

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK, NEW YORK

NY FILE NO. 100-1409

of 1

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 11/22/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/15, 17/41	REPORT MADE BY G. H. OINSON
TITLE NELSON ALGREN			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigation fails to disclose any record of subject; not listed as author at Public Library; no record of Science Quarterly at Public Library.

- P -

REFERENCES:

Bureau letter to New York dated August 30, 1941 (Bureau File 100-4922).
Report of Special Agent M. E. Torrione, dated September 8, 1941 at New York City.

DETAILS:

Miss TERESA CARROLL, Consolidated Edison Company, 4 Irving Place, New York City, advised that they had no record of any individual with subject's name.

The records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service at 641 Washington Street, New York City, and Ellis Island, New York, were checked, but no record of subject could be located.

Subject's name is not listed in the Communist Party files of the New York Field Office.

Subject's name was not recorded in the indices of the New York Public Library, 42 Street and Fifth Avenue, New York City, as an author or writer. Their indices do not list the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>5 - Bureau</p> <p>3 - New York</p>		<p>100-1409-26</p> <p>NOV 26 1941</p> <p>NY 100-1409-26</p>

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7-2081

Report Form
FD-263 (5-12-55)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office KANSAS CITY	Office of Origin INDIANAPOLIS	Date 9/13/56	Investigative Period 9/14/56
TITLE OF CASE NELSON ALGREN		Report made by RICHARD H. ASH	Typed By: gmh
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C; FRAUD AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT; PERJURY	

Synopsis:

[redacted] about 1934 and 1935, advised on 9/14/56 he recalled subject in about 1935 and 1936 as a member of a CP committee of artists and writers organized by the national headquarters of CP, USA. He also recalled attending several closed CP meetings with subject in about 1935.

-RUC-

FOIA(b)7 - (D)

DETAILS:

On September 14, 1956, [redacted]

[redacted] advised that he was Communist Party Section Organizer in Westchester County, New York, in about 1934 and 1935 and that in about 1935 to 1936 he was a Communist Party Organizer

Approved	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below
Copies made:		
4 - Bureau (100-4022) (RM) ③ - Indianapolis (100-10101) (RM) 2 - Kansas City (100-10711) (100-2272)		100-10101-100 SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED SEP 20 1956 FBI - INDIANAPOLIS

100-13108-114

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 8 1959	
FBI - CHICAGO	

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1955 O-344750

NW#: 4352 DocId: 59160093

TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN:

After I have been duly warned by C. E. Patterson to whom this statement is made that I do not have to make any statement at all, and that such statement I make may be used in evidence against me on my trial for the offense concerning which this statement is made, I wish to make the following voluntary statement:

My name is Nelson Abraham and I am 24 years of age;

I was born in Detroit, Michigan and at present I consider the following address my home:

The names and addresses of some of nearest relatives are:

Mr & Mrs. G. Abraham, Chicago, Illinois

and I wish to further say:

I went up to the College between 5:30, and 6:00 in the evening or afternoon on 25th of January this year, I walked in the south door and it was in my mind to do some typing, I had permission of Dr. Morelock to use the typewriters, and the door to the typewriting room was locked, but the door to the office was open and there was a typewriter there, I assumed that this typewriter was property of the school, the same as the other typewriters as in the room that was locked, I typed on it ~~for about 15 minutes~~ for about 15 minutes in this office, I don't know where I went up there just to type or to take a typewriter, this is not clear in my mind.

I wanted a typewriter very bad because I am a writer by profession, I've never owned a typewriter of my own, I was eager to finish a manuscript on which I've been working in Alpine since October 3, 1933, since it was necessary for me to return to Chicago, since it was also necessary that I have a typewriter to finish my book, I decided to take the typewriter.

A typewriter is the only means I had to complete a book which means either a few dollars or utter destitution. There is nothing that is more vital to my mere existence as a typewriter, it is the only means I have to earn a living. If I can write I can earn my own living.

I am not certain of the make of the typewriter. I was nervous, I had idea in my head, and I put cover on the typewriter, I opened the drawer to put in the desk where it belonged, but instead of this I put it under my arm, and walked out of the door. I came out the front door and took the typewriter to the Nettleton House to my room, when I got to my room I put it into a wooden box, the box was taken to the depot the next morning, and at that time I arranged for the shipment of this box, and I knew that the typewriter was in the box, the box was billed to my parents' address in Chicago. I left town on a freight about 10:15, after I had mailed receipt of this box to my parents' address, and I was going to Chicago, at Sanderson, Texas, I was arrested. I didn't have the feeling that I was stealing from an individual, I felt like I was taking it from the school.

Witnesses:

1. Pete Crawford

2. John E. Smith

E. A. Nelson
EA

Nelson Abraham

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-4022)
ATTENTION: FBI LABORATORY

DATE: 6/11/57

FROM : SAC, EL PASO (100-5561)

SUBJECT: NELSON ALGREN, was.
Nelson Algren Abraham
SM-C; FAG; PERJURY

OO: INDIANAPOLIS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/31/84 BY 8219 web-lmw

Rebulet to CG, 3/20/57, and Indianapolis letter to Director,
5/15/57.

