DESCRIPTION OF FOLLOWING FILE MATERIAL

NIKOLA TESLA

100-2237   156 pages
REFERENCES    96 pages

252 Total Pages
Main Investigative File

156 pages
Department of Justice,
Atttn: Mr. G. Edgar Hoover,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

The appended article was printed in the New York Times issue of Sept. 22, 1940, and if based on proven facts, should be of vital importance to the War Department as well as to that of other nations now controlled by insane dictatorships.

If, as the author states, the teleforce has been perfected by Nikola Tesla, it would be a measure of foresightfulness to insure his constant guarding against his being molested, possibly kidnapped and tortured, by alien enemies for the purpose of seizing the secret of such an invaluable instrument of war and/or defense.

The foregoing is offered just in case the article and its inferences have not been called to your attention.

Very truly yours,
"Death Ray" for Planes

Nikola Tesla, one of the truly great inventors who celebrated his eighty-fourth birthday on July 10, tells the writer that he stands ready to divulge to the United States Government the secret of his "teleforce," by which, he said, airplane motors would be melted at a distance of 250 miles, so that an invisible Chinese Wall of Defense would be built around the country against any attempted attack by an enemy air force, no matter how large.

This "teleforce," he said, is based on an entirely new principle of physics that "no one has ever dreamed about," different from the principle embodied in his inventions relating to the transmission of electrical power from a distance, for which he has received a number of basic patents. This new type of a power line, he said, would operate through a beam one hundred-millionth of a square centimeter in diameter, and could be generated from a special plant that would cost no more than $2,000,000 and would take only about three months to construct.

A dozen such plants, located at strategic points along the coast, according to Mr. Tesla, would be sufficient to defend the country against all possible aerial attack. The beam would melt any engine, whether Diesel or gasoline-driven, and would also ignite any explosives aboard any bomber. No possible defense against it could be devised, he asserted, as the beam would be all-penetrating.

High Vacuum Eliminated

The beam, he states, involves four new inventions, two of which already have been tested. One of these is a method and apparatus for producing "very great electrical force"; the second is a method for amplifying this force, and the fourth is a new method for producing "a tremendous electrical repelling force."

This would be the protector, or gun, of the system. The voltage for propelling the beam to its objective, according to the inventor, will attain a potential of 30,000,000 volts.

With this enormous voltage, it said, microscopic particles of matter will be catapulted on their mission of defensive destruction. He has been working on this invention, he added, for many years and has recently made a number of improvements in it.

Mr. Tesla makes one important stipulation. Should the Government decide to take up his offer he would go to work at once, but they would have to trust him. He would suffer "no interference from experts."

In ordinary cases such a condition would very likely interpose an insuperable obstacle. But times being what they are, and with the nation getting ready to spend billions for national defense, at the same time taking into consideration the reputation of Mr. Tesla as an inventor who always was many years ahead of his time, the question arises whether it may not be advisable to take Mr. Tesla at his word and commission him to go ahead with the construction of his teleforce plant.

Such a Device "Invaluable"

After all, $2,000,000 would be relatively a very small sum compared with what is at stake. If Mr. Tesla really fulfills his promise the result achieved would be truly staggering. Not only would it save billions now planned for air defense by making the country absolutely impregnable against any air attack, but it would also save many more billions in property that would otherwise be surely destroyed no matter how stout the defenses as witness current events in England.

Take, for example, the Panama Canal. No matter how strong the defenses, a suicide squadron of dive bombers, according to some experts, might succeed in getting through and cause such damage that would make the Canal unusable, in which case our Navy might find itself bottled up.

Considering the probabilities in the case even if the chances were 100,000 to 1 against Mr. Tesla, the odds would still be largely in favor of taking a chance on spending $2,000,000. In the opinion of the writer, who has known Mr. Tesla for many years and can testify that he still retains full intellectual vigor, the authorities in charge of designing the national defense should at once look into the matter. The sum is insignificant compared with the magnitude of the stakes.
October 1, 1940

Dear [Name],

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated September 24, 1940, together with its enclosure.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREBIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ OCT 1 1940 ★
FBI NYC
DIRECTOR

VEST

UNSUBS --- EQUIPMENT, EXPERIMENTS AND RESEARCH OF NIKOLA TESLA, CEASED,  M. RETEL UNDER ABOVE HEADING TO THE BUREAU FROM THIS OFFICE DATED JAN NINE LAST. INQUIRY DEVELOPS THAT TESLA DIED JAN EIGHT, RATHER THAN THURSDAY, JAN SEVEN, AS STATED IN REFERENCE TELETYPE. ON THE NIGHT OF JAN EIGHT, SAVAK KOSANOVICH, GEORGE CLARK, AND KENNETH SWEZEY VISITED TESLA'S HOTEL WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF SHAW WALKER CO. IN ORDER TO OPEN THE SAFE IN THE ROOM OF TESLA.

KOSANOVICH LATER REPORTED TO WALTER CORSUCH, OFFICE OF ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN, NYC, THAT WE WENT INTO THE ROOM IN ORDER TO SEARCH FOR A WILL OF TESLA. KOSANOVICH AND THE OTHERS MADE THE SEARCH OF THE SAFE IN THE PRESENCE OF THREE ASST MANAGERS OF HOTEL NEW YORKER AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE YUGOSLAVIAN CONSULATE, IDENTITIES OF LATTER NOT YET KNOWN. AFTER THE SAFE WAS OPENED, SWEZEY, TOOK FROM THE SAFE A BOOK CONTAINING TESTIMONIALS SENT TO TESLA ON THE OCCASION OF HIS SEVENTY FIFTH BIRTHDAY. THIS BOOK WAS ARRANGED FOR TESLA BY SWEZEY. KOSANOVICH TOOK FROM THE ROOM THREE PICTURES OF TESLA, TWO BEING ENLARGED NEWSPAPER PICTURES. ACCORDING TO MANAGERS OF HOTEL AND KOSANOVICH HIMSELF, NOTHING ELSE WAS REMOVED FROM THE ROOM OR SAFE. THE SAFE WAS THEN CLOSED UNDER A NEW COMBINATION, WHICH COMBINATION IS NOW IN POSSESSION OF KOSANOVICH. ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JAN NINE, CORSUCH AND FITZGERALD OF ALIEN PROPERTY CONTROL WENT TO HOTEL AND SEIZED ALL THE PROPERTY OF TESLA, CONSISTING OF ABOUT TWO TRUCKLOADS OF MATERIAL, SEALED ALL ARTICLES AND TRANSFERRED THEM TO THE MANHATTAN STORAGE AND WAREHOUSE CO., NY, WHERE THEY ARE NOW LOCATED.

AT THAT TIME THERE WERE ALSO IN THIS WAREHOUSE, APPROXIMATELY THIRTY BARRELS AND BUNDLES BELONGING TO TESLA WHICH HAD BEEN THERE SINCE ABOUT NINETEEN THIRTY FOUR. THESE HAVE ALSO BEEN SEALED AND ARE NOW UNDER ORDERS OF ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN. IN VIEW OF FACT TESLA IS A US NATURALIZED CITIZEN, ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN FEELS THAT ITS JURISDICTION OVER PROPERTY IS DOUBTFUL BUT FEELS THAT NO OTHER AGENCY WILL BE ABLE TO GET ACCESS TO THIS PROPERTY FOR AT LEAST TWO DAYS.

COPIES DESTROYED
PAGE TWO
AFTER THAT TIME IT IS POSSIBLE THAT A PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR WILL BE
APPOINTED FOR THE PROPERTY WHO MAY TAKE THE PROPERTY INTO HIS CUS-
TODY. TESLA ALSO HAD SOME PROPERTY, ALLEGED BY INFORMANT
FITZGERALD IN THIS CASE, TO BE A WORKING MODEL OF AN INVENTION IN
A SAFE DEPOSIT BOX IN GOVERNOR CLINTON HOTEL IN NY. INQUIRY SHOWS
THAT THIS WAS PLACED HERE BY TESLA IN NINETEEN THIRTY TWO AS SECURITY
FOR FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS OWED HOTEL. THIS BILL IS STILL OWED AND HOTEL
APPEARS UNWILLING TO RELEASE THIS PROPERTY TO ANYONE AT LEAST UNTIL
DEBT IS PAID, BUT THIS OFFICE WILL BE ADVISED IF ANYONE ATTEMPTS
TO PAY BILL AND OBTAIN PROPERTY. CONCERNING TESLA HOTEL MANAGERS RE-
PORT HE WAS VERY ECCENTRIC IF NOT MENTALLY DERANGED DURING
PAST TEN YEARS AND IT IS DOUBTFUL IF HE HAS CREATED ANYTHING OF VALUE
DURING THAT TIME, ALTHOUGH TO THAT HE PROBABLY WAS A VERY BRILLIANT
INVENTOR. THEREFORE, ANY NOTES OF VALUE WERE PROBABLY THOSE MADE
PRIOR TO THAT TIME. KOSANOVICH IS A NEPHEW OF TESLA WHO DESCRIBED
HIMSELF AS FORMERLY QUOTE YUGOSLAV MINISTER OF STATE UNQUOTE AND NOW
QUOTE PREVIOUSLY PRESIDENT OF EASTERN AND CENTRAL PLANNING BOARD REP-
RESENTING YUGOSLOVIA, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, POLAND AND GREECE, UNQUOTE.
SWEEZEEY IS A WRITER FOR POPULAR MECHANICS AND OTHER PUBLICATIONS WHO
IS DESIRIOUS OF PUBLISHING A BIOGRAPHY OF TESLA AND THEREFORE WOULD
LIKE TO OBTAIN CONTROL OF HIS NOTES FOR THIS WORK. CLARK IS EMPLOYED
BY RCA AND WOULD ALSO PROVIDE STORAGE ROOM FOR TESLAS EFFECTS IN ORDER
TO USE THEM IN WRITING A BIOGRAPHY. TESLA AT ONE TIME REPORTED TO BE
WORKING ON EXPERIMENTS FOR YUGOSLAVIAN GOVERNMENT IN EXILE. IT IS
DESIRED THAT BUREAU ADVISE IMMEDIATELY WHETHER IT IS INTERESTED FURTHER
IN THIS PROPERTY FOR PURPOSES OF TAKING CONTROL OF IT. SUGGEST THAT,
IN VIEW OF FACT THAT THE NOTES AND OTHER MATERIAL WOULD BE HIGHLY TECH-
NICAL IN CHARACTER AND FOR THAT REASON COULD NOT BE REVIEWED
EXCEPT BY A TRAINED PERSON THE OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH DEVEL-

OPMENT MIGHT BE INTERESTED.
FOXWORTH
END NYC S2 WHS
HOLD WA R 2 RSG
UNKNOWN SUBJECTS. EXPERIMENTS AND TESLA, DECEASED. ESPIONAGE - M. NIKOLA TESLA, ONE STANDING SCIENTISTS IN THE ELECTRICAL FIELD, DIED FORTY THREE AT THE HOTEL NEW YORKER, NEW YORK LIFETIME, HE CONDUCTED MANY EXPERIMENTS IN CONNECTION TRANSMISSION OF ELECTRICAL POWER AND ACHIEVED WHAT IS CALLED THE DEATH RAY. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION FURNISHED BY ONE SIX FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY, THE NOTES AND EXPERIMENTS AND FORMULAE TOGETHER WITH DESIGN OF HIS EXPERIMENTAL APPARATUS, WHICH COULD BE VITALIZING OF THE TESLA PERSONAL EFFECTS, AND HOTEL NEW YORK WAS TAKEN TO PRESERVE THEM OR TO KEEP THEM FROM FALLING INTO UNFRIENDLY HANDS. SPANEL, A DISTANT RELATIVE OF TESLA, NAMED KOSEANOVICH, WHO WAS INTENSELY DISLIKED BY TESLA, IS TAKING STEPS TO ACQUIRE POSSESSION OF THESE IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS AND PLANS. SPANEL BELIEVES THERE IS A STRONG LIKELIHOOD THAT KOSEANOVICH WILL MAKE THIS MATERIAL AVAILABLE TO THE ENEMY. SPANEL ADVISED THE TWO HEADQUARTERS IN WASHINGTON, AS WELL AS MR. MORKIN OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN WASHINGTON, CONCERNING THE ABOVE. SPANEL WAS ALSO INTELLIGENCE COMMUNICATION WITH DR. LOZADO, ONE OF THE ADVISORS TO THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND LOZADO TOLD SPANEL THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS VITALLY INTERESTED IN THE EFFECTS OF TESLA AND REQUESTED SPANEL TO TELL THE STORY IN DOING ALL HE COULD TO PRESERVE THEM. BLOYCE FITZGERALD, AN ELECTRICAL ENGINEER WHO HAD BEEN QUITE CLOSE TO TESLA DURING HIS LIFE TIME, ADVISED THE NEW YORK OFFICE ON JANUARY SEVENTH, NINETEEN FORTY THREE, SAVA KOSEANOVICH, GEORGE CLARK, WHO IS IN CHARGE OF THE MUSEUM AND LABORATORY FOR RCA, AND KENNETH SWEZIEY OF ONE SIX MILTON STREET, BROOKLYN, NY. WENT TO TESLA'S ROOMS IN THE NEW YORKER, AND WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A LOCKSMITH BROKE INTO A SAFE WHICH TESLA HAD IN HIS ROOMS IN WHICH HE KEPT SOME OF HIS VALUABLE PAPERS, INCLUDING IMPORTANT FORMULAE, DESIGNS, ET CETERA. WITHIN THE PAST MONTH, TESLA TOLD FITZGERALD THAT HIS EXPERIMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE WIRELESS TRANSMISSION OF ELECTRICAL POWER HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND PERFECTED.
FITZGERALD ALSO KNOWS THAT TESLA HAS CONCEIVED AND DESIGNED A REVOLUTIONARY TYPE OF TORPEDO WHICH IS NOT PRESENTLY IN USE BY ANY OF THE NATIONS. IT IS FITZGERALD'S BELIEF THAT THIS DESIGN HAS NOT BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO ANY NATION UP TO THE PRESENT TIME. FROM STATEMENTS MADE TO FITZGERALD BY TESLA, HE KNOWS THAT THE COMPLETE PLANS AND ILLUSTRATIONS AND EXPLANATION OF THE BASIC THEORIES OF THESE THINGS ARE SOME PLACE IN THE PERSONAL EFFECTS OF TESLA. HE ALSO KNOWS THAT FITZGERALD HAS A WORKING MODEL OF TESLAS WHICH COST MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS TO BUILD IN A SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX BELONGING TO TESLA IN THE GOVERNOR CLINTON HOTELEX HOTEL, AND FITZGERALD HAS TOLD THIS MODEL HAS TO DO WITH THE SO-CALLED DEATH RAY OR THE WIRELESS TRANSMISSION OF ELECTRICAL CURRENT. TESLA HAS ALSO TOLD FITZGERALD IN CONVERSATIONS THAT HE HAS SOME EIGHTY TRUNKS INDIFFERENT PLACES CONTAINING TRANSCRIPTS AND PLANS HAVING TO DO WITH EXPERIMENTS PERFORMED BY HIM. THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO ADVISE IMMEDIATELY WHAT, IF ANYTHING, SHOULD BE TAKEN CONCERNING THIS MATTER BY THE NEW YORK FIELD OFFICE.

FOXX

CORRECTION—THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE TELETYPE THE NAME THAT SHOULD APPEAR IS FITZGERALD, NOT FITZGERALD AS IT SOMETIMES IS SPelled

HOLD

NOT FOIA REDUCTIONS

Best Copy Available 9
Nikola Tesla, one of the world's outstanding inventors, died at his residence in New York City, on January 7, 1943. In the course of his life, Tesla conducted many experiments with respect to the transmission of energy by means of radio and what is commonly called the 'Death Ray.' He was also extremely active in experiments with regard to the wireless transmission of electrical energy. His experiments have been completed and perfected, and Tesla had also conceived and developed a revolutionary type of wave which is not in use by nations in the present time. The specifications, explanations of the basic facts, and working models of Tesla's scientific endeavors are reputed to be on deposit in the safety deposit box at the Governor Clinton Hotel.

Information concerning Tesla's experiments has been reported to the New York Office by A. N. Spinel and Blycey Fitzgerald, the latter an electrical engineer who had been quite close to Tesla. Both of these individuals have estimated that no steps have been taken to preserve Tesla's records and models or to keep them from falling into the hands of individuals sympathetic to the Axis powers.

Tesla has a distant relative by the name of Sara Kosanovich, whom he intensely disliked. Kosanovich is reported to be taking steps to get possession of these important documents and plans, and Spinel believes there is a strong likelihood that Kosanovich will make such information available to the enemy. On January 7, 1943, Kosanovich, accompanied by George Clark, in charge of the Museum and Laboratory for RCA, and Kenneth Kane of Brooklyn, New York, entered Tesla's rooms at the Hotel New Yorker where, with the aid of a locksmith, they broke into a safe in which Tesla kept some of his invaluable papers, including important electrical formulae, designs, etc.

Mr. Spinel, in addition to reporting these developments to the Bureau, has also advised the headquarters of the Military Intelligence Division, the Director of the Department of Justice in Washington, and the advisors to Vice President Wallace. It was ascertained by Spinel that the Government was vitally interested in the effects of Tesla and requested that Spinel make no mistakes in doing all he could to preserve them.
The New York Office was instructed to dispose of the matter up with the State's Attorney in New York City with the possible of bringing Kosanovich into custody on a burglary charge and obtaining the various papers which Kosanovich is reported to have taken from Tesla. It was pointed out that any activities pursuant to the State's Attorney should be handled in a most secret fashion in order to avoid any public disclosure. The New York Office was also instructed to send the Surrogate Court in New York City that steps could be taken against the hotel and any other points, in particular, the safes and boxes that he may have in order that no one may enter them without a representative being present and every precaution taken to preserve the secrecy of Tesla's inventions. The New York Office is to keep the Bureau advised of all developments.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

[Handwritten note: F. M. C. Smith is handling this with care. Proposal to custodian to be no more than Miss around in it.]
On Friday, January 8th, Mr. L. M. C. Smith called me in connection with the death of Nikola Tesla. He advised me that he was concerned about the possibility of enemy agents confiscating some of the trunks of Tesla, who had died on January 7th. He understood that the War Department was interested in this matter and that apparently the Alien Property Custodian's office was taking some action. He desired to know whether the Bureau would take some steps to refrain relatives of Tesla from taking the contents of his trunks and whether the Bureau would seize possession of the trunks. Mr. Smith indicated that he was talking to the Alien Property Custodian along the same lines. I told him that in view of the fact he was going to handle the matter with the Alien Property Custodian's office, there did not appear to be any action which the Bureau could or should take.
Mr. J. E. Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover,

I am a student at the Milwaukee School of Engineering, studying Electrical Engineering. I am also interested in the life and work of Nikola Tesla. I understand that at the time of his death, your department took his manuscript and experiment data for national security. I am preparing a paper to be presented before the Student Branch of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers on Tesla.

If it is possible, I would appreciate material relating to Tesla's theories of the air and methods of operation.

April 16, 1948
This information would help me in a better presentation of the paper and consequent a far greater appreciation of his work in the field of science.

I know that a part of the experiments and theses have a secret classification, and I do not expect any of it.

I am interested in "Quantum Current Transmission" as the basis of my thesis for graduation. If it is possible to obtain this information, I would be very grateful.

Yours very truly,
April 3, 1950

Reference is made to your inquiry by telephone on March 29, 1950, concerning certain technical papers which belonged to the late Nikola Tesla.

From an examination of our files, we have been able to determine that this Bureau has never been in possession, as had been indicated to you, of a copy of Dr. Tesla's papers.

Very sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

[Redacted]

RECORDED - 53

APR 7 1950

Mailed April 4, 1950

Comm. F. S.
April 17, 1950

Director, FBI
SAC, New York

Memorandum dated April 3 last.

On April 7, 1950 agents of this Office interviewed Mr. J.V. POTE, Vice President of the Manhattan Warehouse and Storage Company, 52nd Street & 7th Avenue, New York City, and at that time Mr. POTTS advised that the rules of his firm required that all persons gaining access to goods stored by Manhattan first had to fill out an appropriate form setting forth their names, date of visit, and reason for requesting access to the goods.

In a review of the file pertaining to the storage of the effects of NIKOLA TESLA, Mr. POTE revealed that only one such visit had been made by persons outside of the management of Manhattan Storage itself. This one occasion took place on January 26 and 27, 1943, at which time representatives of the Allen Propert, Custodian made a thorough review of the entire effects of the TESLA estate.

NIKOLA TESLA

The TESLA effects are stored in rooms 5J and 5L of Manhattan Storage's warehouse at 52nd Street & 7th Avenue, New York City. Mr. MICHAEL KINO, who stated he had been Floor Supervisor for approximately 10 years on the floor in question, stated that he could recall only the one occasion in early 1943 when an examination was made of the TESLA effects. He stated that at that time numerous photographs were taken by the examiners. His description of the equipment used would tend to show that a microfilm reproduction was made of some of the papers of the deceased scientist. Mr. KINO added that several of the group making the examination wore U.S. Navy uniforms, and during the two days required to complete the examination the civilian assistants in the group were identified to him only as "FEDERAL AUTHORITIES." According to Mr. KINO, no other instance of microfilming of the records of the TESLA estate has taken place since that time.

It should be noted that the Bureau was informed of the examination mentioned above by New York letter (with attachments) dated October 17, 1945, entitled "UNKNOWN SUBJECT: BAVA ROUSOVICH; Experiments & Research of NIKOLA TESLA (Deceased), Espionage.-"

cc: 65-12290

RE: 100-2237-73-3 60 BY [Redacted]

NATIONAL INFORMATION CONTAINED UNCLASSIFIED

NOT RECORDED

105-1391
Letter to Director, FBI
NY 105-1392

Mr. Potts stated that no inquiry had been received by Manhattan from Sava N. Kosanovich, nor had Manhattan informed him, in any way, that an examination of the Tesla effects had been made by anyone. In fact, added Mr. Potts, the only correspondence relating to the Tesla estate has been in the form of bills for storage.

Mr. Potts stated that any personal inquiries regarding the estate would of necessity be directed to him, and to date no such inquiries have been made.

Interviewing agents explained to Mr. Potts that the examination made, as mentioned above, was not instigated by the Bureau, nor had the Bureau taken part in that examination.

Unless advised to the contrary, this investigation is being placed in a closed status, and no further investigative action is contemplated by this office. CLOSED.
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Records  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

In a manner of introduction, I wish to state that I am working toward a degree in Electrical Engineering at the Institute of Technology of the University of Minnesota.

For several years, I have been engaged in a study of extensive compass and detail concerning the researches and writings of the late, world renowned scientist, Dr. Nikola Tesla. At considerable expense, I have acquired an extensive collection of materials relating to Dr. Tesla and his works which include:

1) Personal letters written by Tesla to his close friend.

2) Numerous periodicals, some of which are to be found in only a few libraries throughout the United States.

3) A few rare books which have now become "collector's items".

4) A collection of issued patents.

Although the items listed are considerable in number, the specific information desired is lacking.

As I understand it, because of the nature of Dr. Tesla's role in scientific developments, all research papers, patent applications, etc., were secured by the Federal Bureau of Investigation at the time of Dr. Tesla's death in January of 1943.

The purpose of this seizure, as described in numerous articles, was to determine whether these papers contained suggestions leading toward advancements in the field of science.

RECORDED: 68

Reply 8-26-52

- 28
Now it seems that sufficient time has elapsed for an investigation of this kind. If Dr. Tesla's Estate has been released by the department in charge, any records that can be made available for examination will be welcomed.

A letter from Harold L. Baynton, Assistant Attorney General, Director, Office of Alien Property, informed me that the Library of Congress listed certain works, writings and research studies prepared by the late Dr. Tesla. However, a letter addressed to the Library failed to bring results as the Library "has no file on the researches of Tesla".

A similar result was obtained from the Bureau of Naval Research and the Department of Commerce.

I am especially interested in the research work in which Tesla was engaged in his later years. There are various unpublished works, such as a 10-page typewritten statement presented in 1937 at a meeting of several well-known editors outlining his discoveries and giving a resume' of his work in the fields of gravity and cosmic ray research, etc. Also, Tesla prepared various papers, one of which was in effort to secure the Pierre Gutzman Prize from the Institute of France. My inquiry is in effort to determine whether any of these documents, as well as others, are at this time available.

I will greatly appreciate any information in regard to any records which you may have.

Very truly yours,
August 26, 1952

With reference to your letter of August 18, 1952, our files disclose that the effects of Nikola Tesla were taken into custody at the time of his death by the Office of Alien Property, and not by this Bureau. Consequently, you may wish to communicate further with that agency, which may be addressed as follows: (65-47953)

Assistant Attorney General
Rowland F. Kirks
Director, Office of Alien Property
United States Department of Justice
101 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington 25, D.C.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - 1 - Assistant Attorney General (with copy of Rowland F. Kirks, incoming)
Director, Office of Alien Property
United States Department of Justice
101 Indiana Avenue, N.W.
Washington 25, D.C.

NOTE: No reference Bureau files on correspondent in Minnesota... 8-22-52...per
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELCHER
FROM : M. L. L. LAUGHLIN

DATE: May 5, 1953

SUBJECT: NIKOLA TESLA (Deceased)

INFORMATION CONCERNING

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 01-25-43 BY

called on the afternoon of May 4, 1953.

stated that he had been reading a book entitled, "The Prodigal Genius - The Life of Nikola Tesla" by John J. O'Neill, whom described as a science writer for a New York newspaper (publisher - Ives Washburn). noted in this book that Bureau Agents went to Tesla's room following his death on January 7, 1943, opened his safe, examined his papers, and took over his personal files. said this appeared on page 277. stated that Tesla is the father of modern power engineering, being responsible for the invention of the A.C. generator, motor transmission, and other electrical engineering feats. He inquired (1) if the papers and works of Tesla were in the possession of the Bureau, and (2) if so, were they available for review in view of their scientific importance.

I told that the statement concerning the Bureau's taking Tesla's files did not seem very logical but that I would check on the matter.

The Bureau's files reflect that shortly after the death of Tesla in his hotel room in New York City on January 7, 1943, Sava Kosanovich, a distant relative, and other individuals entered his room and opened the safe, examining certain materials which he possessed. On January 8, 1943, Mr. L. W. G. Smith of the Department advised Mr. Tamm that he was concerned about the possibility of enemy agents confiscating some of the trunks of Tesla and apparently the Office of Alien Property Custodian was taking some action regarding these effects. Since the matter was being handled by the Office of Alien Property Custodian, the Bureau did not make any inquiries into this situation. (65-47955-6)

It is noted also that the Bureau received a letter dated April 16, 1948, from explaining that he was studying electrical engineering at the Milwaukee School of Engineering and

(65-47-52)

INDEXED MAY 6, 1953

1 - MR. Nichols
was interested in the life and works of Tesla, stated that he understood at the time of Tesla's death the Bureau took his manuscripts and experiment data for national security. The Bureau on April 22, 1946, advised that the effects of Tesla were handled by the Office of Alien Property and not by the FBI. (65-47353-16)

I called this morning and told him that it was the office of Alien Property and not the FBI which took over the effects of Tesla following his death. Accordingly, I suggested that might wish to communicate with the office of Alien Property for further information concerning this matter.

The book "Prodigal Genius - The Life of Nikola Tesla" is not in the Bureau Library. A copy is being obtained from the Library of Congress. It will be examined to determine specifically the reference made to the Bureau's having these papers. At that time a determination can be made as to what further action should be taken.

ADDENDUM: LLL:mer 5-14-53

Page 277 of the "Prodigal Genius - The Life of Nikola Tesla," describing Tesla's death, contains the following statement: "Operatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation came and opened the safe in his room and took the papers it contained, to examine them for a reported important secret invention of possible use in the war."

Since this work was published in 1944, it is not felt that any particular purpose would be served by raising an objection with the publishers at this time. the individual who raised the question, has been set straight and, therefore, no further action is being taken.
Office Memorandum - UNIT"...

TO: Director, FBI
FROM: E.C., New York (S-7)
SUBJECT: INFORMATION CONCERNING MR. GEORGE H. SCHERR, JR., 127 Seymour Avenue, Rochelle, New York, who received two letters from LELAND ANDERSON, 127 Seymour Avenue, Southeast, Minneapolis, Minnesota, photostats of which are being furnished the Bureau and Minneapolis.

Mr. SCHERR stated that he was an associate of NIKOLA TESLA in 1914 and that for many years his father had been Dr. TESLA'S private secretary. Mr. SCHERR said that he never heard of LELAND ANDERSON or did he ever hear of any of the names mentioned in ANDERSON'S letters.

Mr. SCHERR stated that he has quite a bit of TESLA'S writings in his possession and he didn't know whether or not they would be of value to a foreign government.

No further action is being taken by the N.Y. office, N.W.

Encs. (27)
1. Minneapolis (3 Encs.)

EXP. PROC.

New York 100-2237-4X1
RECORDED 15
INDEXED 15
February 3, 1954

Mr. George H. Scheriff, Jr.
149 Scarsdale Road
Westchester, New York

Dear Mr. Scheriff:

re: The Life and work of Dr. Nikola Tesla.

Recently, I have founded an organization in name and honor of Dr. Tesla in cooperation with several people who were intimately associated with Tesla during his lifetime, and with others who are interested in Dr. Tesla and his achievements from a scientific and historical standpoint. (See enclosed brochure.) I have had some difficulty locating a few of Tesla's associates, and the name of George Scheriff is among them. Therefore, it is my sincere hope that you, Mr. Scheriff, are the person I seek as having been associated with Tesla.

I have personally studied the works of Tesla for a number of years, being particularly interested in elaborating upon his researches regarding high-tension radiant beams. Through some travel and other efforts, I have been fortunate to locate many original collections of Tesla's correspondence and manuscripts, and in a few cases obtained a number of interesting items.

I was in New York a short time ago on business, and while there I visited Mr. Kenneth N. Swezey. He intends to undertake some significant work on behalf of Tesla in the near future, and since he knew Tesla for so many years during his later life, it will be handled with great understanding.

I hope that you may have some interest in the work which I have initiated on behalf of Dr. Tesla. There are many matters that I wish to discuss with you, provided of course, that you are the Mr. Scheriff related to the Tesla story. I would be most happy to hear from you at your earliest convenience, and will send you all publications of the organization if you wish to receive them.

Very truly yours,

Leland I. Anderson

[Signature]
To Those Who Are Interested in the Life and Work of Dr. NIKOLA TESLA

Following the death of Dr. Nikola Tesla on the 7th of January, 1943, Mr. John J. O'Neill, former Science Editor of the New York Herald Tribune, presented the biography

PHILOSOPHICAL GEMS

The Life of Nikola Tesla

...a memorable tribute to one of the most outstanding figures in the entire field of electrical science. Many reading this biography learned of Nikola Tesla for the first time despite his tremendous achievements with which he has won worldwide acclaim in scientific circles. Even those closely associated with the fields of science and engineering discovered a remarkable story not generally known of the brilliant mind of Tesla whose sensitive personality and isolation kept the face of a shadow

The TESLA INTERNATIONAL organization is being established in the United States in name and honor of Dr. Nikola Tesla by those sharing a mutual interest in his life and work. The organization has as its objective the propagation of the truth about Nikola Tesla. That a full recognition be made for his unparalleled research work on the effects of currents of high frequency and high potential, and for his achievements in the realms of radio, wireless transmission and telecommunication. It would be the duty of the organization, to be established in its power that the name of Tesla win in the eyes of the nation the same degree of a true great American for his contributions to science, industry, and to this country.

A Journal of the TESLA INTERNATIONAL organization will be begun beginning the month of November, 1943. In addition to items of present and historical interest relative to Tesla, the journal will include:

1) A formal record of all new and old interest in the Tesla organization and their contributions and activities.

2) An opportunity of actual and personal contact of the organization through the words of the journal.

3) A comprehensive bibliography of all available data concerning Tesla, which would include a collecting of the various collections of Teslaan information to every member. Such a list will be of particular importance to scholars in the research field.

4) A presentation of Tesla's original writings and analyses of Tesla's technical research stations as they become available.

The Journal of the TESLA INTERNATIONAL organization will be forthcoming at intervals of 1g - 2 months. Subscription rate is 5.00 for 10 issues. Membership in the TESLA INTERNATIONAL organization is concurrent with subscription to the journal.
February 12, 1953

Dear Mr. Searlif,

It was very rewarding to receive your reply concerning Dr. Nikola Tesla... I have initiated an undertaking on behalf of Tesla because I feel that in all right and justice something should be done to perpetuate the name of Tesla and see to it that his name becomes a part of the heritage of this nation. A great task perhaps, but as time goes on I believe the name of Tesla will become more significant in scientific developments. I hope that you may have an interest in the organization which I have proposed and established, and I will be honored to have you as a member. The organization is presently set up on the basis of those having a mutual interest in Tesla, with a free exchange of information between members. The first two issues of the journal of the organization are being sent to you under separate cover, and should reach you in a day or two.

Some other names which may be of interest to you are, Burriel Arbush, Dorothy Sherrell, Kenneth Sweeney, and W. W. Alwine. The recent deaths of John O'Neill and Edwin Armstrong were very unexpected, and it is with a great sadness that I received the news and loss of these two members.

Do you know if Mr. Lowenstein and a daughter? The reason I ask is that a woman visited Mr. O'Neill before his death and told him that she inherited a great amount of Teslaiana from her father — whom I presume to be Mr. Lowenstein. This woman was afraid of disclosure of the information by reason of her mistaken notion and fear that she would be publicly bad by the army. You see Mr. O'Neill related to me that a few army officials visited his home with insistent requests for information. Of course, all this sort of information will be aroused by Tesla's "Death-Ray" rumors, put out by insatiable journalists. Well, the result of all this is that she refused to give Mr. O'Neill her married name — only that she married a famous prince no less, and moved to some old-palace city. If this woman has the amount of material that Mr. O'Neill indicated, it would certainly be important to locate her.

