a matter that is of the gravest importance to the veterans of World War No. II.

No doubt you have heard of Axis Sally and the broadcasts she made to men in the European theater of operations. Last night, by radio, Walter Winchell made a statement on his program that all veterans of World War No. II should contact, either by letter or postal card, the Immigration Department in Washington, stating that they do not want Axis Sally to be granted admission to the United States of America. We veterans feel she relinquished her right of citizenship when she went to Germany to broadcast propaganda. We wish to say at this time that some of the things that she said to the soldiers overseas caused their morale to go down to the lowest level.

We, the undersigned, request that you carry this to the proper authorities for us.

Yours very truly,

VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II

46

The last terms of the last ter

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46

Hon. Tom Clark: Attorney General Washington, D.C.

JAN 27 GA

Hon. Sir:-

Sally" isn'

If this "Axis Sally" isn't prosecuted to the limits of the law, and punished as she deserves, then surely those American Soldiers who went to their graves, directly and indirectly through her propaganda during the war, shall haunt us through our living days.

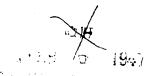
She certainly is guilty of TREASON, and even now shows no repentance, surely she has a demented mind.

For the honor of our country, and in justice to those who have given their all, it is the duty of your office to presecute such traitors.

With the full knowledge that you will do the right thing, and wishing you success, I am,

Very respectfully Yours.





AXIŞ SALLY SEIZED

FRANKFORT ON THE MAIN, Germany, Jan. 22 (A) — Mildred Gillars, the "Axis Sally" who broadcast over the German radio during the war, was re-arrested here today on orders of the Department of Justice, Army Intelligence officers said.

gence officers saud.

The 37-year-old American, originally arrested last March on charges of treason, was released on Dec. 24 with two other American propagandists for the Germans. Intelligence officers said they did not know why her rearrest had been ordered. In several interviews during the last month, however, she has expressed strongly anti-Semitic and anti-Communist opinions. In one such unsolicited interview, she said she was still convinced that the views she broadcast to American soldiers were correct.

"I tried to warn America against Communism and Judaism, to show how they were threatening and undermining America," she said in that interview. "All the things I warned against have become actualities. Oh. if only those poor GI's who sacrificed their lives and futures had realized what was going on."

Attorney General Tom Clark said in Washington last week that

Attorney General Tom Clark said in Washington last week that she would be taken into custody and charged with treason if she returned to America.

114

December 20, 1946

Dear Sir:

I am writing to you on the advice of
He thought that perhaps I could
be of some help in the treason trial or Robert Best
and Douglas Chandler.

On March 2nd 1944, I started listening to regular short wave broadcasts from Berlin Germany. I continued listening to their programs until they went off the air in April 1945. During that time I became very familiar with the voices and commentaries of Robert Best who went under the radio heading of "BBB", Best Berlin Broadcast, and the hoof beats and back ground music which characterized the beginning of Douglas Chandler's program, entitled Paul Revere. I also listened regularly to the girl named Midge, who gave medical reports of Americans in German prison camps, and recorded interviews with the prisoners on special holidays, for the benefit of their relatives in this country. I listened regularly to a man who gave his commentaries under the name of the "Nazi Commentator", and to many of their other programs.

On May 13th 1944, I made five recordings of a news cast and short play from Berlin, although none of the above mentioned persons are included, but it has the voices of many of the other people who did broadcast from Berlin.

At the end of each news broadcast, the names of five Americans held in German prison camps were read, along with their serial number, and home address. I have a list of 71 names of people to whom I had sent cards notifying them that a relative's name had been given over the short wave from Berlin. From these people I have received 35 replies, concerning the listing of their relative's names.

If I can be of any assistance to you I am

Respectfully yours,

Stop .

file# 146-7-51-1768 mildred Gillars 16-7-51-1718 Wils TED - 195 115

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WU B4 NL PD

TR NEW YORK NY DEC 30 1946

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

DEPARTMENT OF PROTECTION OF RECORDS

ORINI - INTERMAL SECURITY SEC.

STRONGLY PROTEST DROPPING TREASON CHARGES AGAINST MILDRED GILLARS ALIAS AXIS SALLY AND FELLOW TRAITORS DO NOT ACT SPIRIT MUNICH DEMAND RENEVAL CHARGES AGAINST MILDRED GILLARS DOUGLAS CHANDLER ROBERT BEST AND ALL OTHER FASCIST TRAITORS MEMBERSHIP CHAPTER 34 LOCAL 1 UPWA CIO.