Enclosed is a signed statement dated 1/27/34 signed by one
NELSON ABRAHAM and witnessed by PETE CRAWFORD and JOHN E. SMITH. PETE
CRAWFORD is a former Texas Ranger who died several years ago. JOHN E.
SMITH is unknown to law enforcement officers at Alpine, Texas. It is
not known whether one of the witnesses or ABRAHAM typed the statement.

The statement was obtained on 5/27/57 from J. W. FRAZER,
Brewster County and District Clerk, Alpine, and should be forwarded
to El Paso for return to FRAZER upon completion of the examination.
The FBI Laboratory is requested to compare the ABRAHAM signature appear-
ing in the statement with a letter, now in possession of the FBI Lab-
oratory, purportedly written by subject to HOWARD RUSHMORE in 1937.
The Bureau is also requested to compare typewriting in the statement
to any other specimens of subject's typewriting now in possession of
the Laboratory.

For information of Indianapolis, the statement purports to
be that of NELSON ABRAHAM, 24 years of age, born in Detroit, Michigan,
nearest relatives, Mr. and Mrs. G. ABRAHAM, Chicago, Illinois, and
reads as follows:

"I went up to the College between 5:30 and 6:00 in the
evening or afternoon on 25th of January this year, I walked
in the south door and it was in my mind to do some typing, I
had permission of Dr. MORELOCK to use the typewriters, and
the door to the typewriting room was locked, but the door to
the office was open and there was a typewriter there, I assumed
that this typewriter was property of the school, the same as
the other typewriters as in the room that was locked, I typed
on it for about 15 minutes in this office, I don't know where
I went up there just to type or to take a typewriter, this is
not clear in my mind.

- ③ - Bureau (Encl. 1) (100-4022) (REG.)
- 2 - Indianapolis (100-10101) (REG.)
- 1 - El Paso (100-5561)

LMG:jgb
(6)

INDEXED - 91

100-4022-72

RECORDED - 91 JUN 13 1957

SEVEN

SUB CONTROL

SIX

COPY AND SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB
FOR LAB. ACTION AND REPORT

6-19-57 p/c

ENCLOSURE

N
100-4022-72
JUN 13 1957
C.

EP 100-5561

"I wanted a typewriter very bad because I am a writer by profession, I've never owned a typewriter of my own, I was eager to finish a manuscript on which I've been working in Alpine since October 3, 1933, since it was necessary for me to return to Chicago, since it was also necessary that I have a typewriter to finish my book, I decided to take the typewriter. A typewriter is the only means I had to complete a book which means either a few dollars or utter destitution. There is nothing that is more vital to my mere existence as a typewriter, it is the only means I have to earn a living. If I can write I can earn my own living.

"I am not certain of the make of the typewriter. I was nervous, I had idea in my head, and I put cover on the typewriter, I opened the drawer to put in the desk where it belonged, but instead of this I put it under my arm, and walked out of the door. I came out the front door and took the typewriter to the Nettleton House to my room, when I got to my room I put it into a wooden box, the box was taken to the depot the next morning, and at that time I arranged for the shipment of this box, and I knew that the typewriter was in the box, the box was billed to my parents' address in Chicago. I left town on a freight about 10:15, after I had mailed receipt of this box to my parents' address, and I was going to Chicago, at Sanderson, Texas, I was arrested. I didn't have the feeling that I was stealing from an individual, I felt like I was taking it from the school."

On 5/28/57 Mrs. WINIFRED SLIGHT, Assistant Registrar, Sul Ross College, Alpine, advised SA LEON M. GASKILL that there is no record of enrollment for NELSON ABRAHAM in the files of her office. She advised that ABRAHAM could have used the facilities of the school without being a student.

J. C. COLEMAN, 708 East Avenue C, Alpine, retired Sul Ross Professor whose typewriter was stolen by ABRAHAM, recalled that ABRAHAM was a "Floater"; was not a student at Sul Ross, and would not have left any papers or other correspondence at the College.

Dr. HORACE MORELOCK, 708 East Avenue D, Alpine, retired Sul Ross College President, advised on 5/28/57 that he could not recall the "stolen typewriter" incident and was not acquainted with NELSON ABRAHAM.