I believe that one of the valuable efforts of the Tesla organization would be to catalog every piece of information concerning Tesla. I have made a beginning effort along this line, and I am using that before too long all collections of Teslaiana may be located, catalogued, and reproduced for fear of eventual loss. Through Mary A. Benjamin (of Walter A. Benjamin Autographs in New York) I have obtained a number of significant items of correspondence between Tesla and Robert U. Johnson. The entire collection of correspondence with Mr. Johnson numbers in excess of 70 pieces. I share this collection with Mr. O'Neill.
Leland I. Anderson  
127 Seymour Avenue Southeast  
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota  

December 9, 1945  

Mr. Wilbur E. Kent, Esq.  
201 East 42nd Street  
New York, N.Y.  

Dear Mr. Kent:  

I am writing to your last letter of December 1st, noting your interest in my correspondence with Mr. N. T. Edison regarding Tesla. As you may remember, I have a copy of this correspondence and would be interested in your comments or suggestions on how to best use or publish it. 

I am also interested in learning whether you have collected any mementos, correspondence, letters, etc., of Tesla. For a long while I have been unable to locate a copy of the brochure which Tesla issued the first week of February, 1934. It came in a large square envelope containing a large red wax seal, with the initials "R.T." stamped thereon. Copies of this brochure were distributed throughout New York and elsewhere by the Tesla Foundation in an effort to secure financial backing for the tower and power plant erected at Wardenclyffe, Long Island. You may know of the brochures or of which I speak. I thought it would be interesting to reproduce this brochure and distribute it among the members of the Tesla organization as a memento. Although I have written and inquired about this brochure extensively, I have not been able to locate a copy. Did you ever have one? 

I have noted that in 1935 (the Tesla Centenary) some significant documents may be acquired here in the United States in honor of Tesla. The Tesla Museum in Yugoslavia has obtained the Tesla manuscripts, which amount to 7 tons of apparatus, writings, etc., it is the intention (so stated) of the Museum to publish the entire writings of Tesla, including those in the inheritance, on the Tesla Centenary. I don't know what sort of political propagandist might be interested in this publishing, but it occurred to me that it may be possible to arrange an advance publication in this country of the important works. Unfortunately, there is not much to the Tesla patents issued in the United States. The vast majority of the important work in the estate were made in Europe or Germany, a development center in Ohio. If these patents could be located, there would be much material for a publication. However, in writing with the Library of Congress in the planning of a such a book, those material have reached the most extensive research thus far. 

Knowing that you may be interested in the efforts of the Tesla-Antennalists on behalf of Tesla and wish to associate yourself with it, I am, 

Sincerely yours, 

[Signature]

Leland I. Anderson
To members of the Tesla INTERNATIONAL organization and those interested in the works of
Dr. Nikola Tesla

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

'The Inventions, Discoveries and Writings of Nikola Tesla'

by

Dr. Gardner Martin

It is with great pleasure that the Tesla International organization announces the reprinting of this treasured historical literature.

The original work is a seminal and significant work of its time. It is in great demand for those who study the life and works of Nikola Tesla. Reproduction is strictly limited and each order will be fulfilled when the stock is available. Those desiring a copy of the book are therefore urged to act promptly.

Cost of this work is the original printing rate of only $2.00

manufactured by the publisher. Rates to members and
friends of the Tesla International Organization
SAC, New York
15
Director, FBI
100-2237-4X1

IRVING L. ANDERSON
MISCELLANEOUS; INTERNAL SECURITY - YU

**Secure 2-19-54 concerning the above-captained individual.**

Mail forwarded to the Bureau by Photostats of two letters from Anderson which were received and made available to your office by George L. Schurff, Jr.

There is returned herewith one set of the Photostats received by the Bureau as enclosures with your letter of Jan. 31st as it appears this set was intended for retention in your office file.

**Attachment**

**All information contained herein is unclassified date 7-2-52 by L. Dept.**

---

Toledo
Ladd
Nicholas
Belmore
Chase
Glenn
Hare
Ross
Tracy
Grandy
Mills
Winifred
Tele. Room
Hollace
Miss Gandy

MAILED 16
MAR 10 1954
COMM. FBI
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Back in 1943, the local Alien Property Custodian searched through the belongings of the late electrical inventor, Nikola Tesla, stored in the Manhattan Storage Warehouse in New York City. Tesla had been a naturalized American for more than fifty years, so I believe that the search was made on the grounds that the property was to be sent to Yugoslavia, through Tesla's nephew and heir, Mr. Sava Kosanović (Mr. Kosanović had been Minister of State under the King's government, later became Ambassador to the United States from the present government, and is now a Minister serving in Belgrade).

According to the attorney who handled the Tesla estate, Mr. Philip Gittenberg, the Alien Property Custodian assured him that nothing had been held. I have a letter from the Office of Alien Property, dated March 15, 1955, which confirms this statement.

In gathering material to help in a nation-wide commemoration of Tesla's hundredth birthday next year—which will be participated in by leading scientific and engineering societies, museums, and universities—I have just discovered, however, that Tesla's solid gold Edison Medal somehow vanished during the search.

As a friend who had known Tesla well during his last twenty years, I was with Mr. Kosanović in Tesla's room in the Hotel New Yorker on the day he died. A safe expert was called in to unlock Tesla's safe. Among its contents were several honorary degrees, a volume of greetings which I had gathered for him on his seventy-fifth birthday, a bunch of keys, and the Edison Medal. We kept out the book of greetings (I mentioned this at the time to the assistant manager of the hotel and later to a Mr. Gorsuch of the Alien Property Custodian's office), but everything else, including the medal and the keys, was replaced and the safe was locked. Except when it was inspected by the Alien Property Custodian, the safe was never reopened until it
arrived in Belgrade (where Tesla's property was to be installed in a special Tesla Museum) and was there opened by Mr. Kosanović. According to his former secretary, both the bunch of keys and the medal were missing. The keys were later found in a tin box outside the safe; the medal was never found.

I learned of the disappearance of the medal only by accident. Mr. Kosanović had asked his former secretary to get permission from the American Institute of Electrical Engineers (who gave Tesla the Medal) to have it duplicated. This was given, but the cost, it turned out, would be about four hundred dollars. In the meantime, the Tesla Museum, in Yugoslavia, is quietly trying to raise the money to pay for it.

The irony of this situation is more disturbing than the money involved. By giving us a system which made electric power universally available, Tesla—probably more than any other one man—helped put America on top of the world. At the time he died, his gold Edison Medal was the only material evidence left of this country's appreciation. That this last token should have disappeared---to have to be replaced by his materially poor countrymen overseas for whom he had done nothing---seems a tragic denouement.

John O'Neill, in his biography of Tesla, states that the FBI broke into Tesla's safe on the day he died, and an article in the current (June) Coronet repeats this. I know this isn't true. I did hear, however, that the FBI somehow lent a hand to the Alien Property Custodian during the latter's search in the warehouse.

If that is so, I thought that perhaps some of your men might remember the conditions under which the search was made and therefore might have a suggestion as to what could have happened to the medal. After this long time, I have no hope that the medal can actually be restored, and I am already trying to interest Americans in making a replacement. But future biographers might be spared a lot of wild guesses and wrong blaming if some hint could be obtained as to whether the original got lost, strayed, or stolen—and who might have been responsible.

With best regards and sincere appreciation for any help you can give,

Sincerely,

Kenneth M. Swezey

P.S.: I am enclosing an editorial from last month's POWER magazine which outlines Tesla's contribution to the electrical power industry.
Strange Genius

ASK ANY GROUP of power men to name those who laid the foundation for today's electrical generation and distribution. You'll wind up with an impressive list—Edison, Brush, Thomson, Westinghouse, many others. But there is almost sure to be a significant omission.

Yet this forgotten man conceived the polyphase ac motor—still basic—and devised a suitable system of generation and distribution for applying it. To grasp the magnitude of this contribution, we must turn back to the 1880's when the electrical era was being born, and the "battle of the systems" held sway.

Arc lights and motors were being operated on constant-current series systems. Edison's Pearl Street generating station had opened in 1882, supplying incandescent lamps and, later, dc motors on a constant-potential system. Under the leadership of Westinghouse and Stanley, the advantages of ac distribution were demonstrated. But there was no successful ac motor.

In May, 1888, a young Yugo-Slav engineer, but four years in the United States, read a paper before the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. In it he described a new ac system. Its heart was the induction motor with its basic and beautiful concept of the rotating magnetic field. The man was Nikola Tesla, the system he described was destined to sweep the field.

With characteristic vision, George Westinghouse realized the fundamental importance of the polyphase ac system and acquired the basic patents. Its first impact on the general public was at the Chicago World's Fair of 1893. There a 2-phase generator supplied motors and lamps, and, through rotary converters and motor-generators, a variety of dc equipment.

But it remained for the Niagara Falls power project to demonstrate in the most dramatic way possible that polyphase ac was the system of the future. Since 1886 when a charter to develop its power had been granted, the eyes of the world had been on Niagara. An international commission, headed by Lord Kelvin, had reviewed 17 proposals, found none acceptable. Later, just five years after Tesla's AIEE paper, it was officially decided to use the polyphase system.

In August, 1895, Niagara power was delivered to the first industrial customer and in 1896 ac transmission to Buffalo, 22 miles away, was begun. By that time, the steam turbine had been introduced in America and the modern age of electric power had truly opened.

For Nikola Tesla, these far-reaching inventions were but a beginning. Still to come was brilliant work in high frequencies, thinking basic to much of today's radio art. Yet by the time of his death in 1943, both he and his work had begun to slip into obscurity. Why?

A man of flashing insights and enormous brilliance, Tesla was largely indifferent to the development of his ideas. This he left to others while he followed the lure of new challenges. In later years, his projects became more grandiose, his ways more mysterious, his pronouncements more Olympian. And working alone, as he did, he formed none of the institutional ties that help to perpetuate a record of accomplishment.

Next year—July 10, 1956—will be the 100th anniversary of Nikola Tesla's birth. It would be fitting for our engineering societies to commemorate this occasion, to acknowledge our debt to this strange and lonely genius who changed our world for the better.
RECOGNITION FOR TESLA

Largely thru a young American engineer's efforts, the world today is re-scanning the record and achievements of our inventive genius, Nikola Tesla. Of late, even the big-time magazines have devoted space to the amazing career and fascinating character of the pioneering electrical wizard.

The man behind this belated recognition for the one-time Serbian immigrant boy who made millions but died almost a pauper is Leland Anderson, head of the Tesla Society, which has headquarters at the University of Minnesota.

Thru travels, correspondence and detailed research, Mr. Anderson has dug up many friends of the late genius and induced them to join in his noble work. A good many of these are American-Serbs. They serve Mr. Anderson and he serves them, with information issued thru his TESLIAN publication. This is, at present, a mimeographed publication issued monthly which casts new light on the known life and record of the late Dr. Tesla.

The latest issue (March-June) informs of progress plans to honor Dr. Tesla even more. It also presents an account of a fascinating editorial, "Strange Genius", by the POWER magazine of the powerful McGraw-Hill publishing line. This editorial traces the introduction of Dr. Tesla's polyphase system described by Mr. Anderson, as the "most tremendous event in all engineering history."

Editorialist Louis Bowler, according to the TESLIAN, answers the perplexing question why, in view of Tesla's important discoveries, he fell short of the comparative popularity won by Edison and Bell. Then in closing, he suggests: "It would be fitting for our engineering societies, in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Nikola Tesla's birth (July 10, 1956), to acknowledge our debt to this strange and lonely genius who changed our world for the better."

This appears to be just what Mr. Anderson was waiting for. For now, in the same issue of his TESLIAN, he has prepared a form to petition Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield to issue a Tesla commemorative stamp next year.
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: L.V. Boardman
FROM: A.H. Belmont
SUBJECT: Nikola Tesla
DATE: June 29, 1955

Nikola Tesla, a native of Yugoslavia, was a famous electrical inventor who died in New York City in 1943 where he had lived for many years. In attached letter to Bureau dated 6-25-55 Kenneth W. Swezey, Brooklyn, New York, advises he is gathering material to help in a nation-wide commemoration of Tesla’s hundredth birth anniversary in 1956. Swezey states he was present when Tesla’s safe was opened by friends after his death and advises that the contents were thereafter replaced and then impounded by the United States Alien Property Custodian. Later the safe was removed to Belgrade, Yugoslavia, to be installed in a Tesla Museum. Missing from Tesla’s effects is a gold Edison medal he had been awarded. Swezey is seeking to locate this medal and has been advised by the Office of Alien Property (OAP) that OAP held none of Tesla’s property. Swezey states he has heard the FBI assisted OAP in handling Tesla’s effects while in storage, and accordingly, he asks whether Bureau could assist him in locating the Edison medal. He FBI’s assistance to OAP Swezey mentions that in the Tesla biography (“The Prodigal Genius” - 1944) by John O’Neill it was stated FBI broke into Tesla’s safe the day he died (1-8-43) to protect contents from enemy hands. Swezey notes this same comment appears in article (“The Genius Who Walked Alone”) by Alfred H. Sinks in the June, 1955, “Crownet”. Swezey says he knows FBI did not do this.

Bureau did not enter into Tesla safe matter upon Department’s advice it was being handled by OAP. Bureau previously aware of comment in O’Neill’s book.

In 1945 Sinks requested for his use as author data re Bureau’s microfilm procedure. Was advised no such data available for publication.

Enclosures: 6-20-55
100-2237

cc: 1-65-47953
Ticklers: Mr. Bird

Mr. Belmont
Mr. Boardman

ETBIiaca F YA 1 IP 1955
6 JUI 11 1955
Memorandum For Mr. Boardman

RECOMMENDATION:

That the attached letter be sent to Swezey advising Bureau did not participate in the handling of Tesla's effects and that the matter was handled by OAP. Therefore, Bureau unable to be of assistance; that no action be taken relative to Sinks' comment in "Coronet" article.
June 30, 1955

Mr. Kenneth E. Steeney
163 Milton Street
Brooklyn 39, New York

Dear Mr. Steeney:

With reference to your letter of June 25, 1955, our files disclose the effects of Nikola Tesla were taken into custody after his death by the Office of Alien Property and not by this Bureau.

Since we did not participate in the handling of Mr. Tesla's effects, we are unable to supply the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE:
A cover memorandum from Belmont to Boardman was prepared by ETB:jae on 6-29-55 in connection with this outgoing mail.

Buffers contain no derogatory data on correspondent; reflect only that he was close friend and admirer of Tesla.
August 1, 1955.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

In his book, "Prodigal Genius", The Life of Nikola Tesla, Mr. John J. O'Neil says, on page 277, that the F.B.I. went to Tesla's hotel room, opened his steel safe and removed from it, the papers it contained.

Was there ever any publication of what these papers contained? If so, could you inform me where I might obtain a copy of such publication?

If there was no publication of the safe's content, after more than 10 years, would it be improper to publish them?

If there was no publication of the safe's content, but there were no particular secrets found there in, could you inform me where I might learn what the safe contained?

Any information on this matter will be appreciated.

Thank you for your trouble.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Handwritten note: ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED. DATE 2-2-50.]

EX. 104
August 11, 1955

Dear [Redacted]:

Your letter dated August 1, 1955, has been received, and in response to your inquiry, I would like to advise that our files reflect that the effects of Nikola Tesla were taken into custody after his death by the Office of Alien Property and not by this Bureau.

Since we did not participate in the handling of Mr. Tesla's effects, we are unable to supply the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Buffilex reflect no record on correspondent. This type of reply utilized by Internal Security Division in answering similar inquiries on 6/30/55. (65-47953-33) Cover memo from Mr. Belmont to Mr. Boardman dated 8/39/55 set out background of this matter which concerned the death of Tesla, a famous electrical inventor. Bureau was not involved in this matter, and the opening of the safe mentioned was done by the Office of Alien Property.
Mr. John Edgar Hoover,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D.C.,

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Referring to my letter to you August first, this year — your letter to me, August 11th., relative to the matter of the papers of Mr. Nikola Tesla.

On August 26, I wrote the office of Alien Property regarding this matter, indicating that I had received the information from you that it was their department which had taken the Tesla property into custody — not yours.

I have a letter from Mr. Henry G. Hilkem — that Department — File Number HG: 17-5529, in which I am told that office "never had custody, nor has vested, any property of Nikola Tesla".

As I began this matter with you — because it was stated in Mr. O'Neill's book that it was your department who opened Tesla's safe, I am wondering if you have any further suggestions along lines I might follow to obtain some information in this regard?

Thank you for your time and trouble.

Sincerely,

All information contained herein is unclassified.

Date 7-28-55 by [Signature]

RECORDED-12 100-2237-62X2

EX-101

[Redacted]
Dear [Name]:

I have received your letter dated September 10, 1955.

As you were advised by my letter of August 11, 1955, this Bureau was not concerned in any respect with the acquisition or custody of the effects of Nikola Tesla, and it is therefore not possible to furnish you any additional information.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: By letter 8-11-55, we referred to the Office of Alien Property, which Office was reported to have assumed custody of Tesla's effects subsequent to his death (65-47953-6)
RECOGNITION FOR TESLA

(Please fill out this form and mail to the address appearing below.)

THE TESLA SOCIETY
University Station, Box 130
Minneapolis 14, Minnesota

(date)

(city & state)

Hon. Arthur E. Summerfield
Postmaster General, Postoffice Dept.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Nikola Tesla's contributions to science, industry, and to his adopted country have greatly inspired engineering progress. His electrical systems helped create an American economy of world pre-eminence. We respectfully request issuance of a 1956 commemorative stamp to be issued on the centennial of Tesla's birth (1856-1943).

(signed)

AMERICAN SROBRAN
June 29, 1955
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

EX: 10e
INDEXED-50
NOT RECORDED
138 JUL 1 : 1955

6C JUL 13 1955

44
The Genius Who Walked Alone

by Alfred H. Sinks

Nikola Tesla was a great inventor—and also a prophet without honor.

Counter-espionage wheels started turning early on the morning of January 8, 1943. Anxious FBI agents slipped into a room in the Hotel New Yorker where, late the night before, a chambermaid had discovered the body of Nikola Tesla, dead at 86, regarded by many as the greatest scientific genius of his time.

For years, Tesla had been making scientific predictions so fantastic as to be literally out of this world. Of late he had been working—or so he said—on revolutionary new weapons powerful enough to annihilate armies at a single blow.

There was only one Tesla, and the story might—indeed as it sounded—be true. The old man's safe might hold these secrets, and the Government could not risk the chance of enemy spies getting there first.

Half hoping to find something which would bring a sudden and decisive end to World War II, the G-men broke open the dead man's strong box. If anything of importance was discovered, it has never been revealed.

Yet, their quick action was justified, for you could never be sure about Tesla, one of the strangest men who ever lived. Most people took him with a grain of salt, yet no serious scientist dared shrug away his rhymes as nonsense. Not after Thomas Edison tried it and Tesla proved him wrong.

The world's leading physicists and electrical engineers had to eat crow back in the 1890's when Tesla solved a problem they had thought impossible. That one accomplishment—the invention of a practical alternating-current motor and gen-
United States Senate
June 26, 1973

Respectfully referred to:

Congressional Liaison
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20530

Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated by

[Redacted]

ATTN: U.S.S.

Form #2

ST-105

100.2237.24

7 JUN 29 1973

ENCLOSURE
Bear Senator,

Though in Alaska temporarily working on a military contract, I still consider myself an resident, hence it is to you that I write.

In the days at College, I became interested in a fascinating Czech physicist, Nicolai Tesla. Professor Tesla emigrated to this country in the twenties, I believe, and did some of his most original work. Tesla had a peculiar bent of mind; in his younger days he was often called a bad scientist, and did not publish extensively when he came to the U.S. Most of the extant primary material is in untranslated Czech. Tesla was, however, an extensive note taker. I thought it strange that upon his death, none of his notes from his American period ever appeared. Upon discussing this with a friend, I was informed that all of Mr. Tesla's notes were confiscated by the FBI. I cannot conceive how these notes on physics and electricity can in any way endanger the national safety. It seems that Mr. Hoover in his zeal, had confiscated material whose only sin was a radical approach to science. There is indication that much of Professor Tesla's later work concerned a very novel approach to time theory. Needless to say, it has been radical approaches to physics that have seen our greatest scientific advances in modern times, viz. Einstein, Heisenberg, et al.

I was wondering if your office might be able to determine if these papers are still extant, and if so, see to it that the public has access to them. It would be a shame to see all of Nicolai Tesla's work to have been in vain.

Please excuse my typing; in all the thousands of words I typed trying to get a liberal education, I never did master the typewriter.

Sincerely yours,

[signature]

20 June 1973

100 - 2237 - 24
July 5, 1973

Honorable
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator

This is to acknowledge receipt of your communication dated June 26th enclosing a letter from your constituent, who is temporarily employed in Alaska.

In response to the inquiry, central files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicate that the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded after his death by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings, I am unable to furnish the information you desire.

I am returning your enclosure as you requested.

Sincerely yours,

William D. Ruckelshaus
William D. Ruckelshaus
Acting Director

Enclosure

1. Portland - Enclosures (2)
1. Congressional Services Office - Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Bufiles reveal prior cordial correspondence with Senator...

Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the count

TELETYPE UNIT

48
Dear Sirs,

It has come to my attention that upon the death of Mr. Nikola Tesla, the founder of modern A.C. power systems, and the original inventor of radio, and innumerable other devices, operatives of the FBI opened his safe and removed his papers on 7 January 1943, within a few hours of his demise. Also, all records of his work have been seized and held by our government since his death. I would like to know why, and also to be informed as to who was, and is responsible for keeping the lid on these records. I would also like to know where they are now.

I do hope you enjoy a good laugh over the apparent naiveté of such a request as this, but it is a rather strange situation to exist in a country like this, that a man of such genius and achievement could be systematically cut out of history books, and that the facts about his works could be concealed to the degree they have been. I wish to obtain access to all these old records which have been concealed for thirty years. I would appreciate your kind consideration and attention to this matter and any assistance you may care to give.

[Handwritten note: 12 July 1973]

[Handwritten note: Ack 7-19-23]
July 19, 1973

DEAR [Name]

Your letter was received on July 16th. In response to your inquiry, the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings, I am unable to furnish the information you desire. A copy of your communication and of this reply have been referred to the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

[Name]

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. (Bufile 100-2237-25 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neil alleged that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department which did so, and the above reply is forwarded in answer to related inquiries. Copy of letter referred to the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division of the Department.)
Dear Mr. Kelley,

Thank you for your letter of the 19th of July. I appreciate the information about the Office of Alien Property and its connection with the impounding of the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla. In my letter of the 16th I did not mean to imply the FBI had impounded his effects, as I was aware of the O.A.P.'s general part in the affair. The fact remains that to the best of my knowledge, it was agents of the FBI who did in fact break into his safe only hours after his death, and did remove the papers therein. Now, in so far as the Bureau was connected, I wish to understand that extent. I do appreciate your referring my communication to the appropriate persons in the Justice Department, but perhaps you could see that the above mentioned connection of the Bureau could be further looked into. I am curious as to who asked the Bureau to perform such an act, whether it was a person in the O.A.P., or what, and on what grounds they were carried out, and to whom they were responsible.

Also, to what person were the perjured papers delivered? Names of the agents involved would be appreciated. As to what happened to any other effects of his, that is probitly impossible answered by the O.A.P., yet if Bureau agents participated, they may have done so on other occasions. If the persons who opened the safe were NOT FBI agents, then we are faced with the fact that persons apparently posed as Bureau operatives, an even more interesting situation. Perhaps this where your own curiosity...
this affair. It seems that before the year 1900, we were able to transmit thousands of watts of electric power to any point on the globe WITHOUT WIRES. This would make him a prime target for vested interest groups, notably the J.P. Morgan combine with whom he had connections.

I am aware of the well earned tradition of the Bureau of NEV serving any master but the common good, so again we have a curious point if indeed strings were pulled. Quite frankly, it looks as if someone went to a lot of trouble to see that his ideas were not broadly available to ensure the stability of their own electric technological apple cart financially, at the expense of unguessable benefits to humanity as a whole. How would you like to be able to draw unlimited power out of the air to run say a light bulb with ONE wire? He did it, and much more. My sincere thanks for your thought and attentions to these matters.

Very best wishes.
Your letter, which was received on July 30th, has been reviewed and I would like to point out that FBI Agents were not involved in removal of papers from the safe of Dr. Nikola Tesla, nor did we at any time have custody of his property.

I realize there have been some written accounts that our Agents acquired Dr. Tesla’s belongings; however, these accounts are simply not true. You can be assured we were absolutely not responsible and there was no impersonation involved.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley
Clarence M. Kelley
Director

NOTE: Correspondent had written in mid-July and asked about the effects of Dr. Tesla and he was advised that the Office of Alien Property had participated in removing his effects from his hotel room. A copy of his communication was referred to the Department of Justice. Buffalo indicate clearly that after Dr. Tesla’s death some relatives opened the safe in his hotel room with the help of a locksmith and, thereafter, the Office of Alien Property confiscated all of his belongings. Bufile 100-2237 mentions that the FBI was advised of the existence of this property; however, inasmuch as the Office of Alien Property was handling Dr. Tesla’s effects, the Bureau had absolutely no hand in the entire matter.
June 9, 1975

Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington D.C. 20535

Sirs:

We recently contacted the San Francisco FBI office and a review of their files revealed information concerning the scientist Nikola Tesla or his papers which we understand to have been impounded.

If you could make a thorough investigation of all files and materials available to you, we would greatly appreciate the correspondence of any information that might be discovered.

Thank you,
July 7, 1975

This will acknowledge your letter of June 9th.

In response to your inquiry, the papers of
Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the
Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley
Clarence M. Kelley
Director

NOTE: Bufile 100-2237 indicates that Dr. Tesla was a
world famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his
death his personal papers and effects were impounded by
Office of Alien Property for national security reasons.
Since Tesla's death in 1943 the Bureau has received numerous
inquiries about the disposition of his technical papers.
The above reply is forwarded in answer to these inquiries.
Bufiles contain no information identifiable with requesters.
Mr. Clarence Kelley  
Director  
F.B.I.  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Kelley:

In reply to the letter of 10 November from your office:

I restate that I was not asking about the existence or non-existence of any investigative information on Nikola Tesla, but on his technical papers seized on his death in 1943 and reported in the papers of that time.

The reason given in the reply from your office, the second paragraph, as to why I cannot get any information on Tesla's papers makes no sense in itself or in reply to my inquiry. The third paragraph stating the conditions under which a search will be made is a clear bureaucratic circumvention of the Freedom of Information Act and an excuse on the part of the individual handling my request for doing any work beyond the drafting of a letter. Will it be the decision of your office to let the situation stand like this?

As I stated in my first letter, I am following up the Tesla data for a magazine article. I am tempted to have your reply of the 10th printed and run nationally as an example of how bureaucratic maneuvering is used to get around the FOIA. Does the bureau need more of this type of publicity?

It is disheartening to see an agency entrusted to uphold the law using its resources to mask the law.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten date: 11-26-75]
November 26, 1975

Dear [REDACTED]:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter to the Bureau on November 14th.

In response to your inquiry, the papers of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley
Clarence M. Kelley
Director

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure
Attention: Susan M. Hauser

NOTE: Bufile 100-2237 indicates that Dr. Tesla was a world famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death his personal papers and effects were impounded by Office of Alien Property for National Security reasons. Since Tesla's death in 1943 the Bureau has received numerous inquiries about the disposition of his technical papers. The above reply is forwarded in answer to these inquiries.
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REMARKS

FOIA - (Redacted)

Do NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disapprovals, clearances, and similar actions

FROM (Name, office symbol or location)

Susan M. Hauser

DATE: 10/21/75

PHONE: 2145
Freedom of Information Act Request

Deputy Attorney General
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20535

Gentlemen:

I am writing an article for a magazine on early twentieth century inventors and want to obtain information on some papers of Nikola Tesla that were seized by the FBI on his death in 1943.

Tesla invented a number of electrical devices and because of the war and because Tesla was born a Yugoslavian national, it was probably considered a measure of preventative safety to hold in safekeeping papers that might have any bearing on national security.

I would like to find out: 1) if the FBI still has the papers; 2) if they do have the papers, what must be done to see them; 3) if they do not have the papers, who does have them or what happened to them?

I would be very grateful for your help with this.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten date: 5 Oct 24 1975]
engineer's name among the world's big scientists.

From his invention sprang the industrial age we live in. For without his alternating current, there would be no mass production of automobiles, aircraft, refrigerators, no great water-power dams, and generating plants, no Diesel-electric trains, we could not have developed radio, television or atomic power.

The direct current that Edison worked with was feeble,force at best, 
could be sent no more than a couple of miles, gay wires because its power leaked away rapidly into the surrounding atmosphere. Lights near the power station might burn brightly and steadily, but those near the end of the line would be dim and flickering.

Tesla sold his basic alternating-current patents in 1888, for a million dollars down. By 1895, the first great power station at Niagara Falls had been built, and by the end of 1896, two more Tesla generators had been installed. Within a few years, the pace of life over half the earth had changed from a crawl to a fast walk - and it has been gathering speed ever since.

But there was one idea of a "rotating magnetic field" that changed the face of the earth and the living habits of the human race. It was a young boy born in 1856 in Smiljan, a village in what is now Yugoslavia, but was then part of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire.

When he was about six, Nikola Tesla's father, the village priest, was transferred to a larger parish in the city of Gospić. There, the boy grew up, and perfected his earliest "inventions." Of these, his favorite was an "engine" powered by 16 large bars, harnessed in sets of four to cycles which radiated from the drive shaft.

Nikola was a frail lad, often ill, and he nearly went blind from too much reading. He read everything he could get his hands on, not only science but also religious philosophy, history, literature. By the time he finished high school, he was fluent in French, German and Italian, as well as his native Serbo-Croat.

He got his schooling - the best his doting family could afford - at Gospić, Zagreb, Graz, the University of Prague and, finally, at Budapest. At the University, he saw his first electric motor, a new type direct-current affair whose brushes and commutators sent out showers of crackling blue sparks.

"If we get rid of those brushes and commutators, with all that noise and loss of energy, we'd have a much better motor," Nikola told his professor. "Perhaps it might be done with an alternating current." "Nonsense!" harked the professor. "An alternating current would never run anything. You're just the bright, out student I thought you were forgotten!"

But Tesla could not forget. The teacher's ridicule only stamped the idea indelibly on his brain. It became an obsession, a passion - how to make an alternating current drive a motor. In every idle moment, wherever he went, he wrestled with this problem.

Tesla's mind had an unusual twist. Almost from infancy, he had been able to see double images in his mind's eye, and in each minute detail - that often he had trouble telling the real from the imaginary.
Where the average engineer or inventor would reach instinctively for drawing board, paper and pencil, Tesla would simply switch on that uncanny magic lantern inside his brain. He would fix a mental image there. Then he would alter this detail or that, discard one plan, try another, without ever putting a line on paper.

Years later, from these mental images alone, he could give his workmen exact instructions on how to build each part of a new device, though it was unlike anything ever seen before.

Thus, needing no drafting room and few laboratory conveniences to work on an idea, Tesla could use every spare minute that he had to test and revise his theory of alternating current.

His first real job was manager of a newly organized telephone company in Budapest. But telephone circuits were dull stuff compared with the challenge of that one big idea. He moved to Paris where he became a kind of general trouble-shooter for the Continental Edison Company.

His brain was still chipping away at his big problem, but the trouble was, he couldn’t share it with trained men who might have helped him work it out. For whenever he mentioned alternating current to an electrical engineer, the man would look at him as though he were crazy.

But then came the moment when he knew he had solved it. He was walking with a friend in the Bois de Boulogne. Suddenly, he stopped short and began jabbering with his hands to some invisible object in the air.

"See, it works!" he triumphantly replied. "It is the rotating magnetic field which causes the armature to turn. It pulls them, and is pulled with it, causing the shaft to revolve. As I oscillate this switch, causing the current to flow first in one direction, then the other..."

Never mind what his friend thought. Tesla had the answer.

At the office, his colleagues scoffed or looked blank. But the manager, listening to the outpourings of scientific genius, suddenly thought of his old back at home in the United States. If there were some tough in what the Cossack said, surely the famous electrical wizard would be smart enough to see it.

So he gave Tesla a letter of introduction to Thomas Edison and urged him to try his luck in America. Thus, Tesla, now 27, arrived in New York. He was handsome, over six feet two, with a distinguished head and deep-set blue eyes. His Slavic face was broad across the forehead, his dark, thick, lustrous hair fell thick, his chin sharply pointed. Of worldly goods, he had the clothes on his back, four cents in cash, the letter to Edison, and the idea, which was to change the world.

Edison thought less than nothing of the idea. It seemed so preposterous that he wouldn’t even listen...
and, of course, Tesla had no
drawings with which to try to con-
vince him. But Edison gave him a
job, for he had excellent training
as an engineer, and Edison needed
trained men.

Busy with routine electrical work,
Tesla waited nearly three years for
a chance to turn his mental image
into an actual motor he could show
to others. In 1887, he was able to
borrow enough money to start his
own laboratory, and the following
year the alternating-current motor
and generator were practical rea-
lies in a laboratory scale, though
much practical engineering would
still be needed to fit them to com-
mercial use.

George Westinghouse, another
inventor, was the first to see their
value. He bought the patents and
gave Tesla a job as engineer in his
Pittsburgh factories.

But Tesla couldn't get along with
the other Westinghouse engineers.
From this standpoint, the alter-
ning-current job was done. Even
"schoolboys" could now iron out
the few remaining kinks. Mean-
time, his brain had started to hatch
even bigger dreams. He went back
to his laboratory in New York.

"Be alone, he once told a
scientist who. That's the secret of
invention. Be done, that's where
great ideas come from!"

A lone was. In the years that
followed, Tesla had many ad-
mirers, including sponsors, but seldom
a friend. After his mother's death,
an ever-entered his personal life.

