

May 20, 1947

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: The File
FROM: Donald Anderson, Acting Chief, Internal Security Section
SUBJECT: Mildred Elizabeth Gillars
Treason

DATE: May 20, 1947
DA:DJJ
146-7-51-1708

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TLC

S.L.B.

file
DJJ

On May 13, 1947, [redacted] of the office of Congressman Wilson of Texas, telephonically contacted the writer and inquired whether Mildred Gillars was still in this country. She stated that she had received some letters from constituents pertaining to her case and needed the information in order to reply to these letters.

The writer advised [redacted] that Mildred Gillars is in custody of the Army officials in Europe and that she is not in this country nor has she been since the termination of hostilities in Europe. [redacted] was also advised that the case of Mildred Gillars is being studied by the Department of Justice to determine whether or not prosecutive action is warranted.

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

April 5, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division.

TVQ:JMK:tms

MILDRED ELIZABETH GILLARS, was "AXIS SALLY,"
MILDRED ELIZABETH SISK; TREASON.

146-7-51-1708

R.I.R.

Callahan
C. L. B.

Smith

*R.R.
ive
by
K.R.*

In view of the fact that the instant case will probably be presented to a grand jury in the next thirty to forty-five days, it is deemed desirable that Agents of the Bureau re-interview certain witnesses (former American soldiers taken prisoner by the Germans) and obtain from them a sworn written statement preferably in question and answer form. Each of said prisoners, hereinafter named, was incarcerated in Stalag II B. There are attached hereto six copies of an Exhibit recently furnished to the Bureau in connection with an earlier memorandum herein which explains in detail the methods of operation employed by the subject in visiting prisoner-of-war camps. It is believed that a reading of said Exhibit will be of value to investigating agents when they conduct the re-interviews hereinafter listed. The persons to be interviewed are as follows:

(1)

~~HOOPER~~

(2)

*copy 6
72*

(3)

(4)

(5)

(6)

Mr. John M. Kelley, JR.--Rm. 2315
Records ✓
Chrono.

Enclosure
No. 419948.

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The Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

February 24, 1947

Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney General

TLC:VCW:DTJ

Mildred Elizabeth Gillars
Treason

146-7-51-1708

R.I.B.

S. L. D.

HOFFA

There is transmitted herewith a copy of a letter received from one

relative to his knowledge of an incident when the subject made recordings for broadcast purposes in a prisoner of war camp in Germany.

You are requested to have the informant interviewed immediately for the purpose of obtaining complete details concerning the incident in question.

should be interrogated as to whether Miss Gillars made one visit to whether she was introduced to the informant by her true name; whether he recalls her exact statements relative to the making of recordings by himself and other prisoners in the camp, or statements manifesting her adherence and attachment to the German cause in the war.

should be asked to give a physical description of the subject and of the professor and technicians who accompanied her. In all probability, the "professor" was Dr. Max Oscar Otto Keischwitz and one of the technicians was

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should be asked to identify by name other persons who were present with him in the camp on this occasion and who could corroborate his statements concerning the incident. You are requested to have such persons located and interviewed as soon as possible for the purpose of obtaining corroborating statements. The exact date of the incident in question should be determined as precisely as possible.

You are also requested to obtain sufficient personal information concerning and other individuals who may be interviewed to enable us to determine their credibility and reliability as witnesses.

Enclosure No. 437528

cc: Records -
Chron.
Mr. Woerheide

SIGNED AND SENT BY
MESSENGER
FEB 25 1947
DIVISION OF RECORDS
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C
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P
Y

Feb. 2, 1947

Dear Sir:

During the period of Feb. 17, 1943, until April 23, 1945, I was a prisoner of war in Germany.

While I was confined in a woman came to this camp one day sometime between Sept. 9, 1943, and May 12, 1944, to make a propaganda broadcast. She said her given name was either Midge or Madge and a typical girl. During her stay at the camp, in company with technicians and other men, one of whom was called "Professor," all of whom spoke English very well and who by their own admission to me had lived and worked in the United States, they made records to be broadcast to the United States.

I witnessed the entire affair and am willing to try to identify this woman if she is the called "Axis Sally" and keep her and the likes of her out of this country which we love and they betrayed.

I am sorry that I can't give the exact date of this event, but I am positive it was between the two dates I have given to you above.

If I can be of any further assistance to you please let me know. You may reach me at the above address and I will consider it my duty to do whatever possible.

Yours truly,

Balance

136-7-51-1708
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Honorable William H. Draper, Jr.
Under Secretary of the Army.

1-24

February 9, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division, Department of Justice.
MILDRED ELIZABETH GILLARS, was MILDRED ELIZABETH SISK,
"AXIS SALLY;" TREASON.

TVQ:JMK:tms

146-7-51-1703

SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION BY EUROPEAN COMMAND, COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS

1. Re: Investigation Heretofore Requested

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Your attention is directed to Department of Justice memorandum, entitled as above, dated November 7, 1947, addressed to Honorable W. H. Draper, Jr., Under Secretary of the Army, wherein request was made for certain investigation to be conducted in Germany by the European Command, Counter Intelligence Corps.

JMK
On January 26, 1948, the Department of Justice was notified that the European Command, Counter Intelligence Corps, had located and interviewed one _____ an _____ residing in Germany and that _____ acknowledged having participated with the subject Gillars in several "Home Sweet Home" short-wave broadcasts. It was further reported that _____ had expressed a willingness to come to the U.S.A. and testify to this effect. The foregoing constituted all of the information transmitted concerning the interview with _____ and it is not known whether or not the Counter Intelligence Corps contemplates forwarding a detailed report of said interview. Without detailed knowledge of the specific facts concerning which _____ is prepared to testify, this Department is not in a position to conclude that it would be justified in incurring the expense of bringing him to the U.S.A. Moreover, his value as a witness (insofar as proving an overt act is concerned) is in great measure dependent upon whether or not one or more additional witnesses can be secured to directly corroborate his testimony with respect to a specific broadcast or other treasonable act on the part of subject.

The primary object of seeking witnesses in Germany who were associated with the subject in her broadcasting activities on behalf of the German Short-wave Radio Station is to obtain evidence upon which the government can charge and prove overt acts of treason on her part. As pointed out in our memorandum of November 7, 1947, an overt act must be proved by the testimony of at least two witnesses. Every effort should be made therefore to locate through _____ some other member or members of the orchestra with which he was connected at the time in question who could furnish testimony in support of _____ concerning some particular overt act or overt acts of the subject, e.g., the making of a particular "Home Sweet Home" broadcast (or phonograph recording designed for broadcast). In other words, for purposes of establishing an overt act it would be insufficient to have one witness testify to being present when the subject recorded at certain broadcasts and for another witness to testify concerning a similar yet different broadcast. It will be necessary to interrogate prospective witnesses at length to the end that their recollections may be stimulated by mutual discussion to such an extent as will enable them to testify positively to the same occurrence or event involving treasonable activity on the part of the subject. Unfortunately the government does not possess an audible phonograph recording of any "Home Sweet Home" program in which _____ is known to have been associated. The government is in possession of one such phonograph recording (being

Mr. John M. Kelley, Jr.
Records ✓

Chrono.
Miss Hamlin
Int. Security

NO 2ND
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Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

March 19, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division.

TVQ:JMK:tms

MILDRED ELIZABETH GILLARS, was "AXIS SALLY,"
MILDRED ELIZABETH SISK; TREASON.

146-7-51-1708

V.M.P.

File

Smith

The background of the subject above named and the details of her activities on behalf of the German Short-wave Radio throughout the war have become fully known to the Bureau throughout the course of the investigation heretofore conducted. Briefly summarized they are as follows:

Mildred E. Gillars, a native-born citizen of the United States residing in Germany at the outbreak of the war, secured employment with the Rundfunk, German Government broadcasting agency. Prior to the entry of the United States into the war, her activity was confined primarily to announcing and performing in English language broadcasts beamed to the British Isles. With the entry of the United States, Gillars was periodically used in short-wave programs transmitted to the United States proper and to the armed forces in North Africa. Late in August or early September, 1943, Gillars was transferred from the Berlin European stations to the U.S.A. Zone of the Rundfunk where she broadcast exclusively, in person and by recordings, in English, to the United States and to the armed forces. Except for a break in the latter part of 1944, she was continuously employed in the U.S.A. Zone as program announcer and radio performer.

~~SECRET~~

Throughout the war Miss Gillars participated in a series of broadcasts entitled "Home, Sweet Home," which were beamed to the United States every Thursday. These programs were recorded in Berlin several days in advance of transmission and from January, 1943, until sometime in the early fall of that year each of these programs included several musical selections played by a jazz band known as "Fritz Stahmer and His Merry-Makers." (This name may be spelled "Stahner.")

W

These "Home, Sweet Home" programs, in addition to entertainment supplied by the jazz music, usually contained a short political comment uttered by one of the several commentators collaborating with the Germans (notably Fred Kaltenbach now believed to be deceased) and likewise often contained short humorous skits. Three German actors from time to time appeared in said humorous skits, namely, Ulrich Haupt, and others unknown. It was the custom for the subject Gillars to weave throughout these programs a pattern of subtle and sometimes obvious propaganda directed to United States troops and calculated to instill homesickness, dissatisfaction, worry and concern about their welfare after the war, the danger of being killed or crippled, the fact that Germany was not our enemy, the assertion that Jews were responsible for the war and that England was, in fact, not our friend but desired only to "use" the United States for her own selfish purposes, etc. In addition to the "Home, Sweet Home" programs the subject Gillars occasionally participated in certain radio dramas, which were created for propaganda purposes. As fellow actors in such radio dramas, she was occasionally assisted by the three persons above named, to wit: Haupt, and others unknown.

Mr. Kelley--Rm. 2315, Records, Chrono.

* Record program was prepared for and first beamed to U.S. troops. Chrono: broadcast to the U.S.A. was a "repeat."

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The Government's primary object is to obtain witnesses whose testimony will establish proof of overt acts of treason. It is of the utmost importance that the investigating agents bear in mind at all times that an overt act must be proved by the testimony of at least two witnesses. For purposes of establishing an overt act it would thus be insufficient to have one witness testify to being present when the subject made a certain recording for broadcast and for another witness to testify concerning a similar yet different broadcast. It is evident, therefore, that every prospective witness to an overt act should be thoroughly interrogated as to date, place and time and as to who else was present. Little incidents, seemingly unimportant, frequently serve (merely because of their unusual or odd character) to refresh the recollection concerning the happening of some major occurrence. Often the mere mention of some trivial or secondary matter will spark the recollection and cement the certainty of two witnesses that each were simultaneously witnesses to the primary event or occurrence in question. Since the nature of the subject's broadcasting activities so closely followed a pattern, it is only through the recollection of some perhaps trivial yet odd incident that the memory of two witnesses can be refreshed as to the same occurrence to an absolute certainty and, thus, interrogation in this instance must be especially painstaking and all inclusive.