October 26, 1940

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Re: **NELSON ALGREN**
INTERNAL SECURITY

Dear Sir:

It is requested that you discreetly ascertain the present address of the above captioned individual who should be well known to informants of your office who are acquainted with leaders of the Communist Party. Algren has been reported as being engaged in producing Communist documents for the New York District and was formerly in charge of the district speakers bureau. *July 26 - 1940 - 3 in eq -*

Any information readily available regarding his citizenship status or other activities should be furnished to the Bureau without delay.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

100-1165

F B I.	
OCT 28 1940	
N. Y. C.	
TO	BY

100-121918-210

FBI - CHICAGO
NOV 25 1949
<i>Boley</i>

ALCHER, Nelson
Address not known

3ND

Subject has been associated with the John Reed Club and the League of American Writers. He has publicly supported the Soviet Trials (4-28-38) and his name appeared in the Daily Worker of 5-1-42 and 7-20-42 supporting several Communist Party sponsored demands.

ONI-FBI-MIS

8-25-42

CONFIDENTIAL

E-7-CP

100-13108-24

F. B. I.	
SEP 3 1942	1-9
N. Y. C.	
ROUTED TO	FILE

calc
11/2
FD

ALGREN, Nelson

3ND

New York City

Subject signed a statement issued by the
(Communist controlled) League of American
Writers calling for the opening of a Second
Front. Rating A.

FIO to: ONI, FBI, MIS

10-19-42

CONFIDENTIAL

B-7-CP

100-13168-23

~~10-14-42~~
17
GM

March 17, 1944

NELSON ALGREN

The name of Nelson Algren appeared in a list of names of individuals who were signers of an open letter to Attorney General Biddle, urging the prosecution of "domestic Fascists," which letter was published in "Equal Justice." As you know, "Equal Justice" is a quarterly publication edited by the International Labor Defense, 112 East 19th Street, Room 504, New York City. This particular letter was contained in the Spring edition, 1942, Volume XVI, Number 2, of "Equal Justice."

Nelson Algren was also mentioned in "The New Masses," dated May 3, 1938, as one of the group of individuals who defended the Moscow purge trials.

With regard to Algren's approval of the Moscow purges, according to a Dies Committee report contained in House Resolution Number 282, Volume I, for August 12 to 23, inclusive, 1938, Algren was described, along with the other individuals sanctioning the purges, as a part of Communism's "antiseptic squad." Briefly, the Dies Committee indicated that this squad "comes to the front in the event of attempted deportation of alien 'Reds' and for the advancement of citizenship to aliens who refuse to swear allegiance to their country. In other words, its job is to defend Russia and Communism and to soothe our people into calmness in the face of the reality of a 'Red' menace in the United States."

In another extract from hearings before the Dies Committee, it has been ascertained that Nelson Algren was included in a list of individuals elected to the National Council of the League of American Writers in 1935.

The name of Nelson Algren, designated as a Communist Party member, was contained on a partial list of delegates, alternates, officials, Party leaders, and observers attending the sessions of the Tenth National Convention of the Communist Party.

From an article entitled "American Writers Call for Second Front Now," which is carried on Page 5 of "The People's World" for September 23, 1942, it was ascertained that Nelson Algren was considered as one of the outstanding names in American letters of the day and was apparently connected with the League of American Writers.

The following article was copied from the "Hoosier Party Builder," published in Indianapolis, Indiana, dated December 3, 1937, concerning the above-captioned individual:

"For the Indianapolis comrades, a great many interesting events have been mapped out by the Drive Committee. On Dec. 19 JAN WITTENBER, business manager of the DAILY RECORD, will come to town bringing with him, Nelson Algren, author of 'Somebody in Boots.' A banquet to welcome the visitors (and, incidentally, to raise some money) is being held at the Russian Izba, 2135 N. Meridian St. An interesting program including speakers, singers and a trio has been arranged."

From information dated June 25, 1942 submitted by the Chicago Field Division concerning the Communist Party, District 8, of Chicago, Number 203, it is noted that Del Early spoke of Nelson Algren and Richard Wright as having been former pupils of his. Del Early at this time was speaking before the last class of the term of the school in fundamentals for Issy Taylor Finkelberg, at the Workers School, 64 West Randolph. He gave a very brief resume of the Party in this country and a glance at the

S. Culbertson:mjm
100-4022

March 17, 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
NELSON ALGREN

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.~~

The name of Nelson Algren appeared in a list of names of individuals who were signers of an open letter to Attorney General Biddle, urging the prosecution of "domestic Fascists," which letter was published in "Equal Justice." As you know, "Equal Justice" is a quarterly publication edited by the International Labor Defense, 112 East 19th Street, Room 504, New York City. This particular letter was contained in the Spring edition, 1942, Volume XVI, Number 2, of "Equal Justice." (61-7347-263)

Nelson Algren was also mentioned in "The New Masses," dated May 3, 1938, as one of the group of individuals who defended the Moscow purge trials. (94-1-2846-81, Page 132)

With regard to Algren's approval of the Moscow purges, according to a Dies Committee report contained in House Resolution Number 282, Volume I, for August 12 to 23, inclusive, 1938, Algren was described, along with the other individuals sanctioning the purges, as a part of Communism's "antiseptic squad." Briefly, the Dies Committee indicated that this squad "comes to the front in the event of attempted deportation of Alien 'Reds' and for the advancement of citizenship to aliens who refuse to swear allegiance to their country. In other words, its job is to defend Russia and Communism and to soothe our people into calmness in the face of the reality of a 'Red' menace in the United States." (61-7582, D.C.R. Volume 1, Copy A)

