

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OMAHA**

FILE NO.

b7C

REPORT MADE AT <b>Louisville, Kentucky</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12-29-51</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>12-19, 27-51</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 15px; display: inline-block;"></div> <b>gew</b>
TITLE <b>EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER-C</b>	

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DCG/JU  
ON 02-09-2006

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

1027049

*no*  
Delayed birth certificate reflects EDNA MAY GRIFFIN born October 23, 1909, at Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky.

-RUC-

*see N/A*  
*1-29-52*  
*gbs/dk*  
b7C

**DETAILS:**

**I. BACKGROUND**

At Louisville, Kentucky:

clerk, Bureau of Vital Statistics, State Department of Health, 620 South Third Street, advised that compulsory registration of births did not go into effect in Kentucky until 1911. However, in Volume 405, Certificate Number 162735, there is a delayed certificate as to the birth of EDNA MAY GRIFFIN on October 23, 1909, at Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky. The latter record, which was placed on file October 23, 1942, was based on the affidavits of two witnesses, since no documentary evidence was required in such a case prior to 1943. According to the record, EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, colored, was the daughter of EDWARD HEARST WILLIAMS and HENRIETTA RICE. Affidavits supporting the record were made by an uncle, T.E. WILLIAMS, of Carlisle, Kentucky, and a non-relative,  also of Carlisle. A copy, according to a notation placed on the record, was mailed to the subject of the certificate at 425-A Decatur Street, Brooklyn, New York.

~~REMITTED UPON SUBMISSION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-~~  
**SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>John F. Malone</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau (100-355489) 3 Omaha (100-4095) 2 Louisville (100-3650) <i>OK</i>  <b>COPY IN FILE</b>	100-355489-38 JAN 2 1952 8 FILE	RECORDED - 75 INDEXED - 75
	STAT. SECT. <i>[Signature]</i>	

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63 JAN 29 1952

85 1 NOV 7 1962

LŠ 100-3650

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Reference: Omaha letter to the Bureau, dated December 13, 1951.

Office

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: January 3, 1952

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-22938)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 02-21-2006 BY AUC 60309  
TAM/DCG/JW

G.I.R.-7

SUBJECT: EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka Mrs. Stanley Griffin, Edna May Williams  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Rerep of SA [redacted] at Omaha dated 10/23/51.

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Referenced report set out a lead for the Chicago office to verify if possible the attendance of Mrs. EDNA GRIFFIN at the American Peoples Congress and Exposition for Peace held in Chicago, Illinois, on June 29, to July 1, 1951, and also attempt to establish through available source if they were in contact with known Communist Party members while in Chicago.

The following confidential informants of the Chicago office were contacted and advised they are not familiar with the names of the subject and subsequently do not know if the subject attended this convention:

[redacted] who advised SA [redacted] on November 13, 1951.

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[redacted] who advised SA [redacted] on November 13, 1951.

[redacted] who advised SA [redacted] on November 14, 1951.

[redacted] who advised SA [redacted] on November 16, 1951.

[redacted] who was contacted by SA [redacted] on November 14, 1951.

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[redacted] who was contacted by SA [redacted] on November 19, 1951.

There is no information in the files of the Chicago office concerning anyone who can be identified with the subject.  
Ruc

JEM:DK

cc: OMAHA

RECORDED - 159

100-355489-39

JAN 5 1952

246  
65 JAN 11 1952

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FORM No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE NO.

b7C

REPORT MADE AT <b>OMAHA, NEBRASKA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1-2-52</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>11-15,23;12-18,23,24,29-51;1-2,4-52</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>RMF</b>
TITLE <b>EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, Aka., Mrs. Stanley Griffin, Edna May Williams</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject in contact with [redacted] both reliably reported of Communistic affiliations, and OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM, Communist Party organizer in the State of Iowa and Nebraska. Subject is active in possible Civil Rights law suit against Sioux City, Iowa Police based on their arrest of one [redacted] negro, on charge of prostitution. [redacted] of subject, receiving several copies of "Daily Worker" and "The Worker", an east coast Communist Daily newspaper and an east coast Communist Sunday newspaper respectively. Subject described by reliable source as an active member of Communist Party since her arrival in Des Moines, Iowa. Same source indicates that subject was head of the Des Moines branch of the Communist Party located in Des Moines, Iowa.

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4-112  
11-1  
GIR-6  
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yes  
cc A/R  
2-13-52  
Des Moines

- P -  
DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DCG/JW  
ON 02-21-2006

DETAILS:

AT DES MOINES, IOWA:

BACKGROUND

Subject still resides at 1108 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and is still a housewife.

ACTIVITIES

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that the subject in company with [redacted] went to

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-355489) 2 - Chicago 2 - New York 2 - Springfield (100-8348) 3 - Omaha (100-4095) <b>COPY IN FILE</b>		SECURITY INFORMATION - <del>CONFIDENTIAL</del> 100-355489-49 RECORDED - 105 INDEXED - 105 JAN 25 1952 10

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62 FEB 15 1952  
 601 NOV 7 1962

OM 100-4095

Sioux City, Iowa on December 19, 1951. This trip was made in connection with the arrest of one [redacted] in December of 1951 by the Sioux City Police Department on a charge of prostitution. According to Informant [redacted] EDNA MAY GRIFFIN has been active in the investigation of this arrest and is attempting to push a possible Civil Rights law suit against the Sioux City Police for the arrest of [redacted] [redacted] a negro, on the charge of prostitution.

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In connection with this visit, subject contacted Reverend BRIGHAM, President of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Sioux City, Iowa, and also talked before the negro ministerial alliance in Sioux City. She also attended two meetings of the United Packing House Workers Union in Sioux City, Iowa, in connection with this arrest suit and was accompanied by [redacted]

On December 23, 1951, there was a meeting held at [redacted] at which were present OTTO EDVOID ANSTROM, a [redacted] EDNA GRIFFIN and [redacted]

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On December 26, 1951, there was another meeting at [redacted] at which [redacted] of the United Packing House Workers Union, Des Moines, Iowa, [redacted] of the United Packing House Workers Union, were also present. [redacted] who was present at this meeting.

According to Informant [redacted] EDNA GRIFFIN, [redacted] and his wife, also went to Sioux City, Iowa, on December 8, 1951 in connection with the [redacted] matter.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that the subject has been an active member of the Communist Party since her arrival in Des Moines, Iowa. Informant [redacted] advised that the subject was head of the Des Moines Branch of the Communist Party located in Des Moines, Iowa, and had always complained to WARREN WILLIAM BATTERSON, former District Organizer of District #32, the State of Nebraska and Iowa, that she did not have a sufficient number of members of the Communist Party to work with in Des Moines, Iowa. It was the belief of Informant [redacted] that subject is a sincere Communist Party member and that the Communist Party would always come first in her opinion.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that the subject's minor daughters, [redacted] received copies of "The Daily Worker", an east coast Communist newspaper, on September 17,

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OM 100-4095

1951, September 20, 1951, September 21, 1951, September 22, 1951, September 26, 1951, September 27, 1951, September 28, 1951, September 29, 1951, October 1, 1951, October 3, 1951, October 4, 1951, October 5, 1951, and on October 8, 1951 and October 15, 1951. They also received copies of "The Worker", an east coast Sunday Communist newspaper on September 22, 1951, October 8, 1951 and on October 15, 1951.

Informant [ ] also advised that on September 20, 1951, Dr. and Mrs. STANLEY GRIFFIN received correspondence from [ ] Brooklyn 2, New York. On the same date EDNA GRIFFIN received a communication from Freedom Associates, 53 West 125th Street, New York 27, New York, and from "Vets Voice", Post Office Box 282, Forest Hills, New York.

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On September 22, 1951, Dr. and Mrs. STANLEY GRIFFIN received a communication from Markovin Committee to End Discrimination, Chicago Medical Institution, 3422 West Monroe Street, Chicago 12, Illinois. They received communications from suite #1302, 11 West 42nd Street, New York 18, New York on September 27, 1951. They received a communication from [ ] Des Moines, Iowa, on September 29, 1951.

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On September 29, 1951, according to Informant [ ] EDNA GRIFFIN received correspondence with no return address, that was originally mailed to [ ] Des Moines, Iowa.

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Dr. and Mrs. STANLEY GRIFFIN received correspondence from [ ] with the initials [ ] thereafter, then [ ] Illinois, postmarked Waukegan, Illinois.

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Mrs. EDNA GRIFFIN received communications on October 4, 1951, from the Little Frame Shop, 192 West 4th Street, New York 14, New York. On October 5, 1951, Mrs. STANLEY GRIFFIN received a communication from one [ ]

Informant [ ] also advised that the subject had been in correspondence with a [ ] Iowa, a [ ] [ ] New York.

[ ] is described by Informant [ ] as a member of the Communist Party.

According to Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability, OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM is the Communist Party organizer for the State of Iowa.

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[ ] according to Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability, is a self admitted Communist.

- P E N D I N G -

OM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

The following information was furnished by Informant [ ] and is being placed on the Administrative Page due to the limited number of persons present when the conversations took place which would possibly permit the identification of Informant if known to other sources.

During the last week in November, 1951, according to [ ] EDNA GRIFFIN received a letter from [ ] Iowa, stating that a lawyer in Sioux City, Iowa, could get [ ] a parole for \$500 based on some new evidence. [ ] a negro, was convicted of a rape charge from Sioux City, Iowa, and is now in Iowa State Penitentiary at Fort Madison, Iowa.

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On the trip to Sioux City, Iowa, on December 8, 1951, on which [ ] drove the car and was accompanied by EDNA, [ ] and his wife, [ ] talked freely concerning FRED STOVER and the Farmers Union paper. The Korean situation was discussed and according to [ ] EDNA and [ ] [ ] follow the party lines as regards the war in Korea being a capitalistic aggression proposition and that the United Nations should not be there.

EDNA GRIFFIN also indicated to [ ] that [ ] will possibly organize an association in Sioux City, Iowa, under the name of "League to Protect Minorities" under the guidance of EDNA GRIFFIN.

After the trip to Sioux City, Iowa, on December 22, 1951, upon returning to Des Moines, Iowa, and arriving at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN, [ ] [ ] said a report should be made to [ ] [ ] and FRED STOVER, [ ] also indicated that he was broke and EDNA said she would call one [ ] and that this fellow would help [ ]

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At the meeting at [ ] OTTO ANSTROM headed the discussion and confined it mostly to the need of someone to coordinate the activities of the various groups such as the most effective manner to use the Packing House Union and the Farmers Union. He also said to exploit the [ ] case as much as possible and to move on any issue of JIM CROW.

On December 25, 1951, at a Christmas dinner at the home of the subject, one [ ] was at the dinner and read the typewritten report that had been made up concerning the trip to Sioux City, Iowa, on the [ ] case.

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OM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

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[ ] also advised that he gave \$1.00 to the W. E. DuBOIS fund and then after DuBOIS was acquitted he remarked to EDNA, "why could not they stop soliciting funds." EDNA said "No, they still did not have enough money."

OTTO was again at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN on December 27, 1951.

INFORMANTS

Informant [ ]

Informant [ ] [ ] furnished this information at the Chicago Office on June 2, 26, 27, 1951. On the former date she was interviewed by SA [ ] of the Chicago Field Division and SA [ ] of the Omaha Field Division. On June 26 and 27, 1951, she was interviewed by SA [ ] of the Chicago Office and SA [ ] of the Omaha Office.

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Informant [ ] is the results of mail cover placed on the subject and her family on September 11, 1951, at Des Moines, Iowa.

Informant [ ] is [ ] Information received by Newark teletype dated 2-10-51 entitled "OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM, wa., INTERNAL SECURITY - C and R".

Informant [ ] is [ ] who furnished the information in May, 1948 as set out in report of SA [ ] dated 1-21-49 at Pittsburgh, Pa., entitled [ ] INTERNAL SECURITY - C."

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LEADS

THE NEW YORK DIVISION

At New York, New York:

Will search the indices in the New York Field Division under the organizational names of "Vets Voice", Post Office Box 282, Forest Hill, New York, the Little Frame Shop, 192 West 4th Street, New York, New York, and advise if these organizations are known to be of Communist affiliations.



OM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

LEADS  
(Continued)

If possible, will advise the occupants of [redacted] b7C  
[redacted] Brooklyn 2, New York, and if they are of Communist  
affiliations.

Will do the same with suite #1302, 11 West 42nd Street, New York,  
New York.

Will do the same as regards Communist connections or affiliations  
of [redacted] Woodside, Long Island, New York. b7C

THE CHICAGO DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois:

Will search their indices under the name of the Markovin  
Committee to end Discrimination, Chicago Medical Institution, 3422 West  
Monroe Street, Chicago 12, Illinois and advise if this is an organization  
of Communist affiliations.