Among the prospective witnesses through whom the Government hopes to establish a case of treason against the subject and as to whom the Counter Intelligence Corps, in Germany, has been conducting an investigation, is the aforesaid Ulrich Haupt. It was believed that Haupt was residing in Berlin, Germany, but the Department was notified by C.I.C. on March 11, 1948, that Ulrich Haupt presently resides in care of Hoening Hausen, 778 Onderdonk Avenue, Brooklyn, New York. It is not known when or under what circumstances Haupt came to this country. E

It is of the utmost importance that Haupt be contacted at the earliest possible moment and thoroughly interrogated concerning his knowledge of the subject and her activities on behalf of the German Radio during the war. The particulars concerning which it is desired that Haupt be interrogated will appear from a reading of the following data.

In the course of the investigation presently being conducted in the U.S.A., a phonograph recording was obtained from the files of the Federal Communications Commission of a short-wave broadcast beamed from Berlin to the U.S.A. on May 11, 1944. The program referred to consisted of a radio play entitled, "Vision of Invasion." Two written transcriptions of the recording are attached to this memorandum marked ("Exhibit A."). Several persons formerly associated with the German Radio (now in this country as government witnesses in connection with the case of United States v. Robert H. Best) have been interviewed concerning their knowledge of the radio play in question. From these persons

it has been learned that the play was written by Dr. Otto Koischwitz (now deceased) with whom the subject Gillars was closely associated throughout her employment by the German Radio. It is believed that the radio play was recorded on a magnetic band through the facilities of the Drama Department of the German short-wave Radio Station in Berlin in a studio believed to have been located in the Deutschlandhaus, on Adolf Hitlerplatz. It is understood that the play was rehearsed and recorded in the German Short-wave Studios in the early part of May, 1944, and that on the day that the program was recorded the Director (Koischwitz), the cast and certain technicians assembled in the lobby of the Deutschlandhaus where copies of the manuscript were distributed to the members of the cast whereupon, following rehearsal, the cast went directly to the studio (believed to be Room No. 10) where several microphones were located at different places throughout the large studio room.

One of the German witnesses now in this country in connection with the Robert H. Best trial- _____, formerly Assistant Head of the U.S.A. Short-wave Zone, states that he was present in the technicians' room at the time the radio play "Vision of Invasion" was phonographically recorded. _____ was unable to see into the broadcasting studio at the time, however, and thus is unable to state as an eye-witness that the subject Gillars participated in the recording. _____ testimony may be used in this connection, but only in the event that additional witnesses are obtained who can actually testify to having seen Miss Gillars recording at the microphone. To the best of _____ recollection at the time the play was recorded _____ (Head of the German Radio Drama Department), a _____ (Radio Engineer) and a _____ (Sound Effects Man) were present in the studio. Dr. Koischwitz (deceased), who directed the play, is believed to have spoken a few lines in the introductory portion. It is believed that in a minor capacity _____ were present and that each spoke a few lines in the play. _____ in the role of a ship's captain also is believed to have spoken several lines in the play.

The principal roles, however, were played by the subject Gillars, a _____ and a Mr. Ulrich Haupt. Miss Gillars played the part of an American mother ("Evelyn"), residing somewhere in Ohio. _____ played the part of her husband ("Elmer") and Ulrich Haupt played the part of their son ("Alan"), in the role of a soldier who loses his life while participating in the Normandy invasion.

A reading of the attached transcript ("Exhibit A") readily demonstrates that this radio play constitutes a typical example of psychological warfare calculated to instill fear, doubt and dissension among the allies, both civilian and military. It is believed that participation therein on the part of the subject Gillars constituted an overt act of treason and is sufficient to warrant her indictment, provided, that her participation in the play can be established beyond doubt by the testimony of two eye-witnesses. Such witnesses would have to be in a position to testify concerning the nature, purpose and character of the lines spoken by Gillars in the play, the fact that the play was phono-

graphically recorded for transmission by short-wave to the U.S.A., and such witnesses would have to be in agreement concerning the approximate date, time and place where the recording was made. It is believed that both Haupt and [redacted] could all testify to these facts and it is deemed therefore to be of the utmost importance that said persons be located and interrogated as soon as possible. The C.I.C., in Germany, is presently endeavoring to locate Schnell and Ludwig.

[redacted] is described as a widower of German nationality who is presently approximately 70 years of age. He is known to be socially friendly with [redacted]. It is understood that both subsequent to the war, obtained employment as actors at the Renaissance Theatre, Charlottenberg, Berlin, Hardenbergstrasse.

Ulrich Haupt is described as approximately 6 feet in height--husky type, weighing about 185 pounds, dark brown hair and eyes. It is believed that Haupt is married. At one time Haupt worked as an actor with one of the major State Theaters in Berlin (Staatliches Schauspielhaus).

In conducting the interview herein requested it is of extreme importance to establish Haupt's knowledge and recollection concerning the other persons whom he actually observed likewise participating in the recording of the play, with particular attention as to time, date, place, character of participation, the role played and all surrounding details. It is to be noted that in the copy of the written transcription enclosed ("Exhibit A") certain lines are attributed to certain specific actors. It is possible that in some instances this may be erroneous. Haupt should be interrogated concerning his own recollection of who played each role, etc. He should be asked to describe with greatest particularity the physical characteristics and lay-out of the studio in which the play was recorded--the position in the studio occupied by the several actors during the course of the recording, etc.

In addition to the written transcript of the play in question ("Exhibit A") attached hereto, we likewise forward herewith a duplicate phonograph recording of the play. This duplicate recording was dubbed-off from the original Federal Communications Commission recording, now in the custody of the National Archives. It will be found that the phonograph recording is most audible when heard through earphones, rather than through a loud speaker.

In conducting the interview herein requested, it is suggested that Haupt be first thoroughly quizzed on the basis of his present independent recollection and that thereafter when his recollection has been exhausted he be shown the written transcript and listen to the phonograph recording for purposes of refreshment.

The progress of the investigation now going on in Germany is, in some measure, dependent upon our first securing all of the information in Haupt's

possession and it is, therefore, requested that the interview hereinbefore outlined be had at the earliest possible moment. In addition to Haupt's knowledge and recollection of the Radio Play "Vision of Invasion," it is desired that he be exhaustively interrogated concerning his entire knowledge of and acquaintanceship with the subject and all contacts which he had with her of whatever nature throughout the war. It also should be determined whether or not Haupt has any knowledge of the present whereabouts of the other persons who participated in the Radio Play in question.

* * * * *

Independent of the interview hereinbefore requested, it is also desired that the Bureau make inquiries of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in order to determine fully the facts surrounding Haupt's entry into this country, his present status, citizenship, the duration of his permit-of-entry, etc.

It is considered probable that Haupt will be a willing witness for the Government in the prosecution of the subject which is now contemplated, and his attitude in this respect should be determined during the course of his interview. If it should appear that Haupt contemplates departing the United States in the near future, it will be appreciated if that fact is communicated to the Criminal Division immediately, since in such case we would desire to take steps to insure his continued presence here until after the trial.

Attachments:

Brigadier General Hubert D. Hoover,
The Acting Judge Advocate General,
Department of the Army.

February 6, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

TVC:JMK:mas

MILDRED ELIZABETH WILLIAMS, was MILDRED ELIZABETH
RISK, "AXIS SALLY;" TREASON.

446-7-51-1708

SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION BY
EUROPEAN COMMAND, COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS

1. Re: Investigation Heretofore Requested

Your attention is directed to Department of Justice memorandum, entitled as above, dated November 7, 1947, addressed to Honorable W. H. Draper, Jr., Under Secretary of the Army, wherein request was made for certain investigation to be conducted in Germany by the European Command, Counter Intelligence Corps.

On January 26, 1948, the Department of Justice was telephonically informed by the office of Lieutenant Colonel Nicholas R. Voorhis (JAG), that the European Command, Counter Intelligence Corps, had located and interviewed one _____ residing in Germany and that _____ acknowledged having participated with the subject Gillars in several "Home Sweet Home" short-wave broadcasts. It was further reported that _____ had expressed a willingness to come to the U.S.A. and testify to this effect. The foregoing constituted all of the information transmitted concerning the interview with _____ and it is not known whether or not the Counter Intelligence Corps contemplates forwarding a detailed report of said interview.

The primary object of seeking witnesses in Germany who were associated with the subject in her broadcasting activities on behalf of the German Short-Wave Radio Station is to obtain evidence upon which the government can charge and prove overt acts of treason on her part. As pointed out in our memorandum of November 7, 1947, an overt act must be proved by the testimony of at least two witnesses. Every effort should be made therefore to locate through _____ some other member or members of the orchestra with which he was connected at the time in question who could furnish testimony in addition to _____ of some particular overt act or overt acts of the subject, e.g., the making of a particular "Home Sweet Home" broadcast (or phonograph recording designed for broadcast). In other words, for purposes of establishing an overt act it would be insufficient to have one witness testify to being present when the subject recorded at certain broadcasts and for another witness to testify concerning a similar yet different broadcast. It will be necessary to interrogate prospective witnesses at length to the end that their recollections may be stimulated by general discussion to such an extent that will enable them to testify positively to the same occurrence or event involving treasonable activity on the part of the subject. Unfortunately the government does not possess an audible phonograph recording of any "Home Sweet Home" program in which _____ is known to have been associated. The government is in possession of one such phonograph recording (being

Mr. J.M. Kelley, Jr. — Rm. 2315

Records ✓
Chrono.
Miss Hamlin
Int. Security

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a program monitored in the U.S.A. on February 24, 1943, between the hours 22:30-22:45), but the same is of such poor audible quality as to be useless for evidentiary purposes. A written transcript of this broadcast was made, however, at the time the program was monitored and a copy of such transcript is attached hereto marked, "Exhibit A". It is believed possible that if the enclosed transcript should be exhibited to the witness, and to such other musicians formerly associated with him as may be located, the same may serve to refresh their recollection to a point whereby they could testify to having been present on the occasion when the subject made the broadcast in question.

Aside from the particular broadcast last hereinabove referred to, it is believed not improbable that and such other members of his former orchestra, as may be located, may recall some unusual occurrence or event which they can associate with one or more of the subject's broadcasts, which will enable them to testify positively concerning the same overt act on the part of the subject. An ability to understand and speak English, while not conclusive is, of course, a major factor in determining whether or not it is desirable to bring such witnesses to the U.S.A. in connection with the contemplated prosecution and it is requested that the Counter Intelligence Corps in reporting upon its investigation herein include such information as respects each prospective witness.

2. Re: Additional Investigation Desired.

Supplementing our memorandum in the above entitled matter dated November 7, 1947, the following additional investigation is urgently requested. It is believed that if the evidence hereinafter outlined can be obtained there will be an adequate basis upon which to predicate a treason prosecution against the subject. The background of the instant case was set forth in our earlier memorandum.