Classified by ~~8218442-1mw~~
Declassify on: OADR 8/9/84

In another extract from hearings before the Dies Committee, it has been ascertained that Nelson Algren was included in a list of individuals elected to the National Council of the League of American Writers in 1935. (61-7582, Volume 1, Copy A)

The name of Nelson Algren, designated as a Communist Party member, was contained on a partial list of delegates, alternates, officials, Party leaders, and observers attending the sessions of the Tenth National Convention of the Communist Party. (61-7559-3063)

From an article entitled "American Writers Call for Second Front Now," which is carried on Page 5 of "The People's World" for September 23, 1942, it was ascertained that Nelson Algren was considered as one of the outstanding names in American letters of the day and was apparently connected with the League of American Writers. (100-7322-A)

The following article was copied from the "Hoosier Party Builder," published in Indianapolis, Indiana, dated December 3, 1937, concerning the above-captioned individual:

For the Indianapolis comrades, a great many interesting events have been mapped out by the Drive Committee. On Dec. 19 JAN WITTENBER, business manager of the DAILY RECORD, will come to town bringing with him, Nelson Algren, author of 'Somebody in Boots.' A banquet to welcome the visitors (and, incidentally, to raise some money) is being held at the Russian Izba, 2135 N. Meridian St. An interesting program including speakers, singers and a trio has been arranged." (100-3, Sub 16, 100-17378-X)

From information dated June 25, 1942 submitted by the Chicago Field Division concerning the Communist Party, District 8, of Chicago, Number 203, it is noted that Nelson spoke of Nelson Algren and Richard Wright as having been former pupils of his. Nelson at this time was speaking before the last class of the term of the school in fundamentals for Issy Taylor Pinkelberg, at the Workers School, 64 West Randolph. He gave a very brief resume of the Party in this country and a glance at the

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(u)
(S)

DAF:IS
100-4022-9

July 3, 1942

RECORDED

Mr. Leon T. Walkowicz, President
District Number 20
Polish American Council
1930 North Fairfield Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Walkowicz:

I am in receipt of your Resolution dated May 29, 1942, concerning a book which recently appeared for public sale.

Please be advised that I have made your Resolution a matter of record in the files of this Bureau.

Sincerely yours,

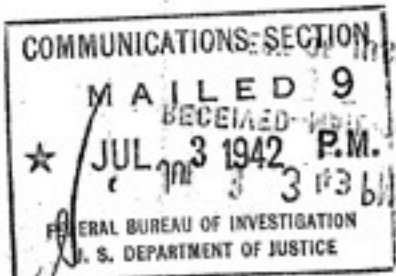
John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/22/84 BY 8269 jhe/web-lmw

85-0340 304 SPWT/lmw 4/16/88
85-0614

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Kramer _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



11 JUL 7 1942

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]

Identification Record Request
FD-9 (Rev. 3-5-64)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This form may be submitted in legible hand-printing.
2. Use separate form for each individual on whom record is requested.
3. Make effort to furnish FBI Identification Number or Law Enforcement Identification Number.
4. Furnish descriptive data and fingerprint classification only when FBI Number not available.
5. Indicate office for reply in lower right corner only. Also list in lower right corner all offices which should receive copies of available records. Include carbon of revised FD-9 for each office receiving copies and forward with original to Bureau.
6. Do not fill in block in lower left corner.
7. Where available furnish Law Enforcement Identification Number and Military Service Number.

To: DIRECTOR, FBI		Attention: Identification Division		Date: 5-6-68	
Re: NELSON ALGREN aka SM-C					
Furnish The Known Identification Record of the Following:					
Name: NELSON ALGREN		FBI No.			
		Other No. SSN 319-07-0873			
Aliases: NELSON ALGREN ABRAHAM, 58 ASN 366 79 611- SIMON DE BEAUVOIR 913		Residence: 1958 WEST EVERGREEN AVE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS			
Sex: M	Race: W	Birth Date: 3-28-09	Birthplace: DETROIT, MICHIGAN	Residence: 1958 WEST EVERGREEN AVE CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	
Height: 5'11"	Weight: 180	Build: Medium	Hair: BROWN	Eyes: BROWN	Complexion: FAIR
Fingerprint Classification:			Scars, marks and tattoos: 2nd finger on left hand is maimed		
Also Furnish: <input type="checkbox"/> Photo <input type="checkbox"/> Fingerprints <input type="checkbox"/> Handwriting Specimens					
Identification Division's Reply: 5-14-68 <input type="checkbox"/> On basis of information furnished, unable to identify: <input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Files <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Files <input type="checkbox"/> All Files <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Record Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Photo Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Photo Not Available <input type="checkbox"/> Fingerprints Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Handwriting Specimen Attached			Return Reply to: SAC, Chicago (100-13108) Send Copies To:		