Will ascertain if there is an [redacted] with initials b7C  
[redacted] thereafter, and [redacted] Great Lakes, Illinois, and if so,  
if this person is of Communistic affiliations.

\*Will, if possible, verify the attendance of Mr. STANLEY and  
Mrs. EDNA GRIFFIN at the American Peoples Congress and Exposition for  
Peace held in Chicago, Illinois, June 29 - July 1, 1951, and also attempt  
to establish through available sources, if they were in contact with known  
Communist Party members while in Chicago.

THE SPRINGFIELD DIVISION

At Rock Island, Illinois:

Will ascertain if [redacted] Rock Island,  
Illinois, is of Communist affiliations.

THE OMAHA DIVISION

At Des Moines, Iowa:

Will ascertain identity of residents at [redacted]  
Des Moines, Iowa, and their background as regards possible connections with  
the subject. b7C

OM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

L E A D S  
(Continued)

Will ascertain the identity and background of [redacted] of [redacted] Des Moines, Iowa, and possible connection with the subject. b7C

Will identify [redacted] and secure further background data concerning this individual to ascertain his connection with subject. b2 b7C b7D

Will maintain contact with [redacted] in order to follow the activities of the subject and also specifically attempt to ascertain what connection there is between the subject and [redacted] [redacted] Des Moines, Iowa.

At Cedar Rapids, Iowa:

Will ascertain the identity and background of [redacted] [redacted] in an effort to determine her connection with the subject and if she is of Communist affiliation.

b7C

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] dated 10-23-51 at Omaha.

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-355489)

DATE: March 25, 1952

*HTD*

FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (100-22938)

SUBJECT: EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, Aka.,  
Mrs. Stanley Griffin,  
Edna May Williams  
SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 02-09-2006 BY AUC 60309

Rerep SA [redacted] at Omaha dated 1/22/52. TAM/DCG/JW

b7C

Referenced report set out leads for the Chicago Office.

The asterisked lead was covered by letter to the Director from Chicago dated January 3, 1952.

A search of the indices of the Chicago Office on February 6, 1952, under the name of the Markovin Committee to end Discrimination did not reveal any information concerning this organization.

SA [redacted] advised on March 17, 1952, that investigation on March 6, 1952, at Great Lakes, Illinois, furnished the following information:

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[redacted] Office of Naval Intelligence, U. S. Naval Training Center, advised that one [redacted] Wave, Hospital apprentice, is presently assigned to [redacted] Navy records show her home address [redacted] Des Moines, Iowa. [redacted] advised that [redacted]

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He stated that his office had no information concerning [redacted] regarding any Communist affiliations or tendencies.

RUC.

WJP:BJB

CG: Omaha (100-1095)

RECORDED - 139

INDEXED - 139

*100-355489-41*

MAR 28 1952

*436*  
APR 3 1952

*[Handwritten signature]*

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

OMAHA

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT Springfield, Illinois	DATE WHEN MADE 3-25-52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2-12;3-17-52	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted] <span style="float: right;">b7C JWM:ng</span>
TITLE EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka., Mrs. Stanley Griffin, Edna May Williams		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

[Redacted] Illinois, [Redacted] Des Moines, Iowa. Informant states [Redacted] not believed to be CP member although sympathetic with CP principles. b7C

-RUC DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DCC/JT  
ON 02-09-2006

**DETAILS: AT ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS**

Confidential Informant [Redacted] of known reliability, advised that [Redacted] resides with [Redacted] in an apartment adjoining the District 8 Headquarters of the United Electrical and Machine Workers of America. [Redacted] recently returned to her present husband after having previously divorced him in order to marry [Redacted] of Des Moines, Iowa, known by [Redacted] to be a Communist Party member. [Redacted] allegedly divorced [Redacted] because he was not, "far enough to the left to suit her". Her marriage to [Redacted] was short lived chiefly by reason of the fact that [Redacted] former wife was so well-liked by the associates of [Redacted]. Upon obtaining a divorce from [Redacted] returned to [Redacted] returned to his former wife. According to [Redacted] appears to be entirely unstable and is considered to be an alcoholic. She has

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *[Signature]*

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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- 3-Omaha (100-4095) (RM)
- 2-Springfield (100-8348) (RM)

100-355489-42

MAR 28 1952

RECORDED - 129

INDEXED - 129

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SI 100-8348

previously attempted to obtain membership in the Communist Party in the Rock Island area but is not a member unless she obtained membership in Des Moines, Iowa, at the time of her marriage to [redacted]

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EDNA MAY GRIFFIN is unknown to [redacted] who has knowledge of Communist activities in the Rock Island area.

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~~-REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN-~~

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-355489)

DATE: 3-28-52

FROM : SAC, OMAHA (100-4095)

Card U.T.D.  
Ch. 5.2 a/c

SUBJECT: EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka, Mrs. Stanley Griffin, Edna May Williams  
IS-C

*Change*  
*Made*  
*ide*  
*S.I.*  
*gms*

Enclosed herewith for the completion of the Bureau files is photo of captioned subject.

Because of her increased activities and her close association with OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM, who is the CP Organizer for Iowa and Nebraska, this subject is being added to the Key Figure List maintained by the Omaha Office.

**MAKE KEY**  
**FIGURE**  
STAT SECT'N  
APR 7 9 30 AM '52  
FINGERPRINTS TA

JVB:KDH

Encl. (1)

REGISTERED MAIL

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DJG/JW  
ON 02-09-2006

SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL

ENC

100-355489-43

RECORDED - 13

MAR 31 1952

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EX-23

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

MAY 7 1952

*[Handwritten signature]*

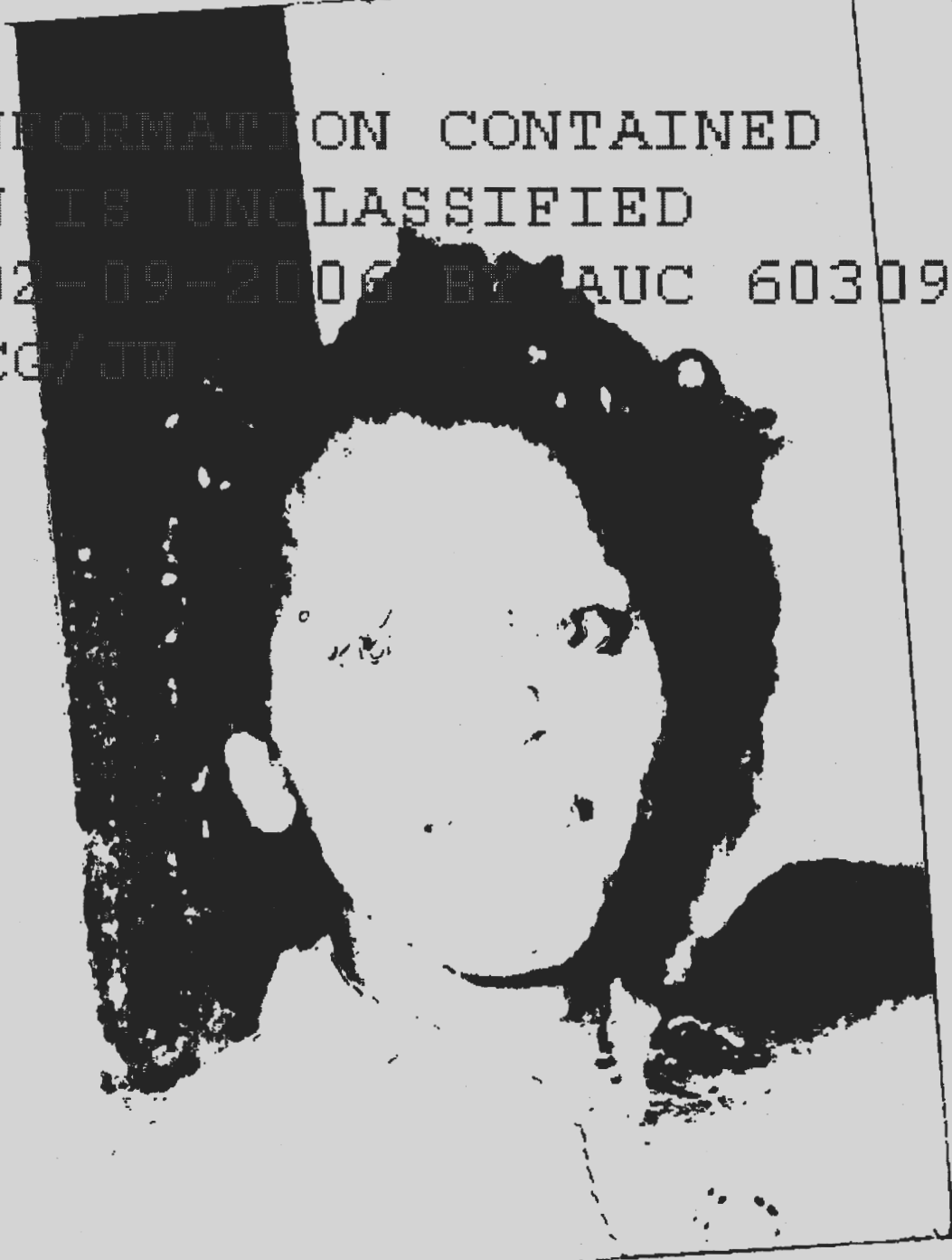
*[Handwritten signature]*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 02-09-2006 BY AUC 60309  
TAM/DCG/JW

ENCL. TO BUREAU  
OM 100-4095  
PHOTO OF EDNA MAY BRITTON

100-355489-43

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 02-09-2006 BY AUC 60309  
TAM/DCG/JW





EDNA GRIFFIN

photo taken 12/25/51

BACK OF PHOTO

Amaha file 100-4095-  
16②

100-355489-43

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT OMAHA

REPORT MADE AT Omaha, Nebraska	DATE WHEN MADE 5-2-52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1-24, 2-1, 7, 11, 20, 27, 3-7, 10, 27, 4-7, 14, 18, 27-52	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted] b7C RMF
TITLE EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka., Mrs. Stanley Griffin, Edna May Williams		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** Subject in continued contact with Communist Party members in Nebraska and Iowa. Still active in Civil Rights action in Sioux City, Iowa, involving the arrest of [Redacted] for prostitution by Sioux City Police Department. b7C

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DCG/JW  
ON 02-21-2006 - P -

**DETAILS:** AT DES MOINES, IOWA:

RESIDENCE

Confidential Informant [Redacted] of known reliability, advised that subject still resides at 1108 - 3rd Street in Des Moines, Iowa, and is still a housewife.

CONNECTION WITH COMMUNIST PARTY OR OTHER  
REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS

According to Informant [Redacted] and OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM were present at the home of the subject at 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, on December 29, 1951.

According to Confidential Informant [Redacted] of known reliability and Informant [Redacted] is a member of the Communist Party.

OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM, according to [Redacted] and Confidential Informant [Redacted] of known reliability,

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J. Dalton</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>100-355489-44</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (100-355489) (REG MAIL) 2 - Chicago (REG MAIL) 3 - Omaha (100-4095)		SECURITY INFORMATION - <del>CONFIDENTIAL</del> RECORDED - 124 INDEXED - 124 MAY 5 1952 EX-99
<b>COPY IN FILE</b>		

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is Organizer for the Communist Party in the State of Iowa and Nebraska.

The main problem discussed at this meeting was as indicated by OTTO ANSTROM that the Communist Party of the United States was pledged to support negro business and encourage negroes to go into business creating a bourgeoisie class and the idea of a negro nation.

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On January 9, 1952, according to Informant [redacted] OTTO ANSTROM was present at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN, 1108 - 3rd Street.

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On January 14, 1952, OTTO ANSTROM and the subject were present at the home of the subject at 1108 - 3rd Street in Des Moines, Iowa.

According to Informant [redacted] the subject is still vitally interested in the Civil Rights action in Sioux City, Iowa, against the Sioux City Police Department for arresting a [redacted] [redacted] on a charge of prostitution.

According to [redacted], EDNA GRIFFIN went to Sioux City, Iowa, on January 18, 1952 and returned on January 23, 1952 in connection with the [redacted] case. She is attempting to put out leaflets, letters, and so forth, and also to get women's church groups active on behalf of [redacted].

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On January 26, 1952, [redacted] and EDNA GRIFFIN were all present at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN. [redacted]

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According to Confidential Informant Omaha [redacted] of known reliability, [redacted] is a self-admitted Communist. Informant [redacted] also advised that [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party.