HOLLIE

Dear Sir. In accordance un Profice promise made to The Emerican people by Atty- Sen. Beddle, The following defendants showing be brought to A Me sarliest possible mon Wouglas Chordler JAM 17 1347 Constance Drexel THORIT RO Wildred G. Glears (Oxis Sally") Lonald Day 3 7. L Herbert Budgman 7-51-1705 BECORD some andelson DEPARTMENT AF JUSTICE Fred Kaltenbark DIVISI'N OF RECORDS SEC These defendants treatherously worked against the 4. S. for the enemy + should be brought to & address illigible sex

Jan. 22,1947

Dear Sir

I have just read in the newspapers of the re-arrest of apris Sally. Un Jan 30, 1944 d was taken prisoner by the Germans at anico, day. I was a member of the 1st Ranger Bin. and during the time we fought in fund and sicily and parts of dtaly we heard Sally's troodcosts. Warry a night she rediculed our outfit. and I can prove this with other members of the Ranger's. after being taken present I was taken to a

and her parting is to were (Whet a function of sungestill people we downicaris were.)

Sow if this is not working for the him of the through the submitted over to Was Crims, but of grees throught to the wift people. It was produce the other men who were with me when this midut occured.

the 2-8 Hammerstein. About the second week in March, are bally suit a riset to our camp. I was fund the surgest in the season a thingen property. With July was a thingen property. With July was a thingen property. With July was a thing property. We spoke supplied in the surgest into a thing the cut of speech into a thing the cut of this was told the thing to cut of this was told which was ortained in a sound which was ortained in a sound think.

We refused to allow this the

Dept. of Justice:

Our State Dep't policy: Soft peace for Nazis. Soft soap for Americans.

Also, the Japs, including Tojo and "Axis Sally". Thy not give them their just punyshy punishment? If it was an American up for trial you'd give them the electric chair or hang them for the same offense.

But you're all out for the Japs and Nazis.

DEFARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

FFB 3 047 Washington, D. C.

DIVISION UF RECORD

file UCW

March 18, 1047

I am a veteran having spent considerable time in Europe with the air force. It is with a great deal of pleasure that I ask you to add my name to the list of Americans, like myself, who certainly do not want Axis Sally to ever have an opportunity to return to this country.

I, for one and I'm sure that there are thousands like me, sincerely thank you for your interest in this matter, and I feel sure that with your assistance we'll see that that female Arnold gets a big dose of her own medicine.

Sincerely yours,

(-/-June 1, 1942 Dept. of Justice Washington D.C AH. MR. Tom Clark Dear MR. Clark:
Myself + my family wish to
Know if it is true that "Axis Sally 10 is being allowed to return to the United States +if so-why? Personally we do not like the way you are running the dept. of justice tifthis is another attempt to pull a "fast one" we are interested in knowing the particulars, Maybe you have a "big beart" to short memory. Ours is not guite so their So flexible: Very truly yours.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE JUN 🧶 🛚 1947 DIVISION OF RECORDS UM.-INTERNAL SECURI June 3, 1947.

Dear Sira;

Dam writing to

state that as a citizen

of the U. S. and a former

the S. Army officer & definite

oppose axis Sally

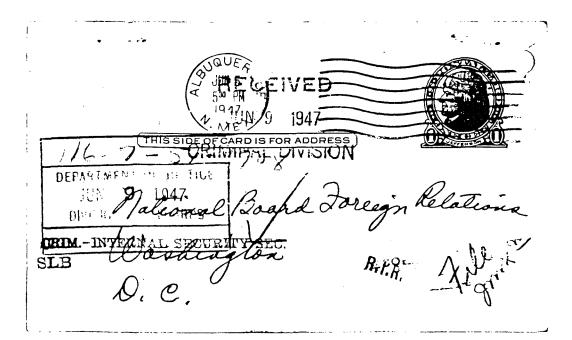
turning to This

United States of

America.

Respectfully yours,

74 6 7C

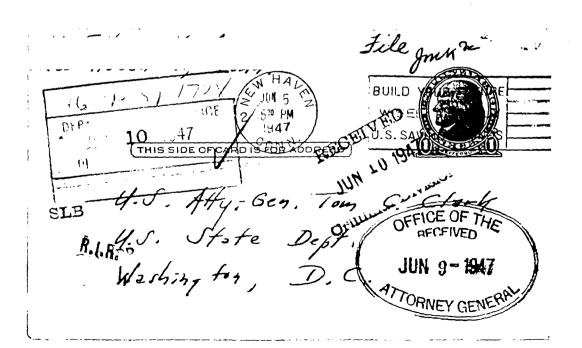


4.5. Atty. -Gen. Tom C. Clary 4.5. Dept. of state Washing for , D.C. Dear Mr. Clary: son in his family, gove up his life for our country in the last war, and his parents have never been themselves since the day they received that topic news. Are you and your friends in the state Dept. going to add soft to the wounds of these parcets and many life them just to make if possible for "Axis Sally" and her find to enjoy what our boys died for?"

ashaned of your dept ought to be.

Yours truly;

W/20



RECEIVED

JUN 9 1947

June 5, 1947.