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/11/84 BY SP8BZD/LUA

100-13108-51

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 17 1968	
FBI - CHICAGO	

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES

AND FIELD OFFICES

ARE KEPT FOR RECORDING

IN P(S) OF *Class*

DATE *9-14-84* *JS*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Chicago

CG FILE NO. 100-15108

REPORT MADE AT Chicago, Illinois	DATE WHEN MADE 4/20/50	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/27; 2/3; 27; 3/1, 6, 10, 14; 17, 20, 21, 24/50	REPORT MADE BY CHARLES BOIZ	CB:RLB
TITLE NELSON ALGREN, wa Nelson Algren Abraham ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

NELSON ALGREN resides 1523 Wabansia, Chicago. Sentenced to two years in Penitentiary on February 21, 1934 at Alpine, Texas for theft of personal property - sentence suspended. Informants advise Subject President of Chicago Chapter of League of American Writers in 1941; took part in meeting sponsored by Chicago Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions in 1949. Description set forth.

Classified by *3042 PPS*
Declassify on: *OADR 2/1/89*

Classified by *8268 hu/web-mw*
Declassify on: *OADR 5/13/84*

- C -

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED

BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)

DATE: 1/10/90 3042 PPS 3/1/92 BACKGROUND

Residence and Occupation

[Chicago T-1, of known reliability, who is personally acquainted with the Subject, advised on March 17, 1950 that **NELSON ALGREN**, author, continues to maintain legal residence at 1523 Wabansia, Chicago, but his duties as a prominent author make it necessary for him to visit such places as New York and Hollywood.

COPIES DESTROYED

The Chicago Tribune issue of March 17, 1950 reports that **NELSON ALGREN** is presently in Hollywood, California negotiating for a movie version of his novel, "Man With The Golden Arm."

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>BRM</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>kan</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 100-4022-23	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - BUREAU 3 - Chicago 53 MAY 167		APR 22 1950 <i>34</i>	RECORDED - 16 INDEXED - 16

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Selective Service

Mr. ALBERT P. HYDE, Clerk, Selective Service System, Chicago, 525 South Plymouth Court, on March 14, 1950 made available the Selective Service file of NELSON ALGREN ABRAHAM (changed to NELSON ALGREN by court order, January 26, 1944), born March 28, 1909 at Detroit, Michigan, which reflects that he registered with Local Board #60 on October 11, 1940 and was assigned order number 1856.

Education

The Selective Service file of NELSON ALGREN reflects that he attended the University of Illinois for four years and studied journalism. The Selective Service file does not reflect that ALGREN graduated from this school nor was any dates of attendance given.

The Chicago Tribune edition of March 17, 1950 reports that NELSON ALGREN, author of "Man With the Golden Arm," is a graduate of the University of Illinois.

Previous Residences

The Selective Service file of NELSON ALGREN reflects that he previously resided at the following residences in Chicago:

3232 1/2 Victoria Avenue - 1941.
1907 Evergreen - As of June 11, 1942.
2717 Lawrence Avenue - As of December 11, 1945.

Marriage Data

The Selective Service file of NELSON ALGREN reflects that he married his wife, AMANDA, on March 1, 1937 at Chicago.

File number 46S-9406 in Superior Court, Cook County, Chicago, as reviewed on March 14, 1950, reflects that NELSON ALGREN, 1523 Wabansia, was granted a divorce from AMANDA ALGREN on October 17, 1946 on the grounds that she deserted him as of June 15, 1943.

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Cgo File 100-13108

Criminal Record

The Subject's name was checked against the arrest records of the Chicago Police Department on February 3, 1950 with negative results.

The Selective Service file of NELSON ALGREN reflects that he admitted being arrested and convicted of a felony on March 15, 1934 at Alpine County, Alpine, Texas. The Subject's Selective Service file contains a letter dated July 22, 1941 from J. W. FRAZER, County and District Clerk, Brewster County, Alpine, Texas, addressed to the Selective Service System, Chicago, Local Board #60, which reflects that NELSON ABRAHAM was convicted of theft of personal property valued at more than \$50.00 on February 21, 1934 and given a two year sentence in the Penitentiary. This sentence was suspended pending the good behavior of the Subject but he never appealed and had the judgment of the court set aside at the expiration of the time.

Miscellaneous

The Chicago Tribune issue of March 17, 1950 reports that NELSON ALGREN was named the winner of the 1949 National Book Award for his novel "The Man With the Golden Arm."