In the course of the investigation presently being conducted in the U.S.A. a phonograph recording was obtained from the files of the Federal Communications Commission of a short-wave broadcast beamed from Berlin to the U.S.A. on May 11, 1944. The program referred to consisted of a radio play entitled, "Vision of Invasion." A written transcription of the recording is attached to this memorandum marked "Exhibit B." Several persons formerly associated with the German Radio (now in this country as government witnesses in connection with the case of United States v. William H. Best) have been interviewed concerning their knowledge of the radio play in question. From these persons it has been learned that the play was written by Dr. Otto Koischwitz (now deceased) with whom the subject Gillars was closely associated throughout her employment by the German Radio. It is believed that the radio play was recorded on a band through the facilities of the Arma Department of the German Short-Wave Radio Station in Berlin in a studio believed to have been located in the Deutschlandhaus, on Adolph Hitlerplatz. It is understood that the play was rehearsed and recorded in the German Short-Wave Studios in the early part of May, 1944 and that on the day that the program was recorded the Director (Koischwitz), the cast and certain technicians assembled in the lobby of the Deutschlandhaus where copies of the manuscript were distributed to the members of the cast whereupon, following rehearsal, the cast went directly to the studio (believed to be Room No. 10) where several microphones were located at different places throughout the large studio room.

One of the German witnesses now in this country in connection with the William H. West trial— [redacted] formerly Assistant Head of the U.S.A. Short-wave one, states that he was present in the technicians' room at the time the radio play "Vision of Invasion" was phonographically recorded. [redacted] was unable to see into the broadcasting studio at the time, however, and thus is unable to state as an eye witness that the subject Gillars participated in the recording.

[redacted] testimony can be used in this connection, but only in the event that additional witnesses are obtained who can actually testify to having seen Miss Gillars recording at the microp one. To the best of [redacted] recollection at the time the play was recorded [redacted] (Head of the German Radio Drama Department), a [redacted] (Radio Engineer) and a [redacted] (Sound Effects) were present in the studio. [redacted] (deceased), who directed the play, is believed to have spoken a few lines in the introductory portion. It is believed that in a minor capacity [redacted] were present and that [redacted] once spoke a few lines in the play. [redacted] in the role of a ship's captain also is believed to have spoken several lines in the play.

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The principal roles, however, were played by the subject Gillars, a [redacted] Miss Gillars played the part of an American mother ("Evelyn"), residing somewhere in Ohio. [redacted] played the part of her husband ("Elmer") and [redacted] played the part of their son ("Alan"), in the role of a soldier who loses his life while participating in the Normandy invasion.

A reading of the attached transcript (Exhibit "B") readily demonstrates that this radio play constitutes a typical example of psychological warfare calculated to instill fear, doubt and dissension among the allies, both civilian and military. It is believed that participation therein on the part of the subject Gillars constituted an overt act of treason and is sufficient to warrant her indictment, provided, that her participation in the play can be established beyond doubt by the testimony of two eye witnesses. Such witnesses would have to be in a position to testify concerning the nature, purpose and character of the lines spoken by Gillars in the play, the fact that the play was phonographically recorded for transmission by short-wave to the U.S.A., and such witnesses would have to be in agreement concerning the approximate date, time and place where the recording was made. It is believed that both [redacted] could all testify to these facts and it is deemed therefore to be of the utmost importance that said persons be located and interrogated as soon as possible.

[redacted] is described as a widower of German nationality who is presently approximately 70 years of age. He is known to be socially friendly with [redacted]. It is understood that both [redacted] subsequent to the war, obtained employment as actors at the Renaissance Theatre, Charlottenberg, Berlin, Hardenbergstrasse. An inquiry at that source may develop the present address of [redacted] another source from which the present whereabouts of [redacted] may be obtained is [redacted] in the British sector. [redacted] is presently in the United States as a witness

For the government in the Best treason case, it is understood that _____ lives in the British sector in the vicinity of Berlin-Steglitz. It is not improbable that once _____ are located they may be able to furnish the present address of other members of the case whose names have heretofore been set forth, particularly, _____ is described as approximately 6 feet in height—husky type, weighing about 175 pounds, dark brown hair and eyes. It is believed that _____ is carried. At one time _____ worked as an actor with one of the major state theaters in Berlin (Staatliches Schauspielhaus). It has been suggested that _____ who was formerly a director and well known actor connected with the State Theater in Berlin may have resumed his theatrical activities and due to his prominence in the theatrical field it may be possible to locate him. _____ is supposed to have worked as an actor under the direction of _____ and if _____ is still in Berlin it is possible that _____ would know of his whereabouts.

In conducting the interviews herein requested it is of extreme importance in interrogating each witness to establish his or her knowledge and recollection concerning the other persons whom they observed likewise participating in the play, with particular attention as to time, place, character of participation, the role played, their independent recollection of the lines spoken by Gillars and all surrounding details.

3. For Additional Prospective Witnesses

While it is desired that the investigation outlined in paragraphs 1 and 2 above should be considered of primary importance, it is possible that the Counter Intelligence Corps may be able to obtain certain additional witnesses who would be of value to the prosecution in furnishing testimony tending to establish the subject's adherence to the enemy and treasonable intent (aside from testimony relating to specific overt acts of treason). In this connection your attention is directed to a report of

dated April 12, 1946, relating to an interview with one _____ former radio announcer of the Deutsche Wochensender and Radio Luxembourg. The report of _____ reads as follows:

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She was one of the stars in Berlin. _____ had the pleasure of introducing her a couple of times. Gillars spoke extem-

rancously, was a political speaker and had a notable reputation in the studio for her methods of delivery. _____ said they would watch her in the studio slink around the microphone and with her oily voice beamed to the American troops would repeat the promises of President Roosevelt that 'no American soldier would fight on foreign soil' and other similar phrases. As _____ put it, Gillars was known to the Americans as the "Berlin Bastard."

As for the Germans listed in connection with the German broadcasting, _____ gave the following information.

_____ is better known as Sylvia. At present Sylvia is a switchboard operator in Munich. _____ has been working for the Americans for some time. _____ and Sylvia are very good friends. Sylvia knows more about the people in the broadcasting studio than anyone else and has had contact with a view of the people lately. She should be contacted for an abundant source of information.

_____ were fellow announcers but had no idea as to their present whereabouts.

_____ is returning to her home in _____ 14 April 1946 and for further questioning can be reached there. (Address: _____)

In the event that the facilities of the Counter Intelligence Corps permit, it is desired that _____ be contacted and interrogated in detail concerning their knowledge of the subject's activities. Particulars relating to time, place, others present (who may in turn be located and interrogated in an effort to obtain two-witness proof of a particular broadcast) etc., should be obtained with respect to the broadcasts or recordings made by the subject in _____ or _____ presence, and the programs should be identified fully as to content, purpose and to whom directed.

4. Conclusion

As to all prospective witnesses mentioned herein it should be definitely determined whether or not they are willing to come to the U.S.A. and give testimony on behalf of the government. Since it is most urgent that the instant investigation be completed as rapidly as possible, it will be appreciated if transmittal of the foregoing request is expedited to the fullest possible extent.

Counter Intelligence Corps, Frankfurt, Germany, is personally familiar with the scope and purpose of the instant investigation and it is requested that this memorandum be brought to his personal attention. Of the several phases of investiga-

tion herein outlined it is desired that the agent be first locate and interrogate
concerning the radio play "Vision of
vision." In view of the common desire of the Department of the Army and the
Department of Justice, that the case against the above named subject be concluded
at the earliest date possible it is requested that this Department be furnished
with detailed reports of investigation as rapidly as the same are prepared herein
by the S.I.C.

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DATE: March 29, 1948

SUBJECT: MILDRED ELIZABETH GILLARS, was "AXIS SALLY,"
MILDRED ELIZABETH SISK: TREASON. [TVQ:JMK:tms--File 146-7-51-1708.]

Exhibit "A"

MEMORANDUM CONCERNING BACKGROUND OF
THE CASE AND THE THEORY OF PROSECUTION

The subject was born on November 29, 1900, at Portland, Maine. Her true name is Mildred Elizabeth Sisk but since she was about seven years of age (when she adopted the name of her stepfather) she has assumed and has been known by the name of Mildred E. Gillars. The subject was granted a passport in 1929 authorizing travel to France for the purpose of study. She was granted a further passport by American authorities in Algiers on the basis of which she traveled to Germany in 1934. Except for visits of short duration to France and the Netherlands during the war, it is believed that the subject has continued to reside in Germany since 1934. At the conclusion of hostilities the subject, after considerable search, was apprehended in Berlin and has since remained in the custody of military authorities in Germany. It is anticipated that as soon as the instant investigation is completed the subject will be returned to the United States and that proceedings will be instituted wherein she will be charged with treason.

In 1940 the subject became employed by the Reich Radio Broadcasting Corporation, an official agency of the German Government, and at the outset participated primarily in broadcasts to England. Following the entry of the United States into the war, and until the conclusion thereof, the subject was employed on a full-time basis by the Short-wave Division of the German Radio which transmitted programs to the United States and to the A.E.F. stationed in North Africa and Italy. Perhaps the subject's most notorious radio program during the war was the one entitled, "Home Sweet Home." This program was transmitted every Thursday to the A.E.F. in French North Africa and later in Italy. "Home Sweet Home" was a program of one-half hour's duration and consisted of the playing of several popular dance tunes interspersed with humorous skits, political talks and frequent comments by the subject of a propaganda nature in keeping with the official German psychological warfare "line." The remarks which she made to the troops during these programs followed more or less a common pattern. She frequently referred to herself as "a 100 percent American girl," and stated that American soldiers were "on the wrong side of the fence"; that the war was being fought to pull Britain's chestnuts out of the fire; that American troops were serving as cannon fodder for the British; that "this is a Jewish war and good, honest-to-God American blood was being shed for it"; that "hundreds of thousands of American lives are being sacrificed for Franklin D. Roosevelt, Churchill and their Jewish cohorts"; that after the war the Jews would control the economy of the United States and that the veterans, most of whom would be cripples, would have no

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jobs; that she was a pacifist "like all other women except Dorothy Thompson and that ilk," and that "if Miss Thompson was listening in she [Gillars] hoped that she was satisfied with the United States' sacrifices." In the "Home Sweet Home" program the subject interspersed remarks of the foregoing character between jokes and musical selections usually concluding with her customary "surrender" motif "How about it, Kids? You've been holding tight for long enough. No one would blame you for slipping a bit." In her selections of songs for this program the subject would customarily choose dance tunes having a title that could be aptly woven into her remarks by way of emphasizing the loneliness and discomfort of the soldier's life and the recollection of all the good things that they were missing back home. In such comments the subject cleverly exercised all of her powers of bitter-sweet sentiment, nostalgia, insidious intimacy and, above all, the constant, passionate harping on "this Jewish war." It was her especial pleasure to hammer away at the theme that the war was bound to be a long one; that the fate in store for most of the soldiers was to be killed, wounded or taken prisoner; that there was little likelihood that the soldiers' sweethearts would be content to wait out a long war, particularly, since the 4-F's were making tremendous wages while the GI's were slopping in the mud or burning up on the sands of Africa. In all of these broadcasts the subject was referred to either as "Midge," or as "Axis Sally."

