

Berman, Saul, 1911-1981. Collection, 1911-1981.

Special Collections Department/ Rare Books and Manuscripts

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Compiled by:	Kelly Vollmer
Date Completed:	September 10, 2013

Berman, Saul, 1911-1981. Collection, 1911-1981. 0.2 cubic ft.

During the presidency of Harry S. Truman, the government became suspicious of Communist activity. The actions of Federal employees were called into question and there were investigations of their loyalty to the United States. J. Edgar Hoover was authorized by U.S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark to compile a list of disloyal Americans in 1946. By 1950, at the outbreak of the Korean War, Hoover submitted a legal document that could potentially detain 12,000 Americans suspected of disloyalty. Large groups of people—including members of unions—were being viewed as a threat to national security. Unfortunately, racial and religious profiling also seemed to play a very large part in these accusations and suspected members of the Communist party were targeted. Of the twenty-six post office employees who came under investigation in 1949 for supposedly having Communist affiliations, eight of them were Jews and twelve were African Americans. It is unclear what these twenty-six postal workers actually did to come under such scrutiny, but investigations were launched as long as any disparaging information was found during their preliminary name-check by the FBI.

Among the twenty-six postal employees under investigation was a worker named Saul Berman. He was a Jewish-American who was born in Brooklyn, New York, on May 12th, 1911. Growing up, Berman had been interested in furthering his skills in plumbing, drafting, and designing, and so he enrolled in classes at the Mechanics' Institute in New York City in September of 1932 to then successfully graduate in April of 1935.

Following the birth of his daughter with his wife Violet Steckman, on August 13th, 1943, Berman was inducted into the United States Army. While a member of the Army, he suffered an eye injury that would later earn him an honorable discharge on February 2nd, 1946. After coming home from the service, he returned to his previous job with the Kingsboro Mortgage Corporation.

On February 9th, 1949, after the birth of his two sons, Berman secured work as a substitute railway postal clerk. He was soon promoted to a regular postal transportation clerk in New York, until his suspension on August 23rd, 1954. There was reason to believe that Saul Berman was a member of the Communist Party between the years 1939 and 1940. Berman maintained his innocence throughout his trial, claiming his alleged involvement with

Communism was due to financial difficulty during the 1930s, as well as the scarcity of available jobs. In other words, the organizer of his union's meetings, Lawrence Steinberg, had been exerting pressure on him to join the Communist Party in order to keep his job. At one of the Party meetings, Berman remembered being given an application card, which he signed with a false name in order to protect himself. He was also given literature to distribute, which he later admitted to "stuffing down sewers and burning in his basement furnace." He never supported the Communist ideals or "was in any way sympathetic or subordinate to the aims and purposes of the Communist Party" (Berman Personal Testimony, Page 16). According to Berman, he was not even aware that the Party was interested in overthrowing the American government. At the close of his trial, Berman was exonerated and he was reinstated to his position in the post office.

Berman, Saul, 1911-1981. Collection, 1911-1981. 0.2 cubic ft.

<u>Box/</u> Folder	Description
1-1	Birth and Death Certificates, 1911 & 1981; Licenses, 1945, 1951
1-2	Hebrew Association and Technical Institute Recommendations, 1927, 1929
1-3	Employer Recommendations, 1935, 1937
1-4	U.S. Engineer Office Paperwork, 1943
1-5	Topographic Drafting Certificate, 1944
1-6	Army Informational Booklets, 1944-1945
1-7	Army Separation/Discharge Records, 1946
1-8	Postal Service Application and Documents, 1949
1-9	Federal Employee Loyalty Program Documents, 1949
1-10	Character/Loyalty Recommendations, 1949-1950, 1954
1-11	Loyalty Eligibility Document, 1950
1-12	Earnings and Payment Statements, 1954, 1956
1-13	Deposition for Court Proceedings, 1954
1-14	Photographs of Saul Berman, 1939-1951
1-15	Newspaper Clippings/Articles, 1940, 1946-1949
1-16	Notes and Collected Poems

TELEPHONE 2832 BEEKMAN

GEO. M. BOYNTON, ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW, VANDERBILT BUILDING, 132 NASSAU STREET, BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN.

NEW YORK, June 14, 1927.

Young Men's Hebrew Association, 92d Street & Lexington Avenue, New York City.

Gentlemen:

The bearer, Saul Berman, was in my employ last summer as office boy and was satisfactory in every respect. His cousin has been in my employ for several years as stenographer and is still. I recommend him for employment.

Very truly yours,

GMB:FK

Mah

HEBREW TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

STUYVESANT AND NINTH STREETS

EDGAR S. BARNEY, Sc. D. PRINCIPAL

NEW YORK. Dec. 17, 1929

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that Saul Berman of 2114 Daly Avenue, Bronx, N. Y., graduated from the Hebrew Technical Institute in June 1929, having completed the full course of three years.

He is a good student, an able workman and we consider him truthful, honest and reliable.

It is a pleasure to testify in his behalf.

Respectfully, Began & Barney,

MAX WATTENBERG

2057 SECOND AVENUE NEW YORK, Jun. 5. 1935

To whom it my concirn.

that Sol Berman has been working for me 4 months and I found him Foust = worthy

Max Wallauberg

The Berman

17 September 1943

Subject: Induction and Assignment of Mr. Saul Borman, Now Employed as a Senior Draftsman by the U.S. Engineer Office.

10:

The Commanding Officer,, Reception Center, Fort Devens, Massachusetts.

1. Reference is made to War Department Memorandum No. W615-10-42, dated 21 August 1942, regarding assignment of individuals with specialized skills to that branch of service utilizing such skills.

2. The bearer, Mr. Saul Berman, has been employed by the U.S. Engineer Department since August, 1942. He has been engaged in the preparation of plans of Military Airfield installations. His experience includes the preparation of contract drawings for nummys, drainage, sewage disposal, housing and utilities. Mr. Berman is considered to have a thorough knowledge of drafting and allied subjects, and can be trusted to execute assignments rapidly with proper attention to details. He has been in the engineering profession since 1929.

> C. J. Murray. Major, Corps of Engineers, Acting District Engineer.

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1946 Honorable Discharge

Honorable Discharge

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This is to certify that

31 387 869 Technician Fifth Grade SAUL BERMAN Headquarters and Service Company 863rd Engineer Aviation Battalion

Army of the United States

is hereby Honorably Discharged from the military service of the United States of America.

This certificate is awarded as a testimonial of Honest and Faithful Service to this country.

Given al

Separation Center Fort Dix New Jersey

DAN & DR.STIR ds.SI 1 sholl

Date

2 February 1946

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Book 270 Page 134

A B Co 863rd Ener

AGAINST THE DIRECTOR SECOND U. S. CHIL SERVICE REGION FEDERAL BUILDING, CHRISTOPHER SE NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

SECOND UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE REGION COMPRISING THE STATES OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, NEW YORK 14, N. Y. IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO FILE LB :MF AND DATE OF THIS LETTER

DEC 2 3 1949

REGISTERED MAIL-RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Saul Berman 749 F.D.R. Drive Jacob Reiss Housing Project New York, New York

CONFIDENTIAL

ш.

Dear Mr. Berman:

Reference is made to the Interrogatory forwarded to you under date of November 2, 1949 as part of the process of determining your suitability for Federal employment under the provisions of Executive Order 9835 which established the Federal Employees' Loyalty Program.

In this connection you are requested to appear for a hearing in your case which has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 1950 at 11:00 A.M., Room 1012-F, Second Regional Office, 641 Washington Street, New York, N. Y.

Under the provisions of Executive Order 9835 you are privileged to be represented by counsel or a representative of your own choosing and to present evidence in your behalf through witnesses or by affidavit.

Any and all evidence which you desire to submit in connection with the matter under consideration must be submitted at the hearing before this Board, and no additional testimony may be introduced into the record on any subsequent appeal.

Sincerely yours,

len & may

Allen E. May ACTING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REGIONAL LOYALTY BOARD

LURIE MORTGAGE CORPORATION 22 EAST 40th Street New York 16, N. Y.

MURRAY HILL 6-3230-1

IRVING H. LURIE, PRESIDENT ALFRED J. LURIE, SECK & TREAS.

January 6, 1949

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Saul Berman has been associated with us for four years.

We have always found him to be an honest and trustworthy employee, who always fulfilled his assignments with efficiency and dispatch.

We will be only too glad to answer any question that anyone may have concerning his association with us.

LURIE MORTGAGE CORPORATION

Sunt Luni Gus -

Irving H. Lurie

FAILWAY MAIL SERVICE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT SECOND DIVISION NEW YORK 1, N.Y.

Jan 17, 1949

SAUL BERMAN 749 F.D.R. Drive New York 9, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Having accepted the offer of appointment as a SUBSTITUTE RAILWAY POSTAL CLERK, you are advised that it will be necessary for you to report for a personal interview with the Counselor-Instructor, Room 4002, General Post Office Building, 31st Street and Sth Avenue, New York 1, N.Y.

on	Monday	, January 2	4. 1949	at 8.30 AM
On	Nonnay	, vauvas / c		

You will be given a physical examination after the interview. Such examination is necessary before confirmation of appointment.

Kindly have with you all of the enclosed FORMS, completely filled in, (Notarization of forms will be taken care of at this office). Also have with you ALL OF YOUR HONORABLE DISCHARGES (or photostatic copies) and if you were born outside of the United States, your citizenship papers.

YOU ARE CAUFIONED NOT TO RESIGN ANY POSITION YOU MAY NOW HOLD, UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

It is absolutely essential for you to report at the time specified in order to qualify and to protect your Civil Service status. If it is impossible for you to report as indicated above, please notify this office immediately.

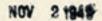
Very truly yours,

General Superintendent

ADDRESS:

THE DIRECTOR SIDDND U. S. CIVIL SERVICE REGION PEDERAL BUILDING, CHRISTOPHER ST, NEW YORK 14, N. Y. UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

SECOND UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE REGION COMPRISING THE STATES OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, NEW YORK 14, N. Y. IN YOUR REPLY REFER TO FILE LB: kt



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MR. SAUL BERMAN 749 F.D.R. Drive Jacob Reiss Housing Project New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Berman:

As part of the process of determining your suitability for Federal employment, an investigation has been conducted under the provisions of Executive Order 9835 which established the Federal Employees Loyalty Program. This investigation disclosed information which, it is believed, you should have an opportunity to explain or refute.

The questions in the attached Interrogatory are based on the information received and are to be answered in writing in sufficient detail to present fairly your explanation or answers thereto. When you have completed your answers, the instrument must be affirmed or sworn to before a Notary Public in order to receive consideration by the Commission. The sworn instrument should be returned in the attached self-addressed envelope within ton days from the date of receipt of the Interrogatory by you. One copy is to be retained by you.