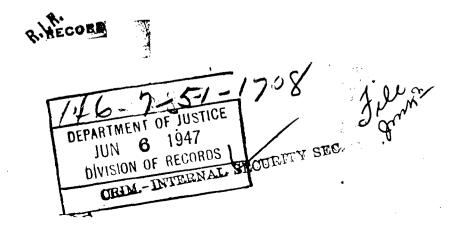
CRIMINAL DIVISION

The United States Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

As a War Veteran of World War No. 2 and having served over a period of 3 years a good part of which was in the fighting zone of Italy, and having heard that a woman who during the war, named Axis Sally, is soon to return to this country. I wish to express my opinion regarding this person. She should be brought to justice for her part in broadcasti for the Axis - and tried for treason.

Yours very truly.



a (9)

TLC:SCE:DTJ

146-7-51-1708

Jamary 21, 1947

This will acknowledge your letter of Jammary 13, 1947, concerning "Axis Sally." I presume that you are referring to Wildred Elizabeth Gillars who was recently released from military custody in Germany.

The contents of your letter have been duly noted and you may rest assured that the matters mentioned by you are receiving proper attention by this Department.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

THERON L. CAUDLE Assistant Attorney General

1, pd

Chron.
Mr. Ely

INSP'TD AND MAILED COMMUNICATIONS SEC. JAN 22 1947 EC





The Honourable Tom C. Clark Attorney General of the U.S United States Dept of Justice Washington 25, D.C.

RECEIVED TO THE GRANT GR

Dear Sir,

Pursuant to a statement broadcast over a nationwide radio network by the wellknown radio commentator and newspaper columnist, Mr. Walter Winchell, on Sunday, January 12, 1947, on or about 9 p.m. EST, regarding an application for re-entry into these United States by the person generally known to veterans as "Axis Sally" during the operations against the enemy in Europe, I, as an hohorably discharged veteran of this past war, most vehemently protest against any consideration given such an application by your department or any division thereof. Any application made by the socalled "Axis Sally" should be summarily rejected and also be stricken from any waiting list consular representatives of the U.S. may maintain for the benefit of legal immigrants to this country, and, this place on any waiting list should be assigned to a more deserving applicant, such as a "Displaced person" or other member of a minority heretofore persecuted.

In addition I most strongly urge you, Sir, as Attorney General of the U.S., to cause an investigation to be made examining the details in this case. If this "Axis Sally"

(1) renounced her american citizenship before the war and before President F.D. Roosevelt declared a national emergency to exist and became a german subject, which is of course legal, then she should be treated as an enemy and by agreements reached with other american countries, should be denied entry into the western hemisphere, or

(2) if she retained her citizenship then she should be prosecuted and tried under the federal statutes governing treason along with other renegades now in U.S. custody.

To paraphrase Mr. Winchell's comment, there are too many men buried under crosses and stars to let her get away with it.

In bringing this to your attention, Sir, I have the honor of remaining

Nost respectfully yours

1-29-46

JAN 15 47

7.

A TOP

STANDARD FOF NO. 64

Office Memorandum . United STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Caudle

DATE: January 23, 1947

FROM :

N. T. Elliff

NTE:SCE:DTJ

SUBJECT: Mildred Elizabeth Gillars

146-7-51-1708

E.L.A

Treason

TLC

The activities of Mildred Elizabeth Gillars for the German Radio during the time the United States was at war with Germany can be briefly summarized as follows:

Prior to the Fall of 1943, Miss Gillars participated primarily in programs beamed to the British Isles. Her duties were those of an announcer introducing programs and an actress in dramatic and cabaret broadcasts.

In the latter part of 1942 or the early part of 1943, she participated in occasional special broadcasts made by the USA Zone and as time went on greater demands were made for her services by the USA Zone. In September 1943, after Dr. Otto Koischwitz of the Foreign Office had been placed in charge of the USA Zone of the Shortwave Radio he requested that Miss Gillars be transferred to its staff. Miss Gillars continued as a broadcaster for the USA Zone until the German collapse in the Spring of 1945.

Programs which Gillars participated in which were beamed either to the United States or to the American Forces in the Mediteranean area include the following:

- l. Club of Notions, Smiling Through, Home Sweet Home. This series of broadcasts were cabaret programs. The series originated before the war and were continued into 1943. After the landing of American troops in Africa they were beamed to Africa as well as to the British Isles, America, South Africa and Australia. These broadcasts were made once a week. The dialogue consisted for the most part of jokes and parodies, often with some political implications. Miss Gillars was not one of the authors of the text of the broadcasts but merely read dialogue written by someone else.
- 2. Alice in Wonderland. A series of 10 broadcasts of satrical political dialogue concerning Russia. Miss Gillars had no responsibility for the text of the broadcasts but merely read lines written by another person.
- 3. Morocco broadcasts. This broadcast consisted of recorded music interspersed with light and serious comments for the entertainment of American troops in North Africa, Sicily and Italy. Miss Gillars generally spoke without a manuscript into the microphone and it may be inferred that the thoughts

expressed were for the most part her own. The program was conceived and planned by Dr. Koischwitz of the Foreign Office who supervised it rather closely for sometime but later Gillars carried on the program almost without supervision. The sericus portions of Miss Gillars' talks on this program consisted of remarks of an anti-Semitic and anti-Communist nature and statements to the American soldiers that Germany was struggling to save Europe from the domination of the Communists and the Americans were fighting on the wrong side.