Commencing sometime in October 1943 the subject made frequent visits to prisoner-of-war camps in Germany, accompanied by certain radio technicians, and portable phonographic recording equipment. On these visits she would solicit prisoners to speak brief messages into her portable microphone directed to their families in America. The subject would usually gather about her a group of prisoners and call the men to the microphone one by one. She would inquire as to their name, home town, address, etc., would engage in light conversation and would inquire to whom they desired to send the message. She would frequently ask how long the soldier had been a prisoner, when he had been taken prisoner, how long since he had left home, etc., etc. All of this running dialog was recorded on a magnetic film band type of recording machine. The prisoner would usually utter some comforting message to his mother, wife, or sweetheart (e.g., "Hello Mom--I am a prisoner in Germany--doing fine--don't worry--will be home soon."). In this manner the subject, in an afternoon or two, would obtain a film strip of magnetically recorded messages spoken by some fifty or more prisoners. Thereafter, she would return to the Radio Studios and re-record a series of individual programs, each of which was calculated to run from ten to fifteen minutes in transmission time. In recording each installment in such a series of spoken-message programs the subject, using the Studio's facilities, would first deliver a brief introduction describing her visit to the camp, etc., after which she would "feed in" from the film band messages spoken by four or five prisoners whereupon she would deliver some appropriate closing remarks. It was in these introductory and closing remarks (not uttered in the presence of the prisoners but in the privacy of the Radio Studios) that the subject was able to weave in her special brand of propaganda for home front consumption in the U.S.A. Thus, as the result of an occasional visit to a prisoner-of-war camp, the subject, once back in the Studio, was able to make twenty or more

recordings, each of which, including her introductory and closing comment, would constitute a separate evening's program. In other words, each would be a separate installment of a special series of prisoners' message programs, [e.g., one series was entitled "Christmas Bells," of which an installment was transmitted twice a week from November 1943 through January 1944. All of the spoken messages utilized in this series were obtained by the subject during a two-day visit to a prisoner-of-war camp in southern Germany on Hallowe'en, 1943. Other, similar programs were entitled "Easter Bells," "Survivors of the Battle of Brunswick," etc., etc.] When one listens to the phonographic recordings of the subject's prisoner-of-war message programs, (which recordings were made throughout the war by the Federal Communications Commission at a listening post near Washington, D. C.) and notes the pleasant and informal manner that she assumed in conversing with prisoners at the microphone, the dangerously insidious nature of her appeal is obvious. The prisoners' easy response to her quips and familiarities suggests that she would have had little difficulty in securing replies to intelligence data: . . . points which at times she raised casually but immediately and discreetly quashed herself. To what extent, if any, she endeavored in this way to develop information of military value to German Intelligence is unknown and, in any event, her prospective prosecution for treason will not be based directly upon such a foundation.

In order to assist the investigating Agents in conducting a comprehensive interview it is considered advisable to explain briefly the theory of prosecution which has been decided upon in the instant case as respects the subject's activities in visiting prisoner-of-war camps for the purpose of securing spoken messages. The subject's activities as respects her visits to and contacts with American prisoners of war are deemed treasonable in keeping with the following legal theory:

- (a) News of the fate, welfare and whereabouts of American soldiers taken prisoner by the Germans was naturally a matter of major and widespread interest to the people in the United States;
- (b) Broadcasts embodying such news might be considered the best kind of "listener bait" by which the Germans could secure and hold American radio audiences;
- (c) A program built around such "listener bait" would obviously provide an ideal radio vehicle for the dissemination of propaganda, both subtle and direct, expressive of the German psychological warfare "line";
- (d) That psychological warfare line embodied the dissemination of propaganda calculated to:
 - (1) Weaken and destroy confidence in the Administration of the Government of the United States;

- (2) Weaken civilian support of the war effort;
 - (3) Destroy faith and good will among the Allies;
 - (4) Counteract hatred toward Germany and stimulate a feeling of brotherhood and friendliness on the part of the American people for the Germans; and
 - (5) Engender doubt concerning the righteousness of the allied cause and their ability to win the war.
- (e) The essential elements of such propaganda involved the constantly repeated assertion that the war was taking a horrible toll of American prisoners; that German prison officials, doctors, nurses, etc., were kindly disposed toward Americans and were doing everything possible for the welfare of American prisoners; that the number of cripples and amputees among American fliers and paratroopers was necessarily enormous due to the great danger associated with aerial warfare; that American fliers—on the orders of Roosevelt—were deliberately machine-gunning German civilians and bombing churches and other cultural establishments; that American troops were being utilized as cannon fodder for the British; that the horrors of their war experiences would leave an indelible mark on the minds of combat troops; that Franklin D. Roosevelt broke faith with the American people, having promised them that "No American boys will be sacrificed on foreign soil," etc.; that American prisoners, almost to a man, agreed that they would never fight another war; that the prisoners who survived the war—most of whom were "human wrecks"—would be unable to secure or hold decent jobs in civilian life and, the point most of all reiterated, that the German side was the "right" side and that America should "wake up" and "get on the right side of the fence."
- (f) It is evident that the subject gave frequent voice to the elements of propaganda enumerated above and that she did so in the capacity of a paid collaborator and employee of the German Reich during the war between that country and the United States.
- (g) The subject willingly gave voice to such propaganda in the course of her introductory and closing remarks made in connection with programs built around spoken messages from prisoners of war to their families in the U.S.A.

As a theory of prosecution it follows that the act of visiting prisoner-of-war camps and soliciting and persuading prisoners to record messages was a basic and necessary step in the preparation and transmission of a propaganda radio program and that proof thereof would establish the commission of an "overt act" of treason on the part of the subject.

The particular acts of the subject with which this memorandum is concerned relate to her visits to POW transit camps and war hospitals located in France, shortly following the invasion of Normandy, at which times she recorded spoken prisoners' messages which were later incorporated into a series of programs entitled "Survivors of the Invasion Front." These visits were evidently made very soon after the invasion, probably in June or early July 1944. The transit camps and hospitals were located "somewhere not far from Paris." The first program in this series was transmitted by short-wave to the U.S.A. on the night of August 1, 1944. Subsequent installments of this series (including "repeat" transmissions of some installments) were, thereafter, transmitted on Tuesday, and Friday nights until sometime in October when the series was concluded.

F.C.C. recordings of several installments in this series are sufficiently clear and audible to be used in court as evidence and it is, therefore, believed that in the event the prisoners speaking on said programs can be located and that their testimony proves suitable, the subject's activities in soliciting and obtaining these particular spoken messages can be successfully pleaded as overt acts of treason.

The law relating to prosecution for treason is highly technical and proof in such cases is consequently difficult and complicated. The Constitution (Article III, Section 3) provides:

"Treason against the United States, shall consist * * * in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act * * * *."

Thus, in developing the evidence to which this memorandum relates it is of paramount importance to insure that the two or more witnesses (former prisoners who recorded messages at the behest of the subject in the "Survivors of the Invasion Front" series) whose testimony is desired are able beyond all question to testify to the same act on the part of the subject. For example, it is to be doubted that the constitutional requirement would be met if "POW JONES" testified that at the solicitation of the subject he recorded a message in a POW barracks sometime in June 1944 and "POW SMITH" testified to a similar experience in a war hospital at about the same time, even though the testimony of both related to an identical kind of activity on the part of the subject.

In order, therefore, for such testimony to be of value to the prosecution for the purpose of establishing an overt act of treason each former POW interrogated in connection with this aspect of the investigation must be able

to relate the details of his encounter with the subject at the microphone and also to name one or more actual eye-witnesses to his own experience. Said eye-witnesses must, in turn, be able to fully corroborate such testimony as to time, place and the details of the event.

For the complete information of investigating Agents, the Government is in possession of F.C.C. recordings of six separate installments of the series entitled "Survivors of the Invasion Front." These may be summarized as follows:

Installment I

- (a) Date and hour of transmission: August 23, 1944,
00:15 o'clock, EWT
- (b) Names of American prisoners whose messages were included in this installment:

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- (c) Nature of propaganda delivered by the subject in connection with her introductory and concluding remarks as to this installment.

Introductory comment: "Hello, America! This is Midge speaking . . . and presenting now some of the survivors of the Invasion Front. I'm very happy to be able to present these boys to you tonight. I can just imagine how very much . . . especially at this time . . . you are missing them . . . wondering with all your hearts what has happened to them. And they are particularly happy to be able to have this opportunity to relieve your minds as

much as it is possible. First of all tonight, of Cleveland, Ohio, is going to speak to you. Then calling his wife in Providence, R. I., who hopes his little boy won't beat him up too much when he gets home. with a message for as well as one for his grandmother in Ontario, California. Mr. and with a loving message for his wife in Chicago, Illinois. Well, if you're listening in tonight, I did happen to see a picture you know. Your husband had it in his pocket * * * * he pulled it out and showed me the little picture of your 18-months-old little baby, and I know just how much you must be missing this very sweet husband of yours. Well, he's missing you too with all his heart and he's carrying you around in his little pocket right over his heart. Well, I hope you'll appreciate a little bit just through how much hell he's been . . . How hard it was for him . . . because * * * * captured it must have been a great, great sacrifice and of course for you too. All right, now, folks stand by for these voices . . . "Survivors of the Invasion Front" . . . speaking to America."

Closing comment: "Well, if you're listening in at the moment I should just like to add one little word. If you, could only have looked at your husband's face when he was talking to me about you and little Ernest, I think it would well maybe broken your heart. So be awfully good to . . . you . . . him when he gets back to you. He'll need a lot of tenderness as will all of these American boys who've gone through such pandemonium which I think no American is capable of realizing. They were simply shipped over to Europe. The British pushed them into the front firing lines, and let them be the cannon fodder as usual. Well, folks, so these were spoken messages for Cleveland, Ohio, Providence, R. I., Leland, Mississippi, Ontario, California, Woodstock, N. Y., and Chicago, Illinois. Watch out now for the announcement which will be given you regularly by the program announcer and keep in touch with these special broadcasts - "Survivors of the Invasion Front"-- This is Midge signing off. Goodnight, America!"

Installment II

- (a) Date and hour of transmission: September 12, 1944
21:15 o'clock, E.W.T.

- (b) Names of American prisoners whose messages were included in this installment:

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- (c) Nature of propaganda delivered by the subject in connection with her introductory and concluding remarks as to this installment.

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Introductory comment: "Hello America! This is Midge calling you once again with voices of some of the survivors of the invasion. Well, folks, you see, most of the time I'm traveling around in particularly dangerous territory and in that case I'm obliged to take a portable recording machine along with me because I can't * * * * roads with the big recording truck, you see. I just want to explain to you the reason that some of the voices are not quite so clear as I should like to have them. In any case I'm sure that the names * * * * come across to you quite clearly so that anyhow you know they're living. You don't have to go through the torture of weeks and months of waiting 'till you finally get the definite word, not only that they're not missing in action, but that they are * * * *. And so tonight four of these survivors of the Invasion Front are of Scranton, Pennsylvania, calling his mother in that town as well as his girl friend Pauline in [Perwensville], */ Pennsylvania, with a few words for Terre Haute, Indiana, of Yonkers, New York, calling his wife and baby, his mother and family and telling you how lucky he feels to be alive in a prisoner of war camp and then finally, speaking a few words to Henderson, Texas. Well folks, here they are these boys who were lucky enough to have survived. . . . the Invasion Front"

*/ phonetic.