His manner toward others was
cold but reserved: distant. His
words were as if uttered by some
cold, sitting on an Olympus high

above the rest of humanity. Backed
by his fame, those words made a
triumphant impression.

He lectured at every scientific
center in this country and in the
important capitals abroad. Things
which, at first, existed only inside
that amazing brain of his were so
real to him, he made them real
to his listeners.

He described radar and radio
broadcasting and even television.
He advocated electro-therapy. He
foretold a day when man would
control nature in every respect
— even the weather — when machines
of all kinds, and the power to run
them, would be so cheap that pov-
erty would vanish from the world.

Without wanting to be, Tesla
was a sort of comic. With listening
ears and seeing his wonders, au-
diences were ready to believe nearly
anything.

Tesla reasoned that you could
sell electric power cheap if you
could do away with the millions of
poles and insulators, the millions of
yards of copper wire used to trans-
mit it from place to place. He thought
he knew how to do it — and J. P.
Morgan backed him up with $100,000.

"On Long Island," Tesla built a
huge power plant with a 154-foot
steel-boiler tower topped by an
enormous mushroom-shaped cop-
ner dome. From this dome he
designed to bombard the earth's
structure with millions of volts of elect-
ric energy. The power so added to the
dou's permanent charge could be
drawn off at some other point,
and point on the earth's surface.
Thus, it would be possible for elec-
tric power to be sent anywhere
without cables, poles or wires. Or
so he thought, until he tried it.

CORONET
In November, 1878, Tesla announced that he could destroy war.

The inventor had designed a small, inexpensive, radio-controlled boat which, through its supposed ability to destroy the biggest battleships, would make great navies useless. Not many years later, he was talking of another super-weapon, a "death ray" which would annihilate whole armies.

Yet Tesla never suspected that the red super-weapon of the future would come from atomic fission. For Tesla's basic notion which led to smashing the atom, he had only his dreams, and they grew stranger with the years. Completely alone at last, a shooped, giant figure with thin, silvery hair, he used to hop from his hotel room, buy a bag of bird seed, and trudge slowly over to a park where hundreds of pigeons waited for him. These were his friends. They needed him, though the world did not.

When he grew too ill to go out, each day he sent a Western Union messenger to the park. After toting the birds, the boy was instructed to see if any of them seemed sick. If so, he was to bring them back to Tesla's room where the inventor would nurse them gently back to health.

Perhaps this sad little labor of love showed that the man who changed the world had, at last, discovered a great truth. Perhaps he knew now that the greatest power for good lies not in fighting war but in a human heart pulsating like his own "tuned circuits" in tune with the hearts of his fellow men. Or did he ever know? You could never be sure about Tesla.

---

Winnie Wit

In the early 1920s, when Winston Churchill had offended both his own supporters and the political opposition, the late George Bernard Shaw wrote him: "I enclose two vouchers for the premiere of my new play, for yourself and a friend of any.

Back to the playwright promptly came the theater checks with the note from "Winne": "Forgive me, I am unable to attend the premiere of your new play. Please send me the two vouchers for the second performance - if any."
RECOGNITION FOR TESLA

At long last Serbians—American and Canadian—have acted to honor the memory and achievements of one of Serbia's greatest sons.

For the world-wide Centennial celebration of Dr. Nikola Tesla's birth next year, Serbs on this Continent plan to erect a bust statue of the electrical genius to stand before the entrance of the Monastery at Libertyville, Ill.

Steps looking towards that end were taken at the recent SNF convention following the reading of a letter by President Mile Rodakovich from His Grace, Bishop Nikolai. As the universally-renowned churchman stated, erection of a suitable monument, by Serbs, would forever remind other Serbs of the honor and glory of Dr. Nikola Tesla. And that he was a SERBIAN, son of a SERBIAN ORTHODOX clergyman, born in the SERBIAN SELO of Smiljan in Lika.

Further, His Grace urged that the undertaking be a joint one and representative of ALL the Serbian organizations in the United States and Canada. He naturally looked to the SNF for leadership, and the greatest monetary contribution. But he also besought the help of the Serbian Nat'l Defense and the Jedinstvo beneficial society.

The Convention voted $1000 for the project and a hand collection was taken up among the delegates and guests, kinsmen Milorad Konjevich of Joliet, Ill., giving $200. It is probable that the balance of the needed $3000 will be raised thru public goodwill offerings and gifts of the other two organizations mentioned.

And after a suitable bust has been erected for Dr. Tesla, Bishop Nikolai suggested a similar-like monument honor the memory of Dr. Mihailo Pupin, also a world-renowned scientist, author and educator.

This is a subject near and dear to all good Serbian hearts.

"AMERICAN SRBOBRAN"
September 28, 1955
Pittsburgh, Pa.
PITTSBURGH, PA. — The Serbian National Federation Executive Board has acted quickly to implement a Convention decision to honor the memory of the illustrious Dr. Nikola Tesla.

At its first meeting of October 8, the Board drafted a resolution calling on all SNF members and good Serbians to help finance a memorial project for the late scientist-inventor genius.

This would stand before the entrance of the Monastery in Libertyville, Ill.

Cost of the contemplated project, which would be a blessing to the world that Dr. Tesla was a Serbian, is estimated at $3000. The Convention voted $1000 to the cause and a hand collection among 122 delegates yielded several hundred dollars more.

Kinsman Milos Konjevic of Joliet, III., gave $20.

Public Aid Sought

Balance of the needed sum is now being sought thru good-will offerings of the general Serbian populace in the United States and Canada.

A fund, similar to the one being conducted to help Serbia's mortgage expenses on Shadeland, has been established.

It is hoped to raise the necessary money and complete the project in time for the world-wide Centennial celebration for the genius next year.

Spearheading the movement for recognition, especially among American elements, is the TESLA SOCIETY, founded by scientist-engineer Leland Anderson, a fanatical admirer of the late Dr. Nikola Tesla.

Mr. Anderson right now is conducting a search for a famous portrait of the Serbian electrical wizard done at the turn of the century in New York.

Seek Missing Portrait

In his current TESLAIAN publication, Mr. Anderson revealed the work, by Princess Vlma Lwoff-Palaghy, is missing.

Reviewing developments, Mr. Anderson wrote:

"On March 1, 1916, the Princess gave a reception in her new studio in New York especially to exhibit her latest portrait of Nikola Tesla. An article in the NEW YORK TIMES for March 2, 1916, stated—— "It was one of the beliefs of Mr. Tesla that there was something unlucky about posing for a picture and he never sat to any before he entered the studio of the Princess. The room which she had chosen did not have a sky-light in it and the much desired North exposure was missing."

"At the suggestion of Mr. Tesla, a cluster of powerful incandescents was put up in the corner of the apartment and the rays, filtered thru blue glass, were just the right quality. The portrait was shown under the same illumination.

At Ease for Sitting"

"Mr. Tesla, having solved the problem of the artificial sun, fell to thinking about other parts of the universe, and there he sat oblivious to his surroundings."

"The painter was able to produce a likeness in which there is no evidence that the subject was conscious that anybody was watching him. Much less studying his features from the other side of the easel."

"Among those who attended the reception were Mrs. C. B. Alexander, Henry P. Davison, the Countess de Rittenburg and Mrs. E. T. Isham."

After the Princess died in 1923, her studio and all objects of art were sold at auction.

The Tesla portrait, 5 by 8 inches, appeared on the cover of TIME magazine (July 28, 1921) and in the ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENTER (January-February). Mr. Anderson says its location is not now known.
Half of $3000 Costs For Statue Pledged

Cadiz, O., Serb Gives $100 For Bust Image of Inventor To Be Placed at Monastery

Pittsburgh, Pa.—Half of the $3000 fund goal for a statue memorial of the late Dr. Nikola Tesla has been realized, the SNF announced today.

In fact, total contributions counted so far come to $1580.

The Fund is an outgrowth of a plea by Bishop Nicolai for Serbians to do honor for the memory of the noted electrical wizard during the world-wide Centennial celebration planned for the genius next year.

In the wake of the plea, voiced at the recent 7th Convention at Niagara Falls, Canada, the delegates approved a $1000 gift from the SNF and decided to raise, by public grant, the balance of $2000.

A hand collection among the 122 grass-roots leaders of the Society raised another $450. Then, at its first meeting October 5, the newly-elected Executive Board of the SNF appealed to the membership at large to fulfill the balance required.

First Contribution $100

A scant 24 hours after the appeal was published in the Society’s “Srbovan” organ last Wednesday, Sime Zelich of Cadiz, O., gave $100.

The proposed memorial, a statue image, would be placed before the entrance of the St. Sava Serbian Monastery in Libertyville, III.
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ada, the delegants approved a 
$200 gift from the SFN and
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ization, the balance of $2000.

A hand collection among the
gras-sroot leaders of the Ser-
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the first meeting October 3, the
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SNF appealed to the mem-
ship at large to fulfill the bal-
eness required.

First Contribution $100

A scant 24 hours after the ap-
d was published in the Society's
organ last Wednesday, Sime Zelich of Cadiz, O.,
to $100.
The proposed memorial, a
true image, would be placed be-
the entrance of the St. Sava-
bian Monastery in Libertyville.

"There it would proclaim to
the thousands of Serbian
itors annually that Nikola
tesla was a Serbian immigrant
ock and son of a Serbian
thodox clergyman," Bishop
icola declared.

For half a century and more,
general American public has
en mislead about the nationality
the man who foretold the com-
g of atomic energy power.

Only recently, a prominent
merican magazine listed him,
correctly, as of Croatian
tock. The mistake was subse-
tively publicly corrected with
ologies by the publication.
But lacking an image reference,
historical statistics, similar-
ers are likely in the future.

Old References Poor

The magazine publication, for
stance, explained it obtained its
ference material from an anti-
ated guide book.

Since the misleading mat-
ure was never challenged by
adians and other interested
ities before, the magazine logi-
ly assumed it was factual.

Erection of a bust statue,
also listing Dr. Tesla's date of
irth, birthplace, parents, etc.,
ould counter the old errors
nd make certain that future

---the honoring, forever, of two of Serbia's best-known immi-
ant sons who contributed so greatly to the welfare and
prosperity of their adopted America.

We hope to report developments as soon as they take
place, remembering Bishop Nikola's concluding remarks:

"Nikola Tesla, in the field of science, brought the
Serbian name great glory—just as did the greatest Serbian
knights on the field of battle."
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D.C.  

Gentlemen:  

During my senior year at Georgetown University, I read J.J.O'Neil's Biography of Nikoli Tesla; the book, entitled 'Prodigal Genius,' described quite a few of Tesla's experiments, most of which I tried myself in the physics lab. I am interested in reviewing Tesla's experiments in wireless electric power transmission.  

Unfortunately, Tesla died in 1945 just at the time he supposedly had developed a system of wireless power transmission. Since World War II was then in progress his papers were seized and sealed by the F.B.I. I suppose that by now Tesla's papers have been released for publication, but a call to the Library of Congress produced no results. Therefore, I have two questions:  

1) Does the F.B.I. now have Tesla's scientific papers?  
2) If so, are they available for public inspection?  
   If they were released, who has them?  

I will certainly appreciate any help you can give me along these lines. Tesla published very little of his findings; this, coupled with the fact that wireless power is connected by most people with "Death Rays" and crack-pots has made it nearly impossible for me to find anything on the subject.  

Yours very truly,
June 29, 1956

Dear Nikola Tesla,

Your letter dated June 28, 1956, has been received, and in response to your inquiry, I would like to advise that our files reflect that the effects of Nikola Tesla were taken into custody after his death by the Office of Alien Property and not by this Bureau.

Since we did not participate in the handling of Mr. Tesla's effects, we are unable to supply the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bufiles reflect no record on correspondent and reveal the correct spelling of Tesla's name as "Nikola." Bufiles reflect this type of reply has been utilized by the Domestic Intelligence Division in answering similar inquiries. (65-47953; 100-2237) Cover memo from Mr. Belmont to Boardman 6-29-55, set out background of this matter which concerned the death of Tesla, a famous electrical inventor. Bureau was not involved in this matter, and the opening of the safe containing his effects was done by the Office of Alien Property.
24, New York, a United States citizen of Yugoslav extraction, who on occasion, voluntarily furnishes the New York Office with information he considers to be in the interests of the Security of the United States Government, furnished Special Agent NICHOLAS J. MASTROVICH the following information on July 3, 1957:

Mrs. MARGARET STORM who lives with her husband, JOHN, at the Colonial Hotel, 51 West 81st Street, New York 24, New York, has been issuing newsletters which contain information pertaining to flying saucers and interplanetary matters.

Mr. STORM stated that a certain woman named Mrs. MARGARET STORM who lives with her husband, JOHN, at the Colonial Hotel, 51 West 81st Street, New York 24, New York, has been issuing newsletters which contain information pertaining to flying saucers and interplanetary matters.

Mr. STORM stated that in his opinion Mr. and Mrs. STORM are exploiting the reputation and genius of NIKOLA TESLA, deceased, inventor of Yugoslav extraction who achieved world wide fame as a result of his inventions in the United States.

TESLA was born in Smiljan, Yugoslavia in July, 1859 and came to the United States in 1894 and became a naturalized United States citizen. In 1886 TESLA designed the arc-lighting system and two years later he invented the Tesla motor and designed a plan for the transmission of alternating current. In subsequent years, TESLA's discoveries and inventions included such fields and appliances as wireless communication, electrical construction, radiant power and radio active matter. After 1900, communications and wireless power transmission occupied most of his research.
TESLA's only military invention was a method to which he once alluded but never fully described. This invention was a means whereby an impenetrable "wall of force" can be erected around the United States' borders which would render helpless any military attack. TESLA disclosed the existence of his plan in 1934 and stated he intended to present it to the Geneva Conference but seldom referred to it afterward.

The "New York Times" dated 9/22/40, carried an article setting forth NIKOLA TESLA's plan for a "Death Ray". This article included information to the effect that TESLA, on his 84th birthday, July 10, 1940, advised New York Times reporter WILLIAM L. LAWRENCE that he was ready to divulge to the United States Government the secret of his "teleforce", with which he said airplane motors would be melted at a distance of 250 miles so that an invisible Chinese wall of defense would be built around the country against any attempted attack by an enemy airforce no matter how large. According to TESLA, this "teleforce" was based on an entirely new principle of Physics that "no one has ever dreamed about" and was different from the principle embodied in his inventions relating to the transmission of electrical power from a distance, for which he received a number of basic patents.

TESLA stated that this new type of force would operate through a beam one hundred millionth of a square centimeter in diameter and could be generated from a special plant that would cost no more than two million dollars and would take only about three months to construct. TESLA stated that a dozen such plants located at strategic points along the coast, according to TESLA, would be enough to defend the United States against all possible aerial attacks. TESLA stated that this beam would melt any engine and would also ignite explosives aboard any bomber. TESLA stated that no possible defense against it could be devised and he asserted that the beam would be all penetrating.
TESLA stated to Mr. LAWRENCE that he makes one important stipulation before he would divulge this secret to the United States Government and that was that should the United States Government decide to take up his offer, he would go to work at once but that the United States Government would have to trust him. TESLA stated that he would suffer "no interference from experts."

In this "New York Times" article Mr. LAWRENCE commented that with conditions as they were in 1940, and with the United States getting ready to spend millions of dollars for National Defense, Mr. TESLA's great reputation as an inventor, who always was many years ahead of his time, should be given careful consideration. Mr. LAWRENCE stated, in his opinion, the United States Government should take Mr. TESLA at his word and commission him to go ahead with the construction of his "teleforce" plant.

The New York file of Mr. TESLA bears no indication that any additional developments were carried on in connection with TESLA's invention and whether or not TESLA fully divulged his new plan to the United States Government.

TESLA died at the age of 85 on January 7, 1943.

Mr. STORM provided a two page copy of the above mentioned newsletter which Mr. and Mrs. STORM have been distributing in connection with the alleged invention by TESLA, which, according to Mr. and Mrs. STORM, consists of a radio type machine known as the Tesla Set which was invented by Mr. TESLA in 1938 for interplanetary communication. Mr. and Mrs. STORM claim that TESLA's engineers did not complete the Tesla Set until after TESLA's death in 1943. Mr. and Mrs. STORM claim that this Set was placed in operation in 1950 and since that time TESLA engineers have been in close touch with space ships, etc.
NY 65-12290

The Newsletter furnished by Mr. [redacted] included (6/7/70)
the following names:

MARGARET STORM
JOHN STORM
GEORGE VAN TASSEL, Pucsa Valley, California
D. FRY, N.Y. - [redacted]
GEORGE HUNTING, London, England

The files of the New York Office contained
no pertinent information regarding any of the
above mentioned individuals.

Two photostatic copies of this newsletter
are being sent to the Bureau for purposes of
information while one copy is being submitted to
the Los Angeles Office for information purposes.
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEBRUARY 3, 1930

Dear Sir:

I am hopeful that you can help me obtain certain information on records and data, which belonged to Dr. Nikola Tesla. He was an Electrical Engineer and prolific inventor.

He was born in Yugoslavia in 1856 and died in the United States, New York City, January 7th, 1943. He was a naturalized citizen of this country.

The only information I could find of his records was a report that the F.B.I. removed his papers for examination, and that the records were sealed by the custodian of alien property.

I have been doing some theoretical research of my own, which I believe may be along the same lines he followed in certain of his experiments. I also believe the development of his ideas would be in the interest of our country regardless of who develops them.

If it is at all possible for me to have access to at least some of his experimental work, I would certainly appreciate it. I am not able, by reason of the vast finances, which would be required, to conduct such experiments myself, so the data he made and collected would be invaluable.

Of course, it is possible that his records do not contain material pertinent to his electronics work, because from what I understand from reading about him, he kept most of his records in his head and wrote down very little of his data.

It is also possible that some of his ideas are impractical, but I feel sure that certain of his ideas will be of immense value to our country within the next several decades or even before, if they are developed at a rapid rate.

I would appreciate hearing from you on the subject, if you have any information pertaining to it, which you could make available to me.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

FEBRUARY 16, 1930

[Stamp]
March 14, 1958

Dear [Name],

Your letter postmarked March 1, 1958, has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would have to advise that our files reflect that the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were not taken into custody after his death by the Office of Alien Property in the Department of Justice and not by the FBI.

Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's effects, we are unable to supply the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Duplicates reflect no record on correspondent. Duplicates reflect above type of reply has been utilized in the past in answering similar inquiries.

COMM-FBI
MAR 14 1958
MAILED 19

Copy Memorandum from Belmont to Boardman 6/39/55 set forth background of this matter which concerned the death of Tesla, a famous electrical inventor. Bureau was not involved in this matter, and the handling of effects containing his effects was done by the Office of Alien Property.
Dear Sirs,

I am doing a research study on the life of Dr. Nikola Tesla of New York City (1856-1943), and desire information which you may have. It was reported in the book "Prodigal Genius" that Dr. Tesla’s papers were seized from his New York hotel room upon his death in 1943 by the F.B.I. I am very interested in getting copies of his papers for my study and would like to know if this report is true and where I might obtain further information about them or if you are holding them.

Sincerely yours,
July 2, 1959

INFORMATION CONTAINED
IN THIS UNCLASSIFIED
DOCUMENT IS NOT
REVEALABLE.
Memorandum

TO: MR. TROTTER  
FROM: A. K. Bowles

DATE: 12-6-60  

SUBJECT: NIKOLA TESLA (DECEASED)  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN IS UNCLASSIFIED

telephoned December 5 and was referred to identify
by switchboard because he wanted to talk with someone in charge of records
of deceased. He said he is making a research study for U. S. Air Force
on subject of geophysics. His deadline is ten days from now. He said
he just discovered a sentence in a book by John J. O'Neill entitled "The
Prodigal Genius -- The Life of Nikola Tesla," which states the FBI took
custody of papers from Tesla's safe after his death in New York City in
1943. Tesla was a world-famous Yugoslav scientist and inventor in the
electrical field who died January 7, 1943, in New York City. Requested immediate access to Tesla's scientific works which may shed light
on research study. I told we would have somebody from
our Boston Office contact him immediately.

Bureau file 100-2237 shows no investigation of Tesla has been con-
ducted by Bureau. Since erroneous statement concerning FBI's taking
custody of papers from Tesla's safe after his death appeared in O'Neill's
book published in 1944, Bureau has received numerous inquiries from
scientists desiring to review Tesla's writings. Each inquiry has been
answered by stating FBI did not participate in handling Tesla's effects, but
information has come to our attention that Office of Alien Property of Depart-
ment of Justice may have examined Tesla's effects. (File indicates that
representatives of Office of Alien Property did actually review Tesla's
possessions, including his writings, but file does not show what final dispo-
tion was made of Tesla's possessions.)

A teletype to Boston Division was prepared, but before it was sent
telephoned again to furnish me the exact page in O'Neill's book in
which he refers to the FBI. At that time I told the statement in the
book was untrue -- that the FBI had not examined or taken custody of Tesla's
papers. I suggested that he might contact Office of Alien Property.
(Therefore, teletype to Boston was not necessary.)

ACTION:

For record.

5 DEC 13 1960  
Bu file 100-2237
1- Mr. Belmont
February 14, 1961

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Information
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I am a college student who is doing a research paper on Nikola Tesla. As I was collecting the material for my paper, I discovered that at the time of Tesla's death, the department of the F.B.I. confiscated the data and papers that Tesla had collected from his research in the field of electricity. This confiscation of his material was stated in the PRODIGAL GENIUS by J.J. O'Neil, published in 1944 at New York city by Washburn Inc.

I have developed an interest in the discoveries and accomplishments of Tesla that is presently limited by the shortage of factual material. If in your files, you have any information concerning Nikola Tesla that you are permitted to release, I will sincerely appreciate your cooperation in helping me give the proper recognition to this great scientist and American. Below I have listed the facts that may be helpful to you:

1. Born in 1856 at Smiljan, Crotia, now Yugoslavia
2. Came to America in 1884 and was employed for a short time with the Edison Co. at Orange, N. J.
3. Died on January 7, 1943 at New York city

Thanking you for your time and co-operation that I have taken, I remain,

Sincerely Yours,
Dear [Name],

Your letter of February 16, 1961, has been received, and the interest which prompted you to write is appreciated.

In response to your inquiry, I wish to advise that our files reflect that the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's effects, we are unable to supply the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Mail, alleges that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department who did so, and the above reply is forwarded in answer to related inquiries.
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D.C.

Gentlemen:

I am making a study, motivated out of personal curiosity, into the life and works of Nikola Tesla. Mr. Tesla died on January 7, 1943 in the Hotel New Yorker. Since F.B.I. Operatives opened his safe and took his papers for examination, I wonder if these papers are available for perusal? If they are available, where would they be located, and are copies available to the public?

I am a citizen of the United States, and have been cleared for security—the latest one being for work on...

Thank you very much for any information or help you may be able to give me in this matter!!

Respectfully yours,

All information contained herein is unclassified. Date 7-3-80 by [Signature]

EX-11A
REC-39  100.2237 13

11-27-60
November 27, 1962

Dear [Name],

Your letter of November 31st has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since this Bureau did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's effects, I am unable to supply the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record identifiable with correspondent. Bufile 100-2237 shows that Dr. Tesla was one of the world's outstanding scientists in the electrical field, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neil, alleges that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating Dr. Tesla's property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department which did so, and the above reply has been forwarded in answer to related inquiries. Dr. Tesla was born in Yugoslavia and died in New York City 1-7-43.
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir,

For some time, have been wondering about the matter of what was reported on the late Nikita Tikhon, the inventor. He died during early January 1943 while in residence at the Hotel New York, New York City. I have been told that his taking... (paper, etc.) were submitted. Would appreciate the sending of anything that can be learned about this.

I'm hoping to be on leave, and in Washington by the third week of April. This is mentioned in case it is possible to receive anything relating to this question.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

10 March 1964

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
Dated: 1x.9x.6x. by F. F. J. K. T.
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sirs,

For some time, have been wondering about the matter of what was reported on the late Nikola Tesla, the inventor. He died during early January 1943, while in residence at the Hotel New Yorker, New York City. Accounts have it that his belongings (papers, etc.) were studied. Would appreciate learning if anything can be learned about this.

Am hoping to be on leave, and in Washington, along the third week of April. This is mentioned, in case it is possible to view anything relating to the question.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

10 March 1964.
March 18, 1964

Your letter of March 10th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's effects, I am unable to supply the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: No record could be located in Buffels identifiable with correspondent. Buffel 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neill, alleges that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Buffels clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department who did so, and the above reply is forwarded in answer to related inquiries.
Sir,

According to "Prodical Genius, Nikola Festa" by J. J. O'Neil (a book) some papers were taken from the safe of Mr. Festa about 1945 yr. Is this true. If so are the papers declassified yet? If so may I obtain a copy?

Sir,

According to "Prodical Genius, Nikola Festa" by J. J. O'Neil (a book) some papers were taken from the safe of Mr. Tesla about 1945 yr. Is this true.
If so are the paper declassified yet?
If so may I obtain a copy?
June 22, 1964

Your card of June 16th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, I would like to point out that the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's effects, I am unable to furnish the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufile 100-2237 identifiable with correspondent. Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neil, alleges that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department which did so and the above reply is forwarded in answer to related inquiries.
March 28, 1967

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Department of Information
9th Street & Pennsylvania Aven, N.W.
Washington 25, D. C. 20535

Dear Sirs:

I am a student of the history of science at Oregon State University, and I am attempting to write a research paper on a very eccentric scientist who died in 1943. His name was Nikola Tesla, a naturalized American of Serbian extraction, and he died in his hotel room in New York City on January 8, 1943.

During the years leading up to World War II, Nikola Tesla supposedly invented a "Death Ray" which could destroy several hundred aircraft. Mr. Tesla was a very prolific and creative genius during his early years but gradually became something of a crackpot in his old age. As a student of the history of science, it is important to determine whether or not Tesla had any valid ideas in the plans for his death ray. Tesla invented the fluorescent light and also was one of the first scientists to discover X-Rays--hence there may be some possibility that his death ray might actually have been some crude type of laser.

In Tesla's biography, "Prodigal Genius", by John J. O'Neill, the author states on page 277:

"Operatives from the F.B.I. came to Tesla's hotel room shortly after his death and opened the safe in his room. They took the papers that it contained in order to examine them for a reported secret invention of possible use in the war..."

I am trying to locate Tesla's secret and unpublished writings concerning his death ray. I have searched the literature quite thoroughly and have found nothing. Does the F.B.I. still have these papers or can you tell where I might be able to obtain these writings for examination? Any assistance or information that you may lend me will be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
April 3, 1967

Your letter of March 28th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's effects, I am unable to furnish the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

A. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: No record could be located in Bufiles identifiable with correspondent. Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neill, alleges that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department which did so, and the above reply is forwarded in answer to related inquiries.
TRUE COPY

INFORMATION CONTAINED, 1969
PERSON IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-3-46 BY

Dear Mr. Hoover,

In the year 1943 the F.B.I. confiscated all of the papers and maybe some of the machines of physicist, Nikola Tesla. These papers were his experiments and ideas at the time of his death. According to the books I've read, these papers were confiscated on the grounds of the enemy getting ahold of his ideas and apply them to war machines.

I have studied all of the material on this man and have found him to be more intelligent than the great "Brain" of his time, Thomas Edison.

Why without Nikola Tesla there would be Westinghouse Company as we know today. This is the man who harnessed Niagara Falls, and was the one and only man who could see the possibilities of Alternating Current when men like Edison said "it would never work."

What I am wondering is, maybe these papers could be reclassified from whatever "Top Secret" classification they now have and be made available for study by the people who understand and can gain knowledge from them.

I would be willing to pay for reproductions of his experiments if nothing else. He still has a great many ideas that have never been tried.

It disturbs me to think that everyone has forgotten about the ideas of this man when he was so advanced for his time.

I can say with assurance that no man alive can say that he knows all of Tesla's ideas. And studying other men's ideas is the way to advance in science faster.

I hope something can be done to get these papers released.

Thank You,
Feb. 25, 1969

Dear Mr. Hoover,

In the year 1943 the I. B. I. confiscated all of the papers and maybe some of the machines of physicist, Nikola Tesla. These papers were his experiments and ideas at the time of his death. According to the books I've read, these papers were confiscated on the grounds of the enemy getting atold of his ideas and apply them to war machines.

I have studied all of the material on this man and have found him to be more intelligent than the great "Brain" of his time, Thomas Edison.

Why, without Nikola Tesla there would be the Westinghouse Company as we know today. This is the man who harnessed Niagara Falls, and was the one and only man who could see the possibilities of Alternating Current when men like Edison said "it would never work."

What I am wondering is, maybe these papers could be reclassified from whatever top secret classification they now have and be made available for study by the people who understand and can gain knowledge from them. (b)(6)(C)
I would be willing to pay for reproductions of his experiments if nothing else. He still has a great many ideas that have never been tried.

It disturbs me to think that everyone has forgotten about the ideas of this man when he was so advanced for his time.

I can say with assurance that no man alive can say that he knows all of Tesla's ideas. And studying other men's ideas is the way to advance in science faster.

I hope something can be done to get these papers released.

Thank you, [Signature]
March 4, 1969

100-2237-17

Your letter of February 25th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings, I am unable to furnish the information you desire. A copy of your communication has been referred to the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neill, alleges that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department which did so, and the above reply is forwarded in answer to related inquiries. Copy of letter referred to Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division of the Department.
April 8, 1970

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Director of Central Records
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am doing a research paper on Nikola Tesla and would appreciate it if you could please provide me with the following information.

That information being why did your Bureau impound his personal effects immediately after his death on January 7, 1943. Secondly, could you provide a list of those effects, and lastly, when were they released and to whom were they given.

Thanking you for the information

(Signed)

P.S.

[Redacted]

Information contained
SECRET/UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-3-80 BY D.L.

REC 47

072237-18

APR 15 1970

94
Dear [Redacted]:

In reply to your inquiry of April 9th, the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings, I am unable to furnish the information you desire.

A copy of your communication has been referred to the Department of Justice for any help it may be able to offer.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bufiles contain no information identifiable with correspondent. Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neill, alleges that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department which did so, and the above note is forwarded in answer to related inquiries. Copy of letter referred to Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division of the Department.
July 15, 1970

Dear [Redacted]:

Your letter was received on July 13th and the interest which prompted you to write to me is appreciated. With respect to your inquiry, the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and the FBI did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings. In addition, this Bureau is strictly an investigative agency of the Federal Government and matters such as you mentioned do not come within the scope of this Bureau's authority.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and, at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands.Bufiles indicate that the Office of Alien Property of the Department appropriated his property and replies similar to the above have been used to answer related inquiries.
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,
Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir,

I am writing this to you as I believe that most of the government is infiltrated with foreign agents, and there is a very good chance this could be of extreme importance for the defense of our nation.

I met a man a number of years ago that was raised on Long Island in the neighborhood where Mr. Tesla, inventor of the Tesla Coil, had his lab. He told me of Mr. Tesla's notes blowing down the street when the junk men were dismantling his equipment. It would be a wonderful thing if some of these notes were salvaged and could be found.

Mr. Tesla was at least a century ahead of his time. He sent radio signals around the world seventeen years prior to Mr. Marconi, who received the credit, and pioneered many fields. He was so far advanced that he had to invent a special math to keep up with his work.

He, on several occasions talked before the scientists of the world and became very angry at their inability to understand him, and due to this was violently disliked and did not receive acknowledgement for his discoveries. One of the notes read by this man told of the radio transmission of electricity being brought to a high degree of efficiency.

Now here is the thing that should be investigated thoroughly. During my High School education, in the winter of either 19-25-26 or 1926-27, I made a current events report on an article appearing in a small publication of that name that was received weekly at the Troy Highschool, Troy Montana. It stated in this article that Mr. Tesla had made an offer to the Congress of the United States that if they would install radio transmission towers at every 150 miles around the border of this country, that he would install equipment that would broadcast a vertical plane of energy beyond the atmosphere through which no material object could pass as it would shatter or lose its monoecular cohesion. It was refused.

There is a good chance that this data is in the files of congress. What a defence, and boy do we need it. EX-119 REC-3 00-2237-19

I have had some results along this line with structured vortices of magnetic fields, but do not have the technical equipment or knowledge to carry out further experiments. The theory is quite simple and deals with particle acceleration, and it works to the best of my knowledge.

Sincerely,
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I have recently begun a collection and reading file of all matters pertaining to Nikola Tesla. In so doing I was amazed to find that upon his death; January 7, 1943, in NYC, your bureau confined his papers. May I ask if you still "have them in jail". I am extremely interested in his work(s) and am trying to establish my own "Tesla" library. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,
December 14, 1971

Your letter of December 6th has been received.

In response to your inquiry, the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. We did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla’s belongings in any way. Copies of your communication and my reply have been referred to the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover
Director

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record correspondent. Dr. Tesla was world-famous electrical inventor, and at death, his effects believed dangerous to country’s security. "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O’Neil, alleges FBI took safe and appropriated his property. Above reply previously given to same inquiries. (100-2237) Material sent to the Assistant Attorney, Civil Division, of the Department.
Federal Bureau Of Investigation
Ninth Street and Pennsylvania
Northeast Washington D. C. 20535

Dear Sirs,

Upon reading a biography on Nikola Tesla, I found the urge to read more on him and his works. At the end of the book it was stated that the F.B.I. went to his hotel room gathered up his papers and locked them in a vault. The thing I would like to know is the real reason they were locked up and if it would be possible to see some of these records and any other works of his.

I can think of only one possible reason as to cause of his records being locked up and that is because he was too far advanced for his time. This seems to be the only logical solution, but, with technology much more advanced now than in his time it would seem likely that scientists take over where he left off.

Please let me know if I can look at the records and if you can please answer my question of the real reason his records were locked up.

Thank You,

(100-1237-21)
October 31, 1972

Dear "",

Your letter was received on October 26th.