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On February 4, 1952, OTTO ANSTROM was at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN, 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa. He was again present at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN on February 8, 1952, according to [redacted]

On [redacted] the following persons met at [redacted] [redacted] FRED STOVER, a [redacted] and [redacted] This information was furnished by Informant [redacted]

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According to Informant [redacted] is

OM 100-4095

a member of the Communist Party. [ ] also believes that [ ] is a member of the Communist Party. According to [ ] if not a member, is at least regarded as highly sympathetic to Communism. [ ] is a member of the Communist Party according to [ ] and [ ] is of Communist sentiments and associates with persons known to [ ] as Communist Party members.

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[ ] advised that on February 15, 1952, the subject went to Sioux City, Iowa, and returned on February 18, 1952 in connection with the [ ] Civil Rights action.

On February 29, 1952, according to [ ] OTTO ANSTROM was present at the home of the subject EDNA GRIFFIN.

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On March 3, 1952, OTTO ANSTROM was at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN.

SPEECHES, WRITINGS, ETC., AND PERTINENT CONTACTS WITH C.P. LEADERS

By letter dated January 11, 1952, the Laboratory advised that an examination of a letter addressed to [ ] signed "with love, EDNA GRIFFIN" was signed by the known signature of EDNA GRIFFIN. [ ] in the case entitled "UNITED STATES Versus WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN, ETAL, United States District Court, Los Angeles, California, Communist Party - USA" and of prosecution under the Smith Act.

b7C

As regards contact with Communist Party Leaders, contacts with OTTO ANSTROM, Communist Party Organizer of the State of Iowa and Nebraska were set out under the previous caption.

MISCELLANEOUS

It was ascertained that B. E. COLEMAN, a correspondent of the subject, 1007 - 18th Street, Des Moines, Iowa, is a Miss BESSIE COLEMAN, age 70, who, according to the information contained in the Des Moines Credit Bureau, was a former teacher with the St. Louis, Missouri Board of Education having retired in October of 1950. In St. Louis she resided at 1703 Good Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri. According to a written report in the Credit Bureau she is described as conservative, of good habits, character, and reputation. She is not known to [ ] as being connected with Communist activities.

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OM 100-4095

b7C

AT CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA:

It was ascertained that [redacted] a correspondent of the subject, is [redacted]

On May 31, 1952, the car of [redacted] was observed by Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, parked in front of the [redacted] home.

According to Informant [redacted] was known to be a member of the Communist Party from approximately 1946 until at least September 1950.

On August 7, 1951, Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that an [redacted] who said he was a member of the American Peace Crusade spoke at a meeting held at the [redacted] Cedar Rapids, [redacted] the night of [redacted] indicated that the invitation to this meeting was extended by [redacted] and that at the meeting [redacted] indicated he advocated trade with Russia, recognition of the Chinese Communist Government, and said that America did not belong in Korea and we should settle the war.

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The Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities statement issued on the March of Treason, February 9, 1951, cited the American Peace Crusade as an organization which "the Communists established" as a "new instrument for their Peace Offensive of the United States" and which was heralded by "The Daily Worker", an East Coast daily Communist newspaper, "with the usual bold headlines reserved for projects in line with the Communist objectives."

According to Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, [redacted] was stated to be a member of the Communist Party.

Investigation in Chicago, Illinois, disclosed that one [redacted] a correspondent of the subject, [redacted] presently assigned to [redacted] Her home address is listed as [redacted] Des Moines, Iowa. There was no information concerning [redacted] regarding any Communist affiliations or tendencies.

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Investigation at Chicago, Illinois failed to establish further verification of the subject's attendance at the American People's Congress and Exposition for Peace held in Chicago, Illinois on

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - INFORMATION YET TO BE

OM 100-4095

June 29 to July 1, 1951.

The Indices of the Chicago office did not reveal any information under the name of MARKOVIN Committee to end Discrimination, a correspondent of the subject.

- P E N D I N G -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - INFORMATION YET TO BE

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

The following information is being set forth on the Administrative Page due to the limited number of persons present when Informant [ ] secured the information and inasmuch as it is believed that if the information were known to outside sources it would possibly permit the identification of Informant [ ] b2 b7D

[ ] advised as regards the meeting of OTTO ANSTROM, [ ] EDNA GRIFFIN, at [ ] OTTO ANSTROM concealed himself in the bedroom of the subject's home until he ascertained who the visitors were when [ ] and his wife arrived late. At this meeting they discussed the negro question and OTTO stated that he did not have very much information on negroes as he had been ordered by the Party to destroy all of his clippings and other information. OTTO also made the statement that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was a good organization through which to work.

OTTO also stated that he felt the negro people were ready for action and it was up to the rest of them to provide the answers. He did not state what he meant with regards being "Ready for action". OTTO wanted to know about the negro students on the college campuses. b2 b7C b7D

At the meeting on [ ] at which OTTO ANSTROM and EDNA GRIFFIN were also present, EDNA told [ ] about her meeting that day with RUSSELL BULL and FRED STOVER during which she had tried to obtain funds to help [ ] and also the possibility of getting the Executive Board of the Farmers Union to pass a resolution supporting the [ ] case in Sioux City, Iowa.

ANSTROM also asked EDNA and [ ] who in their opinion would make the best Progressive Party candidate for President. The discussion centered around VITO MARCANTONIO, PAUL ROBESON and FRED STOVER. EDNA GRIFFIN thought that ROBESON would be a good candidate but she said there were a lot of Liberals who were sitting on the fence who could not quite bring themselves to vote for a negro President. EDNA GRIFFIN was referring mainly to the farmers and others of the middle west who have had limited contact with persons of negro heritage. ANSTROM said that he could understand this but he thought that [ ] and EDNA could do a lot to change the view point of the white persons in this regard. b2 b7D

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

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On January 14, 1952, EDNA demonstrated a leaflet to OTTO and [ ] which he had had prepared to be circulated among all the churches at Sioux City, Iowa, which was in the form of a letter.

The possibilities of Progressive Party candidates were again discussed by these three individuals. They discussed the [ ] case in Sioux City and methods as to how to unify Labor, particularly the Packing House Workers behind the case.

b7C

On January 23, 1952, when EDNA GRIFFIN returned from Sioux City, Iowa, concerning the [ ] case, she advised [ ] that Labor had deserted the [ ] case and that [ ] a negro in the anti-discrimination league of the Packinghouse workers had helped kill these activities and also [ ] EDNA stated that she was going to contact [ ] to see what could be done about this situation. She also stated that Reverend BRIGHAM of the NAACP had lost some of his enthusiasm concerning the case.

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At the meeting on January 26, 1952, [ ] was accused by EDNA GRIFFIN of being a "white supremacist". This accusation by EDNA was based upon the fact that according to her he did not do all he could do with [ ] and another fellow who is President of the local in Sioux City, Iowa, United Packinghouse Workers. As is known, [ ] of Public Relations, United Packinghouse Workers, District #3.

b7C

EDNA accused [ ] of not getting negro women employment in the Packing Plants.

On January 29, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN advised [ ] that in company with [ ] she had gone to visit a negro farmer family in Orlabor or Orlando, Iowa.

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On January 30, 1952, EDNA advised [ ] that she had received a letter from [ ] presently incarcerated at Fort Madison, Iowa on conviction of rape and she wanted to know what could be done getting the Farmers Union and Farm Labor concerned about the case.

On February 4, 1952, OTTO ANSTROM came to the home of EDNA GRIFFIN with Communist Literature which he carried in a small Navy or Armed Service canvas bag and [ ] purchased \$1.56 worth of this literature. ANSTROM advised that during the last month, apparently meaning January, he had lost \$28.00 on literature. OTTO told EDNA to keep track of the money that [ ] owed him for the literature.

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On February 9, 1952, at the meeting mentioned in the investigative body of this report, FRED STOVER did the majority of the talking and everyone else just listened. They discussed problems in the Farmers Union and then EDNA talked about "JIM CROW" issue and how



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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

the same pattern works against the Farmers and women as against the negro.

EDNA GRIFFIN wanted the Woodbury County Farmers Union to protest the arrest of [redacted] b7C

EDNA GRIFFIN, according to [redacted] had indicated an interest in a negro newspaper, the "Iowa Sepia News", which according to [redacted] was in possible financial straits and she placed a telephone call to [redacted] Chicago, Illinois, telephone number Dearborn 2096 to talk to him about the newspaper in Des Moines, Iowa. She also tried to reach the man at Museum 47645 in Chicago.

On February 11, 1952, the subject informed [redacted] that she was proud of the fact that FREDERICK STOVER had been at her home and the Party had finally been successful in getting him to come to her house. [redacted] at which STOVER had been present had been to help map out a policy which would meet the objections raised by [redacted] of the National Farmers Union against STOVER. b2 b7C b7D

On February 15, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN went to Sioux City, Iowa, in relation to the [redacted] case and returned on Monday, February 18, 1952. She advised [redacted] that while in Sioux City, Iowa, they had held a tea in which they had gathered together a group of negro and white women to work on the [redacted] case. She also stated that [redacted] was present at this gathering. She also stated that she had had an argument with OTTO ANSTROM concerning how rapidly the Trade Unions and Farmers Unions were to work on the question of JIM CROW issues.

On February 20, 1952 EDNA GRIFFIN told [redacted] that there had been an argument between [redacted] and [redacted] in Omaha, Nebraska. EDNA stated that [redacted] was so afraid of being watched that he was fearful of doing anything constructive in Omaha, Nebraska and that OTTO would have to straighten this out whether he liked to or not.

On February 21, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN consulted [redacted] concerning the questionnaire which [redacted] had received from the Loyalty Review Board concerning [redacted] and his association with EDNA GRIFFIN. b2 b7C b7D

On February 22, 1952, as previously reported to the Bureau, [redacted] came to the home of Informant [redacted] where EDNA GRIFFIN

OM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

was also present and OTTO ANSTROM. They discussed the best way for [ ] to handle the situation as regards answering the Loyalty Questionnaire. EDNA later rough drafted the answers for [ ] and her rough draft answers are contained in the file of Informant [ ]

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OTTO ANSTROM told EDNA GRIFFIN to try and influence the NAACP in Des Moines, Iowa, to help sell WILLIAM PATTERSON's book "Genocide". At the same time EDNA also informed OTTO concerning her contacts with [ ] and the fact that he was going to Sioux City, Iowa, to arouse the Packinghouse Workers as regards JIM CROW issues. She also showed OTTO a letter she had received from the Progressive Party concerning candidates for President and Vice President.

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EDNA also informed [ ] that they should never mention names over the telephone as it is against Party policy to mention names over the phone.

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On February 25, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN asked [ ] what the [ ] family could do because their landlady had asked them to move out of their apartment since they had had negro guests, namely, STANLEY and EDNA GRIFFIN.

[ ] while [ ] was at [ ] OTTO ANSTROM told him that they were going to meet at [ ] house the next day and that Informant should prepare food for them.

On Sunday, March 2, 1952, a meeting, which was later termed as a District Organizational Meeting, was held at the home of [ ] OTTO ANSTROM in company with an individual known as [ ] later identified as [ ] subject of a Smith Act investigation, Chicago Field Division, and organizer for the Communist Party in Illinois, arrived at approximately 9:45 a.m. and the following persons also were present at the meeting: [ ] Omaha, Nebraska; [ ] Des Moines, Iowa; [ ] Des Moines, Iowa; EDNA GRIFFIN, Des Moines, Iowa; and [ ] Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

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All of these are known Communist Party members and the activities of this meeting have already been reported to the Bureau.

On February 26, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN informed [ ] that [ ] was not a Communist and she would not join the Communist Party because of the [ ] had been treated in Omaha, Nebraska and [ ] was afraid of OTTO. EDNA then told [ ] that OTTO was a trained revolutionist and had been trained in Russia.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

INFORMANTS

Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau. [redacted] furnished the information to SA [redacted] by written report on February 7, 1952, February 27, 1952, and March 10, 1952.

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Informant [redacted] She furnished the information attributed to her in instant report to SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] of the Chicago Office and SA [redacted] of the Omaha Office on June 2, 26, and 27, 1951 in the Chicago Field Division.

Informant [redacted] Information was received by Newark teletype dated 2-10-51 entitled "OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM, was., IS-C & R".

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Informant [redacted] who furnished the information on May 1948 as set out in report of SA [redacted] dated January 21, 1949 at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania entitled [redacted] aka., [redacted] INTERNAL Security - C".

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Informant [redacted] is SA [redacted] of the Omaha Field Division who secured the information by surveillance.

Informant [redacted] who furnished the information to SA [redacted] and SA [redacted] of the Omaha Division on August 7, 1951.

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Informant [redacted] who furnished information to SA [redacted] and [redacted] This was set forth in report of SA [redacted] dated June 27, 1951, New York, New York, entitled "AMERICAN PEACE CRUSADE, Internal Security - C".

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

L E A D S

THE CHICAGO DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois:

b7C

Will check their indices and conduct preliminary investigation on [redacted] telephone number Dearborn 2096 or Museum 47645 and advise if he is of Communist affiliation.