Closing comment: "Well folks, these recordings were made under quite happy circumstances, I must say. Because all of these were boys who were not wounded or had been only slightly wounded. From time to time I'm going to visit the hospitals. . . . and let you hear the voices of some of the boys who really have sensed in every sense of the word the horrors of warfare. So I ask you to keep in touch with this little broadcast and to find out what the program announcer will have to tell you as to the definite times of the program. I know they're of terrific importance to you certainly they are to the boys too cut off from you for so long and now [they're] terrifically happy to be able to let you know that they've got out of this horrible fracas alive. Mothers and Dads in America, you've no idea what hell your boys have been through. And to thank [for it] they've got Franklin D. Roosevelt who promised you American Mothers that no American boy would be sacrificed on foreign battlefields. I only wish you could get a little glimpse of the conflict going on in Normandy. Well Roosevelt asked you to do it for him and you did. Wait until some of these human wrecks get back home once again. You won't even be able to recognize some of them Believe me I've seen them. Well, this is Midge signing off Goodnight, America!"

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Installment III

- (a) Date and hour of transmission: September 15, 1944,
00:15 o'clock, E.W.T.
- (b) Names of American prisoners whose messages were included in this installment:

- EW 6 70
- (c) Nature of propaganda delivered by the subject in connection with her introductory and concluding remarks as to this installment.

Introductory comment: "Good evening * * * * This is Midge speaking to you once again and presenting some of the voices of the American boys who were not sacrificed in the invasion to [those] waiting for them way back home. But first I suggest that * * * * the recordings are not so good as I should like to have them, but you see I was working under a great handicap at the time; that is to say, under very dangerous circumstances. I'm going along the Invasion Front with a little portable recording machine which I can take out easily from the automobile in case I'm bombarded by the American fliers. [You see folks] they have a very charming little habit in recent months of coming down * * * * of terra firma and with them their * * * * of singling out civilian people and shooting them deader than dead. Well, I mean don't blame me for * * * * my * * * * into the * * * * and so I try to * * * * messages * * * * as [rapidly] as possible. So as I say the little mechanism which I have with me is a not so sensitive of course as a bigger apparatus would be and that accounts for the fact that sometimes the recordings have not been * * * * much better than nothing. Am I not right? And so here they are * * * * some of the boys lucky enough to have escaped the horrors of the invasion. And the first town if I'm not mistaken. . . . is Chicago. So folks stand by and, also, don't forget to listen in day after day to the information which our program announcer will have for you. All right, now, stand by for Chicago* * * *"

Closing comment: "Well folks, I'm sorry but that's all that you're getting [in this] little broadcast tonight. But I should advise you to listen in now carefully all the time. Because the regular program announcer in Berlin can keep you posted as to subsequent broadcasts because I'm sure that they bring great deal happiness to all of you waiting people. This is Midge signing off. Good night, America!"

Installment IV

- (a) Date and hour of transmission: September 19, 1944,
00:15 o'clock, E.W.T.
- (b) Names of American prisoners whose messages were included in this installment:

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- (c) Nature of propaganda delivered by the subject in connection with her introductory and concluding remarks as to this installment.

Introductory comment: "Hello America. Well, this is Midge talking to the American families once again tonight and this time from the Invasion Front. You know for nearly a year I have been the go-between, between your men in Germany and you the beloved ones way back home. Well folks, you know I've gone to quite a little bit of trouble now to get next to the latest prisoners of war taken along the Coast of Normandy. Because I can just put myself in your place and know how very, very worried you are. And so now I've seen some of your boys talked to them realized their great, great disillusionment and how practically to a man they've said to me 'We would never,

never fight another war! Well, folks, tonight
first of all I'm presenting to you one of
these soldiers a paratrooper who left
England on D-Day and was he claimed to
be perhaps the first man to have been captured by the
Germans in the invasion, I happened to have a little
chat with him in the officers' barracks
not very far from Paris. I'd now like to a
give you the little recording which is for
Mr. relatives in New York City. Now be good
enough all you folks to drop a post-
card to those concerned in case they themselves were
not sitting at the radio set. And now, here is
Mr."

up to 6 70

Closing comment: "Well, you know when I talked to
some of the boys last year they all said
. . . . 'We'll be home for Christmas' and then
* * * *. When I talked with them at the beginning of this
year they said 'Ah, we'll be home for Easter.'
Humph! Well they're still over here. And now
they're thinking longingly once again of Christmas. The
good old turkey the cranberry sauce the
pumpkin pie, the mince pie all the dear old things that
they love so much with which mama always spoiled them
since their boyhood days. So folks, that was the end of
the first little transmission and please be standing by
for the future ones. They'll be rolling along
to Berlin just as quickly as I can get them there. After
all, I'm leading a pretty dangerous life trying to get
. . . . these little [spoken] messages back to you.
And so let's hope for the best. I can't spend very much
time in these camps because they're only transit camps,
the boys are coming and going [directly]. And
ah so sorry for you that I can't get all
the thousands of boys of course I can't
up to the microphone because it's simply a question of
limited time. But American mothers and American wives
I'm doing the very best I can for you to elimi-
nate the long, long months of waiting which you would
otherwise have to endure. So watch out for this special
speedy transmission giving you the voices of the boys
themselves, whom you love and miss with all
your heart. This is Midge signing off for tonight.
Goodnight America!"

Installment V

- (a) Date and hour of transmission: September 29, 1944 at 9:15 P.M.
September 30, 1944 at 12:15 A.M.
(later repeat broadcast E.W.T.)

- (b) Names of American prisoners whose messages were included in this installment:

- (c) Nature of propaganda delivered by the subject in connection with her introductory and concluding remarks as to this installment.

Introductory comment: "Hello, everybody tuning in! This is Midge calling America once again with a special feature broadcast "Survivors of the Invasion Front." Well, I'm sure that all of my American listeners know by now that I've spent many, many weeks along the invasion front going from prisoner-of-war camp to prisoner-of-war camp, from war hospital to war hospital calling on your men, wounded or otherwise, with a little word of cheer, with an opportunity to say "hello" to you folks back home who, of course, are bearing the brunt of the worry. Although I must say it's very bad for the boys too because they worry about the fact that they know that you're worrying. And because they know better than anyone else that you can't possibly realize the horror of the warfare which the've been asked to participate in over here in Europe. They know now that they are simply cannon fodder to aid and abet Jewish interests. It's a disgrace to the American public that they don't wake up to the fact of what Franklin D. Roosevelt is doing to the gentiles of your country and my country. I've told you often enough that I am an American and that I'm over here on the German side folks. There's a good reason for it. And the reason is that this is a Jewish war and I refuse to participate in it and insist upon fighting against it. I only wish that all of you American fathers and you American mothers could share my point of view and I know if you'd been able to go with me from war hospital to war hospital that you'd be able to see these poor human wrecks in one ward after another as I saw them you'd get up in arms against Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Jews

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whom he is supporting! Well, tonight I have three boys who'd like to speak to you. One is a Canadian boy. I'm not quite sure how good the reception is in Ontario so I do hope that my listeners will pay particular attention to the interview of Captain

who comes from Hamilton, Ontario. He would like to get in touch with his parents there at Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, and let them know how thankful he is to be in the land of the living to let them know that they can now disregard any Missing-in-Action notice. The second boy to speak to you tonight is Lt.

Serial No. O-456,393, United States Army, with a few words for his father,

Lake Charles, Louisiana. And the third boy, whom I've seen previously at another visit to the hospital when he was lying in a room with English boys and I didn't realize a that there was an American boy there and on my second visit he asked me to come over and give him a chance to say 'hello' to his folks back home in Cincinnati, Ohio, Well, as he said himself, he's having a pretty good time in bed and anyhow to the boys the main thing is to have got out of the invasion and even though many of them are hopelessly crippled for the rest of their lives they'll be so glad to get back home to be able to forget to some degree the horrible nightmare of the bloody battlefields of Europe that they don't care much in what physical state they are at least not at the moment. Later, of course, when it's a question of holding down a good job - well then it's necessary to be all in one piece. Of course then, that will be another matter. And for that you have to thank your friend Franklin D. Roosevelt. And now I'd just like to remind my listeners that this broadcast which you are about to hear will be repeated at the same time this coming Friday. So please be good enough to drop postcards to the families of the three boys who are going to speak tonight so that in case they were not listening in they'll be able to take advantage of the second chance on Friday evening. Please be a good sport and do that will you? Because they attach terrific importance to it. They were so thrilled to see me pop up all of a sudden in a German war hospital with my little microphone and so I was able to do that for them and now you do this for them. And now, stand by. The first message is going to Hamilton, Ontario, addressed to

calling his parents."

Closing comment: "And so folks with this little interview with

in Cincinnati, Ohio, we've completed another

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special feature broadcast to the United States
'Survivors of the Invasion Front.' You know that the boys have been in hospital now for quite some time and these are recordings which I made while in France, going from hospital to hospital, visiting your boys and * * * * conditions. I can tell you on my word of honor folks that I was most favorably impressed that all the boys said of their own volition that the German medical care was excellent and that the German nurses were swell. And you know as well as I do that one day these American boys will be back in their sweet little old hometowns of theirs. They'll be sitting around the dining room table again with Mom and Dad. The little chair will not be empty for so long now and they'll tell you all about their bloodcurdling experiences over here in the Invasion Front where they were sacrificed for Jewish interests by Franklin D. Roosevelt. And they'll tell you about meeting me in the various hospitals and if you ask them if what I said was true about the excellent German medical care and the sweetness and the lovingness of the German nurses they'll say to you - 'Yes, Mom, it was absolutely true.' Everything that I tell you one thing I pride myself on is to tell you American folks the truth and hope one day that you'll wake up to the fact that you're being duped; that the lives of the men you love are being sacrificed for Jewish and British interests! American Public, for God's sake wake up while there's time! Or do hundreds of thousands of you women still want to be in the same boat and sacrifice hundreds of thousands more of your husbands, your brothers, your fathers and your sweethearts? If you do, it's up to you but it means a Jewish America of the future and not a gentile America! And, now, don't forget 'Survivors of the Invasion Front' will be repeated again at the same time Friday evening. I am trusting you to drop cards to the mothers and fathers of the three boys who spoke tonight. I know you'll cooperate with me and I thank you for it. This is 'Midge' signing off. Goodnight, America!"