In response to your inquiry, the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings, I am unable to furnish the information you desire. I am forwarding a copy of your communication and of this reply to the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

L. Patrick Gray III

L. Patrick Gray, III
Acting Director

NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neil, alleges that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department which did so, and the above reply is forwarded in answer to related inquiries. Copy of letter referred to Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division of the Department.
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington
District of Columbia

Dear Sirs,

During my research on Nikola Tesla, I found that the T.B.I. had confiscated his records pertaining to his experiments. I would like to know if such information is available and if so how copies might be obtained.

I am an engineering student and hope possibly to resume where Tesla left off.

I have the honor to remain,

EX-111

100-2232 = 22

18 APR 1973

CORRESP 102
April 11, 1973

Dear [Name]:

Your letter was received on April 9th.

In response to your inquiry, the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings, I am unable to furnish the information you desire. A copy of your communication and of this reply have been referred to the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

L. Patrick Gray, III
Acting Director

NOTE: Bufiles contain no record of correspondent. Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neill, alleged that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department which did so, and the above reply is forwarded in answer to related inquiries. Copy of letter referred to the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division of the Department.)
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I would like to know if any microfilm or other reproductions of Nikola Tesla's notes and papers exist at your office. Tesla was a famous scientist who died in New York City. The Federal Bureau of Investigation entered his safe shortly after this to remove his papers for examination for the war effort. After the war the papers were offered to any group that would start a museum to house them. No one accepted and the papers were finally sent to the Tesla Museum in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, sometime in the early 1950's, possibly just before 1954. Tesla was the inventor of all AC motors and the polyphase system, as well as all fluorescent and neon lamps. He was a major pioneer in the early days of radio and discovered many of the early principles of radar. He declined nomination of a Nobel Prize. He was a naturalized citizen of America and said he valued his citizenship papers above all his awards and possessions. Despite this, all his papers were sent to another nation.

I would like to examine some of his papers from 1899 and later without having to fly to Yugoslavia. I have only seen a condensed copy of his research from Colorado Springs, but am unable to obtain copies. The principles and equipment are rather out-of-date and well-known, but still useful in my research.

I would greatly appreciate help in this matter.

Sincerely,

JUN 29 1973

P.S. Tesla died in January of 1943 and shortly after the papers were removed from his safe. The original copies of these papers were sent abroad prior to 1954, as I believe it was in that year the Yugoslavs founded the Tesla Museum (not to be confused with the Tesla Institute).
June 27, 1973

Dear [Name],

Your letter was received on June 25th.

In response to your inquiry, the effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings, I am unable to furnish the information you desire. A copy of your communication and of this reply have been referred to the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

William D. Ruckelshaus

William D. Ruckelshaus
Acting Director

NOTE: Bufiles indicate one letter to correspondent dated 4-15-66 in reply to his inquiry regarding the Air Force's Project Blue Book and U.F.O. sightings. Bufile 100-2237 reflects that Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neill, alleged that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles clearly indicate that it was the Office of Alien Property of the Department that did so, and the above reply is forwarded in answer to related inquiries. Copy of letter referred to the Assistant Attorney General, Civil Division of the Department.)
November 10, 1975

Dear [Redacted]:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your Freedom of Information-Privacy Acts (FOIPA) request forwarded to the FBI by the Department of Justice on October 22nd.

In response to your request for files pertaining to Nikola Tesla, please be advised that in order to preserve the privacy of an individual who may be the subject of a similar inquiry, it has been necessary for the FBI to maintain the practice of not indicating whether we do or do not have such information in our files.

If you can provide notarized authorization from Mr. Tesla's next of kin directing us to release to you any information our files may contain concerning him, we shall thereafter search our files and advise you accordingly.

Since we have not conducted a search of our files, please do not infer that we do or do not have the information you requested.

Sincerely yours,

G. M. Kelley
Clarence W. Kelley
Director

1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure
Attention: Susan M. Hauser

[Redacted]
Mr. Clarence Kelly  
Director  
F.B.I.  
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Kelly:

Mr. Allen and Mr. Ruchlehaus, former acting Director of the FBI, contacted me in 1973 regarding the unavailability of American microfilm records of Nikola Tesla's unpublished diary (now in the Belgrade museum, arranged by month per folder).

At the time I discounted the possibility that these unpublished discoveries had military significance. But because of experiments now under way at Hill AFB, I now suspect such military applications exist and feel it imperative that you be notified, particularly in view of the fact that the Soviets have primary access to the entire collection.

Two photos of each page exist.

After Tesla's death, scientists from the Navy and OSS performed a cursory examination of the diary and notes, which if my memory serves me correctly, was one month long, hardly enough time to decipher Tesla's torturous handwriting. Though Tesla wrote in English, his penmanship was small, blurred, and as difficult to translate as a foreign language.

According to the museum director (1971), the Soviets had made copies of some portions, but not the Colorado Springs diary, which numbers 500 pages, 20 that directly pertain to ball lightning, and 20 or so relevant to the equipment construction. (We copied the most significant portions, but feel more exists. An article, magazine, EDN (an electrical engineering magazine), but only with the very recent receipt of an unpublished manuscript from John J. O'Neill's book (PRODIGAL GENIUS) did I place credence on Tesla's later claim to military applications. Incidentally, some of O'Neill's descriptions were inaccurate and exaggerated, as we have exceeded Tesla's results and are familiar with the experiments. At any rate, there are three possible military applications.
First, Tesla claimed that the lightning balls (which destroyed his equipment) could be used to destroy aircraft. I have talked to AF personnel --such as [REDACTED] who saw one inside his plane in flight--and found AF personnel fear these "rf balls," as they call them.

Second, it is a suspicion of mine that ball lightning, if injected with lithium, could produce a cheap fusion bomb.

Third--and this may be no more than a suspicion--the propulsion mode of ball lightning involves electro-gravitic interaction, by which means air vehicles of revolutionary configuration may be constructed. There are no presently-known laws of physics that can account for the propulsion (400 mph or so when following an airliner). Other hitherto unsuspected applications may exist.

None of these applications were the goal of Project Tesla, which centered on producing ball lightning as Tesla did and studying it as a plasma confinement technique for fusion reactors. Incidentally, Tesla's claim to setting up standing waves on the earth's surface (wireless power) was erroneous and involved techniques similar to Project Sanguine, that is, using the earth's atmosphere as a waveguide (I am aware of our research).

Cordially,

P.S. By a copy of this letter, along with the enclosures, I am notifying the C.I.A.

Enclosures: 2
Fusion energy: will experiments in ball lightning provide the key?

Paul Snigler, Associate Editor

In the vast and empty hangar where the first atomic bomb was assembled, a man-made lightning storm is now being unleashed. The voltages of these lightning bolts—20 million volts—are the highest discharge voltages ever produced by man.

Project Tesla, headed by Robert K. Golka and Dr. Robert W. Bass, is an attempt to artificially duplicate one of nature's rarest and most terrifying phenomena—ball lightning. The experiments are based upon the unpublished notes of Nikola Tesla, who, in 1899 at his Colorado Springs laboratory, used a secret magnifying transmitter to produce 1.5-in. lightning balls that floated for 30 sec.

The energy surplus

Many physicists, including the eminent Dr. James Tuck, founder of the U.S. fusion program, believe that the lightning ball holds the key to a fantastic, cheap and endless energy source—fusion power, or the energy source used by the stars and sun. The fuel is deuterium, or heavy water, that can be inexpensively extracted from ocean water to provide mankind with a current of 1,100 A at 12.5 MV. Subsequent improvements raised this to a peak current of 2,200 A at 20 MV. Further improvements could conceivably produce bolts that exceed natural lightning (100 MV).
Witnesses of ball lightning have included such notables as Niels Bohr and Victor Weisskopf, the Director of the MIT Physics Department. Another witness was Secretary of State Dean Acheson, who reported seeing it cross the breakfast table aboard the presidential plane.

The accidental formation of ball lightning has been observed about once per year for the past decade inside building 985 at Hill AF Missile Radiographic Facility, UT. The volleyball-size fireballs drop out of the space adjacent to the high voltage supply of the 25 Mev linear accelerator.

The ball of blue fire floats down to the floor, rolls around randomly and then rises again to the power-supply area where it dissipates without detectable damage. Despite troubleshooting, no explanation can be found for this occurrence.

On one occasion, lightning struck the building—a large concrete structure with a 60-ft. ceiling inside—and, simultaneously, an intense sphere of fire the size of a tennis ball formed above the conduit on the wall at shoulder level. It moved along the wall for a distance of some 30 ft., floated out and around the neck and shoulders of a person standing near the wall, moved back to the wall and continued along for several feet until it intercepted a duplex outlet on the conduit. At this the ball exploded, causing electrical damage throughout.

A new state of matter?
No presently known laws of physics can account for the stability and bouncing of fireballs unless it includes surface tension. This hitherto unobserved state of matter is a new concept, since plasmas have never previously exhibited such strong surface tension. Also, presently known laws cannot account for the propulsion.

Project Tesla has developed a rigorous mathematical model of the lightning ball's absolute, asymptotic, fluid-dynamical stability. Initial computer studies indicated a density range of $10^3$ to $10^4$ cm$^{-3}$, with a temperature of $10^8$ to $10^9$ K—or seven times hotter than the sun!
When Tesla was talking as a scientist he was opposed to wars on moral, economic and all practical and theoretical grounds. But, like most scientists, when he stopped thinking as a scientist and let his emotions rule his thoughts, he found exceptions in which he felt some wars and situations were justifiable. As a scientist he was unwilling to have the discoveries of scientists applied to the purposes of war makers, but when the emotional phase of his nature took the ruling position he was then willing to apply his genius to devising measures that would prevent wars by supplying protective devices.

This attitude is exemplified in the following statement which he prepared in the twenties but did not publish:

"At present many of the ablest minds are trying to devise expedients for preventing a repetition of the awful conflict which is only theoretically ended and the duration and main issues of which I correctly predicted in an article printed in the Sun of December 20, 1916. The League is not a remedy but, on the contrary, in the opinion of a number of competent men, may bring about results just the opposite. It is particularly regrettable that a punitive policy was adopted in framing the terms of peace because a few years hence it will be possible for nations to fight without armies, ships or guns, by weapons far more terrible, to the destructive action and range of which there is virtually no limit. Any city at any distance whatsoever from the enemy can be destroyed by him and no power on earth can stop him from doing so. If we want to avert an impending calamity and a state of things which may transform this globe into an inferno, we should push the development of flying machines and wireless transmission of energy without an instant's delay and with all the power and resources of the nation."

Tesla saw preventative possibilities in his new invention which embodied "death ray" characteristics and which was made several years after the foregoing statement was written. He saw it providing a curtain of protection which any country, no matter how small, could use as a protection against invasion. While he might offer it as a defensive weapon, however, there would be nothing to stop military men from using it as a weapon of offense.

While I did not know the nature of Tesla's plan I was convinced that it did embody many discoveries that would be of commercial value, and these were the angles he sought to develop. I felt that if he could be induced to develop some minor phase of his work that would have immediate commercial use he could derive an income from it which would enable him to proceed with his more elaborate plans. To this end I sought to gain some insight into his thoughts, that would enable me to get a practical plan in operation. This was no secret to Tesla and he successfully parried every thrust I made.

The clearest conception I got, and that was largely from scattered remarks, and by making deductions from them, concerned a possible manner in which one phase of his curtain of protection might operate. This was a "war" angle and as such it did not interest
no, but since it involved "lightning balls," or "fire balls," I was very curious. Fix ins had always fascina- o, and I had read everything I could lay my hands on about them.

A fire ball is a strange phenomenon associated with lightning. Some of the energy of the lightning stroke appears to become locked into a ball shaped structure which may be of any size from a couple of inches to a foot in diameter. It looks like a perfect sphere, brightly incandescent and floats like a bubble, being easily carried by air currents. They may last for a short time, from a fraction of a second to many seconds. In this interval, during which they stay fairly close to the ground, they may come close to many objects without damaging them or being damaged by them. Suddenly, for no known reason, the ball explodes doing as much damage as a bomb, if close to structures, and no damage if in the open.

The fire ball looked to me like a giganticallly enlarged model of the tiny electron, one of the building blocks of matter, which acts as if it were just a spherical area of space in which an amount of energy was crystallized to give it structure. I felt that if it were possible to discover how a large amount of energy was stored in this fairy bubble structure of a fire ball a new insight might be gained into the structure of the electron and other fundamental particles of matter. Also this method of storing energy could be applied to a thousand useful purposes.

When I approached Tesla with pleas along this line to develop this possible phase of his discovery he would evade direct reply by indulging in a, not always, tolerant lecture on my gullability in believing theories about the complex structure of the atom. While he had in earlier years discussed some of his experiences with fire balls in his laboratory at Colorado Springs and explained his theory of their formation, he would not in the later years permit himself to be drawn into a discussion of them as a possible part of his system. This, of course, made me suspicious that the clue was "not" but I could be completely wrong in my conclusions. Tesla was very quick in detecting my technique when I sought to narrow down a field by trying to get him to deny statements when he was adamant to direct questions.

Tesla became familiar with the destructive characteristics of fire balls in his experiments at Colorado Springs in 1899. He produced them quite by accident and saw them, more than once, explode and shatter his tall mast and also destroy apparatus within his laboratory. The destructive action accompanying the disintegration of a fire ball, he declared, takes place with inconceivable violence.

He studied the process by which they were produced, not because he wanted to produce them but in order to eliminate the conditions in which they were created. It is not pleasant, he related, to have a fire ball explode in your vicinity for they will destroy anything they come in contact with.

It will be necessary to reconstruct his statements from very fragmentary notes and a long distance memory.
"Parasite oscillations, or circuits, within the main circuit were a source of danger from this cause. Points of resistance in the main circuit could result in minor oscillating circuits between terminals or between two points of resistance and these minor circuits would have a very much higher period of oscillation than the main circuit and could be set into oscillation by the main current of lower frequency.

"Even when the principal oscillating circuit was adjusted for the greatest efficiency of operation by the diminution of all sources of losses the fire balls continued to occur but these were due to stray high frequency charges from random earth currents.

"From these experiences it became apparent that the fire balls resulted from the interaction of two frequencies, a stray higher frequency wave imposed on the lower frequency free oscillation of the main circuit.

"As the free oscillation of the circuit builds up from the zero point to the quarter wave length node it passes through various rates of change. In a current of shorter wavelength the rates of change will be steeper. When the two currents react on each other the resultant complex will contain a wave in which there is an extremely steep rate of change, and for the briefest instant currents may move at a tremendous rate, at the rate of millions of horsepower.

"This condition acts as a trigger which may cause the total energy of the powerful longer wave to be discharged in an infinitesimally small interval of time and at a proportionately tremendously great rate of energy movement which cannot confine itself to the metallic circuit and is released into surrounding space with inconceivable violence."

It is but a step, from learning how a high frequency current can explosively discharge a lower frequency current, to using the principle to design a system in which these explosions can be produced by intent. The following process appears a possible one but no evidence is available that it is the one Tesla evolved: An oscillator, such as he used to send power wirelessly around the earth at Colorado Springs, is set in operation at a frequency to which a given warship is resonant. The complex structure of a ship would provide a great number of spots in which electrical oscillations will be set up of a much higher frequency than those coursing through the ship as a whole. These parasite currents will react on the main current causing the production of fireballs which by their explosions will destroy the ship, even more effectively than the explosion of the magazine which would also take place. A second oscillator may be used to transmit the shorter wavelength current.

Somewhat later I learned the reason for Tesla's reticence to discuss details. This came shortly after Stanley Baldwin replaced Neville Chamberlin as Prime Minister of Great Britain.

Tesla revealed that he had carried on negotiations with Prime Minister Chamberlin for the sale of his ray system to Great Britain for £30,000,000 on the basis of his presentation that the device would provide complete protection for the British Isles against any enemy approaching by sea or air, and would provide an
offensive weapon to which there was no defense. He was convinced, he declared, of the necessity of Mr. Chamberlain's intent to adopt the device it would have prevented the outbreak of the then threatening war, and would have made possible the continuation under the duress which this weapon would make possible - of the working agreement involving France, Germany and Britain to maintain the status quo in Europe. When Chamberlin failed, at the Munich conference, to retain this state of European equilibrium it was necessary to get rid of Chamberlin and install a new Prime Minister who could make the effort to shift one corner of the triangle from Germany to Russia. Baldwin found no virtue in Tesla's plan and pre emptorily ended the negotiations.

Tesla was greatly disappointed by the collapse of his negotiations with the British Government. With it there collapsed his hopes of providing a demonstration of his most recent, and, what he considered, his most important discoveries. He did not, however, dwell on the subject; beyond the single conversation he did not mention the matter again. He did not get another chance to finance the demonstration of these discoveries.

During the period in which the negotiations were being carried on, Tesla declared, efforts had been made to steal the invention. His room had been entered and his papers examined but the thieves, or spies, left empty handed. There was no danger, he said, that his invention could be stolen for he had at no time committed any part of it to paper. He could trust his memory to preserve every fine detail of his investigations. This was true, he said, of all of his later major discoveries.

The nature of his system makes little difference now; he has gone and has taken it with him. Perhaps, if there is any communication from beyond the veil that separates this life from whatever exists hereafter, Tesla may look down upon earth's struggling mortals and find some way of dropping a hint concerning what he accomplished; but, if the situation is such that this cannot take place, then we must await until the human race produces another Tesla.
Dear [REDACTED]:

Thank you for your letter of April 20th, with enclosures. It was certainly most thoughtful of you to furnish us this information, and your interest and courtesy are indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley
Clarence M. Kelley
Director

NOTE: Bufiles indicate limited correspondence with last outgoing 6-27-73, in reply to his request concerning papers of Dr. Nikola Tesla. Dr. Tesla was a world-famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death in 1943, all of his personal papers and effects were believed dangerous to the country's security if they fell into unauthorized hands. The book, "Prodigal Genius," by John J. O'Neill, alleged that the FBI took over a certain safe and opened it, appropriating his property. Bufiles indicated the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice did so. Bufile 100-2237-23.
United States Senate

To ensure proper handling please return all correspondence TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Respectfully referred to:

FBI

Please respond to the attached inquiry in duplicate and return the enclosure. Thank you for your cooperation.

U.S.S.

ENCLOSURE
Dear Sir,

I am a substitute in the Milwaukee Public School System. I do scientific experiments in high voltage electricity. I have studied all the available writings of the dead genius Nikola Tesla (1856 - January 7, 1943)

When Nikola Tesla died, the Federal Bureau of Investigation came and opened the safe in his room and took the papers it contained, to examine them.
As a citizen and a scientist, I would like to study these unpublished papers with hope of finding new ideas into producing an alternate source of energy. Something that Nikola Tesla knew about and because of his unfortunate financial status, was not able to develop into a working model. Please help.

With love in the Loc
Honorable [Redacted]
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator [Redacted]:

This will respond to your communication of June 16th enclosing the letter of [Redacted].

The effects of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. Since we did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings, I am unable to furnish the information you desire.

A copy of your communication and of this reply are being referred to the Department of Justice and the enclosure to your communication is being returned as requested.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley
Clarence M. Kelley
Director

Enclosure

1 - Assistant Attorney General - Enclosures (2)
   Civil Division
1 - Milwaukee - Enclosures (2)
1 - Office of Congressional Affairs - Enclosures (2)
NOTE: This response is consistent with past responses to inquiries of a similar nature. File 100-2237 reflects that the Office of Alien Property took possession of Dr. Tesla's papers following his death.
July 26, 1979

Dear Mr. Webster:

I am writing this letter in regard to some papers you have in your possession by Nikola Tesla.

I have for some time now been studying the works of Mr. Tesla and I am involved in the research and further development of his efforts. I have in my possession a copy of almost everything that was ever written by him.

However, I have read that on the day following his death (he died the night of January 7th, 1943, as probably January 8th, 1943) the Federal Bureau of Investigation went to where Mr. Tesla had been staying - the Hotel New Yorker, New York City, New York, and collected all notes and papers that he had with him there.

To further my studies and hopefully complete them, it would be deeply appreciated if you would send me a copy of all the notes, papers, books, drawings, etc., that were found there.

Thank you,

[Signature]

AUG 7 1979

RE: 79 REC 22-571 1

120
Memorandum

TO: Mr. Bresson

FROM: [Redacted]

DATE: 2/25/80

SUBJECT: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT DISCLOSURE REGARDING DR. NIKOLA TESLA

PURPOSE:

To reduce time spent on handling of requests for information on captioned subject and to promote uniformity of disclosure.

DETAILS:

A search of FBIHQ central records indices reflects that Dr. Nikola Tesla is carried as the subject of Buffile 100-2237. Virtually all information in this file is inquiry-type correspondence. For purposes of FOIA releases, copies of this material have not been made and requesters have been so advised. Copies of the remaining material in the file totalling 29 pages, however, has been processed for disclosure. Numerous requesters have sought information relating to Dr. Tesla under the FOIA. Therefore, it is recommended that the disclosure documents maintained in Buffile 190-16504-4 be considered the preprocessed release appropriate for responses by the Initial Processing Unit for any further requests for information on this subject.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Initial Processing Unit, FOIPA Branch, Records Management Division, add captioned case to their list of preprocessed cases and handle any future requests for such information.

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan
August 6, 1979

Dear [Name],

Your recent letter requesting information concerning Dr. Nikola Tesla has been received.

The effects of Dr. Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. We have no preprinted material available for public distribution regarding Dr. Tesla. However, under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552), requests have been made in the past regarding your topic and there may be documents available to you under Title 28—Code of Federal Regulations.

If you are interested in seeking such documents under the Freedom of Information Act, you should make a separate inquiry, clearly marking the envelope and letter as a Freedom of Information Act request, and direct it to the Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 9th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20535. In the letter you must request documents regarding the specific topic of interest to you.

Sincerely yours,

William L. Bailey
Assistant Director

NOTE: Based upon available information, correspondent is not identifiable in Rfiles.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SUBJECT: Papers Recovered on the Death of Nicola Tesla (U)

(U) We understand that the FBI may have possession of a number of papers found after the death of Nicola Tesla in 1943. Nicola Tesla was a brilliant electrical engineer (i.e. the Tesla Coil) who was a pioneer in various aspects of electrical transmission phenomena.

(C) We believe that certain of Tesla's papers may contain basic principles which would be of considerable value to certain ongoing research within the DoD. It would be very helpful to have access to his papers.

(U) Since we have really no idea of the possible volume of these papers, we would be happy to provide a researcher who could assist you in reducing the magnitude of the search. If there are further questions, I am the point of contact within the DoD and can be reached at 695-6364 or 695-7417.

Allen J. MacLaren
LtColonel, USAF
Military Assistant
Strategic and Space Systems

Classified by: DUSDRE/S&SS
Declassify on: February 1987

50 MAR 30 1981
CONFIDENTIAL
March 10, 1941

Lt. Col. Allan E. MacLaren, U.S. Army
Military Assistant
Strategic and Space Systems
Office of the Under Secretary of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20330

Dear Colonel MacLaren:

Your memorandum of February 9 requesting access to the scientific papers of Dr. Nikola Tesla which might be in our files has been referred to my office for reply.

A preliminary review of our files indicates that the F.B.I. did not participate in the handling of Dr. Tesla's belongings following his death in New York City in January, 1945. His papers were examined by representatives of the Office of Alien Property, the Navy Department, and the Office of Scientific Research and Development. In February, 1945, these papers apparently were released to Mr. Savva K. Kosanovic, Dr. Tesla's nephew and the administrator of his estate. Mr. Kosanovic's address at that time was 11 Central Park South, New York, New York.

A complete search of our records is being made to determine if we have any information that might be useful to you. You will be notified of the results of this search at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,

Roger F. Young
Assistant Director in Charge
Office of Congressional and Public Affairs

[Redacted]
March 23, 1941

Lt. Col. A. H. Macachen
Military Assistant
Strategic Air and Space Systems
Office of the Under Secretary
of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20360

Dear Colonel Macachen:

A complete search of our retrievable files concerning Dr. Nikola Tesla shows that all notes and material in his immediate possession at the time of his death on January 7, 1943, were placed in the custody of the Alien Property Custodian under seal by the United States Government. These materials have never been in the care or custody of the FBI.

On January 26 and 27, 1943, Federal authorities made a thorough review of the effects of Dr. Tesla to determine if any items of significant value to the United States war effort could be found. His effects were examined at the Manhattan Warehouse and Storage Company at 52nd and 7th Avenue, New York, New York, where they apparently were taken after his death. Participation in this examination were representatives from the New York and Washington Offices of the Alien Property Custodian, the Office of Scientific Research and Development at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the Office of Naval Intelligence, and United States Naval Research. The FBI did not participate in this examination. (65-47953 section 1)

It was the considered opinion of a spokesman of the examiners that there exist among Dr. Tesla's papers and possessions no scientific notes, descriptions of hitherto unrevealed methods or devices, or actual apparatus which could be of significant value to this country or which would constitute a hazard in unfriendly hands. There was thought to be no technical or military reason why further custody of the property should be retained. However, our files indicate that certain papers, which were regarded as typical of Nikola Tesla's writings and thoughts in the period of 1938 to 1942, were also considered for the destruction at the request of the office of the Alien Property Custodian. (65-47953 section 1)
Col. A. J. MacLaran

A memo dated October 17, 1945, from our New York Office said that at that time Dr. Tesla's effects remained at the Manhattan Storage Warehouse in some 75 packing boxes and trunks under seal by the New York Department of Taxation. The rental for this storage, approximately $15 per month, was being paid by Charlotte Musar, 134 East 63rd Street, New York, New York, who was listed as an agent for Sava Kosanovich, Dr. Tesla's nephew and administrator of his estate. (65-47953-14)

On October 26, 1945, a young scientist who had been Tesla's protégé, called in person at our New York Field Office. With him were men from a research development unit at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio. These men carried a letter signed by [redacted], requesting that the FBI allow the bearers of the letter access to the effects of Nikola Tesla. (65-47953-15)

It was explained to [redacted] that the FBI had no jurisdiction over Tesla's effects, and they were referred to the Office of the Alien Property Custodian. Bureau files do not indicate whether the men ever examined Tesla's belongings. (65-47953-15)

The Tesla effects remained in rooms 50 and 51 of the Manhattan Storage Company. In the 1950s, FBI Agents were told by company management that the only recorded visit had been made by "Federal authorities" in January, 1943. [redacted] recollected that the men had taken numerous photographs. His description of the equipment used would tend to show that a microfilm reproduction was made of the papers of the deceased. (65-47953-27)

Our files do not reflect any pertinent information on the Tesla materials since that date. Their current whereabouts or condition are not reflected in our files.

For further information regarding this matter, you may wish to contact the Office of the Alien Property Custodian and the other Federal agencies mentioned above.

I hope that we have been of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Henry S. Young
Assistant Director in Charge
Office of Congressional
and Public Affairs

(Continued - Over)
Lt. Col. A. J. Maclaren

NOTE: On February 9, 1981, Col. Maclaren wrote to us inquiring about the scientific papers of Dr. Nikola Tesla. In a return letter of March 9, we informed him that a thorough review of our files would be made in search of the information he requested. This was done and he is being informed of the results. Tesla's papers have been the subject of numerous inquiries by various individuals and organizations since his death. FBI received over 20 FOIA requests on this matter during the period 1973-1980. Matter coordinated with FOIA Section, R&D.
Mr. Roger S. Young  
Assistant Director in Charge  
Office of Congressional and Public Affairs  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C. 20535

Dear Mr. Young,

Thank you very much for your letters of March 10 and March 20, 1981, in response to our request re Dr. Tesla. We very much appreciate the effort that must have gone into this. On behalf of the Deputy Under Secretary (Strategic and Space Systems), Dr. S. L. Zeiberg, I would like to thank you and the people who spent their time searching out the relevant data.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Allan J. MacLaren  
Colonel, USAF  
Military Assistant  
Strategic and Space Systems

Per your letter dated 3/29/93  
with enclosures 1 and 2  
All DOD info is unclassified.  
DOD referenced F07/PA #s 366,605 and 362,001  
4/8/93 9803 87C

No acknowledgment necessary  
10 French  
Vines  

[Stamp]  
[Stamp]  
21 July 1981

Director of the FBI
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

While attending college, I came across an article about the electrical genius, Nicolai Tesla. Mr. Tesla was an electrical genius with such peers as EDISON and WESTINGHOUSE. Tesla designed the basic generator and was the first man to introduce alternating current to the people. The article, written in an underground SanFrancisco newspaper, stated that Tesla also worked with electromagnetic waves and supposedly built a plant that could harness the electromagnetic waves out of the earth's atmosphere sufficiently enough to use them as a source of electricity. The article stated that Tesla built such a plant and lit up a city street 150 miles away by sending the electromagnetism via radio waves. This method is presently being used in electronic warfare. After that, the article stated that the FBI confiscated his plans and buried them in your archives. Their reasoning was that such a free form of energy would knock out a big chunk of the oil, coal, and nuclear forms of energy and their contributions to the economy (money for research and employment). All I want to know is if there is any truth to this story and if so what was the FBI's reasons and when are the archives opened again so that Tesla's work could come to light again. Now bear in mind that this man was an electrical genius and even had a unit of electrical measure named after him. If he did figure out a way to utilize the earth's electromagnetic waves then I believe that we are ready to gradually phase out our dependence on oil, ease the volatile tension in the Middle East and put all that money presently going to the Arabs into 100-2237-37.
space research, joint international research and deep-sea research to help solve our population problem. I am talking about huge sums of money being released that could speed up the experts present projected times of producing significant gains in these still relatively new fields.

You could at least take the time to check out what I am saying and judge for yourself whether or not the archives should be opened now to put the world back on a more secure heading.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

(3XVC)
August 7, 1981

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-14-72 BY

OUTSIDE SOURCE

Dear

Judge Webster has referred your letter of July 21st to me for a reply. A check of our files indicates Dr. Nikola Tesla's effects were impounded after his death by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice and not by the FBI. While your interest is indeed appreciated, the FBI is unable to answer your questions as we did not participate in the handling or have anything to do with the storage of Dr. Tesla's belongings.

To be as helpful as possible, I am forwarding a copy of this communication to the Department of Justice.

Sincerely,

Roger S. Young
Assistant Director in Charge
Office of Congressional and Public Affairs

- Acting Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division

NOTE: [Redacted] is not identifiable in Bufiles. Dr. Tesla died on 1/7/43 and we have received much correspondence regarding his belongings which were impounded by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice.
TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
ATTN: INTD, SUPERVISOR

FROM: SAC, CINCINNATI
NIKOLA TESLA

This communication is classified "Secret" in its entirety.

Re telephone call of SA, Cincinnati Division, to Supervisor FBIHQ, on 8/11/83.

Enclosed for the Bureau and New York is one copy each of pertinent pages from the 1981 book titled "Tesla: Man Out of Time" by Margaret Cheney, with important passages underlined.

For information of Bureau and New York, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB) and also at WPAFB, have both been in contact with SA at the Dayton, Ohio RA regarding possible FBI

SECRET

Approved: [Signature]
Transmitted: [Date]
involvement in the seizing of Nikola Tesla's research papers and other documents and scientific instruments after his death on January 7, 1943.

They both explained that Tesla was a scientific genius and experimenter who was born in Yugoslavia of Serbian parents on 7/10/56, went to school later in Graz, Austria, Prague, Czechoslovakia and Paris, France. He immigrated to the U.S. in the early 1880's, worked for Thomas Edison's laboratory for a couple of years, then started his own lab after being paid $1 million dollars for rights to his patents on his polyphase systems of alternating current dynamos, which lead to the harnessing of Niagra Falls for producing electricity and then the power system of the whole country. He was naturalized in 1889. He predicted wireless communication (radio). His later experiments in Colorado and elsewhere lead to his producing artificial lightning in the millions of volts. He also had patents on the concept of neon and fluorescent lights, but he later made little money on his later inventions, although he continued to do experiments leading to devices of great potential worth, which he never patented. He became more reclusive in his later years, living in various hotels in New York City. In the 1930's he claimed he had developed the concept and method of building a "death ray", which could destroy planes at many miles distant, for defending America. Also, there are reports of resonance machines or devices whereby he could shake one or many large city buildings from some distance away.

Both [redacted] and [redacted] said that Tesla donated "some" of his papers (or copies thereof) to the Tesla Institute in Belgrade, Yugoslavia; set up in the 1930's in his honor by their government. Biographies on Tesla claim that either the custodian of Alien Property and/or the FBI seized his papers and other personal effects, including a safe or safes, and other property immediately after his death in 1943. This is elaborated on in the enclosed copies of certain pages of Margaret Cheney's book, "Tesla: Man Out of Time".

[Redacted] said that after World War II Tesla's papers were shipped to the Tesla Institute in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, by his nephew, Sava Kosanovic, who had become Tito's Ambassador to the U.S. There were reports that some microfilming of Tesla's papers by government agents while they were still in storage in New York under Kosanovic's custody.
Also, the Soviet Union has allegedly had access to some of Tesla's papers, possibly in Belgrade and/or elsewhere, which influenced their early research into directed energy weapons, and Butler feels access to much of Tesla's papers on lightning, beam weapons and/or "death rays" would give him more insight into the Soviet beam weapons program. This is Butler's area of expertise and responsibility. He has been unable to locate any Tesla papers or copies of same in the classified or unclassified libraries at WPAFB. However, there are reports that some portions of them were shipped by the Custodian of Alien Property Office in Washington, D.C. to a technical research lab at WPAFB, possibly the "Equipment Lab", now closed for some years or reorganized into another organization.

and are both desirous of learning the locations of such papers of Tesla as now exist in the U.S. for both intelligence and research purposes. Therefore, would like to examine FBI files relating to Nikola Tesla and possibly any on Sava Kosanovic, his nephew who received the bulk of his papers after Tesla's death, and may possibly have been the subject of FBI investigation.

travels to the Washington, D.C. area on FTD business periodically and can review FBI files at FBIHQ relating to Tesla and Kosanovic.