If your answer to the Interrogatory leaves any doubt as to your suitability, you will then be afforded an opportunity for a personal hearing before the Regional Loyalty Board with counsel and witnesses in your behalf, if desired.

Very truly yours,

REGIONAL LOYALTY BOARD

By Charles Staff ELECUTIVE SECRETARY

Enclosures

Congregation of the Jewish Center of Brighton Beach

ABRAHAM NEUSTEIN, RABBI 3145 Brighton 4th Street Brooklyn, N. Y. DEwey 2.0860

do no

OFFICERS.

President EMANUEL LEVINSON

Vice Presidents SAMUEL GOLDSTEIN JOSEPH FIRSCHEIN SIMON OSTERMAN LOUIS FEIT

Honorary Presidents ADOLPH BALSAM MORRIS A. LeVIN

Honorary Vice President CHARLES BERNSTEIN

Tressurer HARRY FOX

Recordink Secretary LOUIS GRUNDT

Trustees PHILIP LEMIS LOUIS GRUNDT HYMAN BERMAN

Sergeant- at Arms VICTOR SLIPIAN ISRAEL GROTSKY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES Chairman DR. ELIHU KATZ

Vice Chairman EMANUEL LEVINSON

1×2

2915 OCEAN PARKWAY

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

NIGHTINGALE 6-9115

January 3, 1950

To Whom it May Concern:

I am very happy to report on the character of Saul Berman who has been a member of my congregation since 1935.

During this period of association he volunteered valuable services to our civic, patriotic and religious programs. From our experience with him we found him to be a congenial and trustworthy person and a loyal American.

Sincerely yours. abraham neustein

Rabbi A. Neustein

SISTERHOOD:

President JENNIE SHERMAN

Honorery Presidents JENNIE LEVY ESTHER JOND PAULINE SCHWEIT PEGGY WEISBERG

Honorary Vice President SARAH BERNSTEIN

Vice Presidents BLANCHE LEVINSON ANNA GRALITZER IDA MARCUS IDA RABINOWITZ

Treasurer EVA RECKSOM

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Recording Secretary SHIRLEY NEUSTEIN

Corresponding Secretary PAULA DONN

Serkeant-at-Arms FANNIE LEMIS BESSIE ECKER

Sunshine Chairlady LENA LEINHARDT

January 6, 1950

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Mr. Saul Berman who resides at 749 Franklin D. Roosevelt Drive, New York City 9, New York, for a little over three (3) years. I met him first when he was employed by Kingsboro Hortgage Corporation, who maintain offices at 51 East 42nd Street, New York City. He was employed as a building inspector on new construction and alteration jobs.

I have been out with him and his wife socially from time to time and visited at his home.

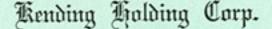
I have always found him to be honest and completely trustworthy and his integrity is beyond reproach. During political discussions that took place from time to time, he always exhibited only the highest regard and respect for the institutions of the United States of America. He has been sharply critical of dictatorships of all kinds, and I believe him to be entirely loyal to our Government.

I am at the present time submitting his name for membership in the Amos Masonic Lodge #938, of which Lodge I was Master in 1940.

Very truly yours,

ML:CF

Latentald



January 6, 1950

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This will certify that Mr. Saul Berman has been known to us for approximately 4 years. We had dealings with him in his capacity as a representative of Kingsboro Mortgage Corporation, which handled the financing of some construction projects in which we were instered.

Mr. Berman always impressed us as a thoroughly reliable individual, absolutely loyal to his employers. He apparantly occupied a position of trust with his employers, who disbursed sizeable amounts on the basis of reports made by him.

We consider Mr. Berman absolutely loyal and trustworthy.

KENDING HOLDING CORP.

By Quland, hes.

January 9, 1950

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. Saul Berman, who resides at 749 F. D. R. Drive, New York 9, New York, is known to the writer for approximately the last ten years.

He was originally employed by this company for approximately one year in 1940 and then again after he left military service for about four years, from approximately May 194% to the early part of 1949.

During all of this time the writer was intimately acquainted with Mr. Berman and always found him a loyal citizen in every respect and in regard to his political beliefs.

I never heard him utter or refer a remark which would indicate any belief or respect for the Commanist party or their principals or in any way participate in any disparaging reflections against our government, its officers or legislative bodies, etc.

Very truly yours,

KINGSBORO MORTGAGE CORPORATION

Harry A. Leibler President

HAL:12

HENT, THE DIRECTOR SECOND U. S. CIVIL SERVICE REGION FEDERAL BUILDING, GARESTOWER SE NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

Γ.

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

SECOND UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE REGION COMPRISING THE STATES OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

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IN YOUR REPLY REPER TO FILED AND ATE OF THIS LETTER

MAR 2 7 1950,

Director of Personnel U. S. Post Office Department Surface Postal Transport New York, New York

CONFI DENTI AL

Sirı

Dear

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As a result of investigation under the provisions of Executive Order 9835, the person named below has been rated eligible on loyalty for Federal employment.

NAME AND ADDRESS

Saul Berman 749 F.D.R. Drive New York, N.Y. POSITION Substitute Railway Postal Clerk

Vory respectfully.

Entor Company

Ernest Angell Chairman, Loyalty Board Second U. S. Civil Service Region

co:Mr. Saul Berman

cc: accessions: demonderatedence

LAW OFFICES

DICKSTEIN, SHAPIRO & FRIEDMAN

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING 350 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK I, N. Y. CHICKERING 4-8840

August 31, 1954

I, Saul Berman, hereby retain the law firm of Dickstein, Shapiro & Friedman to represent me in connection with my security proceeding before the Post Office Department.

I agree to pay my attorneys a retainer fee of \$250.00 and an advance for expenses in the amount of \$250.00.

In the event of my clearance, I agree to pay my attorneys an additional fee of \$1,000.00 or one-half of my back pay, whichever is greater, but such additional fee shall be wholly contingent on the obtaining of such clearance.

ACCEPTED:

DICKSTEIN, SHAPIRO & FRIEDMAN By the

DUBLIRER & HAYDON 40 WALL STREET New York 5, N. Y.

WHITEHALL 3-1310

HAROLD DUBLIRER CHARLES HAYDON

September 1, 1954

Mr. Saul Berman 343 Neptune Avenue Brooklyn 35, N. Y.

Dear Saul:

I obtained the file on your matter before the Loyalty Board and must confess that my file is completely barren of the charges and the testimony taken at your Loyalty Board hearing. The only thing I do have is a note that the hearing was held on January 10, 1950, together with Technical Bulletin 5-85 of the Veterans Administration dated June 29, 1948, which sets forth provisions governing adjudication of employee loyalty cases under Executive Order 9835.

I also have a note which indicates that James Macris, Chairman of the American Veterans Committee, testified about your anti-Communist activity; that your wife testified to your objection to Communism; that your daughter, who is six, was given religious instruction and that you were critical of Russian policies.

There is some note about a Martin Berman having been a plumbing contractor and a Mrs. Irene Ward "knew you since 1935, housewife, husband, political discussions".

I see that whatever copy of the charges I had was given to you after the hearing on January 10, 1950, and I never received a copy of the minutes.

Very sincerely yours,

Charles Haydon

Charles Haydon

CH:rl

LAW OFFICES

DICKSTEIN, SHAPIRO & FRIEDMAN

EMPIRE STATE BUILDING 350 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 1, N.Y. CHICKERING 4-8840

September 13, 1956

Mr. Saul Berman 343 Neptune Avenue Brooklyn, New York

Dear Saul:

I am enclosing two copies of the earnings affidavit, as well as a letter regarding overtime earnings which is annexed to the affidavit.

Will you please sign the original affidavit and have your signature notarized. The letter attached to that affidavit should also be signed by you, but does not require notarization. The original affidavit and letter attached should then be given to the Post Office for further action. The copy of the affidavit should be retained for your own files.

If you receive any letters of inquiry regarding this claim, be sure to contact me immediately, and when you receive payment of your back pay claim, please notify us so that we can adjust our accounts.

Sincerely yours,

DICKSTEIN, SHAPIRO & FRIEDMAN

By: -

Sidney Dickstein

SD:bn Enc.

CITY OF NEW YORK BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS PEPARTHENSONE SOLUT DEC 3 0 1981 maile 106-81-121013 CERTIFICATE OF DEATH the manual and Certificate No. 4 DATE FILED 1. NAME OF DEC28 PID: 56 JAUL Decman DECEASED Fort Name MEDICAL CERTIFICATE OF DEATH (To be filled in by the Physician) ACE NEW YORK OTY " See the -DOOA 300/100-0 10 30 Memorial Hospital DEATH 20 Emps Am. allerations Manhatten 5 AM 4. SEX (Dee) 30 HOUR DATE AND HOUR OF HOUND OF DECEMBER 27 00 1981 1.5 10.25 MAL 70 years CA seall physician of sh Der. tran October 3000 _ 19.51_ 10 December F.110 IN ALCO BUS IN AT AS December 270 1921 "I further certify" that tra my hand this 210 day of Deventer 19 2 Ď Hilld AV 150 York Are NUN9 Address 12.75 of Physician. PERSONAL PARTICULARS (To be filled in by Funeral Director) STATE . COUNTY STREET AND HOUSE NUMBE Delash-4132 W, Tomarias Usa DW.dowed ADDiverced (Duy) 10.00 (Year) DATE OF AGE AT 1911 12 mars BIRTHDAY JOYLAN 13. USUAL OCCUP SOCIAL SECURITY NO erver 102-05-570 16 OTHER ork lew M NOTHER OF DECEDENT (State Daly CREMATION REAL O wil 12-29. the pple N sur 1283 Condy homes ernora BUREAU OF VITAL RECORDS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH THE CITY OF NEW YORK 見いたちになったのものでなっていた This is to certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a record in my custody. dans to the a Aca CITY REGISTRAS The Department of Health down out certify to the truth of the statements made thereon, as no inquiry as to the facts has been provided by law. DO NOT ACCEPT THIS TRANSCRIPT UNLESS THE RAISED SEAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IS APPRXED THEREON, REPRODUCTION OR ALTERATIONS ARE PROVIDITED BY LAW. 35

1981 death certificate

CHAUFFEUR'S LICENSE

This is to Certify that the person named and described on the reverse side has been licensed as a chauffeur.

JOSEPH P. KELLY

Commissioner of Motor Vehicles



IF RENEWAL LICENSE STUB IS MISSING, THE COURT OR CLERK SHALL RECORD CONVICTIONS BELOW.

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Achieved at offices of Bureau of Motor Vehicles located at:320 Schermerhorn St., Brooklyn 17141-155 Worth St., New York 13State Office Bldg., Buffalo 289-01 Sutphin Blvd., Jamaica 35910 Erie Blvd. E., Syracuse 155 Broad St., Rochester 14135 Ontario St., Albany 11500 Genesee St., Utica 4or at ANY COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE except in the counties of Albany, Kings,Queens and New York.