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Installment VI

- (a) Date and hour of transmission: October 4, 1944,
00:15 o'clock, EWT.
- (b) Names of American prisoners whose messages were included in this installment:

- (c) Nature of propaganda delivered by the subject in connection with her introductory and concluding remarks as to this installment.

Introductory comment: "Hello, America! This is Midge calling you once again with the voices of some of the survivors of the Invasion Front. As you all know by now I'm sure, I've spent many, many weeks going from war hospital to war hospital interviewing your wounded men. And, tonight, I'm going to present three of them to America and the first boy or the second rather—on my program tonight would like to get in touch with his mother in London. Now, of course, I know this is quite a round-about way but I'm sure that many of my American listeners will be sweet enough to drop a little post-card to this

Middlesex, London, and let her know about her son who was lying at that time in a hospital in France and getting along really quite nicely. But he was worried about the fact that his mother would be worrying, and even though I have nothing to do with broadcasting to England well he asked me to a send a little message to his mother for him well, of course, I said that I would co-operate. So I hope that my American listeners will drop a card now to England, Middlesex, London, and let Mrs. Harris know that her son is feeling as well as could be expected. In any case his life is not in danger - somewhere in France. Now the first boy to speak to his folks in America is two thousand eight hundred and fifteen Price Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio. And the third forgot to give his name, I'm scrry, but he would like to get in touch with his Mother and with

Sharpsburg, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. And you'll hear

him say himself that he's glad to get back no matter how he gets back. Now the fourth and last boy to speak to America tonight is

I do hope that you're listening in and that you get a chance to listen to your son's voice. It was very, very difficult for him to speak. I had to put the microphone up very close to his lips because he'd been shot in the throat. Now, I hope that it'll get on all right some day, it'd be an awful tragedy for him if it didn't. But anyway you'll see that he's still in the land of the living and he was very, very happy to have been able to say 'hello' to you in Willoughby. This broadcast folks, by the way, will be repeated Friday night at the same time. So let all these people know so that if they miss tonight they'll get a chance at the repetition on Friday. And now stand by for the first interview tonight with _____ calling Cincinnati, Ohio."

Closing comment: "And so _____ if you are listening in tonight you heard your son's voice. You also heard how difficult it was for him to speak . . . his coughing . . . and all of that which, of course, was the result of having got this . . . bullet in the throat. Well I suppose he'll get along all right . . . the doctors didn't seem . . . to think that the case will be too dangerous . . . I don't know . . . only time will tell you see . . . and I do hope that he'll be home with you one of these days in better shape than when I saw him. Well, I'd just like to remind my listeners that the repetition is Friday night at the same time, so get busy with your little old fountain pens and drop cards to all the families concerned in this broadcast tonight. This is Midge signing off. Goodnight, America!"

It is understood that when the subject first ventured to obtain spoken messages by visiting camps in Germany she met with many rebuffs. The prisoners were in most cases highly suspicious of the subject's bona fides and wondered just how a woman so thoroughly American in speech and manner should be moving about so freely inside Germany in the friendly company of German Army Officers and prominent civilians. [The subject was accompanied on most of these trips by Professor Otto Koischwitz who at one time taught at Hunter College, U.S.A. During the war Koischwitz edited a magazine for American prisoners called the "Overseas Kid" (from his initials, O.K.); was a prominent anti-American commentator on the German Radio, and his presence in the camps, along with Miss Gillars, should be quite well remembered by many of the prisoners with whom they came in contact.] As a result of their suspicion American officers in charge of prisoners of war in German camps frequently opposed the subject's visits and instructed their men to have nothing to do with her. On one such occasion, after she had repeatedly used the phrase "We Americans," she was challenged concerning her loyalty. She replied vaguely that she was an "idealist." When the men refused to make

recordings on this occasion the subject became angry and told the prisoners that they were "a bunch of ungrateful people." She also stated on this occasion that Germany was the most powerful country in Europe and would eventually take over all of Europe; that Germany had no desires concerning the United States and that in view of that fact the soldiers "ought to come over to the winning side," which she referred to as "our side." The prisoners responded to these remarks with jeers and cat-calls. She retired for a time and later returned and attempted to engage small groups of men in conversation, insisting that what she was trying to do was for their benefit-- that she desired the men to record their voices for broadcast to the United States so that their families could learn that the men were alive and well treated. Again failing to gain cooperation she demonstrated her anger by praising the superior equipment of the German Army and informed the men that rockets perfected by the Germans had already destroyed New York, Chicago, and other large American cities, stating that "the powerful country of Germany and their allies would rule and dominate Europe."

It is believed that having been several times rebuffed by prisoners in the manner and under the circumstances above described, the subject soon decided to change her tactics and approach. There is evidence that on later visits she described herself to the men as a representative of the Swiss Government and that on later visits she held herself out as a representative of the International Red Cross and that by thus misleading the prisoners she was able to secure their confidence and cooperation.

It is of utmost importance in conducting the investigation herein requested that the former prisoners hereinbefore named be thoroughly interrogated as to whether or not the subject represented herself as an agent of the Red Cross. They should also be asked the name and present whereabouts of their officers, who were placed in charge by the Germans after their unit had been captured, to the end that such officers can be interrogated concerning any representations which Gillars may have made when she attempted to perfect her arrangements for visiting the camps and hospitals in connection with messages obtained for the "Survivors of the Invasion Front" series. Detailed inquiry should also be made in these interviews to learn whether or not the subject asked any of the prisoners to give her souvenirs, such as insignia, belts, buckles, buttons, identification cards, credentials, etc. It is known that souvenirs of this character were obtained from prisoners, through subterfuge, and that such were later used to equip SS Troops who impersonated American soldiers during the "Battle of the Bulge."

The physical appearance of the subject has been described in detail by her former associates at the German Radio who knew her well during the period of interest. She is said to have weighed about 112 pounds. Her height is reported to have been 5' 4". She had jet black hair which she occasionally wore "long." [Since her incarceration it is understood that the subject now has snow-white hair and that she has aged considerably in appearance.] She had heavy black eyelashes and was accustomed to use a large amount of cosmetics and was a chain-smoker. She is also said to have possessed an attractive pair of legs and in this connection it has been

reported that she was not at all averse to exhibiting about all the "cheese cake" that the traffic would bear whenever the opportunity presented itself. On some of her trips to prisoner-of-war camps in Germany the subject is known to have gone by the name of BARBARA MOOME. She also used this alias during the period that she was in hiding after the war. Invariably, and in a clever subtle way she endeavored to emphasize, in questioning prisoners at the microphone, that they were well treated by the Germans that they were given good food and the best of recreational facilities, etc. Witnesses should be interrogated fully with respect to any statements she may have made in this connection or along the pertinent lines earlier set forth herein. Each man interviewed, without the benefit of prior suggestion, should be asked to give a physical description of the defendant, as he remembers her, after which the enclosed photograph ("Exhibit D") should be exhibited. It is desired that investigating agents indicate the degree of positiveness with which the witness makes or fails to make identification. In the same vein, it will be helpful if investigating agents include in their report an opinion concerning the prospective witness's general appearance, intelligence, credibility and attitude--in sum . . . might he be expected to be a forceful, impressive and self-confident witness?

Each prospective witness interviewed should be interrogated concerning his possible acquaintance with each of the other former prisoners hereinbefore named who recorded messages utilized by the subject in connection with the "Survivors of the Invasion Front" series, particularly, as to whether or not they were present when any of the other prisoners made recordings. . . . and vice versa. All details should be thoroughly developed in this connection, especially as to date, time of day, place, the circumstances preceding, surrounding and concluding the recording of the messages, the substance of the different messages overheard and likewise, as to the other particulars hereinbefore specified relating to the conduct of the subject and the identities and conduct of those who accompanied her, to the several transit camps or hospitals, as the case may be. In every case, where a witness does recall some of the other prisoners hereinbefore named, an effort should immediately be made to determine whether or not such witness is aware of such other person's present address. Where addresses are thus obtained, the appropriate Field Office of the Bureau should be advised in that connection by teletype, since all of the former American POW's hereinbefore listed are being currently interviewed by Agents of the Bureau.

It will be noted that as an adjunct to this memorandum there is furnished (Exhibit "B") a phonographic recording of that particular installment of the "Survivors of the Invasion Front" series pertinent to the interviews to be conducted by the several Field Offices participating in this investigation. In addition, there is also furnished (Exhibit "C") a written transcription of such phonographically recorded program. That portion of the program constituting introductory and closing comment by the subject has been underlined in red in the written transcription aforesaid. Obviously, she did not make any of these utterances in the presence of the prisoners at the time they recorded their messages. It is believed that

she utilized Radio Studios in Paris in the preparation of recordings of individual installments in the manner hereinbefore described and that thereafter she forwarded the same to Berlin for ultimate transmission via short-wave. It will be a matter of particular interest to learn the reaction of each of the former prisoners interviewed in connection with this investigation when they become aware of the use to which the subject put the recorded messages that she secured from them, and it is requested that the Special Agents conducting the interviews herein cover this phase in their report.

55 request for inv.
63 pgs

6
7C
7D -> see last memo

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

March 31, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division.
MILNER ELIZABETH GILKINS, was "AXIS SALLY,"
MILNER ELIZABETH SISK; TREASON.

TVQ:JAK:tms

146-7-51-1708⁵

File
144
R

Quinn

for
JVA
by
PEB

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION--DETROIT, MICHIGAN

In connection with the above styled investigation it is desired that Agents of the Bureau's Detroit, Michigan Field Office contact and interrogate _____ formerly a soldier in the A.S.F., who was taken prisoner by the Germans during the Normandy Invasion. While being held in a transit camp for prisoners of war, located somewhere in the vicinity of Paris, France, _____, together with several other prisoners, was approached by MILNER E. GILKINS, the subject herein, and was persuaded to record a spoken message to his mother, _____

_____ in the event that inquiry at this address indicates that _____ does not now reside in Farmington, it is requested that his present address be ascertained and that the instant memorandum, with accompanying exhibits, be forwarded to the appropriate field office of the Bureau where the interrogation herein outlined shall be conducted.

46
7C

To facilitate the interview in question there are forwarded herewith, the following exhibits:

- Exhibit A Memorandum concerning Background of the Case and the Theory of Prosecution.
- Exhibit B Duplicate phonograph recording (#09910) of a radio program transmitted to the U.S.A. by the German short-wave Radio Station in Berlin on September 19, 1944, at 00:15 o'clock, E.W.T., the original recording having been made by the Federal Communications Commission. Said program is composed of an introduction spoken by the subject, followed by a series of spoken interviews conducted by the subject with four prisoners of war, and involving the sending of greetings to their families in the U.S.A., one of said prisoners having been the aforesaid _____
- Exhibit C A written transcription of the aforesaid radio program.
- Exhibit D A photograph of the subject believed to be a good likeness as of 1944.

~~RECORDED~~

Mr. John M. Kelley, --2315
Records ✓
Chrono.

135

The substance and details of the matters concerning which it is desired that [redacted] be interrogated are set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto. It is recommended that in playing the enclosed phonographic recording, earphones be utilized rather than a loud speaker. If one is made of the written transcription while the record is being played it is possible to understand practically all that is said.