THE OMAHA DIVISION

At Des Moines, Iowa:

Will ascertain the identity of residents at [redacted] Des Moines, Iowa, and their background as regards possible connection with the subject.

b7C

Will attempt to identify [redacted] and secure further background data concerning this individual to ascertain his connection with the subject.

Will maintain contact with [redacted] in order to follow the activities of the subject and also attempt to ascertain the connection there is between the subject and [redacted] Des Moines, Iowa.

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REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] dated January 22, 1952 at Omaha, Nebraska.

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# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-355489)

DATE: May 29, 1952

*H.T.O. SWA*  
FROM : SAC, Chicago (100-22938)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 02-21-2006 BY AUC 60309  
TAM/DCG/JW

SUBJECT: EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka Mrs. Stanley Griffin, Edna May Williams  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

*G.I.R. 3 4-10-52*  
*11-1*

Rerep of SA [redacted] 5/2/52, Omaha.

*Y.M.*  
[redacted] advised on July 11, 1946, that he had learned from GIL GREEN that one [redacted] was one of the Communist Party members recommended for the Communist Party, District #8, Review Commission.

It is to be noted that GIL GREEN is one of the eleven Communists convicted at New York in 1949, for advocating the overthrow of the Government of the United States.

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[redacted] advised SA [redacted] by written report on July 24, 1951, that [redacted] Chicago [redacted] the Hyde Park-Kenwood Chapter of the Civil Rights Congress as of May 9, 1951. The original report is located in A) 66-3566-1-B, 76, Chicago file.

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited by the Attorney General as being a Communist organization within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The October, 1951, Chicago telephone directory listed the telephone number DEARBORN 2-2096 to one WALTER A. LEEDS, optometrist, 108 North State Street, Chicago, with residence at [redacted] Chicago.

The records of the Chicago office reflect no information identifiable with [redacted]

b7C

[redacted] Chicago, telephone MUSEUM 4-7645, was contacted by SA [redacted] under pretext on December 11, 1951, and she advised that [redacted] negro, was self-employed, and presently resides at that address. [redacted]

WJD:tms

**EX-92**

**RECORDED-37**

*100-355489-45*

REGISTERED MAIL

**INDEXED-37**

cc: Omaha (Registered)

*fgg*  
**64 JUN 11 1952** COPIES DESTROYED

86 1 NOV 7 1962

*0-1 to Omaha  
6-25-52  
jms*

*jms*

Director, FBI

[redacted] advised that a message could be delivered to him during business hours by calling telephone number DEARBORN 2-0956, and leaving the message with the party answering the phone.

It is to be noted that telephone number DE 2-0956 is listed to [redacted] Chicago.

b7C

An anonymous source advised on May 3, 1946, that [redacted] Chicago, Illinois, was a member of the Rogers Park Club of the Communist Party.

Due to the similarity of telephone numbers it is suggested that the number DE 2-0956 was the number called by EDNA GRIFFIN.

The report of SA [redacted] dated January 22, 1952, at Omaha, sets out a lead for the Chicago office to determine the Communist affiliations of the Markovin Committee to End Discrimination, Chicago Medical Institution, 3422 West Monroe Street, Chicago 12, Illinois.

b7C

[redacted] advised SA [redacted] by written report on May 6, 1952, that [redacted] Chicago, married [redacted]

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[redacted]. The informant further advised that [redacted] stated he would reside with [redacted] and [redacted] Chicago.

The original report is located in A) 66-2612-1-B, 58, Chicago file. It is to be noted that the address of the Markovin Committee was [redacted] Chicago.

[redacted] orally advised SA [redacted] on November 16, 1951, that [redacted]

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[redacted] is a member of the Professional Section of the Communist Party.

RUC.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SECURITY MATTER - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OMAHA**

REPORT MADE AT <b>Omaha, Nebraska</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7-8-52</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>4-22, 25, 28, 29; 5-3, 9, 12, 18, 29; 6-2, 11, 12, 13, 23; 7-2-52</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px; display: inline-block;"></div>
TITLE <b>EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka.,</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:** EDNA GRIFFIN continues to be in contact with CP members in Des Moines, Iowa. Subject elected State Chairman of Iowa Progressive Party at Progressive Party convention June 16, 1952, Des Moines, Iowa.

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DCG/JW  
ON 02-21-2006

**DETAILS:** AT DES MOINES, IOWA:

RESIDENCE

Confidential Informant Omaha [redacted] of known reliability, advised the subject still resides at 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and is still a housewife. This same source advised that the subject was elected State Chairman of the Iowa Progressive Party at a Progressive Party convention held on June 16, 1952 in Des Moines, Iowa.

CONNECTION WITH COMMUNIST PARTY OR OTHER  
REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS

According to Confidential Informant Omaha [redacted] OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM and [redacted] were present at the home at EDNA GRIFFIN, 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

*Postcard  
etc  
R/R  
7/24/52  
just in*

**CLB-24 4-1**

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b7D

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b7D

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <b>100-355489-46</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 - Bureau (100-355489) (REG MAIL)		<b>RECORDED - 34</b>
3 - Omaha (100-4098) COPIES DESTROYED		<b>INDEXED - 34</b>
JUL 31 1952		<i>[Handwritten initials]</i>

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**64 JUL 29 1952**

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-59255-2

OM 100-4095

OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM, according to [redacted] and Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, [redacted] for the Communist Party in the State of Iowa and Nebraska.

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According to [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party in Iowa.

On May 5, 1952, although EDNA GRIFFIN was not present at her home at 1108 - 3rd Street, [redacted] and OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM were present at the house.

b7C

On [redacted] and OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM were present at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN. HOMER AYRES was also present at this meeting.

According to Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, HOMER AYRES is a member of the Communist Party and was a member (active) of the Communist Party through 1948 at least. [redacted] stated that [redacted] was not openly a Communist Party member but to a few was a known member.

On May 11, 1952, OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM visited the home of EDNA GRIFFIN.

On May 13, 1952, OTTO ANSTROM visited the home of EDNA GRIFFIN.

On May 16, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN returned from Sioux City, Iowa where she had gone on May 13, 1952. Information was received from [redacted] that the trial concerning [redacted] at Sioux City, Iowa, with regards to suit against the local police there for involving [redacted] by an arrest for prostitution had been lost.

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On June 1, 1952, subject was visited by OTTO ANSTROM and [redacted] from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. [redacted] of the Progressive Party in the State of Iowa and according to [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party.

[redacted] also visited EDNA GRIFFIN on June 1, 1952.

According to Confidential Informant [redacted] [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party.

On June 12, 1952, subject was visited by OTTO ANSTROM, [redacted] [redacted] and [redacted]

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[redacted] was described by [redacted] as a Communist Party member.



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On June 15, 1952, OTTO ANSTROM was at the home of the subject and on June 16, 1952, [REDACTED] was at the home of the subject.

b7C

On June 18, 1952, [REDACTED] was present at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN.

- P E N D I N G -

~~CONFIDENTIAL - INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED~~  
- 3 -

OM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

The following information is being placed on the Administrative Page due to the limited number of persons present when Informant [ ] secured the information and inasmuch as it is believed that if the information were known to outside sources it would possibly the identification of Informant [ ]

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[ ] advised that as of May 11, 1952, subject has been elected President of some ladies club in her church in Des Moines, Iowa. He stated that this was part of the party policy for those who are known members to create as many respectable persons as friends so that these friends can be character witnesses in case the party member is ever picked up.

On May 13, 1952, OTTO ANSTROM was present at the home of the subject and was complaining that no one was getting the "Daily Worker" or the Sunday "Worker", east coast Communist newspapers. OTTO stated that both EDNA's and [ ] subscriptions had run out and he told EDNA to be sure and renew her subscription.

b7C

On May 16, 1952, when EDNA returned from Sioux City, Iowa where she had visited concerning the [ ] trial, she advised that the trial had been lost. OTTO told EDNA that the trial was not a complete defeat because the sentiments had been aroused and the women had been aroused and felt like they were doing something. OTTO condemned the trial system and said that there is no Democracy in America and it is all a farce.

[ ] advised that on March 17, 1952, when RICHARD MORFORD was present in Des Moines, Iowa, EDNA had persuaded a group of mothers in Des Moines to sponsor a speaking engagement for Dr. MORFORD. EDNA hoped later to go on with this group of mothers into a so-called mothers council.

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As is known to the Bureau, RICHARD MORFORD is Executive Director of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Inc.

At the meeting a film was shown concerning Soviet mothers and MORFORD made a speech. After the meeting a social was held at the home of [ ], Des Moines, Iowa, and FRED STOVER, [ ] EDNA GRIFFIN and three or four mothers of the council were present.

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

EDNA told the mothers that this is a new day in America and women are equal to the men. MORFORD talked about his job and the job of the American Friends in Soviet Union and both EDNA and MORFORD tried to point out that Soviet mothers are no different in that they dislike war and want peace.

[redacted] advised that MORFORD attempts to secure the names of one or two mothers where ever he can and then he sends them packets of material telling things about the mothers in the Soviet Union. He also asks these mothers in the United States to hold meetings with other mothers who they know in their homes and tell them of the marvelous revelation they have found in these booklets from the American friends in the Soviet Union. Material is generally aimed at the home life and activities and Soviet youth. For example, they contrast the summer camps available to Soviet youth as compared to the summer camps available to the youth of Iowa. b2 b7D

On Sunday, June 1, 1952, when OTTO ANSTROM and [redacted] were present at the home of the subject, a mailing list had been secured from the National Guardian and from this list EDNA GRIFFIN and [redacted] were checking names to receive invitations to the Progressive Party Convention to be held in Des Moines, Iowa on June 16, 1952. These lists were also to be reviewed by [redacted] so that dead timber could be struck out. b7C

On June 4, 1952, EDNA and [redacted] believed to be [redacted] had worked Monday and Tuesday compiling mailing lists for the Progressive Party State Convention call.

On June 5, 1952, EDNA asked [redacted] to pick up the State Progressive Party calls at the United Packing House Workers Office where they had been mimeographed. She said that they had succeeded in getting [redacted] to mimeograph them for her. b2 b7C b7D

On June 6, 1952 they mailed these Progressive Party calls which included a call to the National Convention.

On June 12, 1952, Informant visited the home of EDNA GRIFFIN, and OTTO ANSTROM was there as well as [redacted] MRS. [redacted]

b7C

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

They were discussing the forth coming Progressive Party State Convention and OTTO continued to refer to those present as Comradé. OTTO said that [redacted] of the YPA in Iowa City had quite a few members and they would be present at the State convention.

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The main part of the discussion centered around the State Board meeting of the Progressive Party and it was decided by those present that EDNA would become State Chairman of the Progressive Party. It will be noted that she was subsequently elected State Chairman.

OTTO also advised that EDNA, [redacted] and himself could not all take their vacations at once as one of them should be present in Des Moines at all times. OTTO stated that he would be gone the last three weeks in July, [redacted] took his vacation in June and EDNA is to take hers in August, 1952.

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On June 15, 1952, OTTO told [redacted] that he is to help EDNA to check the Iowa statutes in order to get the Progressive Party on the Ballot.

On Wednesday, June 18, 1952, when [redacted] was at the home of the subject, EDNA told him that she had been to [redacted] the night before and that there was a lawyer there by the name of [redacted] of the Southern Council of Human Welfare and this lawyer was going to defend a boy from Columbus, Nebraska in a draft dodging case. EDNA said that [redacted] had decided to defend the boy on the basis of the Nuremburg trial declaring war is a crime.

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On the same day, [redacted] and EDNA were engaged in drawing up resolutions for the Progressive Party of Iowa.

On June 13, 1952, OTTO had said that the two main issues for the Progressive Party were Negro rights and peace.

Information received from Los Angeles under date of April 24, 1952 reflected that the name [redacted]

[redacted] which appeared in the address book of the subject, was undoubtedly [redacted] who resides at [redacted] California. Los Angeles advised that [redacted] is a key figure

b7C

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

in the Los Angeles Division. They stated that [redacted] a negro, is a Communist Party [redacted] of the Communist Party club in Los Angeles in 1950. They stated that [redacted] in the Communist supported peace movement in 1950 and attended the World Peace Congress in Warsaw, Poland. b7C

Under date of May 29, 1952, the Chicago Field Division advised that a [redacted] with whom the subject was in contact is one of the Communist Party members recommended for the Communist Party District #8, Review Commission. This information was secured by Chicago Informant [redacted] who received it from GIL GREEN. [redacted] of the Hyde Park-Kenwood Chapter of the Civil Rights Congress as of May 9, 1951.