4. Life and Fashions in Europe's Capitals. Tiss Gillars made announcements and read dialogue on this series of broadcasts which dealt with cultural topics. She was not responsible for the text of the broadcasts. The purpose of these broadcasts was to show that cultural activities were being conducted in as normal fashion as possible in the German occupied sectors of Europe.

5. Prisoner of War Greetings.

- a. Direct broadcasts from Prisoner of War Camps. Miss Gillars visited camps in which American prisoners of war were interned and made recordings of greetings from American prisoners of war to their families in the United States. The American prisoners of war spoke voluntarily into a microphone in the presence of Miss Gillars. Miss Gillars introduced the speaker and occasionally made some comments concerning the war. Miss Gillars has denied, and there is no evidence to indicate that recordings were made using a concealed microphone and without the knowledge of the war prisoners. This series of broadcasts started in November 1943 and continued at least through 1944.
- b. Reading messages written by the prisoners of war. The German military authorities informed American prisoners of war that if they desired to communicate with their families they could write a message on a prepared form and the message would be read over the shortwave radio to the United States. Some of these messages were read by Gillars who would intersperse comments of her own concerning the horrors of war and the human misery caused by it. A number of other women employed by the German radio likewise read these messages.
- 6. Dramatic plays. It may be noted that the dramatic broadcast in which Gillars participated, which is most universally remembered by her former assistants in the radio, was a play written by Dr. Koischwitz shortly prior to the Allied invasion of the French coast. The play concerned the reaction of an American mother who dreamed that she saw her soldier son approaching the coast of France on an invasion barge and saw him drown after the barge was sunk in the landing attempt. Gillars played the role of the American mother and gave such a dramatic performance that allegedly

the entire audience and Gillars herself were literally overcome with emotion.

In the latter part of 1944 an American prisoner of war named came to work for the USA Zone of the German Radio and Miss Gillars was asked to make some broadcasts from prisoner of war camps with him. She refused to do so and when the radio authorities persisted in their request she resigned, stating that — was either a traitor or a spy and she refused to work with either. Miss Gillars did not resume her work until approximately two months later when — had left the USA Zone.

Following the German collapse, Miss Gillars obtained false papers from Mans Fritsche, head of the Propaganda Ministry, who was later tried and acquitted at Murnberg. She used these false papers to conceal her true identity and traveled throughout all Germany until her apprehension in Berlin in the Spring of 1946.

It should be noted that in the late Winter of 1943 a series of broadcasts were instituted from a German controlled station in Italy. One of the principal personalities in these broadcasts was a girl who was known by the name of "Sally," her true name being Rita Louise Zucca. Apparently there has been considerable confusion on the part of American soldiers who heard the broadcasts from Germany and Italy as to the identity of "Axis Sally." Many statements which have been attributed to "Axis Sally" were apparently not broadcast by Miss Gillars. (Zucca, an Italian national, was prosecuted by the Italian authorities and convicted on a charge of collaboration with the Germans. It is reported that she has since been released on parole.)

Miss Gillars' attitude is that she has never been disloyal to the United States, that she was doing a favor to the American soldiers and their families broadcasting the soldiers' messages back home, and she still is firmly convinced that the Jews were responsible for the war and that Germany in fighting against Russia was right and that America in fighting as an ally of Russia against Germany was wrong.

It may be worthy of notice also that Miss Gillars' career prior to her commencing the series of Morocco broadcasts in January 1943 manifested no particular awareness or interest in political problems. Her career had been that of a not too successful vaudeville performer in the United States and a fairly successful radio actress and announcer in Germany. Miss Gillars developed a very close relationship with Dr. Otto Koischwitz of the German Foreign Office and it appears that she may have acquired from him most of the ideas of a political nature which she included in her broadcasts.