ACTIVITIES AND AFFILIATIONS

League of American Writers and Commonwealth College

[Chicago T-2, of known reliability, advised on February 10, 1941] that NELSON ALGREN, author, was President of the Chicago Chapter of the League of American Writers and was also a member of the American Writers Union and participated in a re-organization of the American Writers Union, making it a permanent feature of Commonwealth College, Mena, Arkansas. (U) (S)

[T-2 advised in 1943] that NELSON ALGREN was a member of the Communist Party and also a member of the American Writers Congress and that he was in touch with the Abraham Lincoln School, Chicago. (U)

The Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, report of March 29, 1944, Page 82, reflects that the American Writers Congress was sponsored by the League of American Writers.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Cgo File 100-13108

The League of American Writers, Commonwealth College, Mens, Arkansas, and the Abraham Lincoln School, Chicago, have all been cited by the Attorney General as Communist organizations.

The Daily Worker

The April 5, 1949 issue of the Illinois edition of the Worker reflects that Dr. MAUD SLYE, Chairman of the Chicago Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, had reported that NELSON ALGREN, author, would be one of the sponsors of the World Peace meeting to be held April 6, 1949 at the Civic Opera House, Chicago, under the auspices of the Chicago Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions. (U) (S)

T-2 advised on June 28, 1949 that the Chicago Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions is the Chicago Division of the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions which organization is a Communist front organization.

The Daily Worker issue of December 21, 1949 reports that the Chicago Committee for the Defense of the Hollywood Ten, recently formed in Chicago, has as one of its heads, NELSON ALGREN (Man With the Golden Arm).

The Hollywood Ten refers to the Hollywood writers who were subpoenaed to testify before the House Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives.

The Worker, Du Sable Edition, of February 26, 1950 reports that NELSON ALGREN will take part in a discussion on "Comments on the State of Literature Today," to be held February 26, 1950, 8:00 P.M. at the South Side Community Art Center.

The Worker, Du Sable Edition, is a special edition of the Worker prepared for distribution throughout the South Side Section of Chicago.

The Worker is the Sunday Edition of the Daily Worker, an east coast Communist daily newspaper.

Miscellaneous

The United States Army records of NELSON ALGREN, ASN 36679611, reflects that

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Cgo File 100-15108

he listed Mrs. ~~CHRISTINE ROWLAND~~, 4710 West Madison, as an alternate beneficiary to his service insurance policy (relationship not shown).

Chicago T-5, of known reliability, advised that ~~CHRISTINE ROWLAND~~, 4710 West Madison, Chicago, was a registered member of the Austin Club of the Communist Political Association, registration card number 88764, dated December 10, 1944. (S) (U)

Chicago T-4, of known reliability, advised on May 15, 1946 that ~~CHRISTINE ROWLAND~~, 4710 West Madison, was a member of the Austin Branch of the Communist Party. (S) (U)

Chicago T-5, an agency that collects security information in the Chicago area, advised on February 5, 1950 that they could furnish no additional information in regard to the Subject other than that reported above. (S) (U)

Chicago T-2 was recontacted on March 6, 1950 and advised that he could furnish no additional information in regard to the Subject. (S) (U)

Chicago T-6, of known reliability, advised on March 14, 1950 that he could furnish no information in regard to the Subject's Communist activities. (S) (U)

Chicago T-7, of known reliability, advised on March 20, 1950 that he could furnish no information in regard to the Subject's Communist activities. (S) (U)

Chicago T-8, of known reliability, advised on March 21, 1950 that he could furnish no information in regard to the Subject's Communist activities. (S) (U)

DESCRIPTION

The following is a description of the Subject as reported by Chicago T-1 and as reflected in the Subject's army records, Selective Service file, and divorce record:

Name	NELSON ALGREN, wa Nelson Algren Abraham
Race	White

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Cgo File 100-13108

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Born	March 28, 1909 at Detroit, Michigan
Height	5' 10"
Weight	180
Eyes	Brown, wears glasses
Hair	Brown
Residence	1523 Wabansia, Chicago
Occupation	Author - Wrote such novels as "Man with the Golden Arm," "Neon Wilderness," and "Never Come Morning"
Marital Status	Divorced wife - AMANDA ALGREN , nee KONTOWICZ on October 17, 1946.
Relatives	Mrs. GOLDIE KALISHER ABRAHAM , mother, 2717 West Lawrence. Mrs. IRENE SCHLESINGER , nee ABRAHAM , sister, 2805 Creston Avenue, New York City
Social Security No.	519-07-0873
ASN	36679611
Photograph	Available

Mr. Nelson ~~ALGREN~~ ~~ABRAHAM~~

- C L O S E D -

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CG 100-13108

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co-sponsors of the National Committee To Secure Justice In The Rosenberg Case (NCSJRC), 246 Fifth Ave., NYC, was:

NELSON ALGREN

"The Daily Worker"

100-25530-14

An article contained in "The Daily Worker", dated 3/3/52, p.3, col. 2,3,4 captioned "'TRUTH WILL BE KNOWN IN TIME'-ROSENBERGS", reflects the following:

Calling the U.S. Appeals Court's decision upholding death sentences a product of "high political hysteria", JULIUS and ETHEL ROSENBERG, now in Sing Sing's death house, said they share the faith of thousands of Americans "that the truth will be known before it is too late," it was announced yesterday by the National Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case.