Since these broadcasts were made very soon after "E-Day," there is every reason to expect that [redacted] will be able to fix the date upon which he recorded his message with certainty. While it is not essential that the exact date be ascertained, [redacted] should be urged to refresh his recollection from any diary or memoranda which he may have that might be suitable for this purpose. It is hoped that the Investigating Agents will develop in minute detail exactly who were present in the immediate vicinity of the microphone at the time [redacted] recorded his message and all incidents that occurred as to which the witness has a positive recollection. Since it is probable that the witness saw the subject only once in his life and on that occasion for but a few minutes, it is also probable that he will have difficulty in recollecting in detail what occurred. It may be advisable because of this fact to permit the witness to mull over the matter for a day or two before finally concluding the interview. Little incidents, seemingly unimportant, frequently serve (merely because of their unusual or odd character) to refresh the recollection concerning the happening of some major occurrence. Often the mere mention of some trivial or secondary matter will spark the recollection and cement the certainty of two witnesses that each were simultaneously witness to the primary event or occurrence in question. It is thus only by an extremely detailed report that those with the responsibility of prosecuting the case are enabled to ascertain that two witnesses are available to establish an identical overt act without going to the expense in time and money that would be involved here if witnesses were to be brought together in one place for common discussion and agreement.

It is the desire of the Department to present the instant case to the Grand Jury as soon as it is reasonably possible. It is, therefore, requested that the investigation herein outlined be expedited to the fullest extent.

Handwritten: **Am**

Handwritten: for
SVR
by
PCB

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

March 31, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division.

TVQ:JAK:mas

MILDRED ELIZABETH GILLARS, was "AXIS SALLY,"
MILDRED ELIZABETH SISK; TREASON.

446-7-51-1748

Handwritten: File
1/11/48

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION--PHILADELPHIA, PA.

~~HOME~~ 8

In connection with the above styled investigation it is desired that Agents of the Bureau's Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Field Office endeavor to contact and interrogate a former soldier in the A.S.F., believed to be living at an address on

The soldier in question was taken prisoner by the Germans during the Normandy Invasion. While being held in a transit camp for prisoners of war, located somewhere in the vicinity of Paris, France, the soldier in question, together with several other prisoners, was approached by MILDRED E. GILLARS, the subject herein, and was persuaded to record a spoken message to his mother. The phonograph recording of this broadcast is inaudible in parts and it is not possible to distinguish the name of the man in question or the name of his mother. There is doubt also concerning the exact street number but phonetically it would seem to be

The soldier in question referred to his mother as (phonetic) or some name generally similar thereto in sound and syllables. He also mentioned his sister (her name sounds like

In the event that inquiry at the suggested street numbers proves unfruitful, it is suggested that the membership lists of Veterans' organizations be checked for members living on

-is clear and understandable in the phonographic recording. Memoranda being furnished of even date to other Field Offices in connection with contemplated interviews with include a request that each of the persons last named be questioned concerning their recollection of the second man who spoke on the program and their knowledge as to his full name and address. Information of value in this regard will be forwarded to the Philadelphia Field Office as soon as obtained. In the event that the correct name and present address of the person in question shall be obtained by the Philadelphia Field Office, and in the further event that said person now lives beyond the jurisdiction of the Philadelphia Field Office, it is requested that the instant memorandum, with accompanying exhibits, be forwarded to the appropriate office in the field where the interrogation herein outlined shall be conducted.

Mr. John M. Kelley, Jr.--Rm.2315
Records ✓
Chrono.

Handwritten: E46
7C

To facilitate the interview in question there are forwarded herewith, the following exhibits:

- Exhibit A Memorandum concerning background of the case and the theory of prosecution.
- Exhibit B Duplicate phonograph recording (#09868) of a radio program transmitted to the U.S.A. by the German short-wave radio station in Berlin on September 15, 1944, at 00:15 o'clock, P.M.T., the original recording having been made by the Federal Communications Commission. Said program is composed of an introduction spoken by the subject, followed by a series of spoken interviews conducted by the subject with seven prisoners of war, and involving the sending of greetings to their families in the U.S.A., one of said prisoners having been the person particularly referred to herein whose name is unknown.
- Exhibit C A written transcription of the aforesaid radio program.
- Exhibit D A photograph of the subject believed to be a good likeness as of 1944.

The substance and details of the matters concerning which it is desired that the soldier in question be interrogated are set forth in exhibit "A" attached hereto. It is recommended that in playing the enclosed phonographic recording, earphones be utilized rather than a loud speaker. If use is made of the written transcription while the record is being played it is possible to understand practically all that is said.

Since these broadcasts were made very soon after "D-Day," there is every reason to expect that the soldier in question will be able to fix the date upon which he recorded his message with certainty. While it is not essential that the exact date be ascertained, the soldier in question should be urged to refresh his recollection from any diary or memoranda which he may have that might be suitable for this purpose. It is hoped that the investigating agents will develop

in minute detail exactly who were present in the immediate vicinity of the microphone at the time the soldier in question recorded his message and all incidents that occurred as to which the witness has a positive recollection. Since it is probable that the witness saw the subject only once in his life and on t at occasion for but a few minutes, it is also probable that he will have difficulty in recollecting in detail what occurred. It may be advisable because of this fact to permit the witness to mull over the matter for a day or two before finally concluding the interview. Little incidents, seemingly unimportant, frequently serve (merely because of their unusual or odd character) to refresh the recollection concerning the happening of some major occurrence. Often the mere mention of some trivial or secondary matter will spark the recollection and cement the certainty of two witnesses that each were simultaneously witness to the primary event or occurrence in question. It is thus only by an extremely detailed report that those with the responsibility of prosecuting the case are enabled to ascertain that two witnesses are available to establish an identical overt act without going to the expense in time and money that would be involved here if witnesses were to be brought together in one place for common discussion and agreement.

In the event that the person in question shall be contacted and interviewed the following matter should be particularly noted. The first prisoner who spoke a message on this particular installment of the series "Survivors of the Invasion Front" was [redacted] His message was directed to his [redacted] no street address was mentioned. In the event that the soldier in question is aware of [redacted] address, the same should be communicated at once to the Criminal Division, Washington, D.C., so that steps may be taken to locate and interrogate [redacted]

It is the desire of the Department to present the instant case to the Grand Jury as soon as it is reasonably possible. It is, therefore, requested that the investigation herein outlined be expedited to the fullest extent.

246
10

Smith

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

March 31, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division.

TVQ:JHK:mas

MILDRED ELIZABETH GILLARS, was "AXIS SALLY,"
MILDRED ELIZABETH SISK; TREASON.

146-7-51-1708

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION--CLEVELAND, OHIO

In connection with the above styled investigation it is desired that Agents of the Bureau's Cleveland, Ohio Field Office contact and interrogate _____ formerly a soldier in the A.S.F., who was taken prisoner by the Germans during the Normandy Invasion. While being held in a transit camp for prisoners of war, located somewhere in the vicinity of Paris, France, _____ together with several other prisoners, was approached by MILDRED E. GILLARS, the subject herein, and was persuaded to record a spoken message to his

In the event that inquiry at this address indicates that _____ does not now reside in _____ it is requested that his present address be ascertained and that the instant memorandum, with accompanying exhibits, be forwarded to the appropriate field office of the Bureau where the interrogation herein outlined shall be conducted.

*Tab 6
7c*

To facilitate the interview in question there are forwarded herewith, the following exhibits:

- Exhibit A Memorandum concerning Background of the Case and the Theory of Prosecution.
- Exhibit B Duplicate phonograph recording (#09594) of a radio program transmitted to the U.S.A. by the German Short-Wave Radio Station in Berlin on August 23, 1944, at 00:15 o'clock, E.W.T., the original recording having been made by the Federal Communications Commission. Said program is composed of an introduction spoken by the subject, followed by a series of spoken interviews conducted by the subject with five prisoners of war, and involving the sending of greetings to their families in the U.S.A., one of said prisoners having been the aforesaid
- Exhibit C A written transcription of the aforesaid radio program.
- Exhibit D A photograph of the subject believed to be a good likeness as of 1944.

The substance and details of the matters concerning which it is desired that be interrogated are set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto. It is recommended that in playing the enclosed phonographic recordings, earphones be utilized rather than a loud speaker. If use is made of the written transcription while the record is being played it is possible to understand practically all that is said.

The propaganda uttered by the subject in connection with this installment of the series, "Survivors of the Invasion Front," is perhaps the strongest--that is to say, it embraces comment of a particularly treasonable character to a greater extent--than any of the other installments.

Since these broadcasts were made very soon after "D-Day," there is every reason to expect that will be able to fix the date upon which he recorded his message with certainty. While it is not essential that the exact date be ascertained, should be urged to refresh his recollection from any diary or memoranda which he may have that might be suitable for this purpose. It is hoped that the investigating Agents will develop in minute detail exactly who were present in the immediate vicinity of the microphone at the time recorded his message and all incidents that occurred as to which the witness has a positive recollection. Since it is probable that the witness saw the subject only once in his life and on that occasion for but a few minutes, it is also probable that he will have difficulty in recollecting in detail what occurred. It may be advisable because of this fact to permit the witness to mull over the matter for a day or two before finally concluding the interview. Little incidents, seemingly unimportant, frequently serve (merely because of their unusual or odd character) to refresh the recollection concerning the happening of some major occurrence. Often the mere mention of some trivial or secondary matter will spark the recollection and cement the certainty of two witnesses that each were simultaneously witness to the primary event or occurrence in question. It is thus only by an extremely detailed report that those with the responsibility of prosecuting the case are enabled to ascertain that two witnesses are available to establish an identical overt act without going to the expense in time and money that would be involved here if witnesses were to be brought together in one place for common discussion and agreement.

It is the desire of the Department to present the instant case to the Grand Jury as soon as it is reasonably possible. It is, therefore, requested that the investigation herein outlined be expedited to the fullest extent.

446
7c

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

March 31, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division.

TVQ:JMK:ttm

MILDRED ELIZABETH GILMARS, was "AXIS SALLY,"
MILDRED ELIZABETH WICK; TREASON.

146-7-51-1708

John
for
SVA
by
peB

Felt
10/11/48

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION--BOSTON, MASS.

~~SECRET~~

In connection with the above styled investigation it is desired that Agents of the Bureau's Boston, Massachusetts Field Office contact and interrogate _____ formerly a soldier in the A.I.F., who was taken prisoner by the Germans during the Normandy Invasion. While being held in a transit camp for prisoners of war, located somewhere in the vicinity of Paris, France, _____ together with several other prisoners, was approached by MILDRED E. GILMARS, the subject herein, and was persuaded to record a spoken message to _____ who then resided at _____. In the event that inquiry at this address indicates that _____ does not now reside in _____ it is requested that his present address be ascertained and that the instant memorandum, with accompanying exhibits, be forwarded to the appropriate field office of the Bureau where the interrogation herein outlined shall be conducted.