With regard to the question of Miss Gillars' patriotism to the United States, her desire for German victory and her interest in political matters, the following statements by other employees of the German Radio Station may be worthy of note:

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- 1. "She is a very artistically inclined person and disliked any contact with political matters." ---
- 2. "She had a particularly upright character. I do not know whether she relinquished her American citizenship. She always manifested a high regard and love for the United States and I have never heard her speak unfavorably regarding America. This mental attitude was particularly manifested by her deep and genuine indignation concerning the deserter
- 3. "She was actuated by pacifist motives and impressed me as being deeply attached to the American people. Her activities were certainly never motivated by financial or other material considerations. She was a most independent character of unusual courage."
- 4. "All of her programs followed more or less the same pattern of talking directly to American soldiers trying to get them homesick and dissatisfied in general. She once tried to inject political remarks ('Why are you fighting this war anyway?') but Koischwitz discouraged this practice as being out of place in this type of broadcast, and so it was given up." —— From information given to a

Miss Gillars executed a signed statement on April 13, 1946, at Berlin, Germany, in which she admitted her broadcasting activities as set out above. The statement is written in a rather dramatic and emotional tone.

Miss Gillars was interrogated by on April 2 and 3, 1946, and a transcript of the questions and answers were made. During the interrogation she stated that in her prisoner of war messages broadcasts she "didn't leave much unsaid about the Jewish promoters of the war." In response to a question to the effect that she felt the best thing that could happen would be for Germany to win the war she replied, "It is just complicated. It is a good thing for people to lose in life and I think it is a good thing for nations to lose in life. It is what develops character." In response to an inquiry as to her reasons for broadcasting she replied, "I never considered a war between America and Germany. If it had been a question of Germany's being an enemy invading America, there never would have been a question in my mind. I would certainly have been on America's side. But it was never that kind of war. It was a war between the Gentiles and the Jews." "It was never a war between Germany and America as far as I was concerned." "I was trying to open their eyes to see what they were fighting for. You will see later. I am convinced of being on the right side. It will be only a question of time before others will agree with me."

During the interrogation above mentioned, Miss Gillars was shown several written transcripts purportedly of her broadcast which had



been monitored by the Federal Communications Commission. On several of them she made notations to the effect that she recalled the broad-cast in substance and with the further notations that some statements were not exactly as she made them. The broadcast contained the following statements:

July 27, 1943.

"Good evening women of America. This is Midge speaking. As you know as time goes on I think of you more and more. I can't seem to get you out of my head, you women in America, waiting for the one you love, waiting and weeping in the secrecy of your own room, thinking of the husband, son or brother who is being sacrificed by Franklin D. Roosevelt, perishing on the fringes of Europe.

"Perishing, losing their lives. At best coming back home crippled, useless for the rest of their lives. For whom? For Franklin D. Roosevelt and Churchill and their Jewish Cohetts." (Cohorts?)

"Well, women in America thousands and thousands of your men now going from French North Africa via Sicily to Europe are on their last roundup."

"No the Jews are sending our men over to Europe to fight so that their money bags will get filled."

August 25, 1943.

..."And I'm very happy that I experimented the way I did last night by staying up in my apartment and not going down into the shelter, by proving a way to myself that I am sticking on the German side because the German side is the right side and it is the gentile side. Girls of America don't forget that this is a war of gentiles against Jews. I repeat it, a war of gentiles against the Jews. Wake up and realize in what direction Franklin D. Roosevelt is heading the youth of America."

September 7, 1943.

American mothers and American wives waiting over there in America for the boys they like to come back home and thousands and thousands of these husbands and sons are over on this side of the Atlantic yearning for those they love way back home. And yet it is all these little people who are paying the great price and not Roosevelt who broke his promise to the American nation when he promised the American women that I assure you again, and again and again that

no American boy will sacrificed on foreign battlefield. Yes, Imerican women that was your president and I wonder if you're thinking of him today when you get that little slip of paper saying President Roosevelt regrets that Mrs. John Smith's son has been lost in action.

"Well, if you think the price is not too big, then that's all right. But I'm very, very sorry for you."

October 5, 1943.

..."I told you before it's my firm conviction that in reality, this is no war between Germany and America, in that sense of the word, but a war between the Jews and the Centiles."

October 14, 1943.

..."I'd just like to know if you could count on the fingers of one hand the Jewish boys who are fighting along with you. I doubt it very much. Well, think it over gang and don't forget how many time have I pointed out it's a Jewish war with good honest to God American Gentile blood being shed for it. Do you want to be on that side of the fence. Well I don't kids. Do think it over, will you?"

In conclusion, it is worth noting that Miss Gillars is an emotionally unstable and somewhat hysterical type of individual. She appears to be mentally responsible, but seems to have lack of control over her emotional reactions.

Following is a list of witnesses and a general summary of the facts to which they could testify.

The broadcasting activities of Mildred Gillars, generally speaking, can be established by the testimony of the following witnesses who are familiar with the fact that she was employed as a broadcaster at the German Shortwave madio Station and have knowledge of the types of her programs:

11. Edward V. Sittler, translator and broadcaster, USA zone.

Some of the above-named persons have executed signed statements to the effect that they were present with others when Gillars performed specific acts (although they do not recall specific occasions) which might be construed as evert acts of treason. However, the corroborating witness has in no instance verified his or her presence.