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

The Bureau is requested to conduct full indices checks on both Nikola Tesla and Sava Kosanovic.

Should there be such files at FBIHQ, as well as at New York, it is requested that Bureau consider granting the above the status of FTD, official access to same, in the interest of national security.

LEADS

NEW YORK

AT NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Will conduct same indices check as requested of Bureau and advise the Bureau and Cincinnati of results and confirm such files and references still exist there.
CINCINNATI

AT DAYTON, OHIO

Will maintain contact with [Redacted] and [Redacted]
Flamboyant, eccentric, almost supernaturally gifted, had he been born today he would still be ahead of his time. Called a madman by some, a genius by others, and an enigma by nearly everyone, Nikola Tesla was perhaps the greatest inventor the world has ever known.

He was a trailblazer who created astonishing, world-transforming devices, often without theoretical precedent. It was Tesla who harnessed the alternating electrical current we use today... Tesla who actually invented radio... Tesla who invented fluorescent lighting and the incredible bladeless turbine. He introduced us to the fundamentals of robotics and computer and missile science, which continue to create and transform the future.

This fascinating new biography, acclaimed by American Scientist as "excellent...a significant contribution to the recent history of science," is a riveting journey into the mind of the nineteenth-century wizard who was Edison's enemy, Mark Twain's friend, J. P. Morgan's client, and mentor to many of the twentieth-century's most famous scientists.

*MARGARET CHENEY is a science writer and author of two other nonfiction books. She lives in California.*

*The Sunday Times of London*
A trio of scientific giants: Albert Einstein, Nikola Tesla, and Einstein's famous equation E=mc^2.
Death and Transformation

28

The new government of King Frydek will lead to further developments.
END AND TRANSFORMATION

This is the opening line of the paper that follows. The content within is not

END AND TRANSFORMATION

This is the opening line of the paper that follows. The content within is not
Reference Pages

96 pages
Mr. Edgar Hoover, Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I do not know whether or not the recent series of air crashes on the west coast has attracted the attention of your department, or whether, if investigation were indicated, the jurisdiction would be your own. An idea as to the cause of these crashes has occurred to me, however, and I thought it might bear a bit of checking up.

If you will check newspaper files as far back as 1934, I believe you will find that the earliest of the unexplained (and apparently unexplainable crashes) occurred about that time.

As I remember the events, it was during that year that three small planes exploded in the air over Texas and southwestern Kansas and Oklahoma. These crashes were not accounted for, either by subsequent investigation where the plane occupants were killed or by the experience of surviving plane occupants in one case.

Following these tragedies there came a lapse of about a year, after which there occurred (likewise without apparent reason) the series of crashes which cost the lives of a senator, of Knute Rockne, and a number of others. All crashes again occurred in the South and Southwest.

Again there was a lapse of time, this one not quite a year, and there started the worst series of air disasters the country has yet seen. One plane lost in the Southwest and not yet accounted for. One plane crashes into a mountainside within sight of its airport. And now the most recent incident, the falling of a United liner into San Francisco Bay while circling its airport, preparatory to landing.

Now in this most recent incident, the experience of the radio operator at the airport seems to me to be highly illuminating. This operator reported a soft buzz interrupting his communication with the liner ... a loud roar such as produced by the worst imaginable static ... then silence. The plane had dropped into the bay like a plummet.
Crack pilots do not suddenly become rank hams and bungle in handling a ship. Nor do the three motors (or even two) on the large airliners, stop simultaneously without extremely sufficient reason. These things might happen once or even twice in a lifetime. They do not happen six and eight times a year. It is not logical that they should.

To digress for a moment, I recall reading an article in a magazine a year or two ago, written by Nikola Tesla, the inventor. The article dealt with a new invention of Mr. Tesla's ... a giant induction coil which would project power (high voltage) through the atmosphere without the use of transmission wires. Mr. Tesla devoted some space to the possible social benefits that would result to the public should his invention be perfected and become practical.

I have not heard of Mr. Tesla now in two or three years. Perhaps he has left the country. Perhaps he is still here. He might still be working on the invention described in the above-mentioned article. It might have been stolen from him.

In any case, his views on the ideas presented by these two unconnected subjects, would be well worth while having. And if I had the money and the time, I should certainly make an effort to smoke him out myself.

The thing is simply this: if one man can make an instrument that will project power through the air for even so short a distance as 500 yards (the then-practical limitations of Mr. Nikola's device) it is entirely possible for another to project power for several hundreds of miles. And the effect of such uncontrolled power on metallic objects in its path is entirely unpredictable.

Please do not think me a "crank" letter writer. I have never before written a letter of this type to anyone. But the idea seems to me so within the bounds of possibility that I most sincerely feel it will bear some practical study.

Yours very respectfully,

Letter Ack. Ref.
Bw. Air Commerce
Cc. - 2737

160
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

**Section 552**

- [X] (b)(1)
- [□] (b)(2)
- [□] (b)(3)
- [□] (b)(4)
- [□] (b)(5)
- [□] (b)(6)

**Section 552a**

- [□] (b)(7)(A)
- [□] (b)(7)(B)
- [□] (b)(7)(C)
- [□] (b)(7)(D)
- [□] (b)(7)(E)
- [□] (b)(7)(F)
- [□] (b)(8)
- [□] (b)(9)

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

☐ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

☐ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

65-30311-237
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: UNIDENTIFIED EXPERIMENTS AND RESEARCH
OF NIKOLA TESLA (Deceased)

Washington, D.C. January 11, 1943

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E.A. Tamu
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nicholas
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tea. Room
Mr. Ness
Miss Beahn

In a teletype from the New York Office dated January 9, 1943 the Bureau's advice is requested as to what action should be taken in connection with this matter. It is to be noted that Tesla died January 7, 1943 and resided at the Hotel New Yorker. He was one of the world's outstanding scientists in the electrical field and has been conducting many experiments in connection with wireless transmission of electrical power and what is commonly referred to as the "Death Ray".

Semy Kosanovich, a distant relative intensely disliked by Tesla, is taking steps to get possession of these important documents and plans. Kosanovich on January 7, 1943, with George Clark, in charge of the Museum Laboratory for RCA, and Kenneth Swezy of Brooklyn, New York, entered Tesla's rooms in the Hotel New Yorker and, with the aid of a locksmith, broke into a safe containing some of Tesla's valuable papers, including important electrical formulæ, designs, etc.

Tesla is reported to have completed and perfected his experiments in the radio transmission of electrical power and to have conceived and designed a revolutionary type of torpedo not presently in use by any nation. It is reported that Kosanovich may possibly make this material available to the enemy.

ACTION:

I called Dr. Deane of the New York Office at 12:30 P.M. and pointed out the apparent burglary violation on the part of Kosanovich. I told him this matter should be discreetly discussed with the State's Attorney in New York City with a view to locating Kosanovich and apprehending him on a burglary charge in order to determine the nature of the material he took from Tesla's safe. I pointed out the necessity for the State's Attorney keeping any action most secret in view of the highly confidential nature of the plans involved. I also suggested that the New York Office contact the Surrogate Court in order that Tesla's effects as well as the contents of his safety deposit boxes might not be entered without the presence of a Bureau Agent in order that we may endeavor to preserve the secrecy of any plans or items essential to the conduct of the war and national security.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

1943
January 21, 1943

SAC, New York

To: SHERIFF SUBJECTS: SAVA KOZANOVICH

EXPERIMENTS AND RESEARCH OF NIKOLA TESLA (Deceased)

DEPARTMENT (1)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to a teletype dated January 9, 1943, from the New York Field Office to a phone conversation between Mr. J. B. Little of the Bureau and Assistant Special Agent in Charge Pennan on January 11, 1943.

It was pointed out to Mr. Demgan that Sava Kozanovich, George Clark and Kenneth Dooley may have committed a burglary violation by entering Tesla's rooms after his death and particularly by using a locksmith to get into a safe containing some of Tesla's valuable papers. Mr. Demgan was advised this matter should be discreetly discussed with the State's Attorney, New York City, with a view to locating Kozanovich and apprehending him on a burglary charge, in order to ascertain the nature of the material taken from the safe of Nikola Tesla. It was also suggested that the New York Office contact the Surrogate Court, in order that Tesla's effects, as well as the contents of his safety deposit box, might not be entered without the presence of an Agent, in order that the secrecy of any plans or items essential to the conduct of the war or national security might be preserved. It was stated that Kozanovich might possibly make certain material available to the enemy.

A review of the Bureau files reveals considerable information concerning Nikola Tesla and his inventions and it should be noted that one Nicola Tesla, who might have been identical with Nikola Tesla, made a speech at the Orange Hall, Springfield, Massachusetts, on June 4, 1822, under the auspices of the Friends of Soviet Russia.
No record of Kenneth Sweeney could be located in the Bureau files from the information available.

The foregoing information is being furnished for possible future reference in connection with this case and it is desired that the Bureau be kept promptly and currently informed of all developments in this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director
March 19, 1943

Director, FBI

Re: UNKNOWN SUBJECTS; SAVA KOSANOVICH; EXPERIMENTS AND RESEARCH OF NIKOLA TESLA (Deceased); ESPIONAGE, MISCELLANEOUS

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the Bureau letter in the above-captioned matter dated January 21, 1943, in which it is stated that it is desired that the Bureau be kept promptly and currently informed of all developments in this case.

In view of a telephone call from Mr. Little of the Bureau to Mr. T. J. Donegan, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the New York Office, dated January 14, 1943, in which Mr. Little stated that the above-captioned matter was now being handled as an Alien Enemy Custodial Detention matter and therefore no further action should be taken in the matter by the New York Field Division, this case is being considered closed in this Office, unless advised to the contrary by the Bureau at some future time.

Very truly yours,

E. E. Conroy
Special Agent in Charge

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREBIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-18-43 BY

COPIES DESTROYED 146 OCT 26 1960

RECORDED & INDEXED 75-17953-2

[Signature]
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**REPORT MADE AT**
Baltimore, Maryland 3-29-43

**DATE WHEN MADE**
3-29-43

**PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE**
3-6-43

**REPORT MADE BY**
[Handwritten]

**CHARACTER OF CASE**
Internal Security Case

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

SAVA K. KOSANOVICH, reported to have turned over papers and effects to Alien Property Custodian, NYC, for NICK TESLA.

**REFERENCE:**
Letter from New York Field Division dated 2-22-43.

**DETAILS:**

AT DOVER, DELAWARE

Mr. ABE SPANEL, President of the International Latex Corporation, advised that he had been a very good friend of NICK TESLA who has died recently and that he believes that the subject is a third or fourth cousin of TESLA and that when TESLA died, the subject was his only close relative in this country and TESLA's effects came into his possession.

SPANEL related that the subject had recently turned over to the government the majority of the patents of NICK TESLA. SPANEL described TESLA as being one of the greatest inventors that has ever lived. He stated he had more than
900 inventions and patents. SPANEL stated that at one time TESLA had an invention in which he was able to direct electrical current without the means of a conductor. He felt that this type of an invention would be of invaluable assistance to any country at war and for this reason felt that TESLA's inventions and patents should be put into the hands of proper Government officials, where they might be put to the best advantage for the United States. He does not believe the subject is engaged in any un-American activities and stated that he was more than willing to turn these patents and inventions over to the proper Government agency. He asserted that before TESLA died, he had spoken to the subject regarding his becoming a United States citizen and SPANEL believes that he is now taking the proper steps to achieve that end.

SPANEL also stated that the subject had handed all of the effects of the deceased TESLA to the Alien Property Custodian in New York City.

SPANEL advised that the day before TESLA died he had tried to get in touch with War Department officials in Washington in order that he might make available to them patents and inventions that he had developed. However, he was not able to get in touch with the proper authorities and he died the following day.

SPANEL advised that the Yugoslavian Government had been sending TESLA approximately $600.00 per month for sometime prior to his death and this was described as being a sort of pension.

SPANEL stated further that he has previously turned over information regarding the subject to Special Agent [REDACTED] of the New York Field Division. He also advised that WARREN REIFFER, Science Editor, New York Times and BILL LAUMANN, Science Feature Writer, New York Times and the Science Editor of the Herald Tribune would be able to elaborate on some of the accomplishments of NICK TESLA and that the June 1900 issue of the Century Magazine also contained an article relating to the inventions of TESLA.

SPANEL also stated that he believed BLOTZE FITZGERALD, Pierpont Hotel, Brooklyn, New York, Secretary to TESLA, has been contacted by Special Agent [REDACTED] and that if the New York Office wishes to contact SPANEL he may be reached at his home.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -
July 17, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR LADD

RE: SAVA KOSENOVICH

INTERNAL SECURITY (J)

CUSTODIAL DETENTION

At this time an of the New York office telephoned, stating on the previous afternoon they telephoned the one and stated that she would like to be interviewed concerning certain information she possessed.

A letter was stated by two teletypes which the New York office forwarded to the Bureau under dates of January 9 and 12, 1943, in the case entitled U.S. v. SUBJECT, F.B.I. No. 9748, filed on or about January 12, 1943, in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Shortly after Nicole Tesla, one of the world's outstanding scientists in the electrical field, died in his New York City home on January 3, 1943, Sava Kosenovich, a distant relative, and other individuals entered his room and opened a safe containing certain materials which he possessed. On January 2, Mr. L. J. S. Smith of the Department advised Mr. Tolson that he was concerned about the possibility of enemy agents confiscating some of the tests of Tesla and that apparently, the Alien Property Custodian was taking some action in this matter. Instructions as to what was being handled by the Alien Property Custodian's office, the Bureau did not conduct any investigation into this situation.

[Signature]

RECORDED 165-47053

COPIES DESTROYED 148 OCT 26 1960 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1-18-36 BY 31-61

# 29060
Mr. Ladd

There is attached for your approval a letter directed to the New Mexico First Office requesting that this interview be conducted and also instructing that she be interrogated concerning the other matter referred to above, unless, as the Pittman Office has not as yet covered this interview.

Respectfully,

[Signature]
Reference is made to the Bureau letter dated January 21, 1943, which bore a caption similar to that mentioned above.

The referenced letter dealt with the death, on January 7, 1943, of the famous inventor, NIKOLA TESLA, who as well as being the inventor of Alternating Current, perfected many electrical devices. He is also credited with having developed the so-called “death ray” which would safeguard any country from attack by air.

On June 9, 1945, [redacted] of New York City furnished information of a nonspecific nature indicating that it was his belief that persons sympathetic to Russia were making an effort to secure the effects of Nikola Tesla in order to salvage therefrom any models or designs of possible military value. [redacted] claimed that he heard that ABRAHAM N. SPARTEY, President of the NATIONAL LANTERN CORPORATION, of Dover, Delaware was the motivating influence behind this attempt to obtain TESLA’s papers which are presently held in storage at the NATIONAL STORAGE WAREHOUSE in New York City. [redacted] promised to return to the New York Field Division shortly after his initial visit and furnish further and more specific information to support his claims.

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

He was not heard from again, however, until September 27, 1945, at which time he furnished the following additional information:

He said that a boyhood chum of his from Wichita, Kansas, BLAIR FITZGERALD, had been TESLA’s protege and one of the inventors few confidants. According to [redacted], FITZGERALD who is now an Army Private stationed at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, is a brilliant 29 year old scientist who spent endless hours with TESLA prior to the latter’s death, during which time TESLA explained to him most secret experiments. [redacted] stated that FITZGERALD met TESLA in November 1942, but he had been corresponding with the latter since 1935. According to the informant, FITZGERALD had developed some sort of anti-tank gun, the details of which he presented to TESLA who made certain corrections in design and specifications to further perfect the weapon.

Related that sometime in December 1942, when FITZGERALD was attending a meeting of the AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS, he made the acquaintance of ABRAHAM N. SPARTEY who became interested in FITZGERALD’S

RETURN TO INDEXING L19
gun. SPANEL offered financial aid to FITZGERALD and the two were in the
closest contact with each other for a considerable period of time.

It said that FITZGERALD had lined up a deal for the purchase of
the gun by the REMINGTON ARMS COMPANY but for some reason SPANEL blocked
this deal by reaching top men in the REMINGTON COMPANY. SPANEL is then
reported as having obtained a job for FITZGERALD with the Higgins Ship
Building Company in New Orleans and negotiated a contract with FITZGERALD
for the purchase and manufacture of the gun in a manner which would return
80% of the profits derived to SPANEL.

It stated that in November of 1943, for some unknown reason
but which he believes to be attributable to SPANEL, FITZGERALD was fired by
the Higgins Company. In September of 1944, FITZGERALD was inducted into the
Army and for a considerable period of time was located at an ordnance
experimental station at Elgin Field, Florida. It stated that at
the present time FITZGERALD is engaged in a highly secret experimental
project at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio. In spite of his rank of Private,
FITZGERALD actually is the director of this research and is working with
many top young scientists who were inducted into Army from leading industrial
posts.

According to FITZGERALD, FITZGERALD is presently working on the
perfection of TESLA'S "death ray" which in FITZGERALD'S opinion is the only
possible defense against offensive use by another nation of the Atomic Bomb.
In this connection, it is noted that the New York Times of September 22, 1940
in an article entitled "SCIENCE IN THE NEWS" by WILLIAM A. LAURENCE, Science
Editor states that TESLA divulged to LAURENCE the fact that he had developed
a "death ray" or "tele-force" which TESLA claimed would melt airplane motors
at a distance of 250 miles, so that actually an invisible Chinese Wall would
be built around a country against attack by an enemy air force.

According to the article in the Times, this electrical device would
operate by the generation of power from a plant, a number of which might be
located strategically along our coast lines and the beam from which would
melt any engine within a radius of 250 miles.

It stated that during FITZGERALD'S acquaintance with
TESLA, FITZGERALD had told SPANEL of his associations with TESLA and had
apparently described to SPANEL some of TESLA'S most secret work.

It believes that SPANEL, who he claims is definitely pro-Russian in attitude,
is now attempting through legal procedure to secure custody of TESLA'S effects
which are now held by TESLA'S only heir, SAVA KOSANOVIC, who
is presently in Yugoslavia occupying some governmental post.

It will be recalled that in an article published on March 15, 1945,
by the KING FEATURE SYNDICATE INCORPORATED, WESTBROOK-WISLER charged SPANEL
with spreading pro-communist and pro-Russian propaganda through his full
page advertisement in the newspapers, which SPANEL characterized as being
published for the INTERNATIONAL LATT CORPORATION, as a public service feature.
It is also interesting to observe that in the New York Times of October 1,
1945, an article appears which states that SPANEL is suing the KING FEATURE
SYNDICATE INCORPORATED for six million dollars alleging the column by
"WISLER" to have been libelous.
stated that through FITZGERALD he too had met SPANOVEL and from this personal acquaintance he formed the opinion that SPANOVEL was definitely a communist and is probably one of the financial supporters of the Communist Party in this country. He stated that SPANOVEL was born in Russia, but is now an American citizen. He also charged that SPANOVEL exerted tremendous political influence in Washington, D. C., and said that one of SPANOVEL'S closest political friends was HENRY WALLACE.

advised that two agents from Army Intelligence contacted and stated that in an investigation to determine the qualifications of FITZGERALD for a commission, they had developed information indicating that SPANOVEL was definitely endeavoring to secure possession of TESLA'S effects. He indicated that Army Intelligence was pursuing an investigation along these lines in an attempt to ascertain the complete story in this regard.

stated that FITZGERALD had interested a group of young Army scientists now working with him at Wright Field in this foundation, and their ultimate goal is to secure the support of a wealthy backer in order that a foundation might be established and that a sort of "idea factory" might result. He said that they intended to contact HENRY FORD, SR., to solicit his aid in this regard.

related that probably the greatest idea of TESLA'S was that involving the wireless transmission of electrical power. He claimed that TESLA had performed a successful experiment many years ago at Pikes Peak, at which time he harnessed local current from the sun's rays which he built up into a huge potential of electrical energy. He said that according to FITZGERALD, if this idea could be furthered, all electrical energy to operate the world's machinery might be gotten absolutely free rather than by the costly method with which electrical power is presently generated. He said that his idea was to conduct further experiments along this line in China where the need for electrical power is very great.

Inquiry was made at the "KINGSTON" STORAGE WAREHOUSE in New York City, and it was determined that the effects of NIKOLA TESLA are contained in some
Letter, Director,
65-12290

November 17, 1945

75 packing cases and trunks and are presently under seal by the New York State Department of Taxation. It was learned that the rental for this storage, which approximates $15 per month, is being paid by one CHARLOTTE VUKAR, 134 East 63rd Street, New York, New York, who is listed as the agent for SAM KOSANOVICH.

Inquiry was also made at the office of the Alien Property Custodian in New York City, concerning an investigation conducted by this office at the time of TESLA'S death, and at which time the latter's property was placed under seal by the United States Government. Mr. WALTER CORNUCH, Chief Investigator for the Alien Property Custodian, provided a cover letter and summary of materials owned by TESLA at the time of his death which was examined by JOHN C. CRUMP, of the office of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT. Mr. CORNUCH also stated that his file in this matter reflected that on the night TESLA died his safe was forced open by a representative of the SHORE & WALKER SAFE COMPANY. It was Mr. CORNUCH'S belief that a Mr. SWEZEY who is believed to be one of the editors of the POPULAR SCIENCE MAGAZINE was present in TESLA'S room shortly after the safe was opened. These individuals were JULIUS SCHWARTZ, EDWARD WALKER, and JOHN R. CORBETT.

There are enclosed herewith two typewritten copies of the report by Mr. TRUMP of the ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTOM is reflecting the findings of Mr. TRUMP, following his examination of TESLA'S effects. There is also enclosed herewith a photostatic copy of a list of persons associated with NEWEA TESLA. This latter item was furnished by

The above information is furnished for the Bureau's information, and no investigation is being conducted by this office.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

R. F. OWEN, SAC

3 Enclosures
Mr. Walter Gorsuch,
Alien Property Custodian,
120 Broadway,
New York, New York.

Dear Sir:

At your request and that of Mr. Joseph T., King of the Washington office of the Alien Property Custodian, I have examined the private papers, writings, and other property of the late Dr. Nikola Tesla with the view to determining both their possible usefulness to this country in its war effort and the possible hazard attendant on their falling into unfriendly hands.

This examination was made at the Manhattan Warehouse, 52nd Street, New York City, on January 26-27, and included all of the notes and material in Dr. Tesla's immediate possession at the time of his death and now in the custody of your office. For reasons indicated below, no investigation was made of material in trunks which had remained untouched in the basement of the New Yorker Hotel for ten years prior to Dr. Tesla's death.

As a result of this examination, it is my considered opinion that there exist among Dr. Tesla's papers and possessions no scientific notes, descriptions of hitherto unrevealed methods or devices, or actual apparatus which could be of significant value to this country or which would constitute a hazard in unfriendly hands. I can therefore see no technical or military reason why further custody of the property should be retained.

For your records, there has been removed to your office a file of various written material by Dr. Tesla which covers typically and fairly completely the ideas with which he was concerned during his later years. These documents are enumerated and briefly abstracted in the attachment to this letter.
January 30, 1943.

It should be no discredit to this distinguished engineer and scientist whose solid contributions to the electrical art were made at the beginning of the present century to report that his thoughts and efforts during at least the past fifteen years were primarily of a speculative, philosophical, and somewhat promotional character—often concerned with the production and wireless transmission of power—but did not include new sound, workable principles or methods for realizing such results.

Very truly yours,

JOHN C. TRUMP,
Technical Aide,
Division 14, NIRC.

Enclosure.

JOT/G
ABSTRACTS OF DR. NIKOLA TESLA'S WRITINGS RETAINED AS EXHIBITS FOR THE ALIEN PROPERTY CUSTODIAN

1. On January 26 and 27, 1943, an examination was made of the technical papers of Dr. Nikola Tesla which, after his decease, had been stored in the Manhattan Warehouse in New York City. This examination was made for the purpose of determining if any ideas of significant value in the present United States war effort could be found among his possessions. Participating in this examination were Mr. John C. Newington, New York Office of the Alien Property Custodian; Mr. Charles J. Hederman, Washington Office of the Alien Property Custodian; Dr. John C. Trump, Office of Scientific Research and Development, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Willis George, Office of Naval Intelligence, Third Naval District; Edward Palmer, Chief Yeoman, USNR; John J. Corbett, Chief Yeoman, USNR.

2. The following papers, which are regarded as typical of Nikola Tesla's writings and thoughts in the period of 1925 to 1942, were removed for the purpose of record and are listed below in the random order in which they were found, together with a brief individual abstract.

**Exhibit A**

"Possibilities of Electrostatic Generators" - an undated article probably written about 1934 discussing the possibilities, as a source of high-voltage D-C power, of the Van de Graaff type of electrostatic belt generator. The article states correctly the electrostatic principles employed in this device and points out that such generators are not suitable for commercial high-power applications, though of undoubtedly scientific value. Tesla's wireless tower, erected in 1902 on Long Island, is stated in this memorandum to have been charged to 30 million volts.

**Exhibit B**

"Reactive Forces of Glycerine and Dynamite" - an undated memorandum involving some calculations of the explosive power of certain compounds and then deviating to a discussion of the possibility of transmitting power by mechanical vibrations along the earth's crust.
Exhibit C

Process of De-Gassifying, Refining, and Purifying Metals - a 41-page memorandum probably written about 1930 dealing with the above subject and proposing new theories of capillarity and surface tension. This correspondence indicated that this had been submitted to various industrial companies.

Exhibit D

Reply toAmtorg re ‘the generation of high-voltage and the acceleration of charged particles’ - This document, dated November 8, 1935, answers questions raised by Soviet engineers and scientists regarding Tesla’s proposal of May 16, 1935. From this answer, it is deduced that the proposal concerned the generation of high voltages by electrostatic means. These means consisted of a high-voltage terminal presumably supported on an insulating column and charged by a gaseous charge conveying medium passing between ground and terminal. The ideas contained in this memorandum are fairly similar to the belt-conveyor electrostatic generator methods proposed by van de Graaff and do not appear to offer any unusual features.

Exhibit E

Art of Teleseodynamics, or Art of Producing Terrestrial Motions at Distance - This document, in the form of a letter dated June 12, 1940, to the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Company, proposes a method for the transmission of large amounts of power over vast distances by means of mechanical vibrations of the earth’s crust. The source of power is a mechanical or electromechanical device bolted to some rocky protuberance and imparting power at a resonance frequency of the earth’s crust. The proposed scheme appears to be completely visionary and unworkable. Westinghouse’s reply indicates their polite rejection of this idea.

Exhibit F

New Art of Projecting Concentrated Non-Dispersive Energy through Natural Media - This undated document by Tesla describes an electrostatic method of producing very high voltages and capable of very great power. This generator is used to accelerate charged particles, presumably electrons. Such a beam of high-energy electrons passing through air is the “concentrated non-dispersive” means by which energy is transmitted through natural media. As a component of this apparatus there is described an open-ended vacuum tube within which the electrons are first accelerated.
Exhibit F (cont.)

The proposed scheme bears some relation to present means for producing high-energy cathode rays by the cooperative use of a high-voltage electrostatic generator and an evacuated electron acceleration tube. It is well known, however, that such devices, while of scientific and medical interest, are incapable of the transmission of large amounts of power in non-dispersed beams over long distances. Tesla’s disclosures in this memorandum would not enable the construction of workable combinations of generator and tube even of limited power, though the general elements of such a combination are succinctly described.

Exhibit G

A circular by Caro Bird, dated September 10, 1938, entitled “Tremendous New Power Soon to Be Unleashed”. This describes in popular style some biographical information concerning Nikola Tesla and some ideas for the transmission of power on which he is stated to be working. It appears that the method of transmission is by the mechanical resonance method outlined in Exhibit F, above.

Exhibit H

This exhibit consists of a series of letters to representatives of the British Government dated August 28, 1936; October 20, 1937; December 15, 1937; and April 5, 1938. It includes a reply dated January 7, 1938, from the British Government. These letters offer to the British Government, for a fee, the disclosure of a means for accelerating to high energies minute particles. Such beams would constitute a death ray capable of the protection of Great Britain from air attack.

The method proposed is essentially that described in Exhibit F above. Following the initial letter dated August 28, 1936, the subsequent letters attempt to clear up the “misunderstandings” of the British representatives and to expedite their acceptance of the Tesla proposal. The British reply dated January 7 is a polite expression of disinterest in the proposal.

Exhibit I

An undated memorandum written after Tesla’s 79th birthday describing several discoveries which he believed he had made. The first related to a dynamic theory of gravity which is described as not yet completed. The second stated as a physical truth the belief that “there is no energy in matter other than that received from the environment”. This second statement, which is discussed at length in this and other writings of Tesla, indicates his disbelief in the existence of atomic or nuclear energy.
Exhibit J

"A Method of Producing Powerful Radiations" - an undated memorandum in Tesla's handwriting describing "a new process of generating powerful rays or radiations." The memorandum reviews the works of Lenard and Crookes, describes Tesla's work on the production of high voltages, and finally in the last paragraph gives the only description of the invention contained in the memorandum. This description is as follows: "Briefly stated, my new simplified process of generating powerful rays consists in creating through the medium of a high-speed jet of suitable fluid a vacuous space around a terminal of a circuit and supplying the same with currents of the required tension and volume".

Exhibit K

A letter to prospective licensees on telegeodynamics dated December 27, 1941. This is a single-page letter with the typewritten signature of Dr. Nikola Tesla, in which he addresses himself to the prospective licensees of telegeodynamics, stating that over a half million dollars was spent on this development with funds contributed by the Morgans, Crawford, J. J. Astor, and Fish, as well as commercial organizations, and states this to be a new art with which "unbelievable wonders can be achieved".

Exhibit L

Tesla's "New System of Fluid Propulsion". This is an undated memorandum of about 20 typewritten pages describing a system of fluid propulsion in which the conversion from hydraulic to rotary mechanical power is achieved by passing the fluid between flat circular disks, shaft-mounted and enclosed in a casing.

This memorandum written about 1925 describes in general terms a kind of hydraulic turbine which seems practical. There is copious evidence among the other of Tesla's papers that this idea was generally disclosed to appropriate individuals and that it received favorable comment and possibly some use. Some of these comments are contained on the last page of the exhibit.

Exhibit M

"The Power of the Future" - a memorandum apparently written by Tesla and probably in response to a request from some popular science group for an opinion as to the source of future power. This memorandum reviews the gradual evolution of power sources. It discusses in some detail the possibility of atomic power and states as his opinion that atomic power is not feasible. The discussion of atomic energy is apparently confused to some extent.
with planetary energy. The article further discusses the subject of wind, tides, lightning, and water power as a source of commercial energy. The last sentence of this memorandum states: "With my wireless system, it is practicable to transmit electrical energy at a distance of twelve thousand miles with a loss not exceeding 5 per cent. I can conceive of no advances which would be more desirable at this time and more beneficial to the further progress of mankind." This memorandum constitutes an interesting generalized discussion of the various sources of power. It is qualitatively correct for the most part except probably in that portion which deals with atomic power.

Exhibit N


Exhibit C

"World System of Wireless Transmission of Energy" - an article by N. Tesla in Telegraph and Telephone Age, October 16, 1927, pages 457 and 460. An article which traces the early work on the production and transmission of electromagnetic radiations, describes Tesla's efforts to increase the amount of power which can be transmitted without wires and concludes with a proposed "World System" for the wireless transmission of both power and communications. No workable disclosure of means for accomplishing this is included, and such generalities as suggest the approach which Tesla had in mind do not seem capable of accomplishing the desired result.

Exhibit P

"Interview with Dr. Nikola Tesla" by Alden P. Armstrong for Popular Science Monthly, May 24, 1928. An 11-page memorandum written in popular conversational style describing an interview with Dr. Tesla and reporting his present work. This report includes statements on a new airplane, on rocket ships, on the wireless transmission of power, on a world system plan for the transmission of speech and television, on the impracticability of harnessing atomic energy, on radio activity, and on the acceleration of charged particles, such as cathode rays, by high voltages.
Exhibit 9

An agreement dated April 20, 1935, between Nikola Tesla and the Antorg Trading Corporation, in which Tesla agreed to supply plans, specifications, and complete information on a method and apparatus for producing high voltages up to fifty million volts, for producing very small particles in a tube open to air, for increasing the charge of the particles to the full voltage of the high potential terminal, and for projecting the particles to distances of a hundred miles or more. The maximum speed of the particles was specified as not less than 350 miles per second. The receipt of $25,000 fee for this disclosure was acknowledged in this agreement, which was signed by Nikola Tesla and by A. Bartanin of the Antorg Trading Corporation. The method referred to in this agreement is apparently that described in Exhibit F, above. It is probable that Exhibit D, above, is an effort by Tesla to clear up the questions raised by Soviet engineers after the subject disclosure had been made. There is no evidence that the inventions and information referred to in this agreement are other than those described in a number of Tesla's papers and published articles. It should therefore be expected, and it is substantiated by Exhibit D, that this disclosure subsequently proved unworkable.

3. An examination of several items of scientific apparatus among the Tesla efforts at the Manhattan Warehouse and in a deposit box at the Governor Clinton Hotel showed those to be standard electrical measuring instruments in common use several decades ago.

JOHN G. TRUMP,
Technical Aide,
Division 14, MIRC.

Mass. Inst. of Tech.,
Cambridge, Mass.,
January 30, 1943.
LIST OF PERSONS ASSOCIATED WITH NIKOLA TESLA

Kerrigan, William - 89 Logan St., Brooklyn, N. Y.
Employed as building supt. Washington Market, Brooklyn.
Mr. Kerrigan was the messenger boy for Postal
Telegraph some years prior to Jan. 1943. At Mr. Tesla's
request, he continued his services as special
messenger when convenient. He had called upon Tesla
the week prior to his death and has much valuable data
and information concerning Tesla's contacts. I first
met Mr. Kerrigan at the Frank Campbell funeral church.

Baumgarten, Charles - Room 1203, Municipal Bldg., Budget Bureau, N.Y.C.
Mr. Baumgarten was met at the funeral and
Mr. William Lawrence of the New York Times and myself
had lunch with him. Mr. Baumgarten knew Tesla and
his connections with the Queensboro Bridge and many of
his developments of Civic interest.