Form P. O. 61 May 19430

OATH OF OFFICE, AFFIDAVIT

Post Office Department

DECLARATION OF APPOINTEE

To be used for all employees except Postmasters and Rural Carriers

A. OATH OF OFFICE CLASSIFIED SUBSTITUTE RAIL AY POSTAL CLERK (Designation)

at _____NET YORK ______ in the County of _____YORK

and State ofNEY YORK

Do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which I am about to enter. SO HELP ME GOD.

I do hereby solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully perform all the duties required of me, and abstain from everything forbidden by the laws in relation to the establishment of post offices and post roads within the United States; and that I will honestly and truly account for and pay over any money belonging to the said United States which may come into my possession or control, and I also further swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States; so help me God.

Do further swear (or affirm) that I do not advocate, nor am I a member of any political party or organization that advocates, the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force or violence; and that during such time as I am an employee of the Federal Government, I will not advocate nor become a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force or violence.

Do further certify that (1) I have not paid or offered or promised to pay any money or other thing of value to any person, firm, or corporation for the use of influence to procure my appointment; (2) I will inform myself of and observe the provisions of the civil-service law and rules and Executive orders concerning political activity, political assessments, etc., as quoted on the attached Information for Appointee, and [strike out either (3) or (4)]

- (3) the answers given by me in the Declaration of Appointee on the reverse of this sheet are true and correct;
- (4) the answers contained in my Application for Federal Employment, Farm No. dated ______, 19____, tiled with the above-named department or establishment, which I have reviewed, are true and correct as of this date, except for the following (if necessary, use additional sheet; if no exceptions, write) "none"; if (4) is executed, the reverse of this sheet need not be used):

10-05747-1

	808
	A (Chewdrure of appointee)
Subscribed and sworn before me	e this day of Current and A. D. 19_49
at N.T.	N.Y.
(City)	(State)
[SEAL]	(Signature of officer)
	(Titie)
NOTE If the oath is take	on before a Notary Public, the date of expiration of his commission should be shown
	Substitute R.P. Clerk 5/12/1
(Date of entrance on duty)	(Position to which appointed) (Date of birth)

B. AFFIDAVIT

C. DECLARATION OF APPOINTEE

Declaration of Appointee341

STATE OF NEW YORK) : SS.: COUNTY OF QUEENS)

SAMUEL ALEXANDER, being duly sworn, deposes and "

I reside at 85-31 148th Street, Jamaica, New York and am employed by the New York City Police Department. I am a registered Democrat.

I first met Saul Berman about thirteen or fourteen years ago at a meeting of a Benevelent Society. Since that time I would see Mr. Berman about five times a year at meetings and on committees. The basis of my contact was social and business pertaining to the meetings of the Society. We never discussed subjects pertaining to political matters.

To the best of my knowledge, I would not believe it possible for him to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him. As far as my contact with him is concerned, I have no doubts or reservations with regard to his past or present loayalties to the United States.

His reputation with the Society for honesty, discretion and trustworhtiness is good. He is President at present and is serving his second term.

I do not believe it possible that his access to classified material might in any way constitute a danger to the national security.

Sworn to before me this set to a state of a

Kalturger De Bruns notary Public STATE OF NEW YORK) : SS.: COUNTY OF QUEENS)

JACK BURAKOFF, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I reside at 66-11 99th Street, Forest Hills, New York, and submit this affidavit in support of Saul Berman, the respondent herein.

I first met Saul Berman in 1935 in the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn. At that time I resided at 352 Neptune Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, which is also in the Brighton Beach section of Brooklyn.

During 1937 I became employed at Weinstein's Hardware Store, located at 307 Brighton Beach Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, and about a year thereafter I was contacted by a Lawrence Steinberg who was then either an organizer or business agent of Local 104, Retail, Wholesale, Department Store Union, C.I.O. As a result of my conversations with Lawrence Steinberg, I became a member of the union and a collective bargaining agreement was entered into between my employer. Weinstein's Hardware Store, and the union.

The Board should note that at this time jobs were extremely difficult to get and that labor conditions in the retail industry were abominable. I might point out one thing that particularly sticks in my mind, the fact that until the union signed the collective bargaining agreement with Weinstein's Hardware Store I was required to work 80 hours a week at a weekly wage of approximately \$20.00

Shortly after the collective bargaining agreement was signed, I was approached by Mr. Steinberg who asked me him in the store. I then told Berman that I would speak to Lawrence Steinberg, the organizer for Local 104. A few days later I saw Berman and asked him to go to a union meeting with me. Berman and I went to a meeting of the union where I introduced him to Lawrence Steinberg.

The next time I saw Berman was sometime in January of 1939 during a union meeting. At the close of the meeting, in my presence, Steinberg insisted that Berman attend the next meeting of the Communist Party. On the way home, Berman asked me why Steinberg was so insistent that he attend the next meeting of the Communist Party. I told Berman that Steinberg was not only an organizer for Local 104; he was an organizer for the Communist Party as well, and that I joined the Party for the very same reason that Berman was told to join -- "join or lose the job." After I got married, and towards the end of 1940 or the beginning of 1941, I broke completely with the Communist Party, for I decided that I was no longer going to remain a captive of Lawrence Steinberg of the Communist Party in order to hold my job. In March of 1942 I moved out of the Brighton Beach area and since that time I have. had no connection whatsoever with any aspect of the Communist movement or any other movement of a subversive or disloyal nature. shout the world, is equivalent to the

I can state as sincerely as I know how that I despise and detest everything the Communists and the Communist Party stands for and I despise and detest the fact that I didn't have enough guts to resist being forced into joining the Communist Party against my will in order to

-3-

whether or not I was a member of the Communist Party. I told him I wasn't, and he pointed out that it would be an excellent idea to join in view of the fact that he would be able to do a great many things for me if I became a member. I did not answer him at this time.

Approximately a week later, and after constant pressure, Steinberg approached me with regard to membership in the Communist Party, at which time he stated that I ought to recognize that jobs were extremely scarce, and since the union had a collective bargaining agreement with Weinstein's Hardware Store and only union members could be employed in the job that I was employed in at the store, it would be a good idea for me to become a member of the Communist Party. He also reminded me that other jobs in the retail trade were extremely scarce and that I ought to remember this in coming to a decision.

or lost my job, I decided to join. In the late fall of 1938, I met Saul Berman on the

In the late laif of type, and the state of t

-2-

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-3-

save my job. I know that as an unwilling tool of the Communists and the Communist Party I was not alone. I was one of many individuals who were sucked into a situation because of the conomic conditions existing at the time, and because I felt I had no choice.

I am convinced that Saul Berman was no more interested in becoming a member of the Communist Party than I was, and I make this statement in order to tell this Board that men like Lawrence Steinberg have caused individuals like Saul Berman and myself a great deal of heartache and an incalculable amount of trouble.

I should like to point out that I am completely in favor of the outlawing of the Communist Party and all organizations to which Communists have infiltrated, and I believe that they represent a severe and serious menace to our democratic institutions. Not only do they represent a menace to our institutions, but because of the degree of their infiltration into the labor union movement in this country, they have forced and are continuing to force individuals to become members of the Communist Party or some Communist front organization at the cost of keeping a job, exactly as they did in the case of Saul Berman and myself.

To my mind, the Communist Party in the United States and elsewhere throughout the world, is equivalent to the Hitler regime in Nazi Germany and my only regret is that I have not come forward before to state what I know in connection with the activities of Lawrence Steinberg who, as an organizer of the Communist Party, not only was a menace to our institutions, but forced and coerced individuals against

-4-

their will into joining this foul and detestable organization. I am a completely loyal citizen to this country and feel it is about time that the Lawrence Steinbergs and others of his ilk were exposed once and for all.

Sworn to before me this

I know that Mr. Horman was strongly opposed to the candidary of Henry Mallace and was a strong supporter of Marry Truman for President in 1940.

I also know that He. Derease use in favor of all out aid to each and every notion engaged in the fight to stop Communist aggression and in favor of any elliance that would be of assistance in this fight. I recall his telling as that he is opposed to the antrance of Communist China in the United Entions and believes that Communist front organisations in this country should be exposed. I know that he does not approve of the Hermint philosophy and does not believe that Communist Hunsis will over give any of the people living in that country any rights of freedom of appeach, press or religion.

I do not believe it possible for Mr. Bernen to

STATE OF NEW YORK -) the Commendat Farmy creeking the states

NAT FRIEDMAN, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I reside at 2854 Brighton 7th Street, Brooklyn, New York. I am a registered Democrat.

I first met Saul Berman in the summer or fall of 1935 at a meeting of the Democratic Party when we were introduced by State Senator William Rosenblatt, and through the years I have seen him a number of times.

My contact with Mr. Berman is both business and social, and he has assisted me in obtaining Democratic signatures for nominating petitions and was Democratic inspector in my District at the election polls in 1939 or 1940.

I know that Mr. Berman was strongly opposed to the candidacy of Henry Wallace and was a strong supporter of Harry Truman for President in 1948.

I also know that Mr. Berman was in favor of all out aid to each and every nation engaged in the fight to stop Communist aggression and in favor of any alliance that would be of assistance in this fight. I recall him telling me that he is opposed to the entrance of Communist China in the United Nations and believes that Communist front organisations in this country should be exposed. I know that he does not approve of the Marxist philosophy and does not believe that Communist Russia will ever give any of the people living in that country any rights of freedom of speech, press or religion.

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I do not believe it possible for Mr. Berman to

have been a member of the Communist Party, Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him, nor do I have any doubts or reservations with regard to his past or present loyalties to the United States.

His reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is excellent and I could never believe it possible that his access to classified material might in any way constitute a danger to the national security.

Sworn to before me this 23 day of September, 1954. <u>Is/ NAT FRIEDMAN</u> Man her and the four of the Fein Ferninal Mutany Ruble

There has never been any political discussions between Rr. Bernan and symplf.

It is my opinion that Mr. Bornen has not been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizor or a fellow treveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him.

It is also my opinion that his reputation is good for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness and I do not believe that his secons to classified material will in any way constitute a danger to the national popurity.

Irving Goldstein

Sworn to hefore me this 29th day of September, 1954 COUNTY OF KINGS

Edys: IEVING GOLDSTEIN, being duly sworn, desposes and says: I realds at 437 East 45th Street, Brocklyn,

I reside at 2111 82nd Street, Brooklyn, New York, and am employed by the Postal Transportation Service, United States Post Office Department.

I first met Saul Berman during 1953. I am an officer of the National Postal Transport Association, and it is my business to be acquainted with its members. I have seen Mr. Berman very often on the floor of the Penn Terminal and at Union meetings. My association with Mr. Berman is business.