[redacted] advised the writer orally on July 2, 1952, that the subject at one time had had a few dates with [redacted] in Chicago, Illinois. This was after her marriage. The subject, who plans to go to the National Progressive Party Convention in Chicago, Illinois over the weekend of July 4, 1952, also plans to visit [redacted] according to [redacted].

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INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or description of Information	Date Rec'd	Agent	File No.
[redacted]	5-11,13,16;6-1,4,5,6,12,15,16,18-52	6-12-52 & 7-2-52	[redacted] written report	66-2394
[redacted]		6-2,26,27-51	[redacted]	100-4331-67
[redacted] Informant [redacted]	2-6-51	2-8-51	Unknown employee Newark Office	100-4768-1

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OM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

L E A D S

THE OMAHA DIVISION

b7C

At Des Moines, Iowa:

Will ascertain the identity of residents at [ ]  
[ ] Des Moines, Iowa, their background  
as regards possible connections with the subject.

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Will maintain contact with [ ] in order to  
follow the activity of the subject and also attempt to ascertain  
what connection there is between the subject and [ ]  
[ ] Des Moines, Iowa.

Will attempt to identify [ ] and secure  
further background data concerning this individual to ascertain  
his connection with the subject.

b7C

REFERENCE: REPORT of SA [ ] dated 5-2-52 at Omaha,  
Nebraska.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 02-21-2006 BY AUC 60309  
TAM/DCG/JW

100-355489-47  
**CHANGED TO**  
100-0-27970 X1

APR 21 1961

Emm/SD

C

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-355489)

DATE: November 5, 1952

*AVB  
TC*

FROM : SAC, New York (100-108746)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 02-21-2006 BY AUC 60309  
TAM/DCG/JW *em* *11-1*

SUBJECT: EDNA MAY GRIFFIN  
aka: Mrs. Stanley Griffin  
Edna May Williams  
SM-C  
(Origin: Omaha)

G.L.R.-6

b7C

Rerep of SA [redacted] at Omaha, 1/22/52 and  
Omaha let to NY, 3/29/52.

Regarding the publication "Vets Voice," P.O. Box  
282, Forest Hills, NY, it is to be noted that the June 1952  
issue furnished by [redacted] on 9/16/52 to SA [redacted]  
and located in NY 100-102130, serial 112, reflects that this  
monthly publication is the official organ of the American Veterans  
for Peace. This organization is located at 257 Seventh Avenue,  
NYC, and the purpose of the organization is the promoting of  
Veterans for Peace organizations all over the United States. This  
organization in the past through its publication "Vets Voice" has  
demanded the cease fire in Korea, removal of General MAC ARTHUR,  
criticism of the Veterans Administration, is against Negro discrimina-  
tion, the McCarran and Smith Acts.

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On 3/21/51 [redacted]  
Kew Gardens, N.Y. orally advised that on 2/17/50 the organizing meeting  
of the American Veterans for Peace was held in New York City. Accord-  
ing to [redacted] the steering committee of this organization pre-  
viously served as organizers of the new defunct left wing of the union  
of New York Veterans which was dissolved into the American Veterans  
for Peace. [redacted] Confidential Informant of this office  
should be covered by a T symbol and described as of unknown reliability.  
This information was furnished 3/21/51 to SA [redacted] and is  
located in New York file 100-97854-56.

b7C

The "Daily Worker," an East Coast Communist news-  
paper, frequently denotes space for the American Veterans for Peace  
activities which consists of propaganda concerning veterans matters.

Regarding the Little Frame Shop, 192 West 4 Street,  
NYC, it is noted that the "National Guardian" on 12/26/51, page 6,  
volume 4, #10, contains an advertisement by the Little Frame Shop  
of 192 West 4 Street, NYC.

Regarding [redacted]  
Brooklyn, NY, it is to be noted that SA [redacted] on

b7C

2-Omaha (100-4095)

RECORDED - 75

INDEXED - 75

*100-355489-48*  
NOV 6  
FIVE

NOV 21 1952  
JM:MDR/WS

NOV 7 1952



Letter to Director, FBI  
NY 100-108746

It is to be noted that the "Daily Worker" for 4/30/46, page 5, column 1, in an article entitled, "State Negro Vets Parley Planned," stated that a group of forty Negro veterans initiated plans for a state veterans conference on 6/8-9/46 at NYC. The name was established as the New York Council of United Negro and Allied Veterans of America. The group was known as the NY State Organizing Committee for UNAVA. EDNA GRIFFIN was listed as vice chairman. It is to be noted that the UNAVA has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The 5/4/46 issue of "Peoples Voice," on page 10, contained a similar article entitled "New York Confab Planned by Vets." EDNA GRIFFIN was again mentioned as vice chairman of the NY State Organizing Committee for UNAVA. No other identifying data was contained in these article.

[redacted] a Confidential Informant of the NYO, furnished a typewritten list of students registered at the Workers School attending the summer sessions of the Workers School for the period July 19 through July 30, 1943. Included was the name EDNA GRIFFIN, 280 Decatur Street, Brooklyn, NY. [redacted] Brooklyn, NY, advised that she is the oldest resident at that address but could offer no information concerning EDNA GRIFFIN. RUC.

b7C

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~**

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OMAHA**

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REPORT MADE AT <b>Omaha, Nebraska</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>12-18-52</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>7-15, 23, 28, 8-5, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 22, 10-3, 6, 22, 23, 24, 29, 11-3, 12-10, 11-1952</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>RMF</b>
TITLE <b>EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka.</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject in correspondence with **SAN CRISTOBAL, Valley Ranch, San Cristobal, New Mexico.** Owners and operators of this ranch, **CRAIG STEPHEN VINCENT** and [redacted] reliably reported as CP members. Subject in continued contact with CP members, Des Moines, Iowa. Attended National Progressive Party Convention held July 4 - 6, 1952, Chicago, Illinois. Subject in continuous contact with Mrs. **CHARLOTTE BASS**, Vice Presidential Candidate for the Progressive Party during the latter person's visit to Des Moines, Iowa, July 19 - 22, 1952. Subject has subscription to "The Daily Worker", an east Coast Communist newspaper.

*cc-DTR*

*Booked  
12-29-52  
JTH  
bw*

*4-13*

b7C

**DETAILS:**

**BACKGROUND**

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised the subject still resides at 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and is still a housewife.

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DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DCG/JN  
ON 02-21-2006

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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3 - Omaha (100-4095)

**DEC 17 1952**

**INDEXED - 32**

**SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL**

**EX-32**

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**DEC 31 1952**

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE : 1952-O-210816

16-50285-2

OM 100-4095

CONNECTION WITH COMMUNIST PARTY OR OTHER  
REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that on May 19, 1952, Mr. and Mrs. STANLEY GRIFFIN, 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, were in correspondence with the San Cristobal Valley Ranch, San Cristobal, New Mexico. This same source also indicated that on May 28, 1952, the San Cristobal Valley Ranch was in correspondence with Mr. and Mrs. STANLEY GRIFFIN, 1108 - 3rd Strat, Des Moines, Iowa.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that CRAIG STEPHEN VINCENT and [redacted] the owners and operators of the San Cristobal Valley Ranch, San Cristobal, New Mexico, are members of the Communist Party. This same source indicated that the San Cristobal Valley Ranch is regarded as a haven and refuge for Communist Party members who seek rest and inspiration in connection with the Communist Party activities and the ranch is also considered to be a meeting place for policy making Communist Party groups because of its desirability from a Security standpoint.

[redacted] advised that the subject attended the National Progressive Party Convention held in Chicago, Illinois, July 4 - 6, 1952.

Confidential Informant [redacted], although not acquainted with the dates of the subject's contact with [redacted] Cedar Rapids, Iowa, OTTO EDVOLD ANSTRON, [redacted] knows from various conversations that subject has been in continuous contact with these members of the Communist Party.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, described [redacted] as a member of the Communist Party.

[redacted] described [redacted] as a member of the Communist Party.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, described OTTO EDVOLD ANSTRON as Organizer of the Communist Party in the State of Iowa, and the State of Nebraska.

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[redacted] described [redacted] as a member of the Communist Party.

On July 19, 1952, [redacted] Los Angeles, California, Vice Presidential candidate of the National Progressive Party, arrived in Des Moines, Iowa, at the Municipal Airport. At the

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Airport to meet [redacted] along with the subject, were [redacted] and [redacted]. One [redacted] was also there at the Airport.

[redacted] was described by Confidential Informant [redacted] a reliable source, as a concealed Communist Party member.

[redacted] has been described by [redacted] as a person sympathetic to the Communist cause and [redacted] has been described by the same source as believed to be a member of the Communist Party.

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<sup>D</sup> EDNA GRIFFIN, according to [redacted] was in constant contact with [redacted] during her stay in Des Moines, Iowa, and helped to arrange lectures and speeches and interviews by and with [redacted] [redacted] left Des Moines, Iowa, on July 22, 1952.

The Chicago Office nothing had come to their attention concerning the activities of the subject at the Progressive Party Convention held in Chicago on July 4 - 6, 1952.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that the subject has renewed her subscription to "The Daily Worker", an east coast Communist newspaper.

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[redacted] advised to the best of Informant's knowledge [redacted] has not been in further contact with the subject or other members of the Communist Party in Des Moines, Iowa.

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[redacted] was not able to furnish any further identifying data concerning [redacted]

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Other investigative efforts in Des Moines, Iowa, to date have failed to identify [redacted]

[redacted] also advised that as far as could be ascertained there is no connection between the subject and [redacted] of [redacted]

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GM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

The following information is being placed on the Administrative Page inasmuch as it is believed that dissemination of same would reveal the identity of the Informant.

It is believed that this information might reveal the identity of the Informant because of the manner in which it was secured, namely, through conversations with the subject.

[redacted] advised that in preparation for the trip to Chicago, Illinois, for the National Progressive Party convention held July 4 - 6, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN had corresponded with Iowa City to ascertain what persons were going from that City. On or about June 27 or 28, 1952, the subject contacted [redacted] at his office at which time she told him of the forth coming National Convention and that she was going. [redacted] stated he would like to go but could not because of the action pending on his license renewal to practice law in September, 1952. [redacted] asked EDNA to convey a message to PAUL ROBESON and others, wishing them luck in their forth coming campaign.

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EDNA asked [redacted] to put the message in writing if he would. [redacted] does not know if she picked up the message.

b7C

Informant also advised that a couple by the name of [redacted] accompanied them to the Progressive Party Convention in Chicago, Illinois. Informant advised that the [redacted] are now residing in Des Moines and that he met them at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN. He believes they are both members of the Communist Party. He believes that according to their conversation, they came from Brooklyn, New York.

The Informant is securing further information concerning this couple in order that appropriate investigation may be conducted.

On July 7, 1952, [redacted] visited the home of EDNA GRIFFIN, 1308 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and found a lady there by the name of [redacted] who was baby sitting for EDNA while she was at the State Chairman's Progressive Party meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

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Subsequent investigation of [redacted] and her husband revealed that they are members of the Communist Party in Los Angeles, California.

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

from nine states and although things looked tough, they were working out in favor of the Communist Party. ANSTROM also advised the Informant that he would probably not be seeing too much of him or the other group because he was under orders from the Party not to be seen.

The Informant, on the same date, discussed with EDNA at what hotel Mrs. BASS could stay and EDNA visited [redacted] and received a contribution of \$20.00. She stated that she was also directed to the Executive Council of the Packinghouse for future contributions.

b7C

On July 15, 1952, EDNA contacted ED WAGNER of WOITV concerning the possibility of a TV interview for Mrs. BASS. She also contacted WHO and KWDM and both stations agreed to give time to Mrs. BASS.

On July 16, 1952, EDNA had a Young Mother's Council meeting at her home in which she tried to influence these women who did not know anything about the Progressive Party to come and hear Mrs. BASS speak on the subject of the Progressive Party.

On July 17, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN and [redacted] made hotel reservations for Mrs. BASS in the Hotel Savory. She also received a call from ED WAGNER, WOITV, the Program Director, concerning the interview, who had started to go to Ames, Iowa, that day but had an accident at Huxley, Iowa, and could not complete the arrangements.

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On July 18, 1952, EDNA discussed the ways to entertain Mrs. BASS and also advised the Informant that handbills were to be distributed beginning early Monday Morning. EDNA advised the Informant that she and [redacted] had gone to the Packinghouse to distribute these bills.

On July 15, 1952, LAWRENCE ROSS, Iowa City, Iowa, came to Des Moines, Iowa to help distribute these handbills as well as [redacted] and [redacted]. These latter individuals also distributed handbills outside of Des Moines, Iowa.