The Committee also revealed that NELSON ALGREN, winner of the National Bookseller's Award for his "Man With the Golden Arm", has said that execution of the ROSENBERGS would be taking "the blood of the innocent."

"I should like to state", Mr. ALGREN said, "that this whole business is straight out of COTTON MATHER - the execution of a decent man and woman for non-conformity" no evidence of guilt beyond that has yet been established... Exactly as though, as a nation, our conscience is so troubled that we hope to gain peace of mind by offering the blood of the innocent. It is nothing less than medieval."

"The Worker"

100-25530-44

"The Worker", Illinois Edition, dated 8/17/52, p.2, col. 2, contained an announcement which sets out the following:

The Truth In The Rosenberg Case, Public Meeting, Saturday, 8/16, 8:00 pm, Fine Arts Building, Curtiss Hall, 410 S. Michigan Avenue. The speakers are Rabbi S. BURR YAMPOL, NELSON ALGREN, Famous Novelist, and JOSEPH BRAININ. Admission 74¢, tax

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The flyer also announced the speakers who are to speak at other forums during the 1957-1958 season, which are to be presented by the Eugene V. Debs Committee.

Among the speakers was:

NELSON ALGREN ✓

Lt. FRANK J. HEIMOSKI
Security Unit
Chicago Police Department

100-33350-192

On 10/7/57, Lt. FRANK J. HEIMOSKI, CG EDD, furnished to IC JOHN E. WHALEN, a typewritten report re a Second Debs Forum featuring "Civil Liberties at the Crossroads", held Thursday evening, 10/3/57 at the Fine Arts Building, 410 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. under the Auspices of the E. V. Debs Forum (left-wing), admission 90¢.

The above meeting was called to order at 8:25 pm by an unidentified chairman.

p.3

The Chairman introduced NELSON ALGREN (Communist Fellow Traveller), author of Man With The Golden Arm. ALGREN spoke only for a few minutes, mostly of which centered upon dope addicts who are deprived of their civil rights when they are brought into court, adding that they are sentenced to jail without having the services of an attorney to represent them. ALGREN then spoke about his experience he had with dope addicts while gathering info to write his book. From his speech it was assumed that he had access to the federal hospital files which had information on the complete history of all dope addicts that they admitted for treatment.

p.4

Among the Communists, Communist Fellow Travellers, and Communist Sympathizers recognized in attendance at this affair was: NELSON ALGREN. ✓

p.5

A PD report reflects that a dinner meeting was held at Toffenatti's Restaurant, 225 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill. Thursday, 10/3/57, 6:00 pm, auspices of the CG representatives of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee (Communist front).

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This dinner-meeting took place in conjunction with and prior to the Second Debs Forum scheduled afterwards at the Fine Arts Building by the E. V. Debs Forum (left-wing).

Invitations to the dinner were mailed out on letter-heads of the Essex Community Church, 7400 South Blackstone Ave.

The invitation noted that among the guests would be NELSON ALGREN (Communist fellow-traveller).

Among the Communists, Communist Fellow Travellers, and Communist Sympathizers, identified at this affair was:

NELSON ALGREN

March of Labor

Anonymous Source

100-22429-69 p.1

An anonymous source made available on 9/27/53, items relating to the March of Labor, a magazine published at 166 W. Washington St. All items are filed in 100-22429-1B (41).

Among the items furnished was a copy of a list of the MOL Features Committee dated 8/19/52 and among the names appearing on this list was:

NELSON ALGREN
6228 Forest
Miller Beach
Gary, Indiana

Progressive Party

"The Worker"

100-19003-1191

An article contained in "The Worker", Illinois Edition ,

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dated 9/3/50, p.8, col. 2, captioned "PROGRESSIVES FIGHT FOR BALLOT", reflects the following:

Illinois citizens were urged this week to send messages to Secretary of State EDWARD J. BARRETT in Springfield, asking that the Progressive Party be placed on the ballot.

The appeal came as officials of the Cook County organization of the Veterans of Foreign Wars filed formal objections to the Progressive Party state petitions.

A number of prominent Chicago citizens who are not Progressive Party voters called upon Governor STEVENSON and BARRETT, to assure a place on the ballot for the Progressives.

Among the signers was:

NELSON ALGREN ✓

DON BUTLER
Index Dept.
Secretary of State
Springfield, Ill.

100-19003-1B7 (2) p.66

On 10/19/58, Mr. DON BUTLER, Index Dept., Secretary of State, Springfield, Illinois, furnished to SA WALTER L. OBLINGER, a 25 foot roll of Micro-film containing photo-record photographs of all correspondence received by the Secretary of State, EDWARD J. BARRETT, from interested persons on behalf of the Progressive Party's Program to obtain a place on the ballot in the 11/50 General Elections.