There has never been any political discussions between Mr. Berman and myself.

It is my opinion that Mr. Berman has not been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him.

It is also my opinion that his reputation is good for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness and I do not believe that his access to classified material will in any way constitute a danger to the national security.

Sworn to before me this 29th day of September, 1954

Albert Churie notary Public Irving Goldstein

STATE OF NEW YORK) SS.: COUNTY OF KINGS

DAVID S. KAPLAN, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

I reside at 437 East 45th Street, Brooklyn, New York, and am employed by the United States Post Office Department.

I first met Saul Berman approximately two or three years ago during change of tours of duty at the terminal where we work. We have seen one another at work approximately two times a week during changes of tour of duty.

Most of our contact was due to our employment and at times have had occasion to discuss veterans' benefits and veterans' rights regarding loans and compensation.

From my limited contact with Mr. Berman I can state that I do not believe him to be a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or "fellow traveller" nor at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him, did I have any doubts or reservations with regard to his past or present loyalties to the United States of America.

In so far as my contact with Mr. Berman is concerned, his reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is excellent.

Sworn to before me this

36 d-day of September, 1954. /s/ DAVID S. KAPLAN

murry J. Smith notary Vaklie

STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS

MICHAEL KINSLER, being duly sworn, deposes and I realize at 100 Hos Mark Hond, Breat Mask, Nam says:

I reside at 1010 President Street, Brooklyn, New York. I am a registered Democrat.

SS.:

I am related to Saul Berman and have known him all my life. During all the time that I knew Mr. Berman, we never discussed anything of a political nature. We usually discussed family affairs.

I do not believe that it is possible for him to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller and I have no doubts or reservations, so far as I know, with regard to his past or present loyalties to the United States of America.

His reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is good. I found him to be so while he was em-

Sworn to before me this in any way committeete a danger 1st day of October, 1954. /s/ MICHAEL KINSLER

and tary Public . 10/ 18000 N. LOPIE

stight and it was as an entries of your of

Theodore De Gelio

COUNTY OF SS.:

IRVING H. LURIE, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I reside at 100 Hen Hawk Road, Great Neck, New York. I am employed by the Lurie Mortgage Corporation. I am a registered Republican.

I first met Saul Berman seventeen years ago. He had dome to our office for a job. He worked for the firm I was with both before and after the Second World War. My relationship with Mr. Berman was business. I would not believe it possible for him to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him. I have no doubts or reservations with regard to his past or present loyalties to the United States of America. His reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is good. I do not believe it possible that his access to classified material might in any way constitute a danger to the national security.

Receiver, a very notive worker in the chapter and apparently Sworn to before me this devoted to the interests of the Apprican Veterans Committee.

day of September, 1954. r, 1954. <u>/s/ IRVING H. LURIE</u>

stated there is for a conflict in the points of view of Kensley and his alique on the one hand, and of Bernen on the other. What you Patter very difficult to distinguish a pattern in the differences between thes or to recognize the Compulst issue as being the major been of contention between them. That pattern and the importance of the STATE OF NEW YORK) to conserve only gradually and as 1 COUNTY OF NEW YORK) sage interation in the internal workings

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of the olu JAMES MACRIS, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I am presently employed by Columbia University as a teacher of English and Modern Greek and make this affidavit on behalf of Saul Berman, the respondent herein. pty lite

SS.:

I first met Saul Berman in June, 1947, when I joined the Northern Boulevard Houses Chapter of the American Veterans Committee. Saul Berman was, at that time, already a member of the chapter. It was apparent to me, from the first, that Berman was a very hard worker in the chapter, who persisted in working towards his objectives, even when he got very little support from the other members. I was also impressed, from the very outset, by Berman's outspoken and virulent anti-Communism. re definitely fallowing the

1212132 第 At the time I joined the American Veterans Committee, I was somewhat naive, politically speaking. I had not as yet learned to discern Communist tactics and ideology through the glibly liberal phrases that they used. The Chairman of our chapter was, at that time, Mike (Meyer) Kessler, a very active worker in the chapter and apparently devoted to the interests of the American Veterans Committee. Shar Mour Yay

During the first few meetings, as I have already stated. I could see a conflict in the points of view of Kessler and his clique on the one hand, and of Berman on the other. It was, however, very difficult to distinguish a pattern in the differences between them or to recognize the Communist issue as being the major bone of contention 10- 175 B 10- 1 between them. That pattern and the importance of the 22no with the current which warter lane.

Communist issue began to emerge only gradually and as I became somewhat more sophisticated in the internal workings of the chapter.

Almost from the time I first joined the chapter, Saul Berman began to talk to me about what was going on in the chapter in an attempt to convince me that Kessler and his faction were clearly following the Communist Party line and to enlist me on his side in the struggle against that faction. At meetings, Berman's point of view seemed generally to come into conflict with that expressed by the Kessler faction.

both Sand As I became more familiar with the work of the chapter and the various issues which were being discussed on the chapter floor, I became more and more convinced that Berman was correct in his appraisal of the siduation and that Kessler and his faction were definitely following the Communist Party line. The stand of that faction on the issue of the expulsion of John Gates from the American Veterans Committee (they were against such expulsion), on cooperating with the New York Area Council of the A.V.C. which was fighting against the National group in its efforts to clear the Communists out of the A.V.C. (they supported the New York Area Council), and on other such issues, was positive proof of the Communist orientation of that faction. oust the Moreover, it was around this time that Mike Kessler's wife inadvertently admitted to me that they were both Communists. This admission was the "clincher," if any were needed, to show that there was a Communist faction in the chapter, whose purpose was to control the chapter and swing it into line with the current Communist Party line, clated with him.

-2-

Thus, in the spring of 1948, Saul Berman and I, together with Lou Berkowitz and Allan Robbins, formed what we termed a "caucus." Since we were all very active members of our American Veterans Committee chapter, since we worked on many of its committees, and since we were all members of its Executive Board, we would meet the night before each scheduled meeting of the chapter or of the Executive Board and we would try to anticipate the matters which would come up at such meetings. We would then formulate the policy we should all follow on such issues, in united opposition to the Communist faction. Once our policy had been formulated, both Saul Berman and I spent long hours, going to the houses of the members of our chapter who were not part of the Communist faction and talking to them in an attempt to induce them to come to the chapter's meetings and support our position and our fight against the Communist faction.

As our efforts became more successful and as the Communist faction began to be defeated on issue after issue, the members of that faction, and especially Dr. Grabelsky, who seemed to act as the faction "whip," became abusive and vituperative. "Neo-fascist" was the politest name that Berman and I were called. Through the efforts of our "caucus," we were finally enabled to elect chapter officers who were opposed to the Communist faction and we were at last able to oust the members of the Communist faction from every position of power and trust in our chapter.

Saul Berman left our chapter in December, 1948, when he moved away from the area.

In all the time that I knew Saul Berman, and at the times when I was rather intimately associated with him,

-3-

he was, as I have already indicated, bitterly opposed to Communism and Communists. This bitterness and this opposition extended also to the Communist front organizations which were following the Communist Party line. He was firmly convinced, and did not hesitate to express his convictions, that the Communist Party and its fellow travellers were entirely subservient to the Soviet Union and heedless of our country's interests.

In the period of my acquaintance with Saul Berman, I have found him to be honest, trustworthy and discreet. I believe that he presents no peril, actual or potential, to the security interests of our country.

Sworn to before me this

29th day of October, 1954. /8/ JAMES MACRIS

HAROLD FRIEDMAN Notary Public, State of New York Qualified in Queens Counts No. 41-6412023 Jerm Expires March 30, 1956

Swarn to before no this

Do day of October, 1985.

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STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF KINGS)

HARRIS MILLER, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

I reside at 5624 Farragut Road, Brooklyn, New York, and am employed by the Postal Transportation Service.

I first met Saul Berman approximately two to two and one-half years ago in the course of my duties at work, and have seen him at work ever since.

From my limited contact with Mr. Berman, I do not believe him to be a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller, nor have I doubts or reservations with regard to his present loyalties to the United States.

His reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is very good.

Sworn to before me this ________ and the the _______

Jack the Backers on the Soviet-German Hon-Appression Part Thotay Bubbin it was an aproximat between blood thiroty gardeters who would eventually be at one mother's throats.

I also recall that with respect to the Soviet invasion of Foland, as he had stated in the case of the Inseine invasion of Finland, that Russis was starting World War II and that the democratic countries should stop in and stop the action.

Prior to June 1941, Nr. Bernen was sheleneartedly in favor of Lend Lesse in order to stop aggregator, not only STATE OF NEW YORK) , but of Soriet tetalitarianian as well, : SS.: COUNTY OF KINGS ()) to intered the United States entry into

LOUIS NAMER, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

I reside at 2026 Bragg Street, Brooklyn, New York, and am employed by the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co., Inc. I am a registered Democrat.

I first met Soul Berman in the summer of 1937 when i met him at the home of a mutual friend. When my family lived out of New York State, I saw him approximately once a month, but when we lived in New York, we saw him at least twice a week, since we became brothers-in-law by marrying sisters. Our contact is strictly social.

I have had numerous discussions with Mr. Berman concerning political matters and am in an excellent position to state his views on issues that the Communists have taken a position on since 1939, for example, I recall that with respect to the Soviet invasion of Finland, Mr. Berman stated that Russis should be stopped immediately and that the Soviet Union's action in Finland was leading to another war.

His comments on the Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact in 1939 was that it was an agreement between blood thirsty gangsters who would eventually be at one another's throats.

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I also recall that with respect to the Soviet invasion of Feland, as he had stated in the case of the Russian invasion of Finland, that Russia was starting World War II and that the democratic countries should step in and stop the action.

Prior to June 1941, Mr. Berman was wholeheartedly in favor of Lend Lease in order to stop aggression, not only of Facism and Nazism, but of Soviet totalitarianism as well. Prior to June 1941, he favored the United States entry into the world conflict and thought that it would be an excellent idea for the United States to enter the war on the side of the democracies.

With respect to the Soviet propaganda in the United States in 1942 demanding the opening of a Second Front in Europe, Mr. Berman was of the opinion that no country should dictate to the United States what to do and that our military leaders were the only ones who would be able to say when and if a Second Front should be opened.

He was strongly in support of the Truman Doctrine of Economic and Hilitary Aid to Greece and Turkey in 1947, and felt that the Marshall Plan was an excellent idea, but that the supervision should be sterner.