Ed
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10

To facilitate the interview in question there are forwarded herewith, the following exhibits:

- Exhibit A Memorandum concerning Background of the Case and the Theory of Prosecution.
- Exhibit B Duplicate phonograph recording (#09594) of a radio program transmitted to the U.S.A. by the German Short-Wave Radio Station in Berlin on August 23, 1944, at 00:15 o'clock, E.W.T., the original recording having been made by the Federal Communications Commission. Said program is composed of an introduction spoken by the subject, followed by a series of spoken interviews conducted by the subject with five prisoners of war, and involving the sending of greetings to their families in the U.S.A., one of said prisoners having been the aforesaid _____.
- Exhibit C A written transcription of the aforesaid radio program.
- Exhibit D A photograph of the subject believed to be a good likeness as of 1944.

Mr. John M. Kelley, Jr. -- 2315
Records ✓
Chrono.

The substance and details of the matters concerning which it is desired that _____ be interrogated are set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto. It is recommended that in playing the enclosed phonograph recordings, earphones be utilized rather than a loud speaker. If use is made of the written transcription while the record is being played it is possible to understand practically all that is said.

The propaganda uttered by the subject in connection with this installment of the series, "Survivors of the Invasion Front," is perhaps the strongest--that is to say, it conveys content of a particularly treasonable character to a greater extent--than any of the other installments.

Since these broadcasts were made very soon after "D-Day," there is every reason to expect that _____ will be able to fix the date upon which he recorded his message with certainty. While it is not essential that the exact date be ascertained, _____ should be urged to refresh his recollection from any diary or memo-randa which he may have that might be suitable for this purpose. It is hoped that the Investigating Agents will develop in minute detail exactly who were present in the immediate vicinity of the microphones at the time _____ recorded his message and all incidents that occurred as to which the witness has a positive recollection. Since it is probable that the witness saw the subject only once in his life and on that occasion for but a few minutes, it is also probable that he will have difficulty in recollecting in detail what occurred. It may be advisable because of this fact to permit the witness to mull over the matter for a day or two before finally concluding the interview. Little incidents, seemingly unimportant, frequently serve (merely because of their unusual or odd character) to refresh the recollection concerning the happening of some major occurrence. Often the mere mention of some trivial or secondary matter will spark the recollection and cement the certainty of two witnesses that each were simultaneously witness to the primary event or occurrence in question. It is thus only by an extremely detailed report that those with the responsibility of prosecuting the case are enabled to ascertain that two witnesses are available to establish an identical overt act without going to the expense in time and money that would be involved here if witnesses were to be brought together in one place for common discussion and agreement.

It is the desire of the Department to present the instant case to the Grand Jury as soon as it is reasonably possible. It is, therefore, requested that the investigation herein outlined be expedited to the fullest extent.

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

March 31, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General,
Criminal Division.

TVQ:JMK:tms

MILBRED ELIZABETH GILLARS, was "AXIS GALLY,"

146-7-51-1708

MILBRED ELIZABETH SISK; TREASON.

Handwritten initials and scribbles

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION--NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

~~SECRET~~

Handwritten notes:
JMK
for
YVA
by
PEB

In connection with the above styled investigation it is desired that Agents of the Bureau's New Orleans, Louisiana field Office contact and interrogate _____ formerly a soldier in the A.S.F., who was taken prisoner by the Germans during the Normandy Invasion. While being held in a transit camp for prisoners of war, located somewhere in the vicinity of Paris, France, _____ together with several other prisoners, was approached by MILBRED E. GILLARS, the subject herein, and was persuaded to record a spoken message to his

In the event that inquiry at this address indicates that _____ it is requested that his present address be ascertained and that the instant memorandum, with accompanying exhibits, be forwarded to the appropriate field office of the Bureau where the interrogation herein outlined shall be conducted.

Handwritten note:
Cable
14

To facilitate the interview in question there are forwarded herewith, the following exhibits:

- Exhibit A Memorandum concerning Background of the Case and the Theory of Prosecution.
- Exhibit B Duplicate phonograph recording (#09594) of a radio program transmitted to the U.S.A. by the German Short-Wave Radio Station in Berlin on August 23, 1944, at 00:15 o'clock, E.W.T., the original recording having been made by the Federal Communications Commission. Said program is composed of an introduction spoken by the subject, followed by a series of spoken interviews conducted by the subject with five prisoners of war, and involving the sending of greetings to their families in the U.S.A., one of said prisoners having been the aforesaid
- Exhibit C A written transcription of the aforesaid radio program.
- Exhibit D A photograph of the subject believed to be a good likeness as of 1944.

Mr. John M. Kelley, Jr. --Rm. 2315
Records ✓
Chrono.

The substance and details of the matters concerning which it is desired that _____ be interrogated are set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto. It is recommended that in playing the enclosed phonographic recordings, earphones be utilized rather than a loud speaker. If use is made of the written transcription while the record is being played it is possible to understand practically all that is said.

The propaganda uttered by the subject in connection with this installment of the series, "Survivors of the Invasion Front," is perhaps the strongest--that is to say, it entraces comment of a particularly treasonable character to a greater extent--than any of the other installments.

Since these broadcasts were made very soon after "D-Day," there is every reason to expect that _____ will be able to fix the date upon which he recorded his message with certainty. While it is not essential that the exact date be ascertained, should be urged to refresh his recollection from any diary or memoranda which he may have that might be suitable for this purpose. It is hoped that the investigating Agents will develop in minute detail exactly who were present in the immediate vicinity of the microphones at the time _____ recorded his message and all incidents that occurred as to which the witness has a positive recollection. Since it is probable that the witness saw the subject only once in his life and on that occasion for but a few minutes, it is also probable that he will have difficulty in recollecting in detail what occurred. It may be advisable because of this fact to permit the witness to mull over the matter for a day or two before finally concluding the interview. Little incidents, seemingly unimportant, frequently serve (rarely because of their unusual or odd character) to refresh the recollection concerning the happening of some major occurrence. Often the mere mention of some trivial or secondary matter will spark the recollection and cement the certainty of two witnesses that each were simultaneously witness to the primary event or occurrences in question. It is thus only by an extremely detailed report that those with the responsibility of prosecuting the case are enabled to ascertain that two witnesses are available to establish an identical overt act without going to the expense in time and money that would be involved here if witnesses were to be brought together in one place for common discussion and agreement.

It is the desire of the Department to present the instant case to the Grand Jury as soon as it is reasonably possible. It is, therefore, requested that the investigation herein outlined be expedited to the fullest extent.

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation.

March 31, 1948

T. Vincent Quinn, Assistant Attorney General.
Criminal Division.

TVQ:JMK:tns

MILRED ELIZABETH GILLARS, was "AXIS SALLY,"
MILRED ELIZABETH SISK; TREASON.

146-7-51-1708

*File
10/11/48*
~~SECRET~~

REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION--PHOENIX, ARIZONA

In connection with the above styled investigation it is desired that Agents of the Bureau's Phoenix, Arizona Field Office contact and interrogate _____ formerly a soldier in the A.S.F., who was taken prisoner by the Germans during the Normandy Invasion. While being held in a transit camp for prisoners of war, located somewhere in the vicinity of Paris, France, _____ together with several other prisoners, was approached by MILRED E. GILLARS, the subject herein, and was persuaded to record a spoken message to his mother

In the event that inquiry at this address indicates that _____ does not now reside in Phoenix, it is requested that his present address be ascertained and that the instant memorandum, with accompanying exhibits, be forwarded to the appropriate field office of the Bureau where the interrogation herein outlined shall be conducted.

To facilitate the interview in question there are forwarded herewith, the following exhibits:

- Exhibit A Memorandum concerning Background of the Case and the Theory of Prosecution.
- Exhibit B Duplicate phonograph recording (#09869) of a radio program transmitted to the U.S.A. by the German Short-Wave Radio Station in Berlin on September 15, 1944, at 00:15 o'clock, E.M.T., the original recording having been made by the Federal Communications Commission. Said program is composed of an introduction spoken by the subject, followed by a series of spoken interviews conducted by the subject with seven prisoners of war, and involving the sending of greetings to their families in the U.S.A., one of said prisoners having been the aforesaid
- Exhibit C A written transcription of the aforesaid radio program.
- Exhibit D A photograph of the subject believed to be a good likeness as of 1944.

Mr. John M. Kelley, Jr. -- Rm. 2315
Records
Chrono.

*John M.
for
JVR
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The substance and details of the matters concerning which it is desired that be interrogated are set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto. It is recommended that in playing the enclosed phonographic recordings, earphones be utilized rather than a loud speaker. If use is made of the written transcription while the record is being played it is possible to understand practically all that is said.

The propaganda uttered by the subject in connection with this installment of the series, "Survivors of the Invasion Front," is perhaps the strongest--that is to say, it embraces comment of a particularly treasonable character to a greater extent--than any of the other installments.

Since these broadcasts were made very soon after "D-Day," there is every reason to expect that will be able to fix the date upon which he recorded his message with certainty. While it is not essential that the exact date be ascertained, should be urged to refresh his recollection from any diary or memoranda which he may have that might be suitable for this purpose. It is hoped that the investigating Agents will develop in minute detail exactly who were present in the immediate vicinity of the microphone at the time recorded his message and all incidents that occurred as to which the witness has a positive recollection. Since it is probable that the witness saw the subject only once in his life and on that occasion for but a few minutes, it is also probable that he will have difficulty in recollecting in detail what occurred. It may be advisable because of this fact to permit the witness to mull over the matter for a day or two before finally concluding the interview. Little incidents, seemingly unimportant, frequently serve (merely because of their unusual or odd character) to refresh the recollection concerning the happening of some major occurrence. Often the mere mention of some trivial or secondary matter will spark the recollection and cement the certainty of two witnesses that each were simultaneously witness to the primary event or occurrence in question. It is thus only by an extremely detailed report that those with the responsibility of prosecuting the case are enabled to ascertain that two witnesses are available to establish an identical overt act without going to the expense in time and money that would be involved here if witnesses were to be brought together in one place for common discussion and agreement.

It is the desire of the Department to present the instant case to the Grand Jury as soon as it is reasonably possible. It is, therefore, requested that the investigation herein outlined be expedited to the fullest extent.

NOTE:

The first prisoner who spoke a message on this particular installment of the series "Survivors of the Invasion Front" was Mr. [redacted] his message was directed to [redacted] is [redacted] No street address was mentioned. In the event that [redacted] is aware of [redacted] address, the same should be communicated at once to the Criminal Division, Washington, D.C., so that steps may be taken to locate and interrogate [redacted]

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The name of the second man to speak on this installment of the program cannot be distinguished due to the inaudibility of this portion of the recording. All that is known concerning the second man is that his [redacted]

His mother's name is indistinguishable but sounds like [redacted] In the event that, after listening to the enclosed record, [redacted] shall recall the name of the second man speaking on the program and/or his address, such information should be communicated at once to the Philadelphia field office of the Bureau.