Skerritt, Miss Dorothy F. - Office, Biddle Purchasing Company, 107 Chambers
Street, N.Y.C. - No. 2-5500.
Residence: Hasbrook Heights, New Jersey
Miss Skerritt was secretary to Doctor Tesla from 1912
until 1922. She is familiar with the Marconi patent
suit, many of Tesla's scientific theories; knows the
names of some of his friends; has witnessed
demonstrations in his laboratory, then at 8 W. 40th St.
N.Y.C. Miss Skerritt also knows that between 1915
and 1918, Doctor Tesla was at the Blackstone Hotel,
Chicago and may have material there. She can give
account of many of his deals with various firms.

Merrington, Marguerite - 46 W. 97th Street, N.Y.C. - Riverside 2-0188
Miss Merrington has known Doctor Tesla since 1893
and has been a guest of his on several occasions at
the old Waldorf Hotel and at his laboratory in 1894
on Houston Street. Miss Merrington recalls the
lighting effects without filaments and his radio
controlled boat demonstrations. She also recalls
statements regarding communication without wires by
means of a small instrument. She has witnessed many
laboratory experiments including power transmission
without wires over short distances in the laboratory
and also metallic plate suspension. He had also
talked about communication with mars to her.

Holden, Mrs. Agnes - J - 327 E. 52 St. N.Y.C. - Plaza 3-2341
Mrs. Holden is the daughter of Robert U. Johnson
(deceased) (1936) who was a close friend of Tesla
for many years. Mrs. Holden first met Mr. Tesla
at her father's home when she was about 12 years old.
The Johnsons were connected with the Century Magazine
which published many articles regarding Tesla.
Mr. Johnson wrote several poems about Tesla, one of
which appeared in the April, 1895 issue of the
Century Magazine and the others appeared in "Poems of 50 years, 1850-1930" by Robert Underwood Johnson. Mrs. Holden has been in close contact with Tesla and has witnessed many of his demonstrations including that of the oscillator of 1899. She recalls the near destruction of the laboratory. Since "World II", she has talked with Tesla with regard to instruments of war and he told her in response to her inquiry regarding tanks recently that he could stop them or the war. She recalls his discussions with her and her father regarding transmissions of power and Mars, etc. She says that she knows that Tesla has things for our Government only. Mrs. Holden witnessed many of the experiments and was present at the radio-controlled boat demonstration many years ago.

Mr. Fritz Lowenstein was the assistant to Dr. Tesla during his historic laboratory experiments in Colorado Springs in 1899. He was also to have appeared as a defense witness for Tesla in his Marconi patent suit during 1915, but for some reason failed to testify.

The brother, Emil, address above, knows of the relatives of Mr. Fritz Lowenstein who have documents pertaining to the 1899 experiments. (Mr. C.H. Clark provided information re documents and Lowenstein) (Mr. Czito mentioned Lowenstein). Mr. Emil Lowenstein is not on friendly terms with the entire Lowenstein family and a Mr. Massey, 52 Vanderbilt Ave. can furnish additional information re Lowenstein.

Shirk, A.J. - Inventor's Model Shop, 70 West 100th St. N.Y.C. Ac-2-9466.
Mr. Shirk has met Tesla on 3 occasions and appears to know quite a bit about his model work and laboratory developments, particularly within recent years. His exact status can only be determined by another call or exact status interview. He is attempting to determine the address of a laboratory that existed at about 47th and 8th Ave. and with whom a certain Dr. Walker was connected.

Arbus, Muriel, Miss - Res: 600 W. 13th St. Tel: Vanderbilt 4-9816.
Bus: WPR, Chanin Building, N.Y.C.
Miss Arbus has several photographs of Tesla and was a secretary to him before Miss Dorothy Skerritt, i.e. before 1912. She has not been interviewed except by phone.
Berg, Selgurd (or Sigmund) - Copenhagen, Denmark. Business: Paris, France. He has not been interviewed. See Mr. E. Flenesen of the International Latex Corp., Dover, Del. for information. Mrs. Berg was a close friend of Tesla in Europe and mentioned other members of his family; Mr. Ernest and Mr. Sako Berg, are found in correspondence from Mrs. B.A. Behrend to Mr. Kenneth Sweezy in 1935 and 1934.

Behrend, Bernard, A. Mrs. - Rond Point, Aiken, S.C. Phone 135. Mr. Behrend and Mrs. Behrend were very close friends of Dr. Tesla. Mrs. Behrend has many notes and technical data concerning Tesla's work either stored near Boston, Mass or at Aiken, S.C. Mr. Behrend was Chief Engineer for Westinghouse and supervised the construction of a great number of Tesla's motors and generators. He is author of "The Induction Motor" pub. 1921 in which a considerable portion is devoted to Tesla's work.

Boskan, Slavko, Mr. Engineer and author, Belgrade, Yugoslavia. Mr. Boskan published a book in Dresden, Germany entitled "Nikola und Ne Werk" in 1952 (Approx) Mr. Boskan was a close friend of Mr. Tesla and has considerable engineering data in his possession according to Mr. Sweezy.

Denton, Clifford, Mr. - Science Reporter, New York Daily News, 220 E. 42nd St. N.Y.C. Mu-2-1234 Ext. 567 Mr. Denton has been present at many of Dr. Tesla's press releases and has many notes regarding the conferences. He said that he gave most of his data to Mr. Wm. Lawrence of The New York Times.

Brown Brothers (Mr. Arthur Brown) 220 W. 42 St. Bryant 9-4742. N.Y.C. Brown Brothers are photographers and have a large number of photos of Tesla and his laboratory equipment from which many can be deduced mechanical construction details.

Curtis, Thomas Stanley - Address: unknown. Author "Experiments with High Frequencies currents". It is important to locate Mr. Curtis because he discussed many of Tesla's problems and appears to have technical data regarding his work.

Cramps, Shipbuilding Co. Philadelphia, Pa. Mr. Crosby, former Sec. of Commerce, and Mr. Cramps became interested in the radio controlled boat of Dr. Tesla about 35 years ago. Negotiations were carried on between Dr. Tesla and the above executives. This information was furnished by Mr. Kerr.
It may be well to contact Mr. Crosby’s relatives or Mr. Cramps.

Czito, Julius - 4629 193rd St. Flushing, Long Island. Tel: Flushing 7-4711. Mr. Czito was mentioned to me first by Mr. Kosenovich and later Mr. Spanel had received his name from Mr. Wm. Lawrence. Mr. Czito is a machinist by trade and worked for Dr. Tesla as such from 1915 to 1929. He was particularly concerned with the construction of a turbine and a furnace developed for a Mr. Hatmaker. Among other things, he worked on an extractor for sulphur from sea water and mechanical device for measuring the resistance of a ball bearing. He has little data left of Dr. Tesla’s work but has a very good memory. He mentioned the Boston gear works, Mr. Bradley, Mr. Miller, the Zumbach Machinery Co. and Mr. Barney Levi. Mr. Czito’s father also worked for Dr. Tesla in 1894 and was with him at his Houston St. laboratory. Mr. Czito, Sr. accompanied Dr. Tesla to Colorado Springs in 1899. Mr. Czito has a very good memory and can furnish additional information. He has discovered a photograph showing all of the employees of the old Tesla laboratory. He worked for Dr. Tesla on the development of a speedometer for the Waltham Watch Co. (This information from interview).

Mr. G.H. Clark was contacted by virtue of a call placed in December to Mr. Gran Dunlap of the RCA Corp. Mr. Clark has a very large collection of personal data pertaining to radio pioneers, particularly Marconi. His business has been to collect such data in order to assist the prosecution of a suit of infringement against the Marconi patents. He has never met Dr. Tesla but he knows of his work and is interested in collecting historical data for preservation. Mr. Clark is a friend of Mr. Sweezy.

Crosby, Former Sec. of Commerce, Washington, D.C. (address unknown) See Cramps and Kerr

Wetzel, Tailors - 2 E. 44th St. Murray Hill 2-6757. N.Y.C.
This firm was tailor for Dr. Tesla throughout most of his life and may have information with regard to his friends, not otherwise listed.
French, Shriner, and Urner- Shoe Shops. 250 Madison Ave. Murray Hill 2-0319. N.Y.C.
Dr. Tesla purchased most all of his shoes from this firm for the past 50 years and data may be gathered from their records such as mailing addresses, etc.

Cornels, Fredrick C. F.B.I. Office Federal Court House 3rdg. 12th Floor. Regent 2-2315
Mr. Cornels was informed of the possible value of Dr. Tesla's data immediately following his death. So far as known, no action was taken.

Commercial Photostat Company, 11th Floor, Woolworth 31dg. N.Y.C.
Firm which made photostats of Tesla patents for Kerr.

Cramm, Ernest R. to contact call Mr. Clark of RCA.
Mr. Cramm knows a great deal about Dr. Tesla's relations with the RCA Company. Mr. Cramm was a former employee of RCA.

Gilder, Rodman - 108 E. 82nd St. N.Y.C. Butterfield 8-7397.
Son of Richard Watson Gilder, former Pub. of Century Magazine. Mr. Gilder knows of some old Tesla manuscripts and what has happened to his files of the Century Magazine at its dissolution. This name was received from Kerrington.

Lt. Denmark and his superiors were notified by Mr. Spang and Washington with regard to Tesla devices. Lt. Denmark was interviewed personally with a group of 4 other officers including Mr. Picken.

Kirsch, Leon - a former draftsman for Tesla - name from Liss Dorothy Skerritt. This party should be located because he had a lot of confidential data of Tesla's and made many drawings according to Liss Skerritt.

Drews, Lillian Married to an Austrian by name of DePrece about 1914. Miss Drews was secretary to Dr. Tesla prior to 1912. Her present address is unknown and she was not in good favor with Dr. Tesla, according to Liss Skerritt, the informant.

Dos Passos, John - Attorney, and very good friend of Dr. Tesla. Address unknown. Wanted Tesla to stop the Spanish American War. Formerly lived in New York. The Gentleman was expensively dressed and wore frocked coat similar to Tesla with bright checkered vest.
had office in vicinity of 200 Broadway, as late as 1920. Mr. Dorsassos is believed to have engineering data of Tesla's according to Thomas Byrne.

DeForrest, Dr. Lee- 8190 Hollywood Blvd. Los Angeles, Calif.
Dr. DeForrest is still alive and was a friend of Dr. Tesla in the late 90 and early 1800's. There is a possibility that he may be able to assist in interpreting Tesla's works.

Dubilier, William - President of Cornell Dubilier Co., Manufacturers of CCondensers. Mr. G.K. Clark informs that Mr. Dubilier has his possession some of the original notes of the 1899 experiments in Colorado Springs.

Frauenburg, A.E. - A reporter for the Brooklyn Eagle during 1930 who had numerous contacts with Tesla with regard to Power Transmission. His present address is unknown but he formerly resided in Brooklyn until 1934.

Fitzgerald, Francis, A. - Niagara Power Commission, Buffalo, N. Y.
Mr. Fitzgerald, according to a personal interview with Dr. Tesla, was a friend of his on the A.C. power proposition for the development of Niagara. He also told me that Mr. Fitzgerald attempted to influence the Canadian Power Commission in 1927 for a project to transmit power without wires. There is a possibility that he may have some data.

Gernsback, Hugo & Publisher, Res: 230 West End Ave. Scholler 4-2130
Bus: 25 W. Broadway, Tel: Rector 2-9690.
A Friend of Tesla for about 35 years. Published many articles about Tesla during 1915 in the "Electrical Experiment and later in Science and Invention". Has many of Tesla's original manuscripts and photos. Believes in all of Tesla's theories and has working knowledge of them. His party was contacted several weeks prior to Dr. Tesla's death. Mr. Gernsback attempted to assist Dr. Tesla personally and appealed to Westinghouse for funds in 1933.

Hammond, John Hayes, Jr. - Gloucester, Mass. Tel. 2060
Mr. Hammond, Sr., financed some of Dr. Tesla's boat experiments and only 10 years ago John Hayes Hammond, Jr. operated one of Tesla's original models. The family has one of the boats in their
possession now. Much technical data can be gathered from this source.

Hassell, Eugene Floyd - Res: Bellport, Long Island
Maschinist, Sperry Gyroscope Company, Garden City, L.I. Employee Number 5470.
Phone Vigilant 4-5400 (Restricted number)
Ext. 211. Use any New York Phone. Name from Ceito. This party knows of Tesla's laboratory on Long Island through the laundry driver named Tommy Wallen.

Robbs, Octavius - Springfield Gardens, Long Island.
(Has not been contacted)

Hatmaker, (no initials) party who financed fountain built by Ceito.
Has not been contacted, but he lived in the St. Regis Hotel in 1920.

Kosonovich, Sava - Navarro Hotel, apt. 17e, 112 Central Park South, N.Y.C.
Tel: Circle 7-7900, Office: Regent 7-4662.
President of the Central European Powers Association and former Minister of Yugoslavia to the U.S. Mr. K. is one of the two living nephews of Dr. Nikola Tesla (see Nikola Trbojevich) Mr. K. was present in the Hotel New Yorker on the morning following Dr. Tesla's death. Others present were L.K. Sweeney, G.H. Clark. Mr. K. knows of many blue prints that were in the rooms and a black notebook with several hundred pages containing the last notes of Dr. Tesla. Mr. K. says that some of the papers were marked "Government" and that Dr. Tesla had told him he had valuable information. Mr. K. is of the opinion that it may have been for the Yugoslav Gov't. He says that no will was found. His attorney is Mr. Wittenberg. He was appointed heir by the Surrogates Court of New York County. He said that the other nephew waived any interest. Mr. K. is not in accord with Kr. Fotich, present Ambassador of Yugoslavia to U.S., now in Washington. There is a bit of political unrest in the Yugoslav organization.

Kerr, John - Attorney, 233 Broadway, N.Y.C. Cooper Kerr Dunham (att. at Law.)
Courtland 7-9334 - also associated by Byrns.
This firm was the patent attorney for 112 of the Tesla patents. They also instituted the proceedings of the infringement suits for the Westinghouse Company. Mr. Kerr knew Tesla very well and can give considerable data. Mr. Cooper, now deceased, was however, the main instigator of the patents for Tesla. Mr. Cooper left this firm some time ago and Tesla apparently took some of his business
to the new Cooper associates. Many of the old patents of Tesla in his own handwriting are available at this office. Mr. Byrne has additional information. I am of the opinion that this firm still has a connection with Westinghouse.

Byrne, Thomas, J works for Cooper Kerr and Dunham (see John Kerr above). Mr. Byrne knew Tesla very well and also knows of the connections with the Union Sulpher Company and the turbine for which see Czito. There is a wealth of information in the office of this company regarding the system of Power Transmission and any patents on file which were never issued. Mr. Kerr and Mr. Byrne were contacted before Mr. Tesla's death.

Kostich (first name unknown) New York, Official photographer for the Yugoslav group. Office believed to be 235 E. 72nd St. and Residence in Long Island City. He may be reached through Regent 7-4662. He is a friend of Mr. Kosonovich.

Kulishich, Prof. Kosta Res: Belgrad, Yugoslavia at the Tesla Institute. He was a school mate of Tesla in Grotz. See the N.Y. Sun of August 27, 1931.

Gage, E. G. 111 Nassau St. N. Y. C. Engineer, works for Leon Ottinger, Courtland 7-5500. He was a friend of Mr. J.S. Leach (deceased) formerly of Redbank, N. Y. who made electrical parts for Tesla's laboratory. He says that he can get information regarding Leach's relatives and perhaps drawings.

Levi, Bernard - Machinest, Zumbach Machinery Co. 134 W. 54 St. N.Y.C. Circle 7-1444
Received this name from Czito who said that Levi knew of other work by machinests on Tesla's equipment.

Lucan, John - address unknown - presumed to be in Manhattan. A former Western Union Messenger boy during June of 1887 who has other data regarding recent contacts by Tesla during his services as a messenger. He has not been located.


A friend of Tesla's for about 25 years. Has much old data regarding Tesla and has talked to him on many occasions regarding power transmission and the war effort. Has assisted greatly in providing information for gathering material, etc. This party was contacted before Dr. Tesla's death.

Mossie, N. C. 52 Vanderbilt Ave. N. Y. C.

Maeer, Ruth. The Yugo Slow Society, 565 5th Ave. Room 807. Pl-8-0256. This is the information center and serves as the publicity agent for the group. Miss E. Opea also works there and has many names of Tesla's friends.

Martin, Octavo. Employee of Hotel New Yorker and friend of Tesla.

Matthews, Grenville (deceased) wife was Gana Walker, Met. Star sponsored by McCormick. The family lived in England until his death and his wife now resides in New York. Mr. Matthews was referred to in Tesla's articles for the Telephone and Telegraph Age for Oct. 1927. Mr. Matthews had correspondence with Tesla on the so-called "Death-Ray". Gana Walker has all of her husband's data.

Mott, C. Jordan, Jr. 620 E. 90th St. N. Y. C. Bus: 6 E. 45th St. Tel: Vanderbilt 6-0345. The Mott family financed Tesla in various ventures. They may have some of this data.

Gossett, W. O. Ford Museum, Detroit, Mich. Mr. Gossett is associated with a Mr. Black while he is on leave of absence to the Army. Mr. Black may be reached regarding some models of Tesla's which are understood to be on display at the Ford Museum.

Nathan, Thoma, A. 25 E. 83rd St. N. Y. C. We do not know what connection this party had with Tesla but his name was secured.

O'Neill, John, J. Res: 209 N. Long Beach Ave. Freeport, Long Island. Tel: Freeport 2-493. Science editor of the New York Herald Tribune, 230 W. 41 St. N. Y. C. Pennsylvania 6-4000. Mr. O'Neill has known Dr. Tesla for 40 years. He has had many discussions with him regarding his equipment and scientific ventures. He interested Dr. Tesla in 1934 and 1935 to present the matter of national protection devices to the U. S. Govt. Mr. O'Neill made
a few contacts and the matter was dropped.
Mr. O'Neill has notes of 1938 and 1939 wherein
Dr. Tesla declared he had been approached by
the British Govt. through Stanley Baldwin and
Neville Chamberlain to negotiate for one of his
devices. Mr. O'Neill thought that the sum
offered was for 50 millions of dollars. In the
interview, Dr. Tesla stated that his device
would operate over a range of 200-250 miles.
Mr. O'Neill is of the opinion that Tesla had
unusual powers. Mr. Lawrence is of the opinion
that he does not know what he is talking about.
O'Neill can furnish much additional information.

Pickard, Dr. Greenlief Whittier, 69 Dalton St. Newton Center, Mass.
Dr. Pickard was a very good friend of Dr. Tesla.
Dr. Pickard developed the vertical antenna
system and has correspondence with Tesla
concerning "wave propagation". This information
should be valuable.

Sarony, Inc. Photographers, 362 5th Ave. N.Y.C. W1S 72713
They have photos of the old Tesla Laboratory and
pictures of Tesla to 1914.

Papage, Parker W. Attorney. Present address unknown, however he resided in
Manhattan for about 40 years and was formerly
associated with Cooper Kerr and Durham. He
was last known to be associated with an
attorney by the name of Bean in Manhattan. He
worked out many of Tesla's details concerning
Power Transmission and Tesla gave him many
notes according to Mr. Kerr.

Radosavljevic, Paul, R. New York University, Professor, Education Dept.
Tel: Spring 7-2000.
A friend of Tesla for 35 years and knows much
of his work with regard to the retina and bile
chemistry.

Ritchie, (first name unknown) Anti-Trust Division, Custodian of Alien
Property, 16th Floor, 120 Broadway, N.Y.C.
Regent 2-3882 (restricted number). Mr. Ritchie
supervised the various agents who were
responsible for the sealing of the property in
the Manhattan warehouse and various hotels. On
Saturday eve., January 10, 1945. This office
worked with Lt. Denmark.

Astor, Mrs. John Jacob (Lady Ribblesdale) now living in the U.S.
420 Park Ave., Plaza 9-6646
Lady Ribblesdale is the Mother of Vincent Astor
who financed many of Tesla's developments about
1910 and their family may have data of importance.
Scoor, Harry. Island Road, Ramsey, N. J. Res. Business: Model Craftsman Publication. Ramsey, New Jersey. Tel: Ramsey 519. This party knew Dr. Tesla very well and I talked to him several weeks prior to Tesla's death. He has some plans of Tesla equipment.

Sweezy, Kenneth, M. 165 Milton St. Brooklyn, N. Y. Evergreen 9-6809
Mr. Sweezy has known Dr. Tesla for approximately 15 years. He became a close friend of his on many things and did a very notable work in 1935 when he arranged for a collection of 100 letters from various scientific authorities commemorating Tesla's 75th birthday. Mr. Sweezy wrote many articles about Dr. Tesla and has some old clippings and miscellaneous data including several books detailing Tesla's work. Mr. Sweezy corresponded with Mr. Boskan and Mrs. Behrman. He is a friend of Mr. Clark. Mr. Sweezy would like to write a book of Tesla's life and has spoken to with Dr. Tesla regarding it. I contacted Mr. Sweezy several weeks before Dr. Tesla's death. (Much information can be obtained here).

Scott, Prof. Charles F. Instructor of Electrical Engineering, Yale University, New Haven, Conn.
Prof. Scott was a friend of Tesla for about 43 years. He worked as an electrician with Tesla in the early days and knows a great deal about his work. Prof. Scott and Tesla did not enjoy close friendship during recent years because Prof. Scott could not understand in full, all of Tesla's work. More information can be obtained here.

Schorff, George, Mrs. 219 Grant Terrace, Raronek, N. Y.
Mrs. Schorff was the auditor for Tesla for many years and has much information to give. She has information concerning Tesla's personal things and technical data and can provide much of value, including old documents.

Skerrett, John. Author—believed to be from Philadelphia, Pa. who witnessed many of Tesla's demonstrations. Miss Dorothy Skerrett can furnish additional information regarding him.
June 8, 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR

RE: SAVA N. KOSANOVIC
YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR TO THE US
INTERNAL SECURITY - R
(Bureau file 65-47953)

PURPOSE

This memorandum is submitted to incorporate all the pertinent references in the Bureau files concerning the entitled individual who is the Yugoslav Ambassador to the United States.

A case was opened on this individual when information was received that Kosanovic had taken possession of the scientific papers of his uncle, Nikola Tesla, the internationally known inventor. Subsequent investigation determined that Kosanovic had turned over the possession of these scientific papers to the Alien Enemy Custodian in New York City.

(65-47953-K1 & Serial 3 & 4)

THIS MEMORANDUM IS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES TO BE DESTROYED AFTER ACTION IS TAKEN AND NOT SENT TO FILES

194
Reference is made to my memorandum dated March 29, 1960, relating to the telephone inquiry by the Yugoslav Ambassador Sava N. Kosanovic as to the possibility of obtaining a copy of a microfilm copy of the technical papers of the late Nikola Tesla, world-famous scientist who died in New York in 1943.

Kosanovic claims to have been a nephew of Tesla and is known to have tried to obtain these papers at the time of Tesla's death. However, they were taken over at that time by the Alien Property Custodian. If any copies were made of these papers, they were made by the Office of the Alien Property Custodian which took possession of Tesla's papers in 1943 or the Department of the Army which was interested in copying Tesla's notes in 1945. The Army's interest apparently was developed by a young scientist named [redacted], who had been a protege of Tesla and one of his few confidants. [Redacted], who knew that Tesla had been endeavoring to perfect the wireless transmission of electrical current, one of the basic concepts involved in the production of a "Fortuny," had subsequently entered the Army, and in October, 1945, appeared at our New York office, together with three other members of the United States Army, to request our assistance in obtaining access to Tesla's papers, which were stored in a warehouse of the Manhattan Storage Company. [Redacted] and his associates were referred, at that time, to the Alien Property Custodian which was reported to have made an investigation of Tesla's belongings following the latter's death.

Although the Office of Alien Property or the Department of the Army might be able to furnish a copy of Tesla's papers to Kosanovic, it is not believed that the FBI should facilitate his search for this material, which although possibly of no present value from a National Defense standpoint, could still conceivably be of assistance to the Yugoslav Government.

Copies Destroyed
148 OCT 26 1960
Attached: (b)(7)(C)
RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the attached letter explaining that we have never had such a copy of the request be sent to Mr. Kos novic.

2. That the attached memo to the New York Office, instructing them to make further inquiry at the Manhattan Storage Company and advising that firm that we have no copy of Tesla's papers as they allegedly claim, be forwarded.

[Signature]

1
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI

FROM: SAC, New York

SUBJECT: SAVA N. KOSANOVIC
INTERNAL SECURITY-YU
(File 65-47953)

Rebulet dated April 3 last.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.

DATE 7-3-50 BY STAMP

On April 7, 1950, agents of this office interviewed Mr. J.V. POTTS, Vice President of the Manhattan Warehouse and Storage Company, 52nd Street & 7th Avenue, New York City, and at that time Mr. POTTS advised that the rules of his firm required that all persons gaining access to goods stored by Manhattan first had to fill out an appropriate form setting forth their names, date of visit, and reason for requesting access to the goods.

In a review of the files pertaining to the storage of the effects of NIKOLA TESLA, Mr. POTTS revealed that only one such visit had been made by persons outside of the management of Manhattan Storage itself. This one occasion took place on January 26 and 27, 1943, at which time representatives of the Alien Property Custodian made a thorough review of the entire effects of the TESLA estate.

The TESLA effects are stored in rooms 5J and 5L of Manhattan Storage's warehouse at 52nd Street & 7th Avenue, New York City. Mr. MICHAEL KING, who stated he had been Floor Supervisor for approximately 10 years on the floor in question, stated that he could recall only one occasion in early 1943 when an examination was made of the TESLA effects. He stated that at that time numerous photographs were taken by the examiners. His description of the equipment used would tend to show that a microfilm reproduction was made of some of the papers of the deceased scientist. Mr. KING added that several of the group making the examination wore U.S. Navy uniforms, and during the two days required to complete the examination the civilian assistants in the group were identified to him only as "FEDERAL AUTHORITIES". According to Mr. KING, no other instance of microfilming of the records of the TESLA estate has taken place since that time.

It should be noted that the Bureau was informed of the examination mentioned above by New York letter (with attachments) dated October 17, 1945, entitled "NONCONFIDENTIAL SUBJECT; SAVA KOSANOVICH; Experiments & Research of NIKOLA TESLA (Deceased), Espionage-

cc: 65-12290

RECORDED 38
INDEXED 38
APR 18 1950
37 (X)

197
Letter to Director, FBI
NY 105-1391

Mr. POTTS stated that no inquiry had been received by Manhattan from SAVA N. TOSANOVICH, nor had Manhattan informed him, in any way, that an examination of the TESLA effects had been made by anyone. In fact, added Mr. POTTS, the only correspondence relating to the TESLA estate has been in the form of bills for storage.

Mr. POTTS stated that any personal inquiries regarding the estate would of necessity be directed to him, and to date no such inquiries have been made.

Interviewing agents explained to Mr. POTTS that the examination made, as mentioned above, was not instigated by the Bureau, nor had the Bureau taken part in that examination.

Unless advised to the contrary, this investigation is being placed in a closed status, and no further investigative action is contemplated by this office. CLOSED.
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FBI/DOJ

199
Memorandum

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (s)    DATE: 8/20/76
FROM: SAC, BUFFALO (RUC) (b)    (oo: NEW YORK)

SUBJECT: CONFIDENTIAL

Re Buffalo airtel to Bureau, dated 7/13/76.

Enclosed for the Bureau are six (6) copies of an LHM, captioned "NIKOLA TESLA MONUMENT, NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK," which is self-explanatory. One copy is being designated for Legat, Ottawa for information. Two copies are being furnished to New York, one to Newark for information since they had previous interest in this matter, and one copy to WFO for information because of U.S. and Yugoslav dignitaries who attended the unveiling of the monument.

Nothing adverse came to the attention of this office concerning the dedication of the Nikola Tesla Monument which was a bicentennial gift from the Yugoslav Government to the United States. Diplomatic representatives from the United States, Yugoslavia and Canada reportedly attended the affair. No further inquiries being made at Buffalo and it is closing its case administratively.

CLASSIFIED BY 6166    EXEMPT FROM CDS, CATEGORY 3
DATE OF DECLASSIFICATION INDEFINITE

- Bureau (Encs. 6) (RM) (1 - Legat, Ottawa)
- Newark (Info) (Enc. 1) (RM)
- New York (Encs. 2) (RM)
- WFO (Enc. 1) (Info) (RM)
- Buffalo

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan
An article appeared in the "Buffalo Evening News," a daily newspaper published in Buffalo, New York, on July 24, 1976, which in part contained the following information:

The article was captioned "Dignitaries Unveil Statue of 'Genius' Tesla."

The article contained information that NIKOLA TESLA was the inventor of the alternating current and the first man to successfully transmit electric power. The background of TESLA set out in the article revealed that he arrived in New York City in 1884 with four cents in his pocket and plans for an airplane and a book of poetry. In 1888, he invented a system to make the transmission of alternating current practical, at 37 was a millionaire but died at the age of 88 in New York City alone and penniless.

The statue, approximately nine feet high, was erected on Goat Island, a site which is located on the property of the New York State Park and Recreation Department.

The article revealed that more than a thousand people listened to FRANK G. ZARB, Federal Energy Administration, representing President FORD, and Dr. IVO MARGAN, President of the Socialist Union of Croatia, representing Yugoslavian President TITO, as both pulled the cord unveiling the nine foot high statue of TESLA.
NIKOLA TESLA MONUMENT
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

The sculpture was created by Yugoslavian FRANO KRSINIC and was the bicentennial gift of the Yugoslavian people to the United States. Both of the above men read official greetings from their presidents and exchanged pledges to continue good will and friendship between the two countries.

The article stated that following the unveiling, a reception-luncheon was held for several hundred persons at the Parkway-Ramada Inn, Niagara Falls, New York. Mr. ZARB toasted the Yugoslavian delegation which was answered by that country's Ambassador to the United States, DIMCE BELOVSKI.

According to the article, there was a bit of diplomatic byplay between Mr. ZARB and Ambassador BELOVSKI during the ceremonies. In his remarks at the statue unveiling, Mr. ZARB included an appeal to Yugoslavia to stop all harassment of Americans visiting that country.

In responding to Mr. ZARB's toast at the luncheon, the Ambassador gave assurance that his country wants American visitors and will welcome them.

According to the article, some observers thought that the Yugoslav release of an American held for the past seven months was timed to coincide with the unveiling of the statue.

The tribute to TESLA was sponsored by several Yugoslavian groups in cooperation with the Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation, Westinghouse, and the New York State Park and Recreation Commission.

An article appearing in the "Niagara Falls Gazette," a daily newspaper published in Niagara Falls, New York, captioned "Zarb Calls for Energy Independence for U. S." the article dealt with the unveiling of the Nikola Tesla Monument and stated that accompanying the Yugoslavian Ambassador to the ceremonies on July 23, 1976, were Dr. PAVLE SAVIC, President of the Academy of Science of Serbia,
NIKOLA TESLA MONUMENT
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK

and VASA VESKOVIC, Yugoslavian Consulate General in New York City.

An article appeared in the "Niagara Gazette" on July 24, 1976, captioned "Aide Almost Missed Event." The article in part indicated that friendship and cooperation between the United States and Yugoslavia was the theme of the day as that nation dedicated a statue of NIKOLA TESLA on July 23, 1976.

The friendship was personalized when a Yugoslavian tried to cross the border from Canada to the United States to attend the dedication without a visa.

The individual was GOJKO SEKULOVSKI, who was in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, as the Chairman of the Olympic Commission of Yugoslavia. He also happens to be the Assistant Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in that country.

He did not have an American visa and almost missed the unveiling of the statue.

Fast thinking on the part of representatives of the Niagara Frontier State Park and Recreation Commission sent an official car to take the dignitary across the border, which saved the day.

In the "Niagara Falls Gazette" on July 24, 1976, there appeared an article concerning the unveiling of the statue which indicated that Dr. BOGDAN MAGLICH was Chairman of the Yugoslavian-American Bicentennial Committee and was a speaker at the affair. Dr. MAGLICH also serves as President of the Fusion Energy Corporation, Princeton, New Jersey. Dr. MAGLICH eulogized the inventor TESLA and stated "only America could have taken a giant of Tesla's stature, embraced him and provided him the means he needed to bring his talent to its best use of humanity."
were in a position to observe the commemoration of the Tesla Monument, stated that no adverse information came to their attention concerning the dedication of the statue on July 23, 1976.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIAP DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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FBI/DOJ

205
July 7, 1975

Dear [Name]

This will acknowledge your letter of June 9th.

In response to your inquiry, the papers of Dr. Nikola Tesla were impounded, after his death, by the Office of Alien Property of the Department of Justice.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

The Deputy Attorney General
Enclosure

Attention: Susan N. Hauser

REC 22 77-32591-70

NOTE: Bufile 100-2237 indicates that Dr. Tesla was a world famous electrical inventor, and at the time of his death his personal papers and effects were impounded by Office of Alien Property for national security reasons. Since Tesla's death in 1943 the Bureau has received numerous inquiries about the disposition of his technical papers. The above reply is forwarded in answer to these inquiries. Bufiles contain no information identifiable with requesters.

JUL 8 1975
CURRENT BIOGRAPHY

EXPLANATIONS

Vol. 4
No. 2
February 1943

CURRENT BIOGRAPHY

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SMITH, IDA B. WISE—Continued

References

Christian-Evangelist p423 Ap 16 '42
Lit Digest 121:30 Ja 13 '36 por
N Y Times IV p2 Ag 31 '41 por
Time 20:55 Mr 1 '37 por; 39:51 Mr 2 '42 por; 39:12 Ja 15 '42
Who's Who in America 1942-43

STAUSS, EMIL GEORG-VOYON (obit) Oct 6, 1875-Dec 7, 1942 German
state councilor and a Vice-President of the
Reichstag; former director of the Deutsche
Bank in charge of its oil interests.