I remember that with respect to the Soviet coup in Czechoslovakia in 1948, he pointed out that Communism could take over a democratic country without the use of armed force; merely by infiltrating and subverting key positions in the country in question. Mr. Berman was opposed to the candidacy of Henry Wallace as President, as he thought that Mr. Wallace was a sorehead and a captive of the Communists. He was strongly in favor of the election of Harry Truman for President. Mr. Berman thought that Alger Hiss was guilty and justly punished and with respect to Judith Coplon, he was very disturbed that she was set free on a technicality in the law and stated that the loopholes through which she obtained her freedom should be changed so that anyone trying

-2-

to commit espionage should not be allowed free on techicalities. Mr. Berman thought that the Rosenbergs were properly sentenced to death and wondered how long they would have been allowed to live if they were tried in Russis on the same charges.

Mr. Berman felt that Communists should not be in control of any labor organization and that the Government should control unions and that labor leaders should not be permitted to perpetuate themselves in office.

In discussing the split between Tito and the Soviet Union, he thought that the United States should take advantage of any disputes between Communist countries and should exploit such disputes so that we could build up additional bulwarks against Soviet expansionism. In this respect he was in favor of military and economic aid to Franco Spain in order to help stop the spread of Communism and to give us military bases for our armed forces. I know that Mr. Berman was strongly in favor of the trial and conviction of the Communist Party leaders under the Smith Act and also was strongly in favor of our immediate action in jumping into Korea to stop the tide of Communist aggression in that country.

With respect to the problem of involuntary repatriation of war prisoners, Mr. Berman was of the opinion that any individual who did not wish to return to his own country should not be forced to do so. Mr. Berman was strongly in favor of the North Atlantic Defense Pact and was of the opinion that we should enter into such pacts throughout the entire world. He was

-3-

strongly in favor of military aid to Chiang Kai Chek to be given to Chiang Kai Chek just so long as he would continue to fight against Communists. He is strongly against the admission of Communist China into the United Nations and is opposed to any organization which advocates the use of force and violence to overthrow our Government, such as the Socialist Workers Party.

Nr. Berman is of the opinion, and has stated that he thinks that Communist fronts should be exposed so that innocent people will not fall into the traps of joining these rotten organizations. In this respect, Mr. Berman has stated that the Loyalty and Security Programs of the United States are important for our national security and would give innocent individuals an opportunity to redeem themselves.

I recall Mr. Berman stating on many occasions that the Communist Party in the United States was a tool of the Soviet Union which changed its color with every situation for the benefit of the Soviet Union.

When Mr. Berman lived in Queens and was a member of the American Veteran's Committee, I know that he fought the Communists and exposed them to the membership and succeeded in his fight to have them removed from membership in the American Veteran's Committee in his local chapter.

From my knowledge, association, discussions and activities with Saul Berman, I do not believe it possible for him to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him, nor have I

-4-

any doubts or reservations with regard to his past or present loyalties to the United States of America.

His reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is the best and it is impossible for anyone to believe that his access to classified material might in any way constitute a danger to the national security.

Sworn to before me this 244 day of September, 1954. <u>/s/ LOUIS NAMER</u>

traveller it any time during the period of my acquaintense with him Woly Oable lodge with regard to his past or present legalties to the United States of America. His reputation for boosty, discretion and transverthicese is.

Juday of Scieber, 1954. /2/ JAMES V. CHINE

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COUNTY OF KINGS

SS.: .:

JAMES V. QUINN, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I reside at 765 McDonald Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, and am employed by the Postal Transportation Service.

work. The basis of our contact is business.

I could not believe him to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him. I have no knowledge with regard to his past or present loyalties to the United States of America. His reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is good.

Mr. Bernan and I marphy discussed enything beyond Sworn to before me this

If day of October, 1954. <u>(B/ JAMES V. OUINN</u> Jul. J. Brker characters had anough to talk about concentry fulling the characters, tensils and the health of our respective sives. The topics uppersont in our sinds were our families and our jobs. May discussion Rr. Berman and I over had on topics of earld importance gave to the impression that he was a loyal eitimen of our country.

From my contact and association with Mr. Derman, I don't believe it possible for him to have been a member of the Communist Farty, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow treveller at any time during the period of my acquaintence with him, for if I had the faintest idea that he was, I would have berminated our sequaintence at the first suspicion of same. My wife, who is an ardent Republican and registered STATE OF NEW YORK) dinies that a good Communist is a dead : SS.: COUNTY OF KINGS)

SIDNEY ROTH, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I reside at 3029 Br. 4th Street, Brooklyn, New York, and am employed by the Postal Transportation Service. I am a registered Democrat.

I first met Saul Berman in the Fennsylvania Terminal where, as Acting Foreman, I became acquainted with a great many men. One day I noticed Mr. Berman on the same Brighton Beach train that I was on and when he told me he lived in Brighton Beach, we often went home together. We met one another approximately two or three times a week, but our discussions were very limited as we generally spent our time reading the newspapers.

Mr. Berman and I rarely discussed anything beyond the health of our families and the affairs of our business. Mr. Berman has three children and I have four. All of them are youngsters and we therefore had enough to talk about concerning fevers, anti-biotics, doctors, tonsils and the health of our respective wives. The topics uppermost in our minds were our families and our jobs. Any discussion Mr. Berman and I ever had on topics of world importance gave me the impression that he was a loyal citizen of our country.

From my contact and association with Mr. Berman, I don't believe it possible for him to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him, for if I had the faintest idea that he was, I would have terminated our acquaintance at the first suspicion of same. Ny wife, who is an ardent Republican and regis as such, is of the opinion that a good Communist is a dead < 29. I ODG.TTY OR BUDDELL

Mr. Berman's reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness, to my knowledge, is above reproach, Ivenue, Fronz, New York, and in my opinion, he is a good citizen. and an employed by the Postal Transportation Sarvice; I am

Sworn to before me this

or HE's BETSEN, which and any bloce Burring

23 day of September, 1954. /s/ SIDNEY ROTH

year at Mayer to fo in form Terminel where we mare both escloyed. Since the The Theve seen Mr. Bernan daily on working aholary fubles our contact is business only. I have never had any political discussion with

On the basis of my knowledge of Mr. Bernan, I would not believe it possible for him to have been a number of the Communiat Party, a Communist sympathizer or a follow travellar at any time during the period of my sequainhance with him. I have no doubts or reservations with repard to. his past or present loyalties to the United States.

Eis reputation for honesty, dispretion and trustworthiness is good, and I do not believe it possible that his access to classified asterial sight in any way constitute a danger to the national security.

Smern to before he this 3,00 day of September, 1954. /s/ MORPON BOT

Jacob Ho have

STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF BRONX SS.:

MORTON SCHUTZ, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I reside at 1938 E. Tremont Avenue, Bronx, New York, and am employed by the Postal Transportation Service. I am a registered Democrat.

I first met Saul Berman in the early part of the year of 1952. We met in Penn Terminal where we were both employed. Since that time I have seen Mr. Berman daily on working days. The basis of our contact is business only. I have never had any political discussion with or Mr. Berman. aveller at any time during the period of my

On the basis of my knowledge of Mr. Berman, I would not believe it possible for him to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him. I have no doubts or reservations with regard to his past or present loyalties to the United States. His reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is good, and I do not believe it possible that his access to classified material might in any way constitute a danger to the national security.

Sworn to before me this 35th day of September, 1954. <u>(B/ MORTON SCHUTZ</u> Jacob His Raen notay Public

STATE OF NEW YORK 33.1 COUNTY OF KINGS TERME WARD, being duly menen, deposes and sayes

STATE OF HAS YOUL

LOUIS B. SODSISKY, being duly sworn, deposes and I realds at 2 Danner 3 Terrace, Brocklyn, Sem

Lican.

says:

I reside at 3111 Brighton 1st Place, Brooklyn, New York and am a registered Democrat. 1938 or 1939, when I

1.03.5

I first met Saul Berman approximately fifteen years ago. He is a customer in my drugstore, and comes in

I would not believe it possible for him to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveller at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him.

I have no doubts or reservations with regard to EDOYA S his past or present loyalties to the United States of America. His reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is very good, and I do not believe it possible that his access to classified material might in any way constitute on that Mr. Devenue, after

a danger to the national security.

ale veture free the freed Persen, fought the infiluration Sworn to before me this generican Veterans' Committee and did

day of October, 1954. /8/ LOUIS B. SODSISKY

poning or remaining as mashers of the

Notary Jublic and really background as I do. and by reason of the elemeness of my association with his entire family, I believe it impossible for Mr. Berman to have been a momber of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or "fellow traveler" at any time during the ported of my acquaintence with him, new do I have any

STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF KINGS

IRENE WARD, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

York, and am a retired nurse. I am a registered republican.

38.1

I first met Saul Berman in 1938 or 1939, when I took care of his brother who was seriously ill. Through this association, I virtually became a part of the Berman family and have seen Mr. Berman constantly from that time until today.

I have been in and out of Mr. Berman's home all through these years and I have never seen any evidence of any Communist literature or publications in his home, nor have I ever heard him say anything that could be taken by any one to mean that he was in favor of any Communist idea or cause. Frankly, the only thing that I recall that he said was that Judith Coplon was a "bitch" to disgrace the Jewish race the way she did. I know that Mr. Berman, after his return from the Armed Forces, fought the infiltration of Communists in the American Veterans' Committee and did great service in helping pass resolutions prohibiting Communists from becoming or remaining as members of the American Veterans' Committee.

Knowing Nr. Berman's family background as I do, and by reason of the closeness of my association with his entire family, I believe it impossible for Mr. Berman to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or "fellow traveler" at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him, nor do I have any

1.

STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

OSCAR WINSTON, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I reaide at 556 West 185th Street, New York, N. Y., and am employed by the United States Post Office. I am a registered Republican.

I first met Saul Berman about three years ago. We worked together in the same crew at Pennsylvania Terminal, and saw him practically every working day when we were both on duty. The basis of my contact was business.

It should be pointed out that Mr. Berman worked at the New Jersey newspaper rack distributing newspapers for the State of New Jersey. In the course of the day he would receive a sack of "The Daily Worker." Mr. Berman is the only clerk who expressed himself as opposed to the Post Office Department granting of "newspaper" classification to that publication. This disapproval was not expressed just once, but was practically a daily occurrence. Otherwise, to my knowledge, there ware no discussions on political matters.

I would not believe it possible for him to have been a member of the Communist Party, a Communist sympathizer or a fellow traveler at any time during the period of my acquaintance with him. I have no doubts or reservations with regard to his past or present loyalties to the United States of America.

His reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is good, and I do not believe it possible that his access to classified material might in any way constitute a danger to the national security.

Sworn to before me this 24 day of September, 1954. /s/ OSCAR WINSTON Just the Rose Today, Gubb its or reservations with regard to his past or present loyalties to the United States of America.

Mr. Berman's reputation for honesty, discretion and trustworthiness is excellent, and I do not believe it possible that his access to classified material might in any way constitute a danger to the national security.