Of the above-named persons, Edward Sittler and are presently in the United States.

At the present time only one specific overt act by Gillars can be proved by two witnesses, and it is indefinite as to date.

a technician, executed a signed statement in which he set forth

that he and the supervising engineer, had been present with filldred Gillars when she was making a broadcast of the Morocco program from a studio in Moenigsmusterhausen sometime after August 1943. He recalls the specific incident because an air raid alarm interrupted her broadcast. This incident is not contained in the signed statement by but he told corally that he recollected the occasion.

A great many technicians and several supervising engineers who worked with Mildred Cillars were interrogated in Germany. They recalled having made recordings for her and in a number of instances two technicians or one technician and a supervising engineer recalled having been together on several occasions and having seen Gillars make recordings; however, they could not recall any specific occasion and it is, therefore, impossible to know whether they are referring to the same occasions. In addition, supervising engineers and a number of technicians recollected having been together on numerous but indefinite occasions when Gillars would report to one of the supervising engineers to obtain a studio and technician in order to make a recording.

It might be possible to allege and sufficiently prove as several overt acts the making of recordings by Gillars or her appearances at the desk of the supervising engineer as above mentioned, on the following theory, even though the witnesses do not recall specific occasions or dates when they were together under such circumstances. In the instances in which the making of a recording would be alleged as the overt act, technician for example, (as well as several other technicians) could testify, according to information previously given by her, that she acted as technician for Gillars on many occasions and that on each and every occasion that she acted in that capacity she could see Gillars speaking into a microphone in the process of making a recording. In other words, she would be testifying generally as to all of the times she acted as Gillars' technician although it is true that she undoubtedly does not specifically recollect each occasion. It would appear that such testimony would establish the fact that saw Gillars each time Gillars made a recording when technician. It would be the testimony of one witness to many overt acts of making recordings by Gillars. As for the second witness, supervising for example, (as well as others) can testify, according engineer to information reviously furnished us by him, that on a number of occasions he had been present with when she was acting as Gillars' technician and at those times he had seen Gillars speaking into a microphone for the purpose of making a recording. This would seem to fulfill the Constitutional requirement for two witnesses to an overt act, even though it could not be definitely stated by the witnesses that they recollected being together on any specific occasion, because under these circumstances would be testifying to one (or more) of the occasions about which had given information in her testimony as to all of the times she acted as technician for Gillars. This same theory could be used to prove some overt acts by Gillars of reporting to the supervising engineer to arrange for making a recording, except that would testify as to all of the times Gillars reported to him and . would testify to only some of them.

If the above theory is sound, (and it cannot be tested, if at all, until the trials of Robert H. Best and Douglas Chandler) several additional overt acts could be charged based upon present knowledge of prospective witnesses' testimony.

It is expected that all but two or three of the persons listed above will be brought to the United States to testify in the forthcoming trials of Robert Henry Best and Douglas Chandler. In that event an opportunity would be had to discuss with all of them the matter of specific incidents which could be used as overt acts in an indictment against Mildred Gillars.

Mr. Caudle

Proof may not be available as to all of the facts set out in the attached memorandum, as, for example, to the contents of her broadcasts.

There is another memorandum now being prepared relative to Gillars, which will set out specifically and in more detail the testimony that each prospective witness may be able to furnish should prosecutive action be taken against Gillars.

Donald Anderson

The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

January 27, 1947

Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney Ceneral

TLC: SCE: DTJ

Mildred Elizabeth Gillars, with alias "Axis Sally"; Treason 146-7-51-1708

This will acknowledge your memorandum of January 15, 1947, advising that the above-named subject plans to return to this country according to reports then currently appearing in the newspapers.

You are advised that Miss Gillars has again been taken into actual custody by United States military authorities in Germany.

pd 7c

It should be ascertained whether Gillars made more than one visit to the prisoners of war camp; whether she was introduced to the prisoners, and particularly to the informant, by her true name; and whether he recalls her exact statements relative to the making of recordings by his and others in the camp, or statements by her of a pro-German or un-American nature. He should be asked to give a physicial description of the subject and of the German professor who accompanied her. In all probability this was Dr. Max Oscar Otto Koischwitz. The names of other persons who were present with the informant on this occasion and who could testify to the incident should be obtained and an effort should be made to interview them as soon as possible. The exact date of the subject's visit to the prisoner of war camp should be determined if possible.

With regard to broadcasts allegedly by the subject which the informant heard prior to his capture by the Germans, it should be determined, as stated above, whether he can identify them as having been made by the subject. The names of other persons who heard the broadcasts while with the informant should be ascertained and they should be interviewed also along the above lines.

cc: Records - Chron.