Obituary

N Y Times p17 D 12 '42

STYKES, CHARLES H(ENRY) Nov 12, 1852- Dec 16, 1942 Nationally known as
the newspaper cartoonist, "Bill" stykes; drew
famous war cartoons for the First and Second
World Wars; editorial cartoonist of the
Evening Public Ledger of Philadelphia from
its founding in 1914 until its suspension in
January 1942.

Obituary

N Y Times p44 D 20 '42

TESLA, NIKOLA (tE56) July 9, 1856—
Jan 7, 1943 One of the world's greatest
electrical inventors and designers; American
citizen of Greek origin, worked with Edison;
credited with many "epic making" inventions
since 1884 in the United States, and 1884
in his old age claimed to have invented a
v-dead" beam powerful enough to destroy
10,000 airplanes at a distance of 250 miles and
to annihilate an army of 1,000,000 soldiers
instantaneously.

Obituary

N Y Times p19 Ja 8 '43 por

TINNEY, CAL(VIN L.) Feb 2, 1908-
Radio commentator

Address: B/C Mutual Broadcasting System,
1440 Broadway, New York City

Since August 1941 Cal Tinney's slow Texas
drawl and homespun humor, with intimate,
folksy interpretations, have been heard over
the Mutual network in Tinney of the News
each Monday and Wednesday evening from
8:00 to 8:15 p.m. Tinney's colloquialisms,
which the folks "back home" chuckle over
his "just between-you-and-me, ain't it the
truth?" "it sure is" method—has captured
many a listener bored with the formal, polished,
or cut, and driest comment of other news-
casters.

But there has been more to Tinney than his
manners. Speaking usually as a representa-
tive of what the "common man" thinks
about affairs at home and abroad, he has taken
more than one direct and Ahead just shot,
left of center, at stuffed shirt policy, the doings
of Big Business, politicians who peddle Fascism
under the guise of democracy under high-sounding
terms of Americanism, etc. It is not sur-
prising that the sky-harried young man
from the West has occasionally found him-
sell in hot water. Objections have at times
been made to the F.C.C. on the "character of
the broadcaster's utterances." But Tinney has
apparently survived the criticism and has
succeeded in his bi-weekly talks.

The outspoken homespun philosopher, who
has become a kind of Will Rogers columnist
of the air, was born February 2, 1908 on
a ranch in Poteau County, Oklahoma. His
family, however, originally came from Texas,
where his grandfather, a rugged individualist,
and strong political for those parts. "My
grandfather was a Texas Republican. Tinney
says wryly, "and they shot him. Seems he
exploited his sentiments one Saturday night
in a bar room. Ever since then my Pop has
been a Democrat." So has the son and, judging
by his broadcasts, a fervent New Deal-supporting
one.

After attending the Oklahoma public schools
Tinney enrolled at the Murray State School
of Agriculture in Tishomingo, Oklahoma.
There, however, his education lasted only
one week. "I never did stay there long enough
to find out whether it was a high school or
college," he says. Young Tinney apparently
decided he could get a better education by
traveling and seeing the world at first hand.
For some years he traveled around often as
an ordinary seaman aboard freighters off for
foreign ports. He was a newspaperman of sort
also, and found jobs in Shinnecock and
North Carolina. Then in Paris where the
French capital was rewriting material (found in English-
printed newspapers. "It was easy," Tinney
jests. "All you had to do was change words like
lift to elevator, and caretaker to janitor.

After getting his education by travel, Cal
Tinney settled down in Oklahoma to edit a
country newspaper, and began to advertise it overseas
by KVOO at Tulsa. That was in 1932.
His humorous, drawing voice soon became
more popular than his gazette. So he gave
up the job as an editor, but since 1934 he has
written a weekly feature, "Man of the Week,
for the McNaught Syndicate. He is the
author, also, of a book called Is It True What
They Say about London? a Non-Puritan
Portrait (1936). When Tinney turned to
radio for a living, his voice was heard, suc-
cessively, on the Airs of Time (1932), the
Voice of America (1933), and the Margurit
News Shows Boat program (1934). From
1937 to 1939 he was on the Family Fair
fared, and from 1939 to 1940 on Youth to
Age. That year he disappeared on Pop
Me If You Hear This One.

Tinney is married to Mary Marion Noble.
The couple have two sons, David N. and
Samuel. It was in 1940 that Tinney hit on the idea
of a folksy newspaper and tried it out in Tulsa,
Oklahoma. Farm listeners appreciated
a commentator who spoke their own
RED AMBASSADORS

Sava Kosanovich of Yugoslavia

By Bogdan Raditsa

This is the first in a series of profiles of the Red Ambassadors who represent the several Soviet satellite governments in Washington. Others will follow shortly.

Familiar as they are with the blunders of Vissinsky and Molotov, most Americans are not aware that some of the most fervid tracts against" U.S. imperialism" delivered in this country come from an officially accredited ambassador. Sava Kosanovich, a wiry, red-haired man in his early fifties, represents Tito in Washington and in the United Nations. He travels all over this country making speeches in praise of the "new progressive democracy" in the Balkans, denouncing "Anglo-American reaction" and helping to form front groups for Tito. Incidentally, the American ambassador in Yugoslavia cannot even move around Belgrade without special permits and a guard of secret police agents.

From Kosanovich's speeches at Lake Success and elsewhere, it would appear that everything in Yugoslavia before Tito came to power was reactionary or Fascist. Yet, when he was touring America during the war, he used to introduce himself as a "member of the democratic government of His Majesty King Peter the Second." Rarely is a restless man—his face and hands seem to be always agitated and moving. He is a cultured man with a long background in liberal, democratic movements. But he is a man of strong ambitions, who was willing to betray his own past and his closest friends for those ambitions.

In an Embassy which is more of a propaganda bureau than a diplomatic office, Kosanovich is only the front man for the Cominform's activities in America. The real power in the Embassy is held by members of the Communist Party and the secret police, OZNA, just as its real policy is directed from Moscow through Belgrade. Though Kosanovich repeats the Moscow line, he is not yet one of the inner circle.

I first met Kosanovich in the fall of 1941 in the United States, where he had come with some members of the exiled Royal Yugoslav Government, representing Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia. The tragicomic adventures of that royal mission in America centered around the battle between those who wanted Yugoslavia, after its liberation from the Nazis, to become a democratic federal union, and those who demanded a Yugoslavia which would be a Greater Serbia administered on the old prewar pattern. The grim outcome was that Tito succeeded in charming American public opinion with his sweeping promises of democracy and federation, while the exiles were quartering among themselves—mostly for personal, rather than ideological, reasons.

Kosanovich dreamed of a good many years of becoming Yugoslav ambassador to Washington. His uncle, Nikola Zagić, was an important scientist in America. He himself is descended from a long line of Serbian Orthodox bishops. His friends in politics used to tease him about his shyness toward women, his hatred of smoking and drinking. A strong and dynamic political leader, they said, should be a lady-killer, a hard drinker and a chain smoker.

In prewar Yugoslavia, Kosanovich always attached himself to some popular political leaders. (It seemed to give him the feeling that he was running things himself.) In the beginning of his career he followed the tide of Svetozar Popović, the leader of the Democratic Party, who sought a highly centralized Yugoslav state and drove the Communists underground through his secret police. That policy helped to reinforce communism for the present job.

Next, Kosanovich was attracted by the leaders of the Croatian peasants, Stevan Radich and Dr. Vladimir Machev, now in exile in Washington. He considered that he was Machev's "brain." Machev, however, did not always welcome the attentions of his satellite. Several times in Moscow he told me that he was tired of Kosanovich's "old maidish suggestions and tearful interventions." For when he is arguing any involved issue, Kosanovich's voice takes on a querulous tone which makes him sound like an adolescent.

During the war, Kosanovich defended Militch and a united Yugoslavia. He took an active part in Allied meetings and the affairs of American Yugoslavia. His name often appeared in the "Letters to the Editor" column of The New York Times. He was a chairman of the Southeastern European Planning Board—a movement not popular with Stalin, as threatened to block his plans for regional agreements and the artificial building up of buffer states. And he was active, with his friends Louis Adamic and the violinist, Zdenko Belohlavěk, in the formation and protection of the United Committee of South Slavic Americans, subsequently metamorphosed into an important part of the Kresimir's Pan-Slavic Front.

In his speeches Kosanovich has been one of the principal promoters of the idea first advanced by Adamic—that America is a nation of nations. As such, she is not only Anglo-Saxon, but German, Italian, Negro or Slovak. The Slavs of America should unite in the name of brotherhood to carry on their glorious traditions, to show other Americans the heritage they have brought to this country, and to keep in touch with their motherlands. On the surface this idea seems harmless enough, but it is the banner of Stalin's movement to divide the United States. Russia and her satellites carry the idea farther in their controlled press by openly maintaining that America cannot be progressive until it is transformed into a series of "people's republics" on the Soviet pattern, giving their national sovereignty to all the racial groups that compose the population. Behind that scheme is the desire to Balkanize the United States—to divide it into conflicting class so that a revolution may be centralized through the only uniting force, the Communist Party.

SAVA KOSENOVICH

Florellia La Guardia was Kosanovich's greatest acquisition. He led the New York Mayor through the same political road he himself followed—first to Militch, then to Tito. The speech of greeting to King Peter that La Guardia read in Serbo-Croatian on July 8, 1942, was written by Kosanovich. The Mayor read:

"Dorma Militchovitch and Vladimir Machev are the expression of the Yugo-
The spirit of resistance—from Triglav to Varazd. They will go down in his..."

In his own speeches, Kosanovich often compared Mišailović with MacArthur, Chiang Kai-shek, and Timoshenko. For example, at a meeting of the anti-Nazi League in New York, June 8, 1942, he spoke of "the epic struggle which my people are making under the same whose name already symbolizes to mankind in- domitable physical and spiritual resistance—Draža Mišailović."

Mišailović was killed by a govern- ment of which Kosanovich was a mem- ber. Mackich fled the country to escape the fate of Petkov, Maniu and other present leaders. Immediately after he became Tito’s ambassador, Kosanovich quoted Count Ciano to prove that Mac- chic had been willing to sell out Croa- tia for a relatively small amount of money. The former follower of Mackich admitted intimately to a friend that he did not believe the accusation, but that Tito had asked him to make it.

On July 6, 1942, at a reception held in the Yugoslav delegation’s mansion on New York’s Fifth Avenue, Kosanovich introduced Mišailović, Mackich, editor of the Serbian Communist newspaper, Stevoda, and now professor at Belgrade University. Mackich offered King Peter a check of one thou- sand dollars for "the Chetniks and regular army of General Mišailović.

A week later, the position of Yugoslavia was "liberated" and the members of its government-in-exile came back to join Tito’s government with the blessing of Churchill, Roosevelt, and Stalin. It was at that time that the Communists charged Kosanovich as a "useful innocent" (korista levada). In a meeting held in a swanky Belgrade apartment house—still the headquarters of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia—the ex-schoolmaster, Ebert, Kardelj, Montenegro, Mavsarić, Gérald, and other top Communist leaders were talking over the political characteristics of their new partners.

Kosanovich denied that there was any deal between Tito and Mišailović. Tito was in Belgrade. The Red Army was moving along the Danube in its push to- ward Vienna. On January 18, 1945, Tito’s emissary, General Velčić, visited Kosanovich in Kingston House, Lon- don. Kosanovich left the interview pale and nervous. For the first time he realized that dealing with the Communists demanded patience.

A few days later, on January 23, King

Peter dismissed Subasich’s cabinet and reappointed its members only after all of them—including Kosanovich—had agreed in writing that, on their return to Yugoslavia, they would defend cer- tain obligations the king had made concern- ing the Tito-Subasich agreement. The chief obligation was that the new united Yugoslav Government be formed under Tito should guarantee all fundamental political and civil rights and freedoms to the Yugoslav people. Kosanovich took a prominent part in drafting this public statement announc- ing the reappointment of the previous cabinet and the obligations it members assumed. As the king’s most intimate advisor, he drafted Peter’s set of proposals to the Regency. Before Kosanovich left London, the young king kissed him, and received his formal promises that he would defend the interests of the monarchy.

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nism; they wanted quick action by the democrats. And he had the courage to tell this to Tito. Although he was foreign minister, he was arrested.

I was with Kosanovich in his room in Belgrade's Hotel Majestic when Mrs. Subašič telephoned and asked for immediate help. Her husband was arrested and ill. Kosanovich tried to reassure her. He telephoned Lt. General Ranković, OZNA's chief trigger-man. The Communist hangman answered coldly that nothing would happen to the foreign minister. Precautions were merely being taken to defend him from any attempt of the "Western reactionaries" upon his life.

We had just been reading Dante there in the hotel room—the part where Count Ugolino hungrily devours the brain of Archbishop Ruggieri, describing the merciless end of all traitors. The blood and turmoil of ancient fratricidal war rose before us: it seemed very near to our own Yugoslav tragedy.

Only a little later Kosanovich entered the new People's Front against the will of the Independent Democratic Party, of which he was Secretary-General. His party issued a clandestine communiqué describing his defection. Soon after that the chairman of the party, Dr. Đorđe Maksimović, was terribly beaten for three hours by a Communist youth mob. He was lying in a hospital the same night that Kosanovich was flying to the London conference of the Big Four, accompanying the Communist Kardelj as a "liberal and democrat." Before he left, Kosanovich had published an article in the Communist official organ, Borba, in which he attacked Subašič and the leadership of the party with whom he had worked closely for twenty years. The Communists urged a proof of "betrayal." And the price was paid. From London, Kosanovich went to the Paris Peace Conference, and from there to Washington—to attack American democracy, which he had formerly praised.

There is no one who has a happier man, though he has attained his ambition. Those who once opposed fascism and are now serving communism have lost all faith in themselves and in mankind. There are no more miserable people than the intelligentsia who know better—but who have been afraid to resist in the last battle for man's liberty.

Kosanovich once asked for a synthesis between political and economic democracy for the good of the people, and he is now defending the complete subjugation—economic, political and moral—of Yugoslavia to the Communists. Kosanovich once wanted Yugoslavia to be free of the influence of any big power, and he is now ambassador of a puppet state in Stalin's empire.

THE SOLUTION FOR PALESTINE

A comprehensive and authoritative discussion of the Hoover Plan (pages 32-33) and of the Lowdenville Plan (Palestine—Land of Promise), offering an engineering rather than a political solution for the crisis in the Near East, will be presented in the next issue of PLAIN TALK.
Translations of SLOBODNA REC as contained in this report were made at the Pittsburgh Field Office by Serbo-Croatian translator, and Slavonic translator.

II

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

A - OFFICERS

In the "Statement Of The Ownership, Management, Circulation, Etc., Required By The Acts Of Congress Of August 24, 1912, and March 3, 1933," regarding newspapers utilizing the mails as a means of transmission, furnished the Pittsburgh Office by the Pittsburgh Post Office, the following are given as officers of SLOBODNA REC:

Publisher
J. ERSTOVICH

Editor
CHARLES VUCK

Managing Editor
None

Business Manager
MATE SHUSHMAR

Owner
JOHN ERSTOVICH

This statement was filed at the Pittsburgh Post Office by MATE SHUSHMAR on October 2, 1945.
2. It is true that this year’s calendars were printed too late, but we have inspite of this sold a sufficient number of calendars and some of the sellers have not sent in their money. In addition to the excellent success in advertisements for the calendar and besides the fact that the calendar was excellent, the work of the sale of the calendars is not satisfactory. Our activists should have paid more attention to this then before selling the calendars.

3. Soon we shall have received several hundred copies of the new book 'Guns For Tito.' We ought to do our best to sell these books as soon as possible. The book was compiled by an American Major who organized a shipment of weapons to TITO’s Army and met TITO personally several times. The price of the book is $2.75.

4. We must finish the sale of the book of NIKOLA TESLA. We should particularly interest the American engineers and unionists in it.

5. Soon a book of NIKO MARKOVICH will be off the press: 'That We May Understand Each Other.' Therefore it will be necessary to organize the sale of the same. The book contains 350 pages and the price of the same is $2.50.

The working committee decided that by the end of the month of March or in April, NIKO MARKOVICH should start for the Pacific Coast, to California, to work in the strengthening of our movement and newspaper and in building up of clubs and the apparatus. This will be discussed in detail at the meeting of the Supreme Board in Cleveland.

August 14, 1945  "Reorganization Of Leadership Of Serbian Progressive Movement In City Of Akron Carried Out." This article, which is quoted below, indicates the then policy of SLOBODNA REC in its leadership in the Serbian Progressive Movement in the United States.

"Akron, August 10 - Last week, on Thursday evening, there was held a special meeting of the Serbian political progressive club, which was attended by the editor-in-chief of SLOBODNA REC, NIKO MARKOVICH, and the manager of the paper, NAIZ SHUSHNAR."
The following article which appeared in the November 1, 1947, issue of the above-captioned Communist line newspaper published at 1916 East Street, Pittsburgh, Pa., is furnished for your information:

Address of Ambassador TOSANOVIĆ at Banquet of 2nd Serbian Congress, October 25 in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Brothers and Sisters:

I come among you to extend you the greetings of the peoples and the government of the Federated People’s Republic of Yugoslavia, headed by Marshal Tito and to thank you for the considerable aid which you have given your brothers in the old homeland.

By coincidence, I found myself in the period of 1941-44 in this great country where I did my best to defend the truth and contribute to the best of my ability to the thwarting of spreading untruths on the part of the official representatives of the then Yugoslav government in exile and of all those who wanted to convince public opinion of America and of the official circles of the impossibility of restoring Yugoslavia. I recall your valuable help of that time. I remember a dear friend in the person of the late Rev. KRAJNOVIĆ and his constant struggle, as well as of so many others of that period.

You Americans of Serbian descent were hit the hardest. You were exposed to the greatest trials and the heaviest attacks. You had to exercise the greatest self-denial and perspective correctly to see the course of events because every effort was made to confuse you. The idea was that when Serbian Americans follow the wrong path, when chauvinism and national hatred get possession of them, when hatred toward the Croats and Slovenes and toward Yugoslav unity is aroused in them, then it will be easy for the same attitudes to work among Croats and Slovenes as regards Yugoslav unity, giving chauvinism full sway and thus contributing to the weakening of the war effort in America and rendering impossible the struggle for the salvation and restoration of Yugoslavia and the Balkans.

In a letter of thanks for an honor which was shown me in February, 1944, by a great number of you who are now assembled at this Serbian
To: Director, FBI
Re: SLOBODNA REC
IS - C; REGISTRATION ACT

November 7, 1947

Congress when I was elected an honorary president of the Vidovdan Congress I said:

"In an extraordinary difficult period of mankind you have with sacrifice and self-denial done your duty also toward your people from whom you sprang and toward America of which you are good citizens, and toward mankind. Since my arrival in America in 1911, in an official capacity, I found among you the best understanding and best cooperation for an ever greater unification of national forces in the struggle against all manifestations of fascism. Together we tried to be as serbs - bearers of Serbo-Croat-Slovene-Macedonian harmony and unity at a time when the enemy banked his entire hope on disharmony and hatred. Working thus we have contributed to the correct understanding of the national-liberation struggle best with so many obstacles and bedevilled with so much gossip. Time and events have borne out the truth thereof."

And when taking leave of Serbs in America in a letter of July 24, 1944, among other things I wrote:

"We have here been those who have defended the purity of the Serbian name at a time when it was being most degraded by the ignorant. History will show that we were right and that by our defending the unity of Serbs, Croats, Slovenes, and Macedonians we have best represented the true national Serbian interests and thus represented the interests not only of Yugoslavia but also of America and all United Nations. We have by common sacrifices of a liberation war achieved great successes in the country, but there still are great trials. Enemies will particularly seek to confuse the Serbs and destroy them with false defense of Serbian interests. I ask all my good friends to make every effort to promote harmony and unity. I ask all those who were being deceived in returning to Serbian tradition and enter the great circle of national harmony . . . I ask friends who have had the opportunity and bravery of seeing the right path from the very outset, that they forgive those who haven't seen it because they were deceived by those who thought they must be believed. The true national champion is known by his setting the errant ones on the right path. Responsible culprits who misused their positions and misused the credulity of the ignorant will answer to the people for their misdeeds. The more you will promote harmony, the better it will be for Serbs, for Yugoslavia, and for America - toward which you have the greatest obligation."
November 7, 1947

To: Director, FBI
Re: SLOBODA BJC
IS - C; REGISTRATION ACT

That was the path to which you were called until his last days by our great countryman NIKOLA TESLA.

And you, by your moderation, have contributed to the interest of the democratic struggle of the world. You have contributed to the unification of all national forces in America in the organization of the war effort. And at the same time, as Americans of Serbian descent together with other Yugoslav Americans, you have shown your American fellow-citizens that your brothers in the old homeland are with united efforts resisting fascism and struggling for freedom and the restoration of their independent state, Yugoslavia.

In this you were able to be the best spokesmen. You and your predecessors have come to this country in search of freedom and better economic conditions.

Most of you and those before you have fled from Hapsburg serfdom because you were being oppressed both nationally and economically. You and your predecessors made valuable contributions to the development of the New World. You with your brother Slovenes and Croatians have sweated, shed blood, worn your bones, expended brains, and whatnot for the progress of this country. Long is the chain of miners, farmers, scientists, and soldiers who gave their best for the general progress and prosperity of the American Union. You have conscientiously been doing your duty and you have become good citizens of this great land. Who of us is not proud of the work, life and nobleness of NIKOLA TESLA without whose work and mind electricity would not be what it now is in the world, whose motor has harnessed the Niagara and the Dnieper, turning the wheels of industry wherever there is electricity? In every spark of electricity, shines his name. America is the greatest beneficiary of TESLA's genius. He asked for no riches.

And so, brothers and sisters, when during the war you have raised your voice for your brethren in the Balkans struggling not only for their life but also for a better and more secure existence of mankind, your voice thus had significance and importance. You were able to be the authorized spokesmen of the struggle which was going on over there.
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0010234
would-be radio repair man, advised this office that on April 29, 1945 he installed at the home of captioned subject, a "Hammerlund H.Q. Receiver #120X". He stated that since this type receiving set is of a kind which is generally used by amateur radio experts or professionals and since the radio set itself was in such condition as to indicate that it had been purchased under a very high priority, he inquired of the subject how he happened to be in possession of such a radio set. According to him, was vague as to where he got it, saying that it had belonged at one time to NIKOLA TESLA'S son and was purchased before the war in New York City. * did not make any notation of the serial number of this radio but advised that under pretext he can review the operation of this set in the apartment of the subject and at that time get the serial number.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT MADE AT: WASHINGTON, D.C.  DATE MADE: 30 Aug 1946  PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 7/8/12/46

TITLE: CONFIDENTIAL  CHARACTER OF CASE: CONFIDENTIAL

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

The new Yugoslav Ambassador, SAVA N. KOSANOVIC, has stated to the newspaper that they do not contemplate hostilities over the Trieste question.

CONFIDENTIAL

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

The "Washington Post" for July 22, 1946, carries a headline relative to an interview had with the new Yugoslav Ambassador SAVA N. KOSANOVIC entitled "War Over Trieste Not Anticipated by Yugoslav Envoy". The article stated he had declared on the previous day that his country would not be provoked into any action in Trieste which would compromise the peace. He also stated they would not accept any solution of the problem which did not accord with their essential interests. He said his Government opposed Italian proposals for a plebiscite in the disputed area because the Yugoslav population had been diminished by twenty-six years of Italian rule and the additional loss of 56,000 men in the fight against the Nazis.
The article in the "Evening Star" which was referred to above appeared July 23, 1946, and was entitled "New Envoy Disclaims Any Yugoslav Plans for Coup at Trieste." This article was written by NEWBOLD NOYES, JR. The article quotes the Ambassador as saying that Yugoslavia would not be "provoked into compromising the peace." The article stated that the Ambassador had indicated his country would boycott Trieste if they did not get it. The article stated that KOSENOVIC is a nephew of NIKOLA TESLA, the Yugoslav-American inventor.
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**FOI PA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

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Synopsis:

Information contained in bulletin entitled "News Flash from Czechoslovakia under Nazi Domination" issued by Czechoslovak National Council of America, with reference to American Slav Congress, set forth herein. Includes information concerning the permanent committee set-up and a partial list of delegates to the American Slav Congress.
a copy of a bulletin entitled "Flashes from Czechoslovakia under Nazi Domination", published by the Czechoslovak National Council of America, 4049 West Twenty-sixth Street, Chicago, Illinois, release no. 132, dated May 11, 1942.

This bulletin contains news concerning the American Slav Congress held at Detroit, Michigan, April 25 and 26, 1942. The article contains the permanent committee set-up of the Congress and a list of men of eminence among the delegates to the Congress.

This article is being quoted below:

"AMERICAN SLAV CONGRESS FOR GREATER WAR EFFORT"

The coordination activities of all groups of Slavic extraction in America for an intensified war effort moved a long step closer to reality as a result of the American Slav Congress held in Detroit April 25 and 26 and attended by more than 2300 delegates representing church, fraternal, labor, social and cultural groups from all parts of the country. Every substantial American Slav organization in the country was represented.

Permanent Committee Set Up

A permanent committee was elected with LEO KRZYCKI, Vice-president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers for President; Prof. J. J. MORHAL, of the Czechoslovak National Council, Vice-president; STEPHENROMAN, JR., of the Slovak Evangelical Union, Secretary; VINKOZUK, of the Croatian Fraternal Union, Treasurer; and BLAIR F. BUNTE, member of the Educational Committee of the Polish National Alliance, Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Participating Slavic nationality groups elected vice-presidents to the Board of Directors. Vice-presidents for the respective nationality groups elected were:

EDMUND GOING, Polish; W. J. MUZIK, Czech; V. S. RLEANEK, Slovak; VASILIOFF, Bulgarian; SAMUEL MERLINICH, Serbian; JOHN BUKOYIC, Croatian; VINCENT GAINKK, Slovene; PETEARTICA, Carpatho-Russian; GEORGE BINSKY, Macedonian; HARRY CHASEKOFF, Russian; MICHAEL WATKICH, Ukrainian.
The various nationality groups also elected members to the nationality committees of the Board of Directors. The National Committee of the congress held its first plenary session in Pittsburgh, May 10, to plan steps to translate the decisions of the congress into action.

**Anti-Hitler Measures Adopted**

Main decisions embodied in the resolutions of the congress were:

1. To make a direct appeal to American Slavs comprising more than half the workers in the war essential industries of the nation to intensify their production efforts to outproduce Hitler and the Axis.
2. To intensify vigilance against fifth-columnists operating within the various Slavic groups in this country aiming to sow division and disunity in the war effort.
3. To chart a plan to recruit 50,000 American Slav volunteers for a house-to-house campaign among American Slav families for raising the amount of war bond subscriptions to 10 per cent of income.
4. To take all measures to strengthen the bonds of solidarity among American Slav groups and between them and the Slav peoples of Europe for a concerted effort against HITLER.
5. To increase support of all war relief agencies, particularly the Russian, Yugoslavian, Polish, Czechoslovakian, British, Greek and Chinese.
6. To take steps to counteract the appeasers.
7. To set up a permanent organization to coordinate and assist in carrying out the decisions adopted by the Congress.

**Response Exceeds Anticipations**

The response to the first American Slav Congress ever held in America exceeded all anticipations. It revealed the depth of anti-Axis feeling that has seized hold of the Americans of Slav descent who came expressing desires to do their utmost to the end that the power of Hitlerism, arch-foe of the Slav peoples as of freedom-loving peoples everywhere shall be decisively smashed.
The delegates were mostly brawny men from coal mines, steel mills, machine shops—the men on whom the nation is counting for much of its war essential goods production and wholesome-looking women whose faces showed hardening lines of determination beneath war smiles.

Men of Eminence Among Delegates

Among the delegates were men and women of distinction in many fields of activity—scholars, writers and clergymen, among them Rev. VINCENT BORKOWICZ, who represented the Very Rev. Bishop STEFAN S. WOZNIK at the Congress, and delivered the opening invocation; Metropolitan BISHOP BENJAMIN, of the Russian Orthodox Church; Most Rev. JOHN PILKOWICH of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, and Rev. LAWŁOWSKI, of Buffalo, New York.

Among others present were JOSEF WATRAS, director of the Polish National Alliance of Pittsburgh; CHESTER A. KROZER, President of the Polish Central Citizens' Committee of Detroit; Judge A. BROMKOWSKI of Hamtramck; Captain W. ZEIMBA, Polish War Veterans, Chicago; Dr. W. T. NOSOWSKI; chairman Michigan All-Slav Committee, Detroit; Mrs. M. KOSTEROWICZ, dean of Polish journalists, Buffalo, New York; ZLATE BALIKOVICH, famed Croatian violinist; FRANK BRIGESKI, assistant district attorney of Milwaukee and president of the Pulaski Council there; VINCENT JHEIN, Secretary Chrysler Local No. 17 of UWW-CIO; Michigan State Senator, STANLEY NOWAK; Prof. J. J. CHERNOH, President of the Czechoslovak National Council; JOSEF MARTINEK, Executive Secretary of the Czechoslovak National Council, Chicago; RUDOLPH, President of the American Sokol Union; ADAMOS CER, President of the Czech American National Alliance; VINCENT VRDZSKY, Secretary of the Czech American National Alliance; Rev. JAN STERE DLA, Honorary President of the Slovak National Alliance; Rev. ARNOST BIZZA of the Federation of American Czechoslovaks in Texas; NICOLA TESLA, Serbian American inventor; ETBEN KRISTAN, prominent Slovenian writer; Dr. D. KATICH, first vice-president Michigan All-Slav Committee; SAMUEL ZERLINCH, President of the Serbian National Federation, Pittsburgh; Judge ANTHONY LUCAS, Pittsburgh; Ohio State Senator BOYD BOICH; Judge GEORGE S. STETESY, Cleveland;
RAYMOND VRANIK, Slovenska Narodna Podpora Jednota; Rev. H. P. Pasko, Cleveland; W. VRANIK, President of the Czechoslovak Society of America; and Mrs. Marie Král of the Nat'l Alliance of Czech Catholics.

From the serious and restrained mood of the delegates it was visible they had come for the one purpose of agreeing on a common line of action to be taken to guarantee a speedy end of Hitler and the Axis. There was a notable absence of the usual convention hilarity and abandon.

An International Event

It was a wartime meeting dominated by a wartime grimness. That the deliberations of the congress would have international repercussions was evidenced in the more than thousand telegrams from all parts of the world that reached the congress during the sessions.

One of the wires greeting it was from a Czech group in Teheran, Persia; there were many from Slavic groups in Chile, Argentina, Canada, and throughout America. Soviet writers and scientists and members of the Yugoslav government in exile wired the congress messages of greetings and good wishes.

The Congress was not only an event significant in the history of America's 15 million Slav-descended citizens but fraught with meaning for the destiny of the more than 200 millions of Slav peoples across the seas engaged in a life-and-death struggle against Nazi enslavement.

For the first time the peoples of the diverse Slavic groups in America were reaching a common understanding on a world-wide issue—a matter that gave delegates a feeling of considerable satisfaction.

Far beyond the brilliantly delivered keynote speeches and the iron note of resolve sounded in the resolutions—all of which raised the assembly to wild cheers of enthusiasm—was the vibrant sense of unity which, given expression by the congress, carried to the Slav peoples
throughout the world its message of redoubled efforts to crush HITLER and guarantee a democratic victory for the world.

Keynote—Production for Victory

Production and sacrifice were the keynote motifs of the main address of the congress delivered by LEO KRZYCHI. Reminding listeners that American Slavs occupy a key position in America's war industrial pattern, he called for greater efforts this year to turn the scales of victory in favor of the democracies.

How to safeguard American war production and American morale took up the following sessions which were addressed by Prof. J. J. ZNEHAL, President of the Czechoslovak National Council of America, on fifth-column activities and measures to be taken against them; FRANK NEISEB, chairman of the Michigan Defense Savings Program on national morale; ELI OLIVER, of the Labor Division of the War Production Board and GEORGE LUDER, Secretary-Treasurer of the Auto Workers Union on problems facing labor in the war industries. These subjects were treated in further detail in special panel discussions later.

10,000 Hear Hon. Paul V. McNutt

Two thousand plates were served at the banquet tendered the delegates and guests by the Michigan Committee of the American Slav Congress in the Masonic Temple on April 25.

But the climax of the congress was a victory rally in the Michigan State Fair Coliseum where 10,000 persons assembled to hear the Hon. PAUL V. McNUTT, Federal Security Administrator and U. S. Government representative to the Congress who greeted the delegates and drew thunderclaps of applause by his appeal for "more tanks for TIMOSHENKO". "In this first Slav Congress you have shown the world the miracle of American unity," he declared.

A message from President ROOSEVELT was received wishing the Congress success in its work."
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Title: AMERICAN SLAV CONGRESS

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

In radio broadcast 7/27/47 ASC official asserted that first ASC Congress held 4/25, 26/42, Detroit, Michigan, grew out of Tri-State All Slav Congress meeting in Pittsburgh, Pa., 12/3/38; stressed role of ASC in uniting Slavic groups for "peace, economic security and progress".