One of the small things this Board might be interested in knowing about Mr. Berman is that while he was in Japan, he hand-cut and carved a crucifix for me to wear - I am positive no Communist would ever do that.

frene Ward

Sworn to before me this 6 th day of September, 1954. Arthur McSher Notang Public

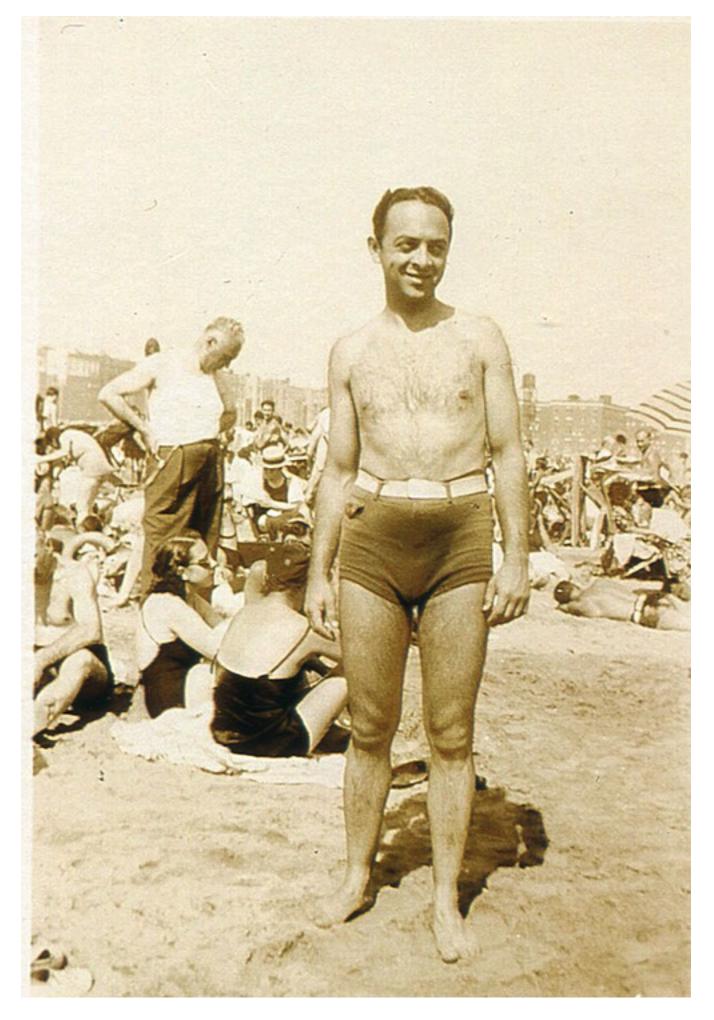
2.

MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR'S NOTES 1. To be issued only after strict and practical examination. 2. Permit will be authenticated by commissioned officer immediately after test for each type of vehicle concerned. 3. Where testing facilities do not permit crosscountry driving, permit will be marked "limited" after each type of vehicle concerned. 4. List accidents below. If more than three are charged to the permit holder, his driving ability PERMIT and mental attitude should be investigated before issuance of new permit. RECORD OF ACCIDENTS (List all in which permit holder is involved) Responsibility Valid { with without } glasses and cause _____ Estimated cost of damages Officer's initials Responsibility and cause _____ Estimated cost of damages T/5 Saul Berman (OPERATOR'S A. S. N.) Officer's initials 31387869 Responsibility and cause Estimated cost of damages (2) Officer's initials





Photo Saul Berman w daughter, Ellen Carol Berman, January 1944





97-H-1940 - 155 CITY OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH BUREAU OF RECORDS New York, N. Y. DEC 18 1940 Below is a photostatic copy of a certificate on file in the Bureau of Records of the Department of Health of the City of New York. 21-2911 ALTERATIONS APPROVED fun City of NEW YORK/8564 DEC 13 1940 YO I'TALTH PARTNENT OF HEATTH CERTIFICATE AND RECORD OF A No. of Certificate, BIRTH 165mi it Child BERMAN Mothar Watking ERMAN A LAND 83 hau How maky and that all 10// Rena 3 4 This is to certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a record in my custody. THOMAS J. DUFFIELD OTTO R. POZDENA, M. D. Registrar of Records Assistant Registrar of Records BY NOTICE: In issuing this transcript of the Record, the Department of Health of the City of New York does not certify to the truth of the statements made thereon, as no inquiry as to the facts has been provided by law.

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

In the Matter of the Security Proceeding of

SAUL BERMAN,

Respondent.

SECURITY CASL NO. 4503-PS

Esspondent.

Affidavit of Saul Berman

STATE OF NEM YORK

Supporting Affidavits and Statements:

INDEX

Samuel Alexander Jack Burakoffy, being duly morn, deposed and super Nat Friedman Irving Goldstein David S. Kaplan to the letter of September 2, Kingsboro Mortgage Corporation 1058, Michael Kinsler of Charges thereto attisched, sent Irving H. Lurie Harris Miller Poerse Louis Namer, in Secondary Case No. 0503-PS. James V. Quinn Sidney Roth Morton Schutz will attempt to set forth in affidavit Louis B. Sodsisky form a Irene Ward restion available with respect to the Oscar Winston charges contained in the said letter of September 2, 1955,

as well as my complete baskground and pattern of life.

From the Full and complete disclosure contained in this efficient and the supporting affidevite herets annexed, it is respectfully schultted that this Department must necessarily find that ay continued sepicyment with the Post Office is electly consistent with the interests of the mational beautif.

-2-

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES POST OFFICE

In the Matter of the Security Proceeding North, of Musican Josefah percentages. Note by percents had -ofcome to the United States same time around 1905, and they had been SAUL BERMAN, 7, 1910. They are both asturnlined oitizens of the United States. Respondent. :

STATE OF NEW YORK) COUNTY OF NEW YORK)

SAUL BERMAN, being duly sworn, deposes and says:

This is my answer to the letter of September 2, 1954, and the Statement of Charges thereto attached, sent to me by the Personnel Security Officer, Office of the Postmaster General, in Security Case No. 4503-PS.

This answer will attempt to set forth in affidavit form all the information available with respect to the charges contained in the said letter of September 2, 1954, as well as my complete background and pattern of life.

From the full and complete disclosure contained in this affidavit and the supporting affidavits hereto annexed, it is respectfully submitted that this Department must necessarily find that my continued employment with the Post Office is clearly consistent with the interests of the national security.

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Personal Mistory. I had been working at odd jobs, after

I was born on May 12, 1911, in Brooklyn, New York, of Russian Jewish parentage. Both my parents had come to the United States some time around 1905, and they had been married in July, 1910. They are both naturalized citizens of the United States.

When my father first came to the United States, he worked in the plumbing shop of Paul Bernstein for over 25 years. Thereafter, my father worked as a plumber independently, by himself and with partners, under a variety of trade names.

I entered public school at the age of five charged scon time : years, when I was enrolled in kindergarten. When I was 8 years old, my parents enrolled me in the Hebrew school of the 92nd Street Y.M.H.A. I received the usual Hebrew education of a Jewish boy and I was Bar Mitzvahed at the age of 13 in May, 1924. My progress in public school was guite normal and in June, 1925, I was graduated from public school. I then attended junior high until June, 1926. In September of that year, I began to attend the Hebrew Technical Institute, from which I was graduated in June, 1929. From September, 1929, until June, 1931, I took an evening course in architectural drafting and construction at Cooper Union, in New York City. In September, 1932, I enrolled at the Mechanics' Institute, in New York City, to take a course in plumbing, designing and drafting. I was graduated from the Mechanics' Institute in April, per from February, 1931, until January, 1932, when the 1935. fire was dissolved.

Although I had been working at odd jobs, after school, and during summer vacations, from 1925 on, I secured my first full-time job with the Allied Capitol Corp., in July, 1929. In Cotober, 1929, I went to work for E. Kronman, Inc., in New York City, as a draftsman, until December, 1929, when the firm went out of business. I was then placed in another drafting position by the Hebrew Technical Institute with the Hospital Supply Company, in New York City. At this job, I worked under the supervision of an engineer and made working drawings for the construction and installation of all types of hospital equipment. I was very happy in this job, but I was discharged some time in August, 1930, as the result of an altercation that I had with one of the other workers, who had been "riding" me all the time I was working with him and had finally provoked me into a fight with him, when he called me a "Jew bastard," nth, I got a job in a recail

dry goods store, but, since it was interfering with my

It will be remembered that these were the first days of the depression in this country, and that it was a bad time for securing work. Consequently, I was unemployed from August, 1930, through January, 1931.

My father was also a victim of the depression, and after more than 25 years in one shop, was laid off because of lack of work. In February, 1931, my father, together with a partner, formed the H. Berman Plumbing Co., and conducted under that firm name a sheet metal and plumbing business. I worked for the firm as a draftsman and helper from February, 1931, until January, 1932, when the firm was dissolved.

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Between January, 1932, and December, 1932, I was unemployed. I was then taking evening courses at the Mechanics' Institute, and, to keep myself going, I would sell newspapers at night after school, in the subways and on the street corners of the Times Square theatrical section. On occasion, I helped my father, who was then doing odd jobs and minor repairs.

In December, 1933, I secured a temporary job with the James Clark Distilling Corporation, in Jersey City, New Jersey. I worked the midnight shift in the stockroom of the bottling department. In March, 1934, the midnight shift was dropped and I was once again out of work. That month, my father, together with two partners, formed a plumbing company, for which I worked as a draftsman and helper, until S ptember, 1934, when it went out of existence. That same month, I got a job in a retail dry goods store, but, since it was interfering with my school work because of the number of hours I was expected to put in, I was forced to quit.

My father had become an independent plumber and was working out of my aunt's house at Brighton 3rd Street, in Brooklyn, New York. I went to work for my father, and, although business was not very good, I kept on working with him until March, 1937.

During this time, I spent most of my evenings at the gym of the Jewish Center of Brighton Beach. Also, I regularly attended the weekend dances that were held there. During the Jewish High Holy Days, I would attend services at the congregation at the Jewish Center.