SENT BY MESSENGER COMMUNICATIONS SEC. It is desired also that sufficient personal information be obtained concerning the informant and others who may be interviewed in order that a determination may be made as to their reliability and credibility.

Enclosure No. 495624

TLC:80E:DEJ 146-7-51-1708

Jamery 27, 1947

AL.S

746 10 Your night letter addressed to the President has referred to this Department.

Your statements have been duly noted. For your farminformation I can state that Mildred Elizabeth Gillars and Day, referred to in your letter, were not uncenditionally reliablished they were released from actual custody it was on emplition that they report periodically. Their whereabents fore, were at all times known by our military authorities. Gillars has again been taken into actual custody.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

THEROM L. CAUDLE Assistant Atterney General

JAN 28 1947
DIVISION OF RECORDS

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PITTSBURGH PENN JAN 5

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

SPENT HUNDREDS DAYS AS INFANTRY SQUAD LEADER 45TH DIVISION
STOP SAW MANY BUDDIES DIE BECAUSE OF TRAITORS LIKE AXIS
SALLY STOP AMAZED AND ENRAGED THAT MCNARNEY RELEASED HER AND
FELLOW TRAITORS LIKE DAY STOP DID WE FIGHT AND DIE IN VAIN?

Ind #1

TLC:SCE:DTJ

146-7-51-1708 P. W.

Jamery 29, 1947

HOLLIE

This will acknowledge your letter of Jammary 23, 1947, relating to the opposition of your Post to the return of "Axis Sally" to the United States.

It is presumed that you are referring to Mildred Elizabeth Gillars who broadcast over the German shortwave radio during the war and was known to many of her listeners under this alias. For your information, I can state that to my knowledge Miss Gillars has made me efforts toward voluntarily returning to the United States. She is presently in the custody of the United States military authorities in Germany.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General



THERON L. CAUDLE Assistant Attorney General

sel.

SIGNED AND MAILED

JAN 30 1947

DIVISION OF RECORDS

cc: Records - _____ Chron. Kr. Kly

124

Miles A. Susrez Post No. 711

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

THE IST AND SED MONDAYS



23 January 1947

Department of Justice Washington, District of Columbia

Dear Sirs:

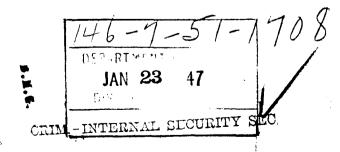
At our last regular Bi-Monthly Meeting of our Veteranson of Foreign Wars Post, it was resolved that the Adjutant should write a letter to the Department of Justice.

The purpost of this letter is to request the Department of Justice to oppose the entrance of the former Axis Sally into this country. Although the music she played to make all our Comrades homesick was very good, she also was either directly or indirectly instrumental in causing many of our Comrades to remain on Foreign Soil. If she is being brought to this country to be tried for Treason then we all say bring her over and convict her, but we cannot enjoy the thought of her being turned loose to enjoy all the freedoms which so many of our Comrades will never enjoy.

We sincerely hope that this letter meets with your approval and that the suggestion is fully considered.

Sincerely yours, Respectfully.

RECORD



SIGNED AND MATLED JAN 30 1947 DIVISION OF RECORDS Chron. Mr. Ely

JAN 20 1947 December 29/94/ Hon. James 7. Byrnes Cha Secretary of Stato 3, 14 Hashington, D. C. Dear Sir, Tonigar U.L. Shirer announced that 20 47 axes Sally was freed and that she continues, to spour Goebel's propoganda line to the Eff that Hetter was right and that the Jews conspired to work with Kussia and Keer the U.S. started the war. If this is true, and I have no reason to doubt the veracity of Mr. Sherin, it is Certainly a travesty on justice to free such an enemy of our people, one who actually an american citizen. I Should like to know whey she was freed and why she is permitted to spoul such treasonable and vicious statements. I cannot end his complaining letter withour american State Department for doing their best to bring peace to our world Herough the M. M. and in every consulate on Earth. New respectfully 146-7-51-1708

Jamuary 31, 1947



46

This is to admowledge your telegram of January 22, 1947, to the Attorney General, regarding the re-arrest of Mildred Elizabeth Gillars by our military authorities in Germany.

The contents of your telegram have been duly noted and you may rest assured that the matters mentioned by you are receiving proper attention by this Department.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

THERON L. CAUDLE Assistant Attorney General

INSP'TD AND MAILLING COMMUNICATIONS SEC. JAN 31 1947 AJ

cc: Records - c Chron. Mr. Ely

H.