News disseminated through quarterly magazine "The Slavica American".
The first two issues of "The Slavic American", furnished contain the following articles:

Vol. 1, Fall 1947, No. 1

Articles

Henry Wallace, Champion of Peace........... 3 ............... by Leo Krzywicki
Poland's Western Boundaries............... 5 ............... by Congressman O. Sadowski
Statement on the Truman Doctrine At Senate Foreign Relations Committee Hearings................ 6 ............... By George Pirinsky
As a Veteran Sees It, First in a Series of Articles..... 9 ............... by Captain George Juchinsky, by Jerrem R. Austin, U.S. Representative and Andrei A. Gromyko, U.S.S.R. Representative
Spotlight on the Balkans, Statements on Balkan-Greek Question at U.N. Security Council Hearings........... 20
The Real Bulgaria
An Answer to Life Magazine.................. 50 ............... by Dr. Nissin Koverch
Features

Story of the American Slav Congress........10...The Record of an Organization
Leo Krzodzi
Fifty Years a Servant of the People........18.............by Tabitha Petran
One World Flight,
Stop-Over in Moscow.........................34.............by Norman Corwin
Czechoslovak Sokol in America...............40.............The Symbol of a People
We Felt the Heartbeat of New Yugoslavian; The Rebuilding of a Country
Bright Passage,
A Review of the new book on
Czechoslovakia, by Mauricio Hindustan........47.............by Isko
Savo Radulovich..............................48.............Yugoslav artist
Highlights of Slavic American News........52.............Notes on Rallies and Conferences
Slavic American Youth Get Together........54.............Youth councils in action

Stories

My American Pilgrimage,
Excerpts from the new novel..............38.............by Stoyan Christowe
The Importance of Being Kobotchnick
A story of a Man and His Dog............42.............by Louis Adamic

Vol. I, Winter 1947, No. 2

Articles

Conspiracy Against Peace..................5.............by Louis Adamic
Deportation Laws Hit Slavic Americans........13.............by Abner Green
Analysis of the Marshall Plan............22.............by George Pirinsky
Program and Activities of the
American Slav Congress....................29.............by George Pirinsky

- 29 -
Features

Nikola Tesla
Tribute to a Fighting Senator
The World Youth Festival
U.S.S.R. Thirty Years After Feudalism
Summary of a Journey
The Story of Gorkiy
Prague
Slav Saga in Pennsylvania
American Clergymen See the New Yugoslavia
Pages from an Artist's Notebook
Five Women

by Pauline Kloepak
by Elie Wiser
by Elia Kazan
by Sergei Japitusov
by Lina Y. Slocum
by Harri Seton

Digest of their Report
by Alvin Tesser

by Thomas Bell

Fiction

Wedding Day

by Thomas Bell
ENCLOSURES (5) TO BUREAU

Two copies of quarterly magazine "The Slavic American."
Winter 1947 issue.

PENDING
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100-56674-95
THE SLAVIC AMERICAN

Louis Adamic
Thomas Bell
S. Garbuzov
Abner Green
E. Konecky
Alvena Seckar
Marie Seton
Lyla Y. Slocum
M. Vladimirova
Ilene Vlahov
Ella Winter

NIKOLA TESLA - Poet in Electricity
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2-14-47 BY SODA

WINTER 1947
Nikola TESLA

Whose daring imagination and concrete accomplishments are among the wonders of our age.

By PAULINE KLOPACKA

WHEN Nikola Tesla died in January of 1943 in comparative seclusion in a New York hotel, he owned no more than the few personal possessions that had become dear to him during the 86 years of his life. Yet his estate was so fabulous that its value can never be truly assessed. And his heirs were the men and women of all the world.

What price can be put on the work of a man who brought into being the electric power era? The industrial giant that the U. S. is today rests on the series of brilliant discoveries and inventions in the harnessing and transmission of electricity conceived by Nikola Tesla, who came to this country from the land of the South Slavs when he was 28 years of age.

It was at midnight between July 9 and 10 in 1856 that a son, Nikola, was born to the Rev. Milutin Tesla and Djouka, his wife, in the little Serbian village of Smiljan, in the province of Lika. Now a part of Yugoslavia, it was at that time under Austro-Hungarian rule.

Tesla's father, a Serb, was a priest of the Greek Church, and his mother of a distinguished Serbian family, came from a long line of inventors. Both father and mother gave to the child a valuable heritage and culture developed and passed on by ancestral families that had been community leaders for many generations.

It was at first planned that the son prepare for the priesthood but Nikola would have none of this. Physics and mathematics fascinated him. He would be a teacher of these favorite subjects. But then he switched to electrical engineering and at the age of 25 a graduate of Prague University—earlier training had been obtained at the Graz Polytechnic in Austria—he was set for his first job.

At that time the American Telephone System was brought to Europe and an installation set up in Budapest, where Tesla was a successful applicant for a position.

THREE years later, in 1884, he was U. S. bound. There were 4 cents in the young immigrant's pocket when he arrived in New York, but that did not disturb him. He had the names of friends. He would soon get to work.

His confidence was well founded, since within a few years he was counted among the ranking scientists of the country, his discoveries bringing in handsome royalties.

It is interesting to note the description of Tesla at this time by his biographer, J. J. O'Neill in the book, "Prodigal Genius": "Tesla was a
spectacular figure in New York in 1891. A tall, dark, handsome well-built individual with a stare for wearing clothes that gave him an air of magnificence, who spoke perfect English but carried an atmosphere of European culture. He was an outstanding personality to all who beheld him.” One of his colleagues described him as “immaculately groomed, and of delightful courtesy and charm.”

A review of Tesla’s work is nothing short of amazing. To quote from J. J. O’Neill’s book:

“It was Tesla’s invention of the polyphase alternating current system that was directly responsible for harnessing Niagara Falls and opening the modern electric superpower era in which electricity is transported for hundreds of miles to operate the tens of thousands of mass production factories of our industrial system.

“Every one of the tall, Martian transmitters in lines that stretch across the earth and whose wires carry electricity to distant cities is a monument to Tesla, every dynamo and every motor that drives every machine in the country is a monument to him. He discovered the secret of transmitting electric power to the utmost ends of the earth without wires and demonstrated his system by which power could be drawn from the earth anywhere by making a connection to the ground; he set the entire earth in electrical vibration with a generator which sparked lightning that rivalled the fiery artillery of the heavens. It was a minor portion of this discovery that he created the modern radio system. He planned our broadcasting methods of today, 40 years ago when others saw only the dots and dashes of the wireless.

“Tesla was an inventor but he was much more than a producer of devices. He was a discoverer of new principles opening many new empires of knowledge which even today have only partly explored. In a single burst of invention he created the world of power of today.

“He brought into being our electric power and he built on the rock bottom foundation on which the industrial system of the entire world is bulwarked. He gave us our mass production system for without his motors and currents it could not exist.

“He gave us the radio and he invented radar 40 years before its use in World War II. He gave us our modern noon and other forms of gaseous tube lighting. He gave us fluorescent lighting. He gave us the high frequency currents which are performing their electronic revolution throughout the industrial and medical world. He gave us remote control by wireless.”

Always proud of his national origin, Tesla spoke as follows during his visit to Belgrade in 1892 in answer to a speech of welcome by the city’s mayor: “There is something in man which is only perhaps illusory... but if I were to be sufficiently fortunate to bring about at least some of my ideas it would be for the benefit of all humanity. If this hopes become one day a reality, my greatest joy would spring from the fact that this work would be the work of a Serb.”

Tesla dedicated his life to peace, to lightening the burden of toil from the shoulders of his fellow man. As every scientist who so interprets his function in society, he was stricken when he saw the coming of World War II and his inventions being prepared for destructive purposes. He sought desperately to prevent the war and made available a device which he offered to the world, maintaining that it would make any country, no matter how small, safe within its boundaries. His offer was rejected.

But once the war was an accomplished fact, and when the people’s armies rose in defense of their nations in what appeared to be an unequal fight, he did all he could to rally his countrymen to work to the limit in the war effort.

Shortly before his death he wrote as follows to his nephew, M. Sava Kosanovic, now Yugoslav Ambassador to the U.S.:

“President Roosevelt and Donald Nelson, Director of our War Production have repeatedly urged the American people, workers and employers, to meet as fully as possible the goals established for the production of war materials. . . . For this reason, my dear brothers and sisters, as the oldest Serb, Yugoslav and American in the U.S., I am addressing this letter to you, asking you to answer the call of President Roosevelt.

“The achievements of our brothers in the old country are worthy of the spirit which permeates our folklore... the fate of the Serbs,Croats and Slovenes is inseparable.”

Tesla was not satisfied with his achievements in releasing the earth’s energies so that men could work with less backbreaking effort and live more comfortably. The man who could draw up a design for a perfect motor was also concerned with drawing up a plan for a better world. When Tesla read the address of the then Vice-President, Henry A. Wallace, on The Future of the Common Man, he was fired with enthusiasm. The Yugoslav edition of the speech included a preface by Nikola Tesla written in October, 1942:

“Out of this war, the greatest since the beginning of history, a new world must be born, a world that would justify the sacrifices offered by humanity. This new world must be a world in which there shall be no exploitation of the weak by the strong, of the good by the evil; where there will be no humiliation of the poor by the violence of the rich; where the products of intellect, science and art will serve society for the betterment and beautification of life, and not individuals for the amassing of wealth. This new world shall not be a world of the downtrodden and humiliated, but of free men and free nations, equal in dignity and respect for man.”

This man, whose work was so advanced of his time that much of it still remains unexplored could have amassed millions, but he was so little interested in personal gain that to save his friend, Mr. Westinghouse, from bankruptcy he tore up a contract which would have brought him $12 millions in royalties. Pressed for funds during the latter part of his life, many of his inventions are lost to the world.

But though he was often short of money he would walk over to Herald Square and feed the pigeons. It was almost a sacred trust, feeding the pigeons twice a day. They had been his personal responsibility through the years, and if he could not be there to do the feeding, a Western Union messenger boy would be hired to do the job in his stead. Often he would forget an important engagement so that he might keep his “date” on Herald Square. The pigeons were a way to relaxation, a note of warmth in an otherwise rigidly disciplined life. He had few friends and never married, since he felt a scientist must keep himself free of personal relationships that would be unduly demanding.

Restless and eager to unravel every possible unknown to the very end of

(Continued on page 49)
GEO MILEV describes only from the standp.

In his attitude toward various events in the life around him, which impress him strongly, he does not take sides. He does not praise one and hurt the other; he merely describes everything he sees, describes it with the delicate, sweet colors of poetry. 

Geo was fined 20,000 leva and sentenced to one year in prison. He could not believe that the court could make such a decision. With joking reference to the dullness of “their Honors,” he left the courtroom believing that the decision would never be carried out. 

He was right. Unable to enforce their decision legally, the government resorted to illegal means. 

Next day, May 15, 1925, Geo was kidnapped from his home and killed by underlings of Prime Minister Alexander Tsankoff. 


Many Bulgarian writers were silent. Fearing for their lives, they did not dare to speak a word for Geo Milev or express regret for his death. The more courageous of them stated that “talent such as Geo’s is born only once in a hundred years,” that “He was the most cultured Bulgarian,” “The most honest and courageous.” 

T he youth and the common people deeply mourned for Geo. They had lost a sincere friend and father. Unable to use the Bulgarian printing press, they copied his book by hand and learned it by heart. Bulgarian students abroad printed it in Paris, and in Belgrade. In Prague it was translated into Czech and in Russia into Russian. 

A few courageous young people in Bulgaria printed pamphlets about Geo. They were promptly tortured and imprisoned. 

We, his family, searched for him for months, but we never learned exactly where and how he was killed. 

There were rumors that he had been shot in the mountains, that he had been burned in the furnace of “Public Safety.” These measures were used by Bulgarian Fascists long before the world knew of Hitler. Both stories, however, avowed that his spirit was not crushed. 

Geo’s voice was silenced forever. The murderers triumphed, but they forgot that he who speaks for the freedom of a tormented and deprived people does not die. In today’s New Bulgaria, Geo Milev is honored as one of her most cherished sons. Geo’s poems are celebrated especially by the youth of today, the heirs of the September Revolution of 1944, which fulfilled his prediction of a decade before that “September will be May.”

TESLA 

Continued from page 4

his life, he read a paper on the occasion of his 80th birthday on the perfection of a tube for atom amashing. As if that were not enough, he also presented a system of interplanetary communication.

Thus the fragmentary story of the life and work of a Yugoslav immigrant who, like so many tens of thousands of his fellow countrymen, left their homeland rather than live as subjects within the Austro-Hungarian empire.

He made a unique contribution to his adopted land, so ideally suited to the full scope of his genius, “the like of which in all history could probably be counted on the fingers of one hand.”

It is to be hoped that just as he brought electrification to the U. S. in the short span of ten years, his adopted country might assist in the full electrification of the Balkans, reversing its present policy toward New Yugoslavia.

THE SLAVIC AMERICAN 

and projects best wishes for its success. This organ, we know, will be a great contribution to the enlightenment of the homes of American Slavs.

Greetings to the Second Issue of

THE SLAVIC AMERICAN 

and 

Best Wishes for Continued Success in the Coming Year

ALL SLAVIC COUNCIL OF 

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

739 Page Street, San Francisco, Calif.

GREETINGS FROM 

JIM BALANOFF

Greetings from Lodge 3052 
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TO: Director, FBI
FROM: SAC, New York

SUBJECT: AMERICAN SLAV CONGRESS;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C
(Rf file 100-56674)

Enclosed are two copies of the Fall, 1948 issue of "The
Slavic American", a quarterly, published by the American Slav Congress.

These are being submitted for information only, not for
evidence. One copy is being retained in the files of this office.

Encls. 2

100-26200
The American Way of Life

by LOUIS ADAMIC

The opening lines of the Progressive Party's platform read: "Three years after the end of the Second World War the drums are beating for a third. Civil liberties are being destroyed. Millions cry out for relief from unbearably high prices. The American Way of Life is in danger."

The American Way of Life has been the issue in any American election ever since 1776. Every voter who goes to the polls, votes—intelligently or mistakenly: independently or under the spell of invertebrate partisanship—for one or another concept of the American Way of Life.

Of course, various people, living in various circumstances, have various ideas of what constitutes the American Way of Life. I propose to state my ideas of it; also I shall presume to fit those ideas within the frame of the new Progressive Party which must continue to grow from its beginnings in 1912.

As I see the American Way of Life, its principles were born of the American Revolution. They were won in struggle; nothing as fundamental and deep-reaching comes easy. They are stated in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States. Our job now is to perceive what policies and measures will safeguard the Way against decay and corruption, and will further its growth and evolution to meet successfully the problem of changing times and new conditions. The principles of 1776 are as valid as ever, but life is different today from what it was then. Fortunately, growth and change are of the very essence of the American Way.

The first principle of the American Way of Life is the right to live itself; and this must be safeguarded against war on the one hand, and on the other against poverty, which in recent decades has taken a far heavier toll than any war in which this nation has ever so far been involved—though the "next war," if we permit it to be drummed up, will reverse the story.

The second principle of the American Way is liberty... it has always been our slogan and our pride. But we have long been cautioned that its price is eternal vigilance, and we know how to recognize those who have designs on it.

The third principle of our Way is abundance. When migrants from Europe first began to settle here, this was a land rich in the gifts of nature, and for all that those gifts have been abused by ignorance and irresponsibility, and particularly by exploiters and monopolists. Our resources are still great enough—if deforestation and erosion are checked in time, and if our mineral resources are properly conserved—to afford abundance, the good life, to all the inhabitants of these States.

And a fourth principle of the American Way is opportunity.

The Progressive Party promises to safeguard the right to life by avoiding war—always the saddest failure of morality and now the potential destroyer of human society and the globe itself.

Whether or not we can avoid World War III, I don't know; but I do know this—that if we don't try to avoid it, nothing else is worth trying to do nowadays. It is futile to worry about the kind of curtains you'll hang up in your living-room... futile to write or read books, to go to lectures or to school... silly to worry about being called a Red or a Communist, or whatever, or about being hauled up before the fantastic Un-American Activities Committee... futile to work at your job, whatever it may be... silly to worry about keeping on the good side of whoever can take that job away from you.

War or peace? I don't know, but if we want any sort of future for this country, for the rest of the world, for ourselves and the Russians, for you and me personally, then we'd better work for peace... stand up for peace... stand up with our new political vehicle, the Progressive Party.

The Progressive Party further proposes to safeguard liberty—not with more lip service, but by adhering fully to the Constitution, including the Bill of Rights and all subsequent amendments, in all their vitality and integrity, and by reviving and enhancing the programs and formulations of Roosevelt's New Deal. The Progressive Party proposes to guard liberty

(Continued on page 26)
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The American Way
(Continued from page 5)
against that danger which most disturbed the Founding Fathers—the power of the military. And note how all these things are inter-related. Liberty is imperiled by poverty, by monopoly, by war. Every measure which the new party proposes is a measure to safeguard liberty.

By abundance, the new party means that our rich land—and our skills, brought here by immigrants from the Old World in the last 300 years—shall produce all that is needed to make the good life available to every law-abiding and industrious man and woman here, and their children, regardless of color, race or religion; and that these fruits of enterprise and labor shall not be so ill-divided that a few are glutted with a surfeit of luxuries while many who toil and sweat must for reasons beyond their control still go “ill-fed, ill-clothed and ill-housed.”

The pioneers who first possessed the Atlantic seaboard and later pressed westward through the forests and the prairies, could win abundance by strength and industry, by the wide swing of the axe, the true aim of the flintlock, and the firm hand on the plow. There was opportunity galore. Almost any man could get land for the asking or for a few dollars an acre, and become

(Continued on page 29)

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an independent farmer. Any man could set up a little store in a new community and become a prosperous merchant as the town grew. Almost any man could start a paper, establish a factory or mill, or open a mine, and become an industrialist.

This is no longer true. Millions of square miles have been rendered useless for human use and habitation by irresponsible deforestation and by erosion. The number of family farms dwindles yearly; every day hundreds of independent merchants and small mining, milling and manufacturing companies are forced out of business by the power of monopolies centered in Wall Street.

The relentless limitation of opportunity, the shrinking of abundance for millions, the violence done to liberty in defiance of the Constitution and in contempt of the tradition that began in 1776, the further threat against freedom in the ominous form of military rule, the denial of life itself to unnumbered victims of poverty, and the grave threat to all our lives in the probability of a war waged with atom bombs and bacteria—these developments, conditions and proposals now imperil the American Way of Life.

The Progressive Party proposes to restore and safeguard and extend that Way—the emphasis is on the word “extend.” Nothing in nature stands still, and no more can human economic and social and political institutions. Change is the key principle of the American Way—growth, adaptation, progress. Had it not been for that principle, the USA would not exist—we would not now be debating the decisions made in an election: we would still be colonial subjects, or we wouldn’t be here at all.

If we remembered more vividly what daring it took in 1776 to reject monarchy and form a republic, we would have less hesitation in rejecting the National Association of Manufacturers’ notions of “free enterprise,” and adopting measures more in keeping with today’s facts of life. We would not hesitate to defy the greatest power on earth—that of monopoly corporations and cartels, whose agents have lately seized control of the U.S. Government.

Under Henry Wallace’s leadership, the Progressive Party offers itself as a medium through which those who love their country and are also in favor of their own rightful individual interests can express themselves politically in 1919... in 1950... in 1952, assuming that the “next war” now being drummed up won’t destroy us all before then.

We know now that we have established a firm foundation for the new party under the leadership of Henry Wallace and Glen Taylor. Personally, I was not in this campaign only in reference to this year’s election or because I think, as I do think, that Henry Wallace is a great American who should be in the White House in this crucial period. In the main, I was in this campaign because, like Wallace and Taylor, like many other Americans, I became convinced that neither of the old parties is fit to deal with the profound crises which is coming to a climax in these middle years of the 20th century. I am in this movement because I want to help build a new people’s party that will be capable of coping with the crisis now converging upon us and the rest of the world.

LIKE many Americans, I am 87 years old and every once in a while I hear or read some remark to the effect that I have no right to be doing what I am doing—helping the growth of a new party which hopes to save the peace. Such remarks amuse me. It so happens that I have read rather extensively in American history, not as taught in most schools, but as it really happened; and I am impressed by this fact—that in all crucial or climactic periods in the career of this country, the so-called foreigners played important roles.

The Irish and German elements, for instance, were the big “foreign” groups around 1776, and it was they who became the backbone of General Washington’s revolutionary army. The Irish and German elements also furnished the mass support to Thomas Jefferson when he started a new party 150 years ago. Jefferson did not triumph immediately (as Wallace didn’t); his supporters stood it with him until he did (as I hope we will).

(Continued on page 30)
The American Way

with Wallace). The same was true again in the period of Andrew Jackson, when American democracy took another long step forward. When Lincoln came along and started a new party, his most steadfast backing came from the numerous new-immigrant groups—Germans, Finns, Poles, Scandinavians and others.

This was quite natural. As newcomers who came here seeking liberty, abundance and opportunity, they had a more acute sense of what America professed, and they took American principles more seriously than many of the old-line Americans who had begun to be matter-of-fact, if not snooty, about the country. As newcomers, they were somewhat outside the mainstream of American life. By going behind the cause of Washington, Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln, they became part of the mainstream. They promoted themselves from second-class citizens to first-class. It was Americanization at its very best. It made history, it enriched the traditions, it integrated the new Americans into the country as a whole.

And it is quite natural, and very fortunate, that many of us in the new-immigrant groups have joined with many old-line Negro Americans, with many white Americans of the earlier immigration waves, with Henry Wallace, in this movement to form a new party and make it competent to deal with the complex problems looming before us. Many of us Slavic Americans already in 1946 and early in 1947, sensed that Henry Wallace was right, and we became part of the growing impulse to form a new party.

Regardless of what some of our opponents have said, this fact is strictly and wonderfully in the American tradition. It is part of the Americanization process. It is according to the American Way. We are promoting ourselves from second-class to first-class citizenship. This is resented by some of the Americans of the older strains, the self-styled standard Americans; but don't let that worry you too much. They, too, are being Americanized or re-Americanized as you assume your full rights and duties of citizenship. Americanism has its standards, to be sure; very high standards; but it is not anything rigid or dead; it is alive, vital, open to change and enrichment.

Slavic Americans are part of the whole immense American dynamic which is as yet little understood, and is full of promises and dangers. By coming here, we of the new immigration greatly complicated the American civilization as it was, say, 90 or 100 years ago. Most Slavic immigrants became workers in the great industries, and now their energy is integral with the American scene as a whole. Most immigrants in the last 100 years or so worked hard, many of them too hard at too little pay, and helped to create a complex industrial machine which, lest it overwhelm us, now needs intelligent handling and control. It is our duty to take an active interest in finding an approach to the immense industrial, economic and social problems facing us: for, let me repeat, our coming here and our labors in the last several decades have helped to create these problems.

Most of us who came over were ordinary people. But in the new immigration waves were also some extraordinary human beings. There was, for instance, a man of genius, Nikola Tesla. His numerous inventions now are one of the most important factors in the immense American industrial scheme which throbs with the high promises that pulsed through Tesla's brain, but which are also full of dangers. Personally, as one who happens to be of being of the same background as was Tesla, I feel it is my special duty to help do what is necessary to insure that Tesla’s work, as well as the work of ordinary men and women, will go into the fulfillment of promises in our American Way of Life, rather than contribute to the catastrophe now threatening.

In 1942, Henry Wallace made his famous speech on “The Century of the Common Man.” Nikola Tesla, who was a very uncommon man, publicly endorsed that speech in glowing terms. And I think that I speak not only for myself, but also for Tesla, when I assert that the American Way of Life is not the way of incredibly greedy monopoly profits and prohibitive prices for the necessities of life. Look at this picture: Millions of men in their best years who fought and suffered, many of whom will carry greater or lesser disabilities to their graves—veterans to whom we said “Nothing is too good for you”—are unable to secure homes of minimum decency and convenience. Their families cannot be adequately fed with meat at 70¢ to $1.20 a pound. Whatever wage increases they may secure
Dear Editor:

Our small club of eight members, from a small mining community in Pennsylvania, until recently was known as the Rural Ridge Busy Knitters Club. We are now a chapter of the Congress of American Women.

We have only fifteen dollars in our treasury and out of this we are sending you $10, because of our desire to contribute to the work you are doing.

May it help in some way towards The Slavic American's fight for freedom and democracy.

Anna Tominac, Pres.
Anne Kondrack, Sec'y.
Julia Pukava, Treas.
Rural Ridge, Pa.

Dear Editor:

I send you post haste my renewal subscription for The Slavic American.

In all sincerity—keep up the good work for you are doing an excellent job in the struggle against fascism.

I never miss an issue.

Rev. Eliot White
New York, N. Y.

Dear Editor:

How about more profiles on Slavic American writers and scientists like Nikola Tesla? The field for this type of material is virtually endless.

Anton Markovic
Los Angeles, Calif.

(See page 13—Ed.)

The American Way

(Continued from page 30)

through their unions, increased living costs still stay one jump ahead of them.

We of the Progressive Party say this is not the American Way of Life. And "we" includes great numbers of ex-GIs and young workers, old-stock Americans and immigrants: Americans of all breeds and backgrounds.

If all Americans are employed at better than mere-existence wages or are engaged in business or professional activities at a reasonable compensation; if all Americans are well clothed and fed; if all Americans are secure instead of uncertain and worried, as the majority are today, there will be no war. The Hearst, Peglers, Forrestals and Bullitts won't get to first base in trying to propagandize us into fear and hate of other countries which are emerging out of backwardness and, because of their different historic experiences, are attempting a different system for providing benefits and opportunities for their citizens.

Why go to war to keep others from having their way of life? We in the Wallace movement, in the Progressive Party, insist on peace in order to keep the American Way of Life. If our approach prevails in time, there will be no war and Russia will be no danger to America, to the American Way of Life. The chief danger to this country and to our institutions under the Constitution lies in our present high-level politicians and wire-pullers who have raised the cry of Communism and of the Russian menace as a smokescreen to neutralize any possible militancy on the part of labor, to scare us in the new-immigrant groups, to frighten the Negroes, and to confuse the people generally so they won't be able to figure out who or what is responsible for high living costs. Henry Wallace clearly means what he says; so he and his active supporters were smeared, lest too many voters vote for him and in their own interest.

The old-line politicians and wire-pullers and their propagandists are not afraid of Communism, but of American democracy and of the American people; of the people getting wise to themselves and demanding a return to the American Way of Life—the Way defined in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

That's what they are afraid of... that's what we Progressives stand for... and that's what will prevail if you and I, all of us and all of our neighbors wherever we come from, do everything in our power to build the new party that has come into being around the personality and political philosophy of Henry Wallace. We, all of us, will have to do all we can in this post-election period to make of the Progressive Party a party capable of saving the country and helping to bring about a world in which the American Way of Life will include not warlike antagonism, but constructive interest in the ways of life in other countries.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
This case originated at Cincinnati, Ohio

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SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

REFERENCE:
Bureau File #100-119061
Report of Special Agent
July 17, 1943 at Cincinnati, Ohio.

DETAILS:
At New York, N.Y.

This investigation is predicated upon a request in

DECORATED ON 9-11-43
BY: 5412, put forward
Appeal 12-454

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: G. E. Clancy

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

1. Bureau
2. New York
3. Cincinnati (2-USA, Dayton)

30 Nov 6 1943
reference report that indices of the New York office be checked against the names of the persons.

SAYA MOSANOVICH first came to the attention of the Bureau in January, 1943, after the death of NIKOLA TESLA, one of the world’s outstanding scientists in the electrical field. During his lifetime, TESLA conducted many experiments in connection with the wireless transmission of electrical power and just prior to his death, was interested in what is commonly called the “death-ray.”

The notes and records of TESLA’s experiments and formulae, together with designs of machinery necessary for their operation, were reported to be among TESLA’s personal effects, after his death.

It was reported that MOSANOVICH claimed to be a nephew of TESLA, and he attempted to secure possession of TESLA’s personal effects, and hired a private locksmith to gain access to TESLA’s possessions. The Bureau was interested because of the supposedly vital importance of TESLA’s inventions and the desire to keep them out of enemy hands; as one informant maintains that MOSANOVICH was pro-Axis in his sympathies. The matter was later handled as an alien enemy, custodial detention matter and no further investigation conducted by this office.

The Bureau advised by letter of January 21, 1943, that its files revealed confidential information concerning NIKOLA TESLA and his inventions and advised that one NIKOLA TESLA, who might be identical with NIKOLA TESLA, made a speech in Springfield, Massachusetts on July 4, 1922 under the auspices of the Friends of Soviet Russia.
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: MR. TOLSON
FROM: L. B. NICHOLS

SUBJECT: (X) [Redacted]

DATE: Jan. 30, 1951

called yesterday and said he would be in town for the next two or three days and wanted to see me. I told him I would be glad to see him late yesterday or today at his convenience. He is coming in today at 2:30 p.m.

I asked him if there was anything special which would require my doing any checking. He stated there were two things he wanted to discuss.

1. The case of Nikola Tesla and Abraham A. Spanel, President of International Latex Corporation.

Our files reflect that Nikola Tesla was one of the world's outstanding scientists and in fact designed the generators installed at Niagara Falls. He died in New York on January 7, 1943, and is supposed to have left details and plans for a so-called death ray.

Our files also reflect that Colonel Erskine of Military Intelligence called us on January 9, 1945, advising that Tesla had died, that A. Spanel had communicated with the War Department regarding this death, that Tesla had a nephew named Savitch, and that Spanel had taken possession of Tesla's papers and Spanel thought the papers might be used against our Government.

We made an immediate inquiry in New York and the first report was that Kosanovich and others entered Tesla's room with the aid of a locksmith, broke into a safe containing some of Tesla's valuable papers including formulae.

Coincident with this, on January 8, L. M. C. Smith called Mr. Tamm regarding the death of Tesla and Smith stated he was talking to the Alien Property Custodian about seizing these items.

We interviewed Spanel who expressed concern over Tesla's effects and Spanel stated that Kosanovich had turned over the effects of Tesla to the Alien Property Custodian. Spanel further stated the day before Tesla died, he tried to get in touch with the War Department to make available certain papers.
In 1945, we talked to a Private Bloyce Fitzgerald, who stated he had been associated with Tesla, and that the Army believed that Tesla's "death ray" is the only defense against atom bombs.

It was very clear we had no responsibility for Tesla's effects, that the Alien Property Custodian seized them and we learned later that Naval authorities made microfilms of all his papers.

Kosanovich communicated with the Bureau on March 29, 1950, and under date of April 9, 1950, in response to his request for the microfilms of the papers of Tesla, who was a relative of Kosanovich, we advised Kosanovich that this Bureau had never been in possession of Tesla's papers.

Senator ___ furnished the Bureau five communications received from a which pertained primarily to Abraham Spaniel. This individual mentioned the FBI at length in these communications, pointing out that Mr. Foxworth had been called in on the Tesla case but was killed shortly thereafter. He further stated that he was associated with Fitzgerald and as such came in touch with Tesla. He stated the FBI investigated this matter but their hands were tied, that there was nothing the FBI could do as they had been stopped from a higher level, that the FBI agent he dealt with, resigned and requested never to discuss the matter with him again, that he had a wife and family to consider and that the last hope was Congress. These communications were furnished to the Department on September 19, 1950.
We did have an Agent, who entered on duty as he resigned. The file does not indicate that we have ever interviewed on the basis of allegations.

I think we should see what specifics wants. I think we can tell him on the Tesla papers that when they were reported to us, the Department stated that the Alien Property Custodian was going to seize the papers and that we learned Spanel had called the War Department about the papers falling into the wrong hands.

Right.

Pogue.
Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: D. M. Ladd
FROM: E. G. Fitch
SUBJECT: INTERNAL SECURITY

Mr. Lyon of the State Department informed Mr. Roach that he obtained a note from Colonel Grombach, Special Intelligence, War Department, concerning the above mentioned individual. Mr. Lyon was of the opinion that the information supplied by Colonel Grombach may be of interest to the Bureau.

The information as obtained from Colonel Grombach by Mr. Lyon is quoted as follows:

[Redacted]

It is suggested this memorandum be referred to the Internal Security Section for its information.
INTERVIEW OF THE SUBJECT

(b)(4)

[Redacted text]

as interviewed at the Washington Field Office by [Redacted] and the reporting Agent on May 9, 10, and 13, 1952, and by [Redacted] and the reporting Agent on May 26, 1952.

History Prior to Entering United States

(b)(4)
Acquaintanceship with Officials in the Yugoslav Government

Admitted at this time he was interested in Yugoslav matters, Yugoslav progress in engineering, and their advances in equipment. He said he was also desirous of making the acquaintance of Nikola Tesla, who was an outstanding Yugoslav scientist and one of the founders of Westinghouse.

He said Kosanovic was not a great
administrator, but he has considerable respect for him in many ways. He believes that KOSANOVIC emphasized to the Yugoslav government that he (KOSANOVIC), would be especially effective as Ambassador because he was a nephew of TESLA (mentioned above) and a friend of Mayor LA GUARDIA, and other influential persons in this country.
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☐ Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORT FORM
D-240 (5-1-55)

REPORTING OFFICE
WASHINGTON FIELD

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3/28/60

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REPORT MADE BY

CHARACTER OF CASE
LOYALTY OF EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

REFERENCE
Bulet dated 2/15/60;
Bu airtels dated 2/25 and 3/10/60;
Seattle airtel dated 2/26/60;
Baltimore airtels dated 2/27 and 3/4/60;
Norfolk airtel dated 3/1/60;
San Francisco airtel dated 3/3/60;
New York airtels dated 2/26, 3/3, 4, 10/60;
Chicago airtel dated 3/5/60;
Springfield airtel dated 3/8/60;
New Haven airtel dated 3/9/60.

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Field Office File No.: 138-4085

Title: Applicant, Pan American Union; Washington, D.C.

Character: LOYALTY OF EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND OTHER PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Synopsis: has been interviewed on various occasions

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INTERVIEWS WITH

On June 7, 1947, the individual was interviewed by SAs at the Office of the Chicago
admitted at this time he was interested in Yugoslav matters, Yugoslav progress in engineering, and their advances in equipment. He said he was also desirous of making the acquaintance of NIKOLA TESLA, who was an outstanding Yugoslav scientist and one of the founders of Westinghouse.

He said KOSANOVIC was not a great administrator, but he has considerable respect for him in many ways. He believes that KOSANOVIC emphasized to the Yugoslav government that he (KOSANOVIC), would be especially effective as Ambassador because he was a nephew of TESLA (mentioned above) and a friend of Mayor LA GUARDIA, and other influential persons in this country.