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I first met Violet Steckman in December, 1936. Within the next few months we had decided that we would eventually get married and we began to discuss my future very seriously. As a result of that discussion, I stopped working for my father in March, 1937, and began to look for a job which offered greater rewards, both immediate a ware coning up and I was moviling on and potential. s permisite number of hours. I spoke to Elinger

search these the

In June, 1937, I went to work as a receiving and shipping clerk for H. M. Blumberg, located at 335 Fifth Avenue, in New York City. That job was, however, very short-lived, because of my employer's objections to my taking time off on religious holidays. Very shortly thereafter, I secured a job as a shipping and stock clerk with the Nat Levy-Urie Mandle Corporation, but, because 20 20 10 of lack of work, I was laid off in the first week in November, 1938. stere. I reparted in to work the must day at 7:30 s.m.,

That same month I met a neighbor, Jack Burakoff, who was then working in Weinstein's Hardware Store on Brighton Beach Avenue. Burakoff suggested that I try to get a job at Klinger's Hardware Store, and, as the result of a series of circumstances which I shall set forth later in this affidavit, I went to work for Klinger in December, 1938. It was, at this time too, that I became a member of the United Retail Hardware Clerks, Local 104, C.I.O. 1960, He Looked he ent, Although the Stabe In

Work at Klinger's was very hard. I was working overtime daily, and I was not getting paid for it. The clerks in Weinstein's, which was one block away, complained to the Union, and the Union organizer came down to our store. Although I tried to cooperate with Klinger, and

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didn't complain of my working overtime without compensation, the organizer warned me that I would be taken off the job if I was caught working overtime. I informed Klinger of what the organizer had said to me, but he was unimpressed.

April, 1939, was a busy month at Klinger's. The Passover holidays were coming up and I was working many more than the requisite number of hours. I spoke to Klinger about the hours, and reminded him of what the Union organizer had said. Klinger's answer was: "God damn it! Keep working and don't worry about the Union."

The last few days before Passover we were terrifically rushed. I didn't even have the time to take a lunch period. The night before Passover eve, I left the store at about midnight. As I was leaving, Klinger told me to be in at six in the morning, so that we could straighten out the store. I reported in to work the next day at 7:30 a.m., and Klinger was raving mad. He called me all kinds of filthy names, threatened me with bodily harm, and warned me that I would regret the day I came to work for him and that he would make sure that I was through the minute my contract expired.

The next few months were unadulterated misery. Klinger was always at my throat until, finally, in January, 1940, he locked me out. Although the State Labor Relations Board intervened and found in my favor, Klinger refused to negotiate with the Union and refused to take me back into the store. I picketed the store for a short while, but I finally became disgusted and decided that I would get nowhere by continuing picketing. I informed the Union of my

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decision, and, on February 20th, Klinger and I executed mutual general releases.

In February, 1940, I secured a temporary job with the Kingsboro Mortgage Corporation, then located at 26 Court Street, Brooklyn, New York. My duties in that position were to examine and report on various sites on which construction was contemplated and in connection with which a building loan had been requested from the corporation. Once a loan had been made and construction had begun, I visited the construction sites at regular intervals and reported on the progress and condition of the construction. Those reports served as a basis for the making of advances to the builders on their loans. 3, 1942. In that office, I made detailed place for the The man whom I had replaced at Kingsboro returned to work in September, 1940, and my job was at an end. In October, 1940, I got a job as a helper with the Public Service Heat & Power Company, Long Island City, New York. In November, Violet and I were married and went to live in a furnished room on Brighton 2nd Street, in Brooklyn.

As a result of a recommendation by the Hebrew Technical Institute's employment office, I was contacted by the manager of the Water Bureau of the Metropolitan District of Hartford County, Hartford, Conn., and asked whether I would like to work there as a draftsman. With my wife's approval, I went to work for the Water Bureau in Hartford, in February, 1941. Under the professional guidance of Harold C. Hart, I performed sub-professional work, made ink tracings, estimated costs and quantities, made

Security Case, Page 7370

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studies for new water projects and pipe lines, and made general water works drawings.

Our country had meanwhile become involved in the second World War and I felt that I should help in the war effort in greater measure than I was doing in Hartford. In the latter part of 1941 and in January, 1942, I was a member of the Connecticut State Guard and in March, 1942, I applied for a draftsman's position through the United States Civil Service Commission.

As a result of that application, I went to work for the District Engineer, War Department, United States Engineer's Office, in Providence, Rhode Island, on August 3, 1942. In that office, I made detailed plans for the construction of air fields, airports, troop housing; layouts for utility systems, water lines, sewage disposal systems and plumbing plans for various structures; plotted profiles and grades for runways and drainage systems; and revised plans to comply with changes made in the field during construction.

On August 13, 1943, my daughter was born in Providence and on September 13, 1943, I was inducted into the United States Army.

I was honorably discharged from the Army on February 2, 1946, and in April, 1947, I was informed that I was rated 10% disabled because of an eye injury I suffered while in the Army and was entitled to a pension and to treatment. I am presently still receiving this pension and am still being regularly treated at the Veteran's Administra-

Security Case, Page 7371

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-8-

In May, 1946, I returned to work for the Kingaboro Mortgage Corporation and was assigned to the same position which I had filled at the time that I had last worked there. Two sons were born to me, the first in 1948 and the second in 1950. On February 9, 1949, I went to work as a substitute railway postal clerk, in District No. 4, Second Division, at the West Side Terminal. I was made a regular postal transportation clerk and assigned to Pennsylvania Terminal, Postal Transportation Service, New York, in April, 1952, and i have worked at that job until my suspension on August 23, 1954.

I was inducted into the Army on September 13, 1943, and reported for active duty on October 4, 1943. From the reception center in Fort Devens, Massachusetts, I was sent to the Engineer Replacement Training Center at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

In March, 1944, I completed my basic training and was assigned to the Engineers' School at Fort Belvoir, where I took a course in Topography. I was then placed in a casual company and sent to a replacement depot at Camp Beale, California. From Camp Beale, I was sent to Camp Stoneman, and shortly thereafter, I was sent overseas. In November, 1944, I was assigned to the 863rd Engineer Aviation Eattalion, then located in Biak. I joined my outfit in the Philippines, at Camling-Tarlac, some time in January, 1945. I

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worked on the repair of the airstrip at Clark Field as well as on the repair of the Manila Pier, the largest pier in the Orient. In June, I was transferred to the 821st Engineer Aviation Battalion and was assigned to detached service with the Headquarters Engineer Construction Command, to which I was later transferred.

port of In the Headquarters Engineer Construction Command, I was put to designing plumbing systems for pre-fabricated hospitals. I worked at these projects until V-J Day, and shortly thereafter, I was sent with an advance echelon to Japan. I was assigned to Headquarters, 8th Army, Engineering Section, where I worked on the plans for water pipe lines and gasoline lines for airfields. I also designed and drew the plans for the plumbing conversion of a large department store in Yokohama to a military hospital. Thereafter, I was assigned to the Real Estate Section, where I prepared drawings of all property that the Army had requisitioned. I was ordered back to the United States in December, 1945, and landed in Seattle, Washington, on January 24, 1946. I was honorably discharged at Fort Dix, New Jersey, on February 2, 1946, and by Jenna Macris and mey the Converiest faction men custed from all positions that

American Veterans' Committee. Seeir control of the chapter

In January, 1947, I succeeded in renting an apartment in the temporary veterans' housing project, known as Northern Boulevard Houses, in Jackson Heights, Queens, New York. After living in that apartment for a few months, I was asked to join the Northern Boulevard Houses Chapter of the American Veterans' Committee. After attending one meet-

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ing of the organization, I joined it. persons at a minimum

In very short order, I became convinced that the particular chapter of the American Veterans' Committee which I had joined was being run by a group of "Reds." This was a situation which I did not like and I was determined to do something about it. I began to solicit the support of various members of the chapter in an attempt to break the "left-wing" clique's stranglehold on the organization and to oust them from it. After a while, the debates on the floor at the regular meetings of the chapter became hot and acrimonious and I was personally attacked by members of the "left-wing" clique as a "neo-Fascist."

Little by little, James Macris and I were able to convince the non-political members of the chapter to join our group and to defeat the "Red" clique on almost every issue that was then being brought up. The clique accused me of stacking the meetings and I told them that it was a pleasure for me to do anything that would stop them. In the early spring of 1948, through the efforts

of the caucus which had been organized by James Macris and me, the Communist faction was ousted from all positions that they held in the chapter and their control of the chapter was finally and irrevocably destroyed.

In this fight, I am proud to say that I played a leading part, as appears from the affidavit of James Macris, annexed to these papers. I believe that this activity on my part shows, more than anything else, my utter lack of sympathy for Communists and their sympathizers and my activ-

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ity in keeping the influence of such persons at a minimum. Inter, I motodade Burginff and told him that had becomed. Answer to Charges Nos., 1-3.

In the statement of charges, appended to the letter addressed to me by D. H. Stephens, Personnel Security Director, dated September 2, 1954, it is alleged that I was a member of the Communist Party at least during the period 1939-1940, that I attended several meetings of the Communist Party and that I paid dues to the Communist Party.

Although I signed an application for membership in the Communist Party, attended meetings and paid dues, I believe that an explanation of the circumstances will conclusively show that I never joined the Communist Party of my own free will or that I ever agreed with its policies and principles.

As I have already set forth in this affidavit, the 1930's were very difficult years, financially, for my family and for me. Jobs were scarce and hard to get and, at any moment, a job might vanish because of the liquidation of the firm or because of lack of work generally. Thus, when Jack Burakoff, as is set forth in his affidavit, annexed hereto, suggested that I might get a job in Klinger's Hardware Store, I jumped at the opportunity. Burakoff informed me that the Union had been having a great deal of trouble with Klinger and was not able to get him a man that would satisfy him. He suggested that I speak to Klinger, and if Klinger would take me on, he, Burakoff, would get me into the Union. I saw Klinger a few nights later and he

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told me he would be very happy to hire me. A few days later, I met Jack Burakoff and told him what had happened. He arranged for me to go to a Union meeting with him, where I met the organizer, Lawrence Steinberg, and where we spoke about the job at Klinger's. Steinberg told me that I would go to work the following week.

After this Union meeting was over, Steinberg came over to speak to me again and questioned me about my political attitudes. He asked me point-blank if I belonged to the Communist Party and I told him that I did not. He suggested to me that it might be a very good idea if I would join the Communist Party since it would straighten me out as to some of my ideas, and would help "keep me on the job."

I went home with Jack Burakoff that night and we didn't say a word to each other. I just sat thinking about what had happened that evening. I had no desire to join the Communist Party, about which I knew nothing; but I was desperate for a job. The following day I discussed the preceding night's events with Violet Steckman, my fiancee. She expressed the greatest opposition to my joining the Communist Party.

I went to work for Klinger in early December, 1938, The first day that I worked there, some time during the morning, the organizer, Lawrence Steinberg, came to the store and talked to Klinger. When he left, he stopped to tell me that Klinger was signing a one year contract with the Union. Later that month I attended a Union meeting, paid Union dues and was given a Union card.

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In January, 1939, I again attended a Union meeting. The organizer came over to speak to me at the end of the meeting and asked me if I had already joined the Communist Party. I said that I had not and he told me that I had better hurry and join it and not waste time. He told Jack Burakoff to take me with him to the next Communist Party meeting. On the way home, I asked Burakoff what it was all about, why Steinberg was exerting such pressure on me, and he told me that Steinberg was also a Communist Party organizer and that he was pressuring all the Union members into joining the Communist Party. He told me that he, Burakoff, had joined the Communist Party because of Steinberg's pressure.