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Informant stated that [redacted] was one of those who met Mrs. BASS at the Airport and it was apparent from her conversation that [redacted] knew Mrs. BASS and one [redacted] who accompanied Mrs. BASS on her trip. b7C

On the night of July 19, 1952, WILLIAM SMITH arrived from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and the Progressive Party held a meeting in the Hotel Plaza. EDNA was present as well as Mrs. BASS. The meeting was apparently over who should run for governor and was tentatively decided that WILLIAM SMITH of Cedar Rapids, Iowa would run for Governor. EDNA GRIFFIN and [redacted] went to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, later to talk to the wife of BILL SMITH and other members of his family about the possibility of SMITH running for Governor on the Progressive Party ticket. b7C

It will be noted that he did not run for this office in the November election.

They were in Cedar Rapids, Iowa on either July 20 or July 21, 1952.

EDNA, during the visit of Mrs. BASS, told the Informant that she thought Mrs. BASS was not emphasizing peace enough. Also, that everybody thought the Progressive Party was Negro Party.

On the night of July 21, 1952, the Informant picked Mrs. BASS up in his automobile and took her to EDNA's where they watched the Democratic Convention over television and EDNA settled up her debts with the Assistant Campaign Manager.

On July 18, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN had also called [redacted] and [redacted] to see if they could get [redacted] a job in the packinghouse in Des Moines, Iowa. Informant has advised that [redacted] are definitely sympathetic to the Communist cause. According to the Informant, OTTO ANSTROM was also at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN on July 18, 1952, and told them that he had been in Chicago over the 4th of July and had been at the Palmer House in Chicago to meet another fellow. b7C

On July 27, 1952, Informant learned that there was to have been a meeting of the Communist Party in Des Moines, Iowa, but that a telephone call from Chicago had cancelled the meeting. The telephone call had gone to [redacted] but since b7C

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

he was out of the city, the call was transferred to the home of EDNA GRIFFIN. This was told to the Informant by EDNA GRIFFIN.

Efforts were made to verify this tell call but apparently was a prepaid call and there is no record at Des Moines, Iowa, of a call to the GRIFFIN home over the weekend of July 27, 1952.

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or description of Information	Date Rec'd	Agent	File No.
[redacted]	Information re the activities of EDNA GRIFFIN	8-15-52	[redacted] Written report	
[redacted]	Correspondence of subject with [redacted]	5-31-52	[redacted] Albuquerque, N.M. Written Report	66-157-A-143
[redacted] [redacted]	Documentation of [redacted]	9-8-51	[redacted] Written report	100-960-101
[redacted]	[redacted]	6-2, 26, 27-51	[redacted] of Chicago; [redacted] Omaha	100-4331-67
[redacted]	February 6, 1951	2-8-51	Unknown employee Newark Office JONES	100-4768-1

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or description of Information	Date Rec'd	Agent	File No.
[redacted]	Characterization of [redacted]	6-26-51	[redacted] New York	100-4294
[redacted]	Exhibits re subject's "Daily Worker" subscription	7-13-52	[redacted]	100-4095

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L E A D S

THE OMAHA DIVISION

At Des Moines, Iowa:

Will ascertain the identity of residents at [redacted] Des Moines, Iowa, and their background as regards possible connections with the subject.

Will maintain contact with [redacted] in order to follow the activities of the subject and also attempt to develop further information concerning [redacted]

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REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] dated July 8, 1952, Omaha. b7C

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**  
**SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL**

Form No. 1  
 THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OMAHA**

REPORT MADE AT <b>Omaha, Nebraska</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>1-21-53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>12-11, 22, 23, 30 52; 1-19-53</b>	REPORT MADE BY  <b>b7C RMF</b>
TITLE <b>EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka.,</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM, [CP Organizer, States of Iowa and Nebraska] present at home of subject, Des Moines, Iowa during first week of October, 1952. Subject active in distributing leaflets "asking to save the ROSENBERGS" and had article on editorial page of Des Moines Sunday Register newspaper, December 28, 1952, criticizing the "death penalty" against the ROSENBERGS.

*cc + DTP  
 [Handwritten notes]*

*4/54  
 (U)  
 [Handwritten notes and stamps]*

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DCG/JW  
 ON 02-21-2006

*I.R.-8*

**DETAILS:**

BACKGROUND

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability advised the subject still resides at 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and is still a housewife.

CONNECTION WITH COMMUNIST PARTY OR OTHER REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that during the first week in October, 1952, OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM was at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN, 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, described OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM as Organizer of the Communist Party in the State of Iowa and the State of Nebraska. (U)

*ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <b>[Signature]</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, made available a pamphlet entitled "The Cold-War Murder", the frame-up against ETHEL and JULIUS ROSENBERG by RICHARD O. BOYER, copyright 1952 by Civil Rights Congress, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, New York.

This pamphlet was addressed to EDNA GRIFFIN, 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and bore return address of GEORGE WILLOUGHBY, President, Des Moines Regional Office of American Friends Service Committee, 1116 East University, Des Moines, Iowa.

On December 28, 1952, an article captioned "Why Death for Rosenbergs Is Opposed" appeared on the editorial page of the Des Moines Sunday Register, a Des Moines, Iowa newspaper. This article was signed by EDNA GRIFFIN, 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

The article criticized the decision of the ROSENBERG case and claimed, among other things, that the case had been tried by the newspapers of the nation before it ever reached the court.

The article also claimed that the government prosecution had admitted that its chief witness, DAVID GREENGLASS, perjured himself on the witness stand when he testified that he had no outside assistance in reproducing the sketch of the atomic secret together with 12 pages of formulae from memory.

The article also claimed that the admission of circumstantial evidence jeopardized the right to the benefit of the doubt.

On December 30, 1952, Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that there was a young white lady distributing pamphlets in front of the Bookey Packing Company on December 30, 1952 in Des Moines, Iowa. Informant advised that these pamphlets consisted of a plea to save the ROSENBERGS and were signed by the Progressive Party in the State of Iowa on behalf of EDNA GRIFFIN and [redacted]

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[redacted] who, according to Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, is a member of the Communist Party.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ADMINISTRATIVE DATAb2  
b7D

[redacted] whose identity and reliability is known to the Bureau, by written report, furnished the following information concerning the subject. The written report was furnished to the writer on December 30, 1952.

Informant indicated that he had had several conversations with [redacted] a member of the Communist Party in Des Moines, Iowa, during the latter part of September and October, 1952, the exact dates of which he cannot remember. During his first visit with [redacted] around September 18, 1952, [redacted] discussed the conduct of EDNA GRIFFIN and advised that when EDNA called at the United Packinghouse Workers - CIO Office to talk with [redacted] the office girls had been instructed to tell her that he was out.

[redacted] indicated that he does not approve of the conduct of EDNA GRIFFIN and stated that she created a great deal of difficult feeling within the Union and that it had effected his work in the packinghouse because he was afraid they would find out that he knew EDNA intimately.

b7C

During the meeting at [redacted] when EDNA GRIFFIN and OTTO ANSTROM and the Informant were there, OTTO ANSTROM stated that the United Packinghouse Workers - CIO were the only ones that had the money to defray the cost of the [redacted] case.

[redacted] advised them that [redacted] had been by his home and talked about the [redacted] case and was going to try to get the Union to do something about it. Subject appeared skeptical about it and thought there were certain people using the [redacted] case for political football in a fight among themselves. OTTO also took a "wait and see" attitude according to the Informant.

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OTTO also made a wager with the Informant as to how many votes the Progressive Party would get in the forth coming elections. OTTO thought that the Progressive Party would hold approximately one million votes.

OTTO stated the people were becoming angry in the major political parties and were putting up a sham fight and it was their job to make the people fight back. He also told Informant the next time he saw [redacted] to ask him about a job.

b7C

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

He advised Informant not to tell [redacted] however, that he, OTTO, had sent him to [redacted] about a job.

b7C

On October 7, 1952, [redacted] was by the Informant's house and at that time told him he could not get him a job with the Union because [redacted] had associated him with EDNA GRIFFIN.

The week of October 17, 1952, Informant was at the home of EDNA GRIFFIN and asked her where OTTO ANSTROM was. EDNA replied that she thought he was in the East someplace and did not know when he would be back. She also stated that she did not think the Unions were going to do anything about the [redacted] case. Informant also advised that EDNA GRIFFIN appeared very upset and agitated concerning [redacted] previously reported by the Informant as a Communist Party member from the West Coast, who had recently been making all kinds of inquiries as to how different activities were being conducted in the State of Iowa. The Informant has indicated in the past that EDNA GRIFFIN is very jealous as regards anybody else in the Party who appears to have an interest in the leadership and attempts to take over some of her functions.

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According to the Informant, on Sunday, November 2, 1952, EDNA GRIFFIN and STANLEY GRIFFIN went to Nebraska to visit the [redacted]

Informant later advised that he had thought there was going to be some kind of a Communist meeting there on [redacted]

b7C

[redacted] but that from the way EDNA and STANLEY GRIFFIN talked when they returned, there had been no meeting and they had not even gotten to see [redacted]

Apparently there was some difficulty about EDNA and STANLEY GRIFFIN getting on the farm due to the fact that they are negroes. [redacted]

b7C

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Rec'd	Agent	File
[redacted]	Re: EDNA GRIFFIN	12-30-52	[redacted]	[redacted]

written report

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OM 100-4095

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Rec'd	Agent	File
[Redacted]	2-6-51	2-8-51	Unknown Employee Newark Office	100-4768-1 (U)
[Redacted]	Description of pamphlet received by subject re frame-up against ETHEL & JULIUS ROSENBERG	12-22-52	[Redacted]	this report b2 b7C b7D
[Redacted]	Distribution of pamphlets re ROSENBERGS	12-30-52	[Redacted]	This report Oral report
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	6-2, 26, 27-51	[Redacted]	100-4331-67 b2 b7C b7D

LEADS

THE OMAHA DIVISION

At Des Moines, Iowa:

Will ascertain the identity of residents at [Redacted] Des Moines, Iowa and their background as regards possible connections with the subject.

Will maintain contact with [Redacted] in order to follow

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OM 100-4095

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

L E A D S  
(Continued)

the activities of the subject and also attempt to develop further information concerning [redacted]

b7C

REFERENCE: Report of SA [redacted] dated December 15, 1952, at Omaha, Nebraska

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-355489)

DATE: 7/17/53

*DM*

FROM : SAC, Omaha (100-4095)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 02-21-2006 BY AUC 60309  
TAM/DCG/JW

*2*

SUBJECT: EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka;  
IS-C

Rerep SA [redacted] which is a summary report, dated 7/16/53,  
Omaha, status of which was shown as pending. This status should be pending  
inactive. b7C

Omaha reports are being changed accordingly and it is requested  
appropriate notation be made on copies of rerep in Bureau file.

RBM: EOD

*N*

RECORDED-8

*100-355489-51*

EX. - 128

*[Handwritten signature]*

*46*  
63 JUL 28 1953



DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DCG/JW  
ON 02-21-2006

Form No. 8

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT OMAHA

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT: Omaha, Nebraska	DATE WHEN MADE: 7/16/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 6/30/53	REPORT MADE BY: BGH
TITLE: EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka.			CHARACTER OF CASE: INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMARY REPORT

~~EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE~~

SYNOPSIS: Subject in continuous contact with known members of CP and is chairman of CP, Des Moines, Ia. Subject elected chairman of Progressive Party of Ia., at State Convention held in Des Moines on 6-16-52.

- P -

DETAILS:

EDNA MAY GRIFFIN <sup>Birth</sup> Summary KY, Iowa clerk, Bureau of Vital Statistics, State Department of Health, Louisville, Kentucky, advised that Volume 405, Certificate No. 162735 which is a delayed Birth Certificate, reflects the subject was born at Carlisle, Nicholas County, Kentucky on October 23, 1909, the daughter of EDWARD HEARST WILLIAMS and HENRIETTA RICE.

WILLIAMS KY  
Residence

The subject still resides at 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and is a housewife.

CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY OR OTHER REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS

[redacted] of known reliability, advised that the subject in company with [redacted] went to Sioux City, Iowa, on December 8 and 19, 1951. These trips were made in connection with the arrest of [redacted]

According to [redacted] the subject has been active in the investigation of this arrest and is attempting to push possible Civil Rights lawsuit against the Sioux City Police for the arrest of [redacted] a negro, on a charge of prostitution.

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADD. DISSEMINATION.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	RECORDED AND INDEXED:
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 3 - Bureau (100-355489) 3 - Omaha (100-100)		100-355489-52 RECORDED-133 INDEXED-133
57 JUL 26 1953		JUL 20 1953

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[redacted] advised that on [redacted] there was a meeting at [redacted] at which there were present, OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM, [redacted] the subject and [redacted]

IOWA

~~IOWA~~ (U)

~~IOWA~~

~~IOWA~~

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[redacted] advised that on [redacted] the subject at which [redacted] United Packing-house Workers of America, CIO, Des Moines, [redacted] of the UPWA-CIO was present, as well as [redacted] for the UPWA-CIO.