Department of Justice round of Justice CRIMINA BURATUM TELEGRAPH OFFICE 1947 JAM 6 : 3n iJAH 23 ATTORNEY GENERAL -BU. OF IMMIGRATION WU R188 129 AND MATURALIZATION NF WASHINGTON DC JAN 22 410PJAH 23 1947 PRESS ROOM DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE () THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM WAS SENT TODAY IN WASHINGTON: HON. TOM CLARK, ATTORNEY GENEAL, UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF (· JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, DC, WORLD WAR 11 VETERANS IN AMVETS HEARTILY APPLAUD YOUR SWIFT AND EFFECTIVE PROTEST OF THE REPORTED ATTEMPT OF MILDRED GILLARS, THE NOTORIOUS "AXIS SALLY", TO RE-ENTER THE (_T UNITED STATES, WHICH CULMINATED TODAY IN HER RE-ARREST BY THE (D· AMERICAN MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN FRANKFORT. ON BEHALF OF AROUSED AMVETS WHO CONSIDER HER FREEDOM AN INSULT TO OUR COMRADES -IN-ARMS (M) BURIED IN THE SOIL SHE TAINTED, WE PETITION YOUR DEPARTMENT TO INSTITUTE TRIAL IN THE UNITED STATES OF "AXIS SALLY" FOR TREASON SO SHE MAY BE DENIED THE CITIZENSHIP SHE SO RUTHLESSLY SATIRIZED. WE CONGRATULATE YOU FOR YOUR FORCEFUL STATEMENT THAT HER yr. RE-ENTRY INTO THE UNITED STATES WOULD WARRANT HER ARREST FOR TREASON •

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Department of Justice Telegram

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NF WASHINGTON DC JAN 22 1947 405P HON TOM CLARK, ATTORNEY GENERAL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WORLD WAR II VETERANS IN AMVETS HEARTILY APPLAUD YOUR SWIFT

AND EFFECTIVE PROTECT OF THE REPORTED ATTEMPT OF MILDRED

GILLARS, THE NOTORIOUS "AXIS SALLY", TO RE-ENTER THE UNITED STATES, WHICH CULMINATED TODAY IN HER RE-ARREST BY THE

AMERICAN MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN FRANKFORT. ON BEHALF OF

AROUSED AMVETS WHO CONSIDER HER FREEDOM AN INSULT TO OUR

COMRADES-IN-ARMS BURIED IN THE SOIL SHE TAINTED, WE PETITION

YOUR DEPARTMENT TO INSTITUTE TRIAL IN THE UNITED STATES OF

"AXIS SALLY" FOR TREASON SO SHE MAY BE DENIED THE

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FOR YOUR FORCEFUL STATEMENT THAT HER RE-ENTRY INTO THE

UNITED STATES WOULD WARRANT HER ARREST FOR TREASON

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A - ADM RESULATION SEC

II.

MON

TLC: VCW:mab

146-7-51-1708 V

February 4, 1947



I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated January 19, 1947, addressed to the lionerable Tom C. Clark, Attorney General.

The views which you have expressed in your letter have been carefully noted. I wish to thank you for your courtesy in communicating with the Department.

Fespectfully,

For the Attorney General

THEROH I. CAUDIE Assistant Attorney General

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INTERNATE ACORDING SOUNT of Justice, Washington, D. L. My dear Mr. Llark: I request that Apia Tally Tildred Tillars)' not be allowed to relater the United States; or if rumors are true that she already las arrived in their country, that she immediately be tried for treason without delay. Americans are sich and tired of the instances of "triumph of treason. And the diminisal, or firing, of true servants of the people like John Rogge What a travesty on truth and justice. Justice, Mr. Attorney-Teneral, is much Imore than a word. A-d, would, we would like to see our "Anti-Trust Division "really crack down on the violators of our Anti-Monopoly Lawa. There really believe in free enterprise, it is high time that the cartele and the "big getting bigger often with government assistance" are brought to second with effective emphasis on follow up or follow through Here truly yours,

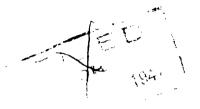


TLC:VCW:mab

146-7-51-1708

L. L.

February 4, 1947



I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated January 22, 1947, addressed to Mr. Ugo Carusi, Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization.

I note your statement that of your post was held a prisoner of war for approximately 22 years in Germany and that "during the entire time of his imprisonment, he had to listen to broadcasts by Axis Sally and knows of his own knowledge of her traitorous comments and exhortations against the United States".

The Department of Justice would greatly appreciate receiving a written statement from referring to any occasions when he may have seen Kiss Kildred Gillars, who sometimes is referred to as "Axis Sally", make recordings of messages from American prisoners of war for broadcast purposes. He should describe and, if possible, identify the persons who accompanied Kiss Gillars on these occasions, name the other American prisoners of war who were present on such occasions and who may have recorded messages or greetings to their families back in the United States to be broadcast over the radio, and describe exactly what transpired at the time that these recordings were made.

Your courtesy in writing to the Department of Justice concerning this matter is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General

cc: Records L

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THERON L. CAUDLE
Assistant Attorney General

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