Burakoff told me that he would pick me up and take me to the next regular open meeting of the Communist Party. When I saw Violet the next evening, I told her of everything that had taken place and discussed the question with her again. She became furious at the thought of my joining the Communist Party and, after I quieted her down, I tried to reason with her and to explain to her how tough it was to get a job, and, in view of the fact that we were planning to be married the following year, I would do anything to keep this job and to try to save some money.

The following month, in February, Burakoff came to my house one evening and suggested that we take a walk after supper. As we walked out of the house, I asked him where we were going and he told me that he was taking me to a Communist Party meeting. I went with him to this meeting,

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which was held in the building located on the southwest corner of Brighton Beach Avenue and Coney Island Avenue. At the meeting I was given an application card, which I believe I signed, although, if I remember correctly, I did not sign my correct name.

A number of individuals spoke at that first meeting on various subjects. One thing that I noticed was that they all expounded the virtues of Stalin and the benefits and advantages that the workers had in Russia. There were various books and literature for sale in the room, all of which seemed to expound the virtues of Communism. It was recommended that members read certain books and take certain courses of study in order to advance in the Communist Party. In addition, the suggestion was made that I come at least an hour in advance of the regular meetings, since a class for beginners in the Communist Party was being started and since it was important for all beginners to learn something about the evolution of Communism and its theory.

Towards the end of the meeting, volunteers were called for to distribute the Daily Worker on Sunday and to sell subscriptions for the Daily Worker. Not enough members volunteered, and the chairman assigned certain other members to do that work, in addition to the volunteers. As we left the meeting room, we were each given certain literature to distribute. I stuffed the batch of literature given to me in my pocket and went straight home. When I got there I went down to the basement and threw all the literature I had into the furnace.

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into a rage and told me she never wanted to see me again.

Later in the month, I attended a Union meeting. At that meeting, Steinberg came over and asked me if I had joined the Communist Party. I told him that I had signed an application card and he congratulated me and told me that I was now in the "vanguard fighting for the working class."

The breach with Violet lasted for about a month. Finally, through the good offices of one of her aunts, we were reconciled in March 1939. I explained to her again why I was going to the Communist Party meetings and I told her that I had never intended to become active in it. We agreed to meet at 10:30 p.m. every night that I attended a Communist Party meeting. When we met, we would have some coffee and, as we would walk home, we would throw any literature that I might have been given for distribution into the sewer openings along the street. This practice continued until I stopped attending Communist Party meetings during the latter part of February 1940. Since that time, I have never attended any meetings of the Communist Party or of any organization that was in any way sympathetic or subordinate to the aims and purposes of the Communist Party.

This, then, is the complete story of my association with the Communist Party. I applied for membership as the result of economic pressure, not because I was in any way anxious to become a member of the Communist Party or because I in any way agreed with its policies, principles or philoso-

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phy. Of course, it must be said that I never really knew what its policies and philosophy were. Certainly, I never suspected that it advocated the overthrow of the Government of the United States by force or violence; at least, not until 1941, when I finally came to that conclusion. This is not surprising in view of the fact that I was never active in the Communist Party during all the time that I was associated with it. I did not pay dues regularly; I was never called to unit meetings; I was never assigned to a unit. I was asked to go to school and study Marxism, but I never did. I was given literature to distribute, but I used to dump it down the sewers on the way home, and whatever was left I put into the furnace when I got home. I was asked to subscribe to the Daily Worker, but I never did. I was asked to go out and solicit funds; I was asked to go out and try to sell the Daily Worker; I was given propaganda to distribute. None of these things did I ever do.

In my prior loyalty hearing, Harry Klinger, who had sworn to make me regret the day I came to work for him and has done everything within his power to effectuate that threat, testified that he saw me on a loud speaker truck which had a sign "Young Communist Leage"over it during election time in 1939. The transcript of that hearing clearly reveals the inherent improbability of that testimony. (Transcript of hearing in the case of Saul Berman, Regional Loyalty Board, January 11, 1950, pp. 52 et seq.)

The affidavit of Nat Friedman, annexed hereto, is further proof of the falsity of that story. Mr. Friedman points out that I worked for the Democratic Party, at the

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time in question, in obtaining signatures on Democratic Party nominating petitions and that I was a Democratic inspector at the election polls. Certainly, it is beyond the realm of credibility to suppose that I should have publicly proclaimed a Communist allegiance at the same time that I was soliciting support for the Democratic Party.

It is clear that this story was something made up out of whole cloth by Harry Klinger in his bitter and undying attempt to "get" me because of our differences fifteen years ago.

Charge No. 4, in the letter of September 2, 1954, alleges that I signed a Communist Party nominating petition on January 25, 1941, in Kings County, New York, for candidate Landy.

Although I have no independent recollection of signing such a petition, I may very well have done so. I did not, however, sign the Communist Party nominating petition because I was in any way in agreement with the principles of the Communist Party or supported the Communist candidate. I believe, quite frankly, that the major reason that I would have signed such a petition was in order to avoid the importunities of the people who were soliciting my signature. It was much easier to sign and get it over and done with, than to refuse to sign and to keep on being button-holed and asked for such signature.

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A second reason that may have caused me to sign such a nominating petition is that I felt that every person had a right to run for office and that if it was necessary to sign a petition in order that he should have an opportunity to be put on the ballot and to permit the voters to exercise their choice with respect to him, then, as a matter of principle, such a petition should be signed.

Although this second reason may have played some part in my signing such a petition, I believe, although I cannot really remember all the circumstances with respect to this petition, that basically, my reason for signing the petition was to get rid of the person seeking my signature and to have him stop bothering me.

Answer to Charge No. 5. in true that I co not now a needer

The Statement of Charges in this proceedings further alleges that I falsely answered in the negative on two applications for federal employment, dated November 12, 1946, and January 24, 1949, respectively, to the questions which read: "Do you advocate or have you ever advocated or are you now, or have you ever been a member of any organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence?"

Although it is true that I answered these questions negatively, I do not feel that I answered them falsely. For even if they were answered negatively, I had no intention of concealing any facts from the government of the United States or of making any false statements. If the answers were false

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in fact, they were, nevertheless, never false in intent.

Inasmuch as I never personally advocated the overthrow of the government by force or violence, inasmuch as I had never received a membership card from the Communist Party and hence, never considered myself a member of the Communist Party, and inasmuch as I did not think, at the time that I was attending some of the meetings of the Communist Party, that it advocated the overthrow of the government by force or violence, I answered in the negative.

Obviously, the first two parts of the question acconletel; were correctly answered. It is entirely true that I do not advocate nor have I ever advocated the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence. sufficiently shown that I have hever been dislevel to the Similarly, it is true that I am not now a member of any organization that advocates the overthrow of the government by force or violence. It is only the fourth part of these questions which may have been inaccurately answered because of my misinterpretation of their import. Inasmuch as I did not believe that the Communist Party advocated the overthrow of the government by force or violence at the allegedly time that I was a member of it, I answered that I had never been a member of any organization advocating the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or violence. United St I can now understand that those parts of the question should, perhaps, have been answered affirmatively, inasmuch as I had signed an application for membership in the Communist Party, which, I subsequently came to the conclusion, advocated the overthrow of the government of the United States by force or herato annexed so Exhibit SB-1.

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violence. I had no design, however, at the time that I answered the questions of answering it falsely or of concealing any past membership in the Communist Party. As I have already stated, any inaccuracy in the answer was the result of a misinterpretation of the meaning of the question and of doubt as to membership in the Communist Party rather than of a deliberate attempt on my part to mislead the government of the United States.

In this affidavit, I have set forth as fully, as completely and as honestly as I have been able all the facts concerning my life and the charges which have formed the basis of this proceeding. I believe that I have sufficiently shown that I have never been disloyal to the Government of my country and that my association with the Communist Party was the result of economic pressure and duress. I believe that the supporting affidavits which are hereto annexed clearly and conclusively show that my opinions and attitudes throughout my life have been those of a loyal American, and entirely antithetical to those held and expressed by Communists and Communist sympathizers.

The very same charges which have formed the basis of this proceeding were considered at a hearing of the United States Civil Service Commission's Second Regional Loyalty Review Board on January 11, 1950, and I was cleared, after such hearing, of any suspicion of disloyalty, as is evidenced by the letter, dated March 27, 1950, rating me eligible as to loyalty, a photostatic copy of which is hereto annexed as Exhibit SB-1.

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I believe that I have demonstrated such a degree of awareness of the dangers of Communist infiltration, especially in view of my fight against the Communists in the Northern Boulevard Houses Chapter of the American Veterans Committee, that I can in nowise be deemed a security risk because of any alleged or suspected "softness" on Communism. I further believe that these papers conclusively show that my retention in federal employment is clearly consistent with the interests of the national security and that I should be so retained.

If these papers should not be deemed a sufficient basis for a favorable determination in my behalf, I respectfully request a hearing at which I may conclusively show that my retention in federal employment is clearly condistent with the interests of national security.

/s/ SAUL BERMAN

Sworn to before me this

27% day of October, 1954.

DAVID ISRAB SHAPRO Notary Public in the State of New York Coalited in New York County No. 33-8937325 Det. filad in Kings and N. Y. Co. Reg. Joint Spirint March 20, 1956

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and the second sec	LIFICATION RECORD
This record of job assignments and special training received in the tion, information is taken from available Army records and supplement	FAS 22 Army is furnished to the soldier when he leaves the service. In its prepara- ted by personal interview. The information about civilian education and eran may present this document to former employers, prospective employers.
1. LAST NAME-FIRST NAME-MIDDLE INITIAL	MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL ASSIGNMENTS
BERMAN, SAUL	10. MONTHS 11. GRADE 12. MILITARY OCCUPATIONAL SPECIALTY
2 ARMY SERIAL No. 3. GRADE 4. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. 31 387 869 TEC 5 UNKNOWN 5. PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS (Small, City, County, State) 2874 Brighton 3 rd St Bklyn Kings Co NY	3 Fvt Basic Tng FNF (521 6 Pfc Topographic Draftman (076 12 Tec 5 Draftsman Mech (071
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The Engineer School

Fort Belvoir, Virginia



Subject

This is to certify that

PVT SAUL BERMAN, 31387869

has, on <u>10 June 1944</u>, successfully completed the enlisted course in Topographic Drafting. The subjects included in this course are those outlined on the reverse side of this sheet.

This certificate is issued pursuant to paragraph 16c, AR 350-110, Sept. 1, 1942.

ames accus Captain, Corps of Engineers, Secretary