~~IOWA~~

~~(S)~~ (U)

~~(U)~~ (S)

According to [redacted] the subject accompanied by [redacted] and his wife, went to Sioux City, Iowa, on December 8, 1951, in connection with the [redacted] case.

~~(U)~~ (S)

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party.

~~(U)~~ (S)

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability advised OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM is an organizer for the Communist Party, and according to [redacted] is the organizer for the States of Iowa and Nebraska, District No. 32.

~~(S)~~ (U)

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~~(U)~~ (S)

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability advised that [redacted] is a self-admitted Communist.

~~(U)~~ (S)

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party, Des Moines, Iowa.

The Communist Party has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that on December 29, 1951, [redacted] his wife, and OTTO ANSTROM were present at the home of the subject at 1108 Third Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

~~(S)~~ (U)

The main problem discussed at this meeting was, as indicated by ANSTROM, that the Communist Party, USA was pledged to support negro business and encourage negroes to go into business creating a bourgeoisie class and the idea of a negro nation.

~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that on January 9 and 14, 1952, ANSTROM was at the home of the subject.

~~(S)~~ (U)

According to [redacted] the subject is still vitally interested in the [redacted] case and that on January 18, 1952, she went to Sioux City, on this matter and returned on January 23, 1952. [redacted] stated the subject has been attempting to put out leaflets, letters and pamphlets as well as appear before womens' clubs on behalf of [redacted]

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~~(S)~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OM 100-4095

[redacted] advised that on January 26, 1952, [redacted] and the subject were all present at the subject's home. ~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that on February 4, 1952, ANSTROM was present at the home of the subject and was present again on February 8, 1952. ~~(S)~~ (U) b2 b7C b7D

[redacted] advised that on February 9, 1952, the following persons were present at the subject's home: [redacted] FRED STOVER, [redacted] and his wife, [redacted]. IOWA. ~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that he believes [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party. He stated [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party. He advised that FRED STOVER, president of the Iowa Farmers Union, Plaza Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa, is of definite Communist sentiments and associates with persons known to [redacted] to be members of the Communist Party. ~~(S)~~ (U) b2 b7C b7D

[redacted] advised that on February 15, 1952, the subject went to Sioux City, and returned February 18, 1952, in regard to the [redacted] case. ~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that ANSTROM was at the subject's home on February 29, and on March 3, 1952. ~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that ANSTROM and [redacted] were present at the home of the subject. IOWA. ~~(S)~~ (U) b2 b7C b7D

According to [redacted] [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party. ~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that on May 5, 1952, though EDNA GRIFFIN was not present at her home, 1108 Third Street, Des Moines, Iowa, there were present, ANSTROM and [redacted]. ~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that on May 10, 1952, ANSTROM and [redacted] were present at the subject's home and that she was there at that time. In addition there was present, [redacted] of the Iowa Union Farmer, newspaper of the Iowa Farmers Union, Plaza Hotel, Des Moines, Iowa. ~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party through 1948 at least. [redacted] stated that [redacted] is not openly a Communist Party member but to a few is a known member. ~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that ANSTROM visited the home of the subject on May 11 and 13, 1952. ~~(S)~~ (U)

[redacted] advised that on May 16, 1952, the subject went to Sioux City in behalf of the [redacted] case but that the case was lost. b2 b7C b7D

[redacted] advised that OTTO ANSTROM and WILLIAM SMITH, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, visited the subject. ~~(S)~~ (U)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OM 100-4095

(U) ~~(C)~~ [ ] advised that WILLIAM SMITH was a former chairman of the Progressive Party of Iowa and is a member of the Communist Party.

[ ] advised that [ ] visited the subject at her home on June 1, 1952. ~~(C)~~ (U) b2 b7C b7D

(U) [ ] advised that on June 12, 1952, the subject was visited at her home by ANSTROM, [ ] and [ ] ~~(C)~~ (U)

~~(C)~~ [ ] described [ ] as a member of the Communist Party. IOWA

[ ] advised that ANSTROM was at the subject's home on June 15, 1952. ~~(C)~~ (U)

(U) [ ] advised that [ ] was at the subject's home on June 16, and June 18, 1952. ~~(C)~~ (U)

~~(C)~~ [ ] advised that the subject attended the National Progressive Party Convention held in Chicago, Illinois, July 4, - 6, 1952.

[ ] advised that on July 19, 1952, Mrs. CHARLOTTE BASS, Los Angeles, California, Vice Presidential Candidate of the National Progressive Party, arrived in Des Moines, Iowa, at the Municipal Airport. Those meeting Mrs. BASS included the subject, as well as [ ] IOWA. b2 b7C b7D

(U) [ ] ~~(C)~~ Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability advised that [ ] is a concealed Communist Party member. IOWA

(U) ~~(C)~~ [ ] described [ ] as a person sympathetic to the Communist Cause. [ ] stated that he believed [ ] was a member of the Communist Party. ~~(C)~~ (U)

[ ] advised that during the stay of Mrs. BASS in Des Moines, that the subject was in constant contact with Mrs. BASS and helped to arrange her speeches and interviews. Mrs. BASS left Des Moines, on July 25, 1952. ~~(C)~~ (U) b2 b7C b7D

[ ] advised that during the first week of October, 1952, ANSTROM was at the home of the subject. ~~(C)~~ (U)

Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability, advised the minor daughters of the subject, [ ] received copies of the "Daily Worker" from September 17 to October 15, 1951. They also received "The Worker" from September 22 to October 15, 1951. ~~(C)~~ (U)

(U) The "Daily Worker" is an east coast Communist newspaper. "The Worker" is the Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker" and is an east coast Communist newspaper. b2 b7C b7D

~~(C)~~ Confidential Informant [ ] of known reliability advised that Mr. and Mrs. STANLEY GRIFFIN, 1108 Third Street, Des Moines, Iowa, were in contact with the

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

OM 100-4095

San Cristobal Valley Ranch, San Cristobal, New Mexico on May 19, 1952. [redacted] advised that on May 28, 1952, the San Cristobal Valley Ranch was in contact with Mr. and Mrs. STANLEY GRIFFIN. ] (U)

(U) It is to be noted that STANLEY GRIFFIN is the subject's husband. b2

(U) Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability advised that [redacted] of the San Cristobal Valley Ranch, San Cristobal, New Mexico, are members of the Communist Party. This informant indicated that the ranch is regarded as a haven and refuge for Communist Party members who seek rest and inspiration in connection with the Communist Party activities and the ranch is also considered to be a meeting place for policy making Communist Party groups because of its desirability from a security standpoint. b7C b7D

(U) Confidential Informant Omaha [redacted] of known reliability advised the subject has renewed her subscription to the "Daily Worker, an east coast Communist newspaper as of July 23, 1952. (U)

(U) Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability advised that on December 30, 1952, there was a young white woman distributing pamphlets in front of the Bookey Packing Company, Des Moines, Iowa. [redacted] advised these pamphlets consisted of a plea to save the ROSENBERGS and were signed by the Progressive Party of the State of Iowa, on behalf of EDNA GRIFFIN and [redacted]. b2 b7C b7D

(U) [redacted] advised [redacted] is a member of the Communist Party.

(U) Confidential Informant Omaha [redacted] who has supplied both reliable and unreliable information, advised on April 6, 1953, [redacted] of the Quint City Progressive Social Club at the UE Center, Rock Island, Illinois. Those present were [redacted] and [redacted]. It was decided to have a social on April 11, and the profits were to be sent to the Communist Party. [redacted] stated this group has already sent \$8.00 to the National Guardian and \$5.00 to the Communist Party or Progressive Party in Des Moines. He stated the money was sent to EDNA GRIFFIN, State Organizer for the Communist Party, her address being 1108 Third Street, Des Moines. b2 b7C b7D (U)

SPEECHES, WRITINGS, ETC. AND PERTINENT CONTACTS WITH COMMUNIST PARTY LEADERS

By letter dated January 11, 1952, the FBI Laboratory advised that an examination of a letter addressed to [redacted] signed, "With love, EDNA GRIFFIN" was signed by the known signature of EDNA GRIFFIN.

[redacted] in the case entitled, "United States versus WILLIAM SCHNEIDERMAN, etal, United States District Court, Los Angeles, California, Communist Party USA" and of prosecution under the Smith Act. b7C

OM 100-4095

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

On December 28, 1952, an article captioned, "Why Death for the Rosenbergs Is Opposed" appeared on the editorial page of the Des Moines Sunday Register, a Des Moines, Iowa, newspaper. The article was signed by EDNA GRIFFIN, 1108 Third Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

The article criticized the decision of the ROSENBERG case and claimed, among other things, that the case had been tried by the newspapers of the nation before it ever reached the court.

The article also claimed that the government prosecution had admitted that its chief witness, DAVID GREENGLASS, perjured himself on the witness stand when he testified that he had no outside assistance to reproducing the sketch of the atomic secret together with twelve pages of formulas from memory.

The article also claimed that the admission of circumstantial evidence jeopardized the right to the benefit of the doubt.

- P -

- 6 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom Furnished	File No. where Located
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[Redacted]

12/19,23,26/51

12/27/51 SA [Redacted] 66-2394

5/11,13,16; 6/1,4,5,6,12,15,16,18/52

6/12/52 Written report  
7/2/52

Re: Edna Griffin  
Characterization of [Redacted]

12/30/52 Written report [Redacted]

Characterization of [Redacted]

Characterization of [Redacted]

Characterization of [Redacted]

Characterization of [Redacted]

Characterization of [Redacted]

Characterization of [Redacted]

Characterization of [Redacted]

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6/2,26,27/51 SAs [Redacted] 100-4331-67

[Redacted] Chicago Office. SA [Redacted] [Redacted] Omaha Office

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2/8/51 Unknown employee Newark Office 100-4768-1

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(U)

(U)





# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **OMAHA**

REPORT MADE AT <b>OMAHA, NEBRASKA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/3/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/23/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 15px; width: 100%;"></div>	b7C EOB
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TITLE <b>EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka</b>	CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>
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**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAM/DCG/JW  
ON 02-21-2006

Subject endeavoring to create social issue at local dance studio but unsuccessful to date. Subject engaging in very little activity at present.

AGENCY DR  
REQ. REC'D  
DATE FORW. 3-12-54  
HOW FORW. 2-6  
BY JTH

**DETAILS:**

- P\* -

RESIDENCE

Subject still resides at 1108 Third Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and is a housewife.

CONNECTIONS WITH COMMUNIST PARTY OR OTHER REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS

[redacted] of unknown reliability, advised subject was known to him as a Communist Party member in 1948 and 1949 and 1951. [redacted] advised that in 1951 subject was chairman of the Communist Party in Des Moines, Iowa, and handled all Communist Party correspondence.

[redacted] of known reliability, advised that subject and [redacted] and have been working on some kind of a peace movement, but the program has been moving very slowly to date. He stated he has never heard subject make any statements which would indicate that subject is a Communist but that he has heard her state that MC CARTHY is their enemy.

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>W.H.W.</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: <b>5 - Bureau (100-355489) (RM)</b>		<b>100-355489-53</b>
<b>3 - Omaha (100-4095)</b>		<b>RECORDED-14</b>
<b>COPY IN FILE</b>		<b>INDEXED-14</b>
		<b>EX-129</b>

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OM 100-4095

[ ] stated that about a week before Christmas, 1953, EDNA GRIFFIN used the services of [ ] to appear before Local #7, UPWA-CIO, Bookey Packing Company, Des Moines, Iowa, where a plea was made for funds to be used for the defense of the [ ] boys who had been indicted for murder in the state of Georgia. [ ] stated he did not know the circumstances of the [ ] case, but believed it involved two Negro boys. He stated GRIFFIN indicated that Local #7 had contributed the sum of \$50.00 to aid in their defense.

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[ ] advised that about December 1, 1953, [ ] chief steward, Local #7, UPWA-CIO, had discussed having a meeting for the purpose of pushing a Fair Employment Practices Commission and having the same enacted as an ordinance by the City of Des Moines. He stated that [ ] is a member of the Anti-Discrimination Committee of the UPWA-CIO. He advised that [ ] is endeavoring to organize a community-wide program to put over the FEPC program.

[ ] of known reliability, advised [ ] is a member of the Communist Party, USA.

[ ] stated that on January 6, 1954, subject visited the home of [ ] Des Moines. He stated he did not know the nature of the contact.

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[ ] stated that on the night previously subject had contacted [ ] in regard to a play that [ ] was writing. He stated the subject matter concerned social problems with a racial discrimination angle.

[ ] stated that around November 1, 1953, the Arthur Murray Dance Studio, 504 Seventh Street, Des Moines, Iowa, had obtained a list of graduates of the Still College of Osteopathy in Des Moines. He advised that through that list, all graduates of Still College were circularized soliciting them to attend and take dancing lessons. The letter also requested that the recipient come and bring a friend.