Among those who sent correspondence was:

NELSON ALGREN ✓

Other Information re NELSON ALGREN

[REDACTED]

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

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100-18956-372

On 1/17/50, [redacted] of known reliability, furnished to SA C. N. FREYMAN a "Call to a North Side Conference to End Mob Violence". This call is maintained as an exhibit in the instant file.

Among the signers of this call was:

NELSON ALGREN, novelist

100-1331-122a29

On 4/2/51, SA E. W. FLINT received at the Finnish Library, 2409 N. Halsted, a pink handbill calling for voters to support PEARL HART in 44th Ward Aldermanic elections.

Among the sponsors on this handbill was:

NELSON ALGREN, Author

[redacted]

100-18155-Sub 1-244

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

On 12/4/52, [redacted] advised that MIRIAM (LNU) was in contact with AL JANNEY on that date. Source advised that MIRIAM spoke about an article by NELSON ALGREN, on the literary page of "The Chicago Daily News, in which he wrote about how fear keeps people from writing, and stated that it was a good article. Source stated that MIRIAM was wondering if he (NELSON ALGREN) was any relation to DAVID ALGREN, one of the leaders in the Rosenberg Case. (CCSJRC). JANNEY stated that he thinks so.

100-21659-5 p.7

Re letter from Lt. Colonel M. W. MORGAN, USAF, District Commander, Chicago, Ill. to SAC, CG dated 1/5/53 which enclosed a copy of the Monthly Counter-Intelligence Report of that office dated 1/5/53, titled as captioned above. (S) (C)

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ADDITIONAL OFFICES
ADVISED BY SLIP(S) OF
DATE 9-17-52

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

INDIANAPOLIS

SECURITY INFORMATION-CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE WHEN MADE 7/23/52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/2, 3, 6, 11, 12, 24/52	REPORT MADE BY ROBERT A. MAFFEI	CMS
TITLE NELSON ALGREN		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C		
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.				

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

ALGREN presently employed as "free lance" journalist, resides at 6228 Forest Avenue, Miller, Indiana. Informants report ALGREN is an active member and officer of GCASF. Subject reportedly a contact of GRC and has been feted by the CAW. ALGREN also co-sponsored the National Committee to Secure Justice in the ROSENBERG case and has been active in attempting to place the PPI on the ballot here. ALGREN signed a call to the Northside Conference to end Mob Violence and sponsored PEARL M. HART's campaign for Alderman. Informant reported ALGREN wrote left wing article for magazine "Holiday".

Classified by *[signature]*
Declassify on: OADR 4/2/89

CLASSIFIED DECISIONS FINALIZED

BY DEPARTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC)

- RUC -

DATE: 11-30-2015

Classified by *[signature]*
Declassify on: OADR 5/1/84

DETAILS:

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

COPIES DESTROYED 3/24/54

I. BACKGROUND

AGENCY *100-544*
REQ. REC'D *1-6-53*
REP'T FORW. *2-10-53*
BY *SEF/jmk*

Present Employment

On April 18, 1952, Mr. JOHN CASTEL, Credit Manager, Northern Indiana Public Service Co., Gary, Indiana, advised that NELSON ALGREN, 6228 Forest Avenue, Miller, Indiana, listed his occupation with the Indiana Public Service Company as that of "free lance" journalist.

Any force info contained in this report is unclass per OADR letter 3/26/85
mmw 6/21/85

DECLASSIFIED BY *[signature]*
DATE 1/23/93

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>John R. Malone</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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70 AUG 6 1952

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CG 100-13108

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Residence

On April 18, 1952, Mr. JOHN GASTEL, Supra, stated that ALGREN has had public utility service at 6228 Forest Avenue, Miller, Indiana since August, 1951.

On April 30, 1952, Mrs. ANICE PIAZZA, Deputy Clerk, County Tax Assessor's Office, Gary, Indiana, advised that the possession of the property at 6228 Forest Avenue, Miller, Indiana was transferred on July 19, 1950 from JUNIUS L. and HESTER K. ALLISON to NELSON ALGREN.

Former Residence

ALGREN previously resided at 1523 West Wabansia, Chicago, Ill.

II. MISCELLANEOUS

Chicago Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions

[T-1, of known reliability] ~~(S)~~ (U)

On March 6, 1952 this informant advised that the Chicago Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions is an affiliate of the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions.

The House Committee on Un-American Activities, in their guide dated May 16, 1951 cited the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions as a Communist front.

[T-2, an agency which collects security information in the Chicago area] ~~(S)~~ (U)

On November 17, 1950, T-2 advised that on November 16, 1950 at a meeting of the Chicago Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions held at 123 West Madison Street, Chicago, NELSON ALGREN, whom T-2 described as a Communist, was elected Vice-President of the Council. ~~(S)~~ (U)

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