[ ] stated that EDNA GRIFFIN and her husband, Doctor STANLEY GRIFFIN, made arrangements to attend the dancing studio and take lessons.

[ ] stated that on November 20, 1953, STANLEY GRIFFIN and EDNA GRIFFIN, [ ] appeared at the studio. [ ] stated the management refused to allow them to enter and take lessons stating they did not allow Negroes to take dancing lessons except at a special class held on Saturday evenings. He stated subject argued about the discrimination but they all finally left. He stated the next day GRIFFIN and [ ] went to see Assistant County Attorney GLANTON about this being a matter of racial discrimination

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OM 100-4095

and a violation of their civil liberties. [ ] stated that EDNA GRIFFIN has threatened to sue the dance studio but that nothing has been done so far.

[ ] stated that subject stated on January 5, 1954 that she had obtained a group of colored ministers to go as a group to Iowa State Penitentiary at Fort Madison, Iowa, for the purpose of protesting to the warden about the discrimination against Negroes in the granting of paroles. b2 b7D

[ ] informed that he has never heard EDNA GRIFFIN state that she is a member of the Communist Party, USA. He stated he has heard her mention that she is the head of the "Party" but he advised he interpreted this to mean the Progressive Party of Iowa of Henry Wallace. He stated subject takes the Daily Worker.

The Daily Worker is an east coast Communist newspaper.

[ ] advised that sometime prior to January 13, 1954, subject received a telephone call in regard to another complaint about racial discrimination at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio, but that subject has not done anything about this matter as yet. b2 b7D

[ ] advised that subject has been endeavoring to secure an anti-discrimination clause in the franchise of the new bus company which is to take over the traction system in Des Moines. He advised subject had been unsuccessful in getting this clause inserted into the franchise.

[ ] stated that on January 26, 1954, subject and [ ] discussed the developments in Korea and seemed much amused over the fact that the United States was going to prosecute Corporal ED DICKENSON, a Korean Prisoner of War, for being friendly to the Communists. They stated that this was exactly what BURCHETT and [ ] of the Communist Press in Korea had told would happen to any of these POW's that returned to the United States. b2 b7C b7D

[ ] stated that subject has not been too active of late and that she does not seem to be able to put together any kind of an organization in Des Moines.

[ ] advised that [ ] attended the Congress For The Peoples For Peace held in Vienna, Austria in December, 1952.

OM 100-4095

[ ] of known reliability, identified the World Peace Council as a Communist controlled and dominated body which sponsored the first and second Peace Conferences in 1949 and 1950, and the Congress of the Peoples of Peace in 1952, and the Stockholm Peace Appeal.

[ ] advised that [ ] attended the Conference for World Peace through Negotiations, held in Chicago, Illinois October 16 and 17, 1953.

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[ ] of known reliability, advised the Conference for World Peace through Negotiations was sponsored by the American Peace Crusade and the Chicago Women for Peace.

The American Peace Crusade was cited by the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities issued in the March of Treason February 19, 1951 as "an organic part of the Communist Peace Offensive."

[ ] of known reliability, advised the Chicago Women For Peace was the local organization for the American Women For Peace.

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The American Women For Peace has been cited as "An advanced wave to establish a beachhead for other left wing organizations scheduled to descend on Washington, D. C., in observation of a Communist declared peace week", in Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities house report #378 on the Communist Peace Offensive, original dated April 1, 1951.

The Communist Party has been cited as coming within the purview of Executive Order #10450 issued by the Attorney General of the United States.

- P\* -

OM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity And/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
[Redacted]	San Francisco letter to Bureau dated 11/12/53	10/29/53	SA [Redacted] orally	SF 100-36664 b2 b7C b7D
[Redacted]	9/30/53 12/11/53 1/7/54 1/13/54 1/27/54	10/1/53 12/11/53 1/8/54 1/19/54 1/27/54	[Redacted] orally	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	Characterization of [Redacted]	7/2/52	SA [Redacted]	[Redacted]
[Redacted]	Documentation of World Peace Council	1/19/53		WFO 61-49
[Redacted]	Characterization of Conf. for World Peace through Negotiations	9/24/53	SA [Redacted] Chicago Office orally	100-5379 b2 b7C b7D
[Redacted]	Characterization of Chicago Women For Peace	12/4/53	SA [Redacted]	100-5379 b2 b7C b7D

REFERENCE: Summary report of SA [Redacted] dated 7/16/53, at Omaha, Nebraska.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CF  
10-14  
Post  
RAB

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT OMAHA

REPORT MADE AT <b>OMAHA</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>9/30/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>9/21,29/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px;"></div>	b7C MW
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TITLE <b>EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka</b> <i>Mrs Stanley Griffin</i>	CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>
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SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[redacted] of unknown reliability, characterized subject as an "intense Communist Party member." [redacted] states she regularly receives the "Daily Worker," and maintains a Marxist library in her home. [redacted] stated she remarked in a speech: "The ROSENBERG case is a manifestation of the growing American anti-Semitic campaign." [redacted] of known reliability, advised subject has become quite inactive in CP circles in the Des Moines, Ia., area.

DECLASSIFIED BY AUC 60309 TAP# DCG/JW  
ON 02-21-2006

*Posted, RAB*  
*10-20-54*  
*15-0-6*  
*JAS-cjn*

DETAILS:

BACKGROUND

RESIDENCE

Subject resides at 1108 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa, and is a housewife.

CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY OR OTHER REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS

Confidential Informant [redacted] of unknown reliability, advised he met subject at a Progressive Party meeting in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, during May or June, 1952. He advised that sometime after that, during the summer of 1952, he ascertained that subject and her husband, Dr. EDNA MAY GRIFFIN;

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>F.W.W. [signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<i>letter sent 10/13/54</i>		<b>100-355489-34</b>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT <b>5 - Bureau (100-355489) (RM)</b>		RECORDED - 87
<b>3 - Omaha (100-4095)</b>		INDEXED - 87
<i>10/13/54</i>		EX-110
<i>11-15-54</i>		

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OM 100-4094

[redacted] went to Chicago, Illinois, and attended the National Convention of the Progressive Party held in that city.

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[redacted] characterized the subject as an "intense Communist Party member." [redacted] advised that subject receives and reads the "Daily Worker" and has a Marxist library in her own home.

The "Daily Worker" is an East Coast Communist newspaper.

[redacted] advised that subject is Chairman of the Iowa State Progressive Party, and that she has numerous contacts within that organization. He advised that she is active in church and community affairs where she utilizes every opportunity to spread Communist Party prepaganda. [redacted] advised that he has heard subject talk before a church group, the name of which he could not recall, and she said "The ROSENBERG case is a manifestation of the growing American anti-Semitic campaign."

The ROSENBERG case refers to JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG, who were tried and convicted in the United States District Court in the Southern District of New York for furnishing atomic information to Russia, and for which offense they were subsequently executed in Sing Sing Prison.

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b7D

[redacted] stated that subject solicited memberships in the Communist Party during the summer of 1953, but was not successful.

The Communist Party, USA, has been cited by the Attorney General of the United States as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised subject remarked on April 7, 1954, that Cardinal MINDZENTY had been found conclusively guilty of collaborating with HITLER and giving aid and comfort to the enemies of Hungary.

b2  
b7D

[redacted] advised that subject has been very quiet of late and very inactive in regard to Communist Party activities. He stated subject appears to have "gotten religion" and spends a great deal of her time doing church work. He advised that he has not heard of her attempting to carry on any Communist prepaganda through her church.

- P\* -

- 2 -

OM 100-4095

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGEINFORMANTS:

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity And/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	5/3/54	[REDACTED] (Orally)	OM 100-4095
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED] 4/8/54	4/8/54	[REDACTED] (Written)	
	9/21/54	9/21/54	[REDACTED] (Orally)	OM 100-4095

b2  
b7C  
b7DREFERENCE:

Report of SA [REDACTED] dated 3/3/54 at Omaha, Nebraska.

b7C



STANDARD FORM NO. 64  
**Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**

**TO :** DIRECTOR, FBI (100-355489)

**DATE:** February 18, 1955

*W*  
**FROM :** SAC, OMAHA (100-4095)

Card U.J.D.  
3/27/55

6/28/55  
on 81 and 82  
L-875

**SUBJECT:** EDNA MAY GRIFFIN, aka  
Mrs. Stanley Griffin, Edna May Williams  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

OK 3/3/55

Reference SAC Letter 55-8(A) dated February 2, 1955, captioned "Security Index".

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2-21-2005 BY AUC 60309  
TAM/DEG/JM

It is my recommendation that captioned subject be retained on the Security Index in the Omaha Office for the following reasons.

It has been reliably reported that subject has been an active member of the Communist Party since her arrival in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1946, and is presently the Chairman of the Des Moines Branch of the Communist Party located in Des Moines.

*f*  
It was reliably reported that during 1951 and 1952 that the subject was in frequent contact, through meetings at her home, with OTTO EDVOLD ANSTROM, who at that time was the Communist Party Organizer for the State of Iowa.

It was reliably reported that on December 30, 1947, WARREN BATTERSON, former Secretary for District 32, CP, USA, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska, called attention to the fact that a meeting place could be secured by Communist Party members in District 32 by telephoning EDNA GRIFFIN, 1108 - 3rd Street, Des Moines, Iowa.

It was reliably reported that in the latter part of June, 1951, that subject held a meeting of Communist Party members at her home, at which there was a discussion of the American Peoples Congress and Exposition for Peace held in Chicago June 29 to July 1, 1951, at which she and her husband were in attendance. Subject is known to have been in close contact, mainly through meetings at her home, with [redacted]

[redacted] the latter from Cedar Rapids, Iowa. All of these individuals are Security Index subjects. She is a close associate of [redacted] who has been recommended for the Security Index.

b7C

Registered Mail

EHW:MCM

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RETCOM

100-355489-55

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RECORDED - 19

FEB 23 1955

INDEXED-19

*Handwritten initials and stamps*

OM 100-4095

Subject has been active in matters pertaining to race discrimination that have occurred in the State of Iowa during the past several years, all of which have been approached by subject along Communist Party lines.

She was instrumental in bringing a law suit against the Katz Drug Store, Des Moines, Iowa, in 1948, for the drug store refusing to serve Negroes. This law suit was won by subject. She was instrumental in the case involving [redacted] a Negro arrested by the Sioux City, Iowa, Police Department, allegedly for operating a house of prostitution, but according to subject it was because of race discrimination.

b7C

In 1954 subject endeavored to make a national incident out of the refusal of a dance hall in Des Moines, Iowa, to admit Negroes along with white trade.

Subject has been in correspondence with the San Cristobal Valley Ranch, San Cristobal, New Mexico, which ranch was reported to be a resort for the use of members of the Communist Party.

Subject was elected a Vice-Chairman of the Progressive Party of Iowa in 1950, and took a very prominent part in the Progressive Party activities in Iowa in 1952. Subject met CHARLOTTE BASS, Vice Presidential Candidate of the National Progressive Party, at the airport in Des Moines, Iowa, on July 19, 1952. She was accompanied to the airport by [redacted]

b7C

[redacted] reliably described as a concealed Communist Party member, and [redacted] Subject has been described by an informant of unknown reliability as "An intense Communist Party member".

Subject has been reported as having stated that "The Rosenberg Case is a manifestation of the growing American anti-Semetic campaign."

On December 28, 1952, subject wrote an article for the Des Moines Sunday Register a Des Moines, Iowa, Newspaper, captioned "Why death for the Rosenbergs is opposed". The tenor of this article criticized the decision of the ROSENBERG case, stating that the matter had been tried by the newspapers of the nation, and that the Government's chief witness had perjured himself in testifying that he had no outside assistance in reproducing the sketch for the atomic secret, as well as the admission of circumstantial evidence which jeopardized the right to the benefit of the doubt.

Subject has been reliably reported to be still the Chairman of the Communist Party in the Des Moines, Iowa, area.

OM 100-4095

On February 2, 1955, subject was engaged in collecting signatures to a letter of commendation to be given to Dr. HAROLD C. UREY, of the University of Chicago, at a testimonial dinner. This was to be given UREY because he had been a fighter against the trial and conviction of JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG, and also was trying to secure the release of SOBEL, who was convicted in connection with the ROSENBERG case.

Subject is described as intelligent and a person well grounded in the fundamentals of Communism and an individual who would carry out an assignment given her by the Communist Party.

Reference is also made to SAC Letter 55-22(A), captioned Security Index dated February 10, 1955. It is my recommendation that the captioned tabbing for Detcom on the captioned individual be retained, in that she is considered a key figure in the Omaha